

Comprehensive FDLP Collections and Increasing Flexibility for Regionals – Transcript of audio

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What remains left is we are starting to keep better track of who has what and how many copies are left and where is it located. We want to make sure we do not create gaps in any one part of the country where people have access to the content. The third thing we are hoping to get through today is try to help alleviate some of the space challenges that we are saying that regional depositories are facing. Are captions available? They are, let me get you the URL. Thank you Megan. Appreciate that. Okay. The regional landscape, let me take a step back for those of you who might be new to the FDLP operation. We have two types of depository libraries, regional and selective, we have over 1000 selective depositories in the FDLP and the main characteristic of with selective is they get to select with what they want to get through the FDLP and they get to retain pretty much what they want to retain for the collection. Selective's tend to have customized collections. Also work with their designated regional, usually the regional is located in their state but not always. They work with their regional to lead their collection and receive other services. Regionals on the other hand, we have 46 regional depositories and they serve the selective's in their region, the services they provide will include things like library loan services, training, the thing most people will be using when they are working with the regional is for weeding. You work with your regional when you are trying to weed you depository collection. Regionals also have very specific rules about what they select and what they get to retain. I will go over that in a second. Michael here is hopefully if you are new to the FDLP you understand there is a regional and selective. Select it's two select and keep what they want but regional has a different set of rules to operate on. When we go over what those rules are about what regionals have to select and retain. Per title 44 of the U.S. code and the legal requirements and program regulations the Federal depository Library program,, regionals have to receive and retain at least one tangible copy of everything that's issued through the FDLP pick tangible means paper, microfiche, DVD or something to that effect. On top of that original has to ensure the comprehensiveness and integrity of the tangible FDLP collection in the state or region they serve. The selective system was developed in 1962, if a selective is offering a publication issued in 1900 and the regional doesn't have a copy of it, you have to decide where is a publication going to go? What if it's the only copy left in that state or region? They have to ensure their local region remains a comprehensive collection.

Those rules have been in place for decades. We have a little bit of an issue that came up recently in 2021. Without a news alert that announced that the microfiche format was going to be phased out of FDLP distribution and for most libraries it was like this is still going on, I can't believe it is still a big format but for regionals, they interpreted it very differently. Regionals have to retain one tangible copy of everything. Some of the regionals only select a paper copy and they are fine and not impacted by the phaseout. Some of the regionals would get paper and microfiche and if they ran out of space with paper they would weed the paper because they had the microfiche as a backup. They still had their one tangible copy. A couple of our regionally's relied exclusively on the microfiche tangible copy. So only announced we were phasing it out, that he does regionals because suddenly they have to either keep the paper if they are getting it and if you're entirely microfiche you will have to start getting the paper format. That hit her regionals differently than it hit our selective's. The following month in January 2020 you, we held meetings with her regionals, all 46 and out of those meetings took official statistics engaged that we knew we had five regionals that were hurting for space already and the continued influx of all the paper resources was already hitting the shelf space negatively. Seven regionals said they

