

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs; Office of Management and Budget; Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior; Washington, DC 20240; and a copy of the comments should be sent to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (MS 224 ARL SQ), 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Phyllis H. Cook, Information Collection Clearance Officer, 703/358-1943; 703/358-2269 (fax).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 26, 1996, the Service published in the **Federal Register** (61 FR 2470), a proposed rule which amended the test protocol for nontoxic shot approval procedures for shot and shot coatings. The principal purpose of this proposed rule making is to update and amend the current nontoxic shot approval procedures by establishing a 3-tiered approval process. Shot approval will be considered at each tier with the testing procedures becoming more demanding. An environmentally benign shot could be granted approval at the first tier. This process is designed to include both candidate shot and shot coating.

Comments were not solicited on the information collection requirements contained in the proposed rule cited above. The Service is now soliciting comments on the proposed information collection requirements prior to the issuance of the final rule amending the nontoxic shot approval procedures. The public is invited to comment on: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and, (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents on the requirements as outlined below.

Title: Text Protocol for Nontoxic Approval Procedures for Shot and Shot Coatings.

OMB Approval Number: 1018-0067.

Description and Use: As of January 1991, lead shot was banned for hunting waterfowl and coots in the United States. Steel shot was the only nontoxic alternative available. Since then, the Service has encouraged manufacturers to develop other alternatives that the hunting public may use. In approving a candidate material as nontoxic for hunting waterfowl and coots, the

Service must first ensure that the secondary exposure (ingestion of spent shot or its components) are not a hazard to migratory birds and the environment. In order to make this decision, the Service requires that applicant to submit information collected about the toxicity of their candidate material to migratory birds and the environment. This data provides the bulk of the application.

The information from scientific literature, risk assessment analysis, and toxicity studies, will be gathered and packaged by the applicant (company producing and/or marketing the shot or shot coating). The Service will utilize the information about the candidate material to approve or deny a designation as nontoxic for hunting waterfowl and coots.

Frequency of collection: On occasion.

Description of respondents: Business or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated completion time: The Service estimates it will take 3,200 hours for an applicant to submit the requested information.

Annual responses: 1.

Annual burden hours: 3,200.

Dated: March 21, 1997.

Carolyn A. Bohan,

Assistant Director, Refuges and Wildlife.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-591); Technical Corrections to the Coastal Barrier Resources System

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Interior, through the Fish and Wildlife Service, has completed modifications to the boundaries of two units of the Coastal Barrier Resources System (System), one in New York (NY-59P) and one in South Carolina (SC-01), as required by Public Law 104-148 and Public Law 104-265, respectively. The purpose of this notice is to inform the public about the filing, distribution, and availability of maps reflecting these modifications.

DATES: The boundary revision for Unit NY-59P became effective on May 24, 1996; the boundary revision for Unit SC-01 became effective on October 9, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the revised maps for the two System units are available for purchase from the U.S. Geological Survey, Earth Science Information Center, P.O. Box 25286, Denver, Colorado 80225. Official maps can be viewed at the Fish and Wildlife Service offices listed in the appendix.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Contact Ms. Denise Henne, Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Habitat Conservation, (703) 358-2201.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 2 of Public Law 104-148 requires the Department to modify the maps of the System to move the eastern boundary of the excluded area of the Fire Island Unit NY-59P (covering Ocean Beach, Seaview, Ocean Bay Park, and part of Point O' Woods) to the western boundary of the Sunken Forest Preserve. This law further directs the Department to ensure that the depiction of "otherwise protected areas" does not include any area owned by the Point O' Woods Association, a privately held corporation under the laws of the State of New York.

Section 201 of Public Law 104-265 requires the Department of the Interior to modify the maps of the Coastal Barrier Resources System to move the southernmost boundary of the Long Pond Unit SC-01 to exclude from the unit structures known as "Lands End," "Beachwalk," and "Courtyard Villas" and extend the boundary in a straight line between the coast and north boundary of the unit at the break in development.

Copies of the revised System maps have been filed with the House of Representatives Committee on Resources and the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. Copies of these maps have been distributed to the Chief Executive Officer (or representative) of each appropriate Federal, State, or local agency having jurisdiction over the areas in which the modified units are located. Copies of the maps are also available for inspection at Service headquarters, regional, and field offices (see addresses in appendix).

Dated: April 10, 1997.

