

Environmental Assessment

Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects

24 CFR Part 58

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-01631

Project Name: Domingo Oliveras Pérez

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico / Maricao, PR

Preparer: Patricia Carmenatty

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Permit and Environmental Compliance Officers: Sally Acevedo Cosme, Pedro de León Rodríguez, Ivelisse Lorenzo, Janette Cambrelen, Santa Ramirez, Limary Vélez Marrero, Mónica M. Machuca Ríos, Javier Mercado-Barrera and Abdul Feliciano Plaza. María T. Torres Bregón - Environmental Manager, Angel G. Lopez Guzman - Deputy Director, Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez – Director for Program Management, and Juan Carlos Perez Bofill - Director for Disaster Recovery CDBG Program.

Consultant: Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

Direct Comments to: Puerto Rico Department of Housing:
(environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov)

Project Location:

Bo Indiera Seta Parc 28, Carr 128 Km.Hm 30.8 INT, Maricao, PR 00606

Storage Warehouse location: latitude 18.153690 longitude -66.872440

Parcel cadastral #: 288-000-001-28-000

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

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-01631 consist of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse. The storage warehouse will be constructed from wood and zinc, supported by four concrete pillars, each measuring 1.5 x 1.5 feet and will be off the ground. These pillars will be anchored two foot deep into the ground, necessitating some ground disturbance. Both vegetation clearing and leveling will be required. New electricity or water connection will not be necessary for the storage warehouse. The

purpose of the new structure is to store agricultural equipment. The farm specializes in cultivating bananas and coffee. The project area is located at Bo Indiera Seta Parc 28, Carr. 128 Km 30.8 Interior within the Municipality of Maricao. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area for the proposed activities has been used for agricultural purposes for over 20 years.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) has been defined as the area potentially impacted by ground disturbing activities related to the installation of the storage warehouse. 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 location of the storage warehouse plus a 15-meter buffer and the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

A site Map is included in Figure 1, illustrating the location of the storage warehouse on the property. Photos of the location are included in Section 106 documentation, Appendix 1. Refer to Appendix 3 for Site Inspection Report.

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. This agricultural project associated with the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse are in keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The area where the storage warehouse will be placed has a semi-flat topography. In the area there are coffee and banana trees planted, and the land has been used for the harvest of this type of trees for more than 20 years. Therefore, there is little to no change in land use associated with these placements.

Funding Information

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
B-18-DP-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD) /	\$11,938,162,230.00
B-17-DP-72-0001	Community Development	
B-19-DP-78-0002	Block Grant - Disaster	
B-18-DE-72-0001	Recovery (CDBG-DR)	

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$9,799.31

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$9,799.31.

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 or approvals. Clearly note citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references. Attach additional documentation as appropriate.

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required	Compliance determinations
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6		
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse will have no impact on any Airports. The site is located 100,630 feet from the nearest major civil airport (Eugenio Maria de Hostos in Mayaguez) and 314,567 feet from the nearest military airport (Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in San Juan). This topic is in compliance with the HUD's Airport Hazard regulations without further evaluation. See the attached Airport map Runway Protection Zone, Figure 2.
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. The project is located 72,585 feet north of the nearest Coastal Barrier Resource System, PR-60P. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. See the attached CBRS map, Figure 3.
Flood Insurance	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is located in Zone X, Panel 72000C1065J, 11/18/2009 on the FEMA FIRM. The project does not require flood

<p>Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]</p>		<p>insurance or is excepted from flood insurance. See attached Flood Map, Figure 4. The project is in compliance with the Flood Insurance without further evaluation.</p>
<p>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5</p>		
<p>Clean Air</p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse for an agricultural site located in the Municipio of Maricao. The project is not located in a nonattainment municipality of Puerto Rico (Arecibo, Bayamón, Cataño, Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan, Toa Baja). The installation and operation of this project will have no impact and is in compliance with the Clean Air Act without further evaluation. See attached published list of Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for each county by year for all criteria pollutants in Appendix 2.</p>
<p>Coastal Zone Management</p> <p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located 55,465 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management Area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See the attached CZMA map, Figure 5.</p>
<p>Contamination and Toxic Substances</p> <p>24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse for an agricultural project. A visual site inspection of the project area and property was conducted and on-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. According to what was observed in the site inspection and what was searched</p>

		<p>on the NEPASSIT page, there are no sites of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet near the storage warehouse location.</p> <p>HUD's environmental regulations at 24 CFR 58.5(i)(2)(i) and (ii)4 state that, [i]t is HUD's policy that all properties that are being proposed for use in HUD programs be free of hazardous materials, contamination, toxic chemicals and gases, and radioactive substances, where a hazard could affect the health and safety of occupants or conflict with the intended utilization of the property. For the proposed project, which involves constructing a storage facility, radon analysis will not be required. This is because the facility qualifies for an exemption, as it is a non-residential building that will not be occupied for more than 4 hours per day.</p> <p>After conducting an aerial review history of the project site over the past 20 years, the use of the area has always been the planting of coffee and banana trees. It continues to be rural, with no significant changes during this period that raise any contamination concerns.</p> <p>According to the available information, the project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances requirements. See attached Toxics Map, Figure 6. See Appendix 3 for Site Inspection Report.</p>
<p>Endangered Species</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>After reviewing data from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC) and the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) database, the Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>), Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>), Puerto Rican parrot</p>

(*Amazona vittata*), Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus venator*) and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*) could be found in the project area. The scope of work includes continued agricultural use of the property. The area where the storage warehouse will be placed has a semi-flat topography. The terrain needs to be leveled, which means some coffee and bananas trees will need to be removed.

The nature of the project, scope of work, information available, a careful analysis of the IpaC, the Puerto Rico Boa conservation measures, the Caribbean Dkey in the US Fish and Wildlife Service's online IPaC application, and the observations during the field visit on March 15, 2024, were used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species from this project. Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk, which determined that the proposed actions for this project would have "No Effect" (NE) for these species.

An Informal Consultation was submitted to USFWS on 4/2/2024 and Concurrence Letter was received on 5/22/2024. The Service acknowledges receipt of the NE DKey consistency letter for the Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk. However, since ground disturbance will occur, it was determined that the proposed project "May affect but is not likely to adversely affect" (NLAA) for the Puerto Rican boa.

Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available and existing habitat, the Service concur with

PRDOH's determinations that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican parrot since the project location is 15.9 Km from the Maricao State Forest and the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly since the project area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 20 years. The PRDOHS's Effect Determination Acceptance letter was received on 7/22/2024.

The project is 17,650 feet from the nearest final endangered species critical habitat.

All personnel must be informed of penalties under the Endangered Species Act for harming protected species. During the breeding seasons of the Puerto Rican parrot (February-June), broad-winged hawk, and sharp-shinned hawk (both December-June), nest surveys must be conducted by qualified personnel with the appropriate permits before starting any work that impacts habitat. If nests are found, a 50-meter buffer must be maintained until fledglings leave. Outside breeding seasons, this buffer applies if a nest is encountered. Any sightings or incidental lethal takes must be reported to the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office.

If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa. As established by the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures Guideline.

<https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/guideline/design/population/156/office/41430.pdf>

The contractor must inform all personnel about the presence of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly and its host plant, "prickly bush," through pre-work meetings and educational materials. Before starting any project activity, the contractor must clearly mark the work area boundaries and survey the butterfly and its host plant. If the "prickly bush" is present, avoid cutting it even if no eggs, caterpillars or chrysalis are present; if the butterfly is observed, stop project activities and establish a 50-meter buffer zone until the butterfly moves away, then conduct a follow-up search for any butterfly life stages and report findings.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has established the following conservation measures for bird species in the event of an encounter:

1. Personnel Awareness: All personnel will be informed that civil and criminal penalties exist for harming, harassing, or killing species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. During the breeding seasons (detailed below), nest surveys must be conducted if the project occurs within the range of any listed species and if the habitat for those species will be affected by the proposed actions. Qualified personnel, with the appropriate permits from the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER), must conduct nest searches before any work begins. If nesting activity is detected, all construction or human disturbance must be avoided within a 50-meter buffer around any nest(s) located within the project area. This buffer must

		<p>remain in place until fledglings permanently leave the nest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Breeding Seasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puerto Rican parrot: February–June • Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk: December–June <p>2. Outside Breeding Season: Nest surveys are not required outside the breeding season. However, if a nest is encountered, a 50-meter buffer must be maintained, and construction or human disturbance avoided until fledglings have left the nest. Additionally, if any of the listed species is observed within the project area (e.g., foraging or resting), disturbances to the individual(s) must be avoided, and birds must not be flushed until they leave on their own.</p> <p>3. Recording Sightings: For any nest sightings, the applicant must record the time, date, and specific location of the sighting.</p> <p>All sightings and reports of incidental lethal take must be sent to the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office at Caribbean_es@fws.gov.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. See attached USFWS Concurrence letter and supporting documents in Appendix 4. See attached Endangered Species map, Figure 7. Conservation Measures for the listed species are in Appendix 4.</p>
<p>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse and does not include development, construction or rehabilitation that will increase residential density or the construction of a hazardous facility. This project is in compliance with Explosive and</p>

		Flammable hazards without further evaluation.
<p>Farmlands Protection</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>This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. The project activities will occur in an area designated as not prime farmland. The scope of work includes purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse, and this is a construction limited to on-farm structures needed for farm operations. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. See the attached Farmlands map, Figure 8.</p>
<p>Floodplain Management</p> <p>Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) introduced new floodplain regulations under 89 FR 30850, effective June 24, 2024, establishing the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS).</p> <p>This project was evaluated using the 0.2 Percent-Annual-Chance Floodplain Approach (0.2 PFA) to determine the extent of the FFRMS. The current project involves non-critical actions that are located outside the 0.2-percent-annual-chance floodplain (500-year flood elevation). This approach ensures compliance with the FFRMS, meaning no mitigation is required, and the project adheres to the regulations set forth in 24 CFR Part 55. The project is not located in the 100-year floodplain or ABFE special flood hazard area; therefore, no further action is required.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. See attached ABFE Map (Figure 9).</p>
<p>Historic Preservation</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site was visited on March 25, 2024, by SOI-qualified archaeologist. Based on the nature and scope of the undertaking,</p>

<p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>		<p>the APE has been defined as the area potentially affected by ground-disturbing activities related to installation of the storage warehouse. Documentation with photographs and maps was subsequently submitted to SHPO (attached Appendix 1). In a response from PR SHPO dated April 29, 2024, SHPO concurred with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected within the project's Area of Potential Effects (see attached Appendix 1). The property is not considered historic or contributing to an historic district (See attached Historic map, Figure 10). Therefore, this activity is in compliance with National Historic Preservation Act.</p>
<p>Noise Abatement and Control</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>This project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse for an agricultural site. The project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The site is rural in nature and there will be no impact to or from the surrounding area from a noise perspective. This topic is in compliance with Noise abatement and Control without further evaluation.</p>
<p>Sole Source Aquifers</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 project is in compliance with Sole Source aquifers without further evaluation. See attached Sole Source Aquifers maps, Figure 11.</p>
<p>Wetlands Protection</p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The map shows an unnamed creek about 290 feet from the location where the storage warehouse will be installed, however, no wetland will be affected by the project undertaking. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990.</p>

		See the attached Wetlands map, Figure 12.
Wild and Scenic Rivers Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is not within proximity of the NWSRS river. The project is located 378,449 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. See Map, Figure 13.
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Based on the scope of work for this project, there will be no additional impact on low-income or minority residents. This proposed activity will not have a negative impact on Environmental Justice. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section. Refer to Appendix 3 for EJ Screen Report.

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 provide. 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
LAND DEVELOPMENT		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	This project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse and is continued agricultural use of property which is compatible with a zoning code of ZDA-2 and existing land use of SREP-A (Rustic Specially Protected Agricultural Land). There is no urban design associated with this rural, agricultural site.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	<p>This project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse. The soil is currently being used for agriculture purposes. There is no change in land use since the land will continue to be used to agriculture purposes. The soil in the area has been classified as Humatas clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes (HmF2). This soil is deep, very steep, and well drained.</p> <p>The landslide data indicates low to moderate to high landslide susceptibility; however, no erosion is expected to occur from this project. The project will not affect the drainage in the area. Soil suitability will be assessed prior to construction. Contractors will be required to use BMPs during construction if erosion impacts occur. The construction manager should investigate if a DNER authorization is required for any land alteration associated with the proposed project activities. There will be no additional runoff associated with the project. See Landslide Susceptibility Map, Figure 14.</p>
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse. There are no specific environmental hazards that have been identified for this site. The site is not in a high Noise Level area. The project does not include housing or such to where inhabitants would be affected.
Energy Consumption	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse on an existing agricultural farm. No electricity connection will be necessary since the purpose of the storage will be to

		store agricultural equipment. The proposed project will have no impact on the energy consumption.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse and will result in short-term benefit to employment when contractors are hired for the construction and installation of this item. After construction, there may be a net positive benefit for the farm, a small business receiving this funding for economic development recovery purposes, which will aid in the continued operations of the intended use of the farm which products will be used by Puerto Rico population. The project is not anticipated to have a significant impact on Employment and Income Patterns, however, the project may help restore employment opportunities and income patterns.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse and will not alter the demographic characteristics of Maricao, PR. The applicant is already located at this location and the project will provide opportunities for the continuous agricultural growth of the business.
Environmental Justice	2	<p>In the project area within a one-mile radius:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people of color are 100% compared to PR average of 97%. • 91 % of the people are low income compared to PR average of 70%. • 1% of the people are unemployed compared to PR average of 14%. <p>The proposed activities of the installation of the storage warehouse will have a positive impact on creating jobs for local people. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section. See EJSscreen Report in Appendix 3.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse for an agricultural site and will have no impact on educational and cultural facilities.
Commercial Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse and will not have any negative impact on commercial facilities since the purpose of the storage is for storage of agricultural equipment.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse for an agricultural site and will have no impact on Health Care and Social Services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse and will have no impact on Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling services. The products and by-products are agricultural, and any waste would be biodegradable. The remaining construction solid waste materials would be collected for transport to the local landfill.
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse and this activity will not produce any wastewater. Based on the scope of work is not expected to result in any changes in wastewater or sanitary sewer generation. The proposed project will have no impact on Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers.
Water Supply	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse. No water connection will be necessary since the purpose of the storage will be to store agricultural equipment. The proposed project will have no impact on the water supply.

Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse for an agricultural site and will have no impact on Public Safety.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse and will have no impact on Parks, Open Space and Recreation. The property being used is agricultural and it will continue as agricultural use.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse for an agricultural site and will have no impact on transportation and accessibility.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse and will be situated on previous agriculture property and will have no impact on unique natural features or water resources. There is a creek within the parcel, but about 290 feet from where the storage will be installed. This means that the project's activities are isolated from any existing water bodies, further reducing the likelihood of impact. In addition, the project does not involve extracting water from any existing water sources such as rivers, lakes, or groundwater. Therefore, the project will have no impact on water resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse and will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity. There may be wildlife attracted to the storage but no negative impact on wildlife. For the installation of the storage warehouse the removal of vegetation will be necessary. To make room for storage, small coffee and banana trees will

		be removed. However, the applicant will plant new coffee trees after the project is finished to compensate for the removal.
Climate Change	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse. The Re-Grow Program proposed project aims to increase resiliency in the agricultural industry to prepare for future climate related disasters. The project will not contribute to climate change and will provide a minor net benefit by allowing for increased food production.</p> <p>In terms of the project's susceptibility to climate change, the agricultural components may encounter challenges due to the potential impact of drought conditions. This is a small agricultural project with no measurable impact on climate change factors.</p>

Additional Studies Performed: Not applicable.

Field Inspection (Date and completed by): March 25, 2024, Jaqueline Lopez, SOI-Qualified Archaeologist. Field Site Inspection performed by Egon Gonzalez on March 15, 2024.

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

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems:

www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/npis/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

National Park Service, National Registry of Natural Landmarks.

www.nature.nps.gov/nnl/docs/NNLRegistry.pdf

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Wild and Scenic Rivers – correspondence to Agency on October 16, 2018

National Wild and Scenic Rivers System: 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/

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.

Sierra Research for Office of Mobile Sources. US Environmental Protection Agency. Report No. SR93-03-02, Evaluation of Methodologies to Estimate Nonroad Mobile Source Usage, March 19, 1993: <http://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPURL.cgi?Dockey=9100UR51.txt>

US Environmental Protection Agency, National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Nonattainment Areas for Criteria Pollutants (Green Book):
www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo_pr.html

US EPA, Environmental Topics, Air Topics: www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/air-topics

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Conservation Online System:
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp0/reports/species-listed-by-state-report?state=PR&status=listed>

Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Mapping Service:
<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home> (compilation of numerous maps)

Puerto Rico Planning Board, Communication regarding Floodplain Management, November 29, 2018.

US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetlands Inventory:
www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html (compilation of numerous maps)

US Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, Antilles Section, Communication regarding Wetlands Management, November 13, 2018.

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

Puerto Rico Planning Board, Communication regarding Coastal Zone Management, November 16, 2018 (No response).

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office. E-mail communication regarding October 23, 2018 letter on Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitats.

NOAA Fisheries / National Marine Fisheries Service, NEPA Coordinator Southeast Regional Office. Communication on October 16, 2018 regarding designated critical habitat. (No response).

US Geological Survey, Data Release of May Showing Concentration of Landslides Caused by Hurricane Maria, <https://doi:10.5066/F7JD4VRF>

List of Permits Obtained: None.

Public Outreach [24 CFR 58.43]: The recovery process has seen significant proactive involvement from the local community. Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture has

worked closely with the agricultural community. This 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 purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse for an agricultural site. The activities involved, such as storage warehouse installation, and infrastructure additions, are discrete and confined to the immediate project area. They do not extend beyond the boundaries of the site, minimizing the potential for cumulative effects on surrounding environments. The project's location on an existing agricultural site suggests that the area may have already undergone land use changes and modifications.

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

The Regrow Program purpose is to enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities while promoting and increasing food security island wide. The "Alternative" action would mean that the applicant would consider other locations for the new storage warehouse. However, other locations may result in tree clearing prior to construction and/or need to fill in some steep area and an added cost to the applicant. Any option that requires going off-site would not contribute to the improvement and growth of agricultural production or enable economic development for this applicant.

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

The 'No-Action' alternative would mean that the applicant would not receive federal funding to provide the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse for an agricultural site 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 and expand their agriculture activities. A provision of the grant allows for economic development for businesses. The No-Action alternative would not allow for economic development for this applicant.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions: The proposed activity has been found to not have any adverse effects on the environmental nor is there the requirement for further consultation with any agency. There are no environmental review topics addressed that result in the need for formal compliance steps or the requirement for mitigation.

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.

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	Soil suitability will be assessed prior to construction. Contractors will be required to use BMPs during construction if erosion impacts occur. The construction manager should obtain any authorization/permit required for any land alteration associated with the proposed project activities.
<p>Endangered Species Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>The project area is located at Bo Indiera Seta Parc 28, Carr. 128 Km 30.8 Interior within the Municipality of Maricao.</p> <p>The USFWS has developed the following conservation measures for the Boa:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 project 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. If a PR boa is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded (see #5). 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 that 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.

5. 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. Last Revised: January 2024

6. If a PR boa is captured by PRDNER personnel, record the name of that person and information on where the PR boa will be taken. This information should be reported to the Service.

7. 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 #4). If not possible, the animal should be left alone until it leaves the vehicle on its own.

8. 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 are left on site, we recommend they be placed in areas that will not be disturbed in the future.

9. If a dead PR boa is found, immediately cease all work in that area and record the information accordingly (see #5). 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 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.

10. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact the PRDNER for further guidance.

The contractor must inform all personnel about the presence of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly and its host plant, "prickly bush," through pre-work meetings and educational materials. Before starting any project activity, the contractor must clearly mark the work area boundaries and survey the butterfly and its host plant. If the "prickly bush" is present, avoid cutting it; if the butterfly is observed, stop project activities and establish a 50-meter buffer

zone until the butterfly moves away, then conduct a follow-up search for any butterfly life stages and report findings.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has established the following conservation measures for bird species in the event of an encounter:

1. Personnel Awareness: All personnel will be informed that civil and criminal penalties exist for harming, harassing, or killing species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. During the breeding seasons (detailed below), nest surveys must be conducted if the project occurs within the range of any listed species and if the habitat for those species will be affected by the proposed actions. Qualified personnel, with the appropriate permits from the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER), must conduct nest searches before any work begins. If nesting activity is detected, all construction or human disturbance must be avoided within a 50-meter buffer around any nest(s) located within the project area. This buffer must remain in place until fledglings permanently leave the nest.
 - o Breeding Seasons:
 - Puerto Rican parrot: February–June
 - Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk: December–June
2. Outside Breeding Season: Nest surveys are not required outside the breeding season. However, if a nest

is encountered, a 50-meter buffer must be maintained, and construction or human disturbance avoided until fledglings have left the nest. Additionally, if any of the listed species is observed within the project area (e.g., foraging or resting), disturbances to the individual(s) must be avoided, and birds must not be flushed until they leave on their own.

