

# **Environmental Assessment**

## **Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects**

### **24 CFR Part 58**

#### **Project Information**

**Project ID:** PR-RGRW-01701

**Project Name:** Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

**Responsible Entity:** Puerto Rico Department of Housing

**Grant Recipient** (if different than Responsible Entity): Same as above

**State/Local Identifier:** Puerto Rico/Utuado, PR

**Preparer:** Gabriela Rodríguez

**Certifying Officer Name and Title:** Permit and Compliance Officers: Sally Acevedo Cosme, Pedro De León Rodríguez, Ivelisse Lorenzo Torres, Santa Damarys Ramírez Lebrón, Janette I. Cambrelén, Limary Vélez-Marrero, and Mónica Machuca Ríos, María T. Torres Bregón - Environmental Compliance Manager, Ángel G. López-Guzmán - Deputy Director, Juan Carlos Perez Bofill - Director for Disaster Recovery

**Consultant** (if applicable): Tetra Tech, 251 Calle Recinto Sur, Ste. 202, San Juan, PR 00091

**Direct Comments to:** PRDOH (environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov)

#### **Project Location:**

The property is a 269.7-acre site located at PR-602 km 2.4, Ramal 6602 St. km 5.1 Angeles ward, Sector Altura in the Municipality of Utuado, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 187-000-002-53-001). The coordinates of the project parcel are 18.270137, -66.791842.

The land is currently and for the past 50 years has been used for the growing of coffee.

#### **Description of the Proposed Project** [24 CFR 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

The proposed use of grant funds is for the purchase of farm equipment, including materials to repair and construct a new fence, and the purchase of a utility task vehicle (UTV).

The applicant plans to build and repair approximately 1,500 linear feet of a fence with wood posts and barbed metal wire. Fence will be 60 % newly installed and 40 % repaired. Fence posts will be 6-foot (ft) in length, with 2 ft below ground. No new water or power connections are needed for this project.

The proposed repair and construction of a fence will require ground disturbance. Field is not graded. The visual Area of Potential (APE) is the viewshed of the proposed project. The APE for the proposed project is approximately 0.02 acres. Project site will not require leveling or grading, however it will require some vegetation removal for the fence installation, however no trees will be removed.

Site photos are included in **Appendix A**. A site map (Figure 1) is included in **Appendix B**.

**Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal** [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:

The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) will increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. The purpose of this project is to enhance farm facilities. This agricultural project associated with the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV is keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

**Existing Conditions and Trends** [24 CFR 58.40(a)]:

The land proposed for the to repair and construction of a fence is used for agricultural purposes. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with the project. Some ground disturbance will be required.

**Structure of this Environmental Review Report (ERR).**

This ERR discusses the Funding Information immediately below. The environmental impacts of the proposed action are discussed in the Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities checklist and Environmental Factors checklist. The listing of Additional Studies Performed, and Sources, Agencies and Persons Consulted follows the checklists. The discussions of Public Outreach, Cumulative Impacts, Alternatives, and Summary of Findings and Conclusions are presented at the end of the ERR, before the listing of Mitigation Measures and Determination signatures. The appendices contain detailed information.

- Appendix A – Site Inspection
- Appendix B – Maps
- Appendix C – Additional Documentation
- Appendix D – Endangered Species
- Appendix E – SHPO Consultation



## Funding Information

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
B-17-DM-72-0001,	Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)	\$11,938,162,230
B-18-DP-72-0001,	CDBG-DR, Re-Grow Puerto Rico	
B-19-DP-78-0002,	Urban-Rural Agricultural Program	
B-18-DE-72-0001		

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$28,650.06

**Estimated Total Project Cost** (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$28,650.06

## Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities

Record below the compliance or conformance determinations for each statute, executive order, or regulation. Provide credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority. Where applicable, complete the necessary reviews or consultations and obtain or note applicable permits of approvals. Clearly note citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references. Attach additional documentation as appropriate.

<b>Compliance Factors:</b> Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6</b>		
<b>Airport Hazards</b>  24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The nearest civil airport, “Aeropuerto Internacional Mercedita”, is approximately 119,384 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport, “Aeropuerto Internacional Luis Muñoz Marín”, is approximately 275,909 feet from the proposed site. The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements. Refer to Figure 2 in <b>Appendix B.</b>
<b>Coastal Barrier Resources</b>	Yes    No	Puerto Rico has various Coastal Barrier Resources Systems (CBRS). The project is in northwestern

<p>Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>Puerto Rico. The distance to the nearest CBRS unit is 77,727 feet. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. Refer to Figure 3 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Flood Insurance</b> Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Project site is located in Zone X, area of minimal flood hazard, as per Flood Insurance Map (FIRM) 72000C0595H, effective date April 19, 2005. This project is in compliance with Floodplain Insurance requirements. (See Figures 4 and 5 in <b>Appendix B</b>.)</p>

<p><b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5</b></p>		
<p><b>Clean Air</b> Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) &amp; (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Project site is located in a county or air quality management district that is in attainment status for all criteria pollutants. The Municipio of Utuado is not listed in the EPA Green Book "Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for all Criteria Pollutants" (See the List in Appendix C). The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. Project would have no impact on air quality. The project is in compliance with Clean Air Act. Refer to EPA listing in <b>Appendix C</b>.</p>
<p><b>Coastal Zone Management</b> Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) &amp; (d)</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located 72,846 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the PR Coastal Zone Management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See Figure 7 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b> 24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>A site visit conducted on May 17, 2023, no debris or rubbish or visible signs vegetative stress, contamination, or toxic substances were identified at the project site. The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV.</p>

		<p>Site contamination was evaluated through online data searches to determine if toxic sites are located within 3,000-feet of the proposed project.</p> <p>There are no sites of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet of the project site.</p> <p>Refer to Figures 8 and 9 in <b>Appendix B</b> and the Site inspection report and photos in <b>Appendix A</b>. The project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances.</p>
<p><b>Endangered Species</b></p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The proposed location of project is an area that has been used for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>According to EPA NEPAAssist Enviromapper, the nearest critical or proposed critical habitat is 28,822 feet to the northeast of the project location. The Official Species List from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website lists the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, and Puerto Rican Parrot as being able to be found in the area, but there are no critical habitats for them at this location.</p> <p>A site-specific review of endangered species was conducted in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended: 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) (See <b>Appendix D</b>).</p> <p>The proposed project will have No Effect on Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk and Puerto Rican Parrot. Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, it was determined that there would be No Effect for any of the listed species.</p> <p>The project is Not Likely to Adversely Affect the Puerto Rican Boa, provided conservation measures are implemented as part of the project.</p>

		<p>If a Puerto Rican Boa is encountered, work will cease until it moves off the site or, failing that, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers will be notified for safe capture and relocation of the animal, in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures.</p> <p>Refer to Figure 11 in <b>Appendix B</b> and the Endangered Species Package in <b>Appendix D</b>. This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.</p>
<p><b>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</b></p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project does not include development, construction, or rehabilitation that will increase residential density.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable Hazard requirements.</p> <p>Refer to site visit report in <b>Appendix A</b>.</p>
<p><b>Farmlands Protection</b></p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The project parcel south and southwest boundary area is designated as prime farmland the rest of the parcel is not designated as farmland of statewide importance or prime farmland. The project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to nonagricultural use. Although the project includes new construction, the project is exempt from review under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FFPA) as the project is limited to construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations. No further review is required.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. Refer to Figure 12 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Floodplain Management</b></p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The proposed project is not located in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain. The Project site is not located in an</p>

<p>Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690 particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>		<p>Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) special flood hazard area per Floodplain Map 72000C0595H, effective date April 13, 2018. Since the project site does not lie within the 1 percent (100-year) floodplain on the ABFE, it is not within the FFRMS.</p> <p>PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of San Lorenzo; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review. This project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. See Figure 6 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Historic Preservation</b></p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p>Yes    No  <input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site was evaluated on August 3, 2023, by an SOI Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian. Additionally, the site was evaluated on August 16, 2023, by an SOI Qualified Archaeologist. SHPO concurred with a finding of <b>No Historic Properties Affected</b> within the project's Area of Potential on Effects on September 15, 2023.</p> <p>Refer to Figure 13 in <b>Appendix B</b> and the Section 106 Consultation Package in <b>Appendix E</b>. This project is in compliance with Historic Preservation requirements.</p>
<p><b>Noise Abatement and Control</b></p> <p>Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>	<p>Yes    No  <input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. HUD's noise regulations protect residential properties from excessive noise exposure. HUD noise regulations do not apply as the project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The proposed project is in compliance with Noise Abatement and Control.</p>
<p><b>Sole Source Aquifers</b></p> <p>Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<p>Yes    No  <input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The nearest Sole Source Aquifer is 5,254,277 feet to the northwest of the project location. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.</p> <p>Refer to Figure 17 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>

<p><b>Wetlands Protection</b></p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The northern coast is 76,210 feet northeast of the property. The closest fresh-water bodies include an unnamed creek 196 feet to the northwest of project APE north limit, two unnamed creeks at 2,150 feet to the northeast and 1,380 to the southwest, the Tanama River 4,917 feet east of the property and Criminales River 5,289 feet northwest of the property. There are several other unnamed creeks within 0.5 miles of the property.</p> <p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The unnamed creek inside parcel at 196 feet to the north of project APE is identified as a riverine wetland in the NWI map.</p> <p>An undisturbed natural buffer equal or greater than 100 feet, supplemented by standard construction BMPs, and erosion and sediment controls will be kept at all times during ground disturbance activities. APE will be clearly delimited prior to the initiation of the construction activities. With these mitigations the repair and construction of the fence would not impact the wetlands and includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. Refer to Figure 14 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Wild and Scenic Rivers</b></p> <p>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project is not within proximity of a National Wild and Scenic River (WSR). The distance to the nearest WSR is approximately 346,256 feet. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Refer to Figure 15 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>

<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b></p>		
<p><b>Environmental Justice</b></p> <p>Executive Order 12898</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>No adverse environmental impacts were identified in any other compliance review portion of this project that may disproportionately be high for low-income and/or minority communities. Therefore, this</p>

		topic complies with Executive Order 12898. See EJSscreen Report in <b>Appendix C</b> .
--	--	--

**Environmental Assessment Factors** [24 CFR 58.40; Ref. 40 CFR 1508.8 & 1508.27] Recorded below is the qualitative and quantitative significance of the effects of the proposal on the character, features, and resources of the project area. Each factor has been evaluated and documented, as appropriate and in proportion to its relevance to the proposed action. Verifiable source documentation has been provided and described in support of each determination, as appropriate. Credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority has been provided. Where applicable, the necessary reviews or consultations have been completed and applicable permits of approvals have been obtained or noted. Citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references are clear. Additional documentation is attached, as appropriate. **All conditions, attenuation or mitigation measures have been clearly identified.**

**Impact Codes:** Use an impact code from the following list to make the determination of impact for each factor.

- (1) Minor beneficial impact
- (2) No impact anticipated
- (3) Minor Adverse Impact – May require mitigation
- (4) Significant or potentially significant impact requiring avoidance or modification which may require an Environmental Impact Statement

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>LAND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The proposed project is located on a private farm. The project site is zoned as "Agrícola Productivo (A-P)". The proposed action is compliant with the current agricultural land use of the Project area.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The proposed project is located in rural

		<p>rolling terrain, previously used for agricultural purposes, and now used as a coffee plantation.</p> <p>Soils in the proposed project area are classified as Ingenio Claim Loam (InD), 5 to 20 percent slopes, The project area has not been graded and has mixed vegetation throughout the parcel, 550 meters above mean sea level.</p> <p>Projects larger than 1 acre must comply with the CWA and develop a SWPPP with the NPDES. The proposed project area is approximately 0.02 acres.</p> <p>Due to the rugged and extensive nature of the area, site inspection was conducted on accessible areas. To account for the non-accessible areas of the parcel that repair or construction is proposed, in addition to on-site observations, the interview with the applicant was used to determined that the fence repairs cover approximately 40% of the total fence. Project site will not require leveling or grading, however it will require some vegetation removal for the fence installation, however no trees will be removed. Activities involving clearing, excavation, or movement of any component of the terrestrial cortex material require the submittal and approval of the applicable permit by the PRDNER. Applicant is responsible for any permits or actions to ensure legalization of proposed activities.</p> <p>The project site area is rated “moderate” to “extremely high” for landslide susceptibility (see Figure 16 in <b>Appendix B</b>).</p> <p>There will be no human habitation associated with the structure and therefore extensive mitigation measures will not be required, such as retaining walls or special engineering design. There will be little to no additional runoff associated with the project.</p> <p>Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction. An undisturbed natural buffer equal or greater than 100 feet, supplemented by standard construction BMPs, and erosion and sediment controls will be kept at all times during ground disturbance activities. APE will be clearly delimited prior to the initiation of the construction activities. With these mitigations the repair and construction of the fence would not impact the wetlands and includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section.</p>
<p>Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. During implementation of the project, construction activities may result in temporary elevation of ambient noise levels in immediate areas around active</p>



		construction areas. The only nearby receptors are the residents of the farm. There is no access to the project area by the public. Standard BMPs, such as construction fencing, would be applied to protect the farm residents and public from typical construction hazards.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC</b>		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. Temporary employment of workers related to construction activities would result, but no new permanent jobs would be created as a result of this project. These workers are expected to come from the local region. However, since the project will include an economic component, it may aid in restoring some employment opportunities and increase income.</p> <p>The proposed project would not negatively impact employment or income patterns.</p>
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The proposed project would not result in demographic character changes or displacement. Given the nature of the project area, no relocations or demolition of residential structures or businesses would occur as part of this project.</p>
Environmental Justice	2	<p>In the area (one mile radius) in which project will occur.</p> <p>98% are people of color compared to PR average of 96%</p> <p>78% are low income compared to PR average of 70%</p> <p>25% are unemployed compared to PR average of 15%</p> <p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. This project will result in restoration and increase in income and potential employment opportunities in the local area. The impacts would be beneficial.</p> <p>See EJSscreen Report in <b>Appendix C</b></p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES</b>		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The project would not result in any change to regional or local area educational and cultural facilities or increase demand for them.
Commercial Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The agricultural activity of the project property will improve. Other commercial facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. Health care and social services facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project. The project would not increase demand for health care and social services facilities.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The project does not contemplate leveling or grading activities.</p> <p>Waste vegetation from clearing activities will either be composted on site or at regional composting centers. Soil from grading would be recycled on the farm as fill. Left over construction materials that could be reused on the farm (e.g., wood posts and barber wires) would be stored for later use. The remaining construction solid waste materials would be collected for transport to the local landfill. The amount of impact of solid waste resulting from the construction of the proposed project would be minor. During operations, the products and by-products would be agricultural, which waste would be biodegradable. Other waste components related to the operation of the proposed project includes recyclable materials such as plastics and cardboard. Recyclables will be set aside and dispose according to the local recycling management plan. The remaining municipal solid waste would be collected for the transport to the local landfill.</p>

Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The proposed project would not include any bathrooms, wastewater, or sewage facilities. Current farm conditions would remain unchanged.
Water Supply	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The SOW does not involve water connections or use water for operational purposes. The proposed project does not represent an increase in current water demand.
Public Safety – Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The proposed project would not create any new demand for emergency or health services.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The proposed project would not create or destroy any new parks, open space, or recreational activities. It also would not increase use of those facilities.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The proposed project would not involve the creation of new roads nor any increase in long-term traffic on existing roads. There would be some minor use of the existing road during construction. All residents and businesses would retain access to their properties during and after the project.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>NATURAL FEATURES</b>		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The proposed project will be situated on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will have no impact to unique natural features or water resources.</p> <p>The APE of the SOW is at an estimated distance of 196 ft of the identified unnamed creek, inside of the parcel. Natural vegetation buffer zone of equal or greater than 100 feet will be maintained, at all times. No cortex removal, ground</p>

		disturbances, earth movement, or constructions activities are contemplated nearby a unique natural features or water resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The proposed project will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity.</p> <p>Waste vegetation from clearing activities will either be composted on site or at regional composting centers. Soil from grading would be recycled on the farm as fill. Project site will not require leveling or grading, however it will require some vegetation removal for the fence installation, no trees will be removed. The proposed project will have minimal impact on vegetation and no impact on wildlife.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>CLIMATE AND ENERGY</b>		
Climate Change Impacts	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The project area is rural and does not have urban heat island effects. There would be no changes to the site configuration or structure that would specifically address the possibility and uncertainty of rising sea levels or the possibility of increases in rainfall intensity. With respect to climate change impact, agricultural activities could be affected by drought. However, the proposed project has no measurable impact on climate change factors.
Energy Efficiency/Energy Consumption	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV.</p> <p>The proposed project is an agricultural project that does not involve energy use. There would be no change in energy demand in the area.</p>

**Additional Studies Performed:** None required.

**Field Inspection** (Date and completed by):

Site inspection was conducted on May 17, 2023 by Carlos Medina.

**List of Sources, Agencies and Persons Consulted** [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems:

[www.faa.gov/airports/planning\\_capacity/npias/reports/NPIAS-Report-2017-2021-Appendix-B-Part6.pdf](http://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/npias/reports/NPIAS-Report-2017-2021-Appendix-B-Part6.pdf)

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, Puerto Rico [map](#).

[www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf)

National Wild and Scenic Rivers System: [www.rivers.gov/puerto-rico.php](http://www.rivers.gov/puerto-rico.php)

Puerto Rico Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Action Plan, July 2018. [www.cdbg-dr.pr.gov/en/action-plan/](http://www.cdbg-dr.pr.gov/en/action-plan/)

Programmatic Agreement among the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office and the Central Office for Recovery, Reconstruction and Resilience – amended to include the Puerto Rico Department of Housing.

US Environmental Protection Agency, National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Nonattainment Areas for Criteria Pollutants (Green Book):

[www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo\\_pr.html](http://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo_pr.html)

US EPA, Environmental Topics, Air Topics: [www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/air-topics](http://www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/air-topics)

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Conservation Online System:

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/report/species-listings-by-state?stateAbbrev=PR&stateName=Puerto%20Rico&statusCategory=Listed>

Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Mapping Service:

<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home> (compilation of numerous maps)

US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetlands Inventory:

[www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html](http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html) (compilation of numerous maps)

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

US EPA, Sole Source Aquifers. Esri HERE, Garmin, NOAA, USGS, EPA.

US Geological Survey, Data Release of May Showing Concentration of Landslides Caused by Hurricane Maria,

[www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/59de6459e4b05fe04ccd39d8](http://www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/59de6459e4b05fe04ccd39d8)

**List of Permits Obtained:**

None

**Public Outreach** [24 CFR 58.43]:

The local community has been very proactive in the recovery process. Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture has worked closely with the agricultural community. The project will include a FONSI / NOI-RROF in compliance with NEPA regulations for HUD.

**Cumulative Impact Analysis** [24 CFR 58.32]:

In accordance with 24 CFR 58.32 (Aggregation), there are no cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project. The proposed repair and construction of a fence will provide protection to coffee plantation area. However, the growth of agricultural products at the farm would increase. The project would allow for the continuation of coffee production.

