



U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE LIBRARY SERVICES & CONTENT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Fall 2021

The following highlights accomplishments and updates from the U.S. Government Publishing Office's (GPO's) Library Services & Content Management (LSCM) business unit for FY 2021.

Library Operating Statuses & FDLP Shipments

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to impact libraries across the country. In May 2020, depository libraries were asked to keep GPO abreast of their operating status through the use of a form. Questions included whether they were able to accept regular, microfiche, and maps shipments. Depository Distribution staff resumed shipments on July 6, 2020, for those indicating they could accept shipments. Microfiche resumed distribution in late August 2020 with materials being processed and mailed by the Depository Distribution staff. Additionally, GPO asked if libraries were open for their staff, affiliates, and members of the public. As of October 4, 2021, the form has been submitted by 1,077 libraries (97% of FDLs) that have varying degrees of 'openness' or ability to receive shipments.

75 libraries are not receiving their depository shipments.

Of the libraries that completed the status form:

- 39% of libraries report they are open to the public.
- 54% of libraries report they are not open to the public.
- 6% libraries did not indicate if they were open to the public.

Libraries are encouraged to complete the [Status Form](#) any time there is a change in services.

Legislative Proposals to Revise Chapter 19, Title 44, United States Code

<https://www.fdlp.gov/about-fdlp/23-projects/4884-legislative-revisions-to-title-44-u-s-c-chapter-19-depository-library-program>

As of this writing, neither the Committee on House Administration or the Senate Rules Committee have acted on the [legislative proposals](#) GPO sent to the Hill in July 2020.

There were 20 responses to the call for comments, including a letter from the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL). Not surprisingly, most who submitted comments identified themselves as Government information librarians, depository library coordinators, or regional depository library coordinators. Three commenters described themselves as from the general public.

The three most prominent responses for the legislative proposals they liked best were:

- §1918, Establishment of the National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information (19 commenters).
- §1917, Cataloging and Access Services (8 commenters).
- §1912, Regional depositories; designation; functions; shared responsibilities, disposal of publications (8 commenters).

The three most prominent responses for the legislative proposals they liked least were:

- §1905, Appears not to allow digital-only depository libraries (4 commenters).
- §1912, involvement of the Superintendent of Documents in the disposition of materials process (4 commenters).
- §1901 Prefer the use of an alternative term to “fugitive” documents (2 commenters).

When asked what they expected to see in the legislative proposals, but were not included, the top three responses were:

- Transparent structure for establishing SOD policy and guidelines (3 commenters).
- New depository designations (3 commenters).
- Scope of the preservation program and how it will work (3 commenters).

GPO will be revising the legislative proposals based on the comments, as appropriate. The complete report of the responses and feedback from the [legislative proposals public comments](#) were posted to FDLP.gov on the Closed Requests for Comments page.

Superintendent of Documents - Open & Transparent: Public Comments Posted

The Superintendent of Documents seeks comments from the depository library community, interested stakeholders, and the general public on various documents, including draft policies. In an effort to be more open and transparent, and in response to feedback from the legislative proposals comments, the

Superintendent of Documents established a more formal process to obtain, report, and retain comments received.

Earlier this year, two new pages were added to FDLP.gov, [Open Requests for Comments](#) and [Closed Requests for Comments](#). When comments are sought, there will be an entry on the Open Requests page for the duration of the comment period. The Closed Requests page serves as a record of the comment process, providing an entry for any document for which a call for comments was made. An entry includes a link to the comments received.

At present there are no open requests for comments. There are three closed request entries. Since the spring 2021 LSCM Update, the reports of comments received were added to those entries:

- [Feedback: Disposition of Materials for FDLs Relinquishing Depository Designation](#) (08/18/2021).
- [Regional Depository Libraries Online Selections Draft Policy Public Comments](#) (08/26/2021).
- [Legislative Proposals Feedback](#) (07/26/2021).

Regional Depository Libraries Online Selections Policy

<https://www.fdlp.gov/file-repository/about-the-fdlp/superintendent-of-documents-policy-statements/4894-regional-depository-libraries-online-selections-sod-pps-2021-1>

The Regional Depository Libraries Online Selections Policy ([SOD-PPS-2021-1](#)) became effective August 31, 2021. This policy allows regional depository libraries to select the online version of certain titles without having to select a tangible equivalent. This is the most recent measure taken to allow more flexibility in collection management.

