Environmental Assessment Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects 24 CFR Part 58

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-00875

Project Name: Finca El Reverdecer

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico/Ponce, 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 5.450.72-acre site located at Bo. Real Anón Carr. 511 Km 7.1, in the Municipality of Ponce, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 317-070-018-03). The proposed project parcel is located at 18.100390, -66.565660. Previously an empty lot, the land is now used for the cultivation of table vegetable crops. A single greenhouse structure is currently in use. The site has a storage building and bathroom facilities.

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

The proposed project area is approximately 0.733 acres. The proposed use of grant funds is for the construction of a new greenhouse, installation of a deep water well, and purchase of a portable generator.

The new 70-foot by 30-foot greenhouse would be located within the 41-foot by 75-foot space located at 18.10029, -66.56555, north of the existing greenhouse structure.

The new 350- to 400-foot deep water well would be located within the 20-foot by 15-foot space located at 18.10039, -66.56566, northwest of the existing greenhouse structure. The area for the well would be completely disturbed by the drilling equipment during the installation of the well. The finished concrete well pad would be 4-foot by 4-foot.

Upon installation of the well, the applicant plans to purchase a portable generator. The applicant receives energy from the off-grid system, and for water the site is connected to the Puerto Rico Autoridad de Acueductos y Alcantarillados. No changes to existing structures are associated with this undertaking.

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 inland wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. This agricultural project associated with the construction of a new greenhouse, installation of a new water well, and purchase of a portable generator 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 construction of a new greenhouse, installation of a deep water well, is used for agricultural purposes. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with the project. Some ground disturbance will be required. The property is located on a rural, mountainous area covered with dense secondary woodland vegetation cover. The south side of the road in front of the property is developed with residences.

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-18-DP-72-0001	CDBG-DR, Re-Grow Puerto Rico	\$172,500,000
B-17-DM-72-0001	Urban-Rural Agricultural	
	Program	

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$38,381

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$38,381

Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities

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

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 REGULATION	ONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No	The project consists of the construction of a new greenhouse, installation of a new water well, and purchase of a new portable generator. The nearest airport is approximately 32,139 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport is approximately 212,395 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 Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes No	Puerto Rico has various Coastal Barrier Resources Systems (CBRS). The project is in inland southern Puerto Rico. The distance to the nearest CBRS unit is 43,123 feet. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. Refer to Figure 3 in 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	The Project site is not located in a 100-year floodplain per Floodplain Insurance Map 72000C1655J, effective date November 18, 2009. This project is in compliance with Floodplain Insurance requirements. (See Figures 4, 5, and 6 in Appendix B .)
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STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS,	AND REGULATI	ONS 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	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 Ponce 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 construction of a new greenhouse, installation of a new water well, and purchase of a portable generator for an agricultural site. The installation and operation of the greenhouse and well 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	The project is located 36,122 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	A site visit conducted on November 22, 2022, some debris including used water pipes, fencing wire, metal sheeting, and an empty barrel was noted. No visible signs of leaks, 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.
Endangered Species	Yes No	The project will have No Effect on listed species. According to EPA NEPAssist Enviromapper, the nearest critical or proposed critical habitat is

Endangered Species Act of		47,788 feet to the southwest of the project
1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402		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, and Puerto Rican Parrot 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 new greenhouse and new well site would be next to the current greenhouse that has been used for agricultural purposes in the past and the area is cleared of trees, The portable generator would be used near the existing and new greenhouses and new well.
		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 will be notified to relocate the Boa. 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.
Explosive and Flammable Hazards	Yes No	The project does not include development, construction, or rehabilitation that will increase residential density.
24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C		The project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable Hazard requirements.
		Refer to site visit report in Appendix A .
Farmlands Protection Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	Yes No	The project site is not designated as Prime Farmland or farmland of statewide importance. The proposed project includes construction of a new greenhouse, installation of new water well, and purchase of a portable generator. The project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to nonagricultural use. This project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. Refer to Figure 12 in Appendix B.

Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	Yes No	The Project site is not located in a 100-year floodplain per Floodplain Insurance Map 72000C1655J, effective date November 18, 2009. 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 Figure 6 in Appendix B .)
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	Yes No	The site was evaluated on December 14, 2022, by and SOI Qualified Archaeologist. Documentation with maps was subsequently submitted to SHPO on December 16, 2022 (Appendix E). SHPO concurred with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected within the project's Area of Potential on Effects on January 17, 2023. This project is in compliance with Historic Preservation requirements. (See Figure 13 in Appendix B and Appendix E).
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	HUD's noise regulations protect residential properties from excessive noise exposure. The proposed project involves the construction of a new greenhouse, installation of a new water well, and purchase of a portable generator at a 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	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	The closest fresh-water bodies are feet away. It is approximately 51,269 feet from the south coast, and the closest body of fresh-water body, Lago Cerrillos, is 3,336 feet to the southwest. The NWI maps show no wetlands on the or adjacent to the project site. 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	This project is not within proximity of a National Wild and Scenic River (WSR). The distance to the nearest WSR is approximately 276,164 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	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 11988.

