

Environmental Assessment

Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects

24 CFR Part 58

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-00034

Project Name: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico/Adjuntas, PR

Preparer: Clifford Jarman

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Permit and Compliance Officers: Sally Acevedo Cosme, Pedro De León Rodriguez, María T. Torres Bregón, Angel G. López-Guzmán, Ivelisse Lorenzo Torres, Santa Damarys Ramírez Lebrón, and Janette I. Cambrelén

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

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

Project Location:

The property is a 8.49-acre site located at Carretera 135 Km 14.9, Interior Barrio Yahuecas, in the Municipality of Adjuntas, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 239-000-003-14-001). The proposed project parcel is located at 18.200780, -66.781080. The project locations are 18.20051, -66.78111 and 18.20035, -66.78152.

This land is currently used for harvesting coffee, citrus trees and plantains, and has been used for coffee cultivation by three generations.

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

The proposed project area is approximately 0.667 acres. The proposed use of grant funds is for the construction of a new greenhouse with benches for growing plants hydroponically, a new storage building, expansion of the solar power system, and the purchase of a new 4x4 vehicle.

The new greenhouse would be 100-feet long by 30-feet wide located at 18.20051, -66.78111, east of the existing greenhouse. The new greenhouse would include a concrete path through the building, and an irrigation system

The new storage building would be 20-feet by 20-feet and used for storage and loading of agricultural products. It would be located west of the existing 60-foot by 30-foot building located at 18.20035, -66.78152, south of the existing greenhouse.

The expansion of the solar energy system would include 20 new solar panels installed on the roof of the existing 60-foot by 30-foot building located at 18.20035, -66.78152. The expanded solar energy system would also include eight 250-amp batteries, an inverter, and a controller. The new system would cover the energy needs of the new greenhouse.

The new greenhouse will be built on an already graded area. The farm has an existing greenhouse and uses power from a solar panel system. Water is taken from a stream inside the property located to the south.

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

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

The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) will increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. The purpose of this project is to increase the productivity of the farm. This agricultural project associated with the construction of a new greenhouse, storage building, and expansion of solar energy system is in keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The land proposed for the greenhouse, storage building, and solar system is used for agricultural purposes. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with the project.

Structure of this Environmental Review Report (ERR).

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

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

Funding Information

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

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$97,186

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$97,186

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"/>	The project consists of the construction of a greenhouse, storage building, and expansion of solar energy system. The nearest airport is approximately 104,158 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport is approximately 275,442 feet from the proposed site. The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements. Refer to Figure 2 in Appendix B .
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Puerto Rico has various Coastal Barrier Resources Systems (CBRS). The project is in inland Puerto Rico. The distance to the nearest CBRS unit is 787,277 feet. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in

Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]		compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. Refer to Figure 3 in Appendix B.
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Project site is not located in a 100-year floodplain per Floodplain Insurance Map 72000C1060H, effective date April 19, 2005. This project is in compliance with Floodplain Insurance requirements. (See Figures 4 and 5 in Appendix B.)

STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5		
Clean Air Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Project site is not located in a county or air quality management district that is in attainment status or non-attainment status for any criteria pollutants. The Municipio of Adjuntas is not listed in the EPA Green Book "Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for all Criteria Pollutants" The project is for the purchase and installation of a greenhouse, storage room, and expansion of solar energy system for an agricultural site. The installation and operation of the greenhouse will have no impact on air quality. The project is in compliance with Clean Air Act. Refer to EPA listing in Appendix C.
Coastal Zone Management Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is located 69,088 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the PR Coastal Zone Management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See Figure 7 in Appendix B.
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A site visit conducted on November 21, 2022 indicated a pile of leftover pipes, and construction materials and unused cement pipes. No visible signs vegetative stress, contamination, or toxic substances were noted at the project site. See Appendix A. There are no sites of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet of the project site. Refer to Figures 8 and 9 in Appendix B. The project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances.

<p>Endangered Species</p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project will have No Effect on listed species. According to EPA NEPAAssist Enviromapper, the nearest critical or proposed critical habitat is 48,473 feet to the northeast of the project location. Per the Official Species List from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website, the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Parrot, and Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk can be found, but there are no critical habitats at this location. The proposed project will have no potential to affect species or habitats due to the agricultural nature of the activities involved in the project. The proposed greenhouse would be next to a greenhouse that has been used for agricultural purposes in the past and the area is cleared of trees.</p> <p>If a Puerto Rican Boa is encountered, work will cease until it moves off the site or, failing that, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers will be notified for safe capture and relocation of the animal, in accordance with the USFW Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures guidelines.</p> <p>https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/guideline/design/population/156/office/41430.pdf</p> <p>Refer to Figures 10 and 11 in Appendix B and IPaC report in Appendix D. This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.</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>The project does not include development, construction, or rehabilitation that will increase residential density.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable Hazard requirements.</p> <p>Refer to site visit report in Appendix A.</p>
<p>Farmlands Protection</p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project site is not designated as prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance. The proposed project includes construction of an agricultural greenhouse, and storage building. The project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to</p>

sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658		nonagricultural use. This project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. Refer to Figure 12 in Appendix B .
Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Project site is not located in a 100-year floodplain per Floodplain Insurance Map 72000C1060H, effective date April 19, 2005. The project site is not located in Preliminary Firm or an Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) special flood hazard area. This project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. (See Figures 4, 5 and 6 in Appendix B .)
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>The site was evaluated on December 20, 2022, by and SOI Qualified Archaeologist. Documentation with maps was subsequently submitted to SHPO on January 5, 2023 (Appendix E). SHPO concurred with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected within the project's Area of Potential on Effects on January 26, 2023.</p> <p>The project was reevaluated on May 10, 2023 to include the metal roofed temporary storage structure in the scope of work. The revised documentation was submitted to SHPO on May 25, 2023. (Appendix E). SHPO concurred with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected within the project's Area of Potential on Effects on June 8, 2023.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with Historic Preservation requirements (See Figure 13 in Appendix B and Appendix E).</p>
Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HUD's noise regulations protect residential properties from excessive noise exposure. The proposed project involves the construction of an agricultural greenhouse and storage building at a rural farm site. HUD noise regulations do not apply as the project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The proposed project is in compliance with Noise Abatement and Control.

Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The closest fresh-water bodies are Quebrada Novillo, 106 feet southeast, Río Guilarte, 1,373 feet southwest, and Quebrada Unidad, 1,900 feet northwest of the property. The NWI maps show no wetlands on the project site. The Quebrada Novillo is shown as a riverine wetland to the southeast along the border of the parcel. This project does not impact any on or off-site wetlands and includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. Refer to Figure 14 in Appendix B .
Wild and Scenic Rivers Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is not within proximity of a National Wild and Scenic River (WSR). The distance to the nearest WSR is approximately 344,184 feet. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Refer to Figure 15 in Appendix B .

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

Environmental Assessment Factors [24 CFR 58.40; Ref. 40 CFR 1508.8 & 1508.27] Recorded below is the qualitative and quantitative significance of the effects of the proposal on the character, features and resources of the project area. Each factor has been evaluated and documented, as appropriate and in proportion to its relevance to the proposed action. Verifiable source documentation has been provided and described in support of each determination, as appropriate. Credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority has been provided. Where applicable, the necessary reviews or consultations have been completed and applicable permits or 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	The proposed project is located on a rural, private farm. The land is not zoned. The proposed action is construction of a greenhouse and storage building and installation of solar panels. The proposed action is compliant with the current agricultural land use of the Project area.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	<p>The proposed project is located in rural, mountainous terrain, on soil classified as Maricao clay (MkF2), with 20 to 60 percent slopes, which has been flattened by heavy machinery, and is surrounded by secondary forest vegetation cover.</p> <p>Projects larger than 1 acre must comply with the CWA and develop a SWPPP with the NPDES. The proposed project area is approximately 0.667 acres.</p> <p>The project site area was rated “very high” for landslide susceptibility before the terracing of the project site. See Figure 16 in Appendix B. There is a steep slope at the southern edge</p>

		<p>of the project site with evidence of a small landslide. The proposed location of the greenhouse has been evenly graded.</p> <p>There will be no human habitation associated with the structure and therefore extensive mitigation measures will not be required, such as retaining walls or special engineering design.</p> <p>Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction. There will be little to no additional runoff associated with the project.</p>
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	<p>During implementation of the project, construction activities may result in temporary elevation of ambient noise levels in immediate areas around active construction areas. The only nearby receptors are the residents of the farm.</p> <p>There is no access to the project area by the public. Standard BMPs, such as construction fencing, would be applied to protect the farm resident public from typical construction hazards.</p>
Energy Consumption	2	The project site uses solar panels to generate to electricity. The project would expand the solar energy system at the project site. There would be no change in energy demand in the area.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	<p>Temporary employment of workers related to construction activities would result, but no new permanent jobs would be created as a result of this project. These workers are expected to come from the local region. However, since the project will include an economic component, it may aid in restoring some employment opportunities and increase income.</p> <p>The proposed project would not negatively impact employment or income patterns.</p>
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The proposed project would not result in demographic character changes or displacement. Given the nature of the project area, no relocations or demolition of residential structures or businesses would occur as part of this project.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	
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		Impact Evaluation
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project would not result in any change to regional or local area educational and cultural facilities or increase demand for them.
Commercial Facilities	2	The agricultural activity of the project property will improve. Other commercial facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project.
Health Care and Social Services	2	Health care and social services facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project. The project would not increase demand for health care and social services facilities.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	Waste vegetation from clearing activities will either be composted on site or at regional composting centers. Soil from grading would be recycled on the farm as fill. Left over construction materials that could be reused on the farm (e.g., piping, structural materials, greenhouse covering fabrics) would be stored for later use. The remaining construction solid waste materials would be collected for transport to the local landfill. The amount of impact of solid waste resulting from the construction of the proposed project would be minor. During operations, the products and by-products would be agricultural, which waste would be biodegradable.
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The proposed project would not involve any wastewater or sanitary sewage. Current farm conditions would remain unchanged.
Water Supply	2	Applicant has access to a nearby stream and uses the water from the stream. The proposed greenhouse will use water from the stream. The appropriate permit will be obtained for this withdrawal of water from the stream. have minor impact on water usage from the stream.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The proposed project would not create any new demand for emergency or health services.

Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The proposed project would not create or destroy any new parks, open space, or recreational activities. It also would not increase use of those facilities.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The proposed project would not involve the creation of new roads nor any increase in long-term traffic on existing roads. There would be some minor use of the existing road during construction. All residents and businesses would retain access to their properties during and after the project.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The proposed project will be situated on previous agricultural property and will have no impact to unique natural features. The proposed increase in water withdrawal from the stream for the new greenhouse will be controlled under a permit. The impact to water resources will be minor.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The proposed project will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity. The proposed project will have no impact on vegetation and wildlife.
Climate Change	2	<p>This is a small project with no measurable impact on climate change factors.</p> <p>With respect to climate change impact on the project, agricultural activities could be affected by drought.</p> <p>The increased use of solar power would reduce the potential use of a generator to meet any increased power needs.</p>

Additional Studies Performed: None required

Field Inspection (Date and completed by):

Site inspection was conducted on November 21, 2022, by Josue Troche.

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

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems:

www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/npias/reports/NPIAS-Report-2017-2021-Appendix-B-Part6.pdf

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, Puerto Rico [map](#).
www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf

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.

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/ecp/report/species-listings-by-state?stateAbbrev=PR&stateName=Puerto%20Rico&statusCategory=Listed>

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

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

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

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

US Geological Survey, Data Release of May Showing Concentration of Landslides Caused by Hurricane Maria,
www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/59de6459e4b05fe04ccd39d8

List of Permits Obtained:

None required

Public Outreach [24 CFR 58.43]:

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

Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]:

In accordance with 24 CFR 58.32 (Aggregation), there are no cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project. The agricultural activities at the farm would increase to a minor degree above current levels due to the implementation of the project. Water use would increase to a minor degree but would only impact the existing water supply. There are no other wells nearby to be affected.

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

The RGRW Program's goal is to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island-wide. This Program seeks to enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. The applicant submitted a proposal to enhance and expand agricultural production on their property. The proposed use of grant funds will allow the applicant to expand the cultivation, processing, and delivery of agricultural products through use of the new greenhouse, a new storage building, expansion of the solar power system, and the purchase of a new 4x4 vehicle. Any alternative that would involve an off-property location would not enhance and expand agricultural production or allow for the economic development for this applicant. The actions are proposed in areas close to the road and the farm's existing greenhouse and storage building as well as the existing electrical power connections. The proposed site has been previously cleared and graded. Alternative locations on the property would be farther from the farm facilities and power and would require additional tree removal and grading. Alternatives that only included part of the proposed actions (e.g., just the solar power installation and 4x4 vehicle would have less environmental impact but would allow less expansion of agricultural production or economic development for this applicant.

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

Under the No Action Alternative, the applicant would not receive federal funding for the construction of a new 100-feet long by 30-feet wide greenhouse, storage building, or solar panels 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 the economic development for this applicant.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions:

The proposed activity has been found to not have any adverse effects on the environment nor is there the requirement for further consultation with federal agencies associated with the topics evaluated above. There are no environmental review topics addressed above that result in the need for additional formal compliance steps with federal agencies or the requirement for mitigations other than those listed below. There may be additional approvals or permits from local agencies.

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	Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction.
Water Supply	The appropriate permit will be obtained before withdrawal of water from the stream for use in the new greenhouse.

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: 02/27/23

Name/Title/Organization: Clifford Jarman, Senior Environmental Scientist, Tetra Tech Inc.

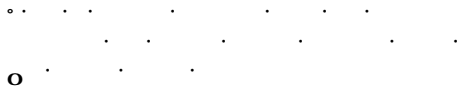
Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: July 6, 2023

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

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

Appendix A

Environmental Field Observation - Puerto Rico Department of Housing

APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Application ID	PR-RGRW-00034		
Applicant Name	Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.		
Property Address	Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas		
Parcel ID	239-000-003-14-001		
h Coordinates	18.200780, -66.781080		
Inspector Name	Josue Troche		
Inspection Date	11/21/2022		
Building Type	Concrete_Metal		
Number of Units	1		
Number of Stories	1		
Year Built; Data Source	C1985; Historian		
ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS (attach photos and notes, as necessary, for any YES answers)			
OBSERVATION ITEMS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
A. Is the structure in use?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
B. Is structure a greenhouse?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
C. Is Electricity connected?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
D. Is water connected? (Utilities or Well)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1. Are there signs of poor housekeeping on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Are there any 55-gallon drums visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Are there any (or signs of any) underground storage tanks on the property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Are there signs of ASTs on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5. Is there any stained soil or pavement on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6. Is a water drainage system in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of Fertilizer or Pesticides ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Are there any groundwater monitoring wells on the site or adjacent parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Is there evidence of a faulty septic system ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Is there distressed vegetation on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11. Is there any visible indication of MOLD ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

12. Is there any visible evidence of asbestos, chipping, flaking or peeling paint, or hazardous materials present in or on the structure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
13. Are any additional site hazards observed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	h Evidence of small landslide. See photo below.
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)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	o o
15. Does the subject property have water frontage ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
16. Is there any indication of the presence of Wetlands ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
17. Are there any obvious signs of animals or birds nesting on or near the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
18. Is the applicant aware of any significant historical event or persons associated with the structure, or of it being located in a historic district/area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
19. Is a historic marker present?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Additional Notes:

Case: 00034

Correct coordinates: 18.20078° N, -66.78108° W

Scope of Work:

Scoop of work 1:

Greenhouse and irrigation system (Path in cement in the middle)

18.20051° N, -66.78111° W

30ft wide 100ft length

Scoop of work 2:

Solar array (structure already completed)

18.20035° N, -66.78152° W

Available space 60 ft d 30ft

Land current in use for: at the time inspection there's is plantation of coffee, citrus trees and plantains.