3. Recording Sightings: For any nest sightings, the applicant must record the time, date, and specific location of the sighting.

All sightings and reports of incidental lethal take must be sent to the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office at [Caribbean es@fws.gov](mailto:Caribbean_es@fws.gov).

Conservation Measures for the listed species are in **Appendix 4**.

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: 9/11/2024

Name/Title/Organization: Patricia Carmenatty / Environmental Specialist/ Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: 9/11/2024

Name/Title: Javier Mercado Barrera / Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist / PRDOH

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).

Figures

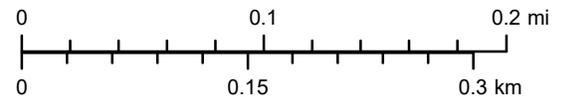
Figure 1:Location Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-01631
-  Parcel-01631
-  CRIM_PARCELS



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Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



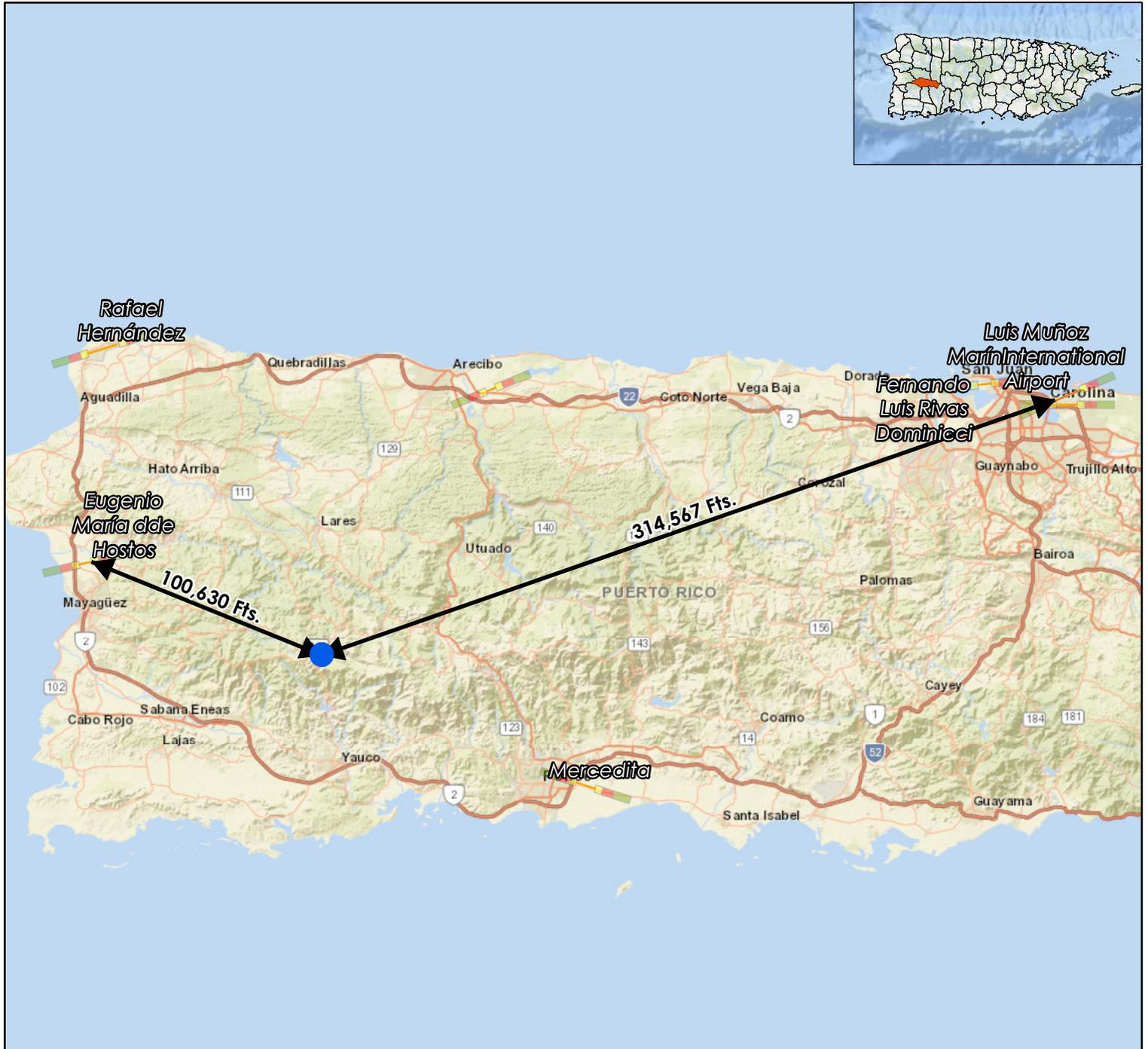
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Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>

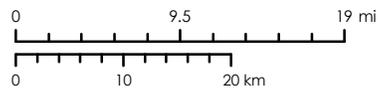
Domingo Oliveras Pérez
 Bo. Indiera Seta Parc. 28,
 Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
 Maricao, PR 00606
 Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
 Lat:18.153690, Long:-66.872440

Figure 2: Airports
 Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- SJU Military Runaway
- Civil Runaway
- Accident Potential Zone**
- APZ 1
- APZ 2
- Clear Zone



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Source

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
<https://adds-faa.opendata.arcgis.com/>

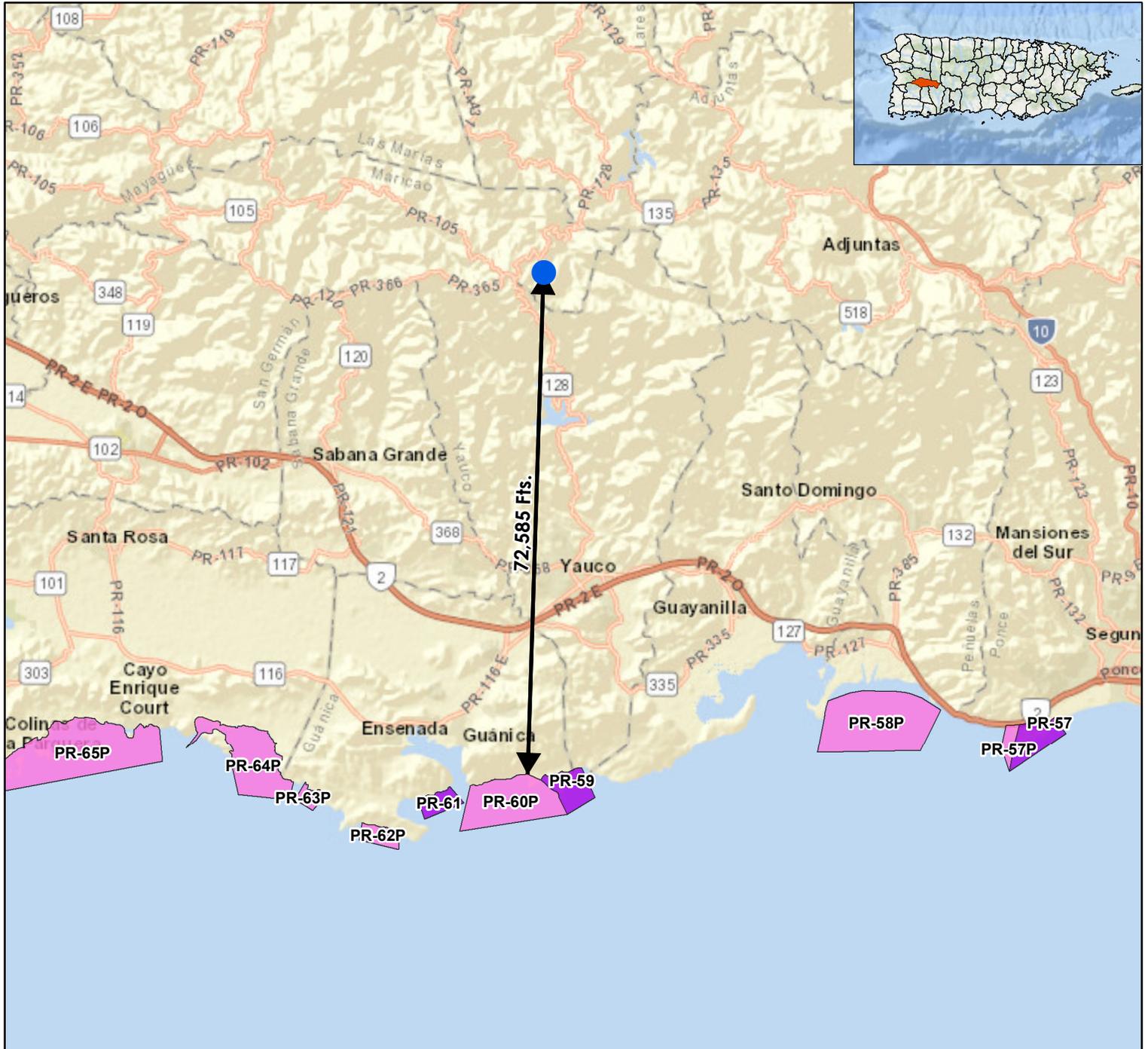


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Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
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Figure 3: Coastal Barrier Resources System

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



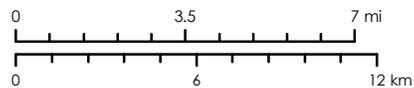
Legend:

● PR-RGRW-01631

Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS)

Otherwise Protected Area

System Unit



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Source

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
<https://www.fws.gov/program/coastal-barrier-resources-act>

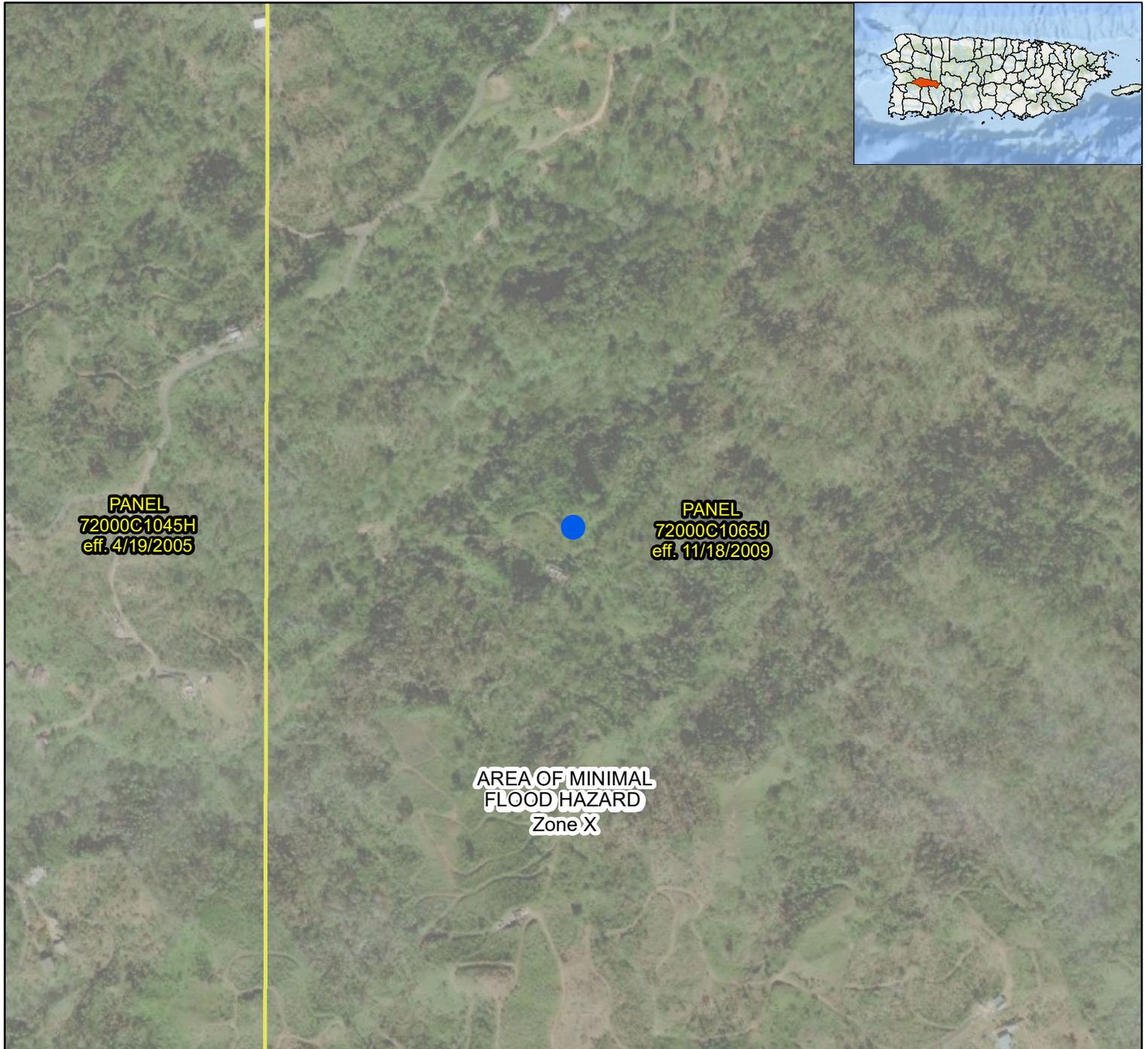


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Figure 4: Flood Insurance Rate Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X
- FIRM Panel



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Source

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

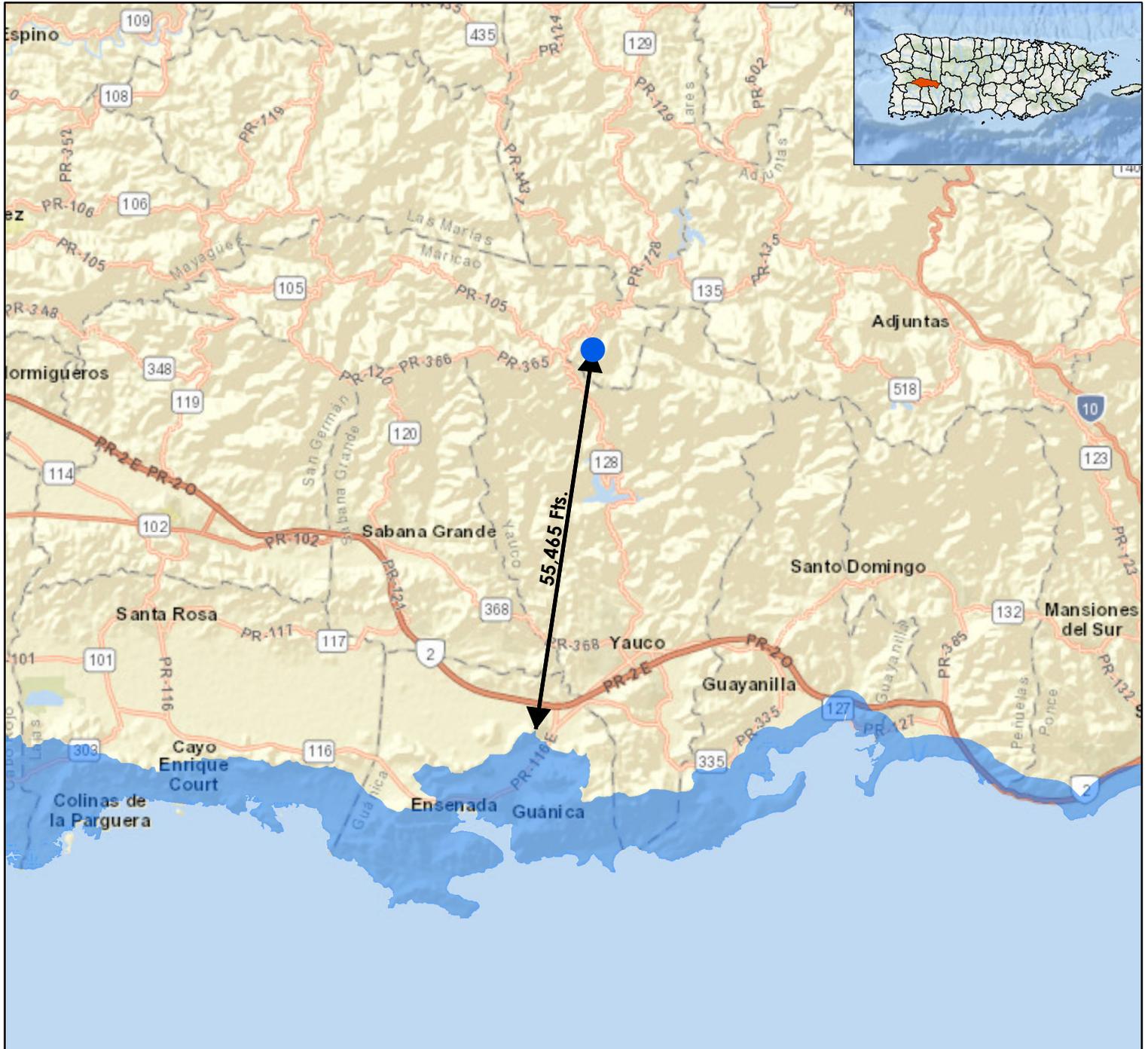


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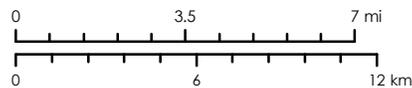
Figure 5: Coastal Zone Management

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- Coastal Zone Management Act Boundary



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Source

NOAA Office for Coastal Management (NOAA/OCM)
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/inport/item/53132>

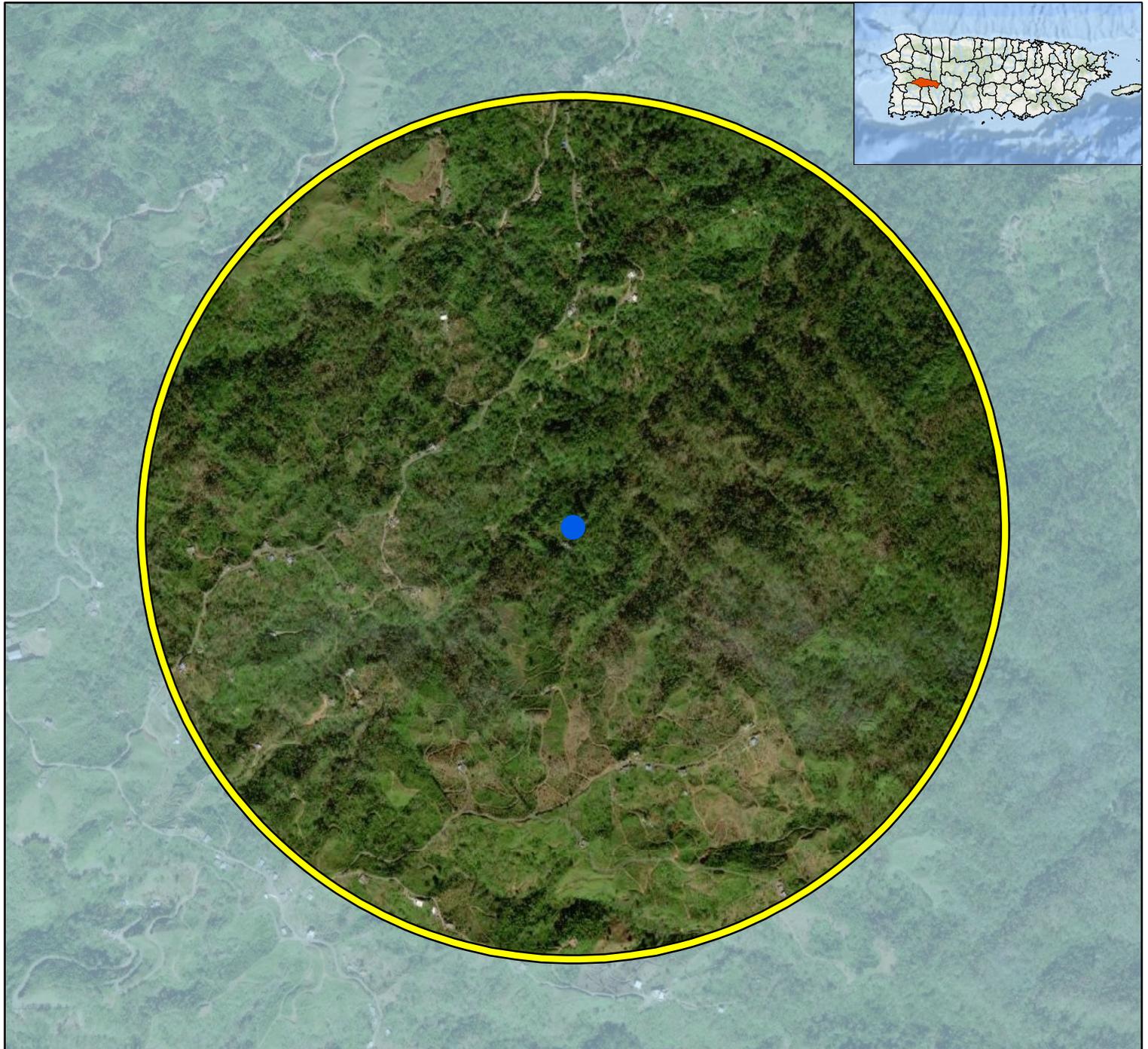


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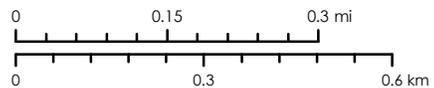
Figure 6: Toxic and Hazardous Facilities

