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Information Bulletin



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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Issues Final Compatibility Determination for Utility Right-of-Way on Sabine National Wildlife Refuge

Sabine National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) has issued a Compatibility Determination for Jefferson Davis Electric Cooperative (JDEC) Utility Right-of-Way on the Sabine NWR. This use will involve allowing JDEC to use and possibly alter the landscape through the construction, maintenance, and operation of power lines, towers, and other utility equipment for rebuilding, upgrading, and maintaining its electrical transmission line infrastructure that was destroyed during Hurricane Laura in 2020. The comment period for the draft CD ended on September 8, 2025. The Service has evaluated the comments received and informed the public of our decision.

JDEC will replace and upgrade its pre-storm 69kV transmission infrastructure to higher 230kV lines with larger, more resilient poles and footings that will be more resilient against wind and storm damage and will be located in the approximate location of the pre-storm 69kV line. This use will require approximately 9.3 miles of the upgraded transmission line and associated equipment to be situated on Sabine NWR along and adjacent to the State Highway 27 corridor. The Service has adopted the Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) "Jefferson Davis Electric Cooperative, Inc. Hurricane Laura Repair, Replacement, And Restoration Program Cameron And Calcasieu Parishes, Louisiana fema-4559-Dr-La Environmental Assessment" as part of our Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service) has adopted FEMA's PEA and issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposal which can be found on the refuge website at [Sabine National Wildlife Refuge | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service](#).

Across the country, national wildlife refuges work closely with state and Federal agencies, Native American Tribes, local governments, non-governmental organizations, private partners, and the public, to engage them in refuge management activities and proposals.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.