**Alternatives** [24 CFR 58.40(e); 40 CFR 1508.9]

The RGRW Program's goal is to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island-wide. This Program seeks to enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV. The applicant submitted a proposal to enhance the facilities used for agricultural production on their property. Among the possible impacts of alternative location, the location of the proposed SOW's off property will require transportation of equipment and products in and out of the property creating an increase in traffic and other vial impacts due to the transportation of materials and heavy equipment. Alternative locations off and on property may represent an impact to undisturbed and/or uneven ground, sloped terrain or within forested areas, which could require heavier clearing and grading activities. Any alternative that would involve an off-property location might require the purchase of land, the need for storage area, the movement of products, equipment, infrastructure, water and power utility connections, among others, representing an additional cost. An off-property alternative will not enhance and expand agricultural production or allow for the economic development for this applicant. Given the above-mentioned possible impacts of an alternative location, an off-property alternative was not selected.

**No Action Alternative** [24 CFR 58.40(e)]:

Under the No Action Alternative, the applicant would not receive federal funding the purchase of farm equipment, including the materials to repair and construct a fence, and the purchase of a UTV, which would inhibit the economic growth opportunity that the applicant would not otherwise have under the PRDOH Re-Grow Puerto Rico program. As a result, these owners may not be able to experience the growth needed to recover their agriculture activities. A provision of the grant allows for economic development for businesses. The No-Action alternative would not allow for the economic development for this applicant.

### **Summary of Findings and Conclusions:**

The proposed activity has been found to not have any adverse effects on the environment nor is there the requirement for further consultation with federal agencies associated with the topics evaluated above. There are no environmental review topics addressed above that result in the need for additional formal compliance steps with federal agencies or the requirement for mitigations other than those listed below. There may be additional approvals or permits from local agencies. For example, permits may be required from PRDNER for any water or other utility connections and the Office of Permit Management (OGPe) is responsible for granting permits, licenses, certifications, consultations, construction, and any other procedure necessary for business development and land use in Puerto Rico. The appropriate and necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor, from the appropriate Department or concerned agency, prior to construction activities.

### **Mitigation Measures and Conditions [40 CFR 1505.2(c)]**

Summarize below all mitigation measures adopted by the Responsible Entity to reduce, avoid, or eliminate adverse environmental impacts and to avoid non-compliance or non-conformance with the above-listed authorities and factors. These measures/conditions must be incorporated into project contracts, development agreements, and other relevant documents. The staff responsible for implementing and monitoring mitigation measures should be clearly identified in the mitigation plan.

The environmental review topics addressed in this environmental review include all formal compliance steps with federal agencies and mitigations (listed in table below) needed for compliance with 24 CFR 58.

Any permits or approvals that have been issued during the preparation of this environmental review have been included in the evaluation of impacts and mitigations. Any special permit conditions or requirements associated with these permits are listed in the Mitigation Measures and Conditions table below.

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Wetlands Protection	An undisturbed natural buffer equal or greater than 100 feet, supplemented by standard construction BMPs, and erosion and sediment controls will be kept at all times during ground disturbance activities. APE will be clearly delimited prior to the initiation of the construction activities.
Endangered Species	Implement Puerto Rican Boa conservation measures prior to and during construction to avoid or minimize impacts to this species.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction.

### Permits or Agency Approvals Required

Permit or Approval	Permit Conditions
Ground disturbance	Projects whose earthworks are more than 40 m <sup>3</sup> must submit an Incidental Permit. The permit must be submitted via the Single Business Portal to the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by the Water Quality Division of the PRDNER. Any necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor prior to construction activities.
Clearing activities	Activities involving the excavation or movement of any component of the terrestrial cortex material that exceeds five hundred (500) cubic meters and up to a maximum of five thousand (5,000) cubic meters require the submittal and approval of a Simple Terrestrial Cortex Removal Permit. Applications are submitted via the Single Business Portal of the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by terrestrial Cortex Extraction Permit Division of the PRDNER.
Utility Connections- Water supply	The project does not involve new connections to the local utility services. However, the applicant is responsible for any permits or actions to ensure legalization of utility connections (if needed) prior to construction activities.
Utility Connections- LUMA/PRASA	The project does not involve new utility connections. Facilities have local utility services connections. However, the applicant is responsible for any permits or actions to ensure legalization of utility connections (if needed) prior to construction activities.
Cutting, Pruning, Transplanting and Planting of Trees	The cutting or transplanting of trees with a trunk diameter greater than or equal to 4 inches (DAP, by its acronym in Spanish) requires the submittal of a "Permiso Único Incidental", including an "Autorización de Corte, Poda, Trasplante y Siembra de Arboles (ACP)". The ACP contains the plan of transplanting, cutting and the proposed mitigation measures. Mitigation measures varies depending on the activity and the DAP of trees. Mitigation can be achieved by on-site, off-site, a combination of on-site/off-site planting and/or monetary compensation. Plan must be developed by an Arborist certified by the PRDNER and be submitted via the Single Business Portal to the OGPe to be evaluated, approved and physicalized by PRDNER.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	All construction or demolition of structures, which do not contain asbestos or lead-containing paint, in surface areas of project of nine hundred (900) square meters or more, in which the total volume of the components of the earth's that are to be used as filler or extracted, stored, disposed, disassembled, piled up or removed exceed forty (40) cubic meters, requires the submittal of a "Permiso Único Incidental", including an "Permit for the Erosion Control and Sedimentation Prevention (CES)". A Plan CES must be



	developed by a Professional Engineer and be submitted via the Single Business Portal to the OGPe to be evaluated, approved, and physicalized by PRDNER.
--	---

**Determination:**

**Finding of No Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1); 40 CFR 1508.27]

The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

**Finding of Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(2); 40 CFR 1508.27]

The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Preparer Signature:  Date: 8/1/2024

Name/Title/Organization: Gabriela Rodríguez, Senior Environmental Scientist, Tetra Tech Inc.

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: August 20, 2024

Name/Title: I. Lorenzo, Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist

This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the activity/project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and in accordance with recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).

# **APPENDIX A**

## **Site Inspection and Photos**

## Environmental Field Observation - Puerto Rico Department of Housing

APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Application ID	PR-RGRW-01701		
Applicant Name	Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles		
Property Address	Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura		
Parcel ID	187-000-002-53		
Coordinates	18.270137, -66.791842		
Inspector Name	Carlos O. Medina		
Inspection Date	05/17/2023		
Building Type	vacant		
Number of Units	0		
Number of Stories	0		
Year Built; Data Source	C1975; Historian		
ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS (attach photos and notes, as necessary, for any YES answers)			
OBSERVATION ITEMS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
A. Is the <b>structure in use</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
B. Is <b>structure a greenhouse</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
C. Is <b>Electricity connected</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
D. Is <b>water connected</b> ? (Utilities or Well)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
1. Are there signs of <b>poor housekeeping</b> on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Are there any <b>55-gallon drums</b> visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Are there any (or signs of any) <b>underground storage tanks</b> on the property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Are there signs of <b>ASTs</b> on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5. Is there any <b>stained soil or pavement</b> on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6. Is a water <b>drainage system</b> in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of <b>Fertilizer or Pesticides</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Are there any <b>groundwater monitoring wells</b> on the site or adjacent parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Is there evidence of a <b>faulty septic system</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Is there <b>distressed vegetation</b> on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11. Is there any visible indication of <b>MOLD</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

12. Is there any visible evidence of <b>asbestos, chipping, flaking or peeling paint, or hazardous materials</b> present in or on the structure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
13. Are any <b>additional site hazards</b> observed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
14. Is there any <b>permanent standing water</b> , such as a pond or stream, located on the site (do not include ponding from recent rain / weather events)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
15. Does the subject property have <b>water frontage</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
16. Is there any indication of the presence of <b>Wetlands</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
17. Are there any obvious signs of <b>animals or birds nesting</b> on or near the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
18. Is the applicant aware of any <b>significant historical event or persons</b> associated with the structure, or of it being located in a historic district/area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
19. Is a <b>historic marker</b> present?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Additional Notes:

Re Grow Additional Notes:

Case: PR-RGRW-01701

Project Name: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Coordinates: 18.270137, -66.791842

Is the field graded? For what purpose the field was graded? Month, Year: field is not graded

Scope of Work: Purchase of materials to build a new fence and purchase of UTV.

Land current in use for: coffee plantation

Past Land use was: coffee 50 years ago

The applicant plans to do: build a new fence with wood posts of 6' and barber metal wire

Where the applicant plans to do the ground disturbances for the scopes of work, add the coordinates, descriptions and approximately the measurements:

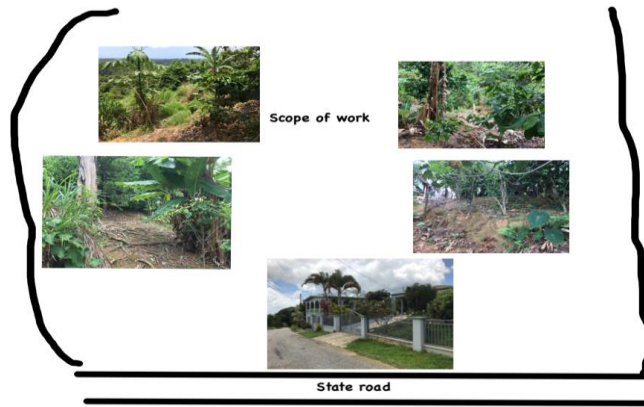
Scope of work: 18.270137, -66.791842

Construction of a fence around the perimeter of the parcel with wood posts of 6', and barber metal wire, with 2' underground, approximately 1,500' lineal.

Any new water connection or power connection?

No water, neither power is required.

## Site Sketch



**Front of Structure**

Photo Direction: North



**Facing Away From Front**

Photo Direction: South





**Side #1 of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Facing Away From Side #1**

Photo Direction: Southwest





**Back of Structure**

Photo Direction: North



**Facing Away From Back**

Photo Direction: South





**Side #2 of Structure**

Photo Direction: North



**Facing Away From Side #2**

Photo Direction: South





**Streetscape #1**

Photo Direction: West



**Streetscape #2**

Photo Direction: East



**Address**

Photo Direction: Northwest



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Applicant house

Photo Direction: Northwest





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North

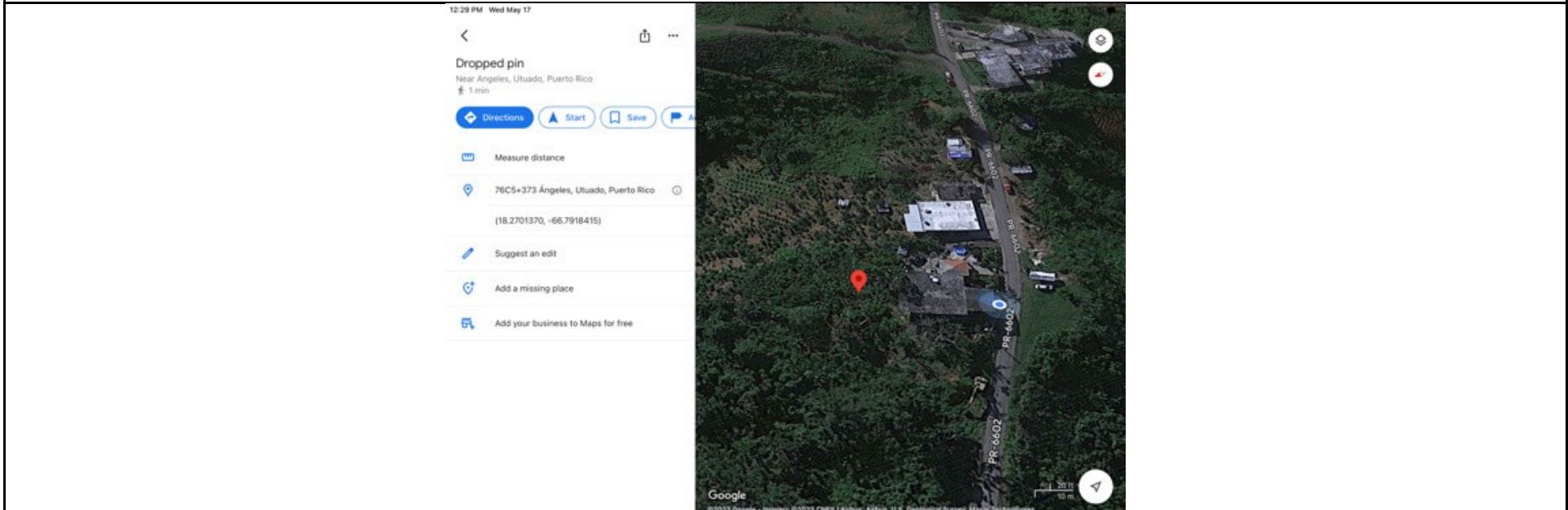




Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: construction of a fence

Photo Direction: North



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: construction of a fence

Photo Direction: North





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: construction of a fence

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: construction of a fence

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: construction of a fence

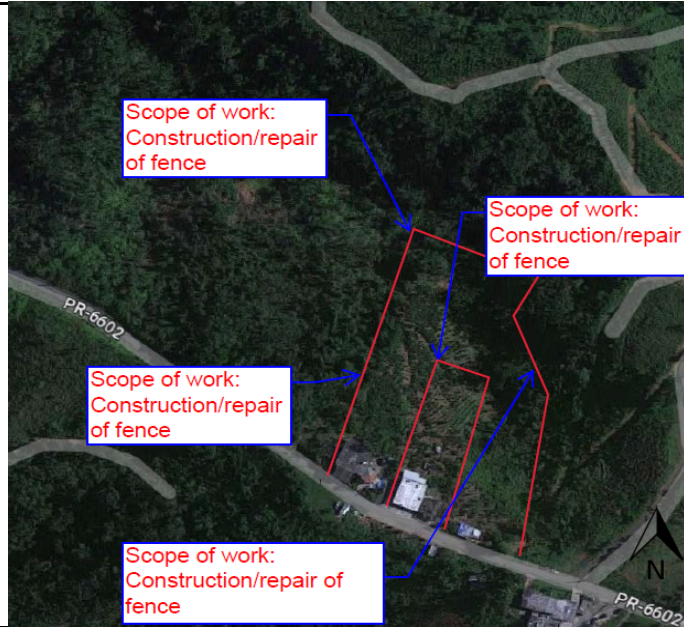
Photo Direction: South



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work map reference

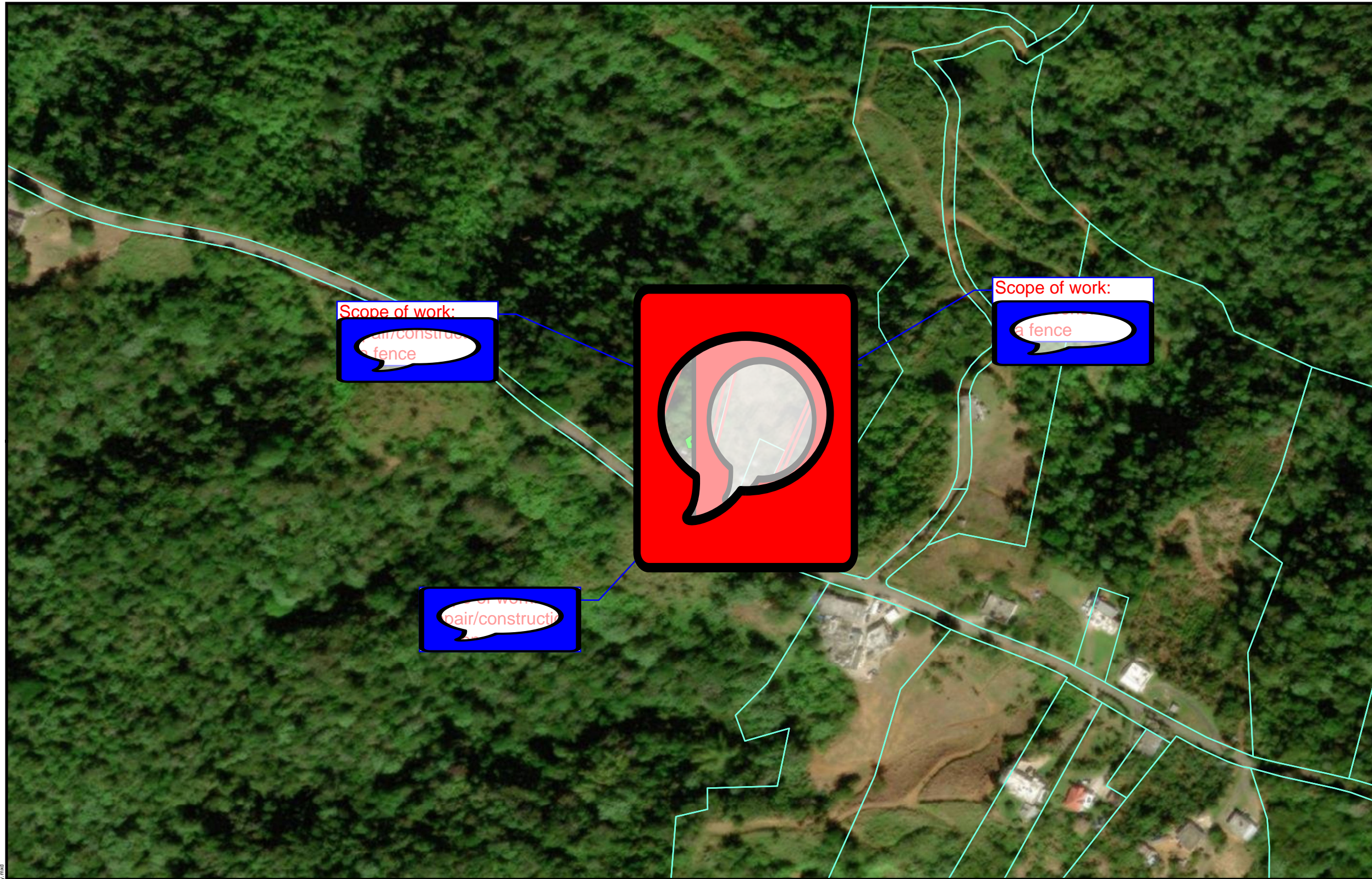
Photo Direction: North



# APPENDIX B

## Maps





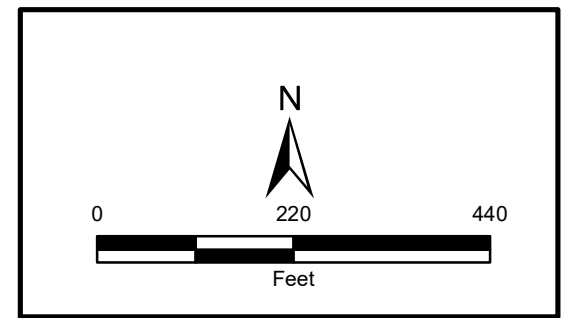
- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
  -  Parcels
  -  Area of Potential Effect

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 1: PROJECT LOCATION**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

