
NGAC Operations Work Group

NGAC Meeting
June 12, 2019

NGAC Operations Work Group

Task:

- **NGAC Operations/the Changing Role of NGAC Task Team:** The NGAC leadership is requesting a small team of 3-4 people to organize and lead a discussion during the June meeting regarding NGAC operations and the committee's expanded role based on the requirements outlined in the GDA. This group is expected to evolve into a subcommittee and will have an impact on future NGAC operations, including a revision of the committee's bylaws. This work will continue throughout the calendar year and perhaps beyond.

Sec. 754. National Geospatial Advisory Committee

Section Summary

This section codifies the National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) and includes language specifying that the NGAC would be administered in DOI. Similar to its current charge, the NGAC will continue providing advice and recommendations to the chairperson of the FGDC relating to the management of federal and national geospatial programs, the development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), and other activities relating to the implementation of this subtitle. The NGAC is also required to review and comment on geospatial policy and management issues and ensure that the views of representatives of non-federal interested parties involved in national geospatial activities are conveyed to the FGDC.

Sec. 754. National Geospatial Advisory Committee

❖ Consistent with Current Practice

- Advisory Committee sponsored & managed by DOI
- NGAC chair appointed by FGDC chair
- Membership composition, criteria, & terms of appointment
- Current ethics requirements apply to NGAC members
- Subcommittees may be established to develop draft products
- 1-4 Public Meetings per year
- Duties primarily the same (with addition of GDA implementation)
- No compensation of members, travel expenses covered
- Staff support provided by FGDC Secretariat
- FACA rules shall apply to NGAC, except as otherwise provided in GDA

Sec. 754. National Geospatial Advisory Committee

❖ Key Changes

- GDA establishes NGAC as statutory advisory committee
- Standing membership from NGA specified
- Adds “licensed geospatial data acquisition professionals” to list of potential membership groups
- Specifies 1/3 of membership appointments expire each year
- NGAC Chair responsible for subcommittee appointments
- NGAC Chair and DFO jointly responsible for subcommittee direction
- NGAC meetings to be called by Chair, instead of DFO
- Changes quorum from 2/3rds to majority
- Adds advice on implementation of GDA to list of NGAC duties
- Enables NGAC to request information directly from agencies with concurrence of FGDC Chair (and requires agencies to furnish such information). Also requires NGAC to report on non-compliance.
- New language regarding termination & continuation of NGAC

Sec. 754. National Geospatial Advisory Committee

❖ Critical Topics/Actions

- Various changes to NGAC responsibilities will require updates to NGAC charter & operating procedures
- Need to develop guidelines/process for potential NGAC requests to agencies as described in GDA
- Need guidance on applicability of FACA compared to requirements of GDA
- Additional NGAC review & comment responsibilities included in Sec. 753 (Federal Geographic Data Committee)

NGAC Discussion

- **Question: In order to meet the requirements outlined in the GDA, operationally what do we have to start doing? Stop doing? Continue doing? Tweak just a bit?**