were okay for space at the moment but by the time 2024 or 2029 rolled around, sometime there they would start to hurt for space. We are getting close. With 13 regionals that reported out that they were okay for space for the foreseeable future and 13 regionals that do not quite have a sense of how much shelf space they had or how much they would be hurting. We knew we needed to help regionals free up space on their shelves. The same space pressures that every library of every type of every sort is facing, every library is facing the pressure to reconfigure subspace to some other purpose, every library is facing pressure to go to the digital format, you name it, the regionals have the exact same pressures except they also have this obligation to retain one tangible copy. There are four ways we can actually help regionals free up space on the shelves, two of those ways are working within a traditional FDLP regions and they are not particularly new mechanisms but I will go over them. Two of them for helping regionals free up space deal with the newer concept called the national collection service area regional discard eligibility and regional online. When we are working with in FDLP regions with the traditional networks we are used to, we can help regionals to share space by working with shared housing agreements. You might be familiar with it under selective housing agreements. We are trying to face that out, the common vernacular because everybody was getting confused about selective, we use the word selective too much so it flipped over to shared housing agreement. Some of the SHA's are used to house material and libraries that are not under the control of the depository libraries director. The most common example is when you have a campus library at the main campus library is designated as a regional but they are sending law materials over to the law school library on campus. The law school libraries tend to be under a different director. At that point, that material is not under the control of the main libraries director. He signed a selective housing agreement so that the law library acknowledges that that label legal material is governed by FDL rules. It can also be used to denote that somebody is housing the regional copy of something. Either a library is housing content on behalf of the regional they said this is the regional copy and therefore the regional can weed that material or maybe they're going as far as to say select this material in the future and I will house it for you. That means the regional can deselect it from there and locally. Those again, the shared housing agreement is for a regional copy. If we get one of those agreements on file and we know that the regional has done their duty to maintain their comprehensive collection, they are good, we have a copy going there so they don't or they're not obligated to selected themselves. I gave you a link to that guidance article if you're interested in learning more about that. This is a colorful slide. I am a color coder. This is the second method of helping regionals reduce the content material on the shelves. It's working with in existing traditional FDLP regions. The main thing about this slide is the purple is new stuff. The green states are worry have one regional serving a state and yellow states where we have one regional serving multiple states. Blue states we have to regionals serving one-state and orange is unique, it's North Dakota. North Dakota was designated as a regional in the 60s but designated jointly so it was the same paperwork signed by Senators so that you regionals manage one comprehensive collection North Dakota. Wyoming is pink, Wyoming does not have a regional. There are a whole bunch of limits they have there but they are making it work. It is a situation that is probably not ideal. The purple is what's new. Shared regional depository agreements. Virginia, North Carolina have a shared agreement, Georgia and Florida have a shared regional depository agreement and the latest one is Louisiana and Mississippi. In these cases we have regionals agreeing to continue serving their selective's like normal so the Georgia regional serving these electives in Georgia like normal, the regional Florida is serving just like normal but on top of that, the two regionals in Florida and Georgia are also working together to collaboratively manage that conference of collection. In Florida Georgia, Georgia is agreeing to select and retain maps and Florida is selecting other things. Oversimplifying. Georgia can go through and if they choose they can deselect possibly even weed parts of the wife or because a regional copy is locked in and Florida. The reverse is true, Florida can deselect for weed the maps. They have a whole framework they have set up with these shared regional agreements. It is working for them. These are relatively new. We signed the first one in

2019. This is a way that regionals working with in existing regions can reduce shelf space. The purple states have decided that will work amongst themselves. That was the first two methods to shave save shelf space. The worse the. Before I can show you what a national collection service area looks like I have to go over some background information and that includes preservation steward agreements, print selector agreements, that I can actually talk about what a NCSA is and then I can talk about the superintendent of documents public policy statements because of course we have to have an acronym for everything. I am federal, I can have an acronym if I want one. Preservation steward agreements, they were signed in 2016, when you sign on to do this, a library is committing to retaining something, tangible depository resource for whatever the length of the partnership agreement is. Preservation steward agreements can apply to historic material, material that was shipped in the past, it can apply to material in the future so day forward or current material, anything that comes in in the future or can apply to both. The library that signs these agreements also agrees to preserve that material including providing preventative maintenance treatments and conservation treatments. There obligated to provide GPO with an inventory of what they hold in their collection so the GPO knows exactly what they are agreeing to preserve. Ever talking about material moving forward in time, the inventory will be GPO. We have acknowledgment that we know exactly what you've agreed to preserve. Partners also agreed to provide cataloging, level level is okay. They agreed to identify them as preservation copies and included in their collection care programs and if there is any damage or natural disaster or something, they need to notify us. If we have a preservation steward agreement, we may agree to help shift material to that preservation steward, the reason being your obviously committed to preserving this material for the future so we want to make sure if you need to replace something raining a secondary copy for whatever reason we want to make sure you are comfortable with your collection we are agreeing to ship the material. If you have questions about that I have a link to the information. The other piece of information is the print selector agreement. These are new. We first started signing these in 2021. When you sign a print selector agreement that library is committed to selecting and retaining the print publications until they supersede. If you are agreeing to selected and after that volume, issue or addition has been superseded, at that point you can go ahead and withdraw if you like. You are not obligated to, you can hang onto it if you want to. This type of agreement only applies to current material. The goal of it is to make sure we still have paper copies of this stuff existing around in that area. At least until supersedes. If you sign up to become a print selector you have to fill out a form and it says which publications you will continue to select and receive annual list the duration of the retention. If you have questions about that I gave you a link to the instructions. The key point here is in 2015, the joint committee on printing or JCP, the legislative oversight authority, we are not executive branch. They specified that there be no fewer than four geographically dispersed tangible copies of the publication in the FDLP. Think about that. We need to create a framework or we can lock in or guarantee four geographically dispersed tangible copies. This is what we came up with. We were originally working with Census regions but we clustered into four regions and made a few adjustments here and there. With, each of these national collection service areas. Blue is West Green is Midwest South is pink and gray is Northeast. These geographic regions ensure permanent public access to federal government information products. The issue the sharing of resources among libraries and the receipt of services from GPO's. I think you will see this graphic an image of the country a lot more because we will focus a lot at the national collection service level. Out of that map which creates the geographic coverage of resources, we can outline under what circumstances the superintendent of documents can authorize a regional to weed a publication or deselect the tangible format and go online only for that. There are two superintendent of documents public policy statements setting that framework up first one is a government applications authorized for discard by regional depository libraries and the regional depository libraries selecting solely on my materials. Is to public policy statements, I give you the link to the statements if you're interested in reading them. What they actually do? They create a framework