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- 3,000 Fts. Buffer
- FACILITY INTERESTS
- ICIS
- NCDB
- NPDES
- ⬠ NPDES MAJOR
- ▲ RCRA
- ▲ RCRA ACTIVE
- ▲ RCRA INACTIVE
- ▲ RCRA LQG



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Source

EPA Facility Registry Service (FRS)
<https://www.epa.gov/frs>

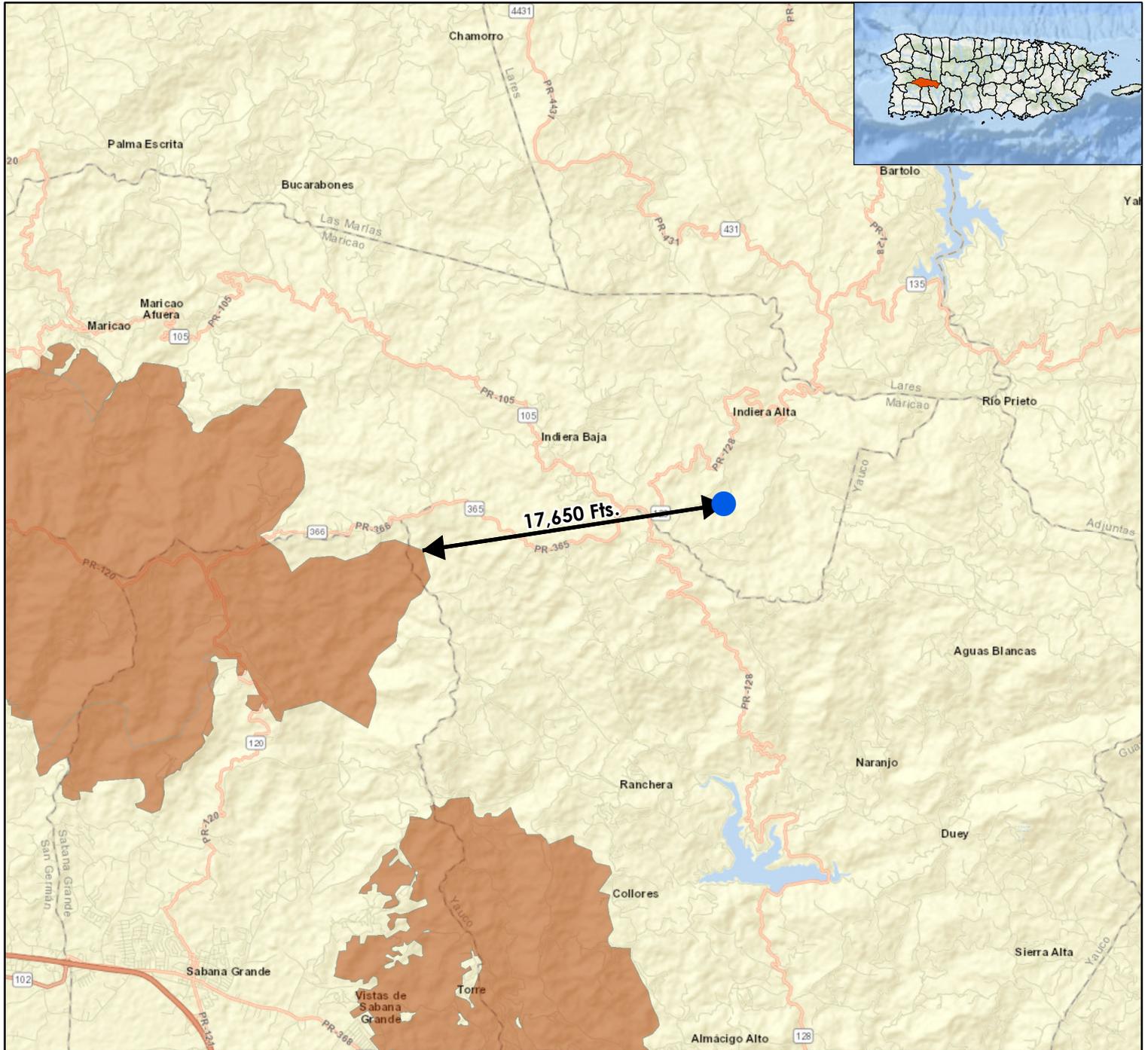


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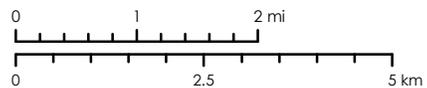
Figure 7:Threatened & Endangered Species

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- Critical Habitat



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Source

NOAA Office of Response and Restoration
<https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/>

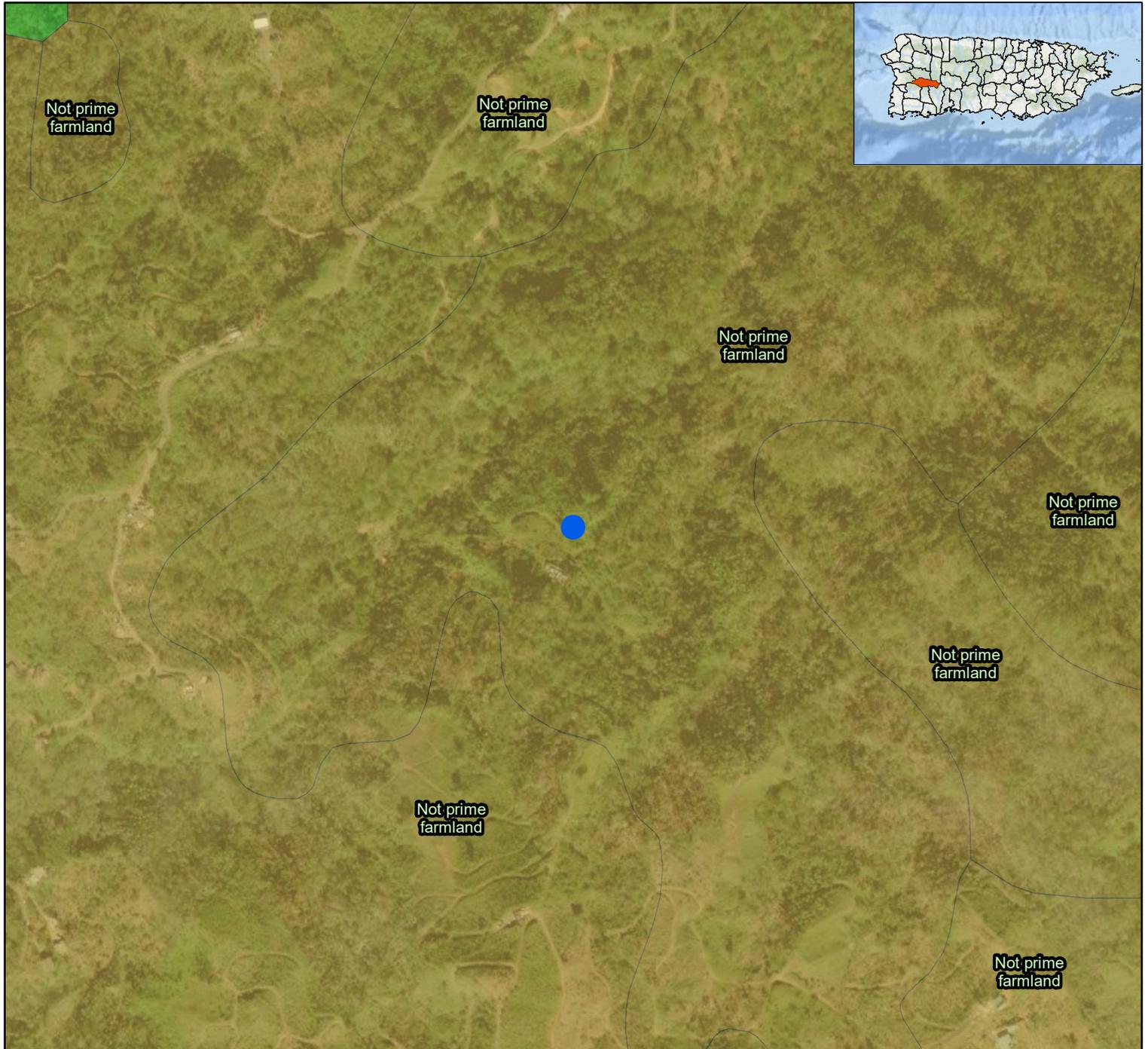


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 Maricao, PR 00606
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Figure 8: Farmland Protection

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

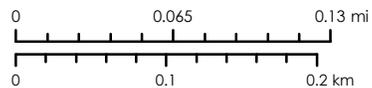


Legend:

 PR-RGRW-01631

Farm Class

-  Farmland of statewide importance
-  Not prime farmland



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Source

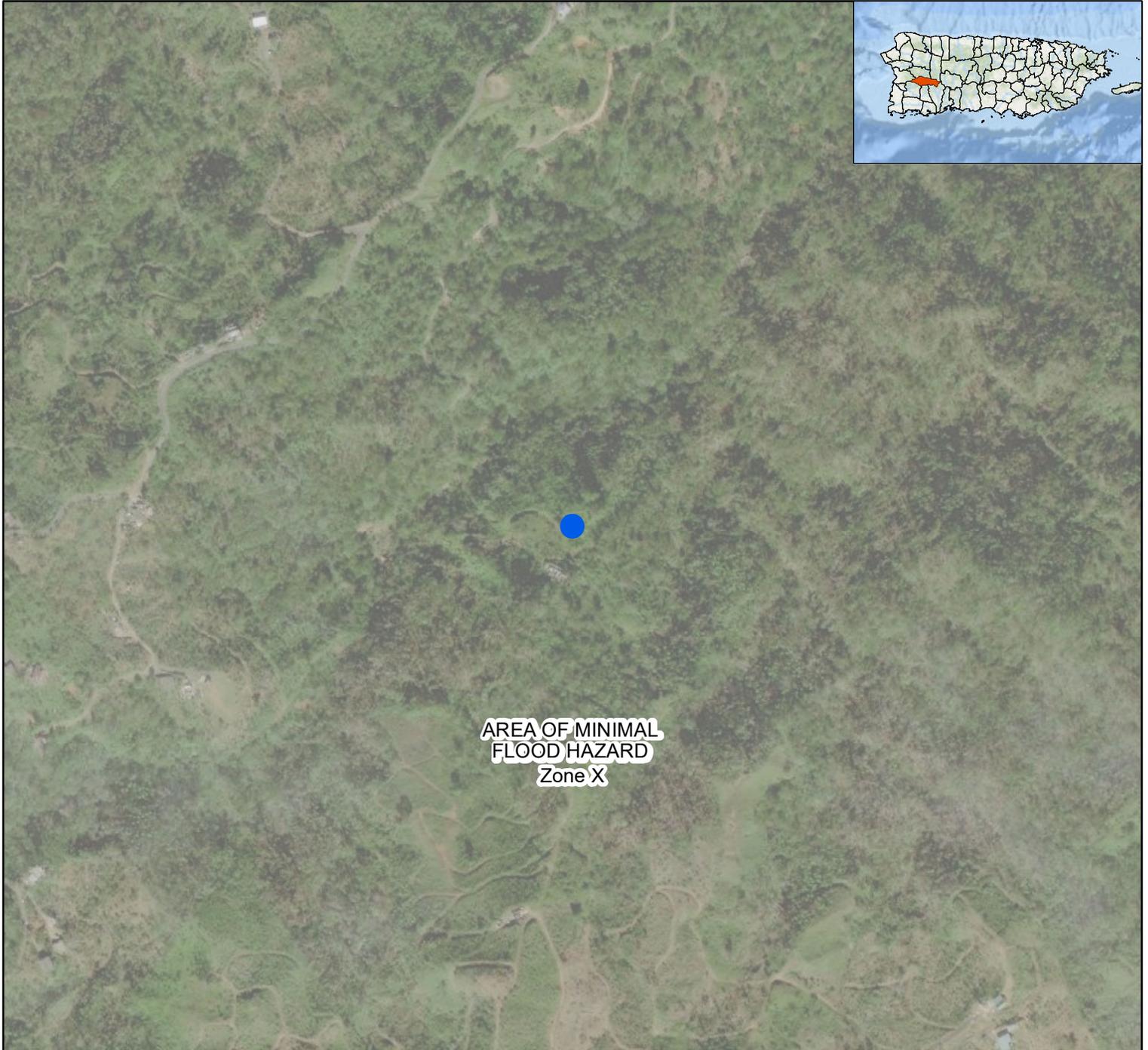
National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
 Gridded Soil Survey Geographic Database (gSSURGO)
<https://data.nal.usda.gov/dataset/soil-survey-geographic-database-ssurgo>

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Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
Maricao, PR 00606
Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
Lat:18.153690, Long:-66.872440

Figure 9: Advisory Base Flood Elevation

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-01631
-  Area of Minimal Flood Hazard *Zone X*



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Source

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA),
Junta de Planificacion de Puerto Rico (JP),
Mapas de Niveles de Inundacion Base Recomendados,
<https://maps.jp.pr.gov/>

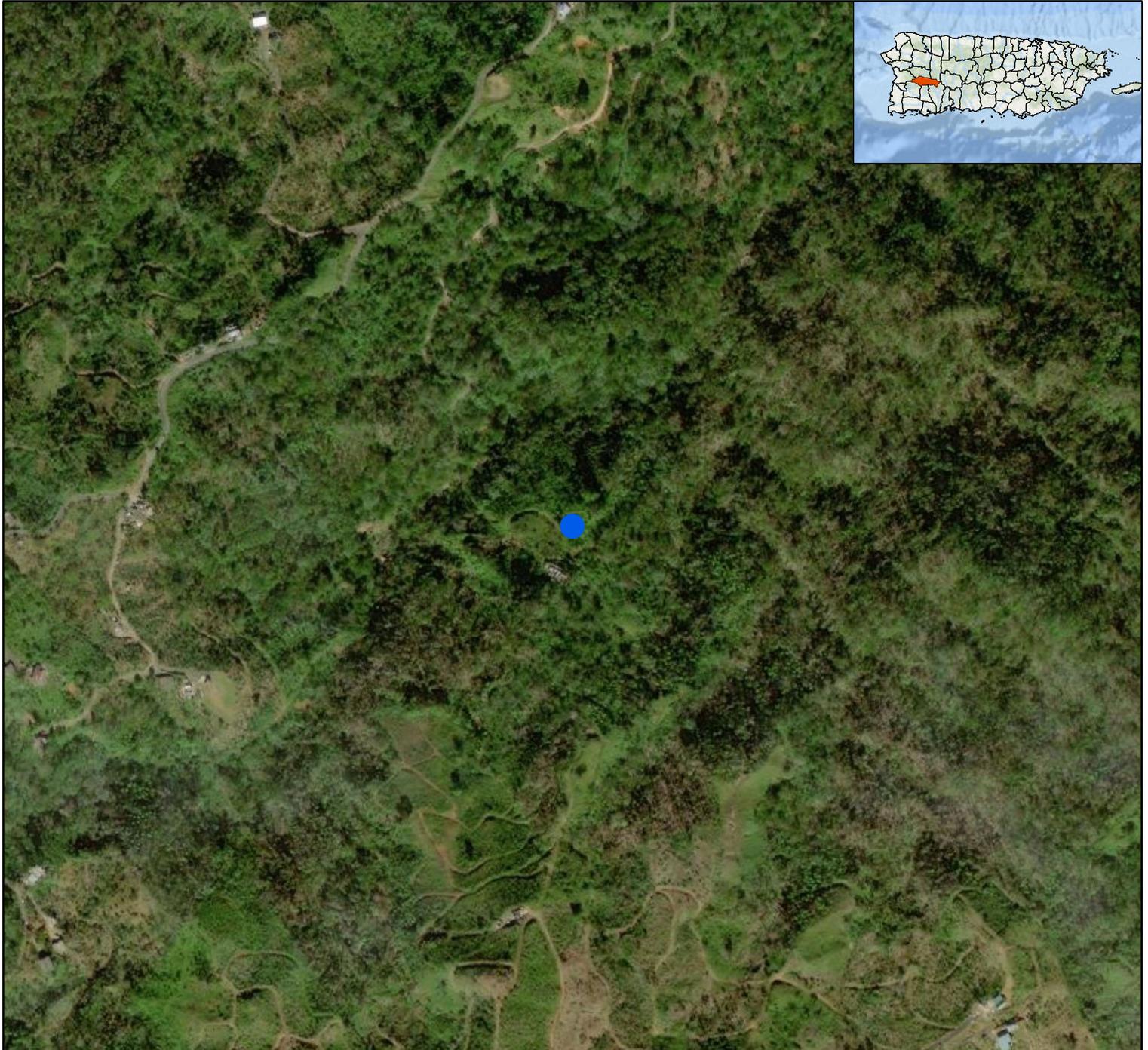


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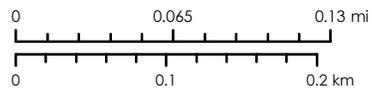
Figure 10: Historic Preservation Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- Archaeological Resource Zones
- Traditional Urban Center
- Historic Communities
- P Cultural_Resources - Public Plaza
- Cultural_Resources - Registry ICP
- Cultural_Resources - Historic Places JP
- ▲ Cultural_Resources - Scenic Places
- Cultural_Resources - Cultural Value Places
- Cultural_Resources - Railway Vestiges



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

National Park Service (NPS) - National Register of Historic Places(NRHP)
<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm>
 State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
<https://oech.pr.gov/Pages/default.aspx>



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Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
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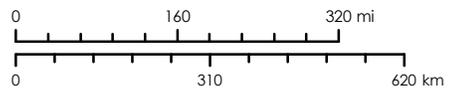
Figure 11: EPA Sole Source Aquifers

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-01631
-  EPA Sole Source Aquifers



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Source

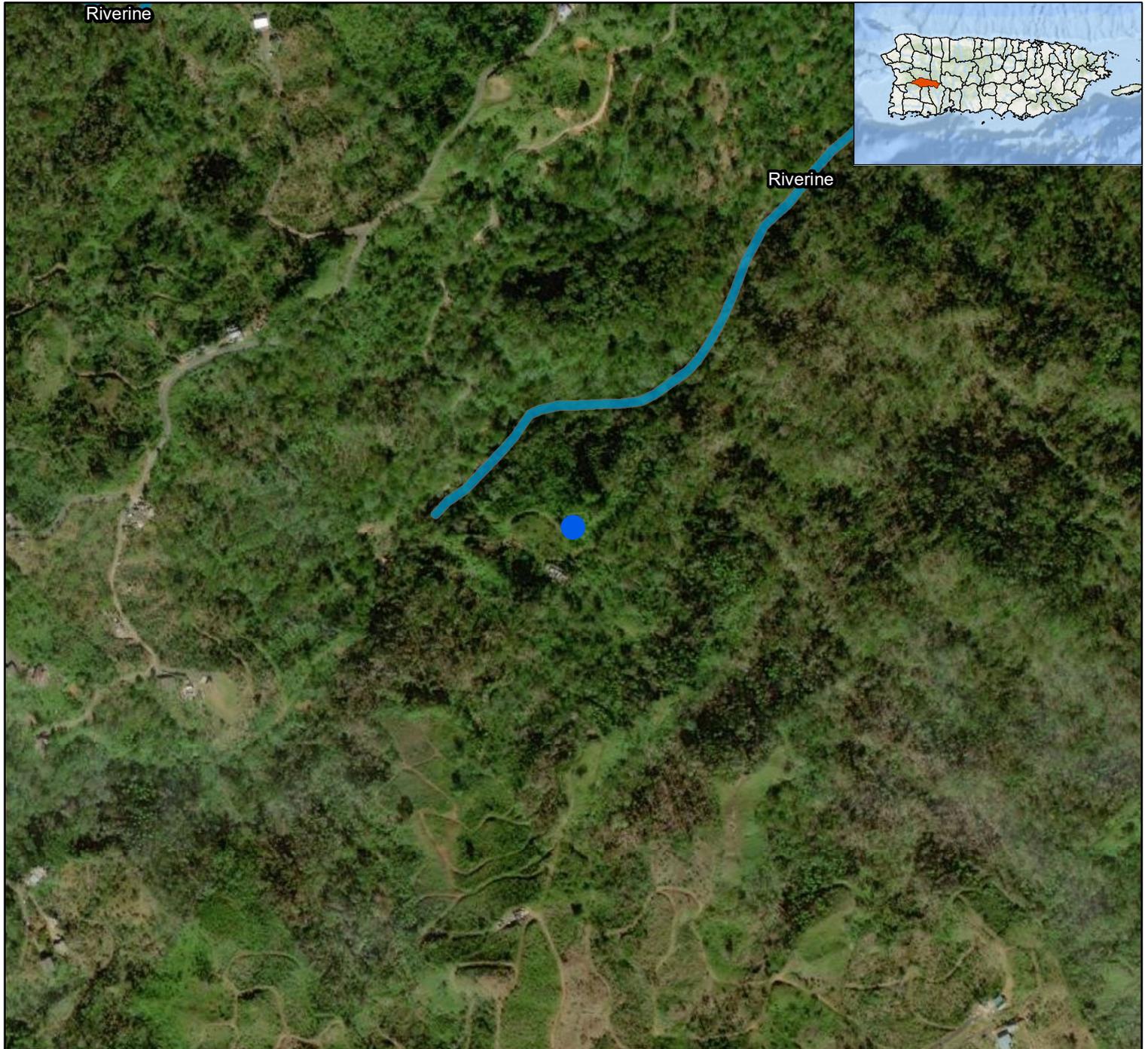
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
<https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ada1877155fe31356b>