Regional coordinators have wanted to “substitute” online versions for equivalent tangible versions held in their collections. This policy only took effect after review by GPO’s Office of the General Counsel, and positive feedback from a [survey of regional coordinators](#) and following a period of request for [comments from the broader library community and the general public](#).

The Superintendent of Documents informed regional coordinators and their directors/deans of the new policy by letter and authorized them to select the online (EL) versions of the daily *Congressional Record* (0994-B-01) and the *Federal Register* (0573-F) without having to select equivalent tangible versions. Regionals may opt to deselect these titles in paper and microfiche; they are not required to do so. This letter, Regional Online Selections Authorization ([SOD-ROSA-1](#)), is publicly accessible from the [Superintendent of Documents Public Policies, Guidance, and Reports](#) web page on FDLP.gov.

As part of the feedback cycle, there will be a post-implementation review and analysis to determine the effectiveness of the policy, or if improvements are needed. To aid in this effort, regionals coordinators who opted to make available

only the online version of the daily *Congressional Record* and/or the *Federal Register* and the print selectors will be gathering usage data through the end of the year.

More information can be found on FDLP.gov at the [Regional Online Selections Policy](#) webpage.

Shared Regionals

The depository libraries at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge (LSU); Louisiana Tech University (LA Tech); and the University of Mississippi (UM) are the FDLP's newest shared regional depository libraries. Senator Bill Cassidy of Louisiana and Senator Roger Wicker of Mississippi approved the arrangement and made the shared regional designations. This regional agreement across state lines is the first between three libraries.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by the library deans and became effective October 5, 2021. In accordance with the MOU, each retains full regional depository status in its relationship to the selective depositories in its state. Furthermore, the regional depositories will collaboratively and comprehensively collect and maintain publications of the FDLP according to agency and format designations outlined in their implementation plan, which was approved by the Superintendent of Documents.

The Superintendent of Documents and LSCM staff offer congratulations and thanks to regional depository library coordinators Hayley Johnson (LSU), Ashley Dees (UM), and Sue McFadden (LA Tech) for spearheading this effort.

As the needs of libraries and their users are ever evolving, LSCM is working to meet those needs by offering new models of service and encouraging collaboration among depository libraries. If you are interested in, or have ideas for, a collaborative regional depository arrangement, submit an inquiry to [askGPO](#) and using the category "Other depository library question or issue."

Disposition and the National Collection

Federal Depository Libraries Relinquishing Their Designation: Strategic Disposition of Depository Materials in Support of the National Collection ([SOD-DGD-1-2021](#)) became effective August 16, 2021. This guidance document provides LSCM with an active role in the disposition of GPO-distributed Federal Government publications from libraries that decide to leave the FDLP.

FDLP materials are Federal Government property and are part of the [National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information](#), which LSCM is responsible for preserving and ensuring it is comprehensive. Through this depository guidance document, GPO aims to support a disposition process for those libraries that leave the FDLP that:

- Affords GPO the opportunity to acquire publications for digitization and ingest into **govinfo**.
- Identifies publications in need of preservation and conservation.
- Promotes the transfer of publications to depositories where they can best meet users' needs, in any region of the FDLP.
- Provides support to all the remaining regional and selective depository libraries.

SOD-DGD-1-2021 was initially released to the community on June 15, 2020, and at that time, an LSCM implementation project team was tasked with drafting workflow and procedures to support the intent of the guidance. The project team held a focus group with 11 regional depository coordinators in October 2020, and then the revised disposition guidance was submitted for public comment from May to June 2021, before the final version went into effect.

The key steps in the workflow are now documented in the [Leaving the FDLP](#) guidance article on FDLP.gov. LSCM staff also provided an overview of the implementation project and the new process for leaving the FDLP during an FDLP Academy webinar on Aug. 26, 2021, titled [Strategic Disposition to Support the National Collection](#), along with a complementary webinar on the National Collection titled [We the People's Collection](#) (held August 25, 2021).

Key Disposition and GPO Collection Development Statistics for FY21:

- Total Drop Calls conducted: 12
- Total FDLs decided to leave the FDLP: 6
 - *Includes drops that occurred in FY21 before instituting formal Drop Calls*
- Total FDLs decided to remain in the FDLP: 10
- Total FDLs completed new disposition procedures: 2
- Total volumes claimed by LSCM from FDLP eXchange: 175
- Total volumes claimed by LSCM outside FDLP eXchange: 2,180

FDLP Academy

<https://www.fdlp.gov/about-the-fdlp/fdlp-academy>

GPO's FDLP Academy is a free source for training opportunities, events, webinars, and webcasts for both the FDLP community and non-depository libraries.

