

procedures that do not constitute a development decision affecting the physical condition of specific project areas or building sites. Accordingly, under 24 CFR 50.19(c)(6), this notice is categorically excluded from environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321).

Executive Order 13132, Federalism

This notice does not have federalism implications and does not impose substantial direct compliance costs on State and local governments or preempt State law within the meaning of Executive Order 13132 (entitled "Federalism").

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for this program is 14.187)

Dated: January 5, 2001.

Andrew Cuomo,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-771 Filed 1-9-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-27-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability, Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Fish & Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service), on behalf of the Department of the Interior (DOI), as a Natural Resource Trustee (Trustee), announces the release for public review of the Draft Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment (RP/EA) for Operable Unit 3 (OU-3) of the Asbestos Dump Superfund Site, Morris County, New Jersey. The Draft RP/EA describes the DOI's proposal to restore natural resources injured as a result of chemical contamination at the Asbestos Dump Superfund Site.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 26, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the Draft RP/EA may be made to: Clay Stern, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, New Jersey Field Office, 927 North Main Street, Pleasantville, New Jersey, 08232.

Written comments or materials regarding the Draft RP/EA should be sent to the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clay Stern, Environmental Contaminants Branch, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

New Jersey Field Office, 927 North Main Street, Pleasantville, New Jersey, 08232. Interested parties may also call 609/383-3938, x27 or send e-mail to clay_stern@fws.gov for further information.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the authority of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980 as amended, commonly known as Superfund, (42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*), * * * "[Trustees] may assess damages to natural resources resulting from a discharge of oil or a release of a hazardous substance * * * and may seek to recover those damages." Natural resource damage assessments are separate from the cleanup actions undertaken at a hazardous waste site, and provide a process whereby the Trustees can determine the proper compensation to the public for injury to natural resources. At Operable Unit 3 of the Asbestos Dump Superfund Site in Morris County, New Jersey, DOI was the sole natural resources trustee involved in the federal government's settlement with the National Gypsum Corporation (NGC). The Service, acting on behalf of the DOI, determined that contamination at OU-3 had degraded and injured trust resources within the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. The injuries resulted from the deposition of asbestos containing materials, and mercuric and lead based compounds at the 5.58 acre site.

As part of a Consent Decree between the United States and NGC for response and restoration claims, DOI settled with NGC for natural resource damages. The settlement of approximately \$3.6 million was designated for restoration, replacement, or acquisition of the equivalent natural resources injured by the release of contaminants at the site.

The Draft RP/EA is being released in accordance with section 111(i) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9611(i) and NEPA. The Draft RP/EA describes several natural resource restoration, acquisition, and protection alternatives identified by the DOI, and evaluates each of the possible alternatives based on all relevant considerations. The DOI's Preferred Alternative is to use the settlement funds in a combination of projects aimed to restore, enhance, and protect in perpetuity, fish and wildlife habitat within the Great Swamp Watershed. Details regarding the proposed projects are contained in the Draft RP/EA.

Interested members of the public are invited to review and comment on the Draft RP/EA. Copies of the Draft RP/EA

are available from the Service's New Jersey Field Office at 927 North Main Street, Pleasantville, New Jersey, 08232, or at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters, 152 Pleasantville, New Jersey, 08232, or at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters, 152 Pleasant Plains Road, Basking Ridge, New Jersey, 07920. Additionally, the Draft RP/EA is available for review at the Long Hill Township Library, 91 Central Avenue, Stirling, New Jersey, 07980, and the Harding Township Town Hall, located at the corners of Blue Mill Road and Sand Spring Road, New Vernon, New Jersey, 07976. All comments received on the Draft RP/EA will be considered and a response provided either through revision of this Draft RP/EA and incorporation into the Final Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment, or by letter to the commenter.

Author

The primary author of this notice is Clay Stern, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, New Jersey Field Office, 927 North Main Street, Pleasantville, New Jersey, 08232.

Authority

The authority for this action is the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980 as amended, commonly known as Superfund, (42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*).

Dated: January 3, 2001.

G. Adam O'Hara,

Acting Regional Director, Region 5, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 01-593 Filed 1-9-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

U.S. Geological Survey

Technology Transfer Act of 1986

AGENCY: U.S. Geological Survey, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of proposed Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) negotiations.

SUMMARY: The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is planning to enter into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with Florida International University (FIU). The USGS, working with the High-Performance Database Research Center (HPDRC) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Regional Applications Center (RAC), co-located in the Computer Science Department of FIU, will perform joint

research and development in seamless database development and the public display and dissemination of seamless satellite, aerial, and other geo-spatial data over the Internet for scientific and commercial uses. Any other organization interested in pursuing the possibility of a CRADA for similar kinds of activities should contact the USGS.

