

Technical Bulletin: Re-Issue – Enhanced Database File (DBF) Format Available for Data Distributed by LIDS

Data Classes Affected: 43 Structured Data Classes (see table on page two for complete listing)

Change Effective Date: January 29, 2007

Overview: The methodology for creating the enhanced database file (DBF) format has been corrected. The following is a recap of the initial technical bulletin:

In an effort to make our Standard NRVIS Interchange Format (SNIF) packages easier to use, an enhanced database file format (DBF) has been implemented for 43 of LIO's structured data classes. As of January 29, 2007, 43 of the most requested data classes will have additional attributes including the values and codes associated with look-up tables added to the DBF portion of the shapefile. All new structured data classes will include this enhancement. The enhancement will be implemented for other classes on an on-going basis.

This change will be particularly beneficial to subscribers who use the spatial information associated with structured data classes and also require additional attribute information. Attributes in tables that share a 1:1 relationship with the master table will be added to the shapefile. Attributes that have other relationships will not be included in DBF files (e.g. one to many).

A limitation of this enhancement is that column names will be restricted to 10 characters instead of the full column name currently found in the Warehouse. Every effort was made to make the column names as descriptive as possible.

The DBF enhancement will be reflected within the SNIF reports for each of the 43 data classes to help users understand where the data came from and how to best use it. The revised SNIF reports are available in the LIO Data Catalogue on our Web site at: http://publicdocs.mnr.gov.on.ca/View.asp?Document_ID=9553&Attachment_ID=23349.

Please note that the SNIF enhanced DBF is only available via the Land Information Data Subscription (LIDS) application.

Action Required: Users should download revised data class as necessary from LIDS.

Summary: All of the 43 identified data classes will have the enhanced DBF (see table below). By ordering data using the “graphics only” option in LIDS, the data should be readily usable by GIS software that can read shapefiles. The “subset” and “full” option will deliver both the enhanced DBF and the attribute data files (e.g. “.tbl”). For many subscribers, this will eliminate the post-processing required when using the full version of the SNIF package.

List of Affected Classes		
Airport	ANSI	Aquatic Feeding Area
Bear Management Area	Breeding Area	Calving Fawning Area
Conservation Area	Conservation Reserve Regulated	Cottage Residential Site
Den Site	Feeding Area Fish	Feeding Area Wildlife
Habitat Planning Range	Land Ownership	Lot
Mineral Deposit	National Park	Nesting Site
Nursery Area Fish	Nursery Area Wildlife	Pit or Quarry
Provincial Park Regulated	Railway	Recreation Camp
Recreation or Access Point	Research Plot	Resting Area
Road Segment	Significant Ecological Area	Spawning Area
Staging Area Fish	Staging Area Wildlife	Tourism Establishment Area
Tower	Trail Segment	Trapline Area
Trapper Cabin	Travel Corridor Fish	Travel Corridor Wildlife
Utility Line	Utility Site	Wetland Unit
Wintering Area		

Additional Notes: All new and modified data classes will have an enhanced DBF as part of future implementations.

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Additional Information

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