Appendix C – Summary of Rural Electric Cooperative Utility Reports Pursuant to Rule 25-6.0343, F.A.C. – Calendar Year 2023

	Transmission & Distribution Facility Inspections				Vegetation Management Plan (VMP)	
Utility	**Description of policies, guidelines, practices, procedures, cycles, and pole selection**	**Number and percent of poles and structures planned and completed**	**Number and percent of poles and structures failing inspections with reasons**	**Number and percent of poles and structures by class replaced or remediated with description**	**Description of policies, guidelines, practices, procedures, tree removals, with sufficient explanation**	**Quantity, level, and scope of planned and completed for transmission and distribution**
Central Florida Electric Cooperative, Inc.	100% of the transmission facilities are inspected annually using above and ground level inspections. The distribution facilities are on a nine-year cycle for inspections using above and ground level inspections.	Central Florida planned and inspected 43 miles of the transmission facilities in 2023. 17,250 (14.3%) distribution poles were inspected in 2023.	Of the 17,250 distribution poles inspected in 2023, 112 (0.65%) were rejected. These poles are scheduled to be replaced.	1,411 distribution poles were replaced in 2023. The poles varied from 30 foot to 55 foot, Class 2 to Class 6.	Trees are trimmed or removed within 15 feet of main lines, taps, and guys on a five-year plan.	In 2023, 578 miles of the 4,016 miles of primary overhead line on the system was trimmed.
Choctawhatchee Electric Cooperative, Inc.	CHELCO inspects new construction of power lines on a monthly basis and has an eight-year cycle to cover all poles.	During 2023, 6,284 poles or 10.1% of 62,392 total poles were inspected.	230 poles or 3.7% of the poles failed inspection ranging from spit top to wood rot.	During 2023, CHELCO replaced 413 poles, which included failed poles from the 2023 inspection and remaining poles from the 2022 inspection.	Current rights-of-way program is to cut, mow, or otherwise manage 20% of its rights-of-way on an annual basis. Standard cutting is 15 feet on either side of primary from ground to sky.	In 2023, 453 miles were cut on primary lines and CHELCO worked to remove problem tress under the primary lines, which reduces hot-spotting requirements between cycles. They also established an herbicidal spraying program.

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Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Clay's transmission facilities are on a ten-year cycle, which includes sound/bore techniques, excavation, climbing inspection (four-year cycle), and ground (two- year) patrol. Clay's distribution system is now on a ten-year cycle using excavation, sound and bore at the ground line and visual inspection (five-year cycle) and system feeder inspection excluding ground line (five-year cycle).	Clay completed the transmission ground patrol inspection in 2016 & the next inspection will be done in 2026. A climbing inspection was completed on the transmission system, which consists of 2,531 poles, in 2022 & the next inspection will be completed in 2024. A helicopter inspection was performed in 2023, consisting of 2,557 poles and 38 substations. Additionally, in 2023, Clay performed the system feeder and ground line pole inspection. The total number of distribution poles inspected was 52,648.	The 2022 inspection found 3 (0.12%) of 2,531 transmission poles inspected needed replacement. 13,157 (25%) distribution poles were rejected due to various reasons including ground rot, internal rot, top decay, holes high, and split top.	3 transmission poles that failed inspection ranged from 60 to 65 foot, Class 1 poles. 4,471 distribution poles that were replaced in 2023 ranged from 18 foot to 65 foot, Class 1 to 7.	Clay's VMP for the transmission facilities is on a three-year cycle and includes mowing, herbicide spraying and systematic re-cutting. Clay's VMP for the distribution facilities is on a three-year cycle for city, a four-year cycle for urban and five-year cycle for rural and includes mowing spraying and re-cutting.	In 2023, Clay mowed 61.97 miles, sprayed 53.19 miles, and recut 62.88 miles of its transmission rights-of-way. In 2023, Clay sprayed 2,470.67 miles, and recut 2,578.1 miles of its distribution circuits.

