

2 Purpose and Methodology

Project Goals

The goals of this project can be summarized as follows:

- a. To review and evaluate selected GIS data sets to determine the extent the flora and fauna related features (entities), attributes, and domain values can be incorporated into the TSSDS Release 1.75.
- b. To present detailed spreadsheet printouts addressing the existing TSSDS Release 1.75 Flora and Fauna Entity Set graphic and nongraphic geospatial schema (i.e., entity types/entities, attribute tables/attributes, and domain tables/domains categorized by Entity Set and Entity Class.
- c. To present recommended additions to the existing TSSDS Release 1.75 Flora and Fauna Entity Set based on the review and evaluation of the selected GIS data sets.

Research Processes

Project research involved a search of Internet resources and telephone interviews with agency representatives identified by the Tri-Service Center or during the Internet search. Applicable documents were downloaded from the Internet or hard copies were mailed by the agency

representatives. The documents were reviewed and then the appropriate persons were contacted to obtain follow-up information or clarification, if necessary.

The following criteria were used to determine which portions of the above-referenced data sets are recommended to be incorporated into TSSDS:

- The data needs to be general enough to be used at different DoD facilities. In some cases, the data sets were very specific (i.e., wood duck nests) which were not recommended for incorporation into TSSDS. However, some of the attributes from the specific data sets (i.e., number of eggs) were recommended for incorporation into existing TSSDS attribute tables.
- The data needs to be the type that is typically collected at DoD facilities. For example, the number of chicks in a nest is one type of data that may be applicable to many facilities. In contrast, many of the attributes in the PLANTS database relate to specific plants (i.e., fire resistance, ability to grow in low pH soils). This type of specific data is not usually collected at DoD facilities.
- The tables and/or attributes need to have definitions to determine if they may be appropriate for incorporation into TSSDS. In some cases, the definitions could be determined based on the attribute names, or other definitions could not be determined.