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Maricao, PR 00606
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Lat:18.153690, Long:-66.872440

Figure 12: Wetlands Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

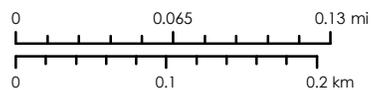


Legend:

● PR-RGRW-01631

National Wetlands Inventory

■ Riverine



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Source

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - National Wetlands Inventory
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory>

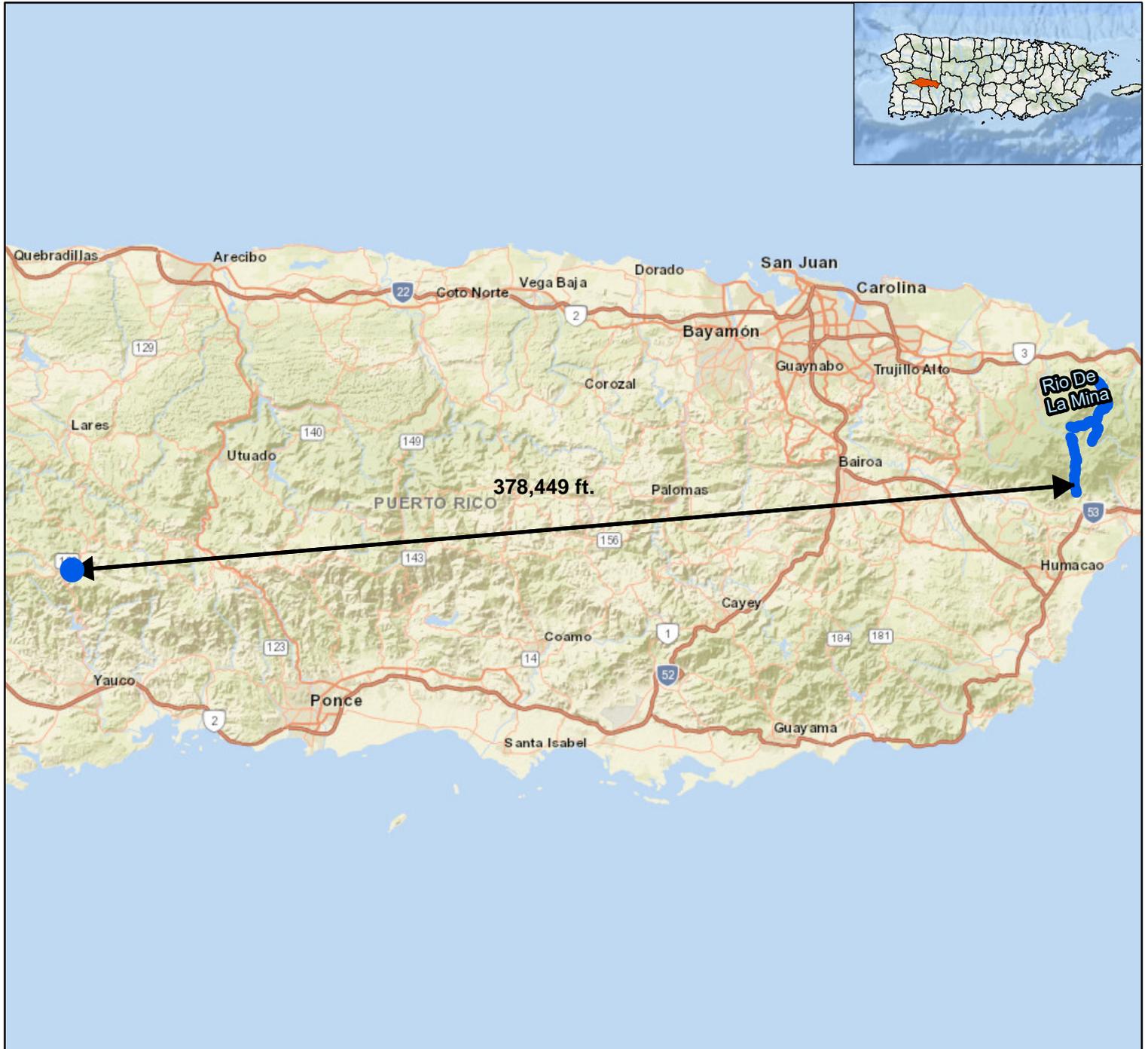


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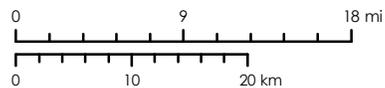
Figure 13: Wild and Scenic Rivers

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- Wild and Scenic Rivers



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Source

FWS National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
<https://www.rivers.gov/mapping-gis.php>

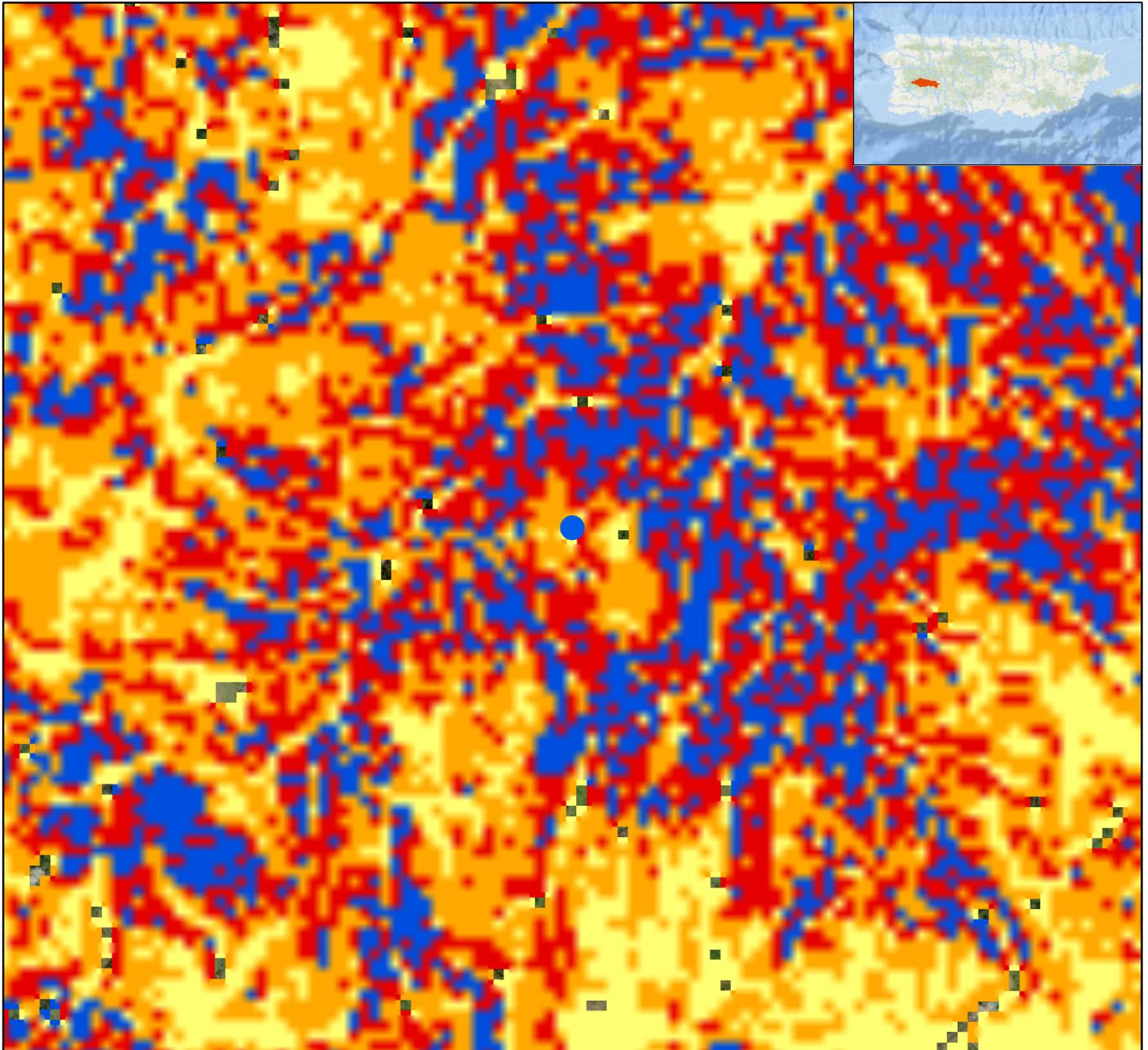


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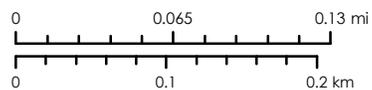
Figure 14: Landslide Susceptibility

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-01631
-  Low
-  Moderate
-  High
-  Very High
-  Extremely High



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Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
<https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/ofr20201022>



1:5,000

Appendix 1: SHPO Consultation Package



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

Monday, April 29, 2024

Lauren B Poche

269 Avenida Ponce de Leon, San Juan, PR, 00917

SHPO-CF-04-22-24-10 PR-RGRW-01631 (Maricao), Domingo Oliveras Perez

Ms. Poche,

Our Office has received and reviewed the above referenced project in accordance with 54 USC 306108 (commonly known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended) and 36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) is to advise and assist federal agencies and other responsible entities when identifying historic properties, assessing effects upon them, and considering alternatives to avoid or reduce the project's effects.

Our records support your finding of no historic properties affected within the project's area of potential effects.

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/OJR



Cuartel de Ballajá (Tercer Piso), Calle Norzagaray, Esq. Beneficencia, Viejo San Juan, PR 00901 | PO Box 9023935, San Juan, PR 00902-3935

April 22, 2024

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-01631 – Domingo Oliveras Pérez – Bo. Indiera, Seta Parc 28, Carr 128 Km. Hm 30.8 INT, Maricao, 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). On February 9, 2018, an allocation of Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds were 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, HORNE is submitting documentation for activities proposed by Domingo Oliveras Pérez located at Bo Indiera Seta Parc 28, Carr 128 Km. Hm 30.8 INT, in the municipality of Maricao. The undertaking for this project includes the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse. The storage warehouse will be installed on four concrete supports that will measure 1.5 x 1.5 feet and will be anchored two feet deep, so it will require ground disturbance. Both vegetation clearing and leveling will be required. New Electricity or water connection will not be necessary for the storage warehouse.

Based on the submitted documentation, the Program requests a concurrence that a finding of no historic properties affected is appropriate for this proposed project.

Please contact me by email at lauren.poche@horne.com or phone at 225-405-7676 with any questions or concerns.

Kindest regards,



Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.

Architectural Historian, EHP Senior Manager
LBP/JLE

Attachments

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Applicant: Domingo Oliveras Pérez		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631	City: Maricao	

Project Location: Bo Indiera Seta Parc 28, Carr 128 Km.Hm 30.8 INT, Maricao, PR 00606	
Project Coordinates: 18.153690 -66.872440	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 288-000-001-28-000	
Type of Undertaking: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair/Improvements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): n/a	Property Size (acres): 11.09

SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jaqueline López Meléndez
Date Reviewed: March 25, 2024

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 proposed activities for PR-RGRW-01631 consist of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse. The storage warehouse will be installed on four concrete supports that will measure 1.5 x 1.5 feet and will be anchored two feet deep, so it will require ground disturbance. Both vegetation clearing and leveling will be required. New Electricity or water connection will not be necessary for the storage warehouse. The purpose of the new structure is to store agricultural equipment. The project area is located at Bo Indiera Seta Parc 28, Carr. 128 Km 30.8 Interior within the Municipality of Maricao. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area for the proposed activities has been used for agricultural purposes for over 20 years.

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 location of the storage warehouse plus a 15-meter buffer and the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

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

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
Applicant: Domingo Oliveras Pérez	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631	City: Maricao

that there are no reported archaeological sites within a half-mile (0.50 miles) radius of the project location. The nearest cultural resource is the historic site Hacienda Fortuna Natalí (SHPO: MI00007), located 0.62 miles northeast. The proposed project is located in the mountainous area of Maricao at an elevation of 2,526 feet above sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area is within mapped soil series: Humatas. The project area APE is in HmF2. The closest freshwater source is an unnamed creek, located 0.06 miles northwest of the project area. The south coast is approximately 13.83 miles (22.26 km) from the project area.

There are no cultural resource studies within a half-mile radius of the property.

The soil in the area has been classified as Humatas clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes (HmF2). This soil is deep, very steep, and well drained. It is on the side slopes and ridgetops of humid volcanic uplands. The permeability and available water capacity of this Humatas soil are moderate. Runoff is very rapid, and fertility is medium. Slope and an erosion hazard make this soil poorly suited for cultivated crops.

Visual inspection of the APE and its surroundings found no evidence of cultural materials.

Determination

No historic properties were identified within the APE.

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect. The project area is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed historic district or Traditional Urban Center. There are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project location. There are no known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the Area of Potential Effect of case PR-RGRW-01631 is located. The closest freshwater body is approximately 0.06 miles northwest of the project area. The construction of public roads and residential structures/agricultural infrastructure has minimally impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the project activities.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
Applicant: Domingo Oliveras Pérez		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631		City: Maricao

Recommendation (Please keep on same page as SHPO Staff Section)

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"/> Concurs with the information provided. <input type="checkbox"/> Does not concur with the information provided.	
Comments:	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation Officer	Date:

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGrow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Applicant: Domingo Oliveras Pérez		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631	City: Maricao	

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631

Project Coordinates: 18.153690 -66.872440

Table of archaeological sites, historic properties and historic districts located within the project area or within a 0.50-miles radius

Name	SHPO id #	IPRC id #	Distance/Direction	Description	NRHP (listed, eligible, non-eligible, no data)
None	-	-	-	-	-

Table of cultural resources surveys conducted within the project area or within a 0.50-miles radius.

Author	Phase/Title	Year	SHPO / IPRC code	Results	Distance/Direction
None	-	-	-	-	-



Applicant: Domingo Oliveras Pérez

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631

City: Maricao

Project (PR-RGRW-01631) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)



Application ID: PR-RGRW-01631

Domingo Oliveras Pérez
Bo. Indiera Seta Parc. 28,
Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
Maricao, PR 00606
Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
Lat:18.153690, Long:-66.872440

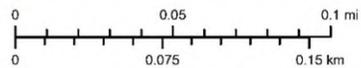
Area of Potential Effect

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  Area of Potential Effect (15 Mts.)
-  01631-Storage Warehouse
-  Parcel-01631
-  CRIM_PARCELS



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.cimpr.net/cdprpc/>

Applicant: Domingo Oliveras Pérez

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631

City: Maricao

Project (PR-RGRW-01631) Location - Aerial Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Carretera, Edificio 1, Suite 200, Calle Pinarillo 554, Arroyo, San Juan, P.R. 00929 Tel: (787) 703-0290

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01631

Domingo Oliveras Pérez
Bo. Indiera Seta Parc. 28,
Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
Maricao, PR 00606
Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
Lat:18.153690, Long:-66.872440

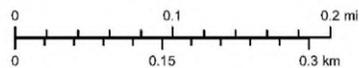
Location: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- Parcel-01631
- CRIM_PARCELS



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



1:5,000

Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpci/>



Applicant: Domingo Oliveras Pérez

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631

City: Maricao

Project (PR-RGRW-01631) Location - USGS Topographic Map

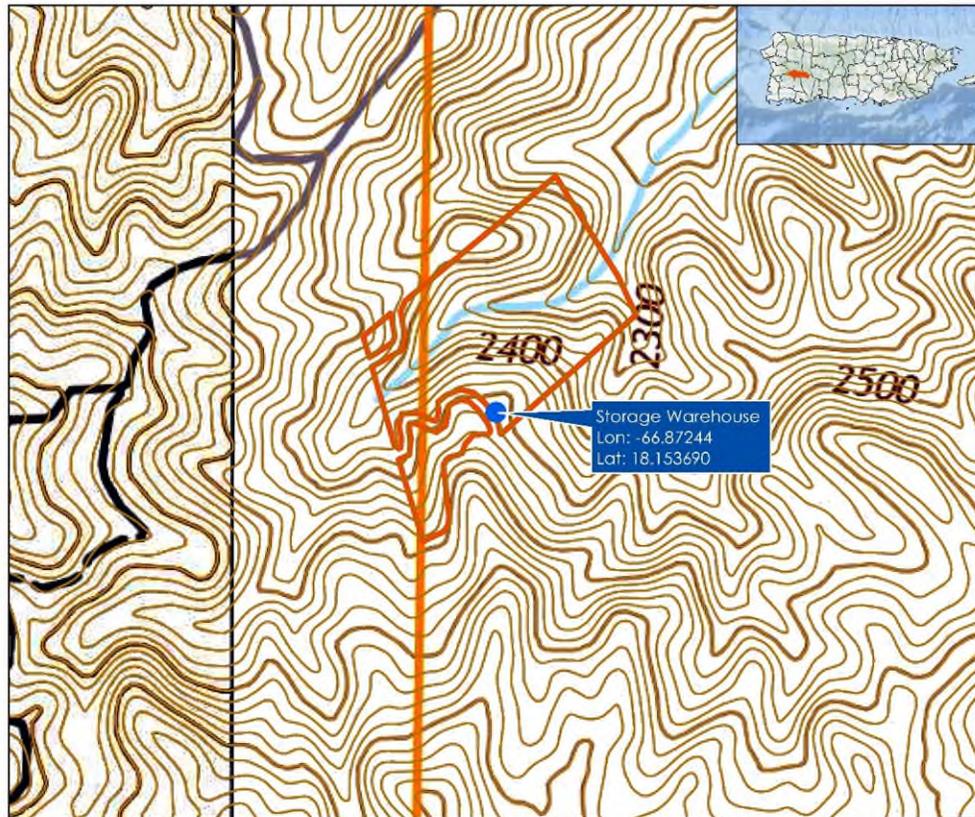


Location: USGS Topographic Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01631

Domingo Oliveras Pérez
Bo. Indiera Seta Parc. 28,
Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
Maricao, PR 00606
Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
Lat:18.153690, Long:-66.872440



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- Contour Interval 20 Feet
- Parcel-01631

Quadrangle: Monte Guilarte

0 0.1 0.2 mi

0 0.15 0.3 km

Service Layer Credit: Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA
NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



1:5,000

Source

United States Geological Survey (USGS)
National Geologic Map Database
https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ngmdb/ngmdb_home.html



Applicant: Domingo Oliveras Pérez

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631

City: Maricao

Project (PR-RGRW-01631) Location – Soils Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Corporación 1 Soñar J-3, Calle Maricao 554, Maricao, San Juan, PR, 00923 TEL: (787) 753-0290

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01631

Domingo Oliveras Pérez
Bo. Indiera Seta Parc. 28,
Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
Maricao, PR 00606
Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
Lat:18.153690, Long:-66.872440

Soils Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

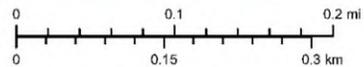


Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- Parcel-01631
- Soil Map Unit Symbol

Soil Map Unit Symbol

- HmF2 - Humatas clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes
- LuF2 - Los Guineos clay, 20 to 60 percent slopes, eroded
- CwF - Cuchillas silty clay loam, 20 to 60 percent slopes
- CoF2 - Consumo clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes
- CoE - Consumo clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes
- MwF2 - Morado clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA nGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



