

Standards at the ESIP 2020 Winter Meeting

There was a lot going on at the ESIP meeting in the area of standards activities. ESIP is not itself a standards body, but ESIP members are actively helping to develop standards, specifications, and best practices in the areas of data discovery and access, data analytics, and metadata content to name a few. At the winter ESIP there were presentations and working sessions diving into these topics:

- [Open Geospatial Consortium \(OGC\) APIs for coverage data access](#)
- [Cloud optimized GeoTIFF](#)
- [SpatioTemporal Asset Catalogs \(STAC\)](#)
- [Zarr](#)
- [Linked data](#) and [knowledge graph exchange](#)
- [Metadata quality metrics and practices](#)
- [Geoscience ontologies](#)

New at this meeting was a joint [OGC/ESIP two-day sprint](#) to further develop [OGC API - Coverages](#) - an API to provide access to coverage processing and analysis services. This was a deep-dive working session and the outcome was a better-defined API based on the [OpenAPI](#) Specification.

Many of these standards and specifications are very relevant to cloud computing by supporting new APIs, data formats, and workflow tools that allow efficient access of data without having to move entire files or datasets from one location to another.

If you want to learn more, the [ESIP YouTube channel](#) has videos of sessions as well as a [video of winter meeting highlights](#). Many of the sessions' presentation materials are available on [figshare](#).

The image shows two screenshots. The top screenshot is of the ESIP YouTube channel, which has 235 subscribers. The channel's banner features a grid of colorful satellite and map images. Below the banner, the 'Uploads' section displays five video thumbnails: '2020 ESIP Winter Meeting Meeting Highlights W...' (1:16:00), 'Advanced Sensor Fusion and Data Readiness - Dr. Rasmu...' (5:25), 'Participatory design and evaluation of a 3D-Printed...' (1:29:28), 'Datacubes for Analysis-Ready Data: Standards &...' (1:24:42), and 'Fire effects on soil morphology across time...' (1:33:02). The bottom screenshot is of the ESIP website, showing a search bar with 'standards' entered. Below the search bar, there is a grid of research results from the ESIP Winter 2020 meeting, including presentations on OGC Innovation Program, Datacubes for Analysis-Ready Data, Building Loc-4: Spinning up a spatial knowledge graph, metCDF-4D: Enabling Linked Data for metCDF, How Mature is Your Data? CuMET, Can We Trust the Power of the Crowd? A Look at Citizen Science, Rapid Flood Damage Mapping and Information Dissemination During, Cloud Native Data Processing and Visualization Techniques for Earth, and Citizen Science Data Quality: The GLOBE Program.

The [ESDIS Standards Coordination Office \(ESCO\)](#) closely monitors and participates in these kinds of activities on behalf of the [NASA Earth Science Data Systems \(ESDS\)](#) program. We're tasked with raising awareness of current and emerging standards and practices within the NASA Earth science community, encouraging the development of new standards that benefit future development, and in designating standards and practices for use in NASA Earth science data systems.

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