15 Amazing Facts about Digital Deposit You've Got to See to Believe and How They Could Change Gov Info Collections Forever

Digital Deposit Working Group

Depository Library Council

Fall 2021

Agenda

- Introduction
- Definition of Digital Deposit
- The Messy Problem and how Digital Deposit will help
- Outcomes from our focus group and pilot project
- Outcomes from our Visualizing Digital Deposit discussions
- Working Group Recap
- Thanks to our Volunteers
- Recommendations (to date)
- Questions and Discussion from the FDL community

Framing the Facts

Working Group Charge

DLC 2018 Recommendation #3 (https://bit.ly/3kpkGiy):
Council recommends the creation of a working group to explore current and future needs related to digital deposit - both dissemination of content and acceptance of content by GPO.

What is Digital Deposit?

Cracking the mystery of the definition

FINALLY! A DEFINITION FOR DIGITAL DEPOSIT

NOW I GET IT!!

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Practices, services and workflows for the collaborative acquisition of born-digital federal government information for our National Collection of US Government Information.

Amazing Fact #1
The definition of digital deposit is pretty straightforward. The how and what is dependent on which organizations are involved.

Amazing Fact #2
The FDL Community has been interested in Digital Deposit for nearly 2 decades!
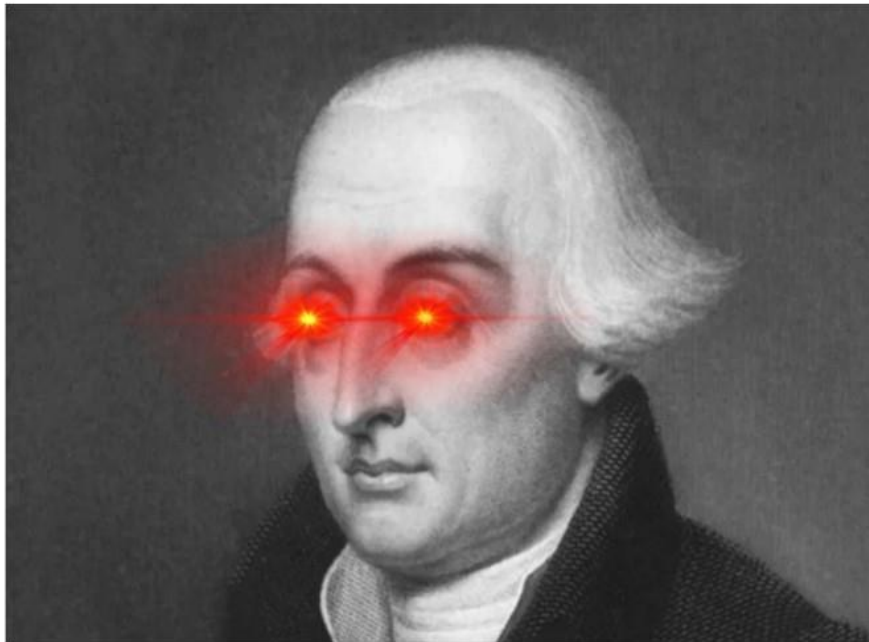
In 2005, responses to a Biennial Survey question showed 33% of respondents were interested in receiving digital files from GPO.

Digital Deposit Advocate: The government web grows exponentially every year.

The digital deposit novice:

"Between Fall 2016 and Spring 2017, the Internet Archive archived over 200 terabytes of government websites and data. This includes over 100TB of public websites and over 100TB of public data… This includes over 70 million html pages, over 40 million PDFs"

-https://blog.archive.org/2017/05/09/over-200-terabytes-of-the-government-web-archived/

Amazing Fact #3
The government web is growing exponentially every year!

Amazing Fact #4
Digital Deposit is like the FDLP we know and love, but with born-digital assets instead of tangible publications.

Digital Deposit can facilitate distributed preservation and widespread access to born-digital government information.

