

SBAG Roadmap

Data Archiving

 Small bodies data has no expiration date. This mandates that there be a long-term archive for this and other like data and that the data be accessible and kept in a form with sufficient documentation to allow that data to be usable beyond the life of the provider. This is the purpose of PDS.

 Small bodies data includes sources from spacecraft, ground-based telescopes, laboratory studies, modeling and simulations. Capture of all such data into PDS is important. Predictability of data deliveries is also important (from missions and funded programs).

PMDAP supports the creation of datasets for archiving.

Should programs funding the acquisition of data require (and fund) the archiving of that data within the grant period?

NASA should define a consistent data delivery policy for missions, track its compliance and enforce it.

 Long-term archiving motivates the need to develop an archival format for each data type and translation services to and from popular formats du jour.

Everyone, including missions, would have to submit data products to PDS in an archival format. PDS would provide help (not funding) to missions to set up data pipelines, and would provide translation tools for individual researchers.

 Development of tools to find and access data essential (e.g., http://sbn.psi.edu/ferret/).

How many people use PDS to find and access small bodies data?

Ongoing engagement between PDS and the small bodies community is needed.