

sport-hunted from the Baffin Bay polar bear population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

Applicant: Peter Mansfield, New York, NY, PRT-832731.

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport-hunted from the Southern Beaufort Sea polar bear population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

Applicant: William Shields, Yakima, WA, PRT-830610.

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport-hunted from the Northern Beaufort Sea polar bear population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

Written data or comments, requests for copies of the complete applications, or requests for a public hearing on any of these applications for marine mammal permits should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 430, Arlington, Virginia 22203, telephone 703/358-2104 or fax 703/358-2281 and must be received within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice. Anyone requesting a hearing should give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Director.

Documents and other information submitted with all of the applications listed in this notice are available for review, *subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act*, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice at the above address.

Dated: August 1, 1997.

Mary Ellen Amtower,

Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.

[FR Doc. 97-20856 Filed 8-6-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Request for Public Comments on Proposed Information Collection to be Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

The proposed information collection described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the

proposed collection instrument may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's clearance officer at the phone number listed below. Comments and suggestions on the proposal should be made within 30 days directly to the Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503, and to the Bureau Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia, 20192, telephone 703-648-7313.

Specific public comments are requested as to:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions on the bureaus, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of the bureau's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: "The National Atlas of the United States of America".

OMB approval number: New Collection.

Abstract: Potential customers of electronic national atlas products will be asked questions that provide (1) potential uses of these products; (2) type of personal computer used; (3) current method of acquiring atlas-type information; (4) demographic information; and (5) personal expectations from the products. Survey questionnaires will be distributed by mail in a return postage-paid format. Focus groups will be held at various locations across the United States and could include prototype product testing. Customers information gathered from the questionnaires and focus groups will be used to evaluate "The National Atlas of the United States of America" products and to make development adjustments based on customer responses. The proposed collection is limited in scope to the National Atlas products and the capability of the products to meet customer needs. The USGS intends to develop a cooperative research and development agreement with private industry to assist in product development and to provide an additional avenue for product distribution.

Bureau form number: None.

Frequency: An estimated 2-3 surveys and 5-8 focus groups per year to evaluate potential customer segments and reactions.

Description of respondents: Owners of powerful home personal computers, some with Internet access—potentially the general public, libraries, and schools.

Estimated completion time: Varies depending on the mechanism used: approximately 0.25 hour (15 minutes) per survey and 1 hour per focus group session.

Annual responses: Approximately 1,000 survey and 100 focus group responses.

Annual burden hours: 350.

Bureau clearance officer: John Cordyack, 703-648-7313.

Dated: July 28, 1997.

Richard E. Witmet,

Acting Chief, National Mapping Division.

[FR Doc. 97-20767 Filed 8-6-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-31-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC); Public Comment on the Proposal to Develop the "Spatial Data Transfer Standard (SDTS) Part 5: Raster Profile With Basic Image Interchange Format (BIIF) Extension" 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 "Spatial Data Transfer Standard (SDTS) Part 5: Raster Profile with Basic Image Interchange Format (BIIF) Extension." 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 when appropriate for the transferring of raster data directly or indirectly, through grants, partnerships, or contracts.

In its assigned leadership role for developing the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), the FGDC recognizes that the 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.

Project Title: Development of Spatial Data Transfer Standard (SDTS) Part 5: Raster Profile with Basic Image Interchange Format (BIIF) Extension.

Proposal Date: March 24, 1997, Revised June 4, 1997.

Submitting Organization: FGDC Subcommittee on Base Cartographic Data (SBCD).

Point Of Contact: John Crowe, USGS/ NMD Raster Data Standards Coordinator, (703)648-5596, jcrowe@usgs.gov.

Objective: The objective of this project is to develop a profile of SDTS, through the convergence of the Draft FIPS Part 5 Raster Profile of SDTS and the ISO/IEC Committee Draft 12087-5 Basic Image Interchange Format (BIIF) raster transmission standards. This Raster Profile with BIIF Extension, will expand the applicability of the SDTS raster profile to broaden the utility of the SDTS transfer format, providing a vehicle to enhance data sharing and to reduce redundant data production.

Scope: The SDTS Part 5 Raster Profile with BIIF Extension contains specifications of a profile for use with geo-referenced two dimensional raster data, and excludes vector data and three dimensional and higher dimension raster data. It is intended to provide a common transfer format to be used for interchange of raster image and raster grid data among all members of the data producer and user community. This profile is intended to replace the existing Draft FIPS SDTS Part 5 Raster Profile. The SDTS Part 5 Raster Profile with BIIF Extension falls into the "Transfer Standard" type as defined by the FGDC Standards working Group (SWG) Standards Reference Model.