Born-Digital Gov Info
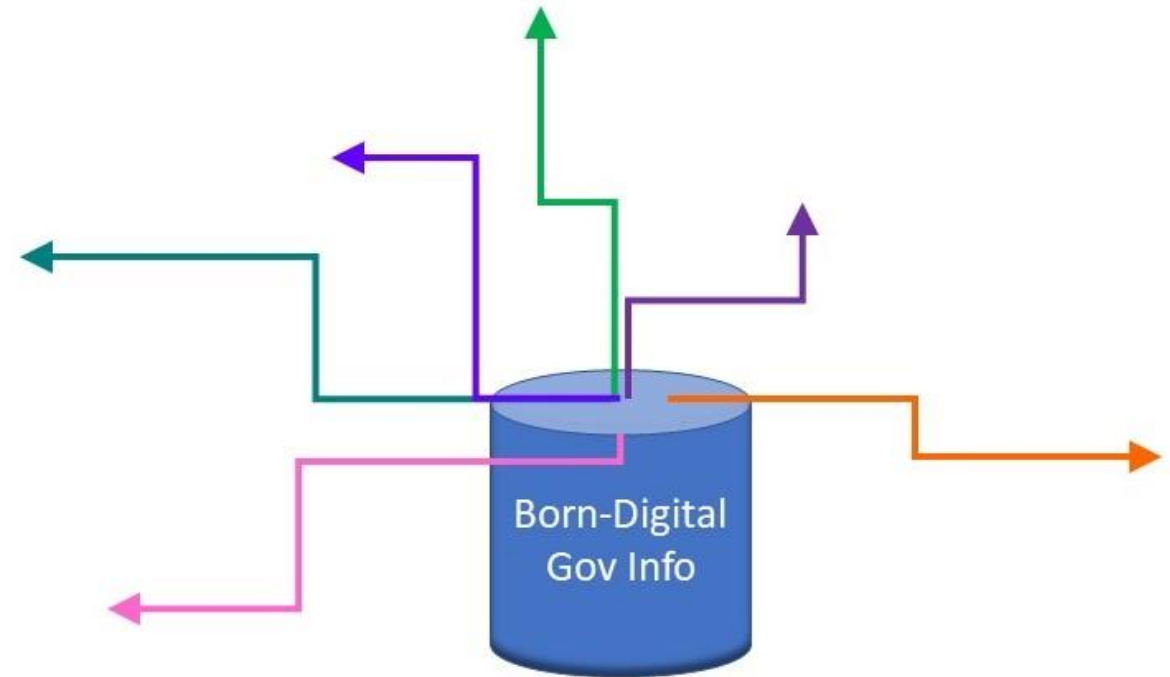
Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe

Amazing Fact #5
Redundancy is needed to ensure future public access and GPO will provide this capability, either by storage at multiple sites, by relying on preservation partners, or both mechanisms. (from the 2007 GPO white paper, *Digital Distribution*)

Digital Deposit could lead to fewer unreported government publications

Amazing Fact #6
1,763 unreported documents cataloged from April to August, 2021!
https://www.fdlp.gov/collection-tools/reporting-pubs

I'M SO EXHAUSTED,
MY EXHAUSTED IS EXHAUSTED
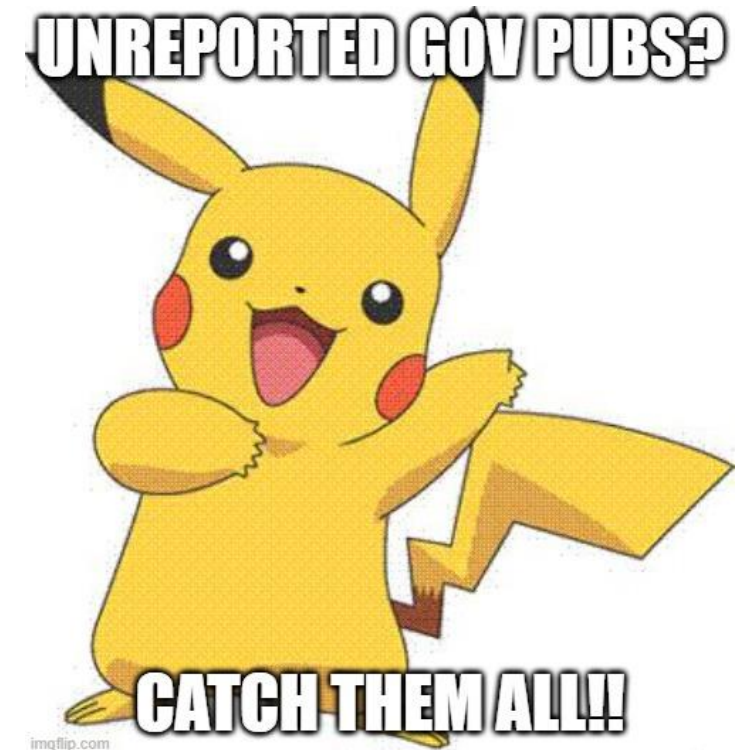
Amazing Fact #7
Hunting for uncataloged publications can be exhausting but it is valuable work

Congressionally Mandated Reports Pilot volunteers spent 12,842 hours searching for unreported publications

Amazing Fact #8
Pilot volunteers searched for 1049 publications.
Of these over half - 531 - are still "lost," 430 are now found, and 88 were never lost

