

The Peregrine Fund's "Safe Harbor" program.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC); Public Comment on the Proposal to Develop the "FGDC Standard for a Geologic Data Model" as a Federal Geographic Data Committee Standard

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The FGDC is soliciting public comments on the proposal to develop a "FGDC Standard for a Geologic Data Model." If the proposal is approved, the standard will be developed following the FGDC standards development and approval process. If the standard is adopted by the FGDC, it must be followed by all Federal agencies collecting geologic data directly or indirectly, through grants, partnerships, or contracts.

In its assigned Federal leadership in the development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), the FGDC recognizes that FGDC standards must also meet the needs and recognize the views of State and local governments, academia, industry, and the public. The purpose of this notice is to solicit such views. The FGDC invites the community to review the proposal and comment on the objectives, scope, approach, and usability of the proposed standard; identify existing related standards; and indicate their interest in participating in the development of the standard.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 19, 1997.

CONTACT AND ADDRESSES: The complete proposal is included in this notice. It is also posted at Internet address: <http://www.fgdc.gov/Standards/Documents/Proposals/geomod.html>

Comments may be submitted via Internet mail or by submitting an electronic copy on diskette. Send comments via Internet to: gdc-geomod@www.gdc.gov. Comments e-mailed as attachments must be in ASCII format.

A soft copy version may be submitted on a 3.5 x 3.5 diskette in WordPerfect 5.0 or 6.0/6.1 format, along with one hardcopy version of the comments, to the FGDC Secretariat (attn: Jennifer Fox) at U.S. Geological Survey, 590 National

Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia, 20192.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Following is the complete proposal for the "FGDC Standard for a Geologic Data Model".

Project Title: FGDC Standard for Geologic Data Model.

Date of Proposal: April 18, 1997, revised: July 14, 1997.

Type of Standard Proposed: Logical Data Model.

Submitting Organization: FGDC Geologic Data Subcommittee.

Point of Contact: David R. Soller, USGS.

Objectives: The objective of this standard is to create a logical data model that will describe the various critical entities of a geologic map and the relations among them.

Scope: This standard will describe how geologic map information will be configured in digital format, and will not proscribe methods by which geologic maps will be made. Geologic maps are very diverse in the type of information contained. The developers of the geologic map data model recognize this diversity, but will focus on the elements of geologic maps that are common to all or at least most geologic maps. In recognition of the diversity of information in geologic maps, the data model is being designed to allow for development of extensions to the standard. The intent is to develop and propose a standard that is widely accepted by map producers using a wide variety of computer and software systems.

Justification/Benefits: Geologic maps are produced by various State and Federal agencies, according to various locally-developed guidelines for content and form. A geologic data model is needed by the geoscience community to provide consistency to the map data that are archived and served to the public and to promote the exchange of digital map data. The model will aid in the development of systematic mapping coverage for the Nation, and will facilitate production of a variety of derivative map products from a geologic map database, as mandated by the Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.

Development Approach: A Geologic Data Model working map group has been formed through an agreement between the Association of American State Geologists (AAQSG) Digital Geologic Mapping Committee and the USGS National Geologic Map Database project. The working group is staffed by technical experts from the USGS, the State geological surveys, and the Geological Survey of Canada. The following steps will be taken:

- Define the general framework of the model (done—the working group has defined an entity-relationship model)

- Develop the model through presentation and discussion at public forums, and prepare it for general public review (in progress)

- Provide to the public a document describing the model and an implementation of the model (e.g., a set of ArcView software tools) for informal evaluation among the USGS, AASG, Geological Survey of Canada, the Geologic Data Subcommittee, and other interested parties (Summer, 1997)

- Revise the document according to comments received (late 1997)

- Prepare a formal document containing the revised model and implementation for consideration by the Geologic Data Subcommittee (Spring, 1998)

- After final Subcommittee comment, submit to the FGDC (Spring, 1998)

Related Standards: Geological Survey of Canada logical data model used for FieldLog software; British Geological Survey Logical Data Model (Technical Report WO/93/20R).

Development and Completion Schedule: see Development Approach.

Resources Required: The USGS, AASG, and Geological Survey of Canada are providing the resources to develop the model. The GDS will require resources to develop a draft for public review.

Potential Participants: The USGS, the AASG, the Geological Survey of Canada, and professional societies.

Other Targeted Authorization Bodies: None. However, the GDS will consider whether to propose the standard to other standards organizations such as ASTM.

Dated: November 25, 1997.

John Fischer,

Acting Chief, National Mapping Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC); Public Comment on the Proposal To Develop the "FGDC Standard for Geologic Map Symbolization" as a Federal Geographic Data Committee Standard

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The FGDC is soliciting public comments on the proposal to develop a "FGDC Standard for Geologic Map Symbolization." If the proposal is