



## **Giving Metadata Files a Title**

Titles can be helpful or misleading. When you write your metadata, you need to use a title that helps readers interpret your file quickly. Avoid ambiguity, consider all the possible misreadings of your word choices, and include as many details as you can so that readers can surmise what's in your data before they go further.

Look at the titles below. Think about everything you learned about the data set from the title. Jot down the remaining questions you have about the data set described. How would you improve the title?

Yellow-Cedar Decline Cumulative Survey 1998

Forest Damage Survey for 1995

Landuse Polygon Coverage for Newark\_East\_NE (USGS 3 3/4 Quarterquad)

I&D Survey Flightline 1989

State Boundary Monument Data Base

Map and Aerial Photo Inventory

Motorized Boat Launches of Washington State

Nitrogen Study 9/99

Sample Nitrogen Levels of the Tar River at Goldsboro North Carolina:  
September, 1999

**Don't Duck  
Metadata**