that allows a regional to potentially discard or deselect something in a particular national collection service area. That first public policy statement. Address for discard by regional depository library. That enables the superintendent of documents to authorize regional depositories to weed certain publications from their regional collection. These are called regional discard eligibility or RDE. A publication has to qualify before it can get to this point aware regionals are authorized to discard something. We have to have on hand a preservation steward agreement for that print title and it has to be in that particular service area for the regionals to take a vantage of it. We have to have an equivalent version of that from a digital preservation steward or depository or trustworthy digital repository and regional has to have held that print material for at least five years. If all that criteria is met, the regionals may be authorized to issue an RDE. That you have to wait for the superintendent of documents to actually authorize it so they have to wait for the confirmation they are now authorized to do this. They cannot do see a preservation steward agreement and wheat it. You have to wait until your authorized. They have to make sure if they're thinking about going ahead to read this material you have to check that everything in their agreements that are on file are all in accordance. If a regional has said the public papers of the president will be housed in this other library and a regional has authorized to discard it. That library says we will go ahead and get rid of it, you need to update that shared housing agreement so I know that copy is no longer at that shared housing site anymore. Any shared housing agreement or regional agreement that deals with the title, that will get weeded. We need an updated version of those agreements. If a regional does in fact decide to read that material to have to submit a discard list to GPO and if there authorized, the need to upload those offers in the FDLP exchange. The second type of public policy statement we saw, the second policy with the regional depository library selecting solely on my materials, that outlines when the superintendent of documents can authorize regional depositories to go all digital or all online for certain titles. Those authorizations are what we call a regional online selection authorization or Rosa, is it nice to have and Ackerman acronym that sounds nice. Rosa, it nice and cheerful sounding. They are good because it allows them to go online only for certain titles. We got the acronym we are pretty happy. Basically ROSA allows regionals to go online for certain things . The requirements is that we have to have a print selector agreement or a preservation steward agreement for the preservation steward is agreeing to select and retain current material or data forward material. We have to have a guarantee that we will have a paper copy in the future. The equivalent version also has to be available on government info in a digital repository. If it meets those criteria than a regional may be authorized to go all-digital with the title. A regional sees there is a print selector agreement or a preservation steward for current material in my NCSA I should be able to go online with it , no, they have to wait for the superintendent of documents to authorize through a ROSA agreement that they can go online only. If they get that confirmation without notice that has been authorized they can deselect those item numbers and the need to make sure the online format is successful through cataloging or other suitable discovery tools. They need to let their selections know what's going on and a key point, just because are going online only in the future does not mean they could just weed out the material sitting on their shelves. Anything they received in the past they have to continue to hold onto or retain for the normal retention period. The JCP said we should never drop the four geographically dispersed copies. In reality there are typically 100s of copies deposited in regional and selective libraries all across the country. On the traditional FDLP framework on the left side, we knew for sure we have 46 copies of every tangible publication. We knew because that was a regional obligation. 46, one for each dot at the regional. On the right side we have this national collection service area framework. If you look is a document in Utah and 70 has signed either a print selector agreement preservation steward agreement. They are agreeing to select and hold onto something. We know we have a paper copy in Utah. That means the regionals and that national collection service area, those regionals may be authorized to weed or deselect that material moving forward. We still have all the other copies and NCSA's because they are still bound by the traditional FDLP network unless they get a preservation steward or print