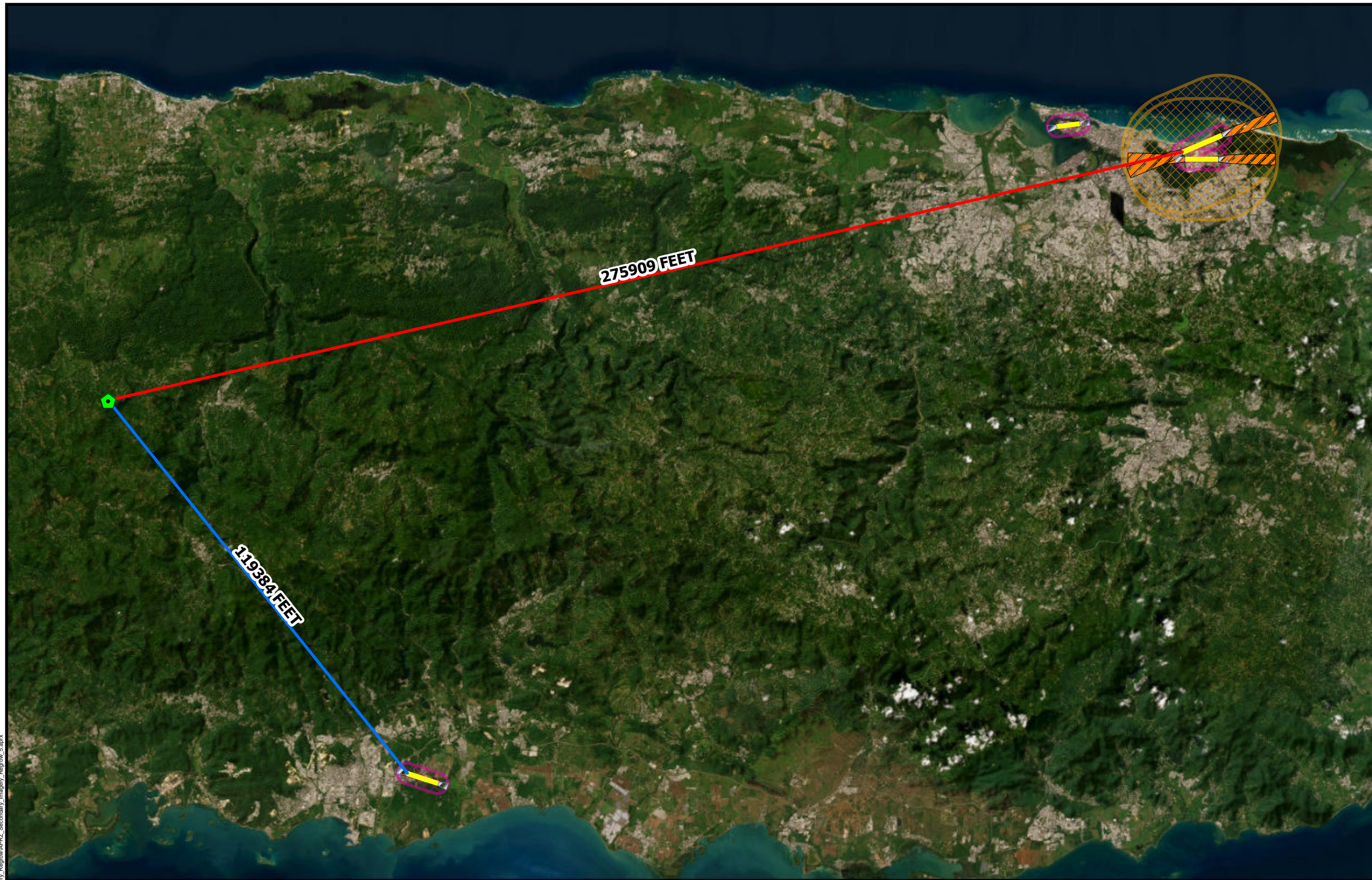
ADDRESS: Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, Utuado, PR 00641  
 Name of Development: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.270137 , -86.791842



Source: CRIM  
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>  
 Author: TG Date: 2/12/2024

File Path: Z:\data\USRT\TetraPR\CDPRPC\_Regrow\_Secundary\_Images.mxd





**Legend**

-  Project Parcel
-  Civilian Runway Protection Zones
-  Military Accident Potential Zones
-  Airport Runways
-  Civilian Airport 2,500 Feet Buffer
-  Military Airport 15,000 Feet Buffer

**Distance to Nearest Airport  
in Feet: 119,384**

**Distance to Nearest Civilian Airport  
in Feet: 119,384**

**Distance to Nearest Military Airport  
in Feet: 275,909**

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 2: AIRPORT ZONES  
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura Utuado, PR 00641

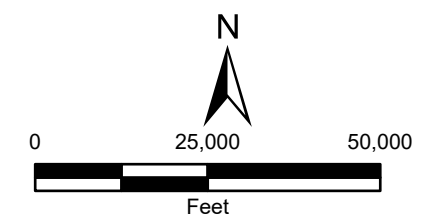
**Name of Development:** Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

**Parcel Coordinates:** 18.270137 , -66.791842

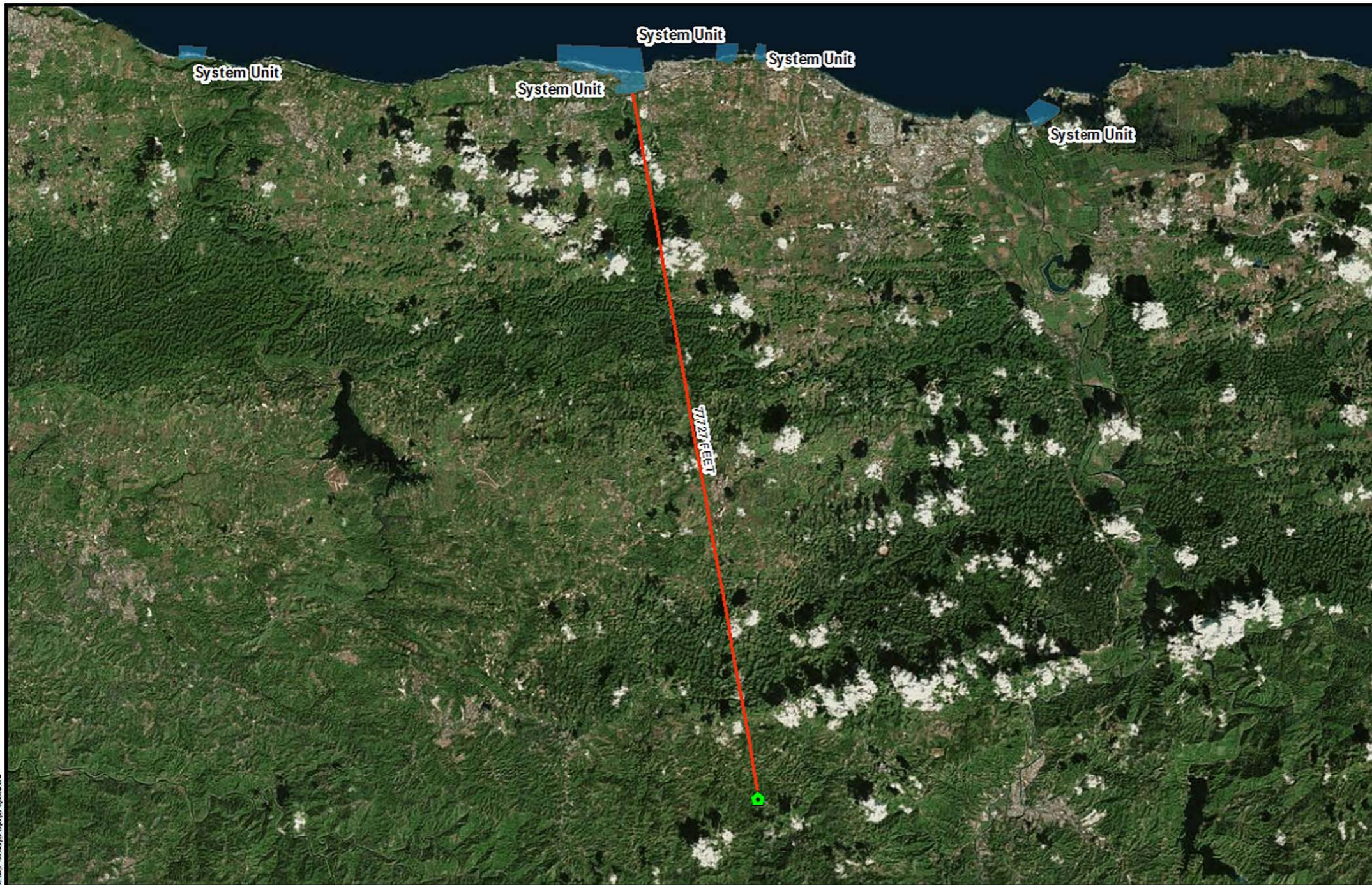


Source: USDOT  
<https://www.faa.gov>

Author: TG Date: 2/14/2024







**Legend**

Project Parcel

**Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit Type**

Otherwise Protected  
 System Unit

Distance to Nearest Coastal Barrier Resources System in Feet: 77727 FEET

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 3: COASTAL BARRIERS IMPROVEMENT ACT  
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

ADDRESS: Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, Utuado, PR 00641

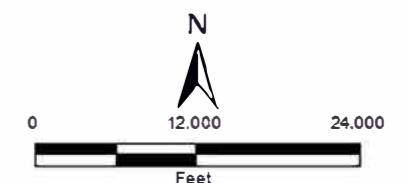
Name of Development: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Parcel Coordinates: 18.270137, -66.791842



Source: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
<https://www.fws.gov>

Author: TG





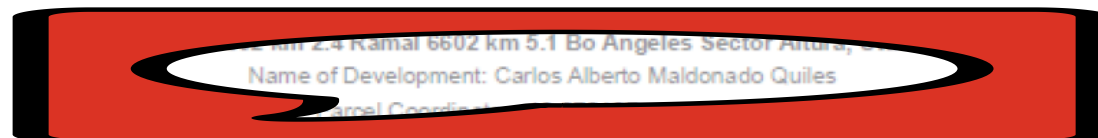


- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Parcels
  - FIRM Panels
  - Floodway
  - 100 Yr Floodzone
  - 500 Yr Floodzone
  - Area Of Minimal Flood Hazard
  - Unmapped for Floodplain

**PUERTO RICO**

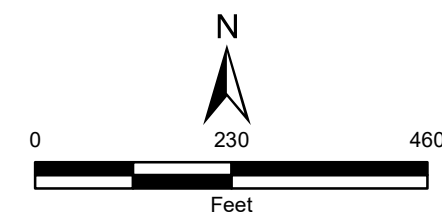


**Figure 4: FIRM MAP**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

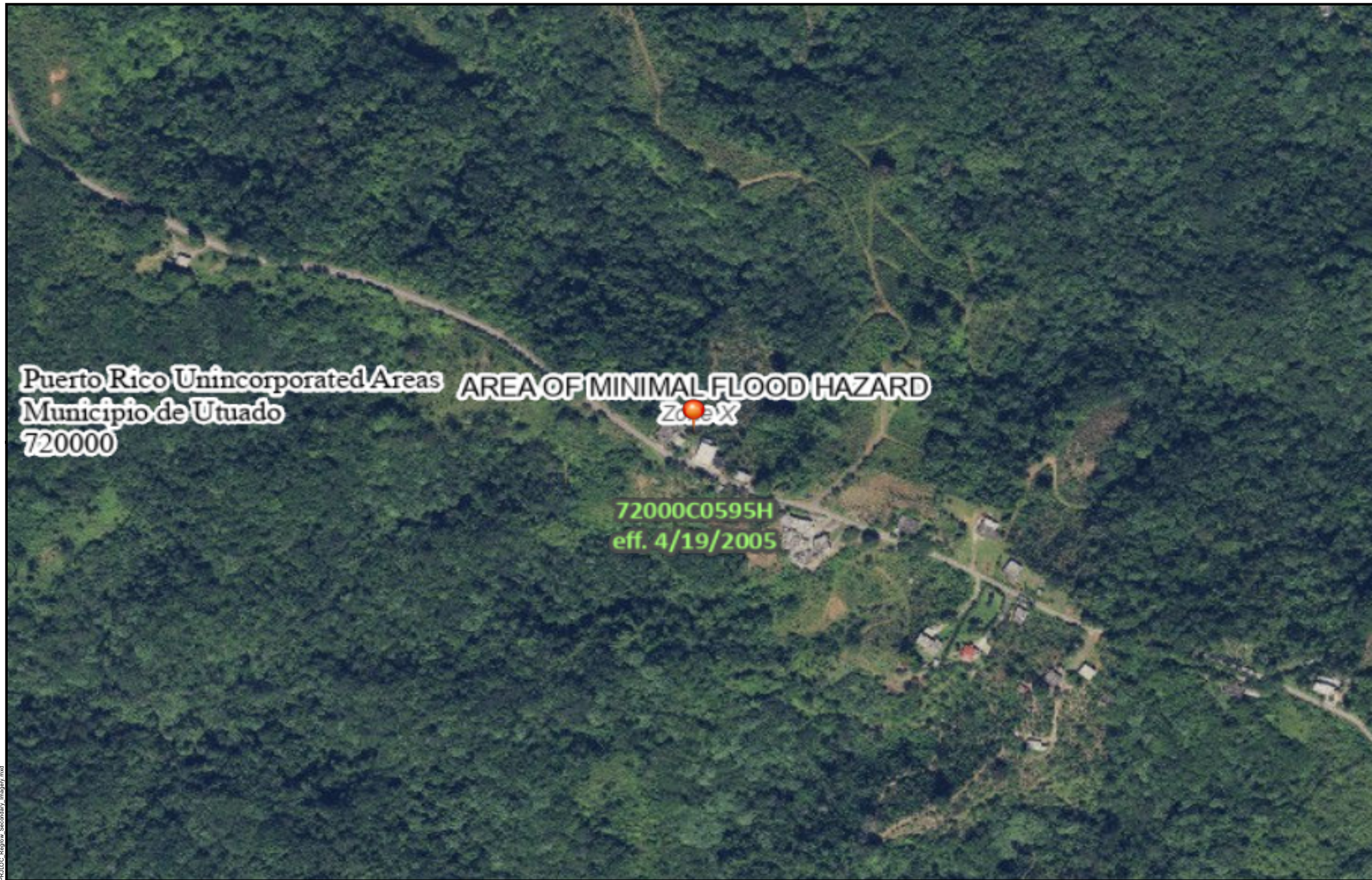


Source: FEMA  
<https://msc.fema.gov>

Author: TG Date: 2/20/2024





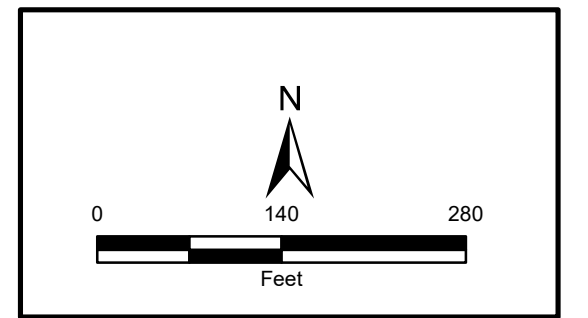


**Legend**

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

<b>SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS</b>		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A, V, A99
		With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR
		Regulatory Floodway
<b>OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD</b>		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D
<b>OTHER AREAS</b>		NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X
		Effective LOMRs
<b>GENERAL STRUCTURES</b>		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D
		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
<b>OTHER FEATURES</b>		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
		Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
<b>MAP PANELS</b>		Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
		Coastal Transect
<b>OTHER FEATURES</b>		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
<b>OTHER FEATURES</b>		Jurisdiction Boundary
		Coastal Transect Baseline
<b>OTHER FEATURES</b>		Profile Baseline
		Hydrographic Feature
<b>MAP PANELS</b>		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped

The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.



**FIGURE 5: NATIONAL FLOOD HAZARD LAYER FIRMETTE**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

ADDRESS: Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, Utuado, PR 00641

Name of Development: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Parcel Coordinates: 18.270137 , -66.791842



Source: FEMA  
<https://www.msc.fema.gov>

Author: TG Date: 5/31/2023

File Path: \\nas1202\gis\GIS\CDR\PR\Acc\GIS\SHAPE\TDR\Utado\USFIRM\Figure5\Figure5\_Secundary\_Imagery.mxd






















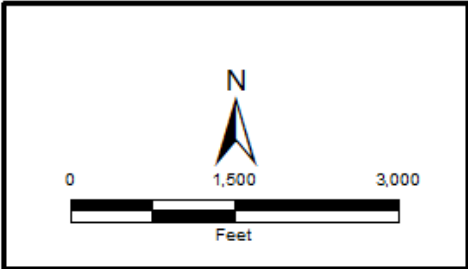
- Legend**
-  RCRA
  -  Project Parcel
  -  Toxic Release Inventory Site
  -  Superfund Site
  -  Brownfield Sites
  -  3000 Ft Buffer TRI
  -  3000 Ft Buffer Superfund
  -  3000 Ft Buffer RCRA
  -  3000 Ft Buffer Brownfield

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 8: TOXIC CHEMICALS AND GASES, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, CONTAMINATION, AND RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES  
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

ADDRESS: Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, Utuado, PR 00641  
 Name of Development: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.270137, -66.791842



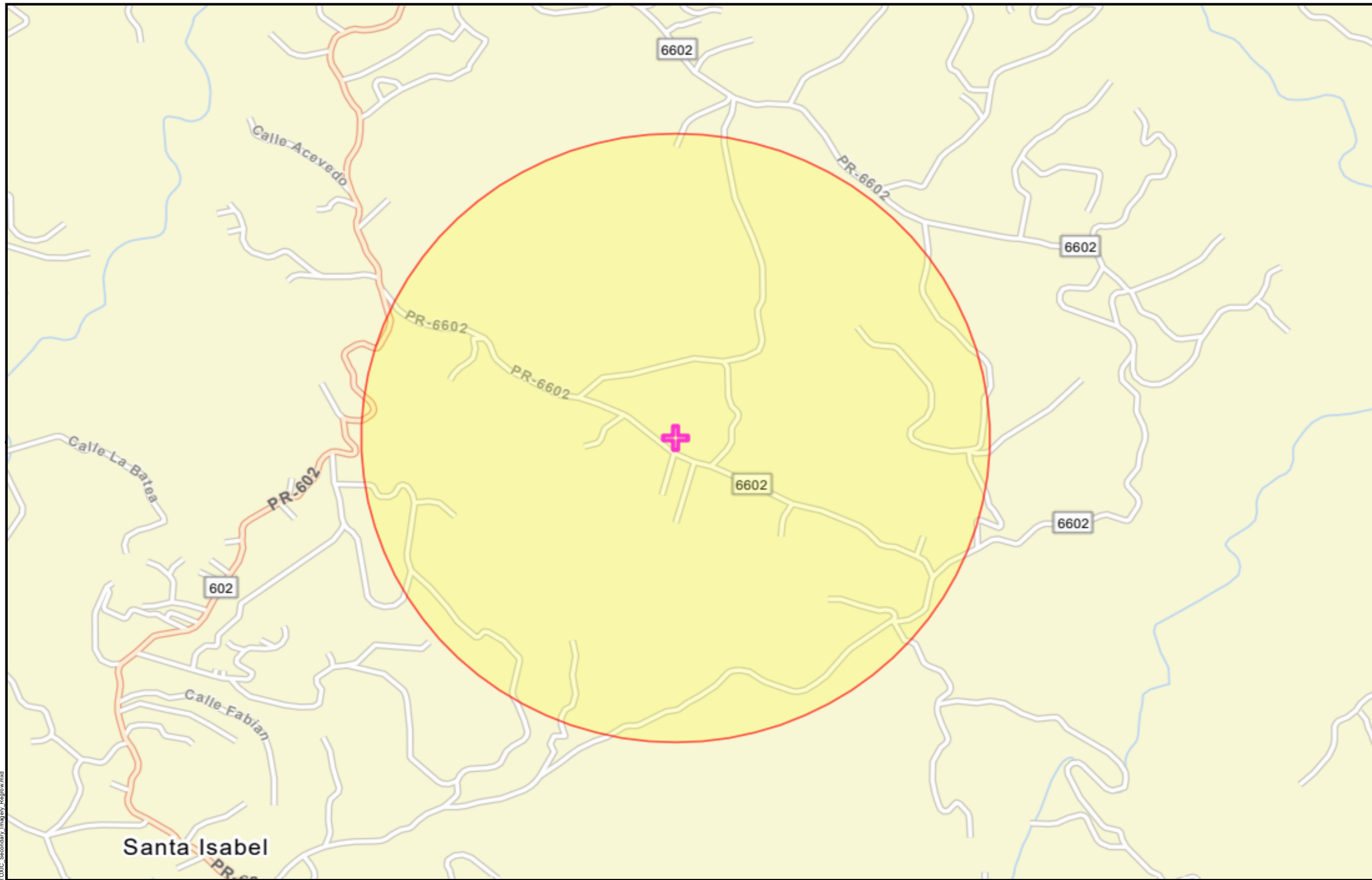
Source: E.P.A.

