# LIBRARY SERVICES & CONTENT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Fall 2025

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

# Report from GPO's Office of the Inspector General on FDLP Assessments

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) team at GPO conducted an inspection to assess whether the Superintendent of Documents is meeting the intent of 44 U.S.C. § 1909 to "make firsthand investigation of conditions for which need is indicated" with Public Access Assessments of Federal depository libraries.

The OIG made four recommendations. GPO reviewed the draft report and provided comments through the Director, which are available in their entirety in Appendix D. GPO concurred with all recommendations and will implement the approved action items over the coming year.

 Final Report—<u>Federal Depository Library Program Assessments Inspection</u>, Report Number 25-10

#### **DiscoverGov**

In March 2025, DiscoverGov, a new unified interface for trusted Government information, was launched. The site provides simple, one-stop searching across multiple U.S. Federal Government databases, including GPO's Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP) and GovInfo.

DiscoverGov features include advanced scoping and multi-faceted filtering for searches, a citation generator for five major style guides, and a responsive design to support mobile users. Updated features include Browse CGP by SuDoc Classification,



CGP Record Display Details, enhanced Help content, and backend improvements to responsiveness of remote search resources.

New sticky notes for DiscoverGov <u>are now available</u> exclusively to Federal depository libraries. Each note pad contains 25 sheets, and each library may order up to 75 note pads.

In August 2025, LSCM undertook a systematic shutdown of MetaLib, the former federated search engine.

• <u>DiscoverGov</u>

# **LSCM Pilot Projects**

LSCM Pilot Projects are opportunities 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.

Pilot Project 1, undertaken with the Merrill-Cazier Library at Utah State University (USU), has been completed, with a final total of 1,178 FDR-era civil defense titles that were digitized, cataloged, and ingested into GovInfo. Catalog records for print materials were provided to Utah State University along with preservation materials and a conservation plan. Catalog records are available in the CGP, and the titles are available through GovInfo.

• <a href="https://www.fdlp.gov/project/lscm-pilot-project-1-with-utah-state-universitys-merrill-cazier-library">https://www.fdlp.gov/project/lscm-pilot-project-1-with-utah-state-universitys-merrill-cazier-library</a>

Pilot Project 2, which is nearing completion, started in July 2022, and the project plan included inventorying, condition assessment, and digital imaging of 633 World War II-era military technical manuals in the W 1.35 and M 101.18 SuDoc classes. As of September 2025, all of the Pilot Project 2 military technical manuals are available via GovInfo and can be found by using the MODS identifier fedPubName: "Military Technical Manuals" in basic search. All of the Pilot Project 2 titles can also be located in the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications using the search string (wlts= PILOTPROJECT2UNT and wur=http?) in expert search. In addition, all the Pilot Project 2 publications are included in UNT Libraries Preservation Steward collections. Final project steps include sharing the digital surrogates and related metadata with the UNT Libraries team so they can be ingested into the UNT Digital Library, which is a GPO Digital Preservation Steward partner repository.



• <a href="https://fdlp.gov/project/lscm-pilot-project-2-university-north-texas-libraries">https://fdlp.gov/project/lscm-pilot-project-2-university-north-texas-libraries</a>

Upon the conclusion of Pilot Project 2, the Pilot Project Review Committee will provide updates to the FDLP community via the LSCM Pilot Projects page.

• LSCM Pilot Projects

#### **Collaborations with GPO**

A key part of the enhancement of the National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information is the development of strategic partnerships and collaborations with Federal depository libraries and other Federal agencies. Collaborations with over 90 organizations to advance free public access to U.S. Government information are underway.

A suite of web pages is available on FDLP.gov related to official partnerships and collaborations with GPO. There are separate web pages for each partner category with lists of current partners and their contributions, as well as information on how to partner with GPO.