Since its inception in 2012, the FDLP Academy has hosted over 580 webinars, with over 75,000 combined registrants and over 132 recorded webcasts.

Training topics cover all aspects of Government information resources and librarianship. These educational offerings are all available via the [FDLP Academy Training Repository](#).

Contact FDLPOutreach@gpo.gov if you would like to become an FDLP Academy presenter and share your knowledge with the FDLP community.

Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries

<https://www.fdlp.gov/requirements-guidance/guidance/12-biennial-survey-of-depository-libraries>

The Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries is the means by which depository libraries report their conditions to GPO; it is administered every two years, and response is required by law.

The Superintendent of Documents, under the direction of the GPO Director, is responsible for administering the survey as required by 44 U.S.C. §1909. Data from the survey is used to administer the FDLP, to identify new trends, and to evaluate the conditions and services of Federal depository libraries.

Analysis of the 2019 survey found that a very high percentage of libraries remain committed to being in the FDLP (92%) and are providing public access (97%) to their communities. Other selected findings include:

- 97% of depository libraries have a tangible collection, but at the same time, the number of digital-only depositories is increasing (from 22 to 62).
- 21% of respondents self-described their collections as "mostly digital."
- Challenges to depository libraries and their operations were reported, including lack of staff, lack of budget, and space pressures in their buildings.

These, along with other findings from the 2019 survey, led to changes and development of targeted outreach to select groups, creation of new offerings for training, and other service improvements and changes.

The current 2021 Biennial Survey is in development and will be released within the next few months. A preview will be available in October. GPO and LSCM are working with developers to integrate a new survey application within the askGPO platform, which requires additional development and testing time, thus delaying the release of the survey to the community.

For questions, visit [askGPO](#), and submit your Biennial Survey inquiry.

Enhancing Content in govinfo

<https://www.govinfo.gov>

GPO continues to increase access to current and historic content in **govinfo**. Notable additions in FY21 include:

- Initial public release of the [U.S. Congressional Serial Set](#) collection, including select volumes from the 69th Congress, the 82nd Congress, and several 19th century Congresses

- [Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications](#) and [Government Document Indexes](#)
- New publications from Digital Content Contributors:
 - [University of Florida](#)
 - [Boise State University](#)
- Release of 10 additional years of [Bill Status XML Bulk Data](#), from 108th Congress to 112th Congress (2003-2012)
- Addition of linked HTML in the [Congressional Record Index](#) for 1983-2011
- [Statute Compilations in USLM XML](#)
- Completion of the [Federal Register Index](#) collection
- [Final Report of the Committee on the Modernization of Congress](#)
- [Women in Congress, 1917-2020 eBook](#)
- [2020 United States Policy and Supporting Positions](#), or the “Plum Book”
- [Senate Manual for the 116th Congress](#)
- [Congressional Directory for the 116th Congress](#)
- [2021 Economic Report of the President](#)
- [Constitution of the United States of America: Analysis and Interpretation \(CONAN\), 2020 Supplement](#)
- Thirteen new courts opted into publishing to the [U.S. Courts Opinions](#) collection, bringing the total number of courts participating in the program to 148.

GPO is actively digitizing, and current needs are posted to the [GPO Digitization: GPO Needs Lists LibGuide](#). Offering weeded depository material to GPO supports the National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information and increases public access to Government publications.

Another way to support the National Collection is to contribute digitized content to **govinfo**. If you are interested in becoming a Digital Content Contributor, please contact us via [askGPO](#) using the Partnerships category.

U.S. Congressional Serial Set Collection on govinfo
<https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/serialset>

As part of GPO’s collaboration with the Law Library of Congress, the initial public release of content in the **govinfo** Serial Set collection was on September 28, 2021. This release contains selected volumes from the 69th Congress (1925–1927), the 82nd Congress (1951–1953), and several 19th century Congresses.

The public can [access these volumes](#) of the Serial Set on **govinfo**.