<https://www.epa.gov/fs/geospatial-data-download-service>

Author: JBI/AK Date: 6/1/2023

3000 FT BUFFER TRI, 3000 FT BUFFER SUPERFUND, 3000 FT BUFFER RCRA, 3000 FT BUFFER BROWNFIELD, PROJECT PARCEL, TOXIC RELEASE INVENTORY SITE, SUPERFUND SITE, BROWNFIELD SITES





**Legend**

- Superfund (NPL)
- Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
- Toxic Releases (TRI)
- Brownfields (ACRES)
- Hazardous Waste (RCRAInfo)
- + Project Parcel
- 3000 Ft Buffer

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 9: NEPA Assist Map**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

ADDRESS: Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, Utuado, PR 00641

Name of Development: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

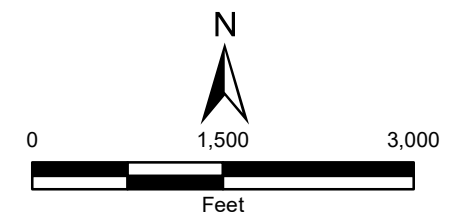
Parcel Coordinates: 18.270137 , -66.791842



Source: E.P.A.

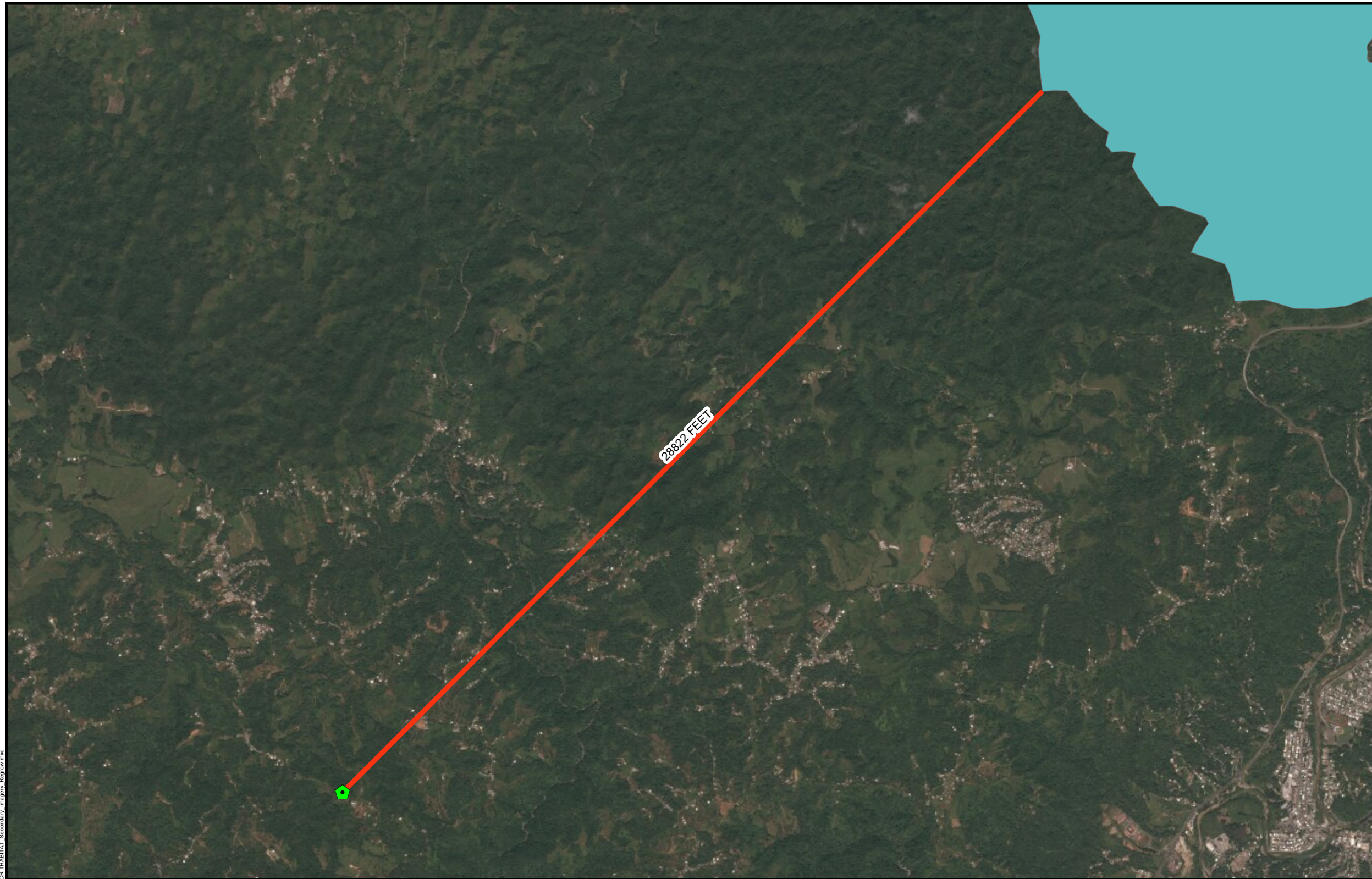
<https://www.epa.gov/frs/geospatial-data-download-service>

Author: JB/AK      Date: 5/18/2023





File Path: \\sls1202\gis\GIS\CDR\PR\Acacia\Shane\TDR\Utalu\SPR\Fig9\TOXIC\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Register.mxd





**Legend**

-  Project Parcel
- comname**
-  Puerto Rico harlequin butterfly

Distance to Nearest Critical Habitat in Feet: 28822 FEET

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 11: CRITICAL HABITATS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, Utuado, PR 00641

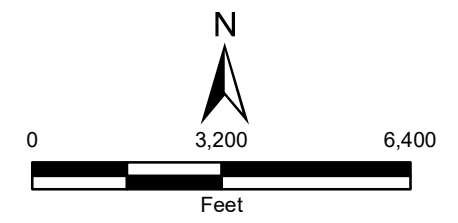
Name of Development: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Parcel Coordinates: 18.270137, -66.791842



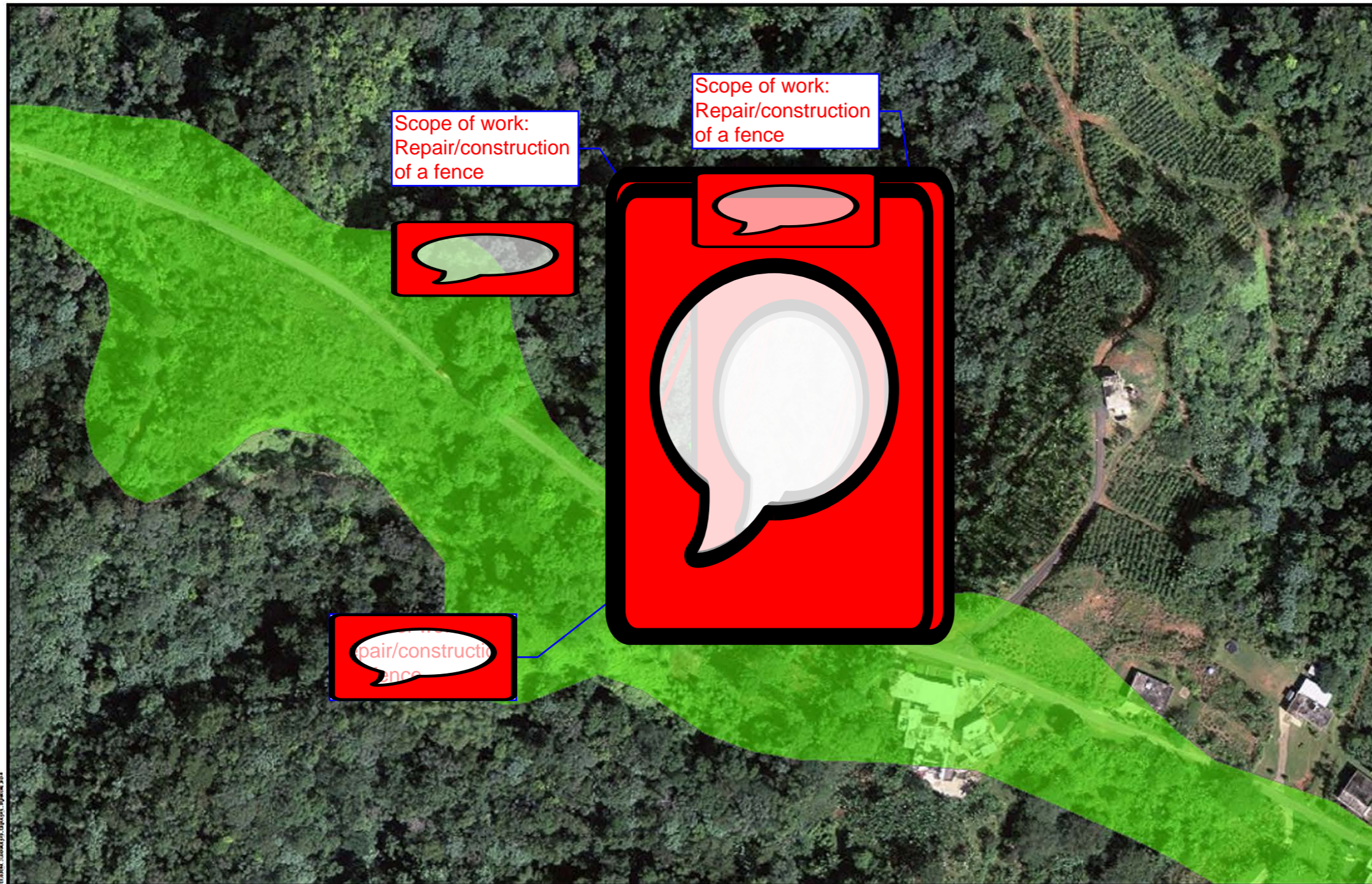
Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
<https://ecos.fws.gov>


Author: TG Date: 6/1/2023



File Path: \\nas1206gsls1\CDRPR\AccesShare\DR\Utah\USPR\Sec\CRTHABITAT\_Sec\Secondary\_Imagery\_Export.mxd





- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
  - Farm Class**
  -  All areas are prime farmland
  -  Farmland of statewide importance
  -  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated
  -  Prime farmland if drained
  -  Prime farmland if irrigated
  -  Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
  -  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
  -  Area of Potential Effect

**PUERTO RICO**

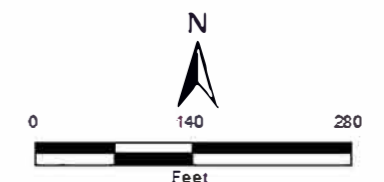


**Figure 12: FARMLAND PROTECTION**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

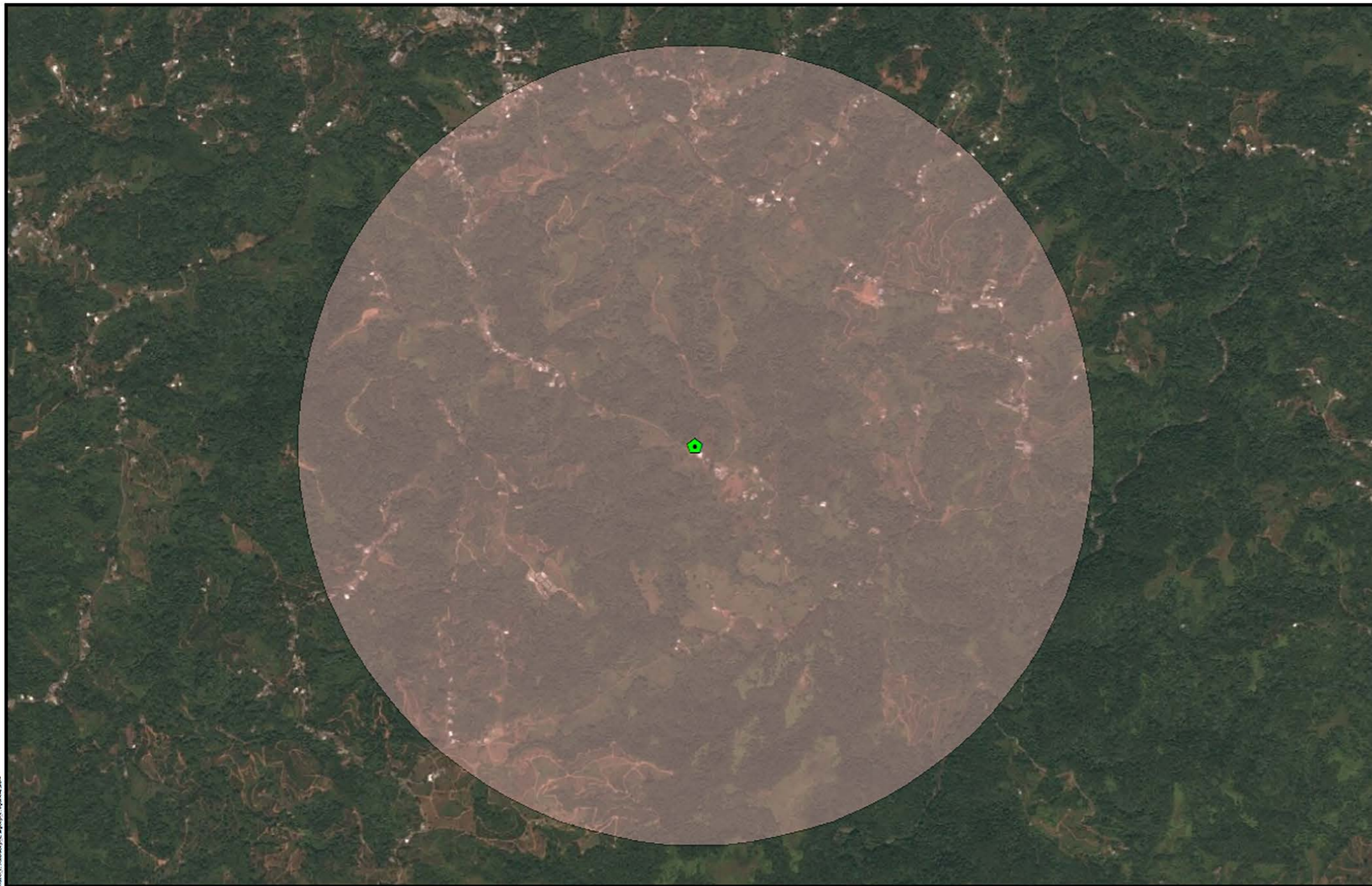
ADDRESS: Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, Utuado, PR 00641  
 Name of Development: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.270137, -66.791842



Source: USDA  
<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/>  
 Author: TG Date: 6/1/2023







- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Historic ICP Sites
  - Cultural Resource Building Point
  - Cultural Resource District Point
  - Cultural Resource Site Point
  - Cultural Resource Structure Point
  - Historic Comunidades
  - Traditional Urban Centers
  - Cultural Resource Building Polygon
  - Cultural Resource District Polygon
  - Cultural Resource Site Polygon
  - Cultural Resource Structure Polygon
  - 1 Mile Property

**PUERTO RICO**

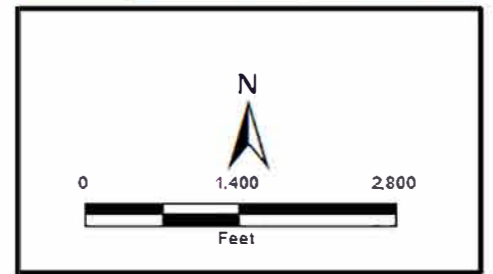


**Figure 13: HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

ADDRESS: Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, Utuado, PR 00641  
 Name of Development: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.270137, -66.791842

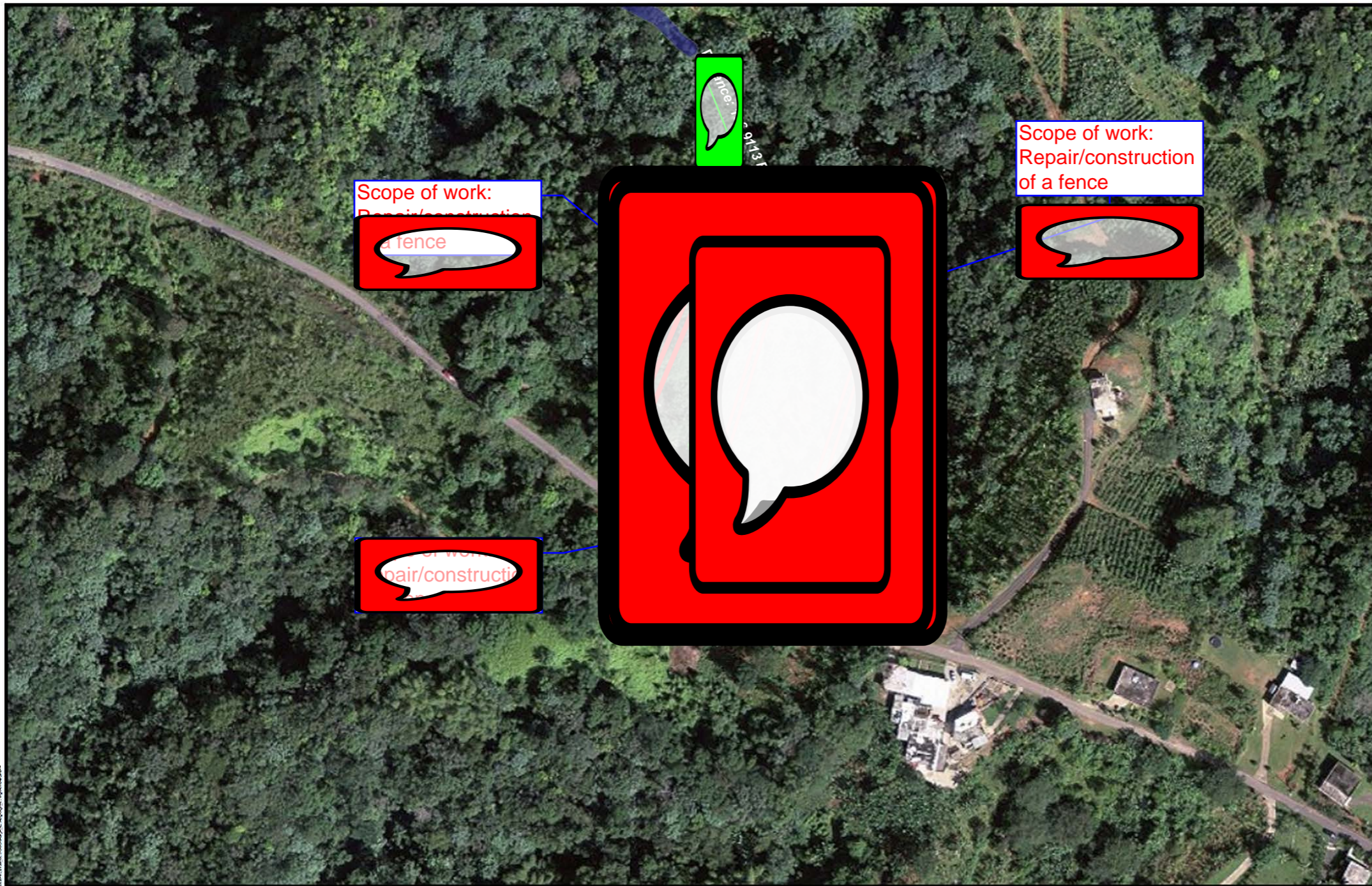


Source: National Park Service  
<https://www.nps.gov/>



The Park, with its distinctive topography and climate, is a natural resource of national significance. Source: USGS, National Park Service, 2018.