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Escambia River Electric Cooperative	Escambia River inspects its distribution facilities on an eight-year cycle using visual, sound and bore techniques in accordance with RUS standards.	30,000 (91.6%) distribution poles were planned and 23,400 (71.5%) inspections were completed in 2023. Escambia River does not own any transmission poles.	Approximately 2,300 (9.83%) poles failed inspection in 2023. The common cause was pole rot at the top and bottom of the poles and clearance violations for the fiber optic cable being added.	In 2023, Escambia River replaced 2,300 poles. These numbers reflect various pole sizes and Classes.	Escambia River's distribution facilities are on a three-year trim cycle. Distribution lines and rights-of-way is cleared 30 feet, 15 feet on each side.	In 2023, approximately 331 miles (20%) of the power lines were trimmed with 550 miles (33.3%) planned.
Florida Keys Electric Cooperative Association, Inc.	The company inspects 100% of the transmission structures annually by helicopter and on the ground. In addition, FKEC started using aerial drones to supplement the helicopter inspections. The distribution poles are on an eight-year cycle and was completed in 2018. All 11,808 distribution poles were inspected and 10,698 wood poles were tested and treated with a reject rate of 3.85%. The third-cycle started in 2022.	100% of the transmission poles were inspected in 2023 by helicopter patrol and ground-based infrared inspections. In 2023, 3,731 (25%) of the distribution facilities were inspected.	No transmission structures failed inspections in 2023. In 2023, 103 (2.7%) distribution poles required replacement due to split pole tops, shell rot, cracking, and severe spalling (concrete).	No transmission structures were replaced in 2023. 82 distribution structures were replaced in 2023 and the remaining structures are scheduled for the first half of 2024. The poles ranged from 40 to 45 feet, Classes 3 and 4 poles.	100% of the transmission system is inspected and trimmed annually. The distribution system is on a three-year trimming cycle. The trade-a-tree program was implemented in 2007 for problem trees within the rights-of-way. FKEC began implementation of the AiDash IVMS product, which combines high resolution satellite imagery and artificial intelligence to help improve trimming cycle and prediction of growth rates.	100% of the transmission facilities are inspected annually and VM tasks are performed as needed. In addition, all substation properties are inspected annually and VM tasks are performed as needed. Approximately 200 circuit miles of distribution lines were trimmed in 2023. Additionally, over 990 member-requested service requests were competed.

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Glades Electric Cooperative, Inc.	The facilities are on an eight-year sound and bore inspection cycle with excavation inspection cycle for all wood poles, in addition to System Improvement Plan inspections.	In 2023, 100% of the total of 83 miles of transmission lines were planned and completed by visual inspections. 2,100 miles of distribution lines and 53 miles of underground distribution lines were planned and inspected in 2023. GEC inspected 4,600 poles in 2023.	895 (19%) distribution poles failed during the 2023 inspection due to decay, rot and top splits.	716 (80%) distribution poles were rejected in the 2023 inspection were replaced. The poles varied in height and Classes. No transmission poles were replaced in 2023.	All trimming is on a four-year cycle. The rights-of-way are trimmed for 10 foot clearance on both sides, and herbicide treatment is used where needed.	GEC completed 90% of its distribution trimming goals in 2023.(??) The transmission rights-of-way are inspected annually.
Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative, Inc.	No transmission lines. Performs general distribution pole inspections on an eight-year cycle. Also, GCEC inspects underground transformers and other pad-mount equipment on a four-year cycle.	In 2023, GCEC inspected 10,126 poles and 430 pad-mounted inspections.	Of the 10,126 poles inventoried in 2023, 91 (0.9%) poles were rejected. The poles were rejected due to mechanical damage.	GCEC has a continually active work order program for maintenance and replacement of its wood poles and structures. Work orders are created to correct any identified system deficiency, including pole replacements.	GCEC owns approximately 2,051 miles of overhead and 430 miles of underground distribution lines. GCEC strives to clear the entire right-of-way on a five-year cycle. GCEC clears between 20 and 30 feet width, from ground to sky.	GCEC trimmed approximately 327 miles of ROW in 2023. GCEC also works closely with property owners for dangerous tree removal.