#### Learn more:

- Collaborations with GPO
- Partnerships
  - o <u>Preservation Stewards</u>
  - o <u>Digital Preservation Stewards</u>
  - o <u>Digital Access Partners</u>
  - o Digital Content Contributors
  - o <u>Cataloging and Metadata Contributors</u>

#### **Enhancing Content in GovInfo**

GPO continues to increase access to current and historic content in GovInfo. Notable additions in FY25 include:

- Launching the U.S. Reports collection.
- USLM XML for digitized volumes of the United States Statutes at Large.
- 1,123 Serial Set volumes containing 55,347 reports and documents.
- 154 digitized Congressional hearings.



- 1,524 digitized Congressional Committee prints.
- 633 Military Technical Manuals digitized in partnership with the University of North Texas.
- 245 miscellaneous publications, predominately annual reports.
- 312 Congressionally Mandated Reports.

GPO is actively digitizing, and current needs are posted to the GPO Digitization FDLP Resource Guide. 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. In FY25:

- Arizona State Library contributed 390 publications of the Indian Affairs
   Bureau, including Constitutions and Bylaws of Tribes and Corporate Charters.
- Indiana State Library contributed 19 additional volumes of the Decisions of the Department of the Interior and General Land Office of Cases Relating to the Public Lands.
- University of Florida contributed over 1,200 Department of Agriculture publications.

If you are interested in becoming a Digital Content Contributor, please contact us via askGPO using the Federal Depository Library tile and selecting the Partnerships category.

# Trustworthy Digital Repository Audit and Certification of GovInfo

In December 2024, GPO was awarded re-certification of GovInfo ISO 16363:2012 Trustworthy Digital Repository compliance. Certification of GovInfo from an accredited certifying body validates GPO's commitment to standards-based digital preservation practices and activities across 109 criteria. GPO is currently undergoing its annual surveillance audit required to maintain certification.

In 2024, GPO announced that GovInfo received an additional certification under CoreTrustSeal repository assessment. Certification under CoreTrustSeal provides data producers assurance that their materials are stored in a reliable manner and to the public that digital



materials are authentic and trustworthy. By participating in the CoreTrustSeal process, GPO team members will serve as reviewers for other organizations trying to achieve CoreTrustSeal certification. GPO will initiate the recertification process in 2026.

# 2025 Biennial Survey of Federal Depository Libraries

The 2025 Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries launched September 22 and will run through November 14, 2025. A <u>preview</u> of the questions is available to help depository staff prepare for submitting responses. An email with a link to the survey has been sent to all depository coordinators, or to the library director if the coordinator position is vacant.

The Superintendent of Documents, under the direction of the GPO Director, is responsible for administering the "Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries" as required by 44 U.S.C. § 1909. Data from the survey is used to administer the FDLP, to identify new trends, and to assist in the assessments of the conditions and services of Federal depository libraries. All depository libraries are legally required to complete this survey in order to fulfil their legal obligation to "report to the Superintendent of Documents at least every two years concerning their condition" (44 USC § 1909).

• <u>Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries</u> page on FDLP.gov

#### FDLP.gov Refresh

LSCM is in the midst of an effort to revamp FDLP.gov's content and organization. There are three tiers of planned activities. Tier 1 included site clean-up activities, such as the alphabetization of menus, moving content, and unpublishing obsolete information and News Alerts.

A suite of web pages was also developed for <u>GPO collaborations and partnerships</u>, and the Depository Tools section of the website was enhanced with new landing pages for each tool.

Refresh activities will continue in FY26, and further updates will be shared via FDLP News.



## **FDLP Academy**

GPO's FDLP Academy is a free source for training opportunities, events, webinars, and webcasts to inform and educate the Federal depository library community about U.S. Government information resources.

Since formally establishing the FDLP Academy in 2014, LSCM has hosted over 729 webinars to almost 100,000 registrants and broadcast 34 conferences and meetings to almost 16,000 registrants.

LSCM recently welcomed two full-time employees assigned to the management, strategic planning, and curriculum development for Academy content. The team is working to develop a new vision for an impactful and agile Academy. This personnel investment will help the FDLP Academy maintain and enhance its program, thereby supporting its mission to create and deliver enhanced educational opportunities.