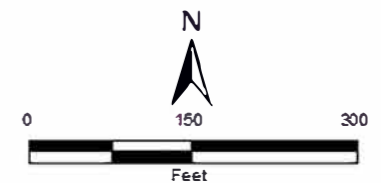
**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 14: WETLANDS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**  
 ADDRESS: Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, Utuado, PR 00641  
 Name of Development: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.270137, -66.791842



Source: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
<https://www.fws.gov>

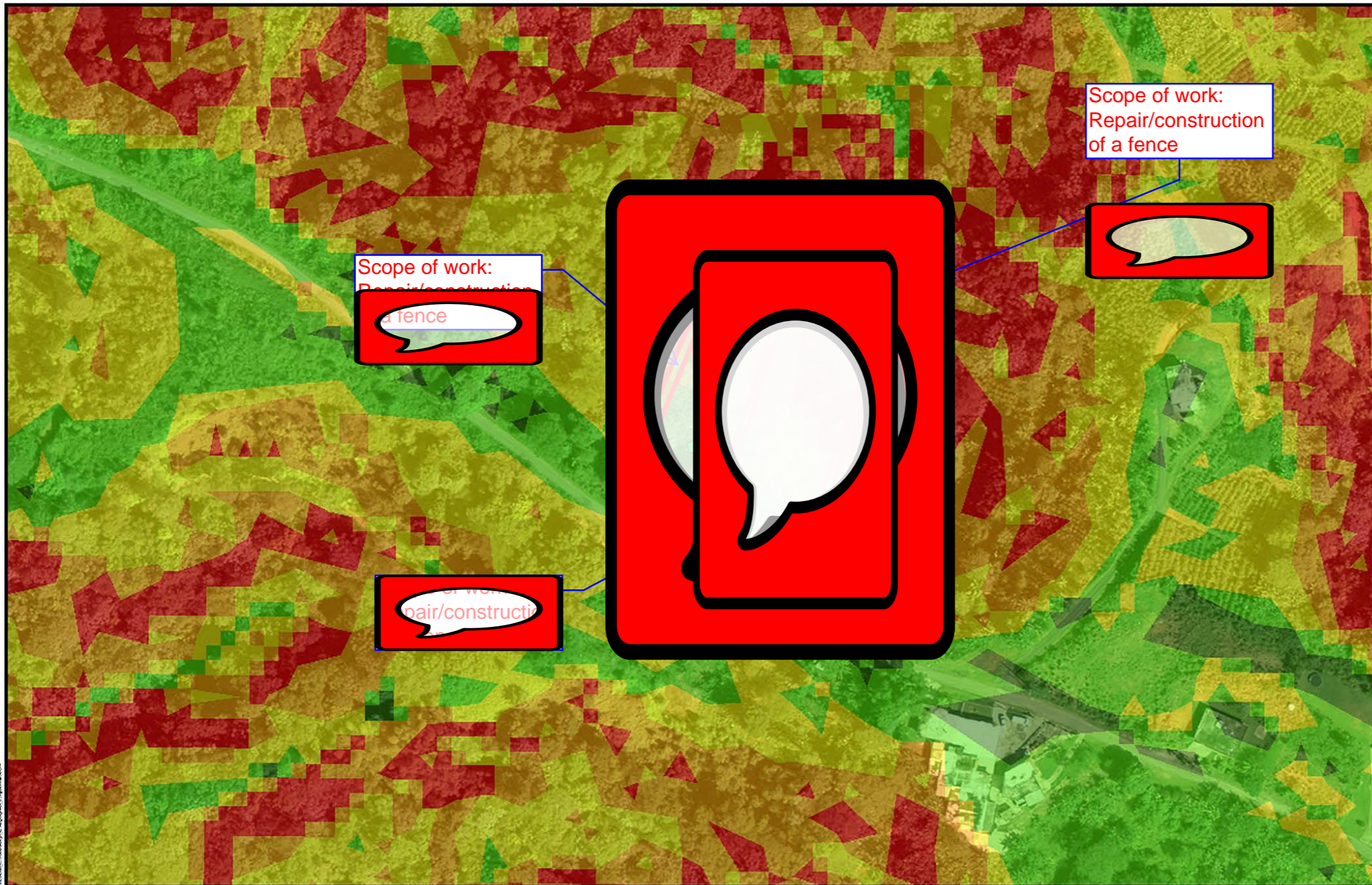


The Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer. All Federal employees and their family members are expected to uphold the values and principles of the U.S. Department of the Interior.









- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
  - Landslide Susceptibility**
  -  Extremely High
  -  Very High
  -  High
  -  Moderate
  -  Low
  -  Area of Potential Effect

**PUERTO RICO**

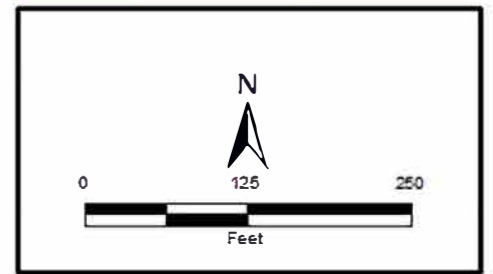


**Figure 16: SLOPE AND EROSION**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

ADDRESS: Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, Utuado, PR 00641

Name of Development: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Parcel Coordinates: 18 270137, -66 791842



Source: PRDOH  
<http://www.usgs.gov/maps/a-roads.com>  
<https://www.basemap.com/le/water.html?d=10506ecc71154910aee17647719248ee>  
 Author: TG Date: 6/1/2023





- Legend**
- ◆ Project Parcel
  - Biscayne Aquifer SSA
  - Streamflow and Recharge Source Zones
  - Sole Source Aquifer
  - Biscayne Aquifer SSA

Distance to Nearest Aquifer:  
5,254,277 FT

**PUERTO RICO**



**FIGURE 17: SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura Utuado, PR 00641

Name of Development: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

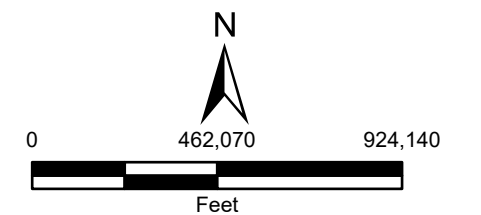
Parcel Coordinates: 18.270137, -66.791842



Source: EPA  
<https://www.epa.gov/dwssa/map-sole-source-aquifer-locations>

Author: TG

Date: 2/21/2024



File Path: Z:\data\USRT\Tier2\Regw\pr\SSA\Aquifer\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\Aquifer\_Regrow\_1.aprx

# **APPENDIX C**

## **Additional Information**



You are here: EPA Home > Green Book > >National Area and County-Level Multi-Pollutant Information >Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for All Criteria Pollutants

## Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for All Criteria Pollutants

Data is current as of December 31, 2023

Listed by County, NAAQS, Area. The 8-hour Ozone (1997) standard was revoked on April 6, 2015 and the 1-hour Ozone (1979) standard was revoked on June 15, 2005.

\* The 1997 Primary Annual PM-2.5 NAAQS (level of 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) is revoked in attainment and maintenance areas for that NAAQS. For additional information see the PM-2.5 NAAQS SIP Requirements Final Rule, effective October 24, 2016. (81 FR 58009)

Change the State:

PUERTO RICO

Important Notes

Download National Dataset: [dbf](#) | [xls](#) | [Data dictionary \(PDF\)](#)

County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or Part County	Population (2010)	State/County FIPS Codes
<b>PUERTO RICO</b>								
Arecibo Municipio	Lead (2008)	Arecibo, PR	11121314151617181920212223	//		Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	22,921	72/021
Catano Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Whole	28,140	72/033
Guaynabo Municipio	PM-10 (1987)	Mun. of Guaynabo, PR	929394959697989900010203040506070809	02/11/2010	Moderate	Part	90,470	72/061
Guaynabo Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	23,802	72/061
Salinas Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Guayama-Salinas, PR	181920212223	//		Part	23,401	72/123
San Juan Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	147,963	72/127
Toa Baja Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	52,441	72/137

Important Notes



# EJScreen Community Report

This report provides environmental and socioeconomic information for user-defined areas, and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

## Utuado Municipio, PR

1 mile Ring around the Corridor  
 Population: 830  
 Area in square miles: 3.52

A3 Landscape

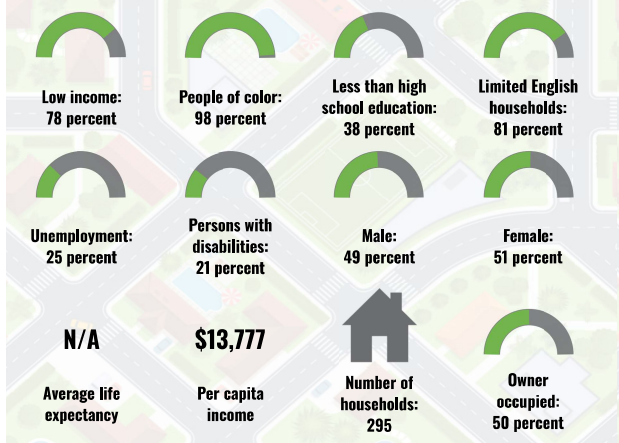


February 16, 2024  
 PR-RGRW-01701  
 Search Result (point)

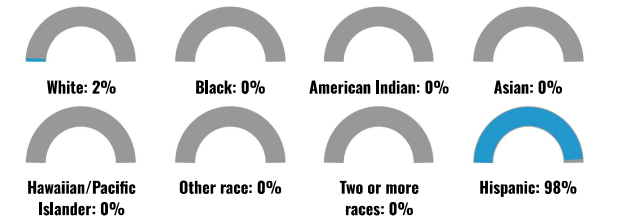
1:2,257  
 0 0.03 0.06 0.09 0.12 0.15 mi  
 0 0.04 0.08 0.12 0.16 km

Esri, Community Maps Contributors, Esri, TomTom, Swire, Panasonic, Garmin, GeoBridges, Inc, METRAGIS USA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USFWS

### COMMUNITY INFORMATION



### BREAKDOWN BY RACE



### BREAKDOWN BY AGE



### LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



### LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
No language data available.	

Notes: Numbers may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2017-2021. Life expectancy data comes from the Centers for Disease Control.



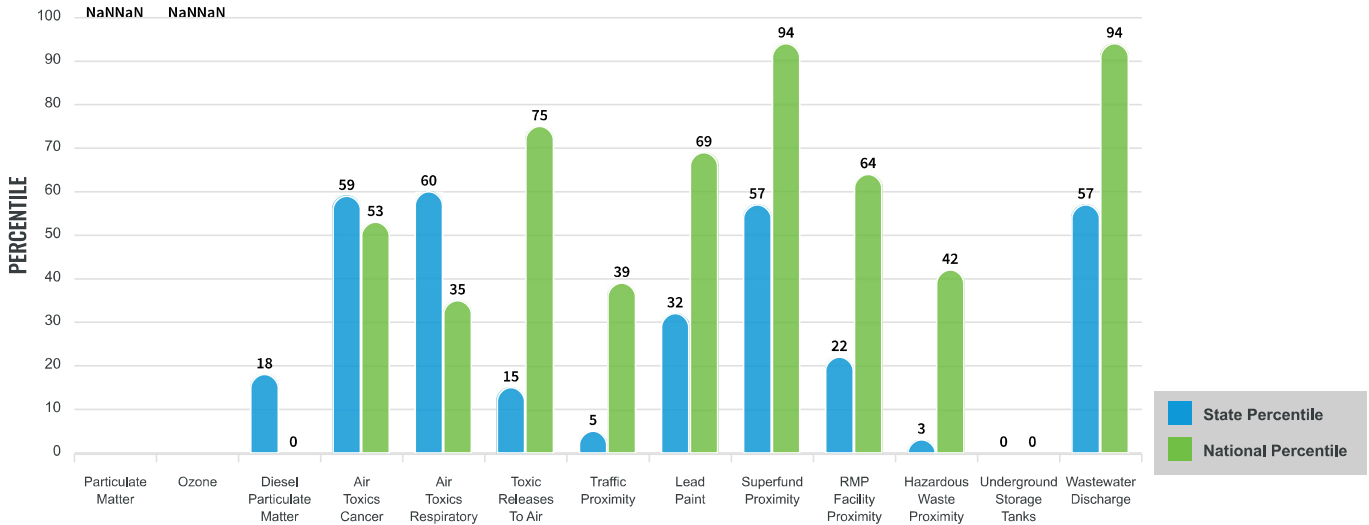
# Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

The environmental justice and supplemental indexes are a combination of environmental and socioeconomic information. There are thirteen EJ indexes and supplemental indexes in EJScreen reflecting the 13 environmental indicators. The indexes for a selected area are compared to those for all other locations in the state or nation. For more information and calculation details on the EJ and supplemental indexes, please visit the [EJScreen website](#).

## EJ INDEXES

The EJ indexes help users screen for potential EJ concerns. To do this, the EJ index combines data on low income and people of color populations with a single environmental indicator.

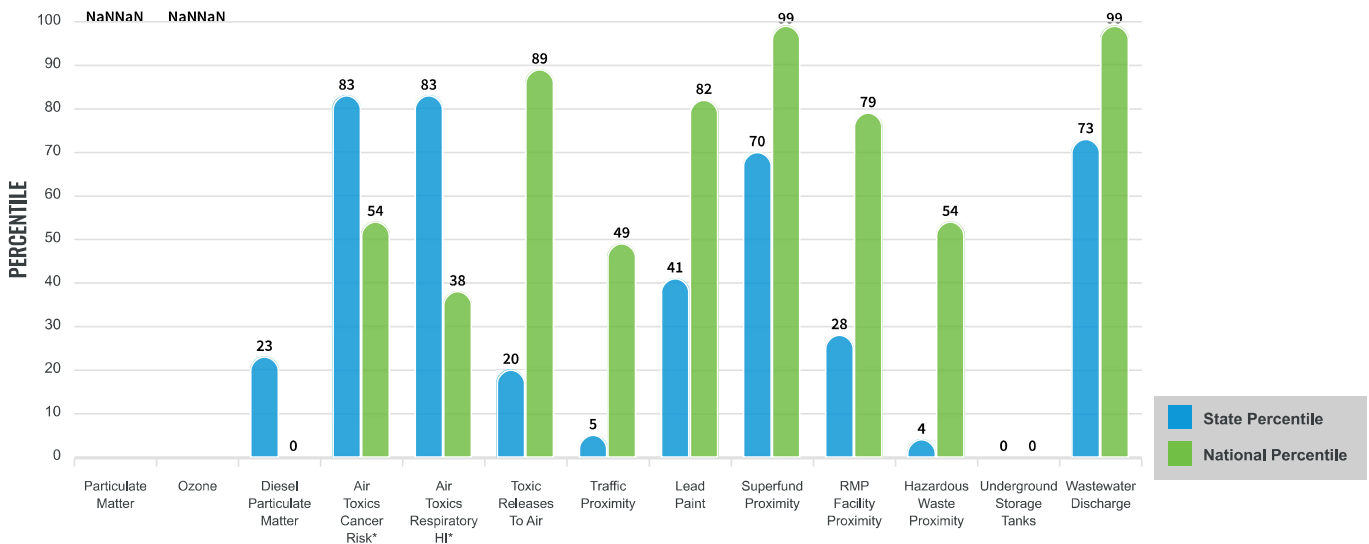
### EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



## SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

The supplemental indexes offer a different perspective on community-level vulnerability. They combine data on percent low-income, percent linguistically isolated, percent less than high school education, percent unemployed, and low life expectancy with a single environmental indicator.

### SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state or nation.

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Corridor

# EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
<b>POLLUTION AND SOURCES</b>					
Particulate Matter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.08	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.6	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	0.0176	0.0667	18	0.261	0
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	20	15	25	5
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.2	0.19	17	0.31	4
Toxic Releases to Air	160	4,300	14	4,600	29
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	3.8	180	4	210	9
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.044	0.16	31	0.3	25
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.091	0.15	56	0.13	63
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.081	0.47	21	0.43	22
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.058	0.76	2	1.9	11
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km <sup>2</sup> )	0	1.7	0	3.9	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.0064	2.3	55	22	64
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS</b>					
Demographic Index	88%	83%	52	35%	98
Supplemental Demographic Index	55%	43%	82	14%	99
People of Color	98%	96%	15	39%	95
Low Income	78%	70%	55	31%	96
Unemployment Rate	25%	15%	80	6%	97
Limited English Speaking Households	81%	67%	76	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	38%	21%	88	12%	95
Under Age 5	4%	4%	60	6%	39
Over Age 64	14%	22%	21	17%	45
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A%	N/A	20%	N/A

\*Diesel particulate matter, air toxics cancer risk, and air toxics respiratory hazard index are from the EPA's Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that the air toxics data presented here provide broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. Cancer risks and hazard indices from the Air Toxics Data Update are reported to one significant figure and any additional significant figures here are due to rounding. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update>.

## Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

Superfund .....	0
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities .....	0
Water Dischargers .....	1
Air Pollution .....	0
Brownfields .....	0
Toxic Release Inventory .....	0

## Other community features within defined area:

Schools .....	0
Hospitals .....	0
Places of Worship .....	0

## Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment .....	No
Impaired Waters .....	Yes

Selected location contains American Indian Reservation Lands* .....	No
Selected location contains a "Justice40 (CEJST)" disadvantaged community .....	Yes
Selected location contains an EPA IRA disadvantaged community .....	Yes

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Corridor

# EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

## HEALTH INDICATORS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A	N/A	20%	N/A
Heart Disease	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Asthma	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	N/A
Cancer	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Persons with Disabilities	21.9%	21.6%	50	13.4%	90

## CLIMATE INDICATORS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Flood Risk	N/A	N/A	N/A	12%	N/A
Wildfire Risk	N/A	N/A	N/A	14%	N/A

## CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	38%	32%	65	14%	94
Lack of Health Insurance	8%	7%	64	9%	55
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Corridor



**APPENDIX D**  
Endangered Species

## ENVIRONMENTAL MEMORANDUM

**Date:** 6/11/2024

**To:** Environmental Review Record (ERR) File

**Subject:** Explanation of Conflicting Information within the ERR

**Applicant Name:** Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

**Application Number:** PR-RGRW-01701

---

This memorandum serves to provide an explanation as to the presence of conflicting pieces of information within the Environmental Review Record (ERR) file.

Conflict Information:  Coordinates  Address  Municipio  Parcel ID/Cadaster Number  
 Construction Date  Applicant Name  Other

Location(s) of  
Conflicting Information: Wetland Memo, Endangered Species Concurrence for NLAA Determination,  
USFWS Concurrence Letter

Explanation: The correct size of the property is 269.7 acres.  
The correct distance of the wetland is 196 feet.





## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office  
Bayamón | Mayagüez | Maricao | Rio Grande | St Croix  
P.O. Box 491  
Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622



In Reply Refer to:  
FWS/R4/CESFO/72141-Gen

Submitted Via Electronic Mail: [jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov)

Juan Carlos Pérez-Bofill, PE, MEng.  
Director – Disaster Recovery CDBG-DR Program  
Puerto Rico Department of Housing  
P.O. Box 21365  
San Juan, P.R 00928-1365

Re: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-01701 Carlos A.  
Maldonado Quiles, Utuado, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated December 14, 2023, requesting consultation on the above referenced project. As per your request, our comments are provided under the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is proposing the construction of a 1,500 feet fence in a 3.35 acres property located on State Road PR-602, Km 2.4, Ramal 6602, km 5.1, Bo. Angeles, Altura sector in the municipality of Utuado, Puerto Rico. The proposed construction will require some ground disturbance; however, no tree removal is anticipated.

Using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system, PRDOH identified three federally listed species within the project area: Puerto Rican boa (*Epicrates inornatus* now known as *Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*) and Puerto Rican parrot (*Amazona vittata*).

The PRDOH has determined that the proposed project will have no effect (NE) on the Puerto Rican parrot and Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk due to the lack of suitable habitat for these species, current disturbance, and land use of the property since it has been used as a coffee plantation for the past 50 years.

We acknowledge receipt of PRDOH's NE determination for the above mentioned species. Currently, we do not have any information to refute that determination. Because PRDOH made a

NE determination, PRDOH is not required to conduct formal or informal section 7 consultation with the Service and the Service is not required to concur with PRDOH's NE determination.

As for the Puerto Rican boa, based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and existing habitat, PRDOH has determined that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican boa given they will request the implementation of conservation measures developed by the Service for the Puerto Rican boa prior to and during the project activities to avoid and minimize impacts to this species.

We have reviewed the information provided and our files, and concur with PRDOH's determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican boa with the implementation of the conservation measures (updated conservation measures enclosed). As per the conservation recommendations, please note that if a Puerto Rican boa is encountered during the project activities, it should not be captured. If a boa needs to be moved out of harm's way, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) should be contacted for safe capture and relocation of the animal. If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities in the area where the boa is found must stop until it moves out of harm's way on its own.

In view of this, we believe that requirements of section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (Act) have been satisfied. However, obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact us via email at [caribbean\\_es@fws.gov](mailto:caribbean_es@fws.gov) or by phone at (786) 244-0081.

Sincerely,

**LOURDES  
MENA**  
Lourdes Mena  
Acting Field Supervisor



Digitally signed by LOURDES  
MENA  
Date: 2024.02.06 12:14:31 -04'00'  
Adobe Acrobat version:  
2023.008.20470

drr

Enclosure: Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures





December 14, 2023

Edwin E Muñiz  
Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
PO Box 491  
Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622  
Email: [caribbean\\_es@fws.gov](mailto:caribbean_es@fws.gov); [edwin\\_muniz@fws.gov](mailto:edwin_muniz@fws.gov)

**RE: Puerto Rico Department of Housing Re-Grow Program  
PR-RGRW-01701 – Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles  
Endangered Species Concurrence for NLAA Determination**

Dear Mr. Muñiz:

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is requesting an informal consultation under Section 7 (a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) for the proposed project PR-RGRW-01701, located carretera PR-602 km 2.4, Ramal 6602 km 5.1, barrio Ángeles, sector Altura, Utuado, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 187-000-002-53)

The proposed project is part of the Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) that aims to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island-wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities.

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-01230 consist in the construction of a fence of approximately 1,500' with 6ft wood posts. The maximum expected ground disturbance is 2 feet and there should be no tree removal. The approximately 3.35 acre is located at carretera PR-602 km 2.4, Ramal 6602 km 5.1, barrio Ángeles, sector Altura, Utuado, Puerto Rico. The land is currently being used as a coffee plantation and has been used as a coffee plantation for the past 50 years. The land has not been graded previously and has mixed vegetation throughout the parcel.

The surrounding landscape of the scope of work consists of a heavily forested area. The installation of the fence will pass through a forested tree line that runs along the North, East and West side of the proposed fence line. To the south of the proposed fence line is an asphalt road, with forested tree line on the other side (see Appendix C). Vegetation will have to be removed to construct the fence line through the proposed areas, no tree removal will be required. During the removal of vegetation, best practices should be followed in accordance with USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020 to avoid potential disturbance.

The National Wetlands Inventory indicated that there is one NWI mapped wetlands located 289 feet away from the area of potential affect. Due to the nature of this construction, there is no potential effect to the wetlands.

Using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system, we have determined that the proposed project lies within the range of the following federally listed species:

Name of Species	Status
Puerto Rican Boa ( <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> )	Endangered
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk ( <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> )	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot ( <i>Amazona vittate</i> )	Endangered

No Critical Habitats were noted within the project area. Upon review of iNaturalist.org, the nearest sighting of the Puerto Rican Boa was recorded approximately 1.3 miles southeast of the proposed project area in October 2020. The proposed fence line will not inhibit any of the listed species from moving across the large area that the fence line will enclose, as well as the need for vegetation removal in the proposed project area. Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, we have made the following effects determinations:

Name of Species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures to be implemented (if needed)
Puerto Rican Boa ( <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> )	Not likely to adversely affect	USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020
Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk ( <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> )	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Parrot ( <i>Amazona vittate</i> )	No Effect	No Conservation Measures

A 'Not likely to adversely affect' determination has been made based on the large area that the fence line will enclose, as well as the need for vegetation removal in the proposed project area. Upon review of iNaturalist.org, no sightings of the Puerto Rican Boa have been recorded within at least 3 miles of the proposed project area. There will be a "No effect" on the Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk and Puerto Rican Parrot, due to the lack of tree removal in the proposed scope of work.

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NLAA determinations included in this letter. Attached to this letter, we are including the documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species. For any questions or clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact us at the information below.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Juan Carlos Pérez Bojill, PE, MEng.  
 Director – Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR Program  
[environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov) | 787.274.2527 ext. 4320



**Attachments:**

Appendix A:

Figure 1 – Project Location Map

Figure 2 – Area of Potential Effect Map

Figure 3 – Wetland Map

Appendix B: IPaC Resource List

Appendix C: Field Visit Photos

Appendix D: Wetland Memo

Appendix E: USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020

C: Angel G. López-Guzmán, MSEM  
Deputy Director  
Permits and Environmental Compliance Division

## Appendix A: Figures





- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
  -  Parcels

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 1: PROJECT LOCATION**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

**ADDRESS: Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, PR 00641**

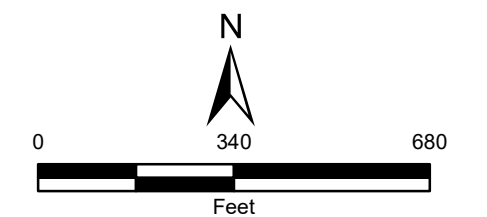
Name of Development: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Parcel Coordinates: 18.270137 , -66.791842



Source: ESRI  
<https://www.fws.gov>

Author: TG Date: 8/30/2023





Subrecipient: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01701

City: Utuado

### Project (Parcel) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)






**TETRA TECH**

Source: CRIM

Author: TG

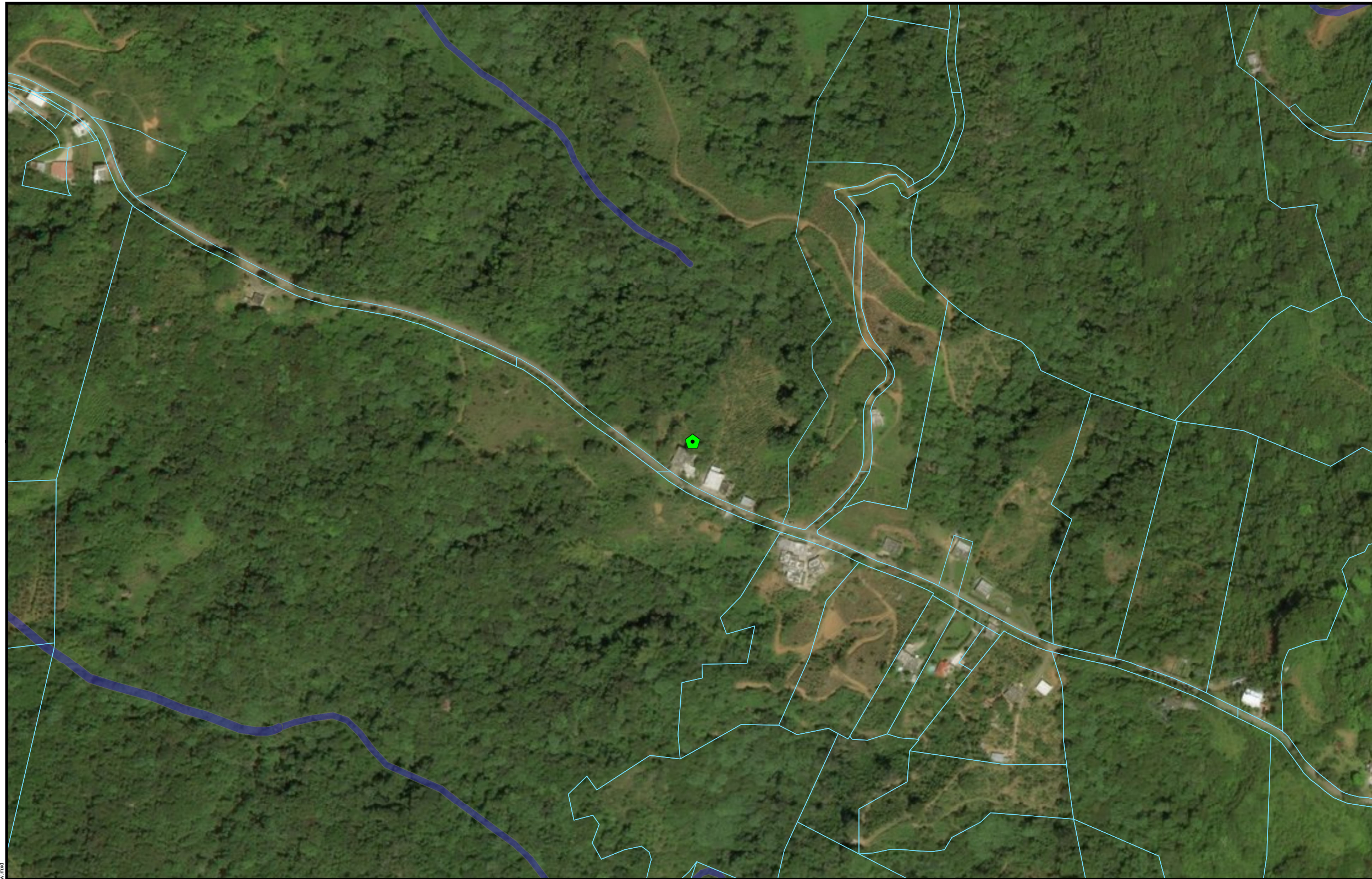
Date: 10/7/2022

#### Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Area of Potential Effect
-  Parcelario







- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Parcels
- WETLAND TYPE**
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
  - Estuarine and Marine Wetland
  - Freshwater Emergent Wetland
  - Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
  - Freshwater Pond
  - Lake
  - Riverine

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 14: WETLANDS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01701**

ADDRESS: Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, PR 00641

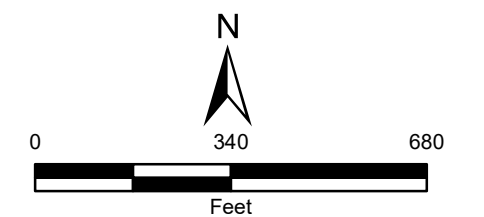
Name of Development:

Parcel Coordinates: 18.270137, -66.791842



Source: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
<https://www.fws.gov>

Author: TG Date: 8/30/2023





Appendix B:  
IPaC Resource List



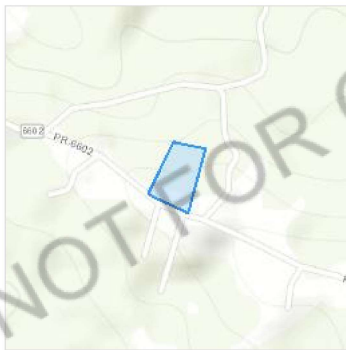
# IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

## Location

Utua County, Puerto Rico



## Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

☎ (787) 834-1600

📠 (787) 851-7440

✉ [CARIBBEAN\\_ES@FWS.GOV](mailto:CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV)

### MAILING ADDRESS

Post Office Box 491  
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

### PHYSICAL ADDRESS

Office Park I  
State Road #2 Km 156.5, Suite 303  
Mayaguez, PR 00680

# Endangered species

**This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.**

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

## Birds

NAME	STATUS
<p>Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512</a></p>	Endangered
<p>Puerto Rican Parrot <i>Amazona vittata</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067</a></p>	Endangered

## Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
<p>Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628</a></p>	Endangered

## Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.



You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

## Bald & Golden Eagles

There are no documented cases of eagles being present at this location. However, if you believe eagles may be using your site, please reach out to the local Fish and Wildlife Service office.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

**What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?**

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply). To see a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

**What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?**

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

**What if I have eagles on my list?**

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the [Eagle Act](#) should such impacts occur. Please contact your local Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office if you have questions.

## Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

The [data](#) in this location indicates there are no migratory [birds of conservation concern](#) expected to occur in this area.

There may be migratory birds in your project area, but we don't have any survey data available to provide further direction. For additional information, please refer to the links above for recommendations to minimize impacts to migratory birds or contact your local FWS office.

**Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.**

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

**What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?**

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

**What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

**How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?**

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the [RAIL Tool](#) and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