1:5,000

Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/odppec/>

Applicant: Domingo Oliveras Pérez

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631

City: Maricao

Project (PR-RGRW-01631) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map

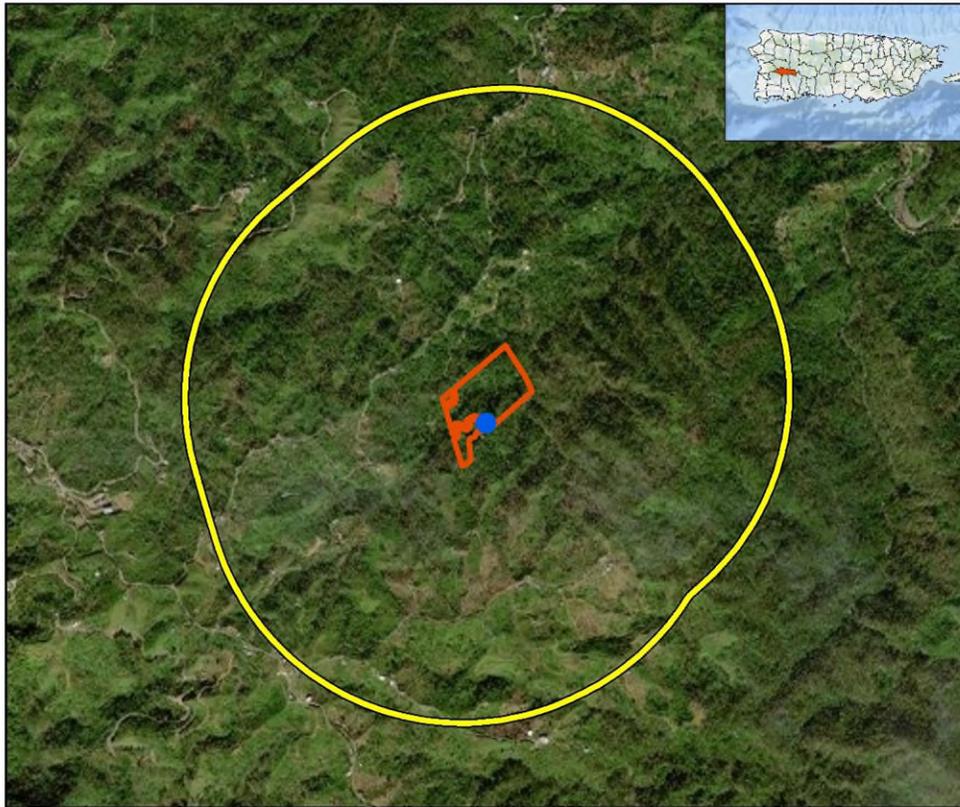
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
COND. YBARRA Y SUAREZ, CALLE PRINCIPAL 154, ANILLOS, SAN JUAN, P.R. 00920 TEL:787-753-0590

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01631

Domingo Oliveras Pérez
Bo. Indiera Seta Parc. 28,
Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
Maricao, PR 00606
Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
Lat:18.153690, Long:-66.872440

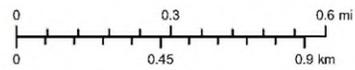
Previous Investigations: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- 0.5 Mile (0.8Km) Buffer
- Parcel-01631



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRM)
<http://catastro.mpr.net/codpca/>

Applicant: Domingo Oliveras Pérez

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631

City: Maricao

Project (PR-RGRW-01631) Location with Previously Investigation - USGS Topographic Map

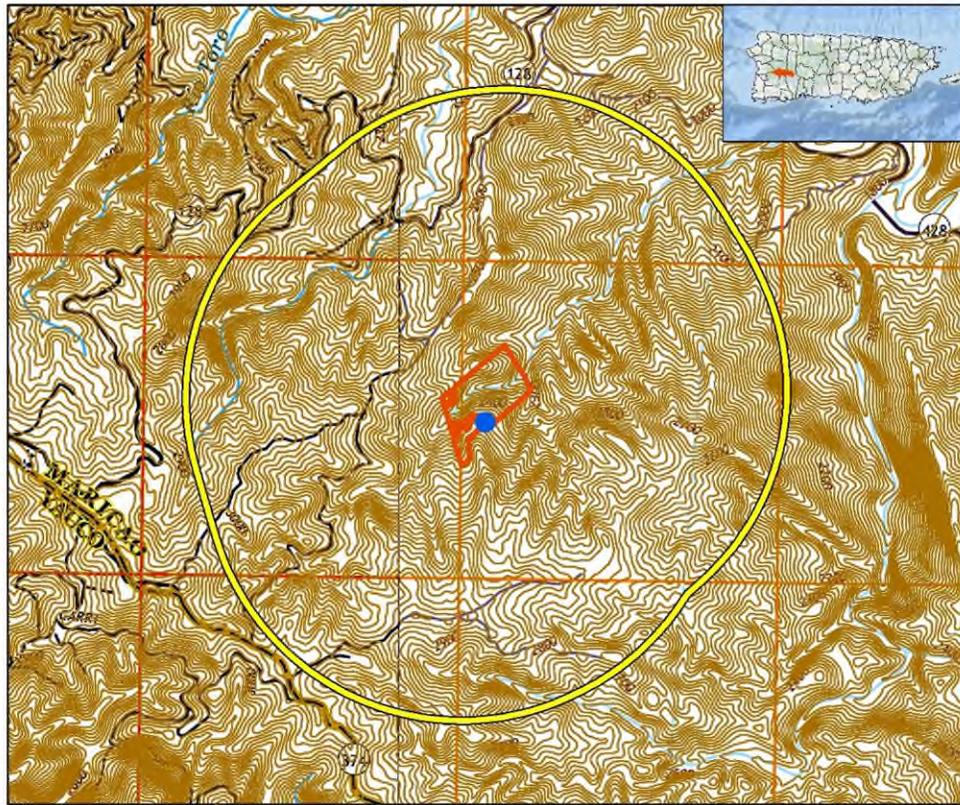
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
CORP. COMPANY 10000-A-03, CARRETERA PRINCIPAL, SAN JUAN, P.R. 00903 (301)757-0500

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01631

Domingo Oliveras Pérez
Bo. Indiera Seta Parc. 28,
Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
Maricao, PR 00606
Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
Lat:18.153690, Long:-66.872440

Previous Investigations: USGS Topographic Map

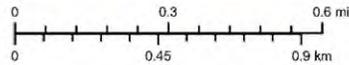
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- 0.5 Mile (0.8Km) Buffer
- Parcel-01631
- Contour Interval 20 Feet

Quadrangle: Monte Guillarte



Service Layer Credits: Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA, NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



Source

United States Geological Survey (USGS)
National Geologic Map Database
https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ngmdb/ngmdb_home.html

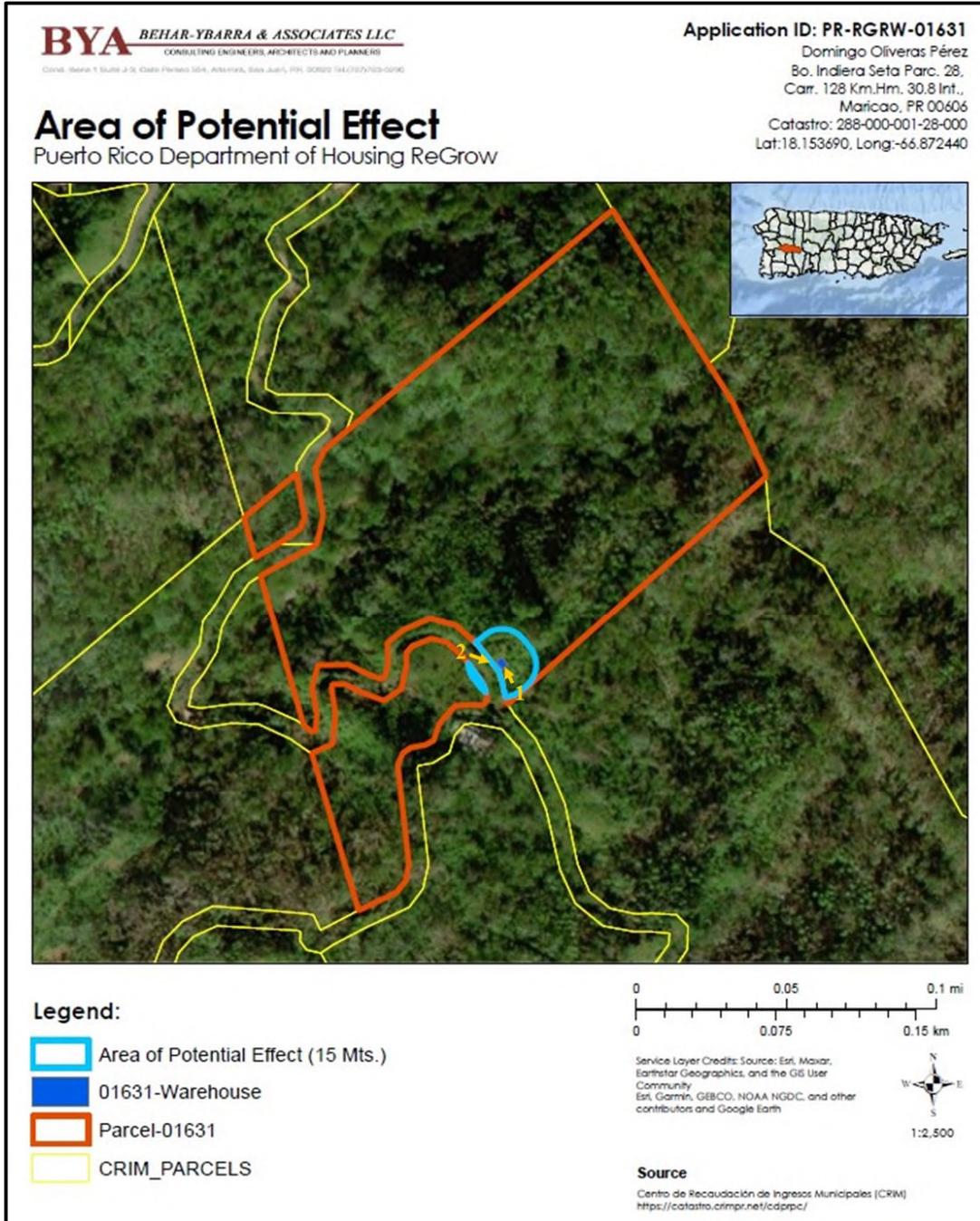


Applicant: Domingo Oliveras Pérez

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631

City: Maricao

Photograph Key





Applicant: Domingo Oliveras Pérez

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01631

City: Maricao



Photo #:1

Description (include direction): Area where the storage warehouse will be installed, looking northwest.

Date: March 22, 2024



Photo #:2

Description (include direction): Area where the storage warehouse will be installed, looking southeast.

Date: March 22, 2024



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' or similar initials, written over the printed name.

Juan C. Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng

Director of Disaster Recovery

CDBG DR-MIT

Appendix 2: Puerto Rico Nonattainment/ Maintenance Status for each count by year for all pollutants



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 March 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/m³) 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:

Important Notes

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

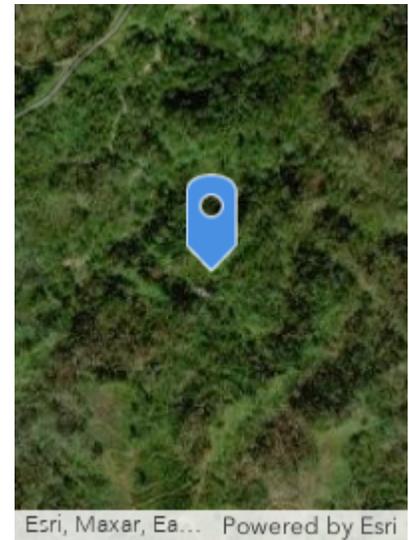
County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or Part County	Population (2010)	State/County FIPS Codes
PUERTO RICO								
Arecibo Municipio	Lead (2008)	Arecibo, PR	11121314151617181920212223	//		Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	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

Appendix 3: Site Inspection Report and EJScreen Community Report

APPLICANT/LOCATION INFORMATION

Applicant ID:	PR-RGRW-01631
Applicant Name:	Domingo Oliveras Perez
Parcel ID:	288-000-001-28-000
Latitude:	18.153690
Longitude:	-66.872440
Street Address:	BO INDIERA SETA PARC 28, CARR 128 KM.HM 30.8 INT
Municipio:	Maricao
Zip Code:	00606
Site Inspector:	Egon A Gonzalez
Date of Visit:	March 15, 2024
Time of Visit:	10:38
Building Type:	Warehouse



FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Question	Answer	Notes
A. Is the structure in use?	No	
B. Is the structure a greenhouse?	No	
C. Is Electricity connected? (Utilities or Well)	No	
D. Is water connected? (Utilities or Well)	No	
1. Are there signs of poor housekeeping on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, strom debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.)	No	
2. Are there any 55-gallon drums visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	No	
3. Are there any (or signs of any) underground storage tanks on the property?	No	
4. Are there signs of AST on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	No	
5. Is there any stained soil or pavement on the parcel?	No	
6. Is a water drainage system in use?	No	
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of Fertilizer or Pesticides?	No	
8. Are there any groundwater monitoring wells on the site or adjacent parcel?	No	
9. Is there evidence of a faulty septic system?	No	
10. Is there distressed vegetation on the parcel?	No	
11. Is there any visible indication of mold?	No	
12. Is there any visible evidence of asbestos, chipping, and flaking or peeling paint, or hazardous materials present in or on the structure?	No	
13. Are any additional site hazards observed?	No	
14. Is there any permanent standing water, such as a pond or stream, located on the site(do not include ponding from recent rain / weather events)?	Yes	There is a stream in property
15. Does the subject property have water frontage?	No	
16. Is there any indication of the presence of wetlands?	No	
17. Are there any obvious signs of animals or birds nesting on or near the site?	No	
18. Is the applicant aware of any significant historcal event or persons associated with the structure, or of it being located in a historic district/ area?	No	
19. Is a historic marker present?	No	

Front of Structure

Photo Direction:

Comments: Warehouse for tools, fertilizer and pesticides. Dimension: 12ftx16ft



Facing Away from Front

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Back of Structure

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Facing Away from Back

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Side #2 of Structure

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Facing Away from Side #2

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Streetscape #1

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Streetscape #2

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Address

Photo Direction:

Comments: Structure wil not have electricity but is easily accessible for a later time



Architectural Details 1

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Stream near property



Architectural Details 2

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Overview



Architectural Details 3

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Plantain, coffee, bananas



Architectural Details 4

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Overview



Architectural Details 5

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Overview



Architectural Details 6

Photo Direction:

Photo Description:

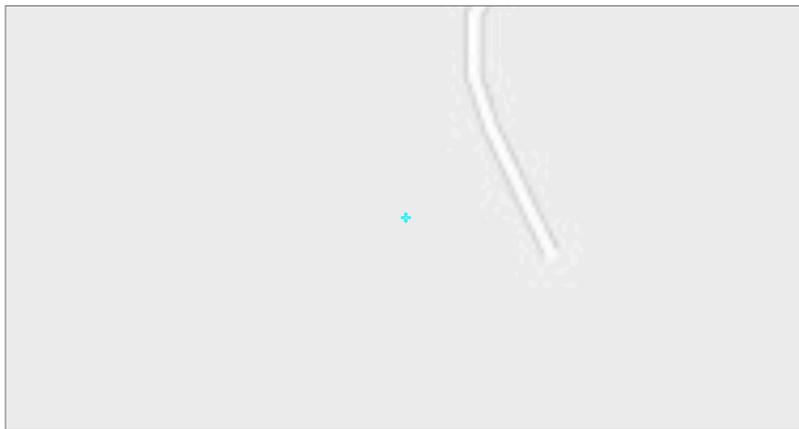


EJScreen Community Report

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

Maricao Municipio, PR

1 mile Ring Centered at 18.153689,-66.872441
 Population: 366
 Area in square miles: 3.14

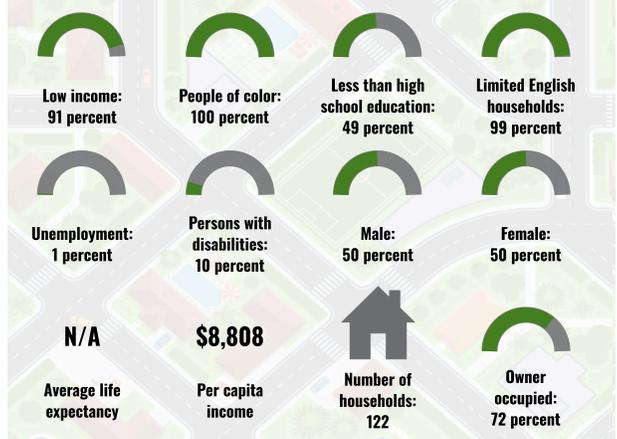


July 10, 2024
 Search Result (point)
 1:1,128
 0 0.01 0.02 0.05 mi
 0 0.02 0.04 0.08 km
Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community. Map, HTML, design, GeoTechniques, Inc., USA

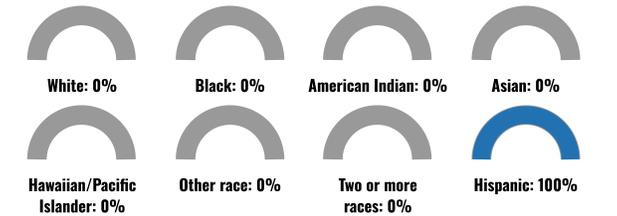
LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	1%
Spanish	99%
Total Non-English	99%

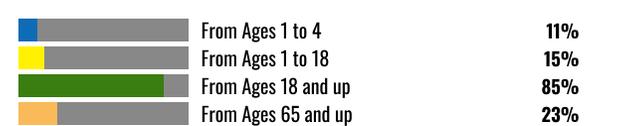
COMMUNITY INFORMATION



BREAKDOWN BY RACE



BREAKDOWN BY AGE



LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



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.

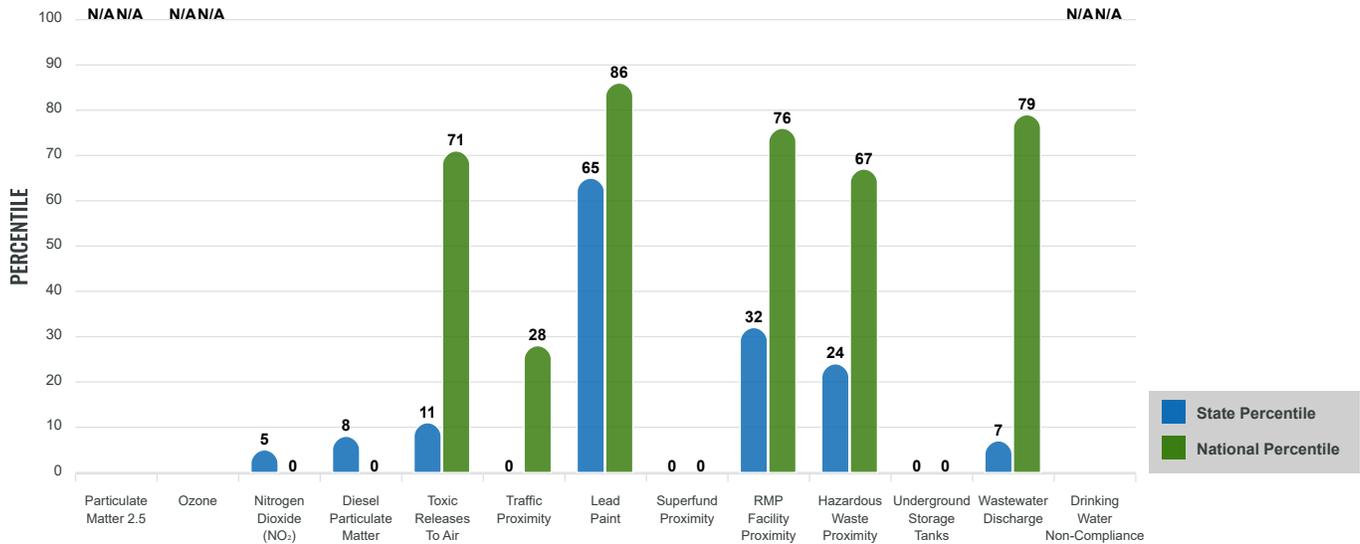
Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

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.