Additional volumes will be added to the collection as they become ready. As the digitization continues, the list of needed volumes will grow, so please regularly check the [Serial Set needs list](#) on FDLP LibGuides and FDLP eXchange. LSCM needs your help to ensure all volumes are digitized.

GPO Partnerships

<https://www.fdlp.gov/about-the-fdlp/partnerships>

Since 1997, GPO has developed strategic partnerships with Federal depository libraries and other Federal agencies to increase access to electronic Federal information. GPO has official partnership agreements in place with over 60 organizations to advance free public access to U.S. Government information.

Partnerships range from organizations that pledge to permanently preserve Government publications in their libraries, to organizations that make a commitment to retain and make publicly accessible, at no fee, digital resources within scope of the FDLP, to organizations that provide digital content to GPO for ingest into **govinfo**, and more.

During FY 2021:

- The Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records became a Digital Access Partner for publications within scope of the FDLP in the Arizona Memory Project.
- The University of Minnesota Libraries became a Cataloging and Metadata Partner for cooperative cataloging of publications in the I 16, N, and W SuDoc ranges in their library's FDLP collection.
- The Law Library of Congress committed to serving as a Preservation Steward for the Federal Register and daily Congressional Record.
- Over 1,200 bibliographic records for digital versions of the USGS Water Resources Investigations were added to the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP) (partnership with the Colorado School of Mines).
- Bibliographic records for 90 newly digitized titles on FRASER were added to the CGP (partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis).
- Over 450 bibliographic records for digitized reports from the Library of Congress were added to the CGP (partnership with the Library of Congress).
- Thirteen Preservation Stewards celebrated their three-year anniversary.
- The Washington State Library and Boise State University continued to contribute digitized content to **govinfo**.
- 551 USDA publications digitized by the University of Florida were added to **govinfo** and the CGP.

Visit [FDLP.gov's Partnerships page](https://www.fdlp.gov/about-the-fdlp/partnerships) to view current partnerships and for information on pursuing a partnership with GPO.

LSCM Pilot Projects

A framework has been developed to manage [LSCM Pilot Projects](#). Pilot projects are an opportunity for collaboration between LSCM and Federal depository libraries. These jointly-conducted projects are envisioned to benefit the larger FDLP community and ultimately to enhance access to the [National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information](#).

With the framework developed, Pilot Project Opportunity 1 was announced. It was scoped as follows:

- Cataloging, item-level inventory, condition assessment, and digitization of between 200-300 monographs from the U.S. Department of War (formed 1789; dissolved 1947) Superintendent of Documents call number stem **W** or other war-era temporary agencies.
 - The scope of the documents should be either the U.S. war years of WWI (1914-1918) or WWII (1941-1945).

Pilot Project Opportunity 1 opened for submissions on September 1 and closed on October 15, 2021. LSCM plans to announce the selection on November 15, 2021.

For questions about the pilot projects, contact us through [askGPO](#). Log in before submitting your question, and select the category 'Other depository library question or issue.'

Check the [LCSM Pilot Projects web page](#) and FDLP News Alerts for ongoing information and updates on the initiative, including future pilot project opportunities.

ISO 16363:2012 Trustworthy Digital Repository Audit and Certification of govinfo

<https://www.fdlp.gov/preservation/trusted-digital-repository-iso-16363-2012-audit-and-certification>

In summer 2021, GPO initiated the first phase of its re-certification audit of **govinfo** to maintain ISO 16363:2012 compliance. The ISO certification audit is performed by PTAB (The Primary Trustworthy Digital Repository (TDR) Authorisation Body Ltd.) Certification Committee. Due to COVID-19, both phase one and phase two, which typically includes a two-day onsite visit from the auditing team, will be held virtually per ISO auditing procedures.

Certification of **govinfo** from an accredited certifying body validates GPO's commitment to standards-based digital preservation practices and activities across 109 criteria in the areas of Organizational Governance, Digital Object Management, and Infrastructure and Security Management. TDR certification has been a key GPO strategic initiative and a joint effort of GPO's LSCM and Programs, Strategy, and Technology (PST) business units since 2015.

Certification under ISO 16363 provides assurance to GPO stakeholders, including the FDLP community, that **govinfo** is a standards-compliant digital archive in which Government information shall be preserved, accessible, and usable well into the future. As of September 2020, GPO is currently the only institution in the world to hold ISO 16363 Trustworthy Digital Repository Certification.