Past land use was: 3 generations of coffee plantations.

What the applicant plans to do:

Greenhouse and irrigation system, Solar Power

System, cement for a pathway inside the greenhouse, Pick Up Car

Where the applicant plans to do the ground disturbance for the new structures:

Scoop of work 1:

Greenhouse(Path in cement in the middle)

18.20051° N, -66.78111° W

Scoop of work 2:

Solar array (structure already completed)

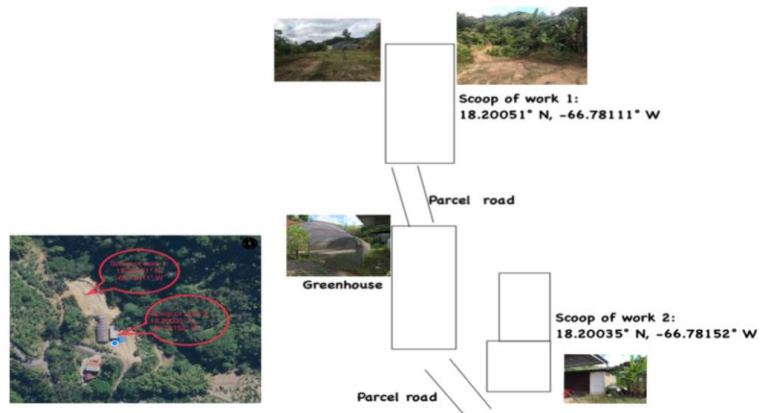
18.20035° N, -66.78152° W

Any new water connection, well, cisterns or power connection:

At the time of the inspection there's no connection to the electric grid, water is taken from a stream inside the property located to the northeast of the property

Any new water connection, well, cisterns or power connection:

Site Sketch



Front of Structure

Photo Direction: Y ^•c



Facing Away From Front

Photo Direction: 0a•c



Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction: P[:o@



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction: U[:o@



Back of Structure

Photo Direction: 0° c



Facing Away From Back

Photo Direction: 180° c



Side #2 of Structure

Photo Direction: South, ^•c



Facing Away From Side #2

Photo Direction: North^æc



Streetscape #1

Photo Direction: Ú[°@



Streetscape #2

Photo Direction: þ[!@



Address

Photo Direction: Southeast



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Storage, showing carport and concrete drive and construction debris behind storage building

Photo Direction: Southwest



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Storage(other view)

Photo Direction: East



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Storage (other view), showing irrigation pipes and construction debris behind storage building

Photo Direction: Southwest



Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: $\hat{O} \leftarrow \hat{A}$



Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Øast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Y ^• c



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: 0a c



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Y ^• c



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Sco] ^ of work 1, showing unused concrete pipes

Photo Direction: Y ^•c



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Sco] ^ of work 1

Photo Direction: Y est



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Scop^ of work 1

Photo Direction: East



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Sco] ^ of work 1

Photo Direction: Y ^st



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Sco] ^ of work 1

Photo Direction: Y ^•c



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Sco] ^ of work 2, Carport with concrete driveway

Photo Direction: South^ast



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Sco] ^ of work 2

Photo Direction: South



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Sco] ^ of work 2 @ , a * /x } • d" & a } A^à:ã A^@ à storage building

Photo Direction: P[!theast



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Scope of work 2

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Scope of work 2

Photo Direction: East



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Scoop of work 2

Photo Direction: Northwest



Greenhouse Photos

Photo Description: Greenhouse

Photo Direction: West



Site Hazards

Photo Description: Landslide hazard, steep slope at southern edge of project site.

Photo Direction: Southwest



Standing Water

Photo Description: Stream

Photo Direction: West



Appendix B



Legend
● Project Parcel
□ Parcels

PUERTO RICO



FIGURE 1: PROJECT LOCATION

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

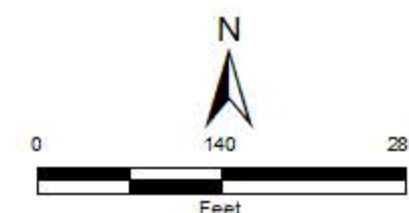
Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080

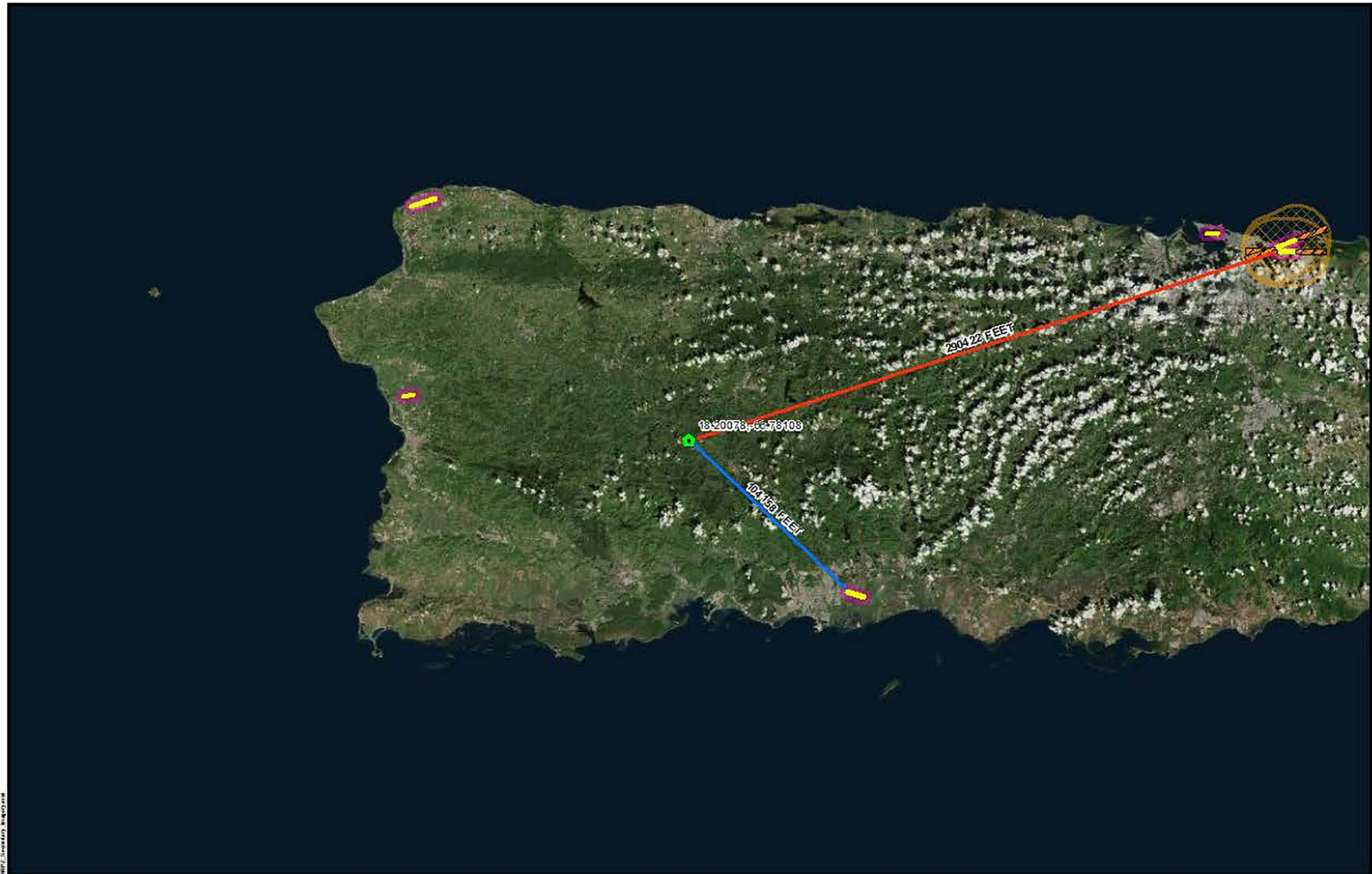
601



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

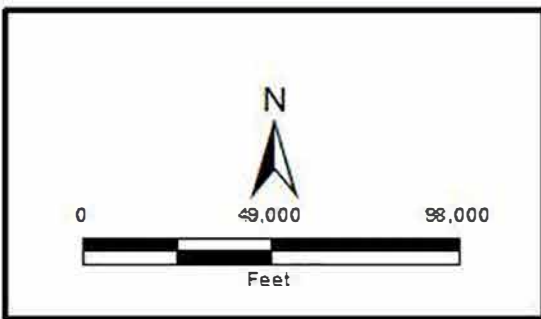
Author: TG Date: 2/20/2023





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

Distance to Nearest Airport in Feet: 104,158



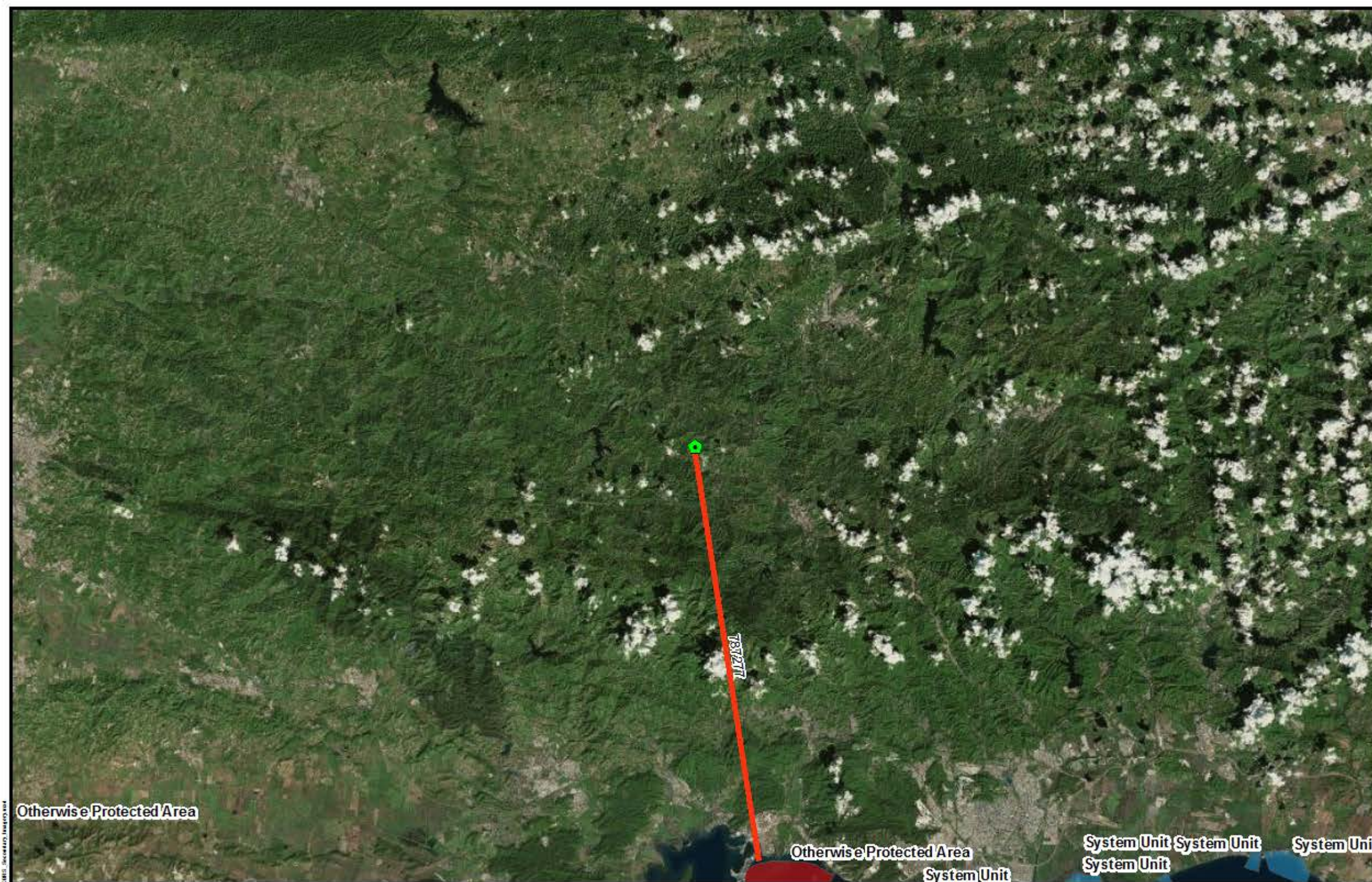
Source: USDOT
<https://www.faa.gov>

Author: TC Date: 10/4/2022

FIGURE 2: AIRPORT ZONES

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601
Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.
Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080



Legend

Project Parcel

Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit Type

Otherwise Protected Area

System Unit

Distance to Nearest Coastal Barrier
Resources System in Feet: 787,277

PUERTO RICO

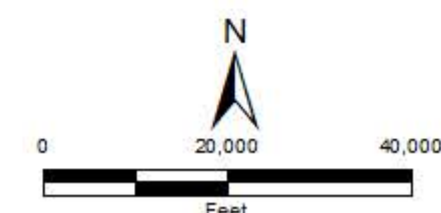


FIGURE 3: COASTAL BARRIERS IMPROVEMENT ACT

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

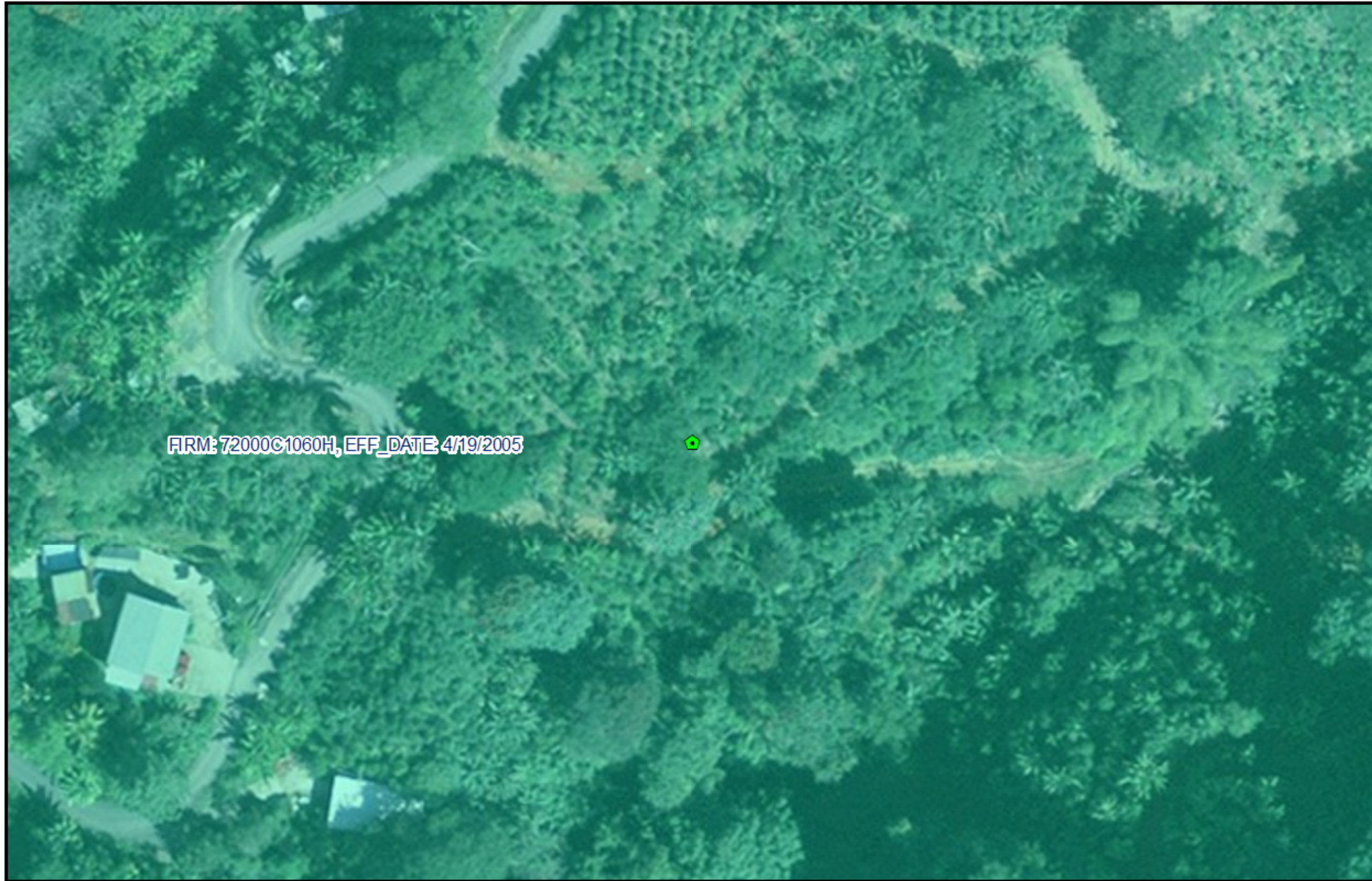
Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080



