

## **Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain and Wetland**

To: All interested Agencies US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), US Fish & Wildlife Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD), Jasper County, Citizens of Jasper County, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that Jasper County has determined that the following proposed action under the Community Development Block Grant Mitigation Program Contract # 22-085-018-D254 is partially located within a 100-year floodplain and wetland and Jasper County will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and wetland and the potential impacts on the floodplain and wetland from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 19988 as amended by Executive Order 13690 and Executive Order 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. The project provides for drainage improvements to mitigate flooding in the Jasper, Kirbyville, and Buna areas along the Hwy 96 corridor. The noted locations for improvement are selected to mitigate flooding and major impacts to County Road facilities and stoppage of access and disruption of residents in accessing their homes and property. The project site consists of an 18-acre area of interest (AOI) approximately 5 miles north of Kirbyville (Jasper County), Texas. The approximate NAD83 geographical coordinates for the center of the project site are N 30.734161 and W 93.903373.

The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using the freeboard value approach. A review of readily available maps and aerial photographs was performed as part of this investigation. The sources reviewed include United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle maps, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil survey data, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood data, National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps, Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data, and natural color and color-infrared aerial photography. The jurisdiction of each stream reach is determined by its designation of RPW or Non-RPW. The classification of a stream reach, as defined by one continuous stream order, is based on the majority classification (>50% RPW or Non-RPW) of the entire stream reach.

The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map depicts intermittent stream habitat (R4SBC) and forested wetland habitat (PFO1A) within the AOI. The existing natural and beneficial functions include floodwater storage and conveyance as well as habitat for flora and fauna. Intrinsic values include recreation, historic and cultural values.

A wetland delineation was completed February 2026, and it was determined that an unnamed tributary 1 (UT01) is an intermittent aquatic resource and is considered relatively permanent water (RPW) and is considered jurisdictional by USACE. The approximate linear feet within the area of impact is approximately 1,018 lf and 0.18 acres. A second area located within the AOI is identified as 0.13 acre Wetland A described as Scrub-Shrub and non-jurisdictional.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map panel 48351C0400D, effective 11/16/2018 indicates that the entire AOI is located within Zone X. Zone X is described as areas outside the 100-year floodplain, and by definition carries less than 0.2 percent chance of flooding annually.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplains and wetlands, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods

to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains and wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains and wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by Jasper County at the following address on or before July 7, 2026, to Jasper County Courthouse, 121 N. Austin, Jasper, TX 75951 and 409-384-6226, Attention: Mark Allen, Judge. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at 121 N Austin. Comments may also be submitted via email at [mark.allen@co.jasper.tx.us](mailto:mark.allen@co.jasper.tx.us).

**Date: June 19, 2026**