steward agreement. The point and showing you this is to point out that we are never, I should say never, we are not getting close to four copies. We still have all of the existing regional copies and on top of that we have selective depositories who are also getting this material, you just are not seeing it selected here. I've been talking about weeding and deselecting and I thought I might be getting my wires crossed so I'm providing this slide more as an overview to highlight the fact that there are two types of agreements here, preservation steward agreements and print selector agreements. Two types of public policy statements that created the framework that we can work within, the regional discard one and going all online. Out of those two policies we have two types of authorizations that are created by regional discard eligibility and regional online selection authorization. The impact on the regionals is pretty immediate. They can weed something if they get a RDE notice and they can potentially go online only if they get a ROSA notice. That highlights what I've been trying to put on. At this point, let's talk about what has presently been authorized, regionals and all for national collection service areas have been authorized to leave, one has taken us up on the offer, regionals have also been authorized to weed the selective volumes of the public papers of the Presidents of the United States but to regionals took us up on that offer asking to weed those volumes. That number seems low to me but it makes sense. We are more than likely to get a preservation steward agreement for key, core titles and more likely to see in government info those key titles as well. People tend to not want to weed those titles. In the future we may start getting into other types of titles that regionals might be more inclined to potentially weed. On the other side we have ROSA, the things the regionals have authorized to go all online with. All for national collection service areas have been authorized to deselect the federal register paper, Congressional record daily, Code of Federal Regulations and see if our index and finding aids paper. The preliminary prints of select U.S. Congressional serial set series, not all of our NCSA's have been authorized to deselect that. The Western service area we don't have a preservation steward or print selector agreement so the Western service area regionals continue to have to select all of this titles. We are working on it. That some of y'all might be interested in knowing what some of our statistics are related to what is the impact on the regionals, I went and looked at, we started authorizing roses in July 2021. At that point I looked at for each title how many we had selecting it and then I went on May 1 into the same numbers. 2021 we still had the paper and microfiche format. It's a little bit confusing because the total is for the paper and the microfiche. We went from about 30% of our, all of our depositories used to get a tangible copy and now we are down to about 19% of our depositories get a tangible copy. For the congressional record daily, 25% of our libraries is to get a tangible copy and now we are down to 15% of her libraries getting a tangible copy. The Code of Federal Regulations is a little bit different. Back in 2021 we had about 42% of libraries getting a tangible copy, we are down to about 36% but there is a squiggle in there and I will explain that in a minute. Point of this being, you can see we have 250 libraries still selecting tangible paper copy of the Federal Register, we are not getting close to that threshold the numbers are going down. What happened between 2021 and 2023. A lot of people got used to the digital format because her libraries were closed. This trend makes sense. For the impact of the selection rate on the preliminary serial set series where qualifies, this is a little bit different because we did not issue this, we should the first one mid February, the second woman out late February and the third one went out early March. Some of these are not even two months old. The numbers have not changed that much. You can see the totals, February was like 100 selectors for the Senate documents. We went from 100 selectors down to 97. What this tells me is a couple things. It could be that regionals have no intention of deselecting their paper copy of the preliminary Errol serial set or it could mean they haven't yet had a chance to consult with their selective student gauge if there are any concerns over the loss of that paper copy. Either way is good. If you want to identify what your national collection service area is and maybe you need more detail than what's on that map to the Federal depository library directory do a search for your directory entry and you will see a field that will tell you what your national collection service area is and while you're in your directory take the time to review all the fields and make sure

every thing is up to date and your links all work and things like that. Any edits or changes, if there's a field you need to see updated but you cannot edit it, submit and ask GPO and we will get changed but the other place you can identify which are national collection service area is is if you go to FDLP.gov .

