

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

49 CFR Part 674

[FTA Docket No. FTA 2023–0008]

RIN 2132–AB42

State Safety Oversight

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), United States Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is extending the comment period for the notice of proposed rulemaking regarding FTA’s State Safety Oversight program, which was published on November 15, 2023, with the original comment period closing on January 16, 2024.

DATES: The comment period for the proposed rule published November 15, 2023, at 88 FR 78269, is extended. Comments are requested by February 15, 2024. Late-arriving comments will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: You may file comments identified by docket number FTA–2023–0008 by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *Fax:* (202) 493–2251.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number or Regulatory Information Number (RIN) for this rulemaking. All comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on sending comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the “Public Participation” heading of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

Docket: To access the docket and read background documents or comments received, go to: <https://www.regulations.gov>. Background documents and comments received may

also be viewed at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For program matters, contact Loretta Bomgardner, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, FTA, telephone (202) 577–5896 or loretta.bomgardner@dot.gov. For legal matters, contact Richard Wong, Office of the Chief Counsel, telephone (202) 366–4011 or richard.wong@dot.gov. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In a letter submitted to the docket dated November 16, 2023, the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), on behalf of more than 1,300 member organizations, requested a 30-day extension of the comment period for the State Safety Oversight notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) published in the **Federal Register** on November 15, 2023 (88 FR 78269).

As justification for this extension, APTA cited two current rulemakings for which FTA is seeking comments, the Public Transportation Safety Certification Training NPRM (88 FR 73573) and the Hours of Service and Fatigue Risk Management ANPRM (88 FR 74107). APTA noted that transit agencies, State safety oversight agencies, and APTA are already reviewing and preparing comments, and replying to a third would be burdensome. In addition, APTA notes three Federal holidays between the time the NPRM was published and comments are due, and that many offices, including APTA, will be closed between Christmas and New Year’s Day. APTA believes an extension of time would ensure that APTA and its members have the necessary time to produce a thoughtful response to the NPRM.

Given the importance of public transportation safety and the need for a more fulsome dialogue on FTA’s safety priorities, FTA believes an extension of time is justified and is extending the comment period until February 15, 2024.

To ensure that comments are filed correctly, please follow the instructions in the **ADDRESSES** section above, including the docket number provided [FTA–2023–0008] in your comments.

Veronica Vanterpool,
Deputy Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2023–28155 Filed 12–20–23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

49 CFR Part 675

[FTA Docket No. FTA 2023–0018]

RIN 2132–AB46

Transit Worker Hours of Service and Fatigue Risk Management

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), United States Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Advance notice of proposed rulemaking, extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is extending the comment period for the advance notice of proposed rulemaking regarding transit worker hours of service and fatigue risk management, published on October 30, 2023, with the original comment period closing on December 29, 2023. The extension is based on concerns from the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) that the comment period did not provide sufficient time to review and provide comprehensive comments to the ANPRM due to two Federal holidays and the closure of many offices between Christmas and New Year’s Day. FTA recognizes that others interested in commenting may have similar concerns and agrees that the comment period should be extended.

DATES: The comment period for the proposed rule published October 30, 2023, at 88 FR 74107, is extended. Comments are requested by January 29, 2024. FTA will consider comments received after that date to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: You may file comments, identified by docket number FTA–2023–0018, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *Fax:* (202) 493–2251.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number (FTA 2023–0018) for

this rulemaking. All comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.

Docket: To access the docket and read background documents or comments received, go to: <https://www.regulations.gov>. Background documents and comments received may also be viewed at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For program matters, contact Valerie Beck, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, FTA, telephone (202) 366-9178 or email FTAFitnessforDuty@dot.gov. For legal matters, contact Emily Jessup, Office of the Chief Counsel, telephone (202) 366-8907 or email emily.jessup@dot.gov. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In a letter submitted to the docket dated November 29, 2023, the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) requested a 30-day extension of the comment period for the advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) published in the **Federal Register** on October 30, 2023 (88 FR 74107).

As justification for this extension, APTA believed that it could synthesize consensus comments from the industry by the December 29, 2023, deadline, but it will be nearly impossible due to two Federal holidays between the time the NPRM was published and comments are due, and the fact that that many offices, including APTA's, will be closed between Christmas and New Year's Day. APTA also notes that it held a webinar for safety coordinators to collect comments and plans to hold another one in later December to synthesize comments. APTA also stated that it intends to hold a meeting for transit CEOs to collect their thoughts on an initial draft response in late December or early January. APTA believes an extension of time would ensure that APTA and its members have the necessary time to survey, draft, and vet consensus comments and to produce a more complete response to the NPRM.

Given the importance of public transportation safety and the desire for a robust dialogue on the issues surrounding transit worker fatigue, and the likelihood that other commenters may have similar concerns, FTA believes an extension of time is justified

and is extending the comment period until January 29, 2024.

FTA is not republishing the questions in this document. Instead, please refer to the ANPRM (88 FR 74107). To ensure that comments are filed correctly, please follow the instructions in the **ADDRESSES** section above and include the docket number provided [FTA-2023-0018] in your comments.

Veronica Vanterpool,
Deputy Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2023-28154 Filed 12-20-23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

[Docket No. FWS-R4-ES-2023-0220;
FF09E21000 FXES1111090FEDR 245]

RIN 1018-BG92

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for Coal Darter With Section 4(d) Rule

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), propose to list the coal darter (*Percina brevicauda*), a small, benthic freshwater fish native to the Mobile River Basin in Alabama, as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). This determination also serves as our 12-month finding on a petition to list the coal darter. After a review of the best available scientific and commercial information, we find that listing the species is warranted. Accordingly, we propose to list the coal darter as a threatened species with a rule issued under section 4(d) of the Act ("4(d) rule") to provide for the conservation of the species. If we finalize this rule as proposed, it would add this species to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and extend the Act's protections to the species.

DATES: We will accept comments received or postmarked on or before February 20, 2024. Comments submitted electronically using the Federal eRulemaking Portal (see **ADDRESSES**, below) must be received by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on the closing date. We must receive requests for a public hearing, in writing, at the address shown in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** by February 5, 2024.

ADDRESSES:

Written comments: You may submit comments by one of the following methods:

(1) **Electronically:** Go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <https://www.regulations.gov>. In the Search box, enter FWS-R4-ES-2023-0220, which is the docket number for this rulemaking. Then, click on the Search button. On the resulting page, in the panel on the left side of the screen, under the Document Type heading, check the Proposed Rule box to locate this document. You may submit a comment by clicking on "Comment."

(2) **By hard copy:** Submit by U.S. mail to: Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS-R4-ES-2023-0220, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: PRB/3W, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803.

We request that you send comments only by the methods described above. We will post all comments on <https://www.regulations.gov>. This generally means that we will post any personal information you provide us (see Information Requested, below, for more information).

Availability of supporting materials: Supporting materials, such as the species status assessment report, are available on the Service's website at <https://www.fws.gov/office/alabama-ecological-services>, at <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9959>, and at <https://www.regulations.gov> under Docket No. FWS-R4-ES-2023-0220.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Pearson, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alabama Ecological Services Field Office, 1208 Main Street, Daphne, AL 36526; telephone 251-441-5181. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States. Please see Docket No. FWS-R4-ES-2023-0220 on <https://www.regulations.gov> for a document that summarizes this proposed rule.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Executive Summary

Why we need to publish a rule. Under the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), a species warrants listing if it meets the definition of an endangered species (in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range) or a