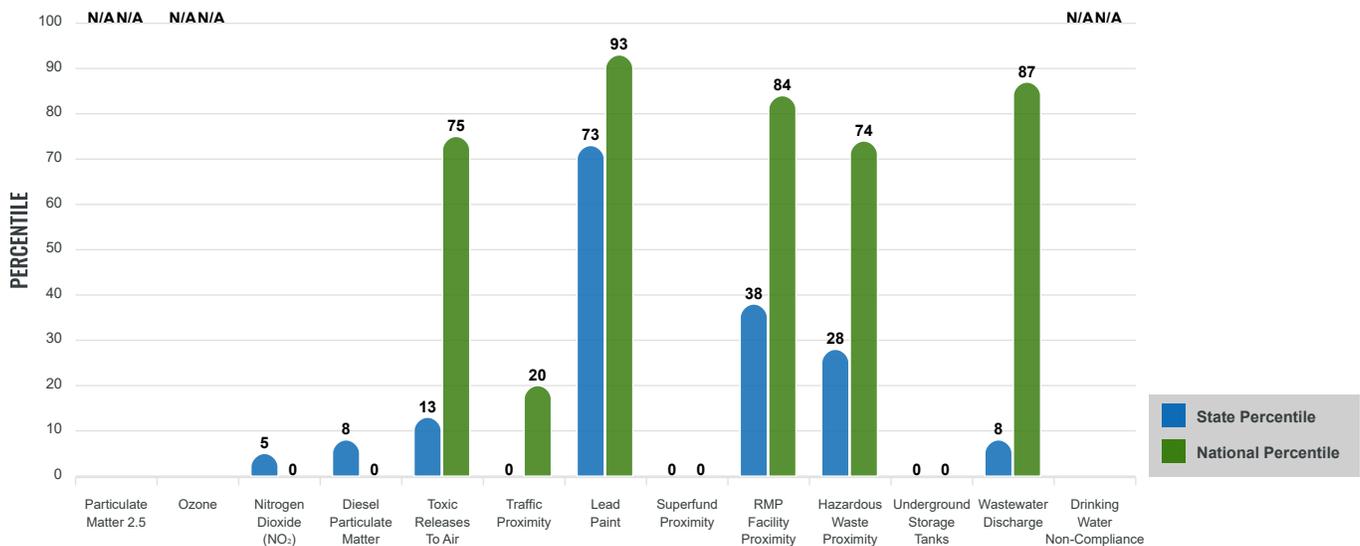
EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



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 Centered at 18.153689,-66.872441

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
ENVIRONMENTAL BURDEN INDICATORS					
Particulate Matter 2.5 (µg/m ³)	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.45	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	41	N/A
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂) (ppbv)	1.1	5.5	4	7.8	0
Diesel Particulate Matter (µg/m ³)	0.0126	0.0618	7	0.191	0
Toxic Releases to Air (toxicity-weighted concentration)	97	4,300	10	4,600	23
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	15,000	1,100,000	0	1,700,000	5
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.13	0.16	59	0.3	39
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0	0.23	0	0.39	0
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.093	0.66	29	0.57	30
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.18	1.2	21	3.5	22
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	0	0	0	3.6	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	5.1	670000	6	700000	31
Drinking Water Non-Compliance (points)	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.2	N/A
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index USA	3.72	N/A	N/A	1.34	99
Supplemental Demographic Index USA	5.06	N/A	N/A	1.64	99
Demographic Index State	5.2	4.63	86	N/A	N/A
Supplemental Demographic Index State	3.44	2.72	84	N/A	N/A
People of Color	100%	97%	31	40%	98
Low Income	91%	70%	85	30%	99
Unemployment Rate	1%	14%	0	6%	24
Limited English Speaking Households	99%	66%	99	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	49%	20%	98	11%	98
Under Age 5	11%	3%	96	5%	89
Over Age 64	23%	23%	53	18%	74

*Diesel particulate matter index is 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. 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	0
Air Pollution	0
Brownfields	0
Toxic Release Inventory	0

Other community features within defined area:

Schools	1
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 Centered at 18.153689,-66.872441

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	5.8	N/A
Asthma	N/A	N/A	N/A	10.3	N/A
Cancer	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.4	N/A
Persons with Disabilities	7.1%	22.7%	1	13.7%	11

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	85%	29%	99	13%	99
Lack of Health Insurance	1%	7%	1	9%	3
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access Burden	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 Centered at 18.153689,-66.872441
Report produced using EJScreen

Appendix 4: USFWS Informal Consultation and supporting documentation



July 22, 2024

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 491
Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622
Email: caribbean@es@fws.gov

**Re: Puerto Rico Department of Housing / Re-Grow Program
Domingo Oliveras Pérez | PR-RGRW-01631
Effect Determination Acceptance**

To whom it may concern:

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) acknowledges receipt of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service correspondence dated on April 4, 2024 for the project PR-RGRW-01631. According to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), PRDOH confirms the acceptance to the reconsideration of the No Effect (NE) determination for the Puerto Rican Boa a May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA) determination, as well as the implementation of the pertinent conservation measures for the Puerto Rican Boa and the Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly.

As it is stated, with this communication, the PRDOH completes its responsibility under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the Services' requirements for concurrence.

Should you need additional information, do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Permits and Environmental Compliance Division
Disaster recovery Office
environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov | (787)274-2527 ext. 4320

From: [Roman, Damaris](#)
To: [environmentcdbg](#)
Cc: [Ninotchka Rodriguez-Camacho](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-01631 Domingo Oliveras Pérez
Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 1:07:24 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

To whom it may concern:

This email is to acknowledge receipt of PRDOH letter confirming the acceptance of the Service the changes in effect determination for the PR boa from NE to NLAA and the implementation of the PR harlequin butterfly and PR boa conservation measures provided by the Service on May 22, 2024 for the PRDOH consultation of April 04, 2024. Keep this email for your records.

Thanks

**** If you need assistance, please contact me at emails or mobile below. If you are sending a request for technical assistance or Section 7 consultation, please contact us at Caribbean_es@fws.gov****

Need a project evaluation? Please visit our [Consultation Guidelines](#) website.

Cordially,

Damaris Román Ruiz

*Biological Science Technician
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Caribbean Ecological Service Field Office
P.O Box 491/Road 301 km 5.1
Boqueron PR 00622*

*Office Park I
Suite 303
State Road #2, Km 156.5
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*Office Desk Phone (939) 320-3135
Mobile (786) 244-0081
damaris_roman@fws.gov
caribbean_es@fws.gov*

Office Homepage: <https://www.fws.gov/southeast/caribbean/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USFWSCaribbean?ref=hl>

Flicker: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwssoutheast/sets/72157626859158391/>

From: environmentcdbg <environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 10:56 AM

To: Caribbean ES, FW4 <Caribbean_ES@fws.gov>

Cc: Roman, Damaris <damaris_roman@fws.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-01631 Domingo Oliveras Pérez

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

To whom it may concern:

In order to complete the environmental review process, attached please find a letter of acceptance by PRDOH regarding the case PR-RGRW-01631 for the CDBG-DR Re-Grow PR Urban-Rural Agriculture Program. This document contains the confirmation of the implementation of the conservation measures regarding this case.

Should you need additional information, do not hesitate to contact our office.

Cordially,

Permits and Environmental Compliance Division

Disaster Recovery Office

environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov | 787.274.2527

Visit us: recuperacion.pr.gov

Contact us: infocdbg@vivienda.pr.gov

**DEPARTAMENTO DE LA
VIVIENDA**



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From: Roman, Damaris <damaris_roman@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 11:06 AM
To: Juan C. Perez-Bofill <jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov>
Cc: environmentcdbg <environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov>
Subject: Re: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-01631 Domingo Oliveras Pérez

Mr. Pérez

Recall previous message. See attached file regarding the referenced project. Should you have any question contact us at caribbean_es@fws.gov

Thanks

**** If you need assistance, please contact me at emails or mobile below. If you are sending a request for technical assistance or Section 7 consultation, please contact us at Caribbean_es@fws.gov****

Need a project evaluation? Please visit our [Consultation Guidelines](#) website.

Cordially,

Damaris Román Ruiz

*Biological Science Technician
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*Office Homepage: <https://www.fws.gov/southeast/caribbean/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USFWSCaribbean?ref=hl>
Flicker: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwssoutheast/sets/72157626859158391/>*

From: Roman, Damaris

Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 10:20 AM

To: jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov <jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov>

Cc: environmentcdbg <environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov>; allison.cullet@horne.com <allison.cullet@horne.com>

Subject: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-01631 Domingo Oliveras Pérez

Mr. Pérez

See attached files regarding the referenced project. Should you have any question contact us at caribbean_es@fws.gov

Thanks

**** If you need assistance, please contact me at emails or mobile below. If you are sending a request for technical assistance or Section 7 consultation, please contact us at Caribbean_es@fws.gov****

Need a project evaluation? Please visit our [Consultation Guidelines](#) website.

Cordially,

Damaris Román Ruiz

*Biological Science Technician
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Caribbean Ecological Service Field Office
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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USFWSCaribbean?ref=hl>

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United States Department of the Interior

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



In Reply Refer to:
FWS/R4/CESFO/72093-Gen

Submitted Via Electronic Mail: 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-01631 Domingo
Oliveras Pérez, Maricao, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated April 04, 2024, requesting informal 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 purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse that will be installed on four concrete supports (1.5 x 1.5 feet) and will be anchored two feet deep, therefore it will require ground disturbance. The proposed project will be located at State Road PR-128, Km. 30.8 Int, Bo. Indiera Seta (18°09'13.3"N 66°52'20.8"W) in the municipality of Maricao.

Using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system, the PRDOH has determined that the proposed project site is located within the range of Puerto Rican boa (*Epicrates inornatus* now known as *Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*), Puerto Rican parrot (*Amazona vittata*), Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus venator*) and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*).

PRDOH used the Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project on federally listed species (Project code: 2024-0064437). Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk, which determined that the proposed actions for this project would have "No Effect" (NE) for these species. The Service

acknowledges receipt of the NE DKey consistency letter for the Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk.

As for the Puerto Rican boa, since ground disturbance will occur, the Service believes that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) this species. Therefore, the NE consistency letter obtained using the DKey for the Puerto Rican boa is nullified. Thus, the Service recommends PRDOH to reconsider its NE determination for this species to a NLAA and implement the following Puerto Rican boa 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 project 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. If a PR boa is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded (see #5). 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: (787) 999-2200 ext. 2911. If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities at that 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.
5. 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.
6. If a PR boa is captured by PRDNER personnel, record the name of that person and information on where the PR boa will be taken. This information should be reported to the Service.
7. 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 #4). If not possible, the animals should be left alone until it leaves the vehicle on its own.

8. 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.
9. If a dead PR boa is found, immediately cease all work in that area and record the information accordingly (see #5). 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 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.
10. 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:

- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Program Coordinator
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov
 - Office phone (305) 304-1386
- Jan Zegarra, Fish and Wildlife Biologist
 - Email: jan_zegarra@fws.gov
 - Office phone (786) 933-1451

Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available and existing habitat, the PRDOH has determined that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican parrot since the project location is 15.9 Km from the Maricao State Forest and the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly since the project area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 20 years.

We have reviewed the information provided and our files, and concur with PRDOH's determination that the proposed actions may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican parrot. Regarding the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly the Service concurs with PRDOH's NLAA determination if PRDOH agrees to implement the following conservation measures for this species:

1. The contractor must inform all personnel about the potential presence of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly or its occupied host plant "prickly bush" (*Oplonia spinosa*) in the project areas. A pre-work meeting should inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming this butterfly and its occupied host plant. Educational material (e.g., posters, flyers

or signs with photos or illustrations of all the life stages of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (i.e., eggs, caterpillar, chrysalids and adult, and its host plant) should be prepared and available to all personnel for reference.

2. Before starting any project activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movement, the contractor must clearly delineate the boundaries of the working area in the field to avoid unnecessary habitat impacts. Once the project areas are clearly marked, and before any work activity, including site preparation, personnel with knowledge and ability to identify the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (all life stages) and the “prickly bush” must survey the areas where the work will be performed for the presence of the species and its host plant. It is important to note that the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly can be observed year-round in all its life stages; thus, oviposition (egg-laying) may occur at any time during the year.
3. If the “prickly bush” is present on the project site, try to avoid cutting it off, even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
4. If there is no prickly bush within the project area, and the butterfly is observed flying within the project area, do not harass, harm, pursue, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct, the species.
5. Adult butterflies are often observed flying near the host plant as part of their mating behavior and laying eggs. Project-related activities must stop if the prickly bush is found in the project area and the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly is observed flying in that same area. A temporary 50-meter (164 feet) buffer zone of no activity or human disturbance should be established and clearly marked around that prickly bush until the butterfly moves out on its own.
6. Once the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly has moved away, within a period of 24 to 36 hours, a search of the prickly bush that has been buffered should be conducted to determine the presence of any eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids of the butterfly on the plant. The contractor or the Applicant should send a report of the observation and its findings to caribbean_es@fws.gov after the 36-hour search is concluded.
7. If, after the initial search or after the 24 to 36-hour search, any life stage of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly is found in the prickly bush, take the following actions:
 - Clearly mark the host plant with flagging tape.
 - Establish a 10-meter (32-foot) buffer zone around the bush to protect it.
 - Eggs are typically found on the prickly bush's newly grown, tender branches. Once an egg hatches, the caterpillar moves and feeds throughout the bush. Therefore, avoid cutting off the prickly bush within the project site even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
 - Work within the 10-meter buffered area may resume when no signs of any live life stage of the butterfly are detected, which usually takes approximately 60 to 120 days.

8. For all Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly sightings (all life stages), the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where the butterfly was found must be recorded. Data should also include a photo of the butterfly (if possible) and the habitat where it was observed, site GPS coordinates, and comments on how the butterfly was detected and its behavior. All Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly sighting reports should be sent to the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Service Field Office at caribbean_es@fws.gov.
9. For questions regarding the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, the Point of Contacts are:

José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator:

- Mobile: 305-304-1386
- Office phone: 786-244-0081
- Office Direct Line: 939-320-3120
- Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov

This consultation will be completed once we receive PRHOD's confirmation of the NLAA determination for the Puerto Rican boa as well as the implementation of the above mentioned conservation measures for the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly and Puerto Rican boa.

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 or by phone at (786) 244-0081.

Sincerely,

**ROBERT
TAWES** Digitally signed by
ROBERT TAWES
Date: 2024.05.22
20:36:51 -04'00'

Robert Tawes
Acting Field Supervisor

drr

cc:
Allison Cullet, allison.cullet@horne.com

April 2, 2024

Robert Tawes
Division Supervisor, Environmental Review
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Southeast Regional Office
1875 Century Boulevard
Atlanta, GA 30345
email: robert_tawes@fws.gov

RE: Informal Consultation for Case PR-RGRW-01631 located at B.o Indiera Seta Parc 28, Carr 128 Km. Hm 30.8 Int, Maricao, PR 00606.

Dear Mr. Tawes:

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing is requiring 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-01631, located at coordinates for the new storage warehouse: latitude 18.153690, longitude -66.872440 on Bo Indiera Seta Parc 28, Carr 128 Km. Hm 30.8 INT, Maricao, PR 00606, see Figure 1: Location Map and Figure 2: Topographic Map. The 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 inland wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities.

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-01631 consist of the purchase and construction of a 12 x 16 feet storage warehouse. The storage warehouse will be installed on four concrete supports that will measure 1.5 x 1.5 feet and will be anchored two feet deep, so it will require ground disturbance. New Electricity or water connection will not be necessary for the storage warehouse. The purpose of the new structure is to store agricultural equipment. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area for the proposed activities has been used for agricultural purposes for over 20 years. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) has been defined as the area potentially impacted by ground disturbing activities related to the installation of the storage warehouse, see Figure 3: Area of Potential Effect.

Existing Conditions and Trends:

The proposed project parcel 288-000-001-28-000 is designated as Not Prime Farmland, See Figure 4: Farmland Protection Map. The project area is located in the mountainous area of Maricao. The area where the storage warehouse will be placed has a semi-flat topography, refer to Photo 1 and Photo 2. The terrain needs to be leveled, which means some coffee and plantain trees will need to be removed. The soil in the area has been classified as Humatas clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes (HmF2). This soil is deep, very steep, and well drained. The land has been used for agricultural uses for more than 20 years and the proposed project will not change the land use associated with these placements. The closer Final Critical Habitat is located 17,650 feet from the project location, see Figure 5: Critical Habitats Map. Approximately 290 feet from the proposed project there is an unnamed creek, see Figure 6: Wetlands Map.

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

Name of species	Threatened/Endangered/Candidate
Reptiles	
Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered
Birds	
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	Endangered
Insects	
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (<i>Atlantea tulita</i>)	Threatened
Critical Habitat	
There are no critical habitats within the project area.	

The nature of the project, scope of work, information available, a careful analysis of the IPaC, the Puerto Rico Boa conservation measures, the Caribbean Dkey dated March 18, 2024, in the US Fish and Wildlife Service’s online IPaC application, and the observations during the field visit, were used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species from this project. Based on that information and the answer inputted into the Dkey, it was determined that the proposed action will have “No Effect” determination on the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk and Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk, see Exhibit B. Based on the location of the project it was determined that the proposed action will have NLAA for the parrot that is located at a distance of 15.9 km from the Maricao State Forest.

Name of the species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures that will be implemented
Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	No Effect (NE)	No conservation measures
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	No Effect (NE)	No conservation measures
Puerto Rican Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	No conservation measures
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	No Effect (NE)	No conservation measures
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (<i>Atlantea tulita</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	No conservation measures
Critical Habitats		

There are no critical habitats within the project area.

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NLAA determination for the Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly and Puerto Rican Parrot. Attached to this letter, we are including the documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species. Should you require any additional information, please contact Allison Cullett at allison.cullett@horne.com.

References:

Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*)

Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628>

USFWS Puerto Rican boa Conservation Measures

Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunescens*)

Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512>

Puerto Rican Parrot (*Amazona vittata*)

Species profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067>

Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus venator*)

Species profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/604>

Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*)

Species profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9005>

Exhibit A: Figures

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01631

Domingo Oliveras Pérez
Bo. Indiera Seta Parc. 28,
Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
Maricao, PR 00606
Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
Lat:18.153690, Long:-66.872440

Location: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- ▭ Parcel-01631
- ▭ CRIM_PARCELS



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



1:5,000

Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdppcc/>

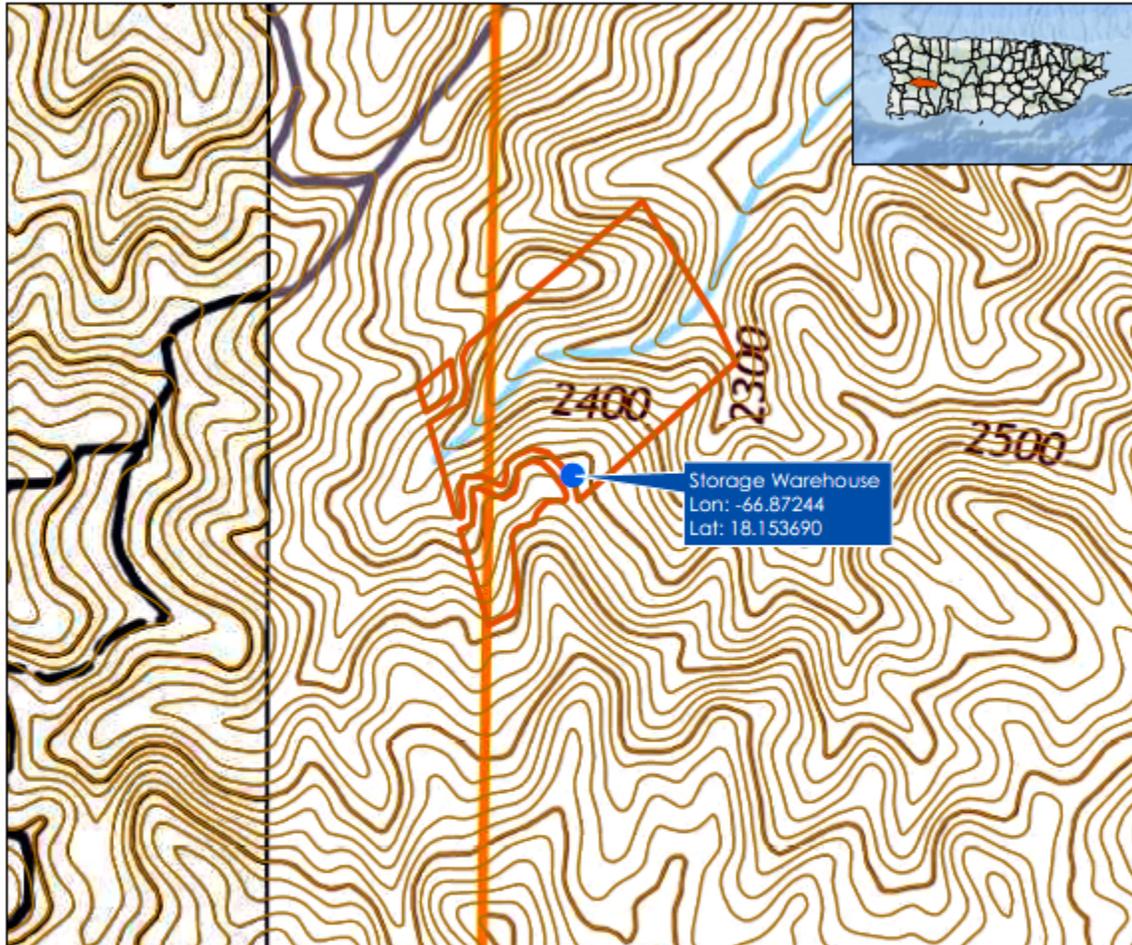
Figure 1: PR-RGRW-01631 Location Map

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01631

Domingo Oliveras Pérez
Bo. Indiera Seta Parc. 28,
Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
Maricao, PR 00606
Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
Lat: 18.153690, Long: -66.872440

Location: USGS Topographic Map

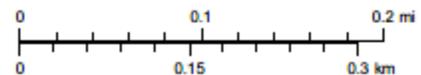
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01631
- Contour Interval 20 Feet
- ▭ Parcel-01631