**What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?**

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

**Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects**

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

**What if I have eagles on my list?**

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

**Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report**

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the



existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

## Facilities

### National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

### Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

### Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

**NOTE:** This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

#### Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

#### Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

#### Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

Appendix C:  
Field Visit Photos



**Front of Structure**

Photo Direction: North



**Facing Away From Front**

Photo Direction: South



**Side #1 of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Facing Away From Side #1**

Photo Direction: Southwest





**Back of Structure**

Photo Direction: North



**Facing Away From Back**

Photo Direction: South





**Side #2 of Structure**

Photo Direction: North



**Facing Away From Side #2**

Photo Direction: South





**Streetscape #1**

Photo Direction: West



**Streetscape #2**

Photo Direction: East



**Address**

Photo Direction: Northwest





Outbuildings

Photo Description: Applicant house

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

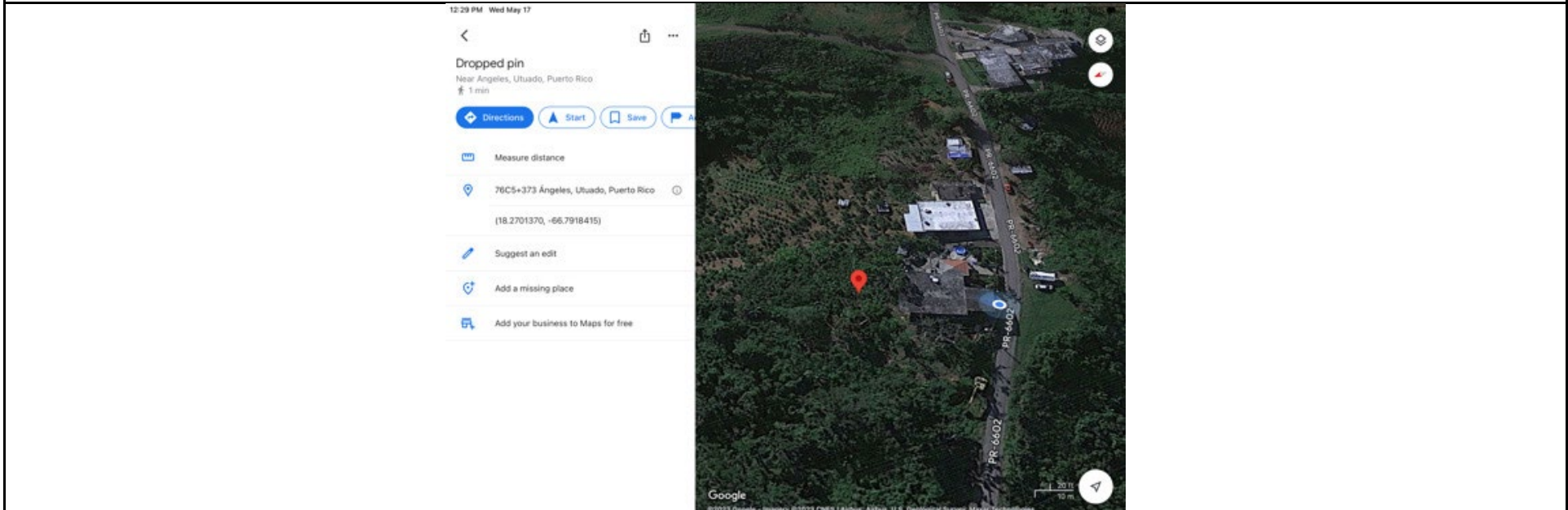
Photo Direction: North



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: construction of a fence

Photo Direction: North



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: construction of a fence

Photo Direction: North



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: construction of a fence

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: construction of a fence

Photo Direction: Northwest





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: construction of a fence

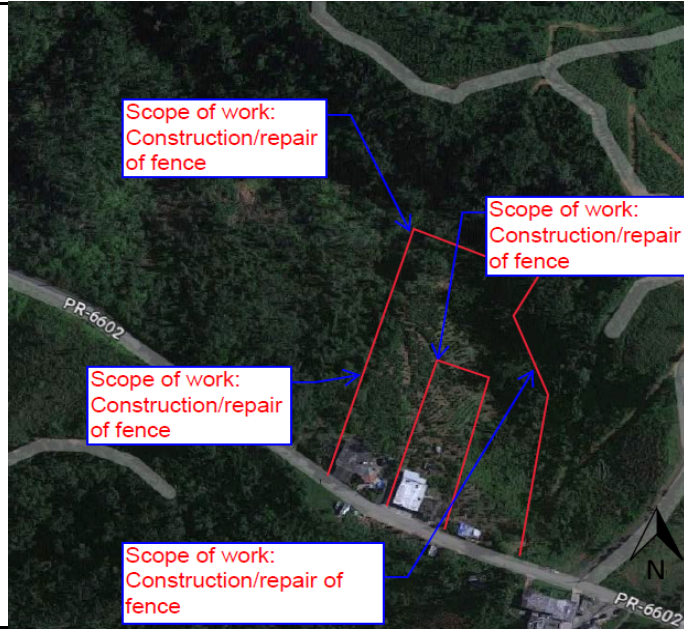
Photo Direction: South



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work map reference

Photo Direction: North





Appendix D:  
Wetland Memo

Date: September 18, 2023

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01701

Street Address: Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura

Zip Code: 00641

County: Utuado

Subject: Site-Specific Wetland Review

A feature defined by the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) as a Permanently flooded perennial riverine environment with an unconsolidated bottom (R5UBH) is located inside the parcel boundary and approximately 289 feet from the proposed site. Photographic documentation from a site visit conducted on May 17, 2023 indicates that the land has not been cleared and is covered in assorted vegetation, there are no hydrologic features within the proposed work site. Soils data from the United States Department of Agriculture Web Soil Survey indicates there are no hydric soils on the property. A review of historic aerial imagery does not indicate that the defined feature approaches closer to the site than is indicated by NWI mapping. Based on USACE Wetland Determination Criteria, this site does meet all three parameters of wetland criteria.

The land is currently being used as a coffee plantation and has been used as a coffee plantation for the past 50 years. The land has not been graded previously and has mixed vegetation throughout the parcel. The proposed scope of work is the construction of a fence approximately 1,500' with 6ft wood posts. The maximum expected ground disturbance is 2 feet. Due to the nature of the work, and distance from the wetland it has been determined that the proposed work will have not adversely effect the wetland.

*Based on a review of available resources, the project would not adversely impact wetlands if the General Conditions relative to wetlands protection and water quality will be implemented, including:*

- a. Implement and maintain erosion and sedimentation control measures sufficient to prevent deposition of sediment and eroded soil in onsite and offsite wetlands and waters and to prevent erosion in onsite and offsite wetlands and waters.*
- b. Minimize soil compaction by minimizing project ground disturbing activities in vegetated areas, including lawns.*

Kyle Bartelink



Biologist, Tetra Tech

September 18, 2023



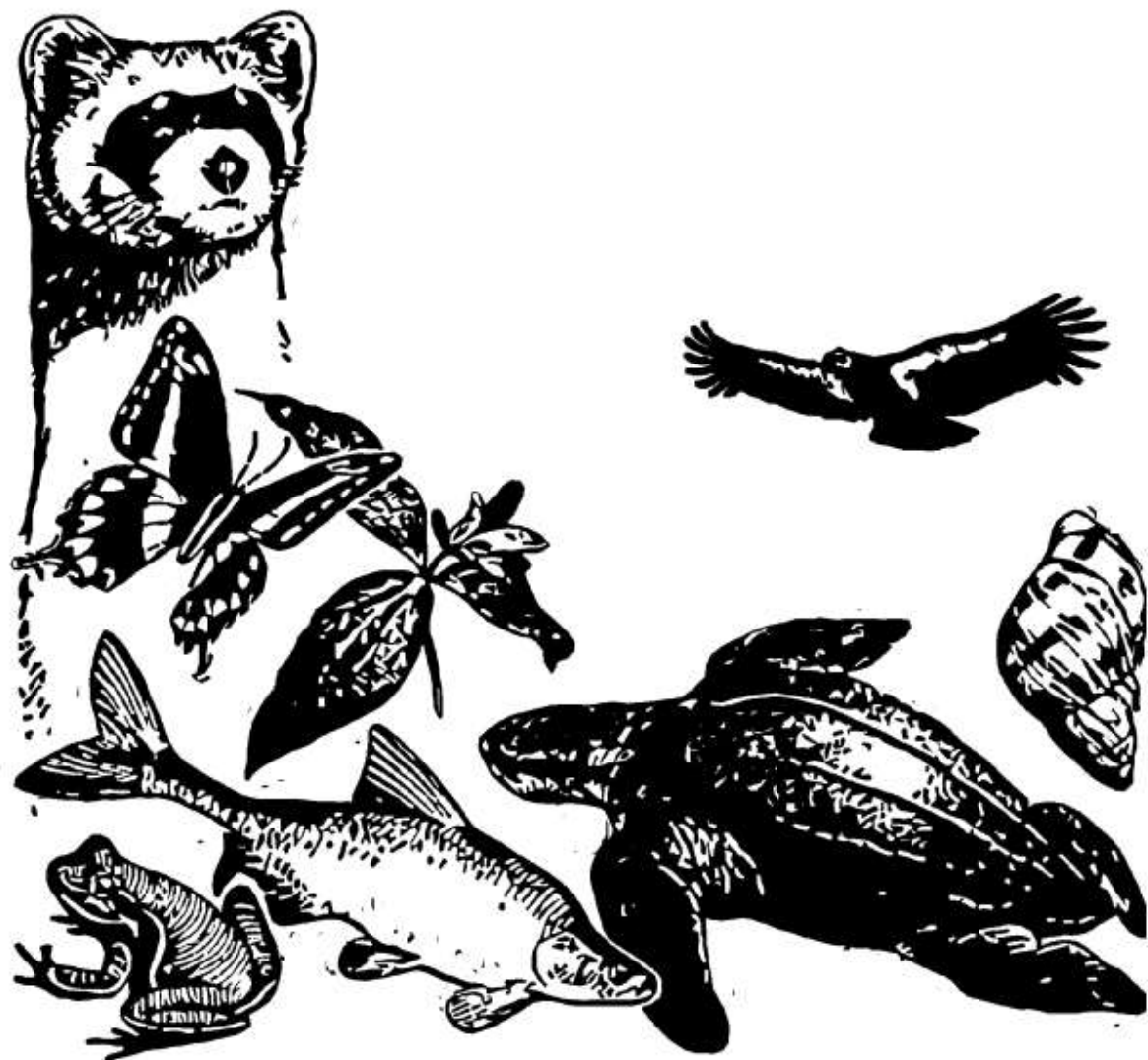
Appendix E:  
USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation  
Measures 2020

# USFWS Puerto Rican boa Conservation Measures

---

## *Puerto Rican Boa*

Generated August 21, 2023 01:53 PM UTC, IPaC v6.96.0-rc4





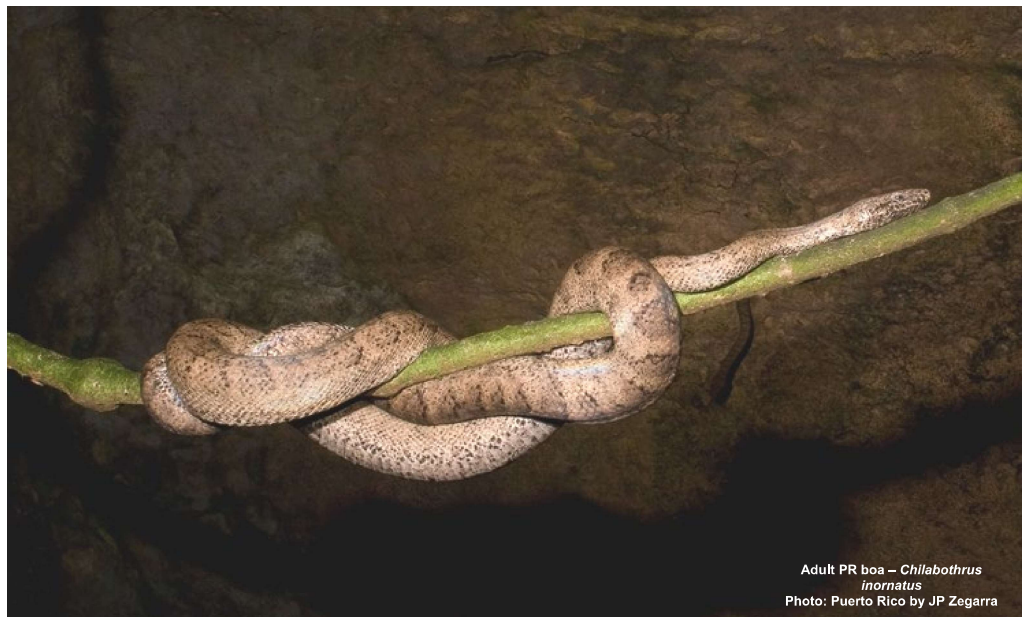


## U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

### Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*)

Section 7 (a)(1) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) charges Federal agencies to aid in the conservation of listed species, and section 7 (a)(2) requires the agencies, through consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), to ensure their activities are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitats. Section 7 applies to the management of Federal lands as well as Federal actions that may affect listed species, such as Federal approval of private activities through the issuance of Federal funding, permits, licenses, or other actions. Any person that injures, captures, or kills a Puerto Rico boa is subject to penalties under the ESA. If Federal funds or permits are needed, the funding or permitting agency should initiate Section 7 consultation with the Service. To initiate a consultation under the Section 7 of the ESA, you must submit a project package with the established minimum requirements. These conservation measures should be incorporated into the project plans to minimize possible impacts to the species.

The endangered Puerto Rican (PR) boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*, formerly *Epicrates inornatus*) is the largest endemic snake species that inhabits Puerto Rico. The PR boa is non-venomous and does not pose any life threatening danger to humans, but some individuals may try to bite if disturbed or during capture or handling. Its body color ranges from tan to dark brown with irregular diffuse marking on the dorsum, but some individuals lack marking and are uniformly dark. Juveniles may have a reddish color with more pronounced markings. In general, as they mature, their body color tends to darken.



The Puerto Rican boa was federally listed in 1970. Currently, the species has an island-wide distribution and occurs in a wide variety of habitat types ranging from wet montane to subtropical dry forest, and can be found from mature forest to areas with different degrees of human disturbance like roadsides or houses, especially if near their habitat in rural areas. This boa is considered mostly nocturnal, remaining less active, concealed or basking under the sun during the day.

The Service has developed the following conservation measures with the purpose of assisting others to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the PR boa and its habitat. These recommendations may be incorporated into new project plans and under certain circumstances into existing projects. Depending on the project, additional conservation measures can be implemented besides the ones presented in this document.

#### Conservation Measures:

1. Inform all project personnel about the potential presence of the PR boa in areas where the proposed work will be conducted. A pre-construction meeting should be conducted to inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming the species as well as penalties for harassing or harming PR boas. An educational poster or sign with photo or illustration of the species should be displayed at the project site.
2. Prior to any construction activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movements, the boundaries of the project and areas to be excluded and protected should be clearly marked in the project plan and in the field in order to avoid further habitat degradation into forested and conservation areas.
3. Once areas are clearly marked, and prior to the use of heavy machinery and any construction activity (including removal of vegetation and earth movement), a biologist or personnel with experience on this species should survey the areas to be cleared to verify the presence of any PR boa within the work area.
4. The PR boa is considered more active at night. Thus, in order to maximize its detection, the species should be searched at nights prior to habitat disturbance.
5. Once the area has been searched for PR boas, vegetation should first be cleared by hand to the maximum extent possible. Vegetation should be cut about one meter above ground prior to the use of heavy machinery for land clearing. Cutting vegetation by hand will allow boas present on site to move away on their own to adjacent available habitat. Any stone walls or naturally occurring rock piles must be carefully dismantled by hand as these are refuges for the snake. This will allow any boas present to vacate the site without injury.
6. For all boa sightings (dead or alive), record the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where it was found. PR boa data should also include a photo of the animal (dead or alive), site GPS coordinates, the time and date, and comments on how the animal was detected and its behavior.



7. If a PR boa is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded (see #6). **Do not capture the boa.** If boas need to be moved out of harm's way, designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (PRDNER phone #: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124). If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities at this area must stop until the boa moves out of harm's way on its own. Activities at other work sites, where no boas have been found after surveying the area, may continue.
8. If a PR boa is captured by the PRDNER, record the name of the PRDNER staff and information on where the PR boa will be taken. This information should be reported to the Service.
9. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize PR boa casualties by heavy machinery or motor vehicles being used on site. Any heavy machinery left on site (staging) or near potential PR boa habitat (within 50 meters of potential boa habitat), needs to be thoroughly inspected each morning before work starts to ensure that no boas have sheltered within engine compartments or other areas of the equipment. If PR boas are found within vehicles or equipment, do not capture the animal and let it move on its own or call PRDNER Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (see #7). If not possible, the animal should be left alone until it leaves the vehicle on its own.
10. PR boas may seek shelter in debris piles. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize boa casualties associated with sheltering in debris piles as a result of project activities. Debris piles should be placed far away from forested areas. Prior to moving, disposing or shredding, debris piles should be carefully inspected for the presence of boas. If debris piles will be left on site, we recommend they be placed in areas that will not be disturbed in the future.
11. If a dead PR boa is found, immediately cease all work in that area and record the information accordingly (see #6). If the PR boa was accidentally? killed as part of the project actions, please include information on what conservation measures had been implemented and what actions that will be taken to avoid further killings. A dead boa report should be sent by email (see contacts below) to the Service within 48 hours of the event.
12. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact the PRDNER for further guidance.

If you have any questions regarding the above conservation measures, please contact the Service:

- Marelisa Rivera, Deputy Field Supervisor
  - Email: [marelisa\\_rivera@fws.gov](mailto:marelisa_rivera@fws.gov)
  - Office phone (786) 244-0081 or mobile (305) 304-1814
- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator
  - Email: [jose\\_cruz-burgos@fws.gov](mailto:jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov)
  - Office phone (786) 244-0081 or mobile (305) 304-1386

# **APPENDIX E**

## **Section 106 Consultation**





## GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Executive Director | Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela | carubio@prshpo.pr.gov

September 15, 2023

**Lauren Bair Poche**

HORNE

10000 Perkins Rowe, Suite 610, Bldg G  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810

SHPO 09-08-23-04 SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION SUBMITTAL:  
PR-RGRW-01701 – CARLOS ALBERTO MALDONADO QUILES – CARR. 602, KM  
2.4 RAMAL 6602, KM 5.1, BO. ÁNGELES, SECTOR ALTURA, UTUADO, PUERTO  
RICO

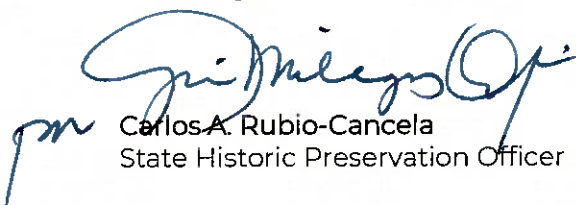
Dear Ms. Bair,

Our Office has received and reviewed the above referenced project in accordance with 54 U.S.C. 306108 (commonly known as Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act*) and 36 CFR Part 800: *Protection of Historic Properties*.

Our records support your finding of **no historic properties affected** for this undertaking.

Please note that should you discover other historic properties at any point during project implementation, you should notify the SHPO immediately. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to contact our Office.

Sincerely,



Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/MB



September 8, 2023

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office  
Cuartel de Ballajá (Tercer Piso)  
San Juan, PR 00902-3935

## **Puerto Rico Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR Re-Grow PR Urban-Rural Agricultural (Re-Grow PR) Program**

### **Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-01701 – Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles – Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura, Utuado, Puerto Rico– *No Historic Properties Affected***

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800, HORNE is providing information for your review and requesting your concurrence regarding the above-referenced projects on behalf of the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) and the Home Repair, Reconstruction, or Relocation (R3) Program. On February 9, 2018, an allocation of Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds was approved by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Federal Register Volume 83, No. 28, 83 FR 5844, to assist the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in meeting unmet needs in the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. On August 14, 2018, an additional \$8.22 billion recovery allocation was allocated to Puerto Rico under the Federal Register Volume 83, No. 157, 83 FR 40314. With these funding allocations, the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (Housing) aims to lead a comprehensive and transparent recovery for the benefit of Puerto Rico residents.

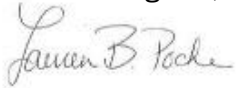
On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, we are submitting documentation for activities proposed by Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles in Bo. Angeles Sector Altura at Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 in the municipality of Utuado. The proposed activities of Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles consist of the purchase of farm equipment, including materials to build a new fence, and purchase of a utility task vehicle (UTV). This land has been in use for the past 50 years for the growing of coffee. The proposed construction of the new fence will require ground disturbance. The applicant plans to build approximately 1,500 linear feet of a new fence with wood posts and barbed metal wire. Fence posts will be 6ft in length, with 2ft below ground. No new utility connections will be required for this project.

Based on the submitted documentation, the Program requests a concurrence that a determination of No Historic Properties Affected is appropriate for this proposed project.



Please contact me by email at [lauren.poche@horne.com](mailto:lauren.poche@horne.com) or phone at 225-405-7676 with any questions or concerns.


Kindest regards,



**Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.**

Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Senior Manager

Attachments

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>REgROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>		
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles		
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01701		<b>City:</b> Utuado

<b>Project Location:</b> Carr 602 km 2.4 Ramal 6602 km 5.1 Bo Angeles Sector Altura	
<b>Project Coordinates:</b> 18.270137, -66.791842	
<b>TPID (Número de Catastro):</b> 187-000-002-53-001	
<b>Type of Undertaking:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
<b>Construction Date (AH est.):</b> ca. 1975	<b>Property Size (acres):</b> 269.7

<b>SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian:</b> Maria F. Lopez Schmid
<b>Date Reviewed:</b> 8/3/2023
<b>SOI-Qualified Archaeologist:</b> Roberto G. Muñoz-Pando, PhD
<b>Date Reviewed:</b> August 16, 2023

In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Program is responsible for identifying historic properties listed in the NRHP and any properties not listed that would be considered eligible for listing that are located within the geographic area of potential effects (APE) of the proposed project and assessing the potential effects of its undertakings on these historic properties.