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Lee County Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Transmission facilities are inspected every two years for 138kV systems. The inspections are done by climbing or the use of a bucket truck. The distribution facilities are on a two-year visual inspection cycle and on a 10-year inspection cycle by climbing or bucket truck for splitting, cracking, decay, twisting, and bird damage.	In 2023, 1,206 (48%) transmission poles were inspected, which was 100% of the poles that were scheduled. 107,800 (64%) distribution poles were inspected, which was 100% of the inspections scheduled. Included in the inspections were 103,801 poles that were Hurricane Ian follow-up inspections.	Zero (0%) transmission poles failed inspection. 1,805 (1.7%) distribution poles failed inspection due to rot/decay/split top/out of plumb, damage due to hurricane, and woodpecker damage.	14 transmission poles were replaced due to rot. 226 distribution poles were repaired through re-plumbing and patching. 900 poles were replaced in 2023. The sizes varied by Class 1 to Class 6.	VMP strategies include cultural, mechanical, manual, & chemical treatments and the plan is on a five-year cycle for 1 Phase distribution facilities and three years for 2 & 3 Phase distribution facilities or less based on reliability and/or budget. The 138kV transmission systems are on an annual cycle.	LCEC completed 28.5 miles (100% planned) of Transmission mowing and trimming, 410 miles (100% planned) three-phase trimming, and 644 (100 planned) miles of single-phase trimming,
Okefenoke Rural Electric Membership Cooperative	OREMC owns no transmission facilities. The inspections for the distribution systems include visual, sound and bore with excavations, and chemical treatment. The pole inspections are on an eight-year cycle.	In 2023, OREMC performed inspections on 8,312 (13%) poles. OREMC has 62,000 wood poles as of March 1, 2023. In addition, OREMC completed 3,645 meter base and 182 underground inspections.	In 2023, 83 (1%) poles were rejected. The causes of the rejection were ground rot and above ground damage.	The 83 poles failing inspection in 2023 are in the process of being replaced. During the course of other projects, 1,024 new poles were added and 557 poles were retired in 2023.	Vegetation control practices consist of complete clearing to the ground line, trimming, and herbicides. The VMP is on a five-year trim cycle. OREMC utilizes contractors for its VM programs.	OREMC planned 500 miles of rights-of-way for trimming and completed 285 miles in 2023. Also in 2023, contractors sprayed 400 miles of rights-of-way. In 2023, 1,090 at risk trees were removed.

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Peace River Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Peace River currently uses RDUP bulletin 1730B-121 for planned inspection and maintenance. The facilities are located in Decay Zone 5 and are inspected on an eight-year cycle. The transmission poles are visually inspected every two years.	383 transmission (172 concrete, 23 steel, 188 wood) poles are inspected every two years. 5,005 (8%) of 62,801 distribution poles were inspected.	Peace River replaced 10 transmission poles in 2023. 259 (5.1%) distribution poles were rejected in 2023.	Peace River replaced 259 poles in 2023. The distribution poles receiving remediation in 2023 varied from 30 foot to 60 foot, Class 1 to 6. No transmission poles were changed out for storm hardening.	Peace River utilized guidelines in either RUS bulletins or other materials available through RUS. In addition, Peace River uses a Georgia Rights-of-way program, which uses a ground to sky method by removing trees. The VMP is on a four- to five-year cycle.	In 2023, the Company completed rights-of-way maintenance on 3,388 (100%) of its 3,388 miles of overhead distribution.
Sumter Electric Cooperative, Inc., dba SECO Energy	The transmission facilities are on a five-year cycle using ground line visual inspections, which includes sounding and boring and excavation. The distribution facilities are on an eight-year cycle using sound, bore, & excavation tests.	15 (1.3%) transmission poles were planned and inspected in 2023. 15,760 (11.5%) distribution poles were planned and 15,836 (11.6%) were inspected in 2023.	Zero transmission poles failed inspection. 79 (0.5%) distribution poles failed inspection. The causes are due to ground rot and top deterioration	Zero wood transmission poles were replaced with spun-concrete poles. 79 distribution poles were replaced. The distribution poles ranged from 27 to 50 foot and Class 3 to Class 7.	Distribution and transmission systems are on a three-year trim cycles. SECO's VM includes tree trim cycles, tree removals, and herbicide treatment with a minimum 10 foot clearance and a desired clearance of 15 feet from its distribution system. The transmission system specification is a 30 foot clearance.	In 2023, SECO trimmed 651 miles for its cycle and an extra 6 miles of its transmission and distribution system. SECO removed 27,970 trees in 2023.