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

Author: TG Date: 10/4/2022



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

PUERTO RICO



FIGURE 4: FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

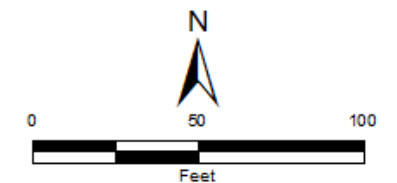
Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080



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

Author: TG | Date: 11/1/2022



National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette



66°47'11"W 18°12'19"N



1:6,000

Basemap: USGS National Map: Orthoimagery: Data refreshed October, 2020

Legend

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

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



This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 2/26/2023 at 6:58 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

FIGURE 5: FIRMETTE MAP



Source: <https://nepassisttool.epa.gov/nepassist/nepamap.aspx>

Date: 11/2/2022

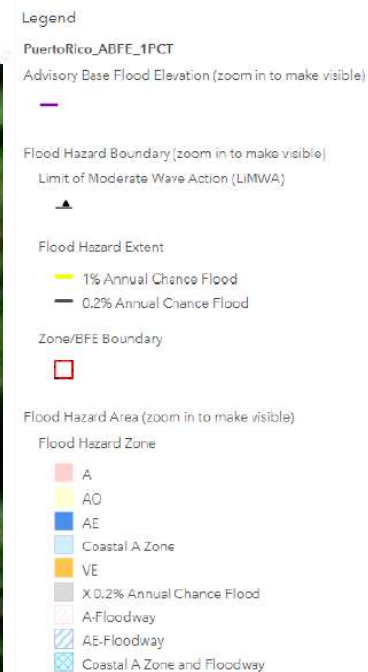
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080





PUERTO RICO

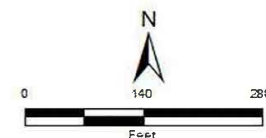


Figure 6: ADVISORY BASE FLOOD ELEVATION

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

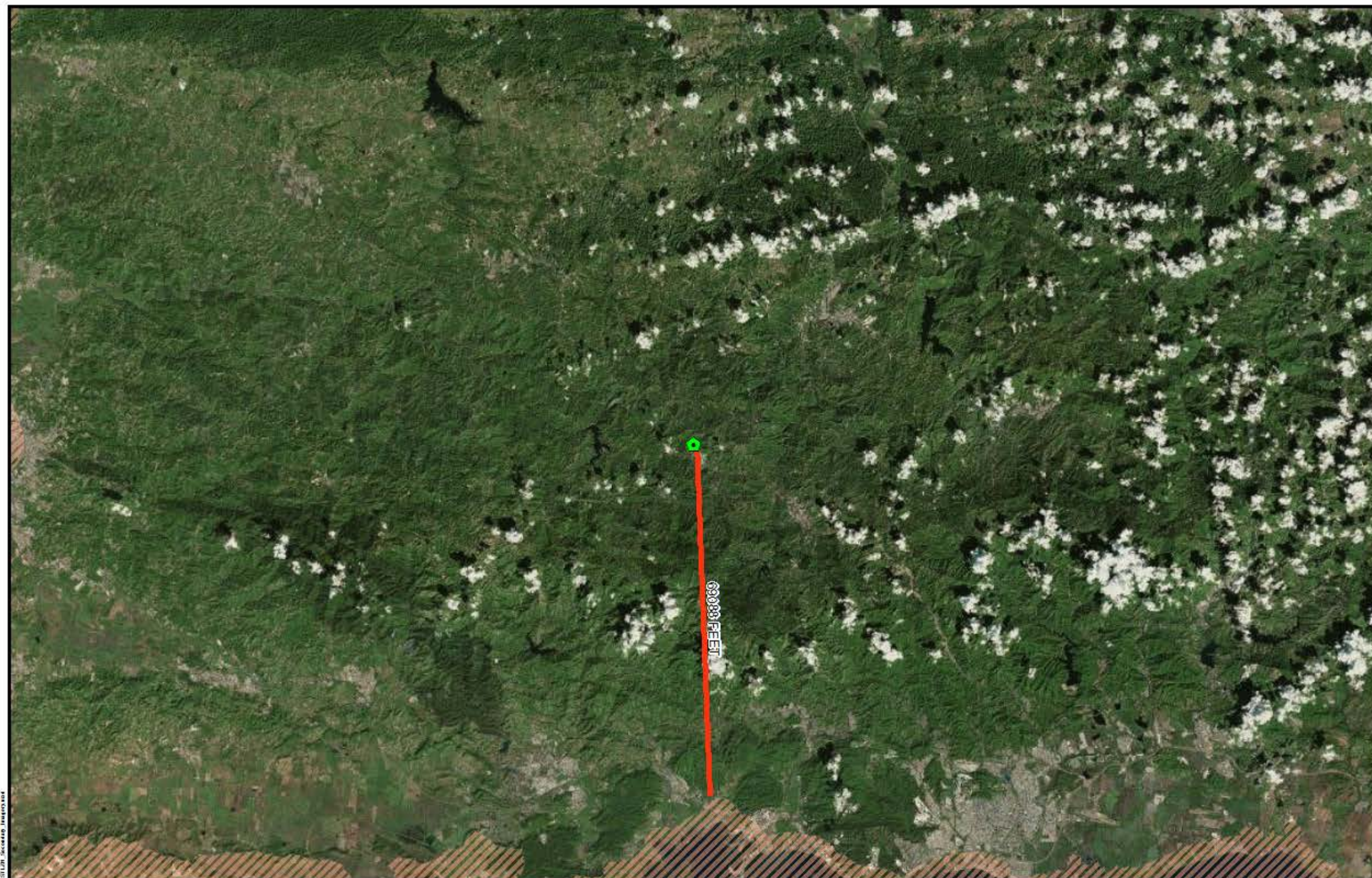
Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080



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

Author: TG Date: 2/16/2023



Legend
● Project Parcel
▨ Coastal Zone Management Boundary

Distance to nearest Coastal Zone Management Boundary in feet: 69,088

PUERTO RICO



FIGURE 7: COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

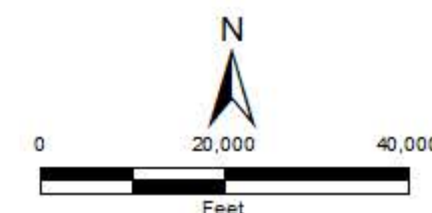
Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

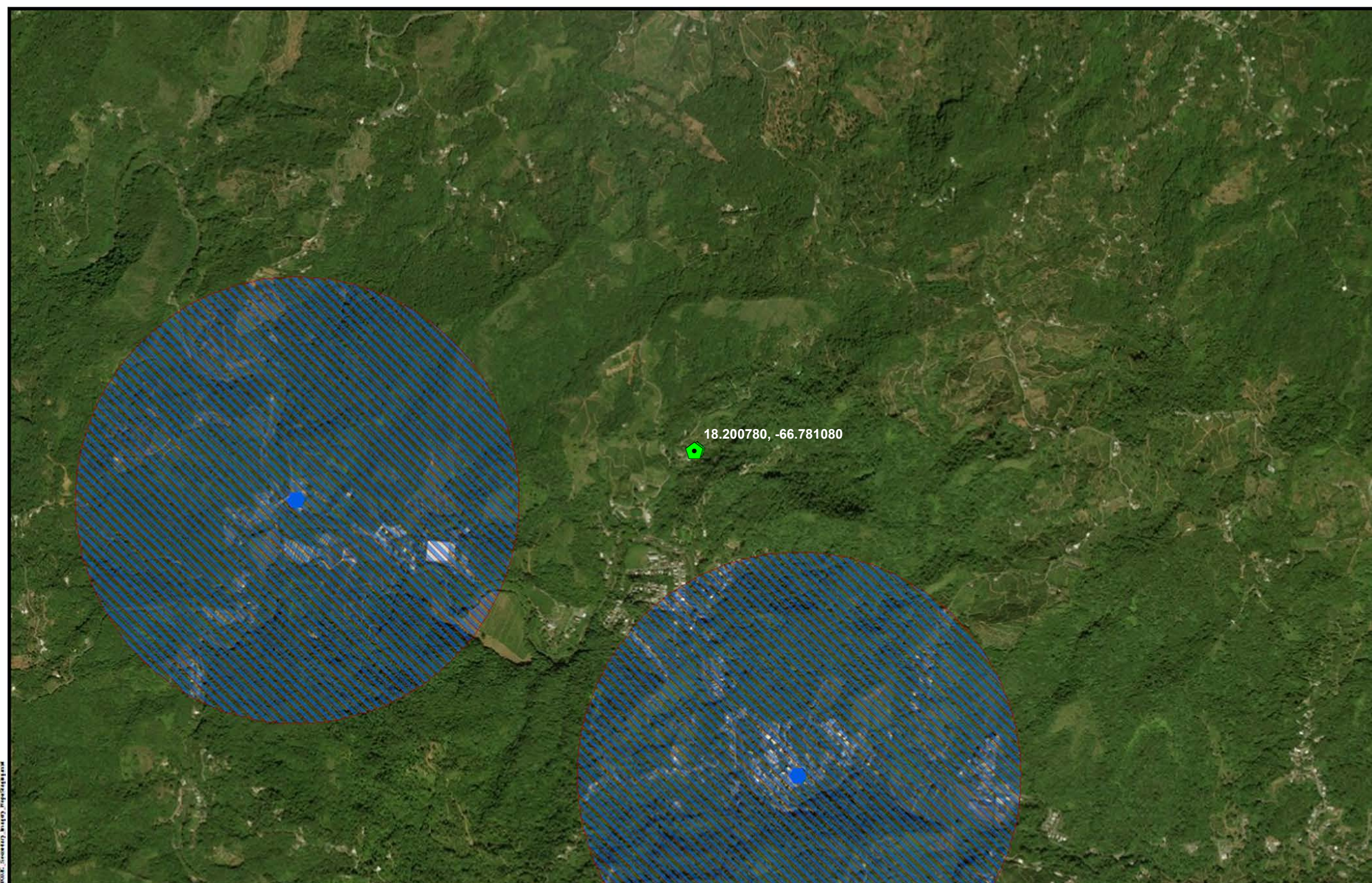
Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080



Source: NOAA's Ocean Service
<https://data.noaa.gov>

Author: TG Date: 10/4/2022





Legend

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

PUERTO RICO



FIGURE 8: TOXIC CHEMICALS AND GASSES, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS,
CONTAMINATION, AND RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080

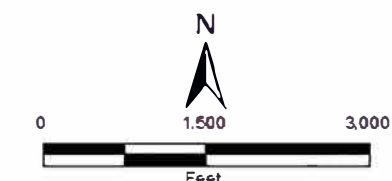


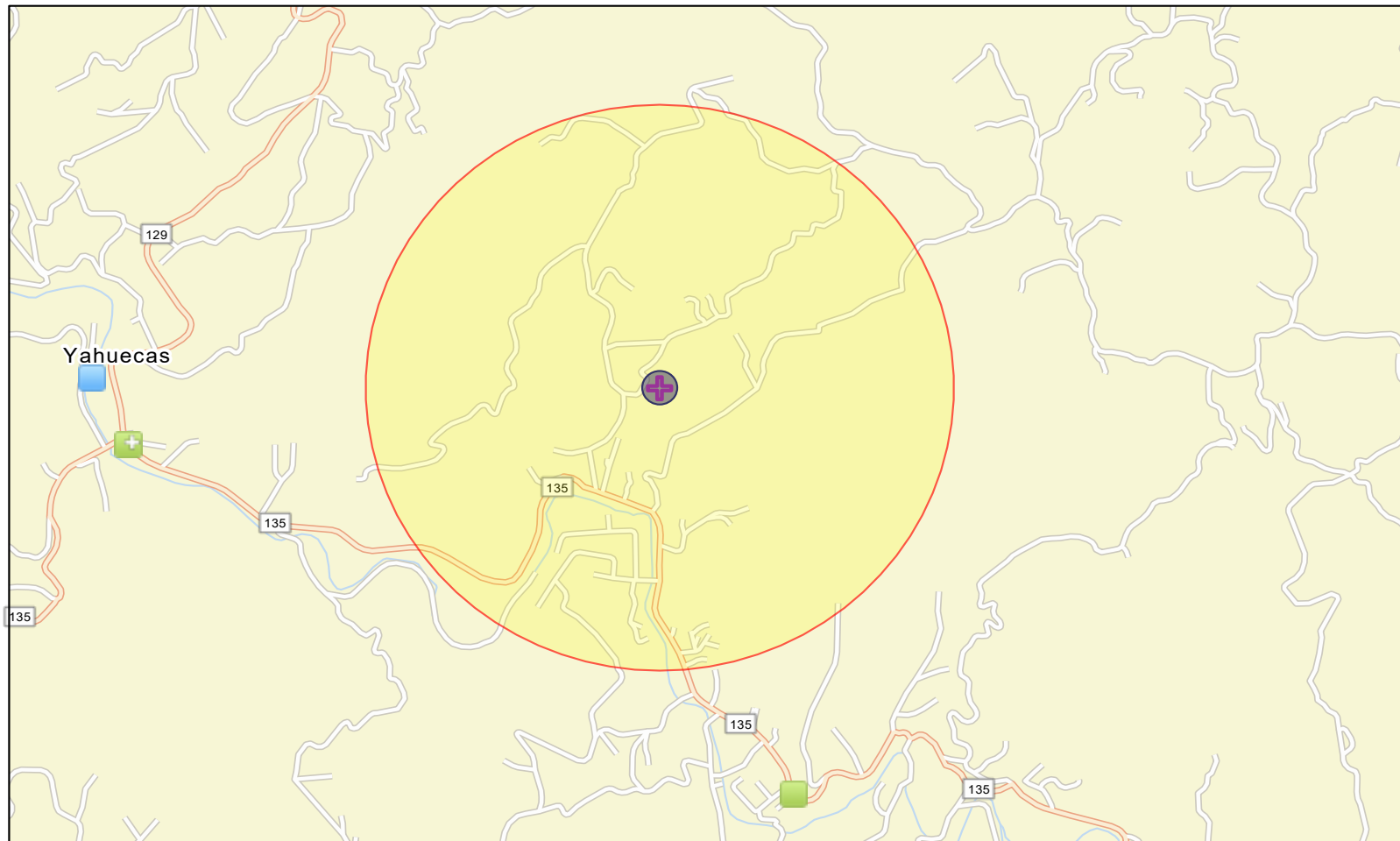
Source: E.P.A.