Don't worry about if there are other agreements that have been signed in your service area, redundancy of agreements is good, in several cases we have multiple libraries signed up to continue to get the rental register. We are good with that. The more the merrier. Don't worry about that. If we do see a new type of agreement come in for new content that we haven't yet dealt with before, we will evaluate whether or not to potentially qualify for regional discard or online selection. Remember just because you are preservation steward it does not necessarily mean there's an online equivalent suitable uncontrolled info or anything like that. We will take care of the legwork trying to figure out if it qualifies for a regional discard or online selection. If we do end up going that route an issue a RDE or ROSA, your regional may take us up on the offer or they may not. There might be a larger issue at play. An alternative if you're not signing a preservation steward agreement or print selector agreement is to consider at least working with in your local FDLP region and consider signing a shared housing agreement for regional copies. You are denoting the content you are holding is a regional copy and you will hold under regional retention roles and that frees up your regional self space because they can be selected moving forward. This slide is tacked on awkwardly. I want to remind people we have two news alerts that went out in 2022 and I think they got lost in the shuffle because we were issuing a lot of news alerts. I want to remind everyone across the board regional or selective, selective's can't select the congressional record bound edition, supreme court slip opinions and be bound edition of the U.S. Congressional serial set. If your selective depository, until April 2022 you are not able to select those titles but you are now. If you're interested in getting the paper edition of those things, you can login and put on the selection profile, it will not kick in until October 1 which is the start of the federal fiscal year. If there is a unique situation you're dealing with, reach out to us and we will walk you through your options. A reminder, in January 2022, we split the CFR out. It used to be one item number for all 50 titles but it is now 49 item numbers, there is no title 35, it's been retired. 49 item numbers. We split it out because people were telling us that they did not want to select the entire run of the CFR, they just wanted portions of the CFR. Most people and they tend to select portions of CFR they tend to just want title III which are presidential executive orders so I checked the numbers this morning and we have 384 libraries that continue to select all the titles of the CFR but we also have 20 libraries that have gone in and selected certain titles they no longer wish to get in Mostar title III. I gave you the two news alerts there in case you're interested.

That was the end of what I wanted to comment on, I need to circle back, Kelly, have you been keeping track of the chat?

Most of the questions have been taken care of by other staffers but Suzanne asked on the bottom of the list, should copies of SHA be included in the FDLP directory ?

If you log into ask GPO and go to my agreements you can actually upload your selective housing agreement. That will trigger a workflow. My grip can go through all of these steps and login and at that point you and another depository library can see that agreement on file. The current agreement or recent, chances are we already have a copy just hasn't been integrated yet that is one of those workflows we need to hash out how will we get all of the existing shared housing agreements that we know we have on file in a separate electronic folder, how to get the integrated in the directory. It will be an interesting project to plow through. If you have a new agreement or just want to take the initiative, you can log into the directory and upload it yourself.

Trina says she's interested in selection title III of the CFR, can you remind me when and how to do that?

You are already selecting title III and that's all you meant Minuit need to log in and deselect the item numbers that are not title III. Chances are you are getting the entire run. If you're not already profiled for title III but you want to profile for title III, you'd log in and add it to your selection cart at any time. It will not become effective until October 1 because there is the federal fiscal year cycle that we have to contend with. On October 1 it would take all of the things in your selection cart that are tangible and it would become active. If there something going on in your library and you have a weird circumstance and you want to effective immediately, reach out and we will see if we can make that happen for you. Barbara's providing item number. Thank you, the place to identify the item numbers that you're dealing with will be the list of classes file and Carol is asking cannot explain the regional map on page 17 again. Okay. The left side is the current regional depositories on the regular map the right side is the national collection service area framework but in this case I proposed that somebody in Utah has signed a preservation steward agreement or print selector agreement and in that case because of that, the regionals and that service area have been authorized to eat or deselect, this is hypothetical. The other regionals are not obligated to get it at that point in time. They might still be getting it but they're not obligated at that point in time. We know for our purposes that we have one copy in that service area so we are meeting the requirements of having no fewer than four in a geographically dispersed area. Specifically why California only has one.. On the left side California has one.because California has one designated regional. With in California you have an interesting arrangement creating two conference of collections, in North and South I believe. I'm not the most versed in what is going on in California but per your designation paperwork, the thing your senator signed probably back in the 60s, your senator signed off saying that one library is your designated regional. Hi Carol. Used to work with Carol at the University of Maryland. Do you have any other questions? Kelly puppy satisfaction survey. Thank you. I'm hopeful this is helped you understand the emails you may see coming to your inbox. If you see we are emailing you to say you regional has been authorized to do this, I hope you understand what's going on there. There trying to leap you in so you understand that the conference of collections are being managed a little bit differently these days but as we get fewer and fewer copies we are keeping really good track of what is going on we hope. Hubley moving into the future we have a strong safety net so you don't lose or create a gap somewhere in the country. I'm not seeing any more questions. Guess with that, thank you much for joining us. If you do have any questions, submit the ask GPO question or reach out to me directly. Other than that, have a great day. [Event concluded] [Event Concluded]