

## GLOSSARY

<b>GML</b>	<p><i>Geography Markup Language</i> is the OGC specification for encoding the location and attributes of geographic features in an XML format. GML is the default data transport framework for Web Feature Services (WFS). GML only stores the feature data (geometry and attributes) rather than how to render or display the features, and is therefore described as separating content from presentation. GML also be used as an interchange file format between GIS software.</p>
<b>GML-SF</b>	<p><i>Simple Features Profile of GML</i> is a subset (profile) of GML which focuses on the storage of simple features such as points, lines and polygons. This profile is typically what is supported by vendors in most GIS software (rather than the full GML specification).</p>
<b>KML</b>	<p><i>Keyhole Markup Language</i> is an XML-based markup language for locating and visualizing features on a 2D or 3D digital map/surface (e.g., Google Earth/Maps). Originally developed by Keyhole, Inc. who was acquired by Google in 2004. KML is currently under review by OGC as a new standard. Includes tags and attributes that allow the user to describe how the feature should be rendered and visualized on the digital map. Uses geographic coordinates (lat/long) in WGS84 for its coordinate reference system.</p>
<b>KMZ</b>	<p>A KMZ file is a compressed (zipped) KML file.</p>
<b>Mashup</b>	<p>An application that combines similar types of data from multiple sources. Referred to as content aggregation. Term originated from music industry when a new song was made from several existing tracks.</p>
<b>OGC</b>	<p>The <i>Open Geospatial Consortium</i> is an international consortium of 346 organizations (founded in 1994) that lead the development of open standards and specifications to enable the interoperability of geospatial and location based services. They have developed a series of open standards (OpenGIS<sup>®</sup>) such as WMS, WFS, WCS and GML.</p>
<b>Portal</b>	<p>A web site that gathers data and metadata resources in one location to serve as a single point of entry to access data on the web.</p>
<b>Schema</b>	<p>The rules with which an XML document must conform. Specification of the valid tags, their hierarchy and the data types that can be stored within each tag.</p>
<b>Service Oriented Architecture</b>	<p>Architecture that is based on integrating “loosely coupled”, interoperable services. Services are not physically compiled together like an EXE or DLL, rather reside separately on different servers. These services can be invoked remotely.</p>

<b>SOAP</b>	<i>Simple Object Access Protocol</i> is an XML based protocol that allows applications to call web service functions, pass input parameters and receive results. This is the protocol on which web service communication is based.
<b>WCS</b>	<i>Web Coverage Service</i> is the OGC specification for implementing a “coverage” service for providing continuous surface data. Similar to WFS in that the service provides actual data for a requested geographic extent, however the data provided is continuous data that is returned in a grid format such as GeoTIFF.
<b>Web 2.0</b>	Refers to the second generation of the world wide web in which the web is being used as a “platform” for computing. This platform includes implementation of hosted services as a means for sharing data/functionality as well as interactive content such as Blogs, Wikis and social networking which encourage creativity, collaboration and sharing.
<b>Web Service</b>	A web service is an application service that provides one or more functions that can be remotely requested over the web. Each function within the service performs a specific task (e.g., generate a map). Clients remotely call a function on a web server. Input parameters and data output are passed back and forth in XML format using the SOAP protocol. Web services are independent of programming language and operating system.
<b>WFS</b>	<i>Web Feature Service</i> is the OGC specification for implementing a map (image) service. Client requests features from one or more layers within a specified geographic extent. Geometry and attributes of features are sent to client using GML as the data transport framework.
<b>WMS</b>	<i>Web Mapping Service</i> is the OGC specification for implementing a map (image) service. Client requests a map from a server for a specified geographic extent. The Map Server renders the requested map internally and converts to an image file (e.g., JPG, PNG, GIF) and returns the map image to the client for display.
<b>WSDL</b>	<i>Web Services Description Language</i> is an XML document that publishes a list of the functions available within a web service as well as their definitions
<b>XML</b>	<i>eXtensible Markup Language</i> is a tagged markup language like HTML, but is general purpose (users define tags). Documents are in plain text with opening and closing tags surrounding data. Designed to simplify storing and exchanging data.
<b>XSD</b>	<i>XML Schema Definition</i> file stores the schema for an XML document, which describes the rules with which an XML document must conform.