John G. Rogers,

Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

Appendix—Location of Maps Available for Review

Headquarters Office

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 400, Arlington,

VA 22203, (703) 358-2201 (All System Maps)

Regional Offices

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Westgate Center Drive, Hadley, MA 01035-9589, (413) 253-8614 (NY-59P)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1875 Century Blvd., Atlanta, GA 30345, (404) 679-7086 (SC-01)

Field Offices

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 3817 Luker Road, Cortland, NY 13045, (607) 753-9334 (NY-59P)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 217 Fort Johnson Road, Charleston, SC 29412, (803) 727-4707 (SC-01)

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC); Public Review of Content Standards for Digital Geospatial Metadata

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) is sponsoring a public review to review the Content Standards for Digital Geospatial Metadata, known as the FGDC Metadata Standard. After this public review, the revised Standard will be considered for adoption as a revised FGDC standard. The Standard must be followed by all Federal agencies to document all geospatial data collected directly or indirectly, through grants, partnerships, or contracts. In its assigned leadership role for developing the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), the FGDC also intends that the Metadata Standard meet the needs and recognize the view of State and local governments, academia, industry, and the public. The purpose of this notice is to solicit the views of these groups.

This review is limited to three areas:

(1) Formalizing a method of creating "user-defined" metadata elements; elements outside the present Standard, but needed by the data producer; (2) establishing the methodology for creating a customized metadata profile, such as those for cultural and demographic data sets; and (3) refining the Standard's production rules for implementation. A second public review, to be announced later this summer, will address additional user concerns and the relationship between the FGDC Metadata Standard and the

International Standards Organization (ISO) Metadata Standard. The comments received at that time will contribute to the United States' position on the ISO standard.

For the current review, the proposed modifications will make the FGDC Metadata Standard easier to use while keeping it compatible with the emerging ISO Standard. It is desirable that the modifications resulting from the review do not adversely affect present compliant metadata implementations. The highest priority is compatibility with metadata collected under the current FGDC Metadata Standard.

Since the FGDC Metadata Standard was approved in 1994, it has been implemented by numerous Federal, state, and local agencies, companies, and groups. It has also been used by other nations as they develop their own national metadata standards. Changes to the FGDC Metadata Standard have been suggested during the time since it was issued. In 1995 an implementor's workshop was held specifically to discuss strengths, weaknesses, and proposed improvements. Drawing on this body of knowledge, the FGDC proposes to modify the current Metadata Standard in the three areas described above.

The public review is open to all interested parties, and all are encouraged to participate. Participants in the public review are encouraged to limit their comments to the specific modifications in the proposed revision. All participants who make comments during the public review period will receive an acknowledgment of their comment. After comments have been considered, participants will receive notification of how their comments were addressed. After the formal adoption of the revised Standard by the FGDC, the revised Standard, and a summary analysis of the changes, will be made available at the FGDC World Wide Web (WWW) site. The primary review activity will be conducted on the Internet, using Web sites, electronic mail and an online HyperNews threaded discussion list. However, Internet access is not required, and participants wishing to use other means should contact the FGDC. Currently available documents include a description of the public review process and scope of the Standard revision activity, the current FGDC Metadata Standard, the Draft Revised Standard, and an explanation of the modifications to the current Standard.

DATES: The public review will be open, and comments will be accepted until July 9, 1997.

CONTACT AND ADDRESSES: Requests for written copies of the "Content Standards for Digital Geospatial Metadata" should be addressed to: FGDC Secretariat (Attention: Jennifer Fox), U.S. Geological Survey, 590 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia, 20192; telephone 703.648.5514; facsimile 703.648.5755; or Internet "metadata@www.fgdc.gov". For answers to metadata related questions, please call Richard Pearsall 703.648.4532 or Ruth Hildenberger 703.648.6084.

There are three ways to participate in the public review:

1. The FGDC Web site link to the Metadata Standard public review site at <http://www.fgdc.gov>.

The Metadata Standard public review Web site is the focal point of information distribution during the public review period. News, announcements, documents, and the entrance to the HyperNews on-line threaded discussion list can be found here. In addition, this page links to the other methods of participation in the public review. Using an Internet browser, participants can make a suggestion, comment on another's suggestion, or propose a new idea. The discussion is presented as a set of topics with comments, similar to news groups in Usenet. Users can log on to read, respond, and propose new topics for discussion. All topics and comments in this forum are available to everyone. This particular HyperNews site contains topics relevant to this limited scope revision.

2. Metadata-related electronic mail to metadata@www.fgdc.gov

An electronic mail account has been established to receive correspondence relating to the Standard and the public review. This electronic address may be used to send comments directly to the FGDC. Also, if a participant wants to comment in the HyperNews discussion and remain anonymous, they may send their comment and request to this address. The comment will be placed into HyperNews without the author's name. Participants who would like to make a comment directly to the FGDC or would like to remain anonymous in the HyperNews discussion should send electronic mail to this address.

3. Participation without Internet access or without computer access.

Participants may contact the FGDC at the address given above for paper copies of the revision documents or copies of the HyperNews on-line threaded discussion list.

Participants without computer access interested in having their comments