In addition to ISO 16363:2012 certification, GPO intends to pursue certification under [CoreTrustSeal](#). The CoreTrustSeal Trustworthy Data Repositories Requirements (formerly: Core Trustworthy Data Repositories Requirements) were developed by the DSA–WDS Partnership Working Group on Repository Audit and Certification, a Working Group (WG) of the Research Data Alliance. CoreTrustSeal offers to any interested data repository a core level certification based on the DSA–WDS Core Trustworthy Data Repositories Requirements catalogue and procedures. This universal catalogue of requirements reflects the core characteristics of trustworthy data repositories and is the culmination of a cooperative effort between DSA and WDS under the umbrella of the Research Data Alliance to merge their data repositories certifications. Pursuing CoreTrustSeal certification provides an opportunity for GPO to participate in a peer-review process of third-party assessment, contribute to a larger community of standards-based repositories, and commit to global transparency efforts.

[askGPO & the Federal Depository Library Directory](https://ask.gpo.gov/s/)

LSCM continues to enhance the new [askGPO](#) site for improved customer service to Federal depository libraries and all GPO customers.

Regular releases occur approximately every six weeks, and release notes are available on the [askGPO project page](#). The new releases have incorporated suggestions and feedback from customers and GPO staff and have continued to improve the site’s usability and functioning.

A major enhancement released in July 2021 was the newly-redesigned [Federal Depository Library Directory](#). The new Directory introduced features such as an FDLP Network map, exterior library building photos, and location maps on individual FDLP library pages.

Additional enhancements made in FY21 included:

- Improvements to system emails for greater clarity.
- Updated webforms and claim form.
- Personal Notes field allowing users to easily track and search for specific inquiries.
- Aesthetic improvements.

askGPO is the primary way to communicate with LSCM or any other GPO business unit and is also used for submitting forms, viewing and editing the Federal Depository Library Directory, and finding the answers to frequently asked questions.

Training materials for using the site are in the [FDLP Academy Training Repository](#).

Congressional Research Service Reports

LSCM continues to catalog [Congressional Research Service \(CRS\) Reports](#) in accordance with the agreement made with the Library of Congress in October 2018. As of October 2021, Library Technical Services (LTS) staff have cataloged over 7,550 separate, unique CRS report titles. This is approximately 80% of all reports available on the site.

LSCM is cataloging reports in the *CRS report* series as well as the *In Focus*, *Insight*, and *Legal Sidebar* reports. In August 2020, LTS confirmed that the CRS completed publishing its back catalog of reports, which means only newly-published reports (a much smaller number) will need to be cataloged going forward. LSCM has prioritized cataloging any reports concerning COVID-19 and the coronavirus; many of those records are now available in the [CGP](#).

GPO and the Law Library of Congress Collaborate on Cataloging Historical Legal Reports

LTS is approaching the milestone of cataloging the 1,000th historical legal report of the multi-year project in collaboration with the Law Library of Congress. As of the end of September 2021, LTS staff members cataloged 991 reports. Since the 2020 Federal Depository Library Conference, LTS cataloged 483 reports.

LTS continued to refine and improve the automated processes for processing the preliminary MARC records to expedite the cataloging/metadata workflow. Staff members have begun to catalog the next group of nearly 500 reports. The reports range in date from 1960 to 2015. The topical coverage spans a wide variety of legal subjects, and the geographic coverage extends across multiple regions of the world.

Free Catalog Records via the CGP on GitHub

<https://github.com/usgpo/cataloging-records>

<https://github.com/usgpo/cataloging-records-all-cgp-utf8>

<https://github.com/usgpo/cataloging-records-all-cgp-marcxml>

The CGP on GitHub is LSCM's central repository of sets of bibliographic records that users may download at no charge. LTS reviewed and revised the usage guidance for the repository and the descriptions of the collections. LTS now includes files in MARCXML whenever possible.

Marking a historic moment for the GPO, for the first time, LSCM made available all CGP records in a set of files for downloading. The files contain the 999,580 records in the CGP as of June 29, 2021. Brief bibliographic records, also known as brief bibs, are not included. In combination with the monthly CGP files in the [CGP MARC Records collection](#), these files essentially represent the entire CGP.

LSCM created new repositories for [.mrc files in UTF-8](#) and [MARCXML](#) files. LSCM will periodically refresh the files with a new snapshot of the whole CGP.