### Project Description (Undertaking)


The Scope of Work (SOW) for this project includes the purchase of farm equipment, including materials to build a new fence, and purchase of a utility task vehicle (UTV). This land has been in use for the past 50 years for the growing of coffee.

The proposed construction of the new fence will require ground disturbance. The applicant plans to build approximately 1,500 linear feet of a new fence with wood posts and barbed metal wire. Fence posts will be 6ft in length, with 2ft below ground. No new utility connections will be required for this project.

### Area of Potential Effects

As defined in 36 CFR §800.16(d), the area of potential effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the area where the applicant plans to build approximately 1,500 linear feet of new fence. This APE includes a 5-meter buffer to allow for variation in the proposed fence route based on ground conditions. The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.



<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01701	<b>City:</b> Utuado

### Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that the project area has no previously identified significant archaeological sites within 0.50-mile radius of the APE. One Cultural Resources Survey 0.01 mile north of the APE. Archaeologist Marlene Ramos wrote this CRS named *1A-1-B Cultural Resources Survey for Angeles Ward, Utuado, 1988 SHPO #11-21-05-28 and IPRC # UA-0003*, the results were negative. The soils in this area are mainly composed of Ingenio Claim Loam (InD) 5 to 20 slope which have low to moderate probability of preserving intact, *in situ*, and important archaeological or historic deposits.

### Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture

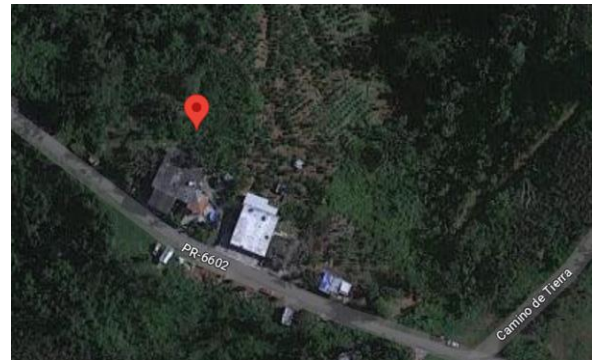
Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that the project area is not within the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. Additionally, there are no NRHP-listed historic properties within the quarter mile buffer zone from the APE.

The proposed project is located in a rural, mountainous terrain surrounded by mature vegetation. The property lies north of Route PR-6602 in Utuado in the Angeles community. A circa 1975 building that is the applicant's house, is located southwest of the APE geocoordinates. The building, shown below, appears on a 1977 aerial image, but not on a 1972 aerial image.

Subrecipient: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01701

City: Utuado




**Figures 1 & 2.** Detail of 1977 aerial image and of 2023 Google Maps aerial image indicating the location of the house on the property.

This building (shown below) is a one-story reinforced concrete house with a flat concrete roof. The house has a carport on the left side of the house and a hipped roof on the right-side corner. The property entrance is via a metal and concrete fence with gate, that limits the front sidewalk. This building does not meet the requirements to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.



**Figure 3.** Image of the applicant's house on the property and front gate entrance, view to the northwest.




<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01701	<b>City:</b> Utuado

## Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

- Direct Effect:  
N/A
- Indirect Effect:  
N/A

The project area is not located within the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that no previously identified historic properties are located within or adjacent to the parcel that contains the proposed Area of Potential Effect. In addition, our background research shows that the project area has no previously identified archaeological sites within an 0.5-mile radius of the APE. The only previously reported Cultural Resources Survey, 1988 SHPO #11-21-05-28 and IPRC # UA-0003, had negative results in terms of producing new archaeological evidence. The soil where the APE stands is not likely to preserve archaeological evidence *in situ*. These reasons bring us to our conclusion of No Historic Properties Affected by the project.

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01701	<b>City:</b> Utuado

**Recommendation**

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing requests that the Puerto Rico SHPO concur that the following determination is appropriate for the undertaking (Choose One):

- No Historic Properties Affected
- No Adverse Effect  
     Condition (if applicable):
- Adverse Effect  
     Proposed Resolution (if applicable)

**This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only**

The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the above information and:  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Concurs</b> with the information provided. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Does not concur</b> with the information provided.	
<b>Comments:</b>  	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation Officer	Date:



Subrecipient: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01701

City: Utuado

### Project (Parcel) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)






**TETRA TECH**

Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 10/7/2022

#### Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Area of Potential Effect
-  Parcelario



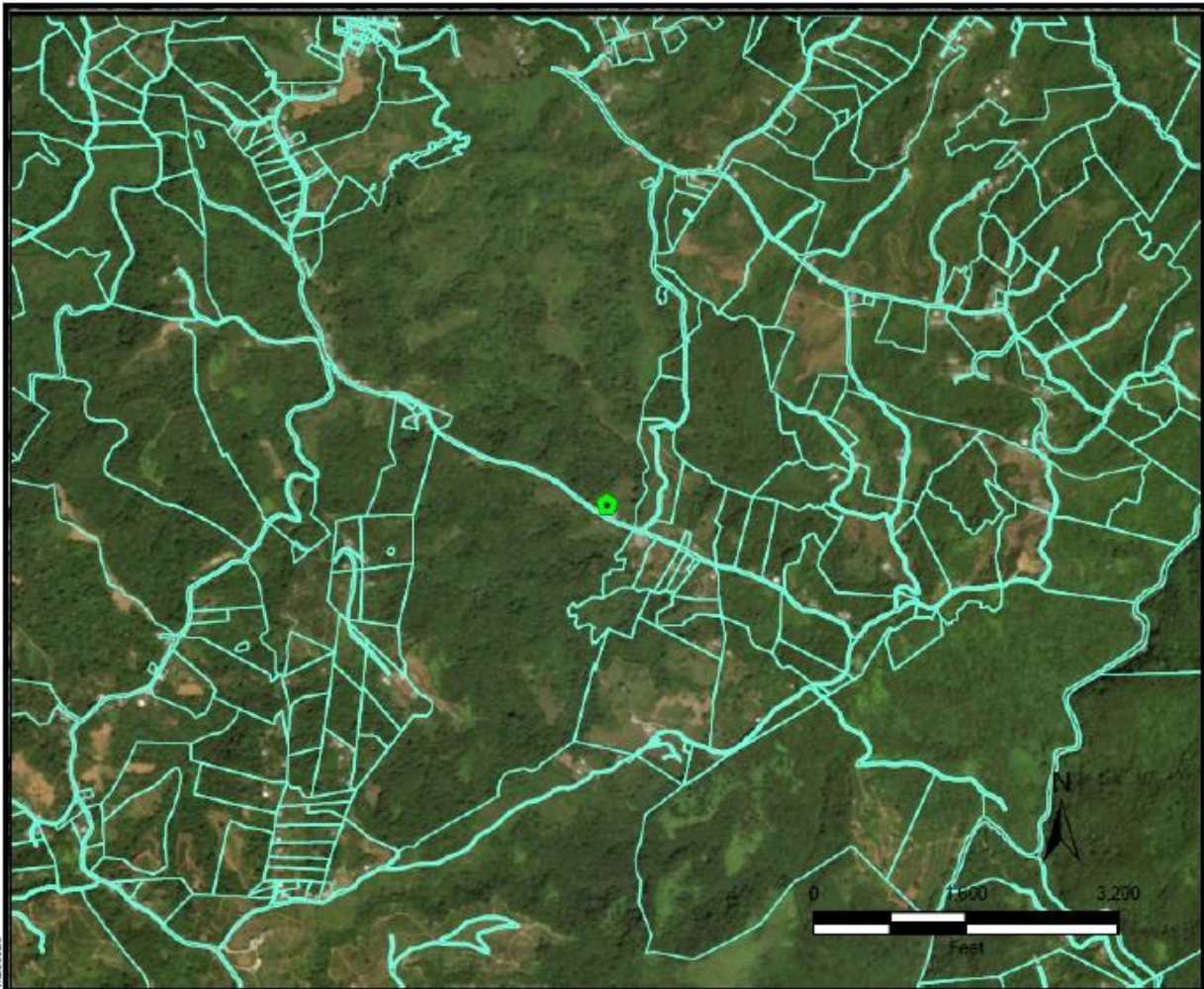


Subrecipient: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01701

City: Utuado

### Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map








**TETRA TECH**

Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 9/22/2022

**Legend**

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Historic Comunidades
-  Traditional Urban Centers
-  Cultural Resource District Polygon
-  Parcelario



Subrecipient: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01701

City: Utuado

### Project (Parcel) Location - USGS Topographic Map







Source: USGS

Author: TG

Date: 9/29/2022

#### Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Historic Comunidades
-  Traditional Urban Centers
-  Cultural Resource District Polygon









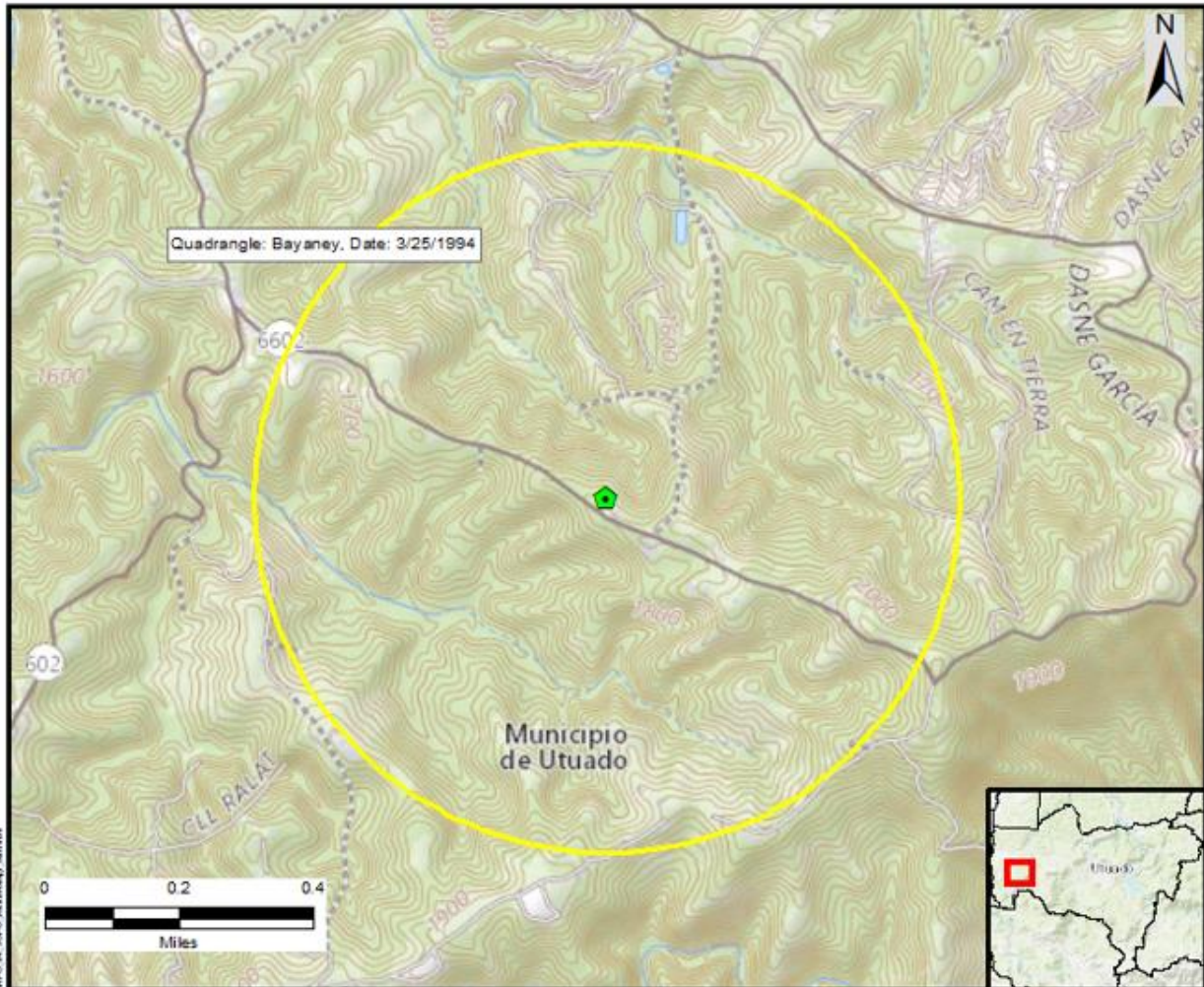


Subrecipient: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01701

City: Utuado




### Project (Parcel) Location with Previously Recorded Cultural Resources USGS Topographic Map



Source: National Park Service

Author: TG

Date: 9/29/2022

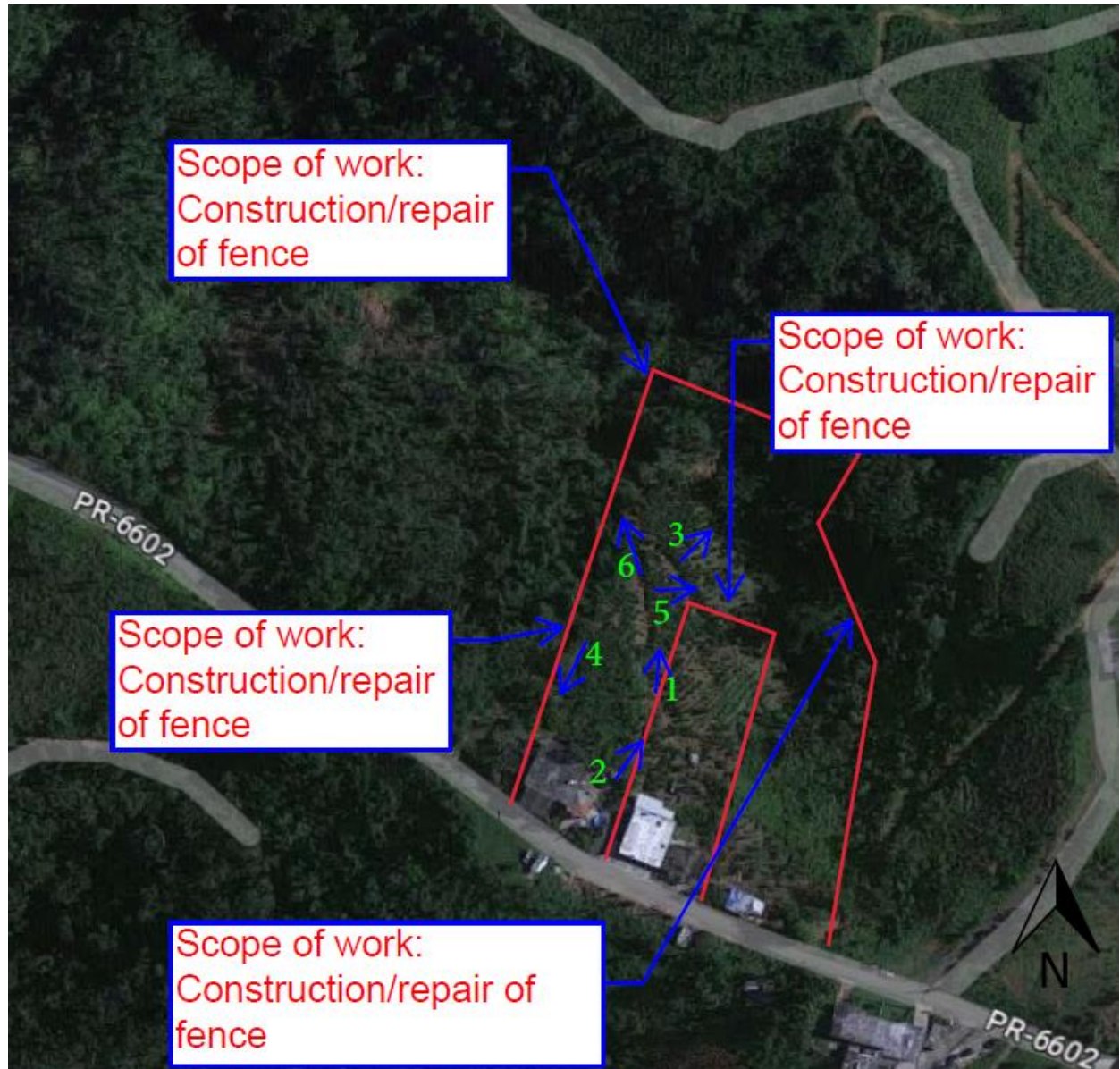
- Legend
-  Tier 2 Site
  -  Half Mile Buffer
  -  Historic Comunidades
  -  Traditional Urban Centers
  -  Cultural Resource District Polygon

Subrecipient: Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01701

City: Utuado

### Photograph Key





**Subrecipient:** Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01701

**City:** Utuado



**Photo #:** 1

**Description (include direction):** View to the North

**Date:** 5/17/2023

Scope Of Work: Construction of fence



**Photo #:** 2

**Description (include direction):** View to the Northeast

**Date:** 5/17/2023

Scope Of Work: Construction of fence

**Subrecipient:** Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01701

**City:** Utuado



**Photo #:** 3

**Description (include direction):** View to the Northeast

**Date:** 5/17/2023

Scope Of Work: Construction of fence



**Photo #:** 4

**Description (include direction):** View to the Southwest

**Date:** 5/17/2023

Scope Of Work: Construction of fence



**Subrecipient:** Carlos Alberto Maldonado Quiles

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01701

**City:** Utuado



**Photo #:** 5

**Description (include direction):** View to the East

**Date:** 5/17/2023

Scope Of Work: Construction of fence



**Photo #:** 6

**Description (include direction):** View to the Northwest

**Date:** 5/17/2023

Scope Of Work: Construction of fence



October 20, 2022

**Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela**

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

Cuartel de Ballajá Bldg.

San Juan, Puerto Rico

**Re: Authorization to Submit Documents**

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela:

The U.S. Department of Housing (HUD) approved the allocations of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-DR) funds on February 9, 2018. It also approved the allocation of Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funds on January 27, 2020. The purpose of these allocations is to address unsatisfied needs as a result of Hurricanes Irma and Maria in September 2017; and to carry out strategic and high-impact activities to mitigate disaster risks and reduce future losses.

To comply with the environmental requirements established by HUD, the Department of Housing of Puerto Rico (PRDOH) contracted Horne Federal LLC to provide environmental registry review services, among others, that will support the objectives of the agenda for both CDBG-DR and CDBG -MIT Programs.

In line to expedite the processes, Horne Federal LLC, is authorized to submit to the State Historic Preservation Officer, documentation of projects related to both the CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT on behalf of PRDOH.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JB', is written over the printed name of the signatory.

Juan C. Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng

Director of Disaster Recovery

CDBG DR-MIT