

# COPPUL Digital Stewardship Network Community of Practice Mixer

October 30, 2025 @ 12pm Pacific / 1pm Mountain / 2pm Central

Hosted by the [CDSN Community of Practice](#)

## Quick links:

[Join the Planning Committee](#) and help us organize events!  
[CARL Code of Conduct](#)

[Sign up for the mailing list](#)

## Suggested topics for future mixers:

- [ADD YOUR SUGGESTIONS HERE]

## AGENDA

- Brief overview of the [DPC Global 'Bit List' of Digital Materials](#)
- Round of introductions
- Community discussion
  - Have you used the Bit List before? If yes, how?
  - What materials or formats are you most interested in or affected by?
  - What changes do you think we might see in the 2025 release?

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Web Archiving Workflows - January 2026, TBD

# Community notes



## Brief overview of the [DPC Global 'Bit List' of Digital Materials](#)

“The report is reviewed and updated every two years, and highlights the digital content most at risk of being lost, based on real-world conditions and expert insight. By clearly identifying both the urgency of the threat and the value of the content, the Bit List shines a spotlight on the digital materials that demand immediate attention to ensure their survival.”

- DPC has been doing this since 2017, with updates every 2 years (with interim reports in-between)
  - [DPC prospectus](#) notes that an updated version will be released on November 6
- Put together by practitioners, reviewed & validated by experts around the world
  - Transparent with sources for decisions etc. & is lengthy as a result!
- Arranged to use 5 different levels of classification
  - Practically Extinct; Critically Endangered; Endangered; Vulnerable; Lower Risk
- [DPC Bit List Blog](#)
  - Highlights some ways folks have used the Bit List

## Community Discussion

Have you used the Bit List before? If yes, how?

- This session was helpful to move this resource to the top of the “to read/review” list!
- Accessible digital preservation resource
  - Not too technical
  - Has nuance and context for the resource types

- Transparency: Appreciate the history & commentary for each review, and information about how the Species etc. have changed over time
- Can be shared with both folks who have expertise or more general knowledge, outline who is impacted by loss
  - Adobe Flash (animators); hospital records, oral histories, etc.
- Who is “responsible” for preserving certain types of content?
  - For example, phone applications: A lot of variables in terms of open/proprietary content, versions/platforms, etc.; no one is fully responsible for the preservation
  - Internet Archive has [a collection of Flash items](#), but these are primarily sourced from community
  - Traditional knowledge - potentially Indigenous communities and/or community archives, but this needs to be done in partnership
  - The Bit List is a good example of the fact that just because something is digital doesn't mean the issue of preservation is solved!
  - Also the challenges of having the old hardware that's needed to actually read/use the older formats!
    - [Historic Computing Lab @ UVic Libraries](#)
- Helpful for advocacy
  - Demonstrating need to prioritize resourcing
  - External document with expert input
- The classifications can be very impactful
  - “I work on critically endangered formats!”
  - “Each item includes examples of Aggravating Conditions which amplify the risks a digital object faces, and Good Practice that would reduce the risk.”
    - This is very interesting! Shows how “it depends”
    - Show how the resourcing will have a significant effect, which is helpful for advocacy
    - Certain factors identified as Presence of Aggravating Condition or Good Practice can help identify smaller steps and/or prioritization of actions to reduce risk
  - Thinking about archival appraisal

- Can a deposit be flagged to identify that it needs more attention in a certain aspect?
- Donor relations - what long-term preservation can be realistic offer donors (level of preservation ([NDSA](#)), length, etc.)

What materials or formats are you most interested in or affected by?

- Electronic hospital & medical records (Endangered)
  - Use AI notetakers etc., but used a physical photocopied intake form from 10 years ago that reflects out-of-date information...
    - Demonstrates fragmentation & the range of technology that is being used for different parts of care
  - Legislation around how & how long records should be maintained etc.
    - Backup is not preservation 😊
  - Not a lot of interaction between the medical community and the digital preservation community
  - Balance between privacy/sensitivity & access/preservation - it's complex!
  - Hospital "admin" data and "research data" - those lines can be really fuzzy
    - These intersects with AI tools/methods are really interesting, since we do need to disentangle but how
    - With the triagency data policy this is now really coming to the forefront
  - Borealis [Statement on Sensitive and Confidential Data](#) and [Sensitive and Confidential Data Deposit Checklist](#)
- Interpretive materials (Endangered)
  - Helpful to see if one is already doing some of the recommended actions to reduce & mitigate risks!
- Grey literature (Critically Endangered)
  - 'Endangered' in the Presence of Good Practice: Use of persistent identifiers; embedded within repository infrastructure; quality assurance
- Oral Histories (Endangered)
  - Description: Oral histories including both audio and audiovisual (video and sound), and their accompanying transcripts and/or time-pointed summaries.

- Shows trending towards even greater risk after 2024 interim assessment, primarily in regards to digitization of content on magnetic physical media
- Also notes that it may be re-scoped to “Oral Histories and Audiovisual Interviews” to be more broad/inclusive
- Change is not necessarily bad, but there can be concerns in how it’s done, and if/how it’s been hidden (transparency & retention of original object is important!)

What changes do you think we might see in the 2025 release?

- Changes to scope & definitions of some entries
  - Oral histories, politically sensitive data
- Addition of AI/machine learning data/code?
- Impact of consolidation (e.g. smaller video game companies being bought by a larger corporate company)
- Things that were captured in social media platforms that are now lost?
- “The Global Bit List of Endangered Digital Species is open for nominations of at-risk material from the digital preservation community all year round.”