LTS re-organized the American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian (AIANNH) - Subject Based Resources [Collection](#) to facilitate the use of these resources. LTS also added a new set of records based on the three LCSH lists: American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian terms, oil and gas drilling terms, and water resources terms.

LTS posted a new [collection](#) of the Congressional Research Service reports that LTS staff members have cataloged since 2018. The collection contains 7,466 reports in the CGP as of July 30, 2021.

RDA/3R Project

LSCM continues to prepare for adoption of a new iteration of the Resource Description and Access (RDA) cataloging standard. The RDA/3R Project, created by LTS, helps GPO catalogers learn new RDA concepts and gain familiarity with the updated RDA Toolkit. Over the past year, LTS staff have attended many webinars, including ALA's RDA Lab series, demonstrations of the new Toolkit, and updates from the North American RDA Committee.

Although the new RDA became official in December 2020, it has not yet been adopted by the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC), of which LTS is a member. PCC is developing documentation and training tools that LTS will utilize for cataloging, including Policy Statements, Metadata Guidance Documents, and Application Profiles.

The RDA/3R Project Team will continue to provide training opportunities to LTS staff. Once all PCC tools are available, the team will determine where more guidance is needed for cataloging Government information products, and GPO-specific guidelines will be developed.

LSCM will make the switch to the new RDA along with PCC, no earlier than July 2022. Updates on the RDA/3R Project are provided on the [FDLP website](#).

FDLP eXchange

<https://www.fdlp.gov/collection-tools/fdlp-exchange>

FDLP eXchange, launched in June 2018, created an automated process to support the exchange of depository publications nationwide and to facilitate communication among Federal depository libraries.

FY 2021 Statistics (October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021):

- Offers: 310,318
- Needs: 1,218
 - From Libraries: 1,182
 - From GPO: 36
- Training:
 - Five online training sessions in three states: 150 participants

FDLP LibGuides

FDLP LibGuides is a service provided by GPO for depository libraries and the public. Guides are created by LSCM staff on a variety of topics, including those requested by the community. All guides are available for free use. Libraries and agencies can also submit their own guides for inclusion on the FDLP LibGuides Community page. In an effort to provide resources that are useful to all of our libraries, LSCM staff members continue to review the site and make enhancements to the look and content.

As of October 1, 2021, current, published LibGuides are:

- LSCM Guides: 29
- Community Guides: 130
- Total Guides: 159

During FY 2021, 22 Community guides were linked to FDLP LibGuides, and four LSCM guides were added. LibGuides session interactions increased by more than 30% for this fiscal year.

Subject additions include transportation, LGBTQ topics, Constitution Day, social work, Asian-American Pacific Islander history and resources, FOIA, impeachment, and succession planning.

ILS Enhancements

There are numerous enhancements for GPO's Integrated Library System (ILS) being worked on in 2021 including:

- Performance and security improvements.
- Implementing new MetaLib resource configurations and configuration updates to existing resources.
- Revising and updating our CGP *About* and *Help* pages. The latter will include short tutorials for basic use and is anticipated to be released by the end of 2021.

More details of CGP and related resource enhancements will be provided via [FDLP News & Events](#).

FDLP.gov Redesign

LSCM is approaching the finish line for re-platforming FDLP.gov to a new web platform. During the past six months, the following has been accomplished:

- Established and implemented a new server infrastructure.
- Worked with GPO's Information Technology (IT) division to ensure all security protocols for the website are in place.

- Created a development instance to ensure proper functionality.
- Created User Acceptance Testing (UAT) documents.
- Began functionality testing on the development instance.
- Began UAT Testing in September.
- Began workflow strategy planning.

A soft launch of FDLP.gov is anticipated this fall. Stay tuned to FDLP News & Events for an upcoming announcement.

Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government

<https://bensguide.gpo.gov>

LSCM is currently ensuring that Ben's Guide's website maintenance and security patches are up-to-date with accordance to GPO IT Security policies.

LSCM's goal is to provide more downloadable games and quizzes in the upcoming year.

During the last 6 months, LSCM has:

- Provided maintenance upgrades for the system's platform to ensure security.
- Updated backend modules to improve performance.
- Evaluated and adjusted firewall settings as needed to ensure access to end-users while ensuring security policies are followed.
- Updated pages.
- Supplied end users with information about Ben's Guide, as requested, through askGPO.