Amazing Fact #9
People want to learn how to search for and report uncataloged / unreported materials
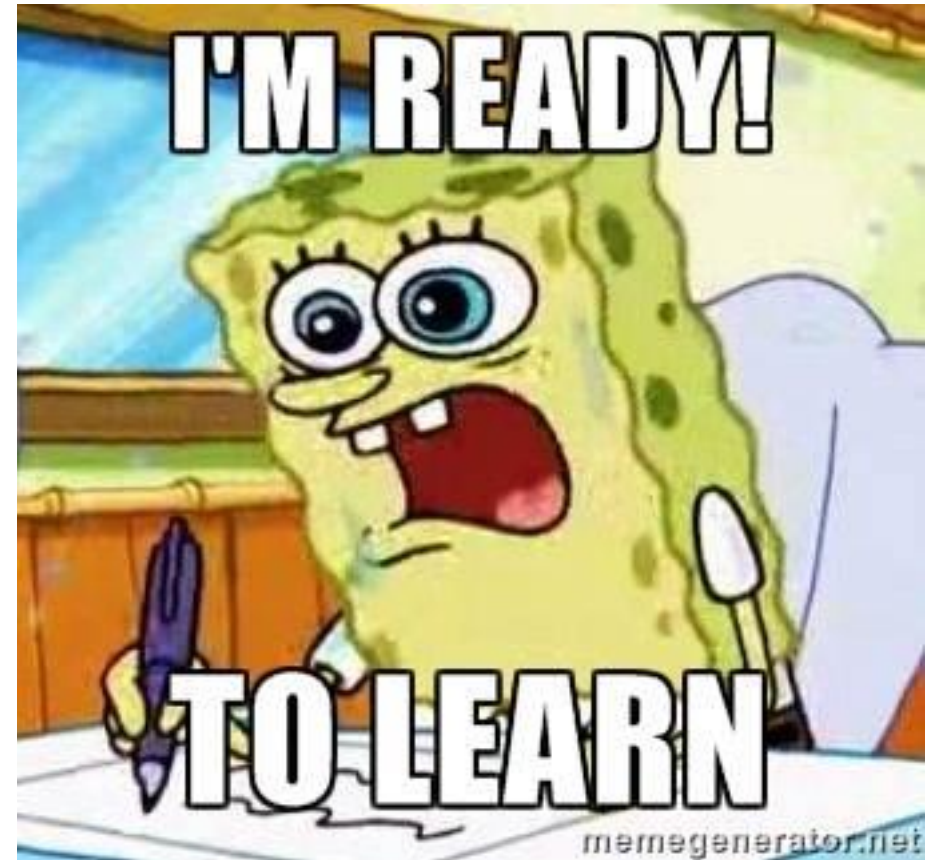
Our focus groups support the use of askGPO for submitting unreported publications to GPO

Amazing Fact #10
askGPO is an effective tool for reporting uncataloged gov pubs

SUPPORT FOR DIGITAL DEPOSIT
IS STRONG IT IS
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We interviewed librarians from ten different organizational use cases, and **all** were interested in the idea of digital deposit. They see it as valuable and feasible service, and most were eager to engage and participate in digital deposit.

Amazing Fact #11
Support for Digital Deposit is strong regardless of library type or size

Amazing Fact #12
Discovery comes in many ways

Libraries were willing to think beyond the traditional catalog model.

WHAT?

DISCOVERY BEYOND THE CATALOG

Basic	Advanced	Title	Author	Subject

Call Number: Library of Congress | **Gov Doc** | Dewey | Other

Use **GOV DOC CALL NUMBER** to search for U.S. Government Documents.

System Sorted ⌄   Entire Catalog ⌄   **Submit**

Amazing Fact #13
Digital Deposit includes a wide array of material, topics, and types (much like the FDLP)

Librarians had lots of ideas about what they would receive through digital deposit, and they wanted a variety of selection criteria, including: item numbers, subject, agency, geography, and file type.

Libraries were split on delivery models for receiving digital content through digital deposit (push and pull models, but also physical media delivery)

Amazing Fact #14

Digital Deposit allows for a push or pull of content

Amazing Fact #15
We had so many volunteers interested in helping and promoting the idea of digital deposit!

Bonus Fact!
The pandemic and shift to remote work highlights the importance of digital content and its discovery and access

Digital Deposit: a recap

Working subgroups

- Visualizing Digital Deposit (philosophy of digital deposit)

- Focus groups (looking at askGPO reporting mechanism)

- Unreported Congressionally mandated publications hunting

Working Group Members

Cindy Etkin, Designated Federal Official

Lisa LaPlant, GPO Liaison

Jessica Tieman, GPO Liaison

Robbie Sittel, DLC Member

Will Stringfellow, DLC Member

Julia Ezzo, DLC Member

Vicki Tate, DLC Member

Heather Christenson, Community Member

James R. Jacobs, Community Member

Thank you to our Volunteers

- 14 Visualizers of Digital Deposit

- 18 Hunters of Unreported Publications

- 18 Focus Group Participants

Recommendations to date

1. To accept the definition of digital deposit as the official GPO definition
2. Create an educational program to promote discovery and reporting of uncataloged publications
3. Recurring Biennial Survey question to gauge acceptance of digital deposit
4. Conduct a pilot project with a library to accept materials via digital deposit
   a. Utilize GPO expertise to determine feasibility and process for testing digital deposit based on feedback from Visualizing Digital Deposit interviews
   b. GPO will collaborate with pilot library to determine feasibility and mechanics of digital deposit