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

Author: JSIAK

Date: 11/2/2022





February 26, 2023



Water Dischargers (NPDES)



Hazardous Waste (RCRAInfo)



Hazardous Waste (RCRAInfo)



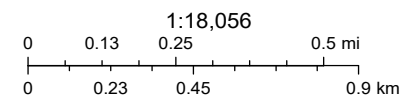
Project Buffer



Project 1



Search Result (point)



Esri Community Maps Contributors, Esri, HERE, Garmin, Foursquare, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc., METI/NASA, USGS, NPS, US Census

FIGURE 9: NEPASSIST MAP

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080



Source: <https://nepassisttool.epa.gov/nepassist/nepamap.aspx>

Date: 11/2/2022





Legend

 Project Parcel

PUERTO RICO



FIGURE 10: ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

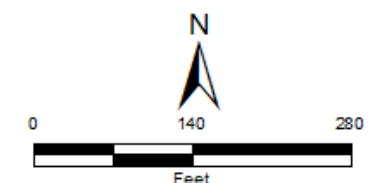
Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080

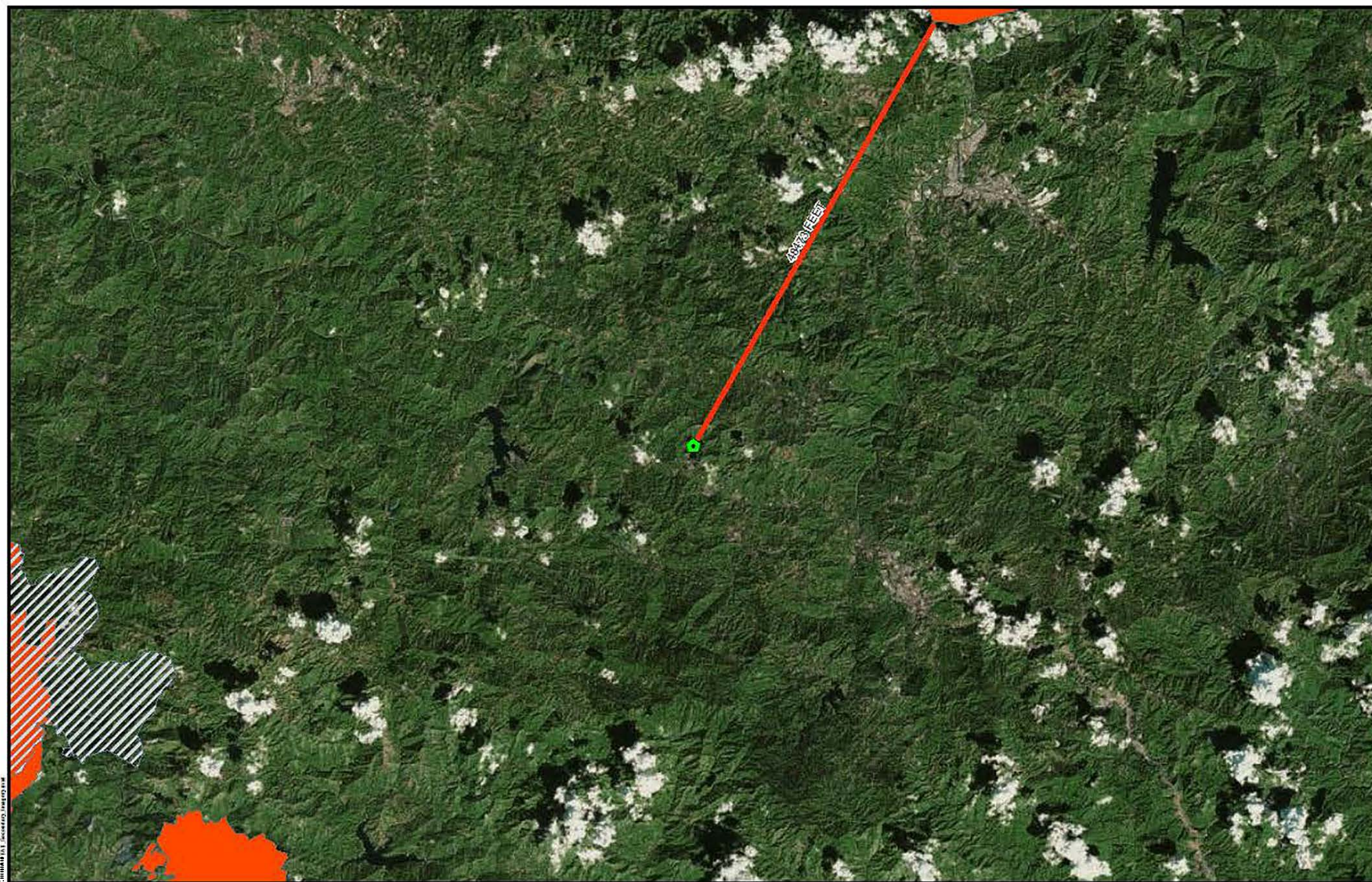


Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
<https://ecos.fws.gov>

Author: TG

Date: 10/4/2022





Legend

 Project Parcel

Common Name

 Elfin-woods warbler

 Puerto Rico harlequin butterfly

Distance to nearest Critical Habitat in feet: 48,473

PUERTO RICO



FIGURE 11: CRITICAL HABITAT

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

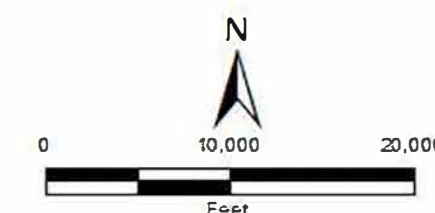
Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080



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

Author: TC

Date: 2/21/2023












Legend

 Project Parcel

Farm Class

-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Farmland of statewide importance
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

PUERTO RICO



FIGURE 12: FARMLAND PROTECTION

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

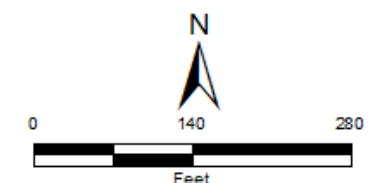
ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

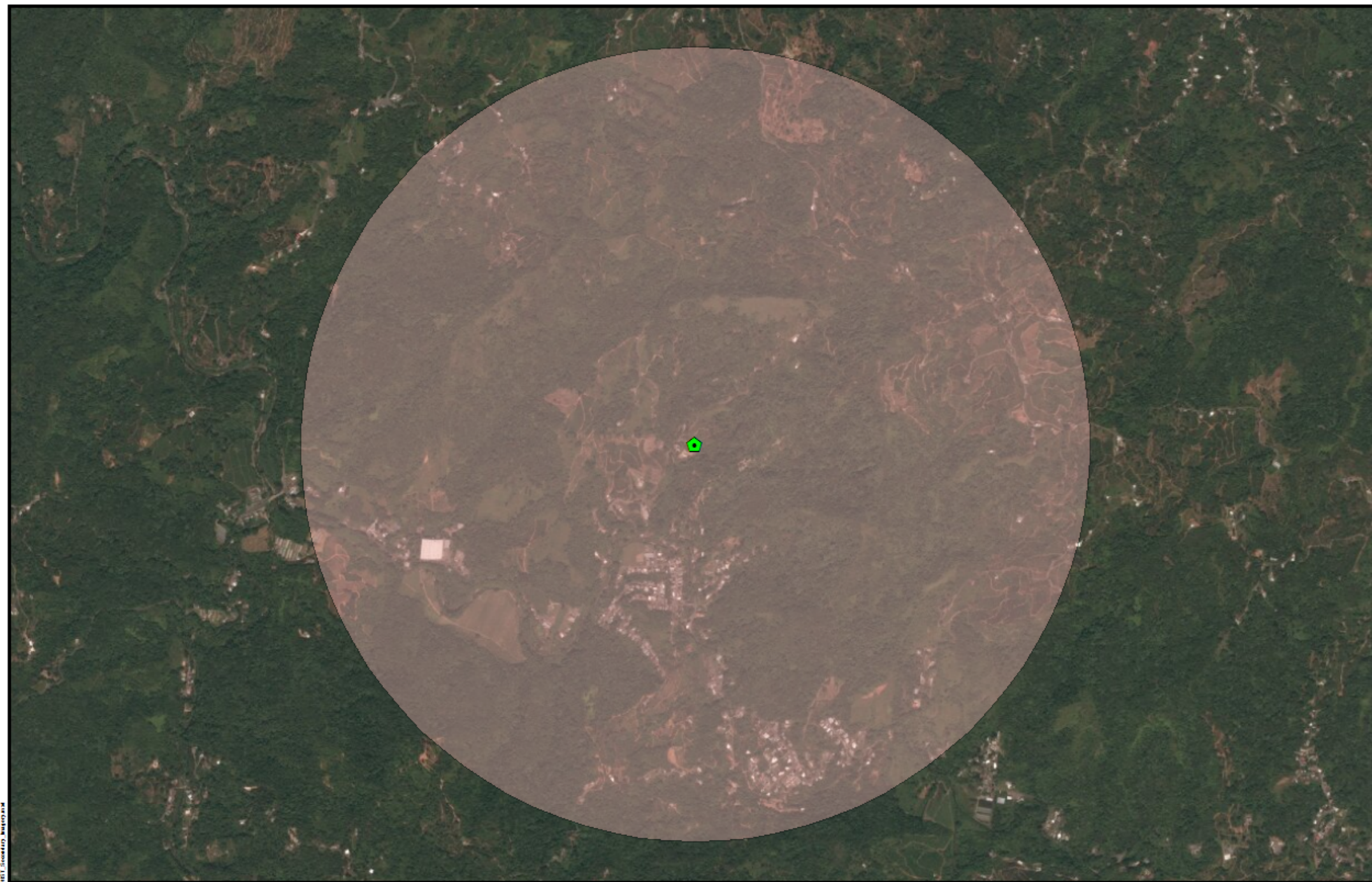
Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.














Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080



Source: USDA
<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>
 Author: TG Date: 10/24/2022





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

PUERTO RICO



FIGURE 13: HISTORIC PRESERVATION

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

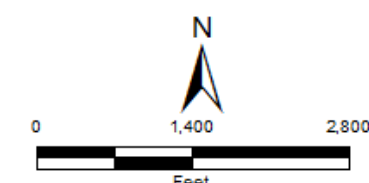
Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080



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

Author: TG

Date: 10/24/2022





Legend

Project Parcel

WETLAND TYPE

- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Riverine

PUERTO RICO



FIGURE 14: WETLANDS

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

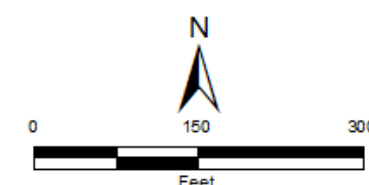
Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080



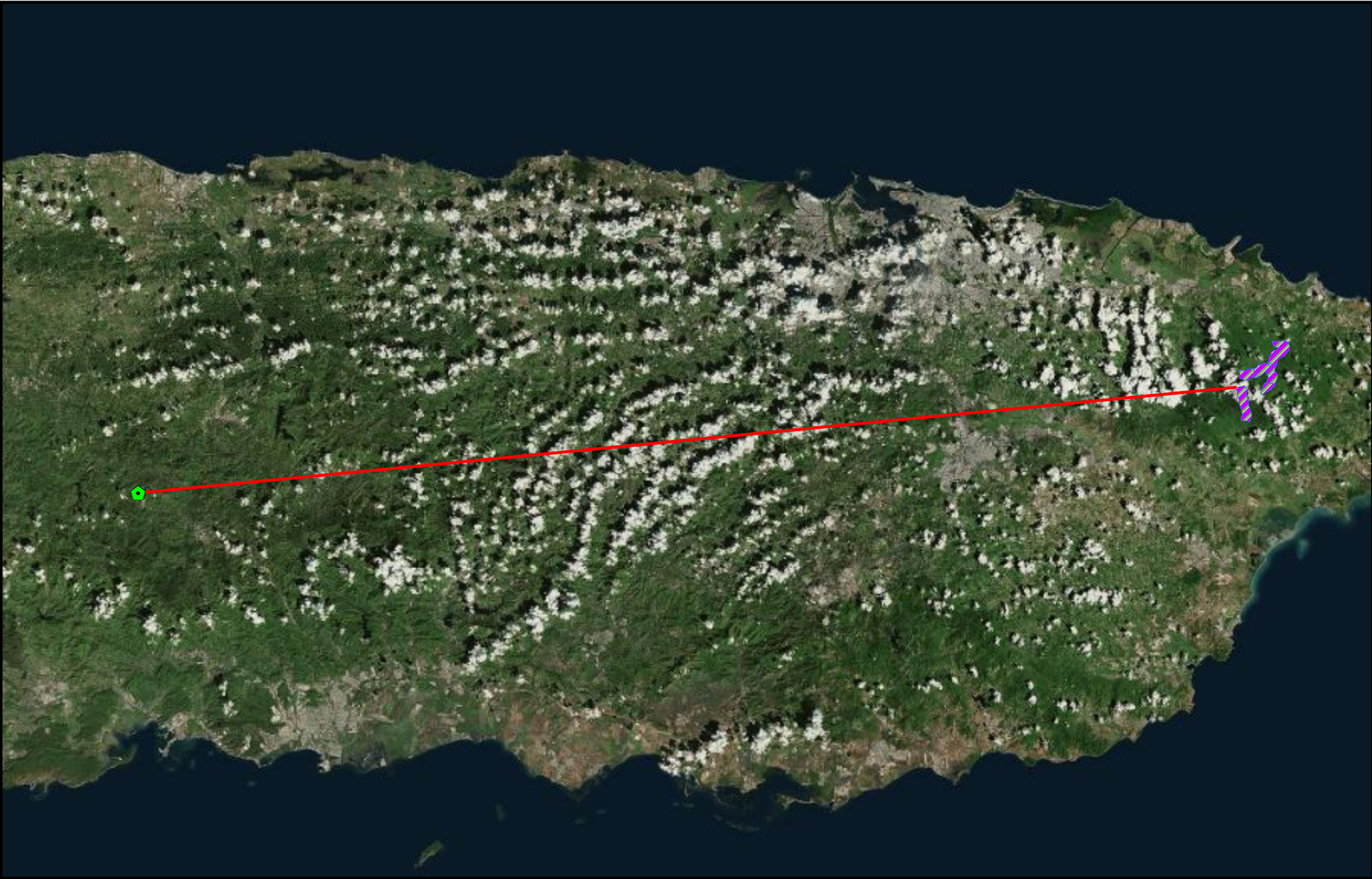
Source: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service
<https://www.fws.gov>




Author: TG

Date: 10/4/2022



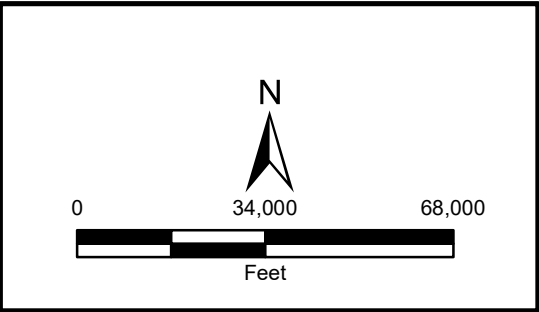
0601



- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
 -  Nearest WSR
 -  Wild and Scenic Rivers