For new content suggestions, please use [askGPO](#). When submitting your suggestions, click "General Public," then select "Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government."

Web Archiving

<https://www.fdlp.gov/project-list/web-archiving>

LSCM continues to archive websites in the FDLP Web Archive, advancing FDLP collection development efforts.

Through September 30, 2021:

- LSCM has increased the size of the FDLP Web Archive collection to 35.2 TB, with over 341,000,000 URLs.
- There are 211 website collections available on the FDLP Web Archive on Archive-It and 266 records available through the CGP.
- Work continues with new contracted staff to maintain the collection and look at adding new collections.

- The End of Term 2020 Web Archive crawling is complete, and the collection is [publicly available](#) at the Internet Archive. More information on the project [is available](#).
- Regular meetings of the Web Archiving Interest Group have convened.
- Access and full-text searching of the FDLP Web Archive [is available](#).

For any question or comments on the FDLP Web Archive contact fdlpwebarchiving@gpo.gov.

Cataloging Record Distribution Program (CRDP)

<https://www.fdlp.gov/catalogingandclassification/cataloging-record-distribution-program>

The Cataloging Record Distribution Program (CRDP) provides free, GPO-produced catalog records to participating Federal depository libraries through a contract with MARCIVE, Inc. Participating libraries receive monthly sets of new catalog records. Libraries may add optional services, such as a list of publication titles in the records or a monthly set of changed records. They may also select customization options, for example, receiving records for online publications only or those after a specified publication date.

Libraries of all sizes and types, with many different library systems, are in the CRDP. If your library is interested in participating or learning more about the program, contact the GPO librarians listed in the Guidance, Questions, and Technical Assistance section of the web page above. You're also welcome to contact staff at MARCIVE, Inc. Please note that the program is first-come, first-served, and a limited number of vacancies are available.

Current or interested participants looking for guidance about CRDP workflows or best practices may contact GPO to request a referral to a CRDP Buddy, an experienced librarian at another CRDP-participating library who has volunteered to consult. GPO appreciates the expertise of all the CRDP Buddies, many of whom volunteer year after year.

Currently participating libraries: If you would like to add Historic Shelflist records to your CRDP Profiles during October and you haven't yet responded to the brief survey about this, please complete the form linked from the web page above. For more information about the Historic Shelflist, please attend "GPO's Library Technical Services Update" on Wednesday, October 20, at 1:00pm.

Cataloging Guidelines

<https://www.fdlp.gov/cataloging-guidelines>

GPO continues to update its Cataloging Guidelines (CG); ensure they are in accord with national cataloging standards, including RDA and the Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Statements (LC-PCC PSs); and adapt those instructions as needed for local policies and procedures. In FY 2021, the following chapters and sections were completed:

- *Monographs* chapter.
- *Congressional Publications* chapter.
- *GPO Cataloging Guidelines: Introduction* section: new text for *CPDC Membership* added. This section describes the procedures by which the GPO creates and updates cataloging/metadata policies and procedures, and documents those decisions in the CGs.
- *Separate Record Policy* section: Revisions were made to clarify situations in which GPO will separate out pre-2008 single-approach records into separate format records.
- In the *General MARC Fields* chapter:
 - New text was added and existing text was revised for the *100 - Principle Creator—Personal Name* and *700 - Personal Name Associated with the Work* sections.
 - The *245 ꞵc – Statement of Responsibility (SOR)* section was also revised.

Special Selection Offers

<https://www.fdlp.gov/special-selection-offers>

LSCM continues its Special Selection Offers initiative, launched in 2019. The Special Selection Offer process allows depository libraries to make a one-time, title-specific choice to receive a publication of significant interest. Libraries that are all-digital can also take advantage of Special Selection Offers. Publications chosen in this way become part of the library’s depository collection and are subject to regular FDLP retention rules.

Special Selection Offers available in FY21 were:

- Your Guide to the 2020 Census (Braille).
- American Armies and Battlefields in Europe: World War II.
- COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance for the 2020 Hurricane Season.
- 2020 National Debate Topic.
- United States Government Policy and Supporting Positions (Plum Book).

Please contact FDLPOutreach@gpo.gov with questions about Special Selection Offers or to provide feedback on this collection development option.

Promoting the FDLP

<https://www.fdlp.gov/promotion>

Free Materials

A wide variety of FDLP promotional resources [are available](#) from FDLP.gov.