Justification/benefits: This profile will provide a common transfer format, independent of technology, to enhance data sharing for raster data. The inclusion of a BIIF extension in this SDTS profile provides an extended data format providing a container for raster, symbol, and text, along with a mechanism for including image-related support data. This profile will apply directly to two dimensional digital elevation data (X-Y with Z as an attribute) and digital orthoimagery, two key components of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure framework. It will enhance data useability by providing a foundation for interoperability in the interchange of raster data among diverse applications.

The inclusion of BIIF capabilities in SDTS Part 5 provides the benefit of an extended data format. This satisfies the following requirements:

1. Provides convergence of civil and military raster standards.
2. Provides a means whereby diverse applications can share imagery and associated information.
3. Allows applications to exchange comprehensive information, allowing users to select only those data items that correspond to their needs and capabilities.
4. Minimizes pre and post processing of data.
5. Minimizes formatting overhead, particularly for applications exchanging a small amount of data over bandwidth-limited systems.
6. Provides Transportable File Structure (TFS) as a mechanism to exchange PIKS image and image-related objects.
7. Provides extensibility to accommodate future data, including objects.

Approach: Starting with the existing Draft FIPS Part 5 Raster Profile of SDTS and the most current version of BIIF, build an SDTS profile which provides the best of both standards for transferring two dimensional raster data while maintaining backward compatibility to existing raster profiles. The BIIF extension will be integrated with the existing Draft FIPS Part 5 Raster Profile of SDTS as an optional encoding of image data to include both raster grid and raster image data. The final product will be a profile which maintains the archival capabilities and focus of SDTS with optional extensions to allow inclusion of the imagery transmission focus of the BIIF. The BIIF extension provides a container for raster, symbol and text as well as a mechanism for inclusion of image related support data. The expanded capability of the new SDTS Part 5: Raster Profile with BIIF extension will broaden the applicability of the SDTS. The FGDC will provide the vehicle for wide participation and input from across the raster data user and producer communities.

Related Standards: Related standards which were used as reference in building the new SDTS Part 5: Raster Profile with BIIF Extension include the following. These standards will retain this relationship and may be used as reference, although they will be unaffected by the adoption of the proposed SDTS Part 5: Raster Profile with BIIF Extension.

ISO/IEC 12087-5—Information Technology Computer Graphics and Image Processing, Image Processing and Interchange Functional Specification Part 5: Basic Image Interchange Format. Committee Draft

23 November, 1996 STANAG 7074/ AGeP-3A—Digital Geographic Information Exchange Standard (DIGEST)

DMA Technical Manual 8358.1 Datums, Ellipsoids, Grids, and Grid Reference Systems

FGDC Content Standards for Digital Geospatial Metadata June 1994
GeoTIFF Draft Specification [ftp://mtritter.jpl.nasa.gov/pub/tiff/geotiff/, or ftp://ftpmcmc.cr.usgs.gov/release/geotiff/jpl mirror/]

JIEO/JITC Circular 9008—National Imagery Transmission Format Standards (NITFS) Certification Test and Evaluation Program Plan, 30 June 1993

STANAG 4545—NATO Secondary Imagery Format [Edition Study Draft 0.9]

The following standard, and profile, were used as reference for building the new profile. The SDTS Part 5: Raster Profile with BIIF Extension is intended to replace the current Draft Part 5: Raster Profile of the FIPS 173 SDTS Standards.

FIPS PUB 173—Spatial Data Transfer Standard (SDTS) 28 August 1992
Spatial Data Transfer Standard (SDTS)—Part 5, Raster Profile (Draft)

Both of the following Draft FGDC Standards currently point to the FIPS 173 Draft Part 5: Raster Profile of SDTS. If the proposed SDTS Part 5: Raster Profile with BIIF Extension is adopted, both will be modified to point to the new profile.

FGDC Draft Data Content Standards for Digital Orthoimagery (January 1997)
FGDC Draft Data Content Standards for Digital Elevation Data (January 1997)

Schedule: The SBCD will review the draft SDTS Part 5 with BIIF Extension in June of 1997. The SBCD will then submit the draft to the FGDC Standards Working Group (SWG) in July 1997. It is hoped that the SWG will review the draft, with the goal of determining its suitability for public review, in an expedient fashion. Once approved, the standard will be in public review for a minimum of three months.