Distance to Nearest Wild and Scenic River in Feet: 344184

PUERTO RICO



File Path: Z:\data\USPRT\Tier2\WSR_Secundary_Imagery_Regions.mxd

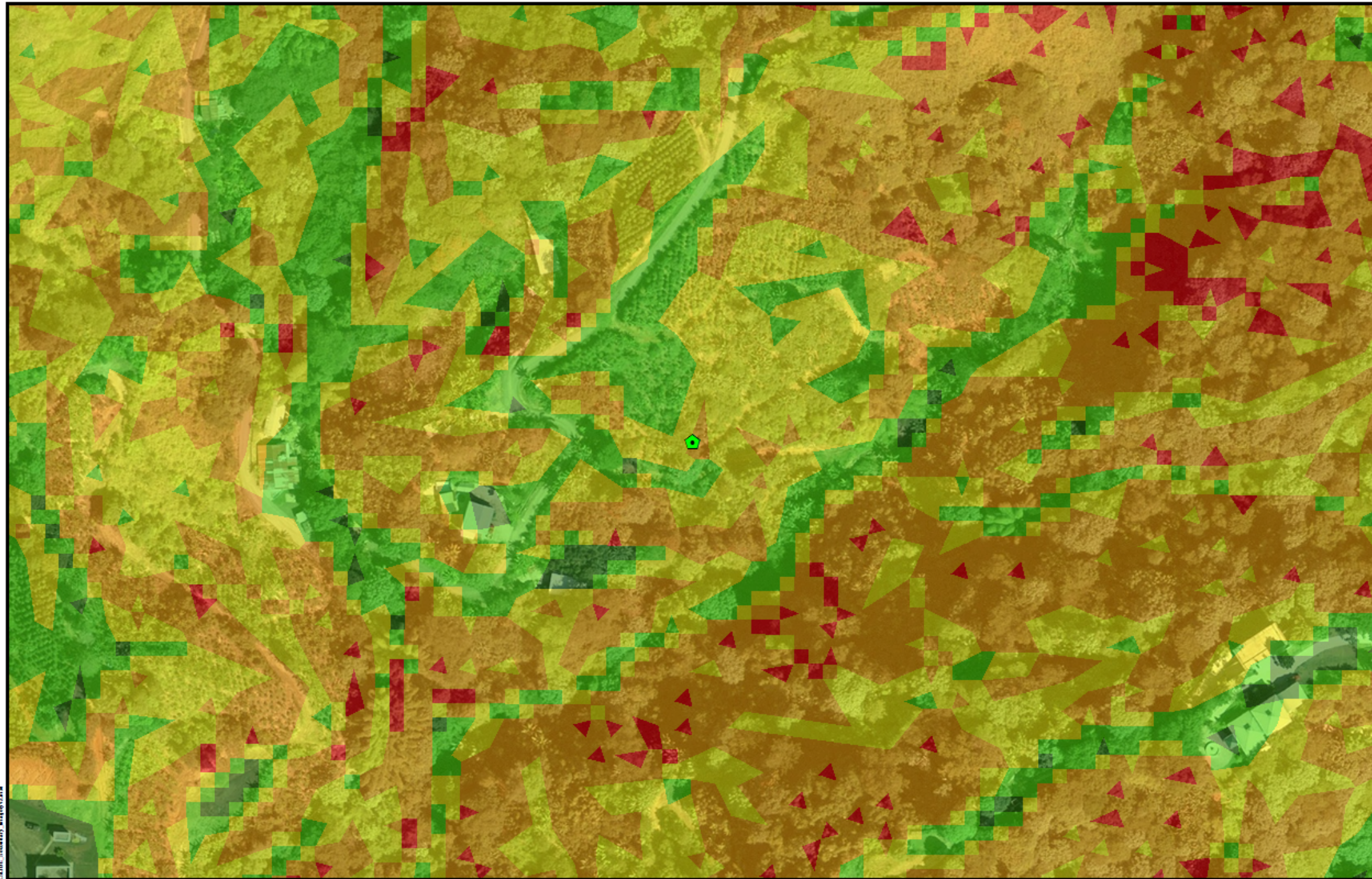








Source: U. S. Forest Service
<https://www.fs.usda.gov>

Author: TG Date: 4/20/2023

Figure 15: WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601
Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.
Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080



- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
- Landslide Susceptibility**
-  Extremely High
 -  Very High
 -  High
 -  Moderate
 -  Low

PUERTO RICO



FIGURE 16: SLOPE AND EROSION

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00034

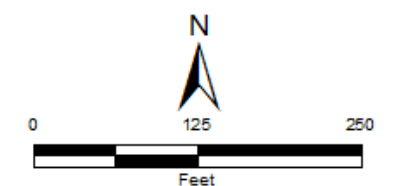
ADDRESS: Carretera 135 Kilómetro 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, PR 00601

Name of Development: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080



Source: PRDOH
<http://usgs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=10506ec07f15491daee17647f19248ee>
 Author: TG Date: 10/4/2022



Appendix C

Data is current as of December 31, 2021

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 Ptv-2.5 NAAQS (level of 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) 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](#)).

m

Important Notes

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

Appendix D

IPaC resource list

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

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

Location

Adjuntas County, Puerto Rico



Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

☎ (787) 834-1600

📠 (787) 851-7440

✉ CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV

MAILING ADDRESS

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

Office Park I

State Road #2 Km 156.5, Suite 303}

Mayaguez, PR 00680

Endangered species

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

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

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

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

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

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

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

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

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

Birds

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

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
------	--------

Puerto Rican Boa *Chilabothrus inornatus*

Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

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

Critical habitats

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

There are no critical habitats at this location.

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

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

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

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

There are no migratory birds of conservation concern expected to occur at this location.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

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

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

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

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

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

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

What if I have eagles on my list?

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

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

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

There are no refuge lands at this location.

Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

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

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

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

This location overlaps the following wetlands:

RIVERINE

[R5UBH](#)

A full description for each wetland code can be found at the [National Wetlands Inventory website](#)

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

Data limitations

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

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

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

Data exclusions

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

Data precautions

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

Appendix E



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

June 8, 2023

Lauren Bair Poche

HORNE- Architectural Historian Manager
10000 Perkins Rowe, Suite 610 Bldg G
Baton Rouge, LA 70810

SHPO: 01-04-23-06 PUERTO RICO DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR RE-GROW
PR URBAN-RURAL AGRICULTURAL RE-GROW PROGRAM, PR-RGRW-00034,
FINCA BERMÚDEZ LÓPEZ INC., BO. YAHUECAS, PR-135 KM 14.9 INT., ADJUNTAS,
PUERTO RICO

Dear 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/LCC



May 25, 2023

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

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

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-00034 (SHPO ID: 01-04-23-06) – Finca Bermúdez López Inc. – Carretera PR-135 Km 14.9 Interior, Barrio Yahuecas, Adjuntas, Puerto Rico – No Historic Properties Affected

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

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

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, we are reinitiating consultation for activities proposed by Finca Bermúdez López Inc. at Carretera PR-135 Km 14.9 Interior, Barrio Yahuecas in the municipality of Adjuntas. This case was originally submitted for SHPO review on January 5, 2023, for the proposed activities defined below as Scope of Work 1 and Scope of Work 2, with a response of No Historic Properties Affected received in a letter dated January 26, 2023 (SHPO ID: 01-04-23-06). The case is being resubmitted with the addition of the activities defined below as Scope of Work 3.

The proposed activity at the farm of Finca Bermúdez López Inc. includes three proposed scopes of work. Scope of Work 1 is construction of a new greenhouse, 100 feet long by 30 feet wide, with an irrigation system. Scope of Work 2 a solar array on an existing structure, with an available space of 60 feet by 30 feet. Scope of Work 3 is a metal roofed, storage structure measuring 20 feet by 20 feet with a cement floor and open sides. The Scope of Work 3 structure will be used for temporary storage of farming equipment, vehicles, and materials. The proposed undertakings will require a maximum estimated ground disturbance of 3 feet below ground level. The undertaking does not require the addition of new below-ground utility connections.

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


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

Kindest regards,



Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.

Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Senior Manager
Attachments

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Subrecipient: FINCA BERMUDEZ LOPEZ INC.		SHPO ID: 01-04-23-06
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034		City: Adjuntas

Project Location: Carretera PR-135 Km 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas	
Project Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 239-000-003-14-001	
Type of Undertaking: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): c1985	Property Size (acres): 8.49


SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian:
Date Reviewed:
SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jesus E. Vega, Ph.D./ Roberto G. Muñoz-Pando, Ph.D.
Date Reviewed: December 20, 2022/ May 10, 2023 Revised

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)

Case PR-RGRW-00034 was originally submitted for SHPO review on January 5, 2023, for the proposed activities defined below as Scope of Work 1 and Scope of Work 2, with a response of No Historic Properties Affected received in a letter dated January 26, 2023 (**SHPO ID:** 01-04-23-06). The case is being resubmitted with the addition of the activities defined below as Scope of Work 3.

The proposed activity at the farm of Finca Bermúdez López Inc. includes three proposed scopes of work. Scope of Work 1 is construction of a new greenhouse, 100 feet long by 30 feet wide, with an irrigation system. Scope of Work 2 a solar array on an existing structure, with an available space of 60 feet by 30 feet. Scope of Work 3 is a metal roofed, storage structure measuring 20 feet by 20 feet with a cement floor and open sides. The Scope of Work 3 structure will be used for temporary storage of farming equipment, vehicles, and materials. The proposed undertakings will require a maximum estimated ground disturbance of 3 feet below ground level. The property is located at Carretera PR-135 Km 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, Municipality of Adjuntas. This land is currently used for harvesting coffee, citrus trees, and plantains. Previous land use has been coffee cultivation by three generations. The undertaking does not require the addition of new below-ground utility connections.

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>
Subrecipient: FINCA BERMUDEZ LOPEZ INC.		SHPO ID: 01-04-23-06
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034		City: Adjuntas

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 includes a 100 feet long by 30 feet wide greenhouse with irrigation system, located at 18.20051° North, -66.78111° West (Scope of Work 1), a solar array on an existing structure, with an available space of 60 feet by 30 feet, at 18.20035° North, -66.78152° West (Scope of Work 2), and 20 feet by 20 feet metal-roofed structure with a cement floor and open sides (Scope of Work 3). The direct APE includes a 15-meter buffer to the rear and sides of the proposed activity locations. 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 that there are no reported archaeological sites and/or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties within a half-mile radius of the property. "No data" in Table 1 denotes no corresponding Institute of Puerto Rican Culture (IPRC), State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), or National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) identification was found. The proposed project is located in rural, mountainous terrain, on soil classified as Maricao clay (MkF2), with 20 to 60 percent slopes, surrounded by secondary forest vegetation cover, 575 meters above mean sea level. The south coast is approximately 14.19 miles south of the property. The closest fresh-water bodies are Quebrada Novillo, 0.02 miles southeast, Río Guilarte, 0.26 miles southwest, and Quebrada Unidad, 0.36 miles northwest. There are three Phase 1 archaeological studies conducted within a half-mile radius of the APE, reported in Table 2 below.

Table 1. Archaeological Sites and/or NRHP Listed/Eligible Historic Properties Within a Half-Mile Radius of Project Area

Name	SHPO ID	IPRC ID	Location	Description	NRHP
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data


PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Subrecipient: FINCA BERMUDEZ LOPEZ INC.		SHPO ID: 01-04-23-06
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034		City: Adjuntas

Table 2. Cultural Resource Studies Conducted Within a Half-Mile Radius of Project Area


Author	Title	Year	SHPO/IPRC ID	Results	Location
Jesús S. Figueroa Lugo	Phase 1A-1B, Mejoras Acueducto Rural Yahuecas, etc.	1993	CAT-AD-93-01-02	Negative	0.25 mi SW
Virginia Rivera Calderón	Phase 1A-1B, Mejoras al Sistema de Distribución de Agua Bo. Yahuecas	2007	CAT-AD-07-04-06	Negative	0.25 mi SW
Jaqueline López Meléndez	Phase 1A, informe de inspección de proyectos de emergencia, PR-135	2006	CAT-AD-06-04-08	Negative	0.25 mi SW

Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, there are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project area. There are no known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties within or adjacent to where the direct Area of Potential Effect (APE) of case PR-RGRW-00034 is located. The proposed project area is not within the boundaries or visual APE of any NRHP listed/eligible historic properties, or to a Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. The surrounding terrain has been terraced but appears to have been originally sloped and not considered sensitive to prehistoric and early historic occupation. Otherwise, the terrain has been minimally impacted by construction of agricultural infrastructure and public roads. Three Phase 1 studies by Figueroa Lugo (1993), Rivera Calderón (2007) and López Meléndez (2006), within a half-mile radius, do not report any sites at or adjacent to the APE. Therefore, the Program has determined that project actions described in the undertaking will not impact any cultural properties.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Subrecipient: FINCA BERMUDEZ LOPEZ INC.		SHPO ID: 01-04-23-06
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034		City: Adjuntas

Recommendation

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

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

This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

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

Project (Parcel) Location _ Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)



