

preliminary risk reduction options, EPA's initial assessment of the impacts of risk reduction options, and/or EPA's preliminary assessment of benefits in cases where the Agency has identified risks of concern, and a discussion of any potential transition issues identified by USDA, CDC, and other agencies as appropriate. The **Federal Register** notice will open a 60-day (or longer, if needed) comment period during which the public is encouraged to comment on the preliminary risk reduction options, the initial impacts and/or preliminary benefits assessment(s) described above, and any transition issues. The public also is encouraged to suggest risk management proposals.

The effort among Federal government agencies during Phase 5 to engage stakeholders in a dialogue on risk reduction and management, including EPA's regulatory partners as appropriate, may continue through Phase 6. For pesticides that pose risks of concern from a public health use, EPA will work closely with CDC and interested stakeholders to identify and propose mitigation measures to reduce those risks while maintaining the benefits of the pesticide's public health use to the greatest extent possible.

g. *Phase 6—Develop final risk management (up to 60 Days)*. In Phase 6, EPA summarizes, reviews, and considers the comments, data, and risk management ideas and proposals received during the Phase 5 public comment period, and during stakeholder dialogue and the meetings that have occurred during Phases 3 - 5. EPA continues to elicit input from USDA and other Federal government agencies, as well as EPA's regulatory partners and stakeholders. EPA develops the risk management documents, and a revised impacts assessment and/or benefits assessment, if needed. EPA releases to the public the risk management decisions for the pesticide, including the revised impacts and/or benefits assessment. USDA may prepare a transition strategy, if needed. The transition strategy is likely to include time frames in which EPA expects to make decisions regarding registration of new pesticides/uses.

2. *The modified public participation process*—a. *The 4-Phase Process*—Pre-Phase 1 - Stakeholder and government agency engagement, and develop updated pesticide use and usage information. Same as the full public participation process.

Phase 1 - Risk assessment registrant error-only review (30 Days). Same as the full public participation process.

Phase 2 - EPA considers registrant error comments on risk assessments,

and develops preliminary risk reduction options (30 to 60 Days). Phase 2 is the same as in the full public participation process. However, in addition to preparing the risk assessments for public release, EPA also develops preliminary risk reduction options, making a significant effort to consult with stakeholders and other Federal and state government agencies. Meetings, conference calls, and other discussions with stakeholders and other agencies on issues and risk reduction options will continue through Phases 3 and 4, as needed.

Phase 3 - Public participation period: public comment on risk assessments and preliminary risk reduction options (60 to 90 Days). Phase 3 provides the public and pesticide registrants an opportunity to comment on EPA's pesticide risk assessments, risk characterization, and preliminary risk reduction options, and to suggest risk management ideas and proposals. This phase begins when EPA publishes a **Federal Register** Notice of Availability announcing the release of the risk assessments and preliminary risk reduction options for 60 to 90 days of public comment. EPA releases the risk assessments and related documents through the public docket and EDOCKET on the Agency's website. During the comment period, to help address potential environmental justice issues, EPA requests information on any groups or segments of the population who may have atypical, unusually high exposure to the pesticide, compared to the general population. EPA continues significant efforts to consult with other government agencies and stakeholders on the pesticide's uses and possible risk management options.

Phase 4 - EPA Develops Final Risk Assessments And Risk Management (Up to 90 Days). EPA reviews and considers the comments and risk management ideas and proposals received during Phase 3, continues the ongoing dialogue with other government agencies and stakeholders as needed, and develops a risk management decision, which the Agency issues for public review and comment. If EPA finds that additional issues warranting further discussion were raised during Phase 3, the Agency may decide to lengthen the process and include a second comment period, as needed.

b. *The low risk process*. If EPA's initial screening of a pesticide indicates that it has low use/usage, affects few if any stakeholders or members of the public, and/or poses low risk and requires little or no risk mitigation, the Agency may determine that neither the full 6-phase process nor the modified

4-phase process is needed. In such cases, the Agency would go straight to a regulatory determination and prepare a decision document for the pesticide, concluding the review process. This decision document, the risk assessments, and other related documents will be issued for public review and comment.

#### List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Pesticides and pests.

Dated: May 6, 2004.

**James Jones,**

*Director, Office of Pesticide Programs.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7661-6]

### Draft Physical Stream Assessment: A Review of Selected Protocols for Use in the Clean Water Act Section 404 Program

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Defense; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Interior; Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Agriculture; Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability to review and comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Mitigation Action Plan signed in December of 2002 by the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Commerce, Department of Defense, Department of the Interior, Department of Agriculture, and Department of Transportation, the Federal Interagency Mitigation Workgroup (FIMW) commissioned the preparation of a technical resource document to assist with stream mitigation entitled: Physical Stream Assessment: A Review of Selected Protocols for use in the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 Program (Stream Mitigation Compendium). The Stream Mitigation Compendium is intended as a reference that can be consulted by regulatory agencies, resource managers, and restoration ecologists in order to select, adapt, or devise stream assessment methods appropriate for impact assessment and mitigation of fluvial resources in the CWA Section 404 Program.

