



October2026

Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

Smith County, MS

USDA



EAXX-005-49-000-1781606493

For More Information Contact:

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PROPOSAL INFORMATION

General Information

Proposal Name: [REDACTED] Broiler Farm

Proposal Initiation Date: 5/29/2026

Proponent Name: USDA Farm Service Agency

Signing Authority: Farm Loan Chief/Farm Loan Specialist

Responsible Official: Andrew Powell, Farm Loan Manager

Unit: 28-065

Anticipated Implementation of Proposal: 11/15/2026

Proposal Record Location: State public SharePoint site

General Location of Proposal: [REDACTED]

Purpose and Need

The purpose of the proposed project or action is to provide [REDACTED] assistance through an FSA Guaranteed Loan. The loan, proposed by [REDACTED] is to finance the construction of and equip four 54' x 500' Koch Foods broiler houses in Smith County, MS.

Proposed Action:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) proposes to finance through the Guaranteed Lending Program the construction of four 54' x 500' Koch Foods broiler houses in Smith County, MS.

Scope of Analysis

The area of potential effect includes approximately 4 +/- acres of timberland. The proposed request involves the clearing of timber, grading/leveling of soil, and construction of broiler houses. The poultry farm will involve the export of manure off site for which the operation has appropriate waste management plan(s).

Agencies and Persons Consulted

The following agencies, organizations, Tribes, and people were consulted during development and analysis of the proposal:

Agencies

USFWS & SHPO

Native American Tribes

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, and Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

Issues Considered but Dismissed from Detailed Analysis

Protected resources considered for analysis but dismissed because they were not found to be in the project area and will not be impacted.

- ☐ Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- ☐ National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
- ☐ Tribal Consultation (EO 13175)
- ☒ Clean Air Act (CAA)
- ☐ Clean Water Act (CWA)
- ☒ Pertinent Executive Orders

Special Management Areas:

- X Coastal Zone Management Areas
- ☒ Conservation Easements

- ☒ Coral Reefs
- ☒ Marine Sanctuaries
- ☒ National Recreation Areas
- ☒ National Scenic & Historic Trails
- ☒ Research or Experimental Areas
- ☒ Wild & Scenic River Corridors
- ☒ Wilderness
- ☐ Other:

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW & CONSULTATION

The following sections document compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other relevant environmental laws, executive orders, and regulations.

NEPA: Potentially Affected Environment

The affected environment currently consists of timber and undergrowth. The environment will drastically change as it is proposed to remove timber and begin excavation in preparation for construction. No protected resources will be affected by this proposal.

Endangered Species Act

Table 1: May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect Determination for TEPC Species/Critical Habitat

Species/Habitat	Status	Proposed or Designated Critical Habitat Present?	Brief Rationale (or refer to other proposal documentation)
Northern Long-Eared Bat	Endangered	No	USFWS did not respond following 15-day review period indicating to proceed.

Table 2: Applicable proposal record documentation to support ESA compliance

Documentation Type	Appendix
USFWS Consultation	

National Historic Preservation Act – Section 106 Review

The pertinent subject matter expert has reviewed the proposed action (and action alternatives, if any) and made the following finding of effects determination:

No historic properties affected. Section 106 Review has been completed for the project area and no National Register eligible cultural sites were found.

Mississippi Department of History & Archives (SHPO) was consulted as part of this request. After initial review, SHPO ruled cultural resources could be present on site and requested a cultural resource survey. Survey was later received and indicated no presence of cultural resources could be located. SHPO reviewed and determined cultural resources are not likely to be affected and advised continuing with proposal.

Table 3: Applicable proposal record documentation to support NHPA compliance

Documentation Type	Appendix
SHPO Consultation	

Consultation with Federally Recognized Tribes

Consultation with federally recognized tribes was conducted as follows:

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, and Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians were consulted as part of this request via THPOs. No response of any tribe was received.

Table 4: Applicable proposal record documentation to support tribal consultation

Documentation Type	Appendix
THPO Consultation	

Clean Water Act

The pertinent subject matter expert has reviewed the proposed action (and action alternatives, if any) and made the following determination:

The project will not affect any waters, including wetlands, and no further permits or modifications are needed to ensure compliance.

Table 5: Applicable proposal record documentation to support CWA compliance

Documentation Type	Appendix
Nutrient Management Plan	

Clean Air Act

The pertinent subject matter expert has reviewed the proposed action (and action alternatives, if any) and made the following determination:

The project will not result in permanent air emissions and no modifications or further coordination needs to occur to ensure compliance.

Table 6: Applicable proposal record documentation to support CAA compliance

Documentation Type	Appendix

Special Management Area Considerations

The pertinent subject matter expert has reviewed the proposed action (and action alternatives, if any) and made the following determinations based on special management area presence, proximity, or lack of:

No activities are proposed within or in the vicinity of Special Management Areas.

Table 7: Special management area compliance determinations

Management Area Type	Applicable Law / Regulation to Demonstrate Compliance With	Rationale for Compliance

Table 8: Applicable proposal record documentation to support special management area compliance

Documentation Type	Appendix

Pertinent Executive Orders

The applicable subject matter experts have determined the proposed action (and action alternatives, if any) are in compliance with the following Executive Orders (EO), which were deemed pertinent based on the nature of the proposal:

EO 11988, Floodplain Management – requires determination of action occurring in a floodplain, using HUD floodplain map or more detailed map if available.

EO 11990, Protection of Wetlands – avoid actions within wetlands unless there are no practical alternatives, and the action includes all practicable means to minimize harm to wetlands.

EO 13007, Indian Sacred Sites – avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity of these sites.

EO 13186, Migratory Birds – identify actions that may have a measurable negative effect on migratory bird populations.

