

NOTICE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is soliciting public comments for a new proposed use. Central Power Electrical COOP has requested a Special Use Permit for limited access of Refuge trails closed to the general public and to temporarily place “mat” in an oxbow to facilitate access to an existing right-of-way for the purpose of replacing power poles. The purpose of this project is to allow Central Power Electrical COOP minimal access to their existing right-of-way for a power pole replacement project. Allowing access to existing trails and the use of mat will reduce the overall impact to Refuge lands that would otherwise be incurred if Central Power Electrical COOP had to rely solely on access to the project through their existing right-of-way.

The proposed work locations include:

The proposed work location is T158N R76W Sections 5 and 8 (see attached map). Specifically, the trails and mat location referenced on the attached map. The proposed work area is adjacent to the existing right-of-way previously granted to Central Power Electrical COOP (see attached map).

The proposed work is as follows:

Use existing trails to access existing power line right-of-way and place “mat” in oxbow to facilitate temporary access, thereby reducing impact to Refuge lands.

Any damage/rutting to existing trails and access points, including the proposed mat placement area, will be repaired and restored back to original condition. Upon project completion all portions of disturbed sited will be appropriately graded and restored back to existing conditions, as determined by the Refuge Manager, using a native seed mix matching the existing. Final reclamation details will be issued to the Refuge for approval prior to issuance of a Special Use Permit.

This notice will be posted at the J. Clark Salyer NWR headquarters and on the J. Clark Salyer NWR web site (http://www.fws.gov/refuge/J_Clark_Salyer/) from August 30th 2016 through September 8th 2016. A copy of the draft Compatibility Determination and associated maps is available upon request. People wishing to provide comments can do so by close of business on September 8th 2016 by submitting them in writing to Att: Project Leader, J. Clark Salyer NWR, 681 Salyer Road, Upham, ND 58789, or at the refuge office located at this same address. For more information, contact Frank Durbian, Project Leader, 701-768-2548 x113.

Central Power Trail and Mat Use Map T158, R76, Sec 5 and 8