From our [promotional items page](#), click ‘Log In To the Ordering Site,’ use your existing FDLP.gov login credentials, and browse a variety of free products you can use to promote your library and the FDLP. If you need assistance logging in,

please use [askGPO](#). Under Federal Depository Library Program, select the category, 'Marketing, social media, or promotional materials.'

[Downloadable handouts](#) that focus on the benefits of being part of the FDLP and the flexibilities offered to participating libraries are also available.

Constitution Day

Federal depository libraries across the Nation celebrated Constitution Day on September 17, with events, contests, giveaways, displays, and more. Over 20,500 free Pocket Constitutions from GPO were shared with library patrons across the country.

FDLP.gov's '[Celebrating Constitution Day](#)' gallery showcases photos and details of 2021 celebrations at Federal depository libraries, as well as celebrations from past years. It's never too early to start planning for 2022. Take a look at how your library colleagues commemorated Constitution Day, and get inspired for next year.

Limited Offers

New this year, limited offers were made available to FDLP libraries from NASA and the National Park Service. LSCM was able to acquire a limited quantity of various interesting publications to distribute freely to depository libraries.

The titles acquired through limited offers are not subject to the same retention requirements as tangible materials distributed to depository libraries through item selection. However, libraries may choose to house these publications with other depository materials.

Showcasing FDLP Retirees

In May 2021, LSCM began showcasing FDLP retirees on the FDLP.gov homepage to offer thanks and congratulations. If you are retiring or know someone who would like to be featured who is a member of the FDLP community, visit [our announcement](#) to learn more.

FDLP COVID Support Services

As a result of COVID-19, GPO has strived to provide needed services to FDLP libraries.

COVID-19 Toolkit

Available through the [COVID-19 Tool Kit: Federal Depository Library Program](#) is:

- Information for Federal depository library staff on FDLP operations during the pandemic.
- Information for libraries in general.
- Reliable U.S. Government information resources for FDLP patrons.

- Downloadable images you can use for your library website to link patrons to your COVID-19 information pages or research guides.
- Infographics to share with patrons.
- Recorded webinars for library staff and patrons.

Since information on the pandemic is constantly changing, LSCM is continuing to update this resource with new information as it becomes available.

Best Practices & Lessons Learned

Nationwide, FDLP libraries have accumulated many coronavirus (COVID-19) lessons learned and best practices, from working remotely to the process of reopening. Librarians and staff have been sharing information with LSCM about what initiatives have been incorporated into your 'new normal' environment to enhance and strengthen your overall public service experience. A [web page](#) under the COVID-19 Toolkit serves as a collection of related information to share among the FDLP community. This new resource was created as a result of Fall 2020 [Depository Library Council recommendations](#). It includes best practices, success stories, and articles of interest.

Free Materials for Order

A variety of COVID-19 related signage and face masks are available exclusively to Federal depository libraries. Five different posters are available, focusing on topics related to social distancing, caution using library materials, COVID prevention, room capacities, and rules for wearing a mask. In addition, FDLP face masks are also available. Each library may order up to seven of these reusable, washable masks. From our [promotional items page](#), click 'Log In To the Ordering Site,' use your existing FDLP.gov login credentials, and browse a variety of free products you can use to promote your library and the FDLP.

Depository Library Council

<https://www.fdlp.gov/about-the-fdlp/depository-library-council>

The Depository Library Council (DLC) serves in an advisory capacity to the Director of GPO on matters that relate to improving public access to our Government's information through programs of the Superintendent of Documents:

- Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP).
- Cataloging and Indexing Program (C&I).
- GPO's System of Online Access, **govinfo**.
- National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information.

DLC provides advice on policy and operational matters that provide and support services to Federal depository libraries and the general public. Much of their work is conducted through established working groups. At present there are four working groups:

- Collections and Discovery Services.

- Digital Deposit.
- Exploring the Durability of PURLs and Their Alternatives.
- Long-term Implications for Federal Depository Libraries of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Their conference programs report on the work they have undertaken or inform future work of the DLC. Learn more about DLC from [their webpage](#) on FDLP.gov.

Save the Date: Spring 2022 Depository Library Council Virtual Meeting

Save the date, and mark your calendars. The spring 2021 Depository Library Council Virtual Meeting will take place April 11 and 12, 2022. Stay tuned to [FDLP News & Events](#) for an announcement about registration in January.