File Path: I:\data\PR\Tetra\Adjuntas\Mapas\WMA\Adj2017.mxd



TETRA TECH

Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 10/7/2022

Legend



Tier 2 Site



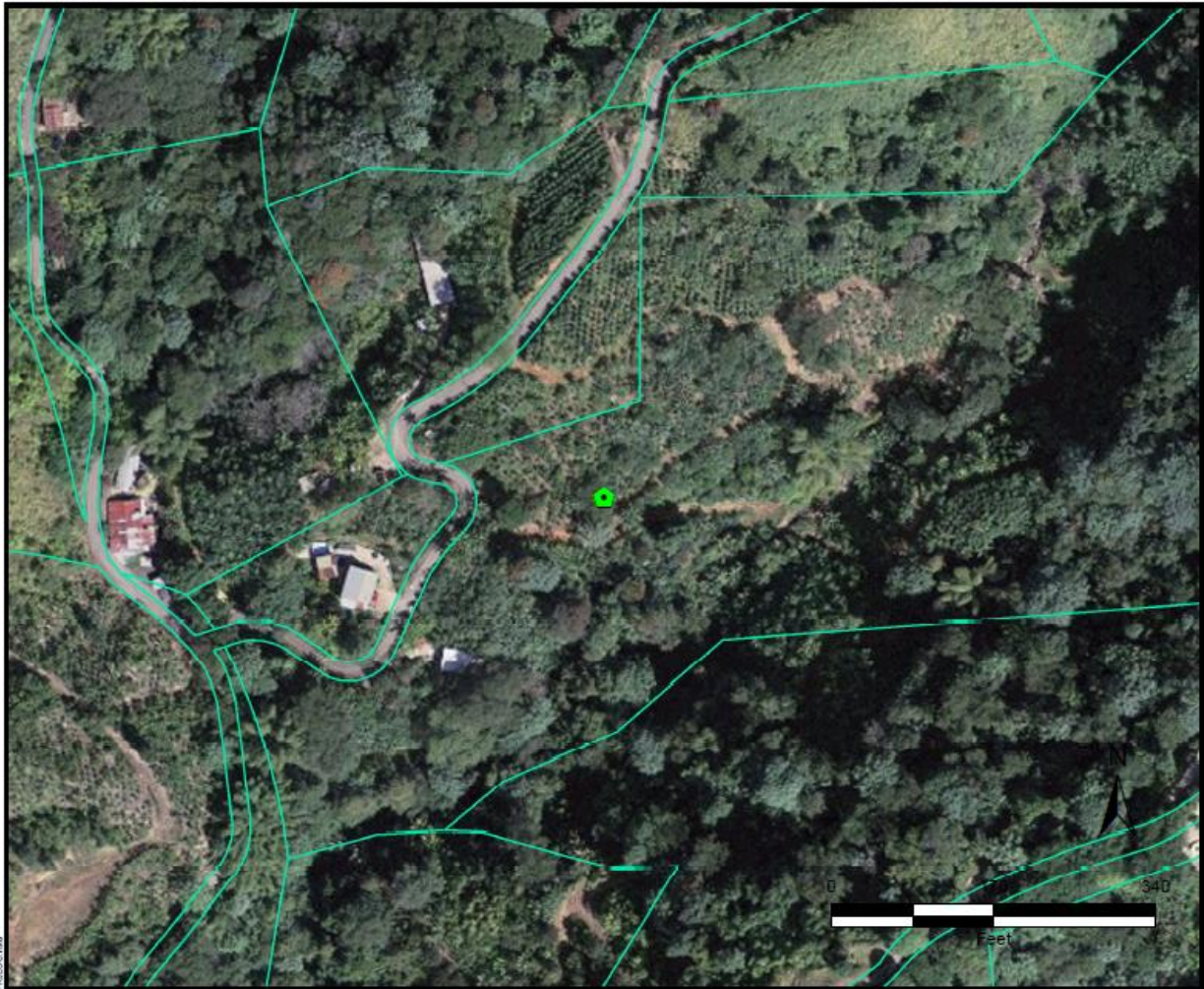
Parcelario



Area of Potential Effect



Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map








TETRA TECH

Source: CRIM

Author: TG

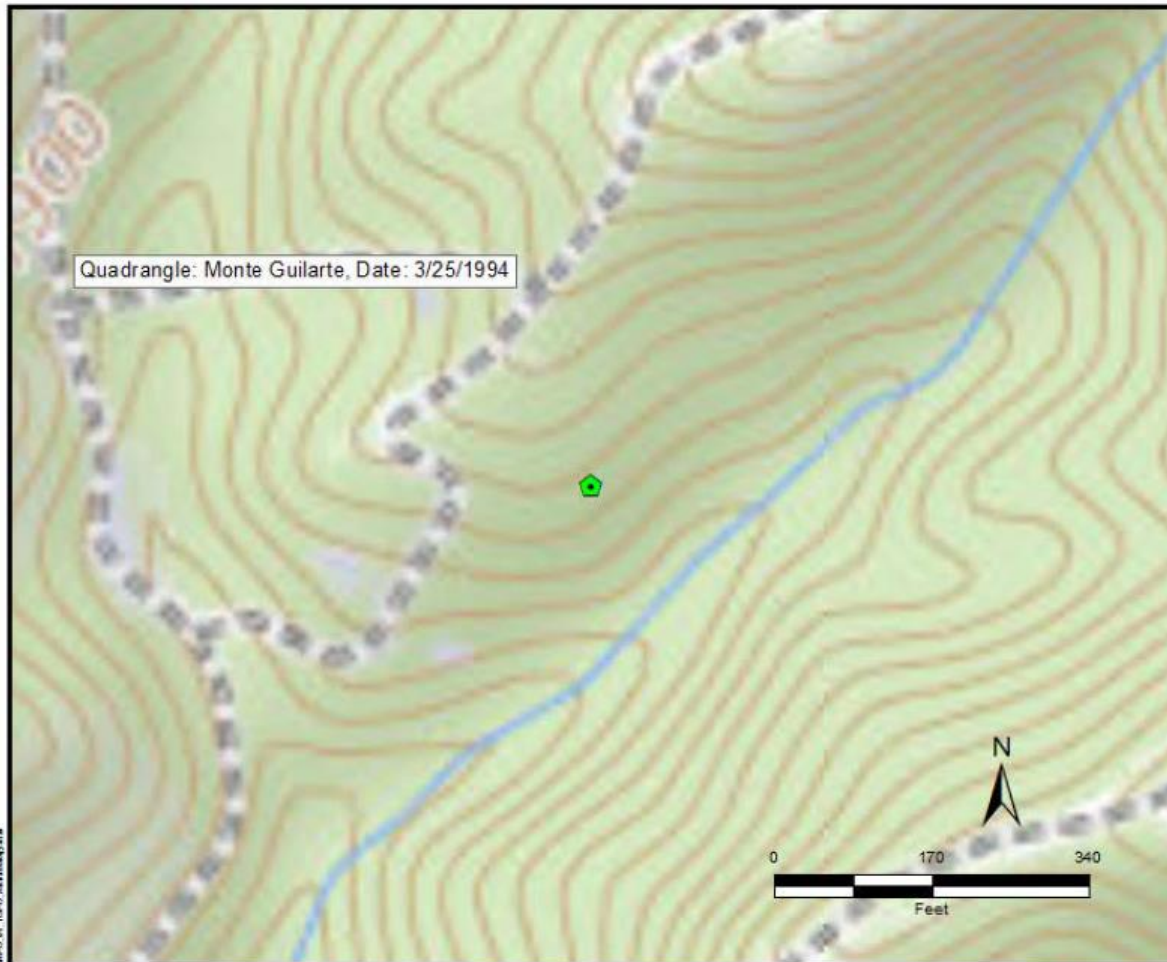
Date: 9/22/2022

Legend

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



Project (Parcel) Location - USGS Topographic Map







Source: USGS

Author: TG

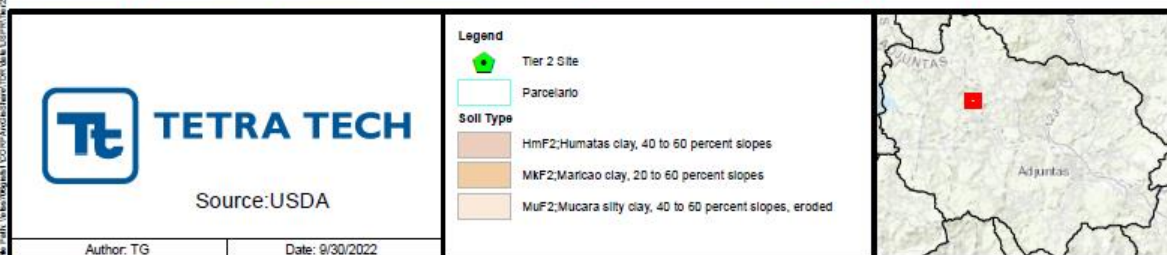
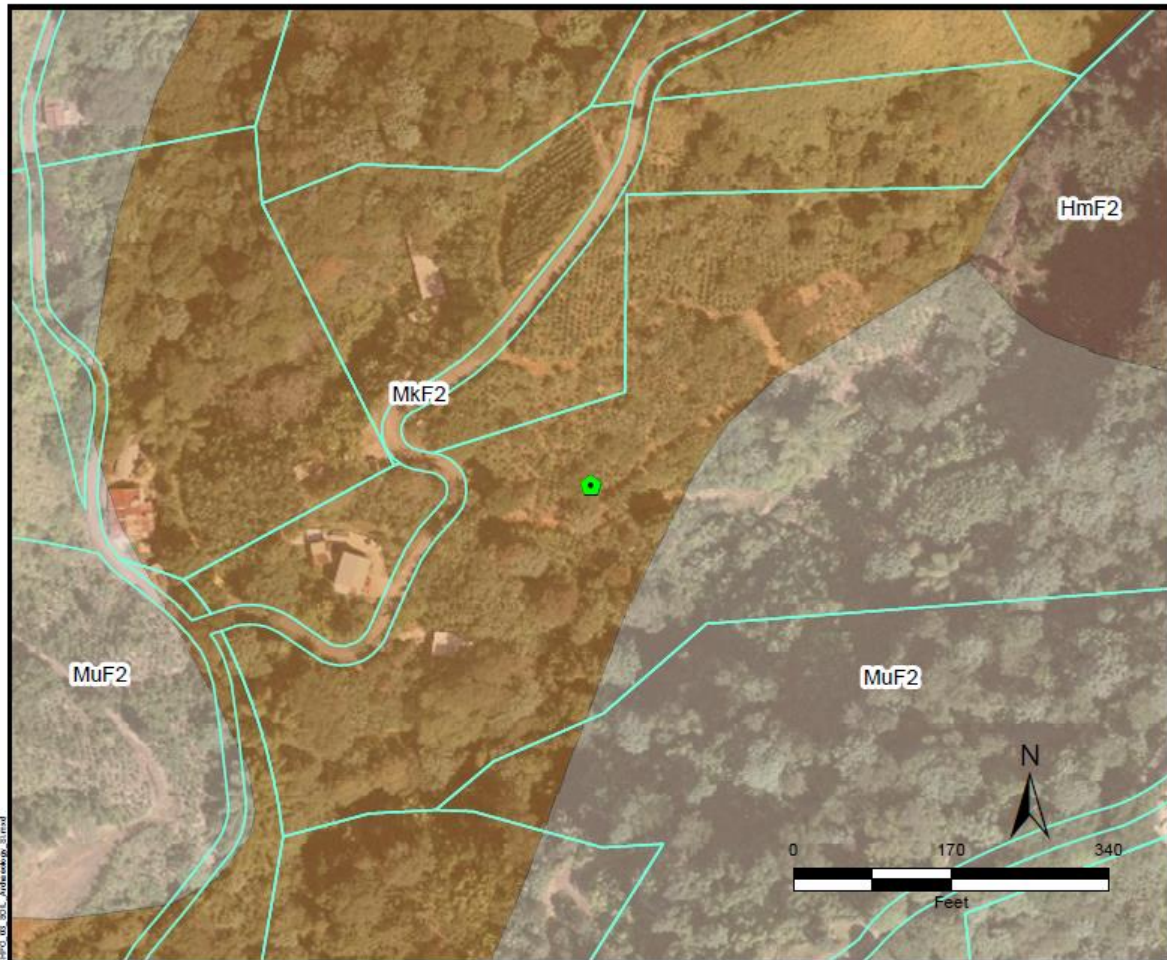
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Legend

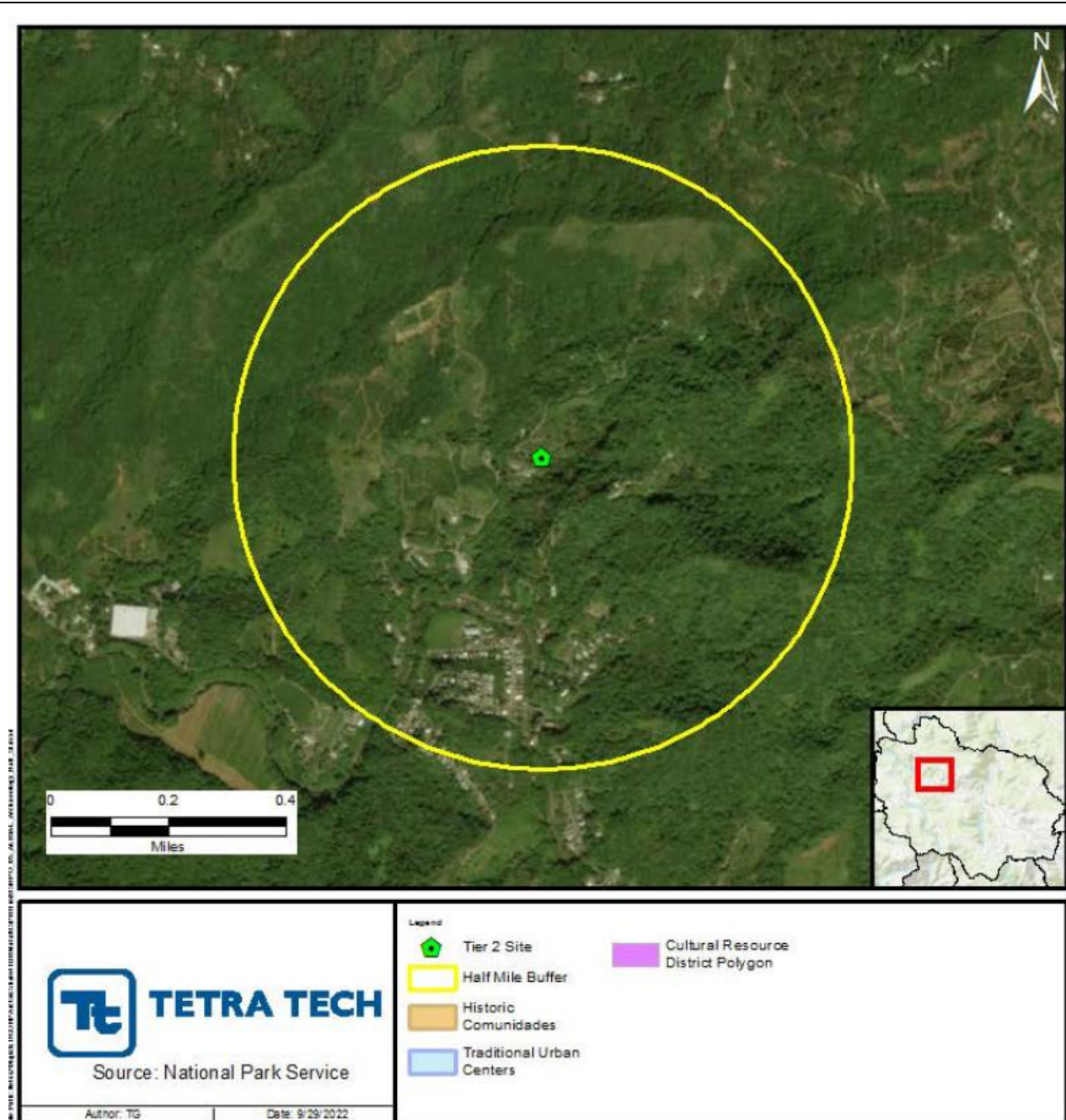
-  Tier 2 Site
-  Historic Comunidades
-  Traditional Urban Centers
-  Cultural Resource District Polygon



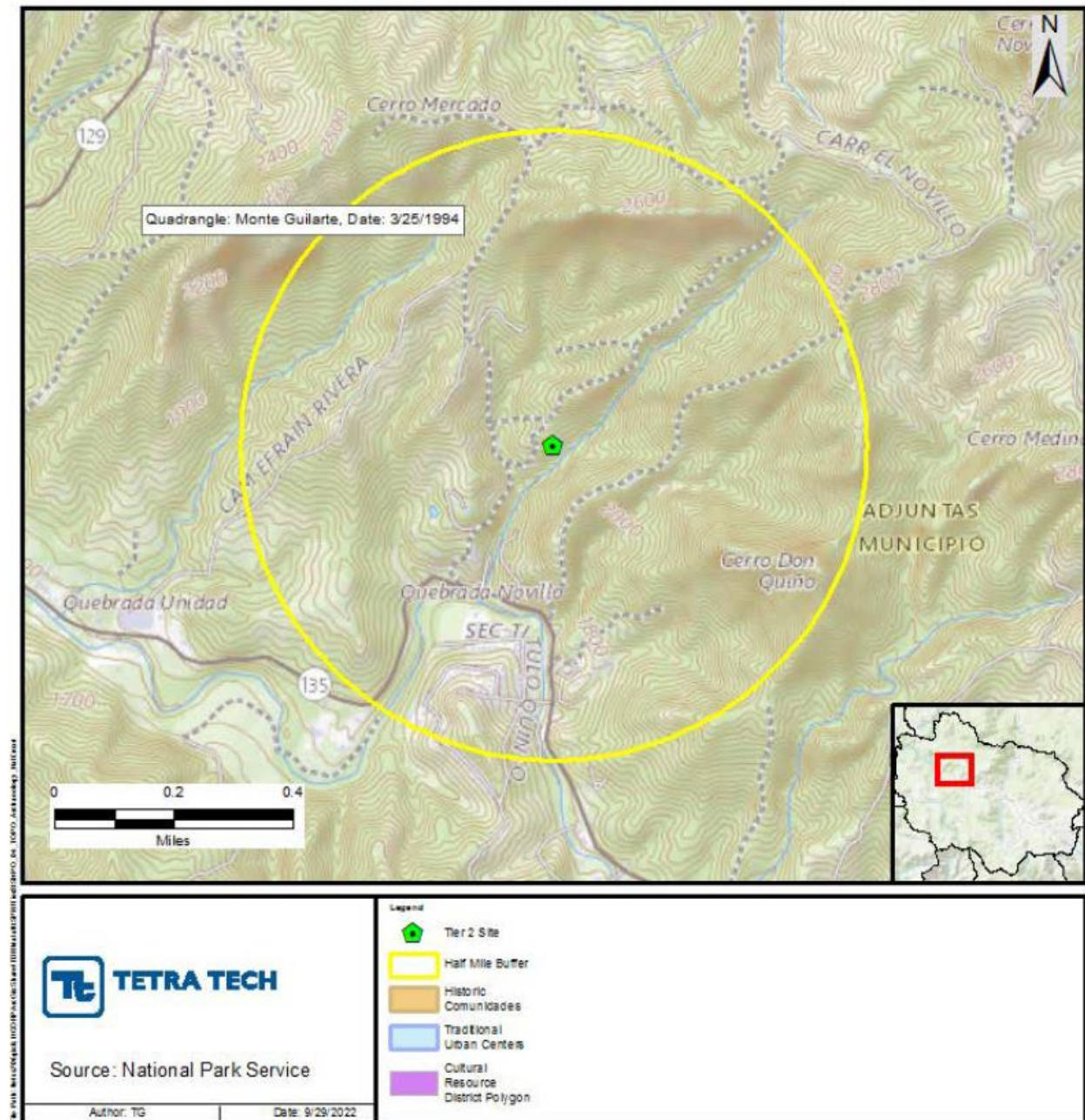
Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map



Project (Parcel) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map



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



Photograph Key




PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Subrecipient: FINCA BERMUDEZ LOPEZ INC.		SHPO ID: 01-04-23-06
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034		City: Adjuntas



Photo # 1:	Description (include direction): South
Date: 11/21/2022	Scope of Work, Area 1



Photo # 2:	Description (include direction): South
Date: 11/21/2022	Scope of Work, Area 2

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Subrecipient: FINCA BERMUDEZ LOPEZ INC.