**DATES:** In order to be considered, comments must be postmarked or e-mailed on or before June 28, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted electronically, by mail, or by hand delivery/courier. E-mail comments to [mitigation@epa.gov](mailto:mitigation@epa.gov). Please put "Stream Mitigation Compendium Comments" in the Subject Line and include your comments as an attachment to the email in either Word or Wordperfect format. Mail or hand deliver/courier comments to: Palmer Hough, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Wetlands Division (4502T), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mitigation Action Plan Web site at <http://www.mitigationactionplan.gov> or contact either Palmer Hough, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Wetlands Division (4502T), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460, phone: (202) 566-1374, e-mail: [Hough.Palmer@epa.gov](mailto:Hough.Palmer@epa.gov) or Alan Miller, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 441 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20314-1000, phone: (202) 761-7763, e-mail: [Alan.J.Miller@hq02.usace.army.mil](mailto:Alan.J.Miller@hq02.usace.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Reports published in 2001 by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and the General Accounting Office (GAO) provided a critical evaluation of the effectiveness of wetlands compensatory mitigation for authorized losses of wetlands and other waters under Section 404 of the CWA. Section 404 regulates discharges of dredged and fill materials into waters of the United States and requires compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts. The independent analyses and other commentaries highlighted a number of shortfalls and identified a variety of technical, programmatic, and policy recommendations for the Federal agencies, States, and other involved parties.

An interagency team drafted the National Mitigation Action Plan endorsing the goal of no net loss of wetlands and outlining specific action items that address the concerns of the NAS, GAO, and other independent evaluations. The 17 actions, with various agency leads, address areas of concern, including collection and availability of data, clarifying performance standards, improving accountability, and integrating mitigation into the watershed approach. Development of the Stream Mitigation Compendium is one of these action items. The FIMW is seeking public review before finalizing this document.

Please note that comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, are available for public review in a docket. Copies of the draft Stream Mitigation Compendium are available at the Mitigation Action Plan Web site at <http://www.mitigationactionplan.gov> (Click on "Status of Action Items" and locate and click on "Stream Mitigation Compendium" in the summary table). A printed copy of this document can be obtained by contacting: Palmer Hough, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Wetlands Division (4502T), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460.

Dated: May 10, 2004.

**Benjamin H. Grumbles,**

*Acting Assistant Administrator for Water.*

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## FEDERAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ADVISORY BOARD

### New Exposure Draft Inter-Entity Cost Implementation: Amending SFFAS 4, Managerial Cost Accounting Standards and Concept and Research Report on Capital and Operating Leases

**AGENCY:** Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board.

**ACTION:** Notice.

*Board Action:* Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), as amended, and the FASAB Rules of Procedure, as amended in October, 1999, notice is hereby given that the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB) has published a new exposure draft, *Inter-Entity Cost Implementation: Amending SFFAS 4, Managerial Cost Accounting Standards and Concepts* and a Research Report on Capital and Operating Leases.

*A summary of the proposed statement follows:*

On April 26, 2004, the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB) released for public comment an exposure draft (ED), *Inter-Entity Cost Implementation: Amending SFFAS 4, Managerial Cost Accounting Standards and Concepts*. The proposed standard would require full implementation of the inter-entity cost provision in Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards (SFFAS) 4, *Managerial Cost Accounting Standards and Concepts*.

The exposure draft is available on the FASAB home page [http://www.fasab.gov/exposure\\_draft.htm](http://www.fasab.gov/exposure_draft.htm). Copies can be obtained by contacting

FASAB at (202) 512-7350, or [comesw@fasab.gov](mailto:comesw@fasab.gov).

Respondents are encouraged to comment on any part of the exposure draft. Written comments are requested by July 31, 2004, and should be sent to: Wendy M. Comes, Executive Director, Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board, 441 G Street, NW., Suite 6814, Mal Stop 6K17V, Washington, DC 20548.

*A summary of the research report follows:*

The objective of the research report is to develop a summary paper that permits staff and the Board to familiarize themselves with lease accounting under FASAB, FASB, GASB and international public sector accounting standards, and to familiarize them with global issues related to lease accounting. The report will also be used to aid in determining if new uses of leases by Federal entities create different and/or more urgent needs for FASAB guidance. An electronic version of the research report is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.fasab.gov/reports.html>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Wendy Comes, Executive Director, 441 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20548, or call (202) 512-7350.

**Authority:** Federal Advisory Committee Act, Pub. L. 92-463.

Dated: May 10, 2004.

**Wendy M. Comes,**

*Executive Director.*

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission, Comments Requested

May 7, 2004.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Communications Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burden invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection(s), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Public Law No. 104-13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act that does not display a valid control