

Jill Strykowski, MSLIS | Martin Luther King, Jr. Library | San Jose State University

 **The Record Set**

Full set of bibliographic records for **online** resources cataloged by the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) in support of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) and the Cataloging & Indexing Program through the Catalog of Government Publications (CGP).

 **The Problem**

MARCIVE ceased operations and the CRDP program terminated in December 2024, requiring many depository libraries to re-evaluate and redo their record delivery services for GPO e-resources.

 **Goal**

Reduce workload for Alma-using libraries needing GPO e-resource bibliographic records in their catalogs for FDLP compliance and patron support.

 **Outcome**

Established automated ingestion pipeline for a subset of GPO's record set - 222,000+ e-resource records - into the Alma Community Zone ('U.S. Federal Government Documents from US GPO').

Project Summary

This project addressed a critical infrastructure need for libraries managing Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) collections using ExLibris's Alma ILS, following the cessation of MARCIVE services and the conclusion of GPO's Cataloging Record Distribution Program (CRDP). Spearheaded by Jill Strykowski (San José State University) in advocacy and technical partnership with the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) and ExLibris/Clarivate's Content Management team. The initiative transitions Alma-using libraries to an automated, ExLibris-managed Alma Community Zone (CZ) collection.

By establishing a direct, automated monthly ingestion pipeline from GPO's GitHub repository into the Alma CZ, the project provides FDLP libraries, and others using the Alma ILS, with updated, high-quality online MARC records for U.S. Federal Government Documents published online, without requiring additional subscriptions, manual file exports, or complex local overlay routines.

The Matchmaking Role

Convening Leaders

Conducted a 2-year dialogue with GPO record users, finally bringing together ExLibris product managers and the GPO metadata leadership team.

Technical Alignment

GPO GitHub data was examined, amended and harmonized with Alma Community Zone ingestion rules, by establishing e-resource filtering and identifier codes.

Community Advocacy

Communicated and helped troubleshoot Alma-user metadata needs through GODORT, CSU forums, UC groups, and other U.S. depository groups.

e-Resource Record Set and GPO Review

Category / Metric	Count	Alma CZ Status
Annual CGP Master Repo	1,115,162	Source repository on GPO GitHub
Online-Only Records	~222,000	Ingested into Alma CZ
Quality Check Sample	223,235	Vetted by GPO catalogers pre-launch
Metadata Discrepancies	85	100% corrected directly at source in CGP
In-Process Records	1,838	Preliminary records in the process queue for GPO catalogers
Records Lacking Item #s	43,738	Maintained for historical coverage

Reporting Errors in Alma CZ Record Set

All errors reported to Clarivate Support for this collection are relayed by Clarivate to GPO to fix the underlying records or links. The faster route may be to contact GPO directly at [AskGPO](#), using the Cataloging/Metadata category.

If you think this collection is missing a record for an online resource, report the resource to AskGPO ([see instructions](#)).

When reporting record errors or omissions to GPO, the GPO metadata team reserves the discretion to determine whether it will make the changes or not. GPO will respond with decisions and notifications of completed changes as quickly as possible. If they chose not to make a requested change, GPO will explain the reasoning in their response.

Policies related to record updates, such as the [Authoritative Status of the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications](#) section of the [GPO Cataloging Guidelines](#), can be found on FDLP.gov

Two-Year Project Timeline

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May 2023: Alma CZ Community encounters import issues

Influx of duplicate U.S. Federal Documents titles in Alma CZ collection, prompts user calls for ExLibris-managed updates.

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Oct. 2024: MARCIVE/CRDP sunset announced; eCaug discussions

MARCIVE and CRDP sunset announcements lead to ExLibris User Group of California (eCaug) proposition for ExLibris take on import/update work.

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Feb. 2026: Kickoff meeting & collaboration scope defined

After over a year of investigations into issues with original CZ collection, fact-finding discussions with Clarivate, and contact development with GPO, a project kickoff meeting is arranged, establishing formal collaboration.

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Mar. 2026: Automated ingestion pipeline & technical specs set

ExLibris confirms ability to automate record loads from GPO GitHub. Consensus reached on an ~222,000 baseline snapshot of e-resources from CGP ([catalog.gpo.gov](#))

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Apr. 2026: GPO GitHub repo created; ExLibris import begins

GPO publishes dedicated e-resource repository on GitHub and ExLibris initiates full baseline data ingestion.

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June 2026: Collection fully available in Alma CZ

U.S. Federal Government Documents collection (Collection ID: 613170000000000069) is live and automated for all Alma CZ users.

Troubleshooting & Outreach Work

Scope: Coordination of ongoing troubleshooting and collaborative problem-solving was undertaken, spanning several months. This included investigating missing 074/086 metadata fields, analyzing record merging discrepancies between English and Spanish language editions, testing workaround procedures for selective activation, and addressing ticket escalations across multiple institutions.

Presentations Given:

- GODORT Friday Chat:** Dedicated session on April 10, 2026.
- ELUNA Conference Forum:** GovDocs group forum hosted May 1, 2026.
- Regional GODORT Sub-group:** Presentation & Q&A on June 15, 2026.

In Process Perfecting & Workflows

- Metadata Enhancements & Field Troubleshooting:** Coordinating efforts to ensure necessary MARC fields—specifically the 074 (GPO Item Number) and 086 (SuDoc Number)—are correctly populated and enriched for selective activation. Discussions also addressed cataloging anomalies, such as missing Spanish-language versions and incorrect bibliographic record merging
- Selective Activation Workflows:** Developing and testing Alma workflows (proposed by Noam Fass) utilizing logical sets, full collection sets, and combined sets to automatically filter and prune portfolios based on institutional selection criteria (such as 008 state/country codes and 086 SuDoc prefixes).
- Knowledge Base Documentation:** Collaborating on a comprehensive Q&A knowledge base page addressing community inquiries regarding collection contents, monthly GitHub update schedules, selection profiles, error reporting via AskGPO or Clarivate Support, and CDI hybrid database behavior.

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