NEPA: Consideration of Reasonably Foreseeable Impacts

What are the reasonably foreseeable short- and long-term adverse or beneficial effects of the proposed action and alternatives (if any) on the environment, to public health and safety, on economics, and to the quality of life of the American people?

No adverse effects noted of the proposed action on the environment.

What are the short- and long-term adverse or beneficial consequences on the environment, to public health and safety, on economics, or the quality of life of the American people if the proposed action or alternatives (if any) are not implemented?

No consequences noted of the proposed action to public health and safety, economics, or quality of life of the American people.

Will the proposed action, or action alternatives (if any) make an irreversible and irretrievable commitment of Federal resources?

No.

How will the irreversible and irretrievable commitment of Federal resources, if any, contribute to a loss of long-term productivity for the human environment?

N/A.

Certifying Statement for EA Page Limit and Deadline

This section is required. See 7 CFR 1b.5(c)(6). Must be able to check every box.

The Responsible Official certifies that this EA:

- ☒ Demonstrates the agency has thoroughly considered the factors mandated by NEPA;
- ☒ Represents the agency's good-faith effort to prioritize documentation of the substantive issues and most important considerations required by NEPA within the congressionally mandated page limits;
- ☒ Reflects the agency's expert judgment;

- ☒ Addressed briefly, or left unaddressed, any issues or considerations that were, in the agency's judgment, comparatively not of a substantive nature;
- ☒ Represents the agency's good-faith effort to fulfill NEPA's requirements within the Congressional timeline (or within the minimally extended timeline, if applicable) and this effort is substantially complete; and
- ☒ Contains analysis that is adequate to inform and reasonably explain the responsible official's final decision regarding the proposed action or selected alternative.

APPENDICES

A Maps

A-1 – A-2	Project Location Aerial Map
A-3	Project Location Topography Map

B Site Photos

B-1 – B-3	Site Photos
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C Consultation Letters

C-1 – C-23	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Consultation
C-24 – C-26	SHPO Consultation
C-27 – C-39	THPO Consultation
C-40 – C-57	Cultural Resource Survey

D Required Permits

D-1 – D-3	Permit Coverage for a Dry Litter Poultry Animal Feeding Operation
D-7 – D-48	Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (1 of 2)
D-49 – D-91	Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (2 of 2)

E Wildlife and Habitat/ Supporting Documentation

E-1 – E-11	IPaC Map
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F Cultural Resources Supporting Documentation

Refer to C-40 – C-57 Cultural Resource Survey

G Wilderness Areas Supporting Documentation

G-1	Map of Wilderness Area Nearest to Project Site
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H Wild and Scenic Rivers/ Nationwide Rivers Inventory Supporting Documentation

H-1	Map of Wild/Scenic Rivers Nearest to Project Site
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I National Natural Landmark Supporting Documentation

I-1	Map of Nearest Landmark to Project Site
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- J Sole Source Aquifer Supporting Documentation
 - J-1 Map of Sole Source Aquifers For Mississippi
- K Floodplains Supporting Documentation
 - K-1 Floodplain Map
- L Wetlands Supporting Documentation
 - L-1 – L-12 FSA-858 Determining If A Wetland May Be Present
 - L-13 – L-14 AD-1026, Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation (1 of 2)
 - L-15 – L-16 AD-1026, Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation (1 of 2)
- M Soils Supporting Documentation
 - Refer to L-1 FSA-858 Determining If A Wetland May Be Present
- N Socioeconomic Impacts and Environmental Justice Supporting Documentation
 - N-1 – N-2 Mississippi’s Right to Farm law
- O Other Supporting Documentation
 - O-1 – O-15 FSA-851 Environmental Risk Survey Form (1 of 5)
 - O-16 – O-24 FSA-851 Environmental Risk Survey Form (2 of 5)
 - O-25 – O-32 FSA-851 Environmental Risk Survey Form (3 of 5)
 - O-33 – O-41 FSA-851 Environmental Risk Survey Form (4 of 5)
 - O-42 – O-50 FSA-851 Environmental Risk Survey Form (5 of 5)
 - O-51 EA Tracking ID

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

Proposal Name: [REDACTED] Broiler Farm **Unique Identifier Number:** 005-49-000-1781606493

Agency Name: Farm Service Agency

Unit Name: 28-065

Documentation Informing the FONSI

This Finding of No Significant Impact incorporates the Environmental Assessment and relies on documentation in the associated proposal record.

Activities Approved

The Proposed Action would allow financing to be extended to implement the construction of the new broiler houses that would in turn allow the Applicants to produce broilers to be sold and marketed by the Integrator.

No modifications are needed as part of approving of this Environmental Assessment.

Determination of No Significant Impacts

No significant impacts are anticipated for the activities approved based on the discussion provided under the "[NEPA: Consideration of Significant Impacts](#)" section, and as informed by other analysis and determinations provided in the "[Environmental Review](#)" section of the Environmental Assessment.

Responsible Official has documented no adverse effects shall result from the proposed action.

Anticipated Implementation of Authorized Activities

I intend to implement the approved activities once lender has closed the loan and provides FSA with documents necessary to issue the Loan Guarantee.

Signature and Authorization Date



Digitally signed by KACEY SOLLIE
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ou=Department of Agriculture, cn=KACEY
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10/7/2026

State Environmental Coordinator

Date



Digitally signed by ANDREW POWELL
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of Agriculture, cn=ANDREW POWELL,
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10/07/2026

Responsible Official

Date



Digitally signed by WILLIAM MILLER
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Agriculture, cn=WILLIAM MILLER,
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10/09/2026

Approval Official

Date

FONSI-1

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