Resources: The Raster Convergence Working Group has provided development resources for the preparation of the initial draft standard and will provide resources to assist in the adjudication of comments from the public review and approval process. The SBCD will provide additional resources to promulgate this standard through the FGDC standards development process.

Potential Participants: The primary participants in the development of the profile include NIMA and the USGS.

Other contributors include the Joint Interoperability Test Command (JITC), the BIIF editorship, Geomatics Canada, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Geodetic Data Center (NGDC), and the Digital Geographic Information Working Group, which represents the Digital Geographic Information Exchange Standard (DIGEST) under the auspices of NATO. The membership of the SBCD will provide a broad sponsorship for this standard. The public review and comment period will include an aggressive program of outreach to ensure a broad level of participation from the geospatial data community. Any of the contributing bodies mentioned above may be called on to participate in the adjudication of public review comments and the redrafting of the standard. There is also potential to include representatives of the commercial/private sector, State and local governments, as well as the academic community in the continuing development of this standard.

Target Authorization Body: The FGDC Steering Committee is the initial target authorization body for this standard. Once endorsed by the FGDC the intent is to seek ANSI endorsement of this standard.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before September 1, 1997.

CONTACT AND ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted via Internet mail or by submitting an electronic copy on diskette. Send comments via Internet to: gdc-raster@www.fgdc.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.

Dated: July 29, 1997.

Richard E. Witmer,
Chief, National Mapping Division.
[FR Doc. 97-20840 Filed 8-6-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-31-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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 Sedona GeoServices, Inc., Limerick, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the CRADA is to jointly research and develop new algorithms and advanced methods of automatic contour vectorization. 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 Acting Chief of Research, U.S. Geological Survey, National Mapping Division, 500 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 20192; Telephone (703) 648-4643, facsimile (703) 648-4706; Internet "ebrunsonusgs.gov".

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ernest B. Brunson, address above.

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

Dated: July 29, 1997.

Richard E. Witmer,
Chief, National Mapping Division.
[FR Doc. 97-20833 Filed 8-6-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-31-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AK-962-1410-00-P]

Notice for Publication; [AA-9249]; Alaska Native Claims Selection

In accordance with Departmental regulation 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that a decision to issue conveyance under the provisions of Sec. 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of December 18, 1971, 43 U.S.C. 1601, 1613(h)(1), will be issued to Calista Corporation for approximately 0.21 acre. The lands involved are in the vicinity of Nunivak Island, Alaska.

Seward Meridian, Alaska

T. 3 S., R. 95 W.,
Sec. 10.

A notice of the decision will be published once a week, for four (4) consecutive weeks, in the *Anchorage Daily News*. Copies of the decision may be obtained by contacting the Alaska State Office of the Bureau of Land Management, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599 ((907) 271-5960).

Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision, an agency of the Federal government or regional corporation,

shall have until September 8, 1997 to file an appeal. However, parties receiving service by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal. Appeals must be filed in the Bureau of Land Management at the address identified above, where the requirements for filing an appeal may be obtained. Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR part 4, subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

Patricia A. Baker,

Land Law Examiner, ANCSA Team, Branch of 962 Adjudication.

[FR Doc. 97-20781 Filed 8-6-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-055-1220-00]

Camping Closure on Certain Public Lands Managed by the Bureau of Land Management Within the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (NCA) Las Vegas District, Nevada

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Camping closure on selected public lands within the Red Rock Canyon NCA in Clark County, Nevada.

SUMMARY: The District Manager of the Las Vegas District announces a camping closure at Black Velvet Canyon within the Red Rock Canyon NCA.

The increased popularity of rock climbing in the Black Velvet Canyon area is causing a greater impact than in the past. Overnight camping is contributing to more illegal campfires, littering, and human waste than the resources can handle. Due to the primitive road condition accessing this area, it is not feasible to provide a supplemental toilet facility there, requiring regular service. The destruction of vegetation is the result of a rising number of out-of-bounds campers forced out of the limited area open to vehicles.

The close proximity of Mud Spring to the camping area invites more visitors to bathe there, thus resulting in the contamination of a vital water source for wild horses, desert bighorn sheep, and other wildlife native to the area.

In the fall of 1997 a new 100 space campground along State Route 159 is scheduled for completion, further relieving the impact to the public lands within the Conservation Area. With the exception of Black Velvet Canyon, other camping options currently available to