ADDRESSES: Inquiries may be addressed to the Chief, Systems and Technology, U.S. Geological Survey, 500 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 20192; telephone (703) 648-5084, facsimile (703) 648-4706; internet blowell@usgs.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brent H. Lowell, address above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is to meet the USGS requirement stipulated in the Survey Manual.

Dated: December 28, 2000.

John A. Kelmelis,

Acting Associate Director for Geography.

[FR Doc. 01-618 Filed 1-9-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-Y7-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

U.S. Geological Survey

Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC); Application Notice Announcing the Opening Date for Transmittal of Applications for Funding Assistance Under the FGDC National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Cooperative Agreements Program (CAP) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001

AGENCY: U.S. Geological Survey, Interior.

ACTION: Notice inviting applications for the NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program awards for fiscal year 2001, with performance to begin in August 2001.

SUMMARY: The purpose of the NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program is to facilitate and foster partnerships, alliances and technology within and among various public and private entities to assist in building the NSDI. The NSDI consists of technologies, policies, organizations and people necessary to promote cost-effective production, ready availability, and greater utilization of high quality geospatial data among a variety of sectors, disciplines and communities.

The FY 2001 NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program will fund projects in five categories of activities (1) metadata implementation assistance, (2) metadata trainer assistance, (3)

clearinghouse integration with web mapping, and (4) U.S. and Canadian framework collaborative projects. Applications may be submitted by Federal agencies, State and local government agencies, educational institutions, private firms, non-profit foundations, and Federally acknowledged or state-recognized Native American tribes or groups. Applications from Federal agencies will not be competed against applications from other sources. Authority for this program is contained in the Organic Act of march 3, 1879, 43 U.S.C. 31 and Executive Order 12906.

DATES: The program announcements and application forms for the FY 2001 NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program are expected to be available on or about January 15, 2001. Applications must be received on or before March 15, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Copies of Program Announcement #00HQPA0004 for the NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program, may be obtained by writing to Patricia Masterson, U.S. Geological Survey, Office of Federal Acquisition and Grants, National Assistance Programs Branch, MS 205G, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA 20192. Requests must be in writing; verbal requests will not be honored. Copies of each Program Announcement will be available through the Internet at www.usgs.gov/contracts/index.html and www.fgdc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For the NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program contact Ms. Patricia Masterson, U.S. Geological Survey, Office of Federal Acquisition and Grants, National Programs Assistance Branch, Mail Stop 205G, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 20192; (703) 648-7356, fax (703) 648-7359, email pmasters@usgs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program a total of \$1,000,000 is available for award.

2001 NSDI Cooperative Agreement Program Categories:

Category 1: "Don't Duck Metadata:" Metadata Implementation and Creation Assistance. The objectives for this category are the documentation of geospatial data through metadata creation and serving that documentation on the Internet through a NSDI clearinghouse. Under this category funds are provided for organizations needing assistance in receiving metadata training and in metadata creation.

Category 2: "Don't duck Metadata:" Metadata Trainer Assistance. Funding in this category is for those organizations and individuals that can

provide training assistance to other organizations in becoming skilled and knowledgeable in metadata creation.

Category 3: Clearinghouse Integration with Web Mapping provides funding to extend existing Clearinghouse Nodes with OpenGIS Consortium (OGC) Web Mapping Specification capabilities in a consistent way. These specifications allow map servers to create and send standard map images over the internet as GIF, PNG or JPEG in a manner that lets client software overlay and display multiple maps from multiple servers. Funding will be provided to assist organizations extending their existing Clearinghouse nodes with OGC-compliant web mapping service capability.

Category 4: Canadian/U.S. Framework Collaborative Project will support collaborative framework projects between organizations in the U.S. and Canada to coordinate, create, maintain and share basic geospatial data to support decision-making. The information content of the framework includes the data themes of geodetic control, digital orthoimagery, elevation, transportation, hydrography, governmental units, and cadastral data. The FGDC in partnership with the GeoConnections of Natural Resources Canada will fund lead organizations in their respective countries in collaborative cross-border projects.

Dated: January 3, 2001.

Hedy J Rossmessl,

Senior Program Advisor, U.S. Geological Survey.

[FR Doc. 01-617 Filed 1-9-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-Y7-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore Advisory Commission; Notice of Meeting Cancellation

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act that the meeting of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore Advisory Commission previously scheduled for Saturday, January 27, 2001 in Point Reyes, California will be cancelled.

The Advisory Commission was established by Public Law 92-589 to provide for the free exchange of ideas between the National Park Service and the public and to facilitate the solicitation of advice or other counsel from members of the public on problems pertinent to the National Park Service systems in Marin, San Francisco