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Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.	SVEC inspects all structures on an eight-year cycle using sound/bore and visual inspection procedures.	SVEC inspected five (100%) transmission structures in 2023. 15,445 (17%) distribution structures were inspected in 2023.	667 (4%) inspections of distribution poles failed due to ground line decay, excessive splitting, and woodpecker damage. Zero inspections of transmission poles failed.	667 (4%) distribution poles of total inspected were remediated by ground line treatment and 948 (4%) distribution poles were replaced. Zero transmission structures were remediated.	SVEC's facilities are on a three – to – four - year inspection cycle which includes cutting, spraying and visual on as-needed basis.	In 2023, 1,090 (28%) miles of rights-of-way were cut and in 2024, there are plans to cut an additional 1,046 (28%) miles.
Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Talquin annually inspects its transmission lines by checking the pole, hardware, and conductors. An outside pole-treating contractor inspects distribution and transmission poles each year. The poles have been inspected on an eight-year rotation cycle since 2007. Talquin performs infrared inspections annually at its substations.	9,396 distribution poles were inspected in 2023. Talquin inspected 101 transmission poles in 2023.	113 (1.2%) of the distribution poles inspected were rejected due to wood decay, split tops, or woodpecker damage.	The priority poles were replaced and the rejected poles are being inspected and repaired or replaced if necessary. Talquin replaces 30 foot Class 7 poles with stronger 35 foot Class 6 poles with guys and 35 foot Class 6 poles with 40 foot Class 4 poles as a minimum standard.	Talquin maintains its rights-of-way by mechanical cutting, mowing, and herbicidal applications.	405 (15%) miles of distribution and 4.37 (8%) miles of transmission rights-of-way were treated in 2023. In addition, Talquin received 1,194 non-routine requests for tree maintenance.

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Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc.	The transmission facilities are inspected on a five-year cycle by both ground line and visual inspections. The distribution facilities are on an eight-year cycle using both ground line and visual inspections.	During 2023, the transmission poles were visually inspected. Tri-County inspected 7,133 (12.6%) distribution poles in 2023.	105 (1.47%) distribution poles were rejected. Tri-County repaired broken ground wires and changed out or replaced missing guy guards during the inspections.	The 105-rejected distribution poles found during the 2023 inspection, which required replacement, are in the process of being changed out.	Tri-County attempts to acquire 30 foot rights-of-way easement for new construction. The entire width of the obtained right-of-way ROW easement is cleared from ground level to a maximum height of 60 feet in order to minimize vegetation and ROW interference with the facilities.	In 2023, approximately 443 distribution miles were trimmed. Tri-County has approximately 2,810 miles of overhead distribution lines in four counties.
West Florida Electric Cooperative Association, Inc.	West Florida continues to use RUS Bulletin 1730B-121 as its guideline for pole maintenance and inspection.	West Florida suspended its pole inspection in 2019 to concentrate on repairing the damage caused by Hurricane Michael. WFEC restarted the program in 2023 by inspecting 10,367 poles.	In 2023, 342 (3.3%) poles were rejected.	Since the inspections were complete late 2023, the pole replacements have not been completed. West Florida anticipates the poles will be replaced in 2024.	West Florida's VM includes ground to sky side trimming along with mechanical mowing and tree removal.	During 2023, WFEC mowed and side trimmed 784 miles of its distribution system. Also, WFEC chemically sprayed approximately 685 miles of rights-of-way.

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Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative, Inc.	WREC inspects the transmission and distribution facilities annually (approximately 3,735 miles for 2023) by line patrol, drone/infrared, physical and visual inspections.	1,042 structures (74 miles) or 100% of transmission facilities were inspected by walking, riding or aerial patrol. Out of the 14,000 (6.51%) distribution structures planned, WREC inspected 9,503 (4.4%) structures in 2023.	In 2023, zero transmission poles/structures failed inspection. In 2023, 144 (1.6%) distribution poles/structures failed inspection due to ground rot and top deterioration.	In 2023, 3,777 distribution and 38 transmission wood, composite, cement, concrete, steel, aluminum, and fiberglass poles, ranging in size from 35 to 120 foot were added; 2,888 distribution poles were retired. WREC added 1,392 light poles and retired 365.	In 2017, WREC contracted with an arborist company to assist with the aggressive VMP that includes problem tree removal, horizontal/vertical clearances and under-brush to ground. WREC maintains over 180 overhead feeder circuits (over 7,200 miles of line) on a trim cycle between four to five years.	All transmission lines are inspected annually. 24 miles of transmission rights-of-way issues were addressed in 2023. In addition, during 2023, WREC addressed 3,024 rights-of-way service orders ranging from trimming a single account to trimming an entire subdivision or area.