



NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

[NARA-21-0013; NARA-2021-045]

Records Schedules; Availability and Request for Comments

AGENCY: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed records schedules; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) publishes notice of certain Federal agency requests for records disposition authority (records schedules). We publish notice in the *Federal Register* and on [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) for records schedules in which agencies propose to dispose of records they no longer need to conduct agency business. We invite public comments on such records schedules.

DATES: NARA must receive comments by [INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by the following method. You must cite the control number, which appears on the records schedule in parentheses after the name of the agency that submitted the schedule.

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>

Due to COVID-19 building closures, we are currently temporarily not accepting comments by mail. However, if you are unable to comment via [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov), you may contact request.schedule@nara.gov for instructions on submitting your comment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kimberly Keravuori, Regulatory and External Policy Program Manager, by email at regulation_comments@nara.gov. For information about records schedules, contact Records Management Operations by email at request.schedule@nara.gov, by mail at the address above, or by phone at 301-837-1799.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public comment procedures

We are publishing notice of records schedules in which agencies propose to dispose of records they no longer need to conduct agency business. We invite public comments on these records schedules, as required by 44 U.S.C. § 3303a(a), and list the schedules at the end of this notice by agency and subdivision requesting disposition authority.

In addition, this notice lists the organizational unit(s) accumulating the records or states that the schedule has agency-wide applicability. It also provides the control number assigned to each schedule, which you will need if you submit comments on that schedule. We have uploaded the records schedules and accompanying appraisal memoranda to the regulations.gov docket for this notice as “other” documents. Each records schedule contains a full description of the records at the file unit level as well as their proposed disposition. The appraisal memorandum for the schedule includes information about the records.

We will post comments, including any personal information and attachments, to the public docket unchanged. Because comments are public, you are responsible for ensuring that you do not include any confidential or other information that you or a third party may not wish to be publicly posted. If you want to submit a comment with confidential information or cannot otherwise use the regulations.gov portal, you may contact request.schedule@nara.gov for instructions on submitting your comment.

We will consider all comments submitted by the posted deadline and consult as needed with the Federal agency seeking the disposition authority. After considering comments, we will post on regulations.gov a “Consolidated Reply” summarizing the comments, responding to them, and noting any changes we have made to the proposed records schedule. We will then send the schedule for final approval by the Archivist of the United States. You may elect at regulations.gov to receive updates on the docket, including an alert when we post the Consolidated Reply, whether or not you submit a

comment. If you have a question, you can submit it as a comment, and can also submit any concerns or comments you would have to a possible response to the question. We will address these items in consolidated replies along with any other comments submitted on that schedule.

We will post schedules on our website in the Records Control Schedule (RCS) Repository, at <https://www.archives.gov/records-mgmt/rcs>, after the Archivist approves them. The RCS contains all schedules approved since 1973.

Background

Each year, Federal agencies create billions of records. To control this accumulation, agency records managers prepare schedules proposing retention periods for records and submit these schedules for NARA's approval. Once approved by NARA, records schedules provide mandatory instructions on what happens to records when no longer needed for current Government business. The records schedules authorize agencies to preserve records of continuing value in the National Archives or to destroy, after a specified period, records lacking continuing administrative, legal, research, or other value. Some schedules are comprehensive and cover all the records of an agency or one of its major subdivisions. Most schedules, however, cover records of only one office or program or a few series of records. Many of these update previously approved schedules, and some include records proposed as permanent.

Agencies may not destroy Federal records without the approval of the Archivist of the United States. The Archivist grants this approval only after thorough consideration of the records' administrative use by the agency of origin, the rights of the Government and of private people directly affected by the Government's activities, and whether or not the records have historical or other value. Public review and comment on these records schedules is part of the Archivist's consideration process.

Schedules Pending:

1. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Wildland Fire Incident Management (DAA-0095-2021-0005).
2. Department of Defense, Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency, Defense Information System for Security (DAA-0446-2021-0009).
3. Department of Energy, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Hydropower Projects (DAA-0138-2019-0005).
4. Department of Energy, Western Area Power Administration, Environmental Program (DAA-0201-2020-0011).
5. Department of State, Office of U.S. Foreign Assistance Resources, Consolidated Schedule (DAA-0059-2019-0017).
6. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, Drug and Alcohol Management Information System (DAA-0408-2020-0001).
7. Department of Transportation, Office of the Secretary, Records related to Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DAA-0398-2019-0008).
8. Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, Estate and Gift Tax Returns (DAA-0058-2021-0005).
9. Administrative Office of the United States Courts, Agency-wide, Records of Surety Agents (DAA-0021-2020-0002).

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Chief Records Officer for the U.S. Government.

[FR Doc. 2021-20091 Filed: 9/16/2021 8:45 am; Publication Date: 9/17/2021]