• FDLP Academy

### **Congressional Research Service Reports**

LSCM continues to catalog Congressional Research Service (CRS) Reports in accordance with the October 2018 agreement with the Library of Congress. As of September 2025, LSCM librarians have cataloged 11,751 reports. This is approximately 88% of all reports available on the CRS Reports website. New workflows have greatly improved cataloging efficiency, including a collaboration with the CRS to generate monthly reports of new publications and the development of an automated process to generate preliminary records and PURLs. These improvements have allowed GPO to stay current in processing newly published reports each month. The records can be retrieved in the CGP with this expert mode search: <a href="https://witsecurrent.org/wlts=CRSREP">wlts=CRSREP</a>.

- <u>Congressional Research Service Reports collection</u> (CGP on GitHub repository)
- CRS Products from the Library of Congress

# Web Archiving

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



- LSCM has increased the size of the FDLP Web Archive collection to 63.1 TB, with over 693 million URLs.
- There are 226 website collections available on the FDLP Web Archive on Archive-It and 275 records available through the CGP.
  - FDLP Web Archive

#### **New Version of Resource Description and Access**

LSCM is preparing to adopt a new iteration of the cataloging standard, Resource Description and Access (RDA). RDA is used in metadata services for the FDLP and Cataloging and Indexing Program (C&I). Staff in LSCM's Metadata and Collection Services (MCS) use RDA and the RDA Toolkit daily to catalog U.S. Government information products and to create and maintain name authority records. The new RDA features both a redesigned RDA Toolkit and implementation of the Library Reference Model (LRM). The new RDA became official on December 15, 2020, and is now in use worldwide. However, it has not yet been adopted by the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC), of which GPO is a member. Since October 2024, an LSCM Metadata Integrity Librarian has been serving on PCC's Standing Committee on Training's (SCT) RDA Training Task Group for Name Authorities. This group is designing the NACO training for Official RDA. As of August 2025, PCC's SCT RDA Training Task Group for Monographs is developing training for cataloging print and electronic books. The target date for developing both trainings is July 2026.

PCC has a three-year rolling implementation plan from May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2027. When a specific implementation date is finalized by MCS, it will be announced by LSCM.

• The New Version of Resource Description and Access (RDA): GPO's Preparations and Impacts on the FDLP Community

# **CGP on GitHub Repository**

LSCM has been making cataloging records available via our GitHub repository since 2017. The records can be downloaded for free. The repository contains various files that FDLs can use to manage the GPO records in their catalogs and for collection development and management purposes.

• The CGP on GitHub

The Depository Library Council



The Depository Library Council (DLC) is a 15-member advisory body to the Director of the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO). It offers advice on policy and operational matters that relate to improving public access to our Government's information through the FDLP, C&I Program, GovInfo, and the National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information (National Collection).

DLC advice comes in the form of recommendations made to the GPO Director. You can follow the work of the DLC, its working groups, and how GPO responds to their recommendations from their web page on FDLP.gov:

- Depository Library Council
- <u>GPO Responses to Council's Spring 2025 Recommendations</u> (September 10, 2025)

### **Promoting Your Library**

LSCM offers a wide variety of resources to help you promote your library and the FDLP. An ordering site offers free promotional products exclusively to FDLP libraries. A variety of photo galleries are also available to inspire events and activities at your library. In addition, LSCM offers a Digital Marketing Toolkit with downloadable graphics, and guidance is available related to promotional tips and celebrating your depository's anniversary.

On September 17, 2025, libraries across the Nation celebrated Constitution Day. In preparation, GPO offered free Pocket Constitutions exclusively to FDLP libraries. Between June and September 2025, GPO distributed 34,700 Pocket Constitutions to 369 libraries throughout the country.

Also in September 2025, two new handouts on the value of the FDLP <u>were made</u> <u>available</u> for download, one to articulate the value of FDLP participation to library administration and the other geared toward new or potential coordinators.

• <u>Promotion</u>