SHPO ID: 01-04-23-06

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034

City: Adjuntas



Photo # 3:

Description (include direction): Northeast

Date: 11/21/2022

Scope of Work, Area 3



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,


Juan C. Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng
Director of Disaster Recovery
CDBG DR-MIT



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

January 26, 2023

Lauren Bair Poche

HORNE- Architectural Historian Manager
10000 Perkins Rowe, Suite 610 Bldg G
Baton Rouge, LA 70810

SHPO: 01-04-23-06 PUERTO RICO DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR RE-GROW
PR URBAN-RURAL AGRICULTURAL RE-GROW PROGRAM, PR-RGRW-00034,
FINCA BERMÚDEZ LÓPEZ INC., BO. YAHUECAS, PR-135 KM 14.9 INT., ADJUNTAS,
PUERTO RICO

Dear 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/LGC



January 5, 2023

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela
Director Ejecutivo
Oficina Estatal de Conservación Histórica
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-00034 – Finca Bermúdez López Inc. – Carretera PR-135 Km 14.9 Interior, Barrio Yahuecas, Adjuntas, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected*

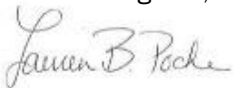
Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

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

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, we are submitting documentation for activities proposed by Finca Bermúdez López Inc. at Carretera PR-135 Km 14.9 Interior, Barrio Yahuecas in the municipality of Adjuntas. This undertaking will involve the construction of one new greenhouse measuring 100' long by 30' wide with an irrigation system, and a solar array installed on an existing structure. Based on the submitted documentation prepared by SOI-qualified Archaeologist Jesus E. Vega, Ph.D., the Program requests a concurrence that a determination of No Historic Properties Affected is appropriate for this proposed project.


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

Kindest regards,



Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.

Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Senior Manager
Enclosures

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Applicant: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034	City: Adjuntas	

Project Location: Carretera PR-135 Km 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, Adjuntas, PR	
Project Coordinates: 18.200780, -66.781080	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 239-000-003-14-001	
Type of Undertaking: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): c1985	Property Size (acres): 8.49

SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian: n/a
Date Reviewed: n/a
SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jesus E. Vega, Ph.D.
Date Reviewed: December 20, 2022


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 activity at the farm of Finca Bermúdez López Inc. includes the construction of a new greenhouse, 100' long by 30' wide, with an irrigation system, and a solar array on an existing structure, with an available space of 60' by 30,' in compliance with Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination. This activity will require ground disturbance. The property is located at Carretera PR-135 Km 14.9 Interior Barrio Yahuecas, Municipality of Adjuntas. This land is currently used for harvesting coffee, citrus trees and plantains, and has been used for coffee cultivation by three generations.

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 includes a 100' long by 30' wide greenhouse with irrigation system, located at 18.20051° N, -66.78111° W, and a solar array on an existing structure, with an available space of 60' by 30,' at 18.20035° N, -66.78152° W. The direct APE includes a 15-meter buffer to the rear and sides. The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Applicant: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034	City: Adjuntas	

Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology


Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that there are no reported archaeological sites and/or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties within a half-mile radius of the property. "No data" in Table 1 denotes no corresponding Institute of Puerto Rican Culture (IPRC), State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), or National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) identification was found. The proposed project is located in rural, mountainous terrain, on soil classified as Maricao clay (MkF2), with 20 to 60 percent slopes, surrounded by secondary forest vegetation cover, 575 meters above mean sea level. The south coast is approximately 14.19 miles south of the property. The closest fresh-water bodies are Quebrada Novillo, 0.02 miles southeast, Río Guilarte, 0.26 miles southwest, and Quebrada Unidad, 0.36 miles northwest. There are three Phase 1 archaeological studies conducted within a half-mile radius of the APE, reported in Table 2 below.

Table 1. Archaeological Sites and/or NRHP Listed/Eligible Historic Properties Within a Half-Mile Radius of Project Area

Name	SHPO ID	IPRC ID	Location	Description	NRHP
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data

Table 2. Cultural Resource Studies Conducted Within a Half-Mile Radius of Project Area

Author	Title	Year	SHPO/IPRC ID	Results	Location
Jesús S. Figueroa Lugo	Phase 1A-1B, Mejoras Acueducto Rural Yahuecas, etc.	1993	CAT-AD-93-01-02	Negative	0.25 mi SW
Virginia Rivera Calderón	Phase 1A-1B, Mejoras al Sistema de Distribución de Agua Bo. Yahuecas	2007	CAT-AD-07-04-06	Negative	0.25 mi SW
Jaqueline López Meléndez	Phase 1A, nforme de inspección de proyectos de emergencia, PR-135	2006	CAT-AD-06-04-08	Negative	0.25 mi SW


PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Applicant: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034	City: Adjuntas

Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, there are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project area. There are no known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties within or adjacent to where the direct Area of Potential Effect (APE) of case PR-RGRW-00034 is located. The proposed project area is not within the boundaries or visual APE of any NRHP listed/eligible historic properties, or to a Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. The surrounding terrain has been terraced, but appears to have been originally sloped and not considered sensitive to prehistoric and early historic occupation. Otherwise, the terrain has been minimally impacted by construction of agricultural infrastructure and public roads. Three Phase I studies by Figueroa Lugo (1993), Rivera Calderón (2007) and López Meléndez (2006), within a half-mile radius, do not report any sites at or adjacent to the APE. Therefore, the Program has determined that project actions described in the undertaking will not impact any cultural properties.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Applicant: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034	City: Adjuntas

Recommendation

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

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

This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

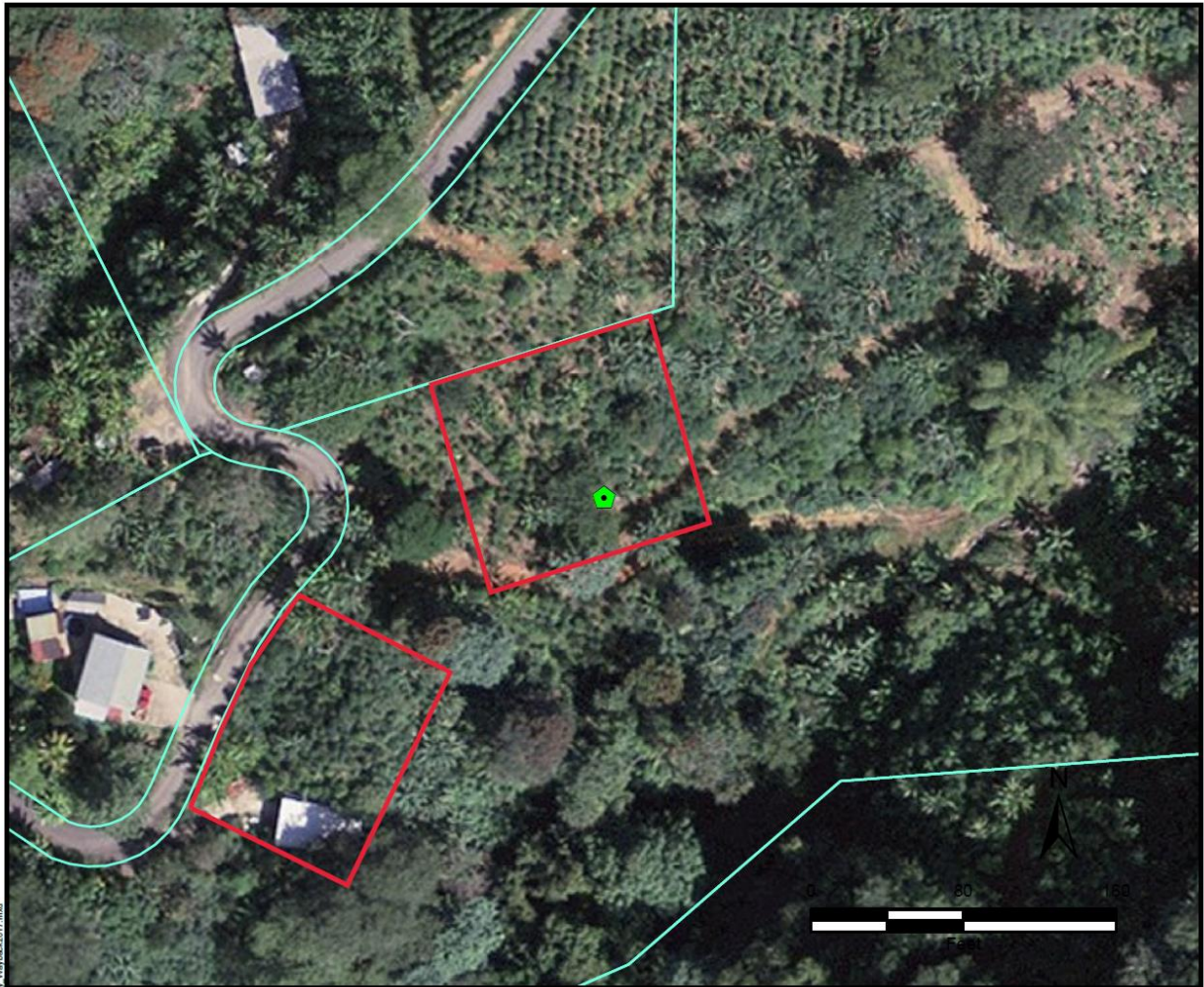
The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the above information and: <input type="checkbox"/> Concurs with the information provided. <input type="checkbox"/> Does not concur with the information provided.	
Comments: 	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation Officer	Date:

Applicant: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034

City: Adjuntas

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



File Path: Z:\data\USPRT\106APE_Archaeology_Secundary_Images_V\Wayback2017.mxd



TETRA TECH

Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 10/7/2022

Legend



Tier 2 Site



Parcelario



Area of Potential Effect

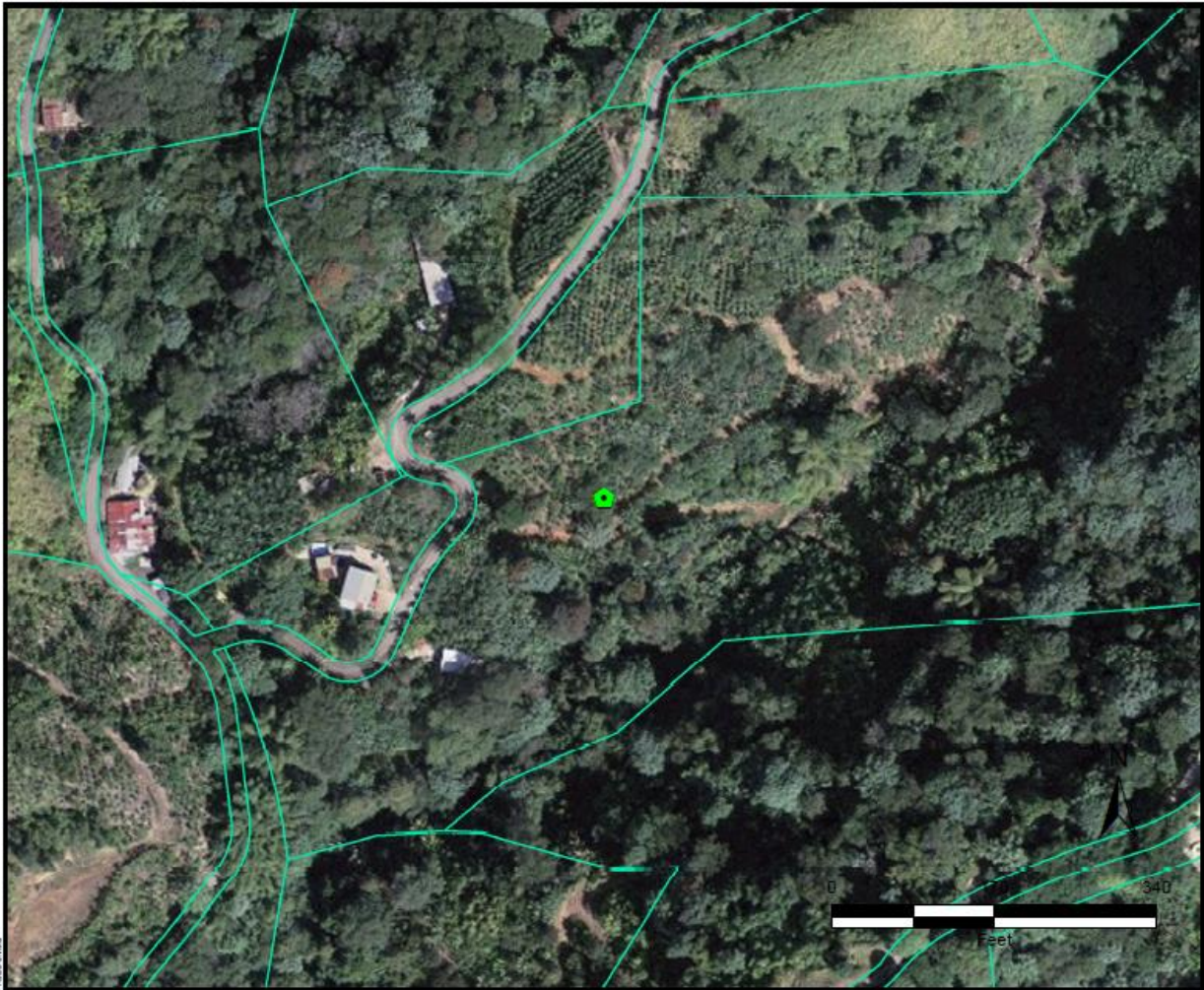


Applicant: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034

City: Adjuntas

Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map








TETRA TECH

Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 9/22/2022

Legend

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

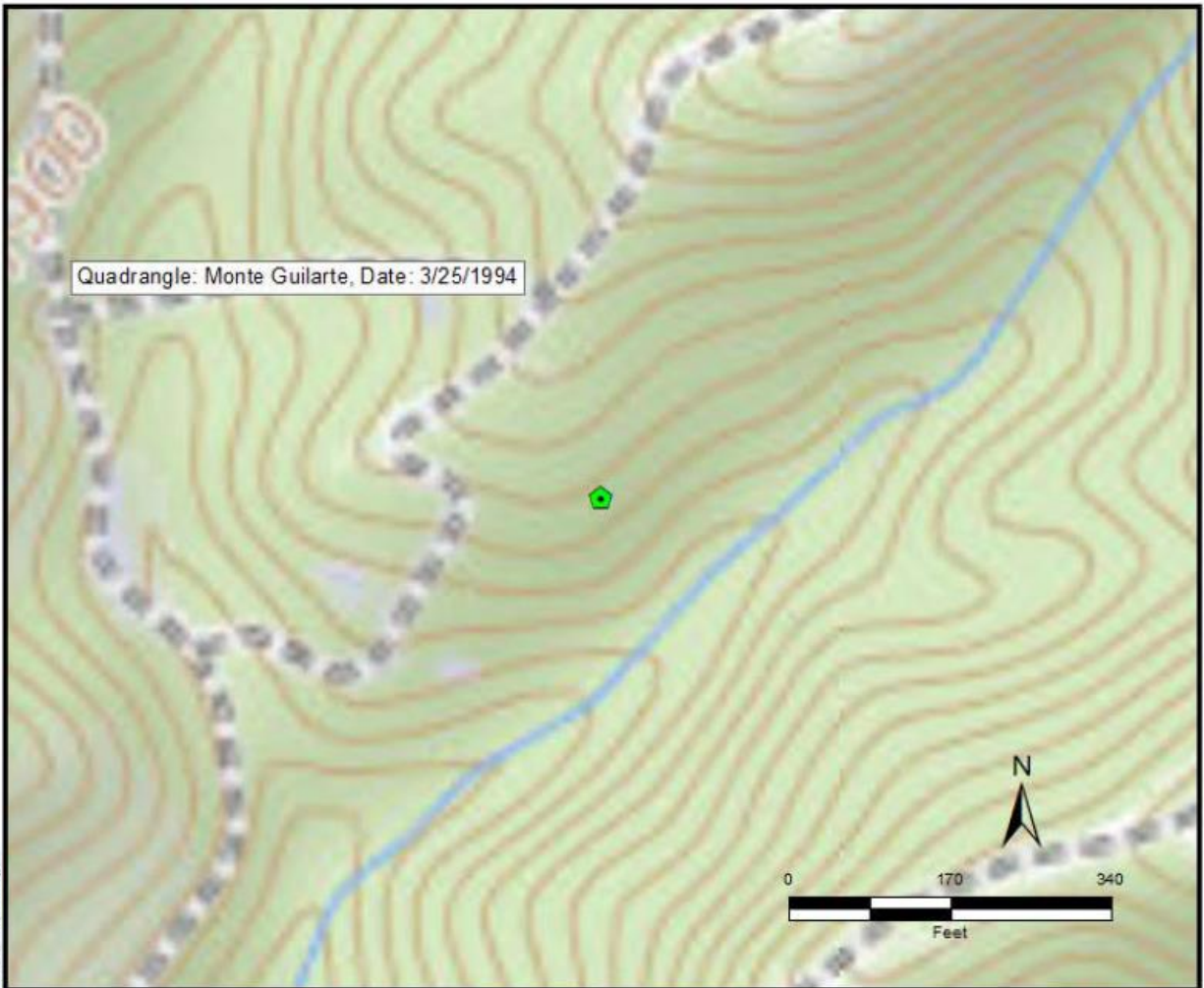


Applicant: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034

City: Adjuntas

Project (Parcel) Location - USGS Topographic Map







Source: USGS

Author: TG

Date: 9/29/2022

Legend

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

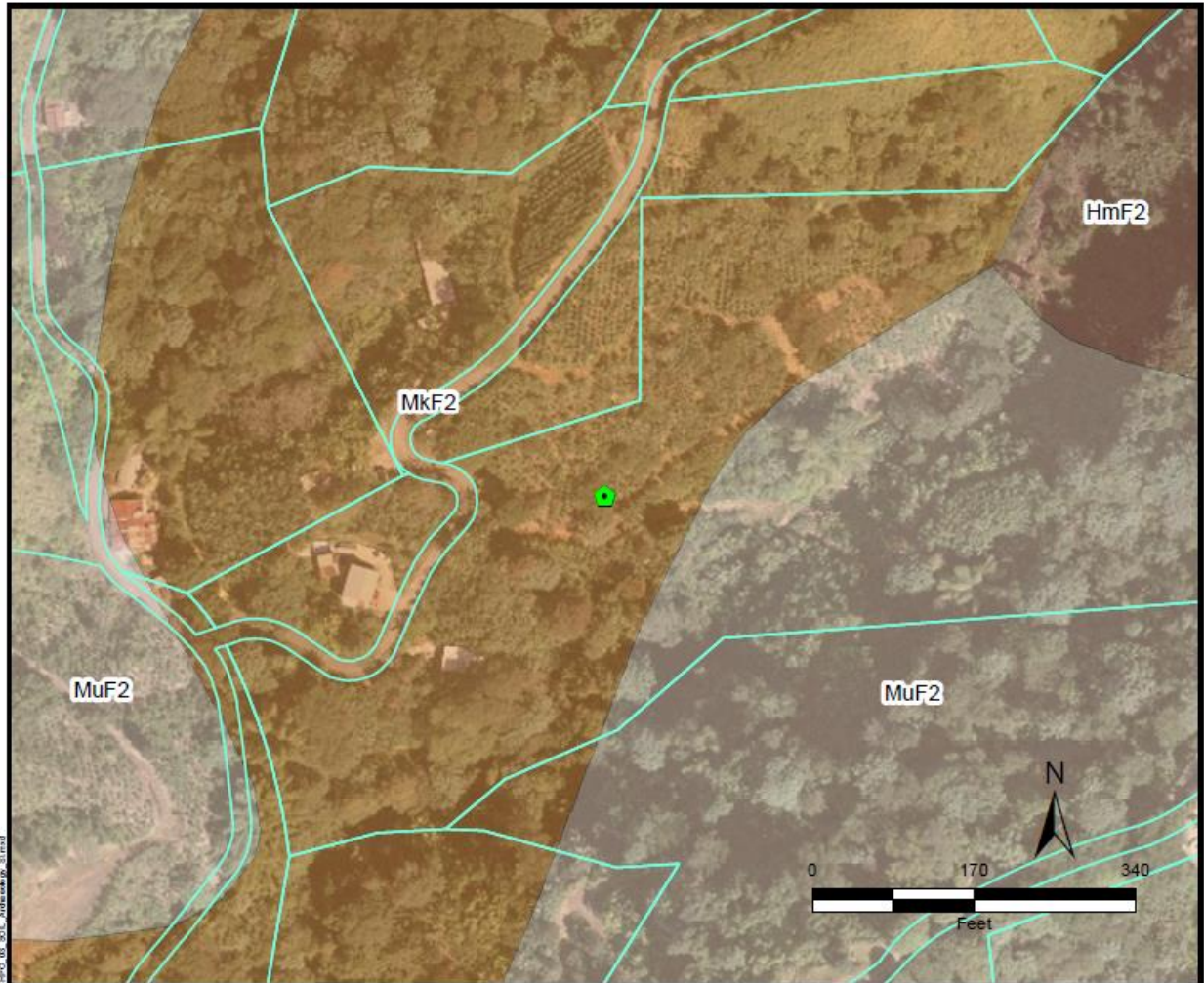


Applicant: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034

City: Adjuntas

Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map



TETRA TECH

Source: USDA

Author: TG

Date: 9/30/2022

Legend



Tier 2 Site

Parcelario

Soil Type

HmF2: Humatas clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes

MkF2: Maricao clay, 20 to 60 percent slopes

MuF2: Mucara silty clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded

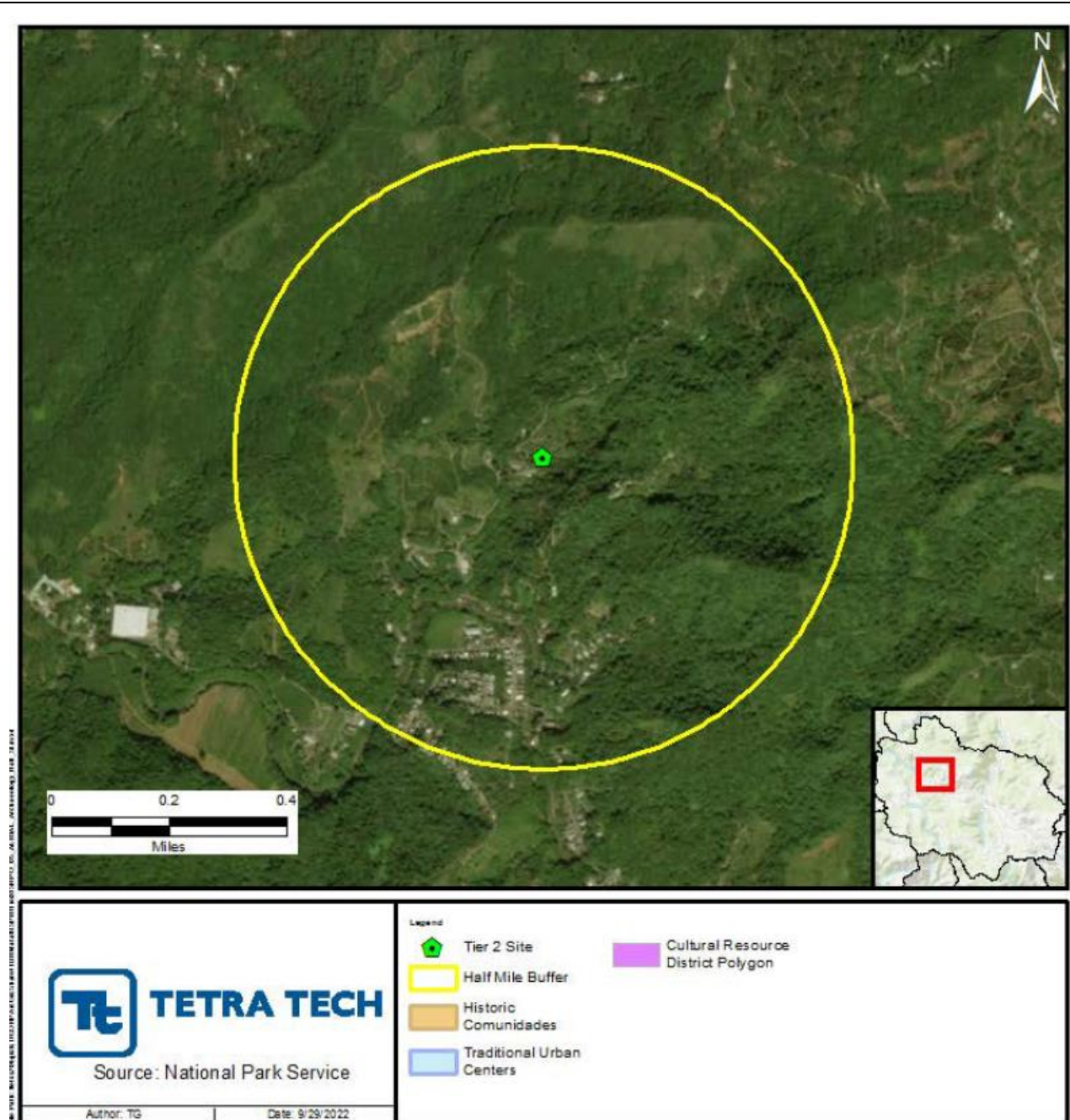


Applicant: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034

City: Adjuntas

Project (Parcel) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map

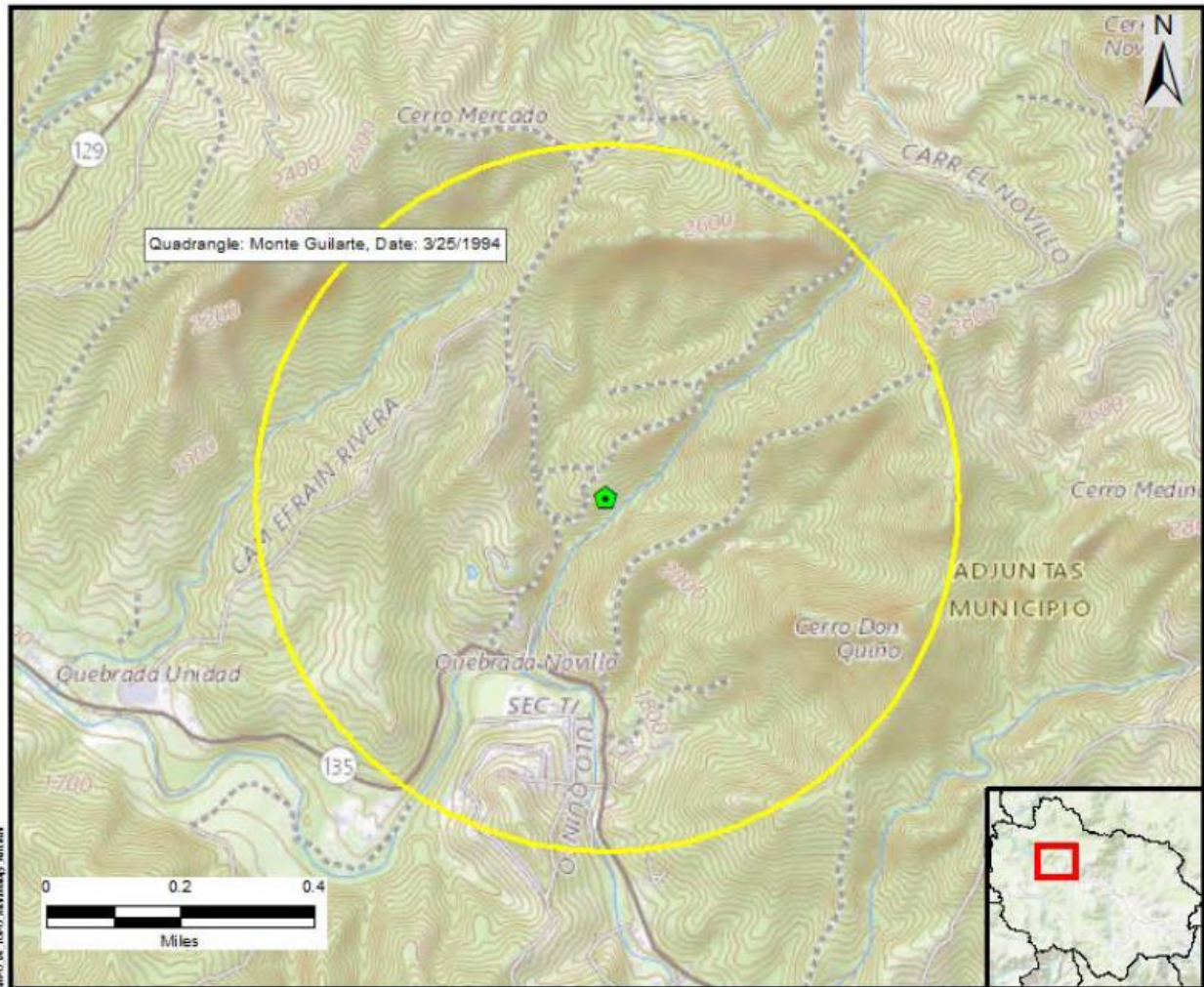


Applicant: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034

City: Adjuntas

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



Source: National Park Service

Author: TG

Date: 9/29/2022

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

Applicant: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034

City: Adjuntas

Photograph Key




PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Applicant: Finca Bermudez Lopez Inc.		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00034		City: Adjuntas



Photo # 1:	Description (include direction): South
Date: 11/21/2022	Scope of Work, Area 1



Photo # 2:	Description (include direction): South
Date: 11/21/2022	Scope of Work, Area 2



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,

Juan C. Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng

Director of Disaster Recovery

CDBG DR-MIT