Quadrangle: Monte Guilarte



Service Layer Credits: Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA
NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



Source

United States Geological Survey (USGS)
National Geologic Map Database
https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ngmdb/ngmdb_home.html

Figure 2: PR-RGRW-01631 Topographic Map

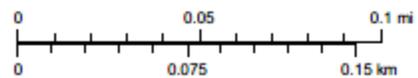
Area of Potential Effect

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

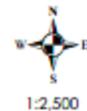


Legend:

-  Area of Potential Effect (15 Mts.)
-  01631-Storage Warehouse
-  Parcel-01631
-  CRIM_PARCELS



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



Source

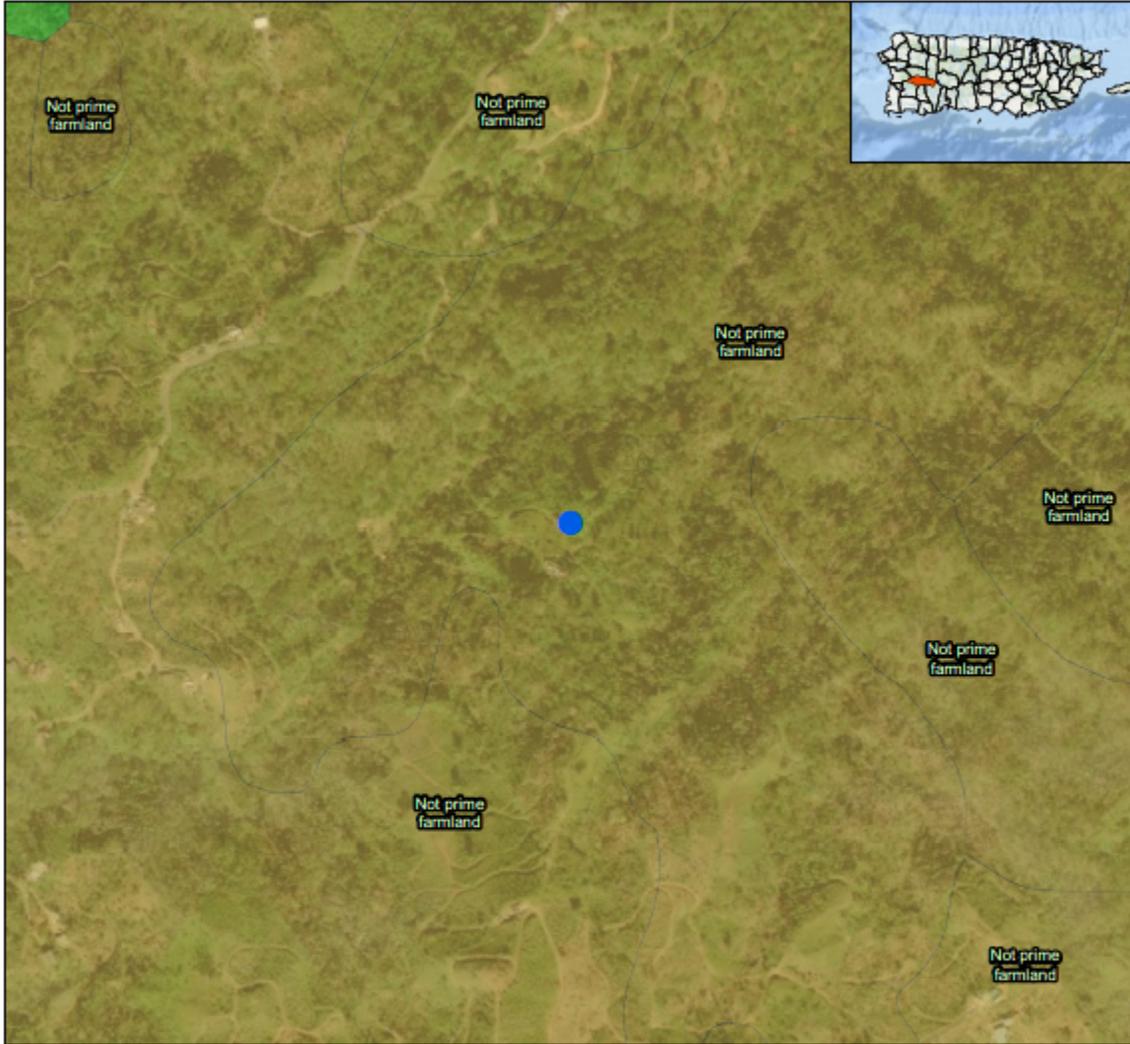
Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdpprc/>

Figure 3: PR-RGRW-01631 Area of Potential Effect Map

Domingo Oliveras Pérez
Bo. Indiera Seta Parc. 28,
Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
Maricao, PR 00606
Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
Lat:18.153690, Long:-66.872440

Farmland Protection

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



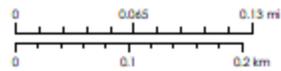
Legend:

 PR-RGRW-01631

Farm Class

 Farmland of statewide importance

 Not prime farmland



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Gridded Soil Survey Geographic Database (gSSURGO)
<https://data.nrcs.usda.gov/dataset/soil-survey-geographic-database-surgo>



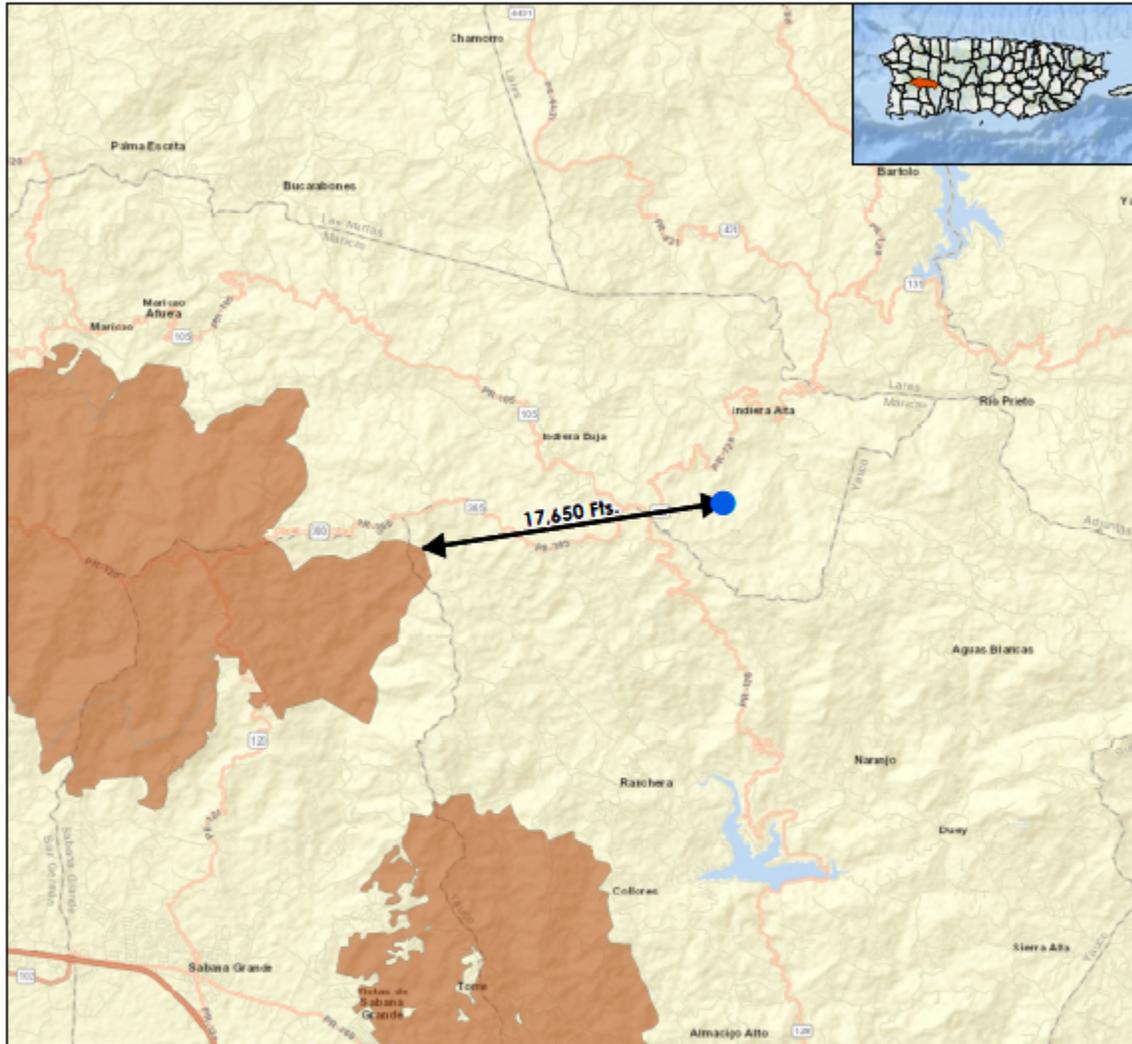
1:5,000

Figure 4: PR-RGRW-01631 Farmland Protection Map

Domingo Oliveras Pérez
Bo. Indiera Seta Parc. 28,
Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
Maricao, PR 00606
Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
Lat:18.153690, Long:-66.872440

Threatened & Endangered Species

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

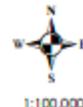
- PR-RGRW-01631
- Critical Habitat



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), Swisstopo, Mapbox, OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

NOAA Office of Response and Restoration
<https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/>



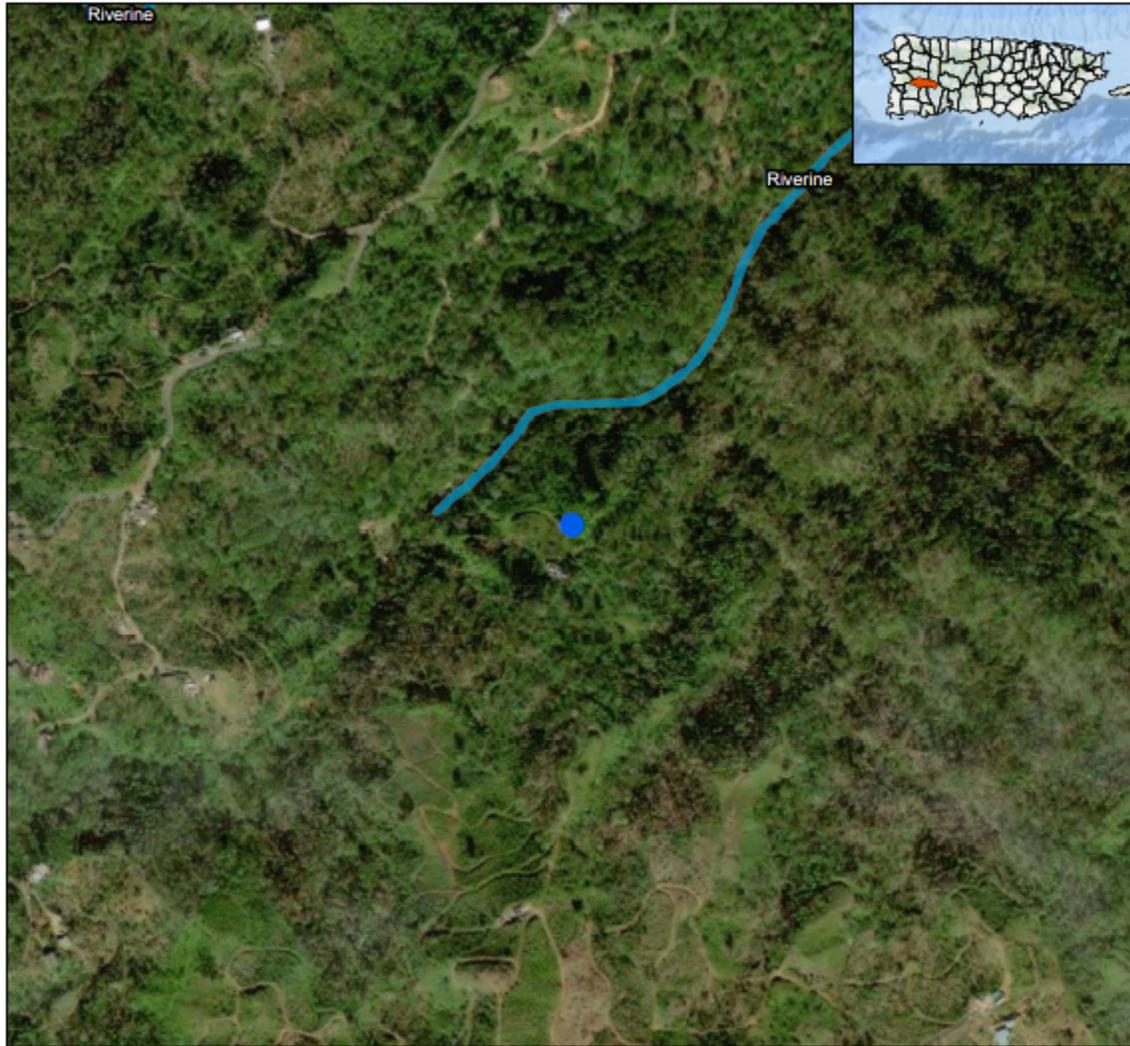
1:100,000

Figure 5: PR-RGRW-01631 Critical Habitats Map

Domingo Oliveras Pérez
Bo. Indiera Seta Parc. 28,
Carr. 128 Km.Hm. 30.8 Int.,
Maricao, PR 00606
Catastro: 288-000-001-28-000
Lat: 18.153690, Long:-66.872440

Wetlands Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

● PR-RGRW-01631

National Wetlands Inventory

■ Riverine



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - National Wetlands Inventory
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory>



1:5,000

Figure 6: PR-RGRW-01631 Wetlands Map

Exhibit B: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Post Office Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491
Phone: (939) 320-3135 Fax: (787) 851-7440
Email Address: CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV

In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2024-0064437
Project Name: PR-RGRW-01631

03/18/2024 19:48:13 UTC

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through IPaC by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)

(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at: <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see [Migratory Bird Permit | What We Do | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \(fws.gov\)](#).

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(939) 320-3135

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0064437

Project Name: PR-RGRW-01631

Project Type: New Constr - Above Ground

Project Description: The proposed project includes the purchase and construction of a new storage warehouse structure.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.1540562,-66.87227559752812,14z>



Counties: Maricao County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 5 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [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.

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot <i>Amazona vittata</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk <i>Accipiter striatus venator</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/604	Endangered

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/UPZS3GXRWRB3NL3QWUUBE2NBIY/documents/generated/7159.pdf	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly <i>Atlantea tulita</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9005 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/UPZS3GXRWRB3NL3QWUUBE2NBIY/documents/generated/7168.pdf	Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Post Office Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491
Phone: (939) 320-3135 Fax: (787) 851-7440
Email Address: CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV

In Reply Refer To:
Project code: 2024-0064437
Project Name: PR-RGRW-01631

03/18/2024 19:49:05 UTC

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-01631' for specified threatened and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On March 18, 2024, Egon Gonzalez used the Caribbean DKey; dated January 19, 2024, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-01631'. The project is located in Maricao County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.1540562,-66.87227559752812,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-01631':

The proposed project includes the purchase and construction of a new storage warehouse structure.

Based on your answers and the assistance of the Service's Caribbean DKey, you determined the proposed Action will have "No Effect" on the following species:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered	No effect
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	Endangered	No effect
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	Endangered	No effect

Thank you for informing the Service of your "No Effect" determination(s) for this project. No further consultation/coordination for this project is required for these species. However, be aware that reinitiation of consultation may be necessary if later modifications are made to the project so that it no longer meets the criteria or outcome described above, or if new information reveals effects of the action that could affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered, or if a new species is listed.

This letter serves as documentation of your consideration of the federally listed species as required under section 7 of the ESA. However, effects to the other federally listed species or critical habitat as listed below from the "IPaC print-out for the project" (see below) should be considered as part of your ESA review for the project.

The Service will notify you within 30 calendar days if we determine that this proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a "No Effect" (NE) determination for Federally listed species in the Caribbean. If we do not notify you within that timeframe, you may proceed with the Action under the terms of the NE concurrence provided here. This verification period allows the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office to apply local knowledge to evaluate the Action, as we may identify a small subset of actions having unanticipated impacts. In such instances, the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office may request additional information to verify the effects determination reached through the DKey.

Note: Projects located within the range of the Puerto Rican boa or the Virgin Islands tree boa might encounter these species during project activities. **This letter does not provide take to handle or move these species.** If relocation of the species is needed, please contact either the Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources (DNER) at 787-724-5700, 787-230-5550, or 787-771-1124 for projects in Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) at 340-775-6762 for projects in the Virgin Islands. Otherwise, contact the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office (caribbean_es@fws.gov) to determine whether the consultation needs to be reinitiated.

In addition to the species listed above, the following species and/or critical habitats may also occur in your project area and **are not** covered by this conclusion. Effects to the other federally listed species or critical habitat as listed below should be considered as part of your ESA review for the project.

- Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly *Atlantea tulita* Threatened
- Puerto Rican Parrot *Amazona vittata* Endangered

If the proposed project is located within species range where a DKey has not been developed for those species, please follow the established guidance for initiating section 7 consultation Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office.

We appreciate your interest in protecting endangered species and their habitats. It is the Service's mission to work with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of our people. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact our office at Caribbean_es@fws.gov.

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

PR-RGRW-01631

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-01631':

The proposed project includes the purchase and construction of a new storage warehouse structure.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.1540562,-66.87227559752812,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Is the proposed project an EPA Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) renewal for an existing project? ([MSGP Fact Sheet](#))

No

2. Is the proposed project within an urban developed area? (i.e., cities, downtowns, shopping malls etc.)

Note: Urban and developed areas has one or more of the following characteristics: Presence of existing buildings, residential areas, and commercial establishments. Well-established infrastructure including roads, utilities, and urban facilities. High population density. Established neighborhoods and urban amenities ("urbanizaciones"). Developed landscape with paved surfaces, parking lots, and industrial areas. Signs of human activity and urbanization, such as shopping centers and recreational facilities. Location within the boundaries of a city or town ("casco urbano"). High concentration of built-up structures and limited open spaces. Aerial imagery might be requested to the applicant. .

No

3. Does the proposed project consist of rehabilitation or demolition of existing single-family homes and buildings?

No

4. Does the proposed project consist of improvements to existing facilities?

Note: Examples of facilities are occupied single family homes, and buildings; existing recreational facilities, including the installation of roofs to existing basketball courts, etc.

No

5. Does the proposed project consist of repavement or repair of existing roads and installing transit signage or guardrails?

No

6. Does the proposed project consist of the construction of gutters and/or sidewalks along existing roads, and developments?

No

7. Does the proposed project consist of replacement or repair of existing bridges which include cutting vegetation or earth movement?

No

8. Does the proposed project consist of activities within existing Right of Ways (ROWs) along roads which include cutting vegetation or earth movement?

No

9. Is the proposed project located within a rural area covered by grassland (pasture lands "pastos")?

Yes

10. [Hidden Semantic] Does the proposed project intersect the Puerto Rican boa area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes

11. Does the proposed project intersect the Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes

12. Does the proposed project intersect the Puerto Rican Broad-winged hawk area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes

Exhibit C: Field Visit Photos



Photo #:1

Description (include direction): Area where the storage warehouse will be installed, looking northwest.

Date: March 22, 2024



Photo #:2

Description (include direction): Area where the storage warehouse will be installed, looking southeast.

Date: March 22, 2024



Transmittal Letter

July 23, 2024

To: José Luis Rivera Rivera
Deputy Director for Economic Recovery Grant Management
Re-Grow PR Urban Rural Agriculture Program

**Re: Endangered Species Concurrence - Conservation Measures Implementation
Domingo Oliveras Pérez | PR-RGRW-01631**

Dear Mr. Rivera:

This memorandum is to notify the Re-Grow PR Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (Re-Grow Program) that on April 4, 2024, for the case **PR-RGRW-01631**, the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division submitted 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 of the construction of a warehouse structure on 4 concrete supports, for Domingo Oliveras Pérez, an agricultural business, located at Bo Indiera, Seta Parc 28 Road, 128 km. hm 30.8 INT, Maricao PR 00606; coordinates 18.153690, -66.872440.

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

Name of Species	Status
Puerto Rican boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (Buteo platypterus brunnescens)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot (Amazona vittata)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (Accipiter striatus venator)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (Atlantea tulita)	Threatened

There were no Critical Habitats noted within the project area.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on May 22, 2024 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have **No Effect (NE)** on the Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk and Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk. Also, the PRDOH together with the USFWS have determined that the proposed project **May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)** the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Parrot and Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly.

The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4) if a Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (5) if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Conservation Measures and (6) a plant survey should be conducted prior to any construction activities occurring and if a species is identified as being endangered or threatened, the PR USFWS must be notified before any work commences.

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.

In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, **the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.**

In order to facilitate the species identification, please, find attached the Caribbean Endangered and Threatened Animals Fact Sheets for: Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk and Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly.

USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office key contact information:

- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator
Office phone (786) 244-0081 or mobile (305) 304-1386
Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov

Sincerely,

Permits and Environmental Compliance Division
Disaster Recovery Office
environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov
(787)274-2527 | ext. 4320

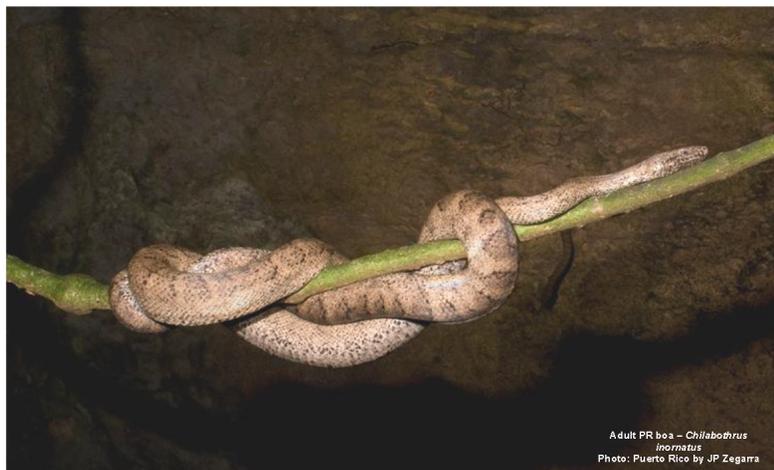


U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

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 federally 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.



Last Revised: January 2024

The PR 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 such as roadsides or houses, especially if near their habitat in rural areas. The PR 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 project 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. If a PR boa is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded (see #5). **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 that 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.
5. 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.

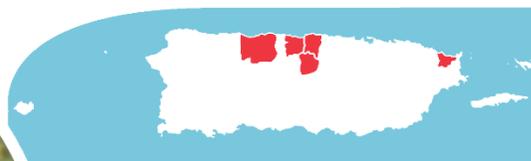
6. If a PR boa is captured by PRDNER personnel, record the name of that person and information on where the PR boa will be taken. This information should be reported to the Service.
7. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize PR boa casualties by heavy machinery or motor vehicles being used on 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 #4). If not possible, the animal should be left alone until it leaves the vehicle on its own.
8. 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.
9. If a dead PR boa is found, immediately cease all work in that area and record the information accordingly (see #5). 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 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.
10. 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:

- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Program Coordinator
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov
 - Office phone (305) 304-1386
- Jan Zegarra, Fish and Wildlife Biologist
 - Email: jan_zegarra@fws.gov
 - Office phone (786) 933-1451

Cotorra puertorriqueña

Amazona vittata vittata



Distribución ■

Familia: Psittacidae
Orden: Psittaciformes

Descripción

La cotorra puertorriqueña o Iguaca, como la llamaban los indios taínos, es un ave verde brillante con una mancha roja en la frente, un anillo blanco alrededor del ojo y plumas primarias azules. Su pico es color marfil y el borde de su cola es redondo. Los juveniles son bastante parecidos a los adultos. Tanto hembras como machos son parecidos y miden cerca de doce pulgadas (aprox. 30 centímetros). A veces, la franja roja en la frente es más ancha en los machos que en las hembras. Mientras vuela emite un fuerte y ruidoso "kar...kar." Este sonido se escucha a gran distancia. Emite otros sonidos para comunicarse con otras cotorras y para defender su territorio.

Información biológica

Reproducción

La cotorra puertorriqueña alcanza su edad reproductiva entre los 3 a 5 años. Las cotorras usualmente forman

parejas que perduran por mucho tiempo, normalmente de por vida. Las parejas permanecen juntas casi todo el año, excepto cuando la hembra está incubando y el macho asume la responsabilidad de proveer alimento. La cotorra usa como nido las cavidades que se encuentran en árboles de gran tamaño como el palo colorado (*Cyrilla racemiflora*), entre otros. De ser necesario, también podría anidar en las cavidades de roca caliza. El anidamiento comienza en los meses de febrero y marzo, hasta junio. Tradicionalmente, la anidación coincide con el período más seco del año y durante el período de fructificación (producir frutos) de plantas cuyas semillas, frutas y hojas le sirven de alimento.

Dieta

La cotorra come plantas tales como: palma de sierra, palma real, maricao, maria, guaba, cupey, guaraguao y yagrumo, entre otros árboles.

Distribución

La cotorra puertorriqueña, ave endémica a Puerto Rico fue abundante en Puerto Rico, incluyendo las islas de Culebra, Vieques y Mona. Esta cotorra es la última especie de psitácidos existentes y originaria en territorio de los Estados Unidos. Los psitácidos son la familia de aves, en su mayoría tropicales, con plumas de colores vivos y pico corto, alto y muy encorvado (ej. guacamayo y cotorra). La población silvestre de cotorras puertorriqueñas se limita actualmente a la Sierra de Luquillo, mayormente en el Bosque Nacional El Yunque, al este de Puerto Rico y en el Bosque Estatal de Río Abajo, en el norte central de Puerto Rico, entre Arecibo y Utuado. Al menos tres de las cotorras liberadas en Río Abajo se han dispersado y en 2012 fueron vistas entre Morovis, Vega Baja y Manatí.

EN PELIGRO

Amenazas

Además de tener una población pequeña y una distribución limitada, la especie también se ve afectada por el zorzal pardo (*Margarops fuscatus*) quien mata los huevos y pichones de la cotorra para usar el nido. El guaraguao colirojo (*Buteo jamaicensis*), el guaraguaito de bosque (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*) y las ratas (*Rattus rattus* y *R. norvegicus*) son depredadores mortales de cotorras juveniles y adultas. Las moscas parasíticas (*Philornis pici*) depositan sus larvas en los pichones de aves para completar su ciclo de desarrollo. Estas moscas enferman y matan a los pichones. Las abejas europeas y africanas (*Apis mellifera*) invaden los nidos de la cotorra para formar adentro sus colmenas. También pueden matar a los pichones. Los huracanes y otros eventos climatológicos pueden afectar la estabilidad de la especie en su estado natural. La pérdida de hábitat por la deforestación es una amenaza que siempre está presente y limita las opciones de lugares aptos para reintroducir la cotorra a la vida silvestre.

Medidas de conservación

La cotorra puertorriqueña fue designada como especie en peligro de extinción en el año 1967, antes de que la Ley de Especies en Peligro de Extinción de 1973 entrara en vigor. Existe un Acuerdo Cooperativo entre el Servicio Federal de Pesca y Vida Silvestre, el Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales y el Servicio Forestal de los Estados Unidos para manejar de forma conjunta la recuperación de la cotorra puertorriqueña. Las tres agencias constituyen el Comité de Recuperación de la Cotorra Puertorriqueña. Inicialmente, se estableció un programa de propagación en cautiverio que, con el tiempo, ha crecido para incluir liberaciones de cotorras al estado silvestre, monitoreo de las poblaciones silvestres, manejo del hábitat e investigación. Otras entidades privadas y académicas se han unido a los esfuerzos para realizar investigaciones y educar.

El Comité realiza censos de cotorras periódicamente y estima que existen ente 18 a 22 cotorras en El Yunque y cerca de 60 a 70 en Río Abajo. Los biólogos de campo utilizan múltiples estrategias para manejar el hábitat. La escasez de árboles maduros con cavidades

requiere que se construyan e instalen nidos artificiales para que la cotorra puertorriqueña anide. También, los expertos controlan las poblaciones de las especies depredadoras, cuando es necesario, para asegurar el desarrollo normal de los huevos y de los pichones.

La población en cautiverio se mantiene para varios propósitos: reproducir cotorras y aumentar su número, asegurar poblaciones adicionales, particularmente en el caso de una catástrofe natural tal como un huracán, y para, eventualmente, poder proveer aves para reintroducirlas a los bosques donde habitaban. En los aviarios, se utilizan técnicas avanzadas para diagnosticar enfermedades y proveer tratamiento. Actualmente, hay cerca de 350 cotorras entre el Aviario Iguaca, manejado por el Servicio Federal de Pesca y Vida Silvestre en El Yunque, y en el Aviario José L. Vivaldi, manejado por el Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales de Puerto Rico, en el Bosque Estatal Río Abajo.

La Ley Federal de Especies en Peligro de Extinción de 1973, según enmendada, prohíbe matar, dañar, molestar, atrapar, comprar o vender una especie, así como partes o productos derivados de ellas

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Thomas H. White, Jr. and Fernando Núñez-García. "From Cage to Rainforest" U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2008-06-04

Información adicional

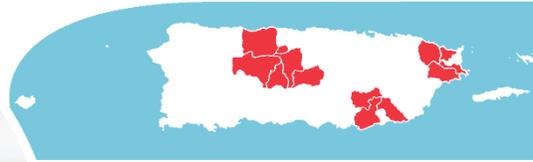
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EN PELIGRO

Guaraguao de bosque

Buteo platypterus brunnescens



Distribución ■

Información biológica

Reproducción

Esta especie anida en bosques secundarios maduros y plantaciones antiguas. En el Bosque Estatal de Río Abajo (RACF, por sus siglas en inglés), los sitios de anidación están caracterizados por la presencia de árboles tales como el palo María (*Calophyllum antillanum*), la teca (*Tectona grandis*), la caoba hondureña (*Swietenia macrophylla*) y la majagua (*Hibiscus elatus*). Los guaraguao de bosque colocan sus nidos en la parte superior de árboles grandes que sobrepasan la cubierta forestal. Información recientemente recopilada sobre la abundancia y características demográficas del guaraguao de bosque en RACF indica un alto nivel de fidelidad entre parejas; una tasa de sobrevivencia en nidos de 0.67 a través de la temporada de reproducción; y una productividad de 1.1 crías por nido. Entre los años 2001 a 2003, se marcaron con radio transmisores y se colocaron bandas en las patas a varias crías de guaraguao en el RACF. En 2013, al visitar el área donde se marcaron, se documentó que seguían vivas (Llerandi-Román and Ríos-Cruz pers. comm.). Por ejemplo, una hembra joven que fue marcada entre el 2001 al 2003 en el RACF fue documentada anidando exitosamente entre los años 2007 al 2009. (Ríos-Cruz pers. comm.)

Hábitat

Esta especie habita en bosques enanos, bosques de palmas de sierra, de caimitillo-granadillo y de tabonuco. Estos bosques se encuentran en las reservas forestales del Bosque Estatal de Carite, Bosque Estatal Toro Negro, Bosque Los Tres Picachos y el Bosque Nacional El Yunque. También habita en

Familia: Accipitridae
Orden: Falconiformes

Descripción

El guaraguao de bosque de Puerto Rico o guaraguaito es de color marrón oscuro con barras blancas y rojizas en la parte ventral. Es una subespecie endémica de Puerto Rico de tamaño mediano, que mide aproximadamente 39 centímetros (15.5 pulgadas). Es más pequeño que el *Buteo platypterus platypterus* pero más grande que la subespecie que ocurre en las Antillas Menores. El guaraguao de bosque es la subespecie de halcón de ala ancha más oscuro. En los adultos, la cola es de un color negro claro con bandas blancas horizontales en la base, medio y extremo de la cola, y esto, junto con el pecho rojizo, caracteriza a la especie. Los machos y las hembras son muy similares en apariencia, pero las hembras son un poco más grandes. Las aves juveniles tienen barras oscuras en el pecho y no tienen las bandas distintivas en la cola. La población del guaraguao de bosque de Puerto Rico oscila cerca de los 125 individuos.

AMENAZADA

plantaciones madereros maduros, en cafetales bajo sombra y en bosques secundarios maduros del área de carso al norte-central de Puerto Rico dentro y cerca del Bosque Estatal de Río Abajo y el área de Río Encantado entre los pueblos de Florida y Ciales. La topografía húmeda de los bosques del carso le provee al guaraguao de bosque otra alternativa como área para anidar. En estudios recientes, se han documentado miembros de una especie similar de guaraguao (guaraguao de cola roja; *Buteo jamaicensis*) anidando en las laderas del carso adyacentes al RACF.

Distribución

El guaraguao de bosque es un ave de rapiña poco común y extremadamente localizado, que se encuentra en los bosques montañosos de tierra alta de Puerto Rico. Las poblaciones existentes se hallan principalmente dentro de cinco bosques: el RACF, el Bosque Estatal Carite, el Bosque Estatal Toro Negro, el Bosque Los Tres Picachos y el Bosque Nacional El Yunque. Llerandi-Román (2006) halló trece territorios de guaraguao de bosque justo fuera de los límites de RACF, en seis sitios diferentes con hábitat apropiado para los guaraguao de bosque. Los territorios se encuentran a lo largo del valle del Río Tanamá, al noroeste del RACF

Amenazas

La abundancia y la distribución del guaraguao de bosque es limitada. Cualquier amenaza que atente contra su población y su hábitat puede resultar en detrimento para esta especie. De forma natural, los huracanes constituyen una amenaza ya que destruyen su hábitat debido a las intensas lluvias y a los fuertes vientos. No obstante, existe una gran variedad de actividades humanas que también amenazan las poblaciones de esta especie. La construcción de instalaciones recreativas, de estructuras para energía y comunicaciones y de carreteras contribuye a la destrucción y fragmentación de su hábitat. De igual manera, la caza ilegal, las malas prácticas de manejo y la carencia de planes de manejo para los bosques públicos también afectan las poblaciones del guaraguao de bosque. Los bajos números poblacionales de esta especie pueden, por sí mismos, estar afectando la población ya que se pierde la variación genética de esta.

Medidas de conservación

El guaraguao de bosque está incluido en la lista de especies amenazadas desde el 1994. La Ley Federal de Especies en Peligro de Extinción de 1973, según enmendada, prohíbe matar, dañar, molestar, atrapar, comprar o vender una especie, así como partes o productos derivados de ellas. El tener la especie en la lista federal fomenta y ayuda a crear acciones de conservación por las agencias federales, estatales, privadas, y por grupos e individuos particulares. La Ley de Especies En Peligro fomenta la compra de terrenos y la cooperación con el Estado, y requiere que se ejecuten acciones de recuperación en relación a todas las especies listadas. Entre las medidas esenciales para proteger el hábitat y fomentar el crecimiento de las poblaciones existentes están: la protección de los sitios de anidamiento y alimento en las áreas públicas y privadas, el mejoramiento de los hábitats, la reforestación en áreas abiertas, la actualización de la información acerca de la distribución y la identificación o creación de corredores biológicos entre poblaciones cercanas (tales como RACF, Los Tres Picachos y Toro Negro) con tal de facilitar el movimiento de los guaraguao de bosque entre los bosques.

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Información adicional

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Puerto Rican Harlequin Conservation Measures

1. The contractor must inform all personnel about the potential presence of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly or its occupied host plant "prickly bush" (*Oplonia spinosa*) in the project areas. A pre-work meeting should inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming this butterfly and its occupied host plant. Educational material (e.g., posters, flyers or signs with photos or illustrations of all the life stages of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (i.e., eggs, caterpillar, chrysalids and adult, and its host plant) should be prepared and available to all personnel for reference.
2. Before starting any project activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movement, the contractor must clearly delineate the boundaries of the working area in the field to avoid unnecessary habitat impacts. Once the project areas are clearly marked, and before any work activity, including site preparation, personnel with knowledge and ability to identify the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (all life stages) and the "prickly bush" must survey the areas where the work will be performed for the presence of the species and its host plant. It is important to note that the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly can be observed year-round in all its life stages; thus, oviposition (egg-laying) may occur at any time during the year.
3. If the "prickly bush" is present on the project site, try to avoid cutting it off, even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
4. If there is no prickly bush within the project area, and the butterfly is observed flying within the project area, do not harass, harm, pursue, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct, the species.
5. Adult butterflies are often observed flying near the host plant as part of their mating behavior and laying eggs. Project-related activities must stop if the prickly bush is found in the project area and the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly is observed flying in that same area. A temporary 50-meter (164 feet) buffer zone of no activity or human disturbance should be established and clearly marked around that prickly bush until the butterfly moves out on its own.
6. Once the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly has moved away, within a period of 24 to 36 hours, a search of the prickly bush that has been buffered should be conducted to determine the presence of any eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids of the butterfly on the plant. The contractor or the Applicant should send a report of the observation and its findings to caribbean_es@fws.gov after the 36-hour search is concluded.
7. If, after the initial search or after the 24 to 36-hour search, any life stage of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly is found in the prickly bush, take the following actions:
 - o Clearly mark the host plant with flagging tape.
 - o Establish a 10-meter (32-foot) buffer zone around the bush to protect it.

- Eggs are typically found on the prickly bush's newly grown, tender branches. Once an egg hatches, the caterpillar moves and feeds throughout the bush. Therefore, avoid cutting off the prickly bush within the project site even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
 - Work within the 10-meter buffered area may resume when no signs of any live life stage of the butterfly are detected, which usually takes approximately 60 to 120 days.
8. For all Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly sightings (all life stages), the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where the butterfly was found must be recorded. Data should also include a photo of the butterfly (if possible) and the habitat where it was observed, site GPS coordinates, and comments on how the butterfly was detected and its behavior. All Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly sighting reports should be sent to the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Service Field Office at caribbean_es@fws.gov.
9. For questions regarding the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, the Point of Contacts are:
José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator:
- Mobile: 305-304-1386
 - Office phone: 786-244-0081
 - Office Direct Line: 939-320-3120
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov

Falcón de sierra

Accipiter striatus venator



Distribución ■

Hábitat

El falcón de sierra es una subespecie endémica en Puerto Rico que se encuentra en áreas boscosas asociadas a las zonas de vida conocidas como bosque húmedo subtropical montano bajo y bosque húmedo subtropical (ej. bosque enano, palma de sierra, caimitillo-granadillo y tabonuco).

Dieta

Se alimenta primordialmente de aves pequeñas tales como: el comeñame (*Loxigilla portoricensis*), la reinita común (*Coereba flaveola*) y la llorosa (*Nesospingus speculiferus*).

Distribución

Las únicas cinco poblaciones existentes de falcón de sierra se encuentran en los bosques montañosos del Bosque Nacional El Yunque y los Bosques Estatales de: Maricao, Toro Negro, Guilarte y Carite. En el año 1992, se estimó una población general de 150 individuos para estos bosques. En censos hechos entre 2012 y 2013 se nota una disminución significativa de individuos en varios de los bosques.

Amenazas

La destrucción y la modificación del hábitat en Puerto Rico es uno de los factores más importantes que ha afectado el número y la distribución del falcón de sierra. La distribución tan limitada de esta especie puede haber sido resultado de la fragmentación de áreas forestadas que ha ocurrido durante este siglo. Esta ave ha experimentado una merma poblacional de un 60% en el Bosque de Carite y de un 93% en el Bosque Nacional El Yunque. La causa de esta merma es desconocida para los investigadores.

Familia: Accipitridae
Orden: Falconiformes

Descripción

El falcón de sierra de Puerto Rico es un ave de rapiña que tiene un tamaño de aproximadamente 11 a 13 pulgadas (28 a 33 centímetros). Los adultos tienen la región dorsal del cuerpo de color gris pizarra y la región ventral con barras densas de color rubio-rojizo. Los juveniles son de color marrón claro por encima y densamente listados por debajo. Al vuelo, esta ave muestra las alas cortas, de forma redondeada y la cola estrecha. El falcón de sierra vuela alternando el batir de las alas con el planeo.

Información biológica

Reproducción

Esta ave construye sus nidos de varitas en lo alto de los árboles y pone en ellos tres huevos blancos con manchas pequeñas. La temporada de anidamiento del falcón de sierra comienza en marzo y continúa hasta julio.

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Entre las amenazas que se han identificado para esta especie se encuentran: prácticas de manejo y cultivo de madera en los bosques, construcción de veredas y carreteras en los bosques, construcción de facilidades recreativas, aumento en el uso de los bosques para fines recreativos y la posibilidad de cacería furtiva. Se ha identificado el parasitismo por la mosca parasítica del género *Philornis* como un factor de mortandad para pichones del falcón de sierra en Maricao. El falcón de sierra también es susceptible a disturbios naturales tales como las tormentas tropicales fuertes y los huracanes ya que le modifican su hábitat. Sin embargo, el problema principal del falcón de sierra es su baja densidad y lo limitado de su distribución. Esto hace a esta subespecie extremadamente vulnerable a la pérdida de un individuo.

Medidas de conservación

El falcón de sierra fue incluido en la lista federal de especies en peligro de extinción en 1994 y el plan de recuperación se escribió en 1997. La medida principal que se debe tomar para la conservación del falcón de sierra es la protección de los individuos restantes y de su hábitat. Debido a que se encuentra en áreas públicas, es imprescindible la implementación de planes de manejo adecuados para asegurar la supervivencia de esta subespecie en los bosques.

La Ley Federal de Especies en Peligro de Extinción de 1973, según enmendada, prohíbe matar, dañar, molestar, atrapar, comprar o vender una especie, así como partes o productos derivados de ellas.

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Información adicional

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