

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), Cattle Fever Tick Eradication Program has prepared a Final Environmental Assessment (EA), "Cattle Fever Tick Eradication Program Fence Deterrent in Cameron and Zapata Counties, Texas.". The EA analyzed the potential environmental impacts for USDA APHIS VS involvement in funding the installation of fencing at specific locations in Cameron and Zapata Counties, Texas. The proposed high game fencing would help prevent or limit the spread of cattle fever ticks carried by some wild animal species (such as white-tailed deer and nilgai antelope) in cattle ranches and other tick-free areas used by cattle populations. USDA APHIS VS published a draft EA for a 30-day public comment period on February 8th, 2023, online at <https://www.regulations.gov> (Docket ID APHIS-2023-0014) and announced the document availability and comment period in South Texas newspapers. All comments were addressed in the Final EA.

Interested parties may view the Final EA and related Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) at the following address: www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/cattle-disease-information/cattle-surveillance

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