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

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

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

Environmental	Impact	
Assessment Factor	Code	Impact Evaluation
LAND DEVELOP	MENT	
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The proposed project is located on a private farm. The project site is not zoned. The proposed action is construction of a new greenhouse, installation of a new water well, and purchase of a portable generator. The proposed action is compliant with the current agricultural land use of the Project area.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	The proposed project is located on a rural, mountainous area, on soil classified as Quebrada silty clay loam (QeF2), with 40 to 60 percent slopes, and covered with dense secondary woodland vegetation cover. The project sites are graded and in located near an existing greenhouse.
		Projects larger than 1 acre must comply with the CWA and develop a SWPPP with the NPDES. The proposed project area is approximately 0.733 acres.
		The project site area is rated "low" for landslide susceptibility. See Figure 16 in Appendix B . The proposed location of the

		greenhouse and well has been evenly graded. There will be little to no additional runoff associated with the project.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	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.
		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.
Energy Consumption	2	The project site is not connected to the local electricity provider. The project would include a small generator to power the pump for the new well. There would be no substantial change in energy demand in the area.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOA	AIC .	
Employment and Income Patterns	2	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.
		The proposed project would not negatively impact employment or income patterns.
Demographic	2	The proposed project would not result in demographic character changes or displacement. Given the nature of the

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation	
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES			
Educational and Cultural Facilities		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 site includes an existing bathroom facility. Current farm conditions would remain unchanged.
Water Supply	2	Applicant has access to a water supply from the local utility with auxiliary water storage tanks. The proposed project will include installation of a new well and would have no impact on area water usage.
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 or water resources.
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	There will be no impact to the climate as a result of this project as land use does not change. The project site is already cleared of dense vegetation and is covered with grass. The new greenhouse would grow vegetation. There would be no change in the amount of vegetative area, thus no change in the amount of carbon dioxide exchange.

Additional Studies Performed: None required

Field Inspection (Date and completed by):

Site inspection was conducted on November 22, 2022 by Jose Trouche.

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:

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

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, Puerto Rico <u>map.</u> <u>www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf</u>

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 supply from the new well. 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 the construction of a new greenhouse, installation of a new well, and purchase of a portable generator. 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 action is proposed in an area near the existing greenhouse. There would be connection to existing water supplies. Alternative locations on the property would be farther from the greenhouse and would require longer connections to the new well.

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 greenhouse, new water well, and portable generator 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:

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.

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

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:				
Name/Title/Organization: <u>Clifford Jarman, Senior Environmental Scientist, Tetra Tech Inc.</u>				
Certifying Officer Signature:				
Name/Title: Sally Z. Acevedo Cosme- 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						
Applicant Name						
Property Address	Barrio Real Anon Carretera 511 kilometro 7.1,					
Project Parcel ID	317-070-018-03					
Coordinates						
Inspector Name	·					
· ·						
Inspection Date Building Type		11/22/2022				
Sanang . ypc	Concrete_M	Concrete_Metal				
Number of Units	1	1				
Number of Stories	1					
Year Built; Data Source	2014; Jesus	2014; Jesus Vega				
ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS (attach photos and notes, as necessary, for any YES answers)						
OBSERVATION ITEMS	YES	NO	COMMENTS			
A. Is the structure in use?	V		Current greenhouse used for table vegetables			
B. is structure a greenhouse?	V					
C. Is Electricity connected?		V				
D. Is water connected? (Utilities or Well)			Site is connected to local water utility			
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.)	Ø		Pile of used water pipes, fencing wire, metal sheeting, tarps, and an empty barrel.			
2. Are there any 55-gallon drums visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	Ø		One barrel that appears empty. No leaks.			
3. Are there any (or signs of any) underground storage tanks on the property?		Ø				
4 . Are there signs of ASTs on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	Ø		3 x 800 gallons 400 gallons Water reservoirs Water reservoirs			
5. Is there any stained soil or pavement on the parcel?		Ø				
6. Is a water drainage system in use?		Ø				
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of Fertilizer or Pesticides?		V				
8. Are there any groundwater monitoring wells on the site or adjacent parcel?		Ø				
9. Is there evidence of a faulty septic system?		Ø				
10. Is there distressed vegetation on the parcel?		$\overline{\checkmark}$				







11. Is there any visible indication of MOLD?	V	
12. Is there any visible evidence of asbestos, chipping, flaking or peeling paint, or hazardous materials present in or on the structure?	V	
13. Are any additional site hazards observed?	\	
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)?	V	
15 . Does the subject property have water frontage ?	√	
16. Is there any indication of the presence of Wetlands?		
17 . Are there any obvious signs of animals or birds nesting on or near the site?	V	
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?	V	
19. Is a historic marker present?	\(\)	

Additional Notes:

Case:00875

Correct coordinates: 18.10060° N, -66.56534° W

Scope of Work: Scope of work 1:

18.10029° N, -66.56555° W Greenhouse tunnel 70 x 30 ft Available space 41ft x 75 ft

Scope of work 2: 18.10039° N, -66.56566° W Water well Estimated depth is around 350ft - 400ft Available space 20ft x 15ft

Land current in use for:

Land is currently in used to cultivate table vegetable crops

Past land use was: Empty lot

What the applicant plans to do:

The purchase of a portable generator and construction and installation of water well and greenhouse tunnel

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

Scope of work 1:

18.10029° N, -66.56555° W

Scope of work 2:

18.10039° N, -66.56566° W

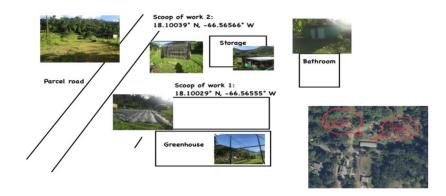
Any new water connection, well, cisterns or power connection: Applicant has energy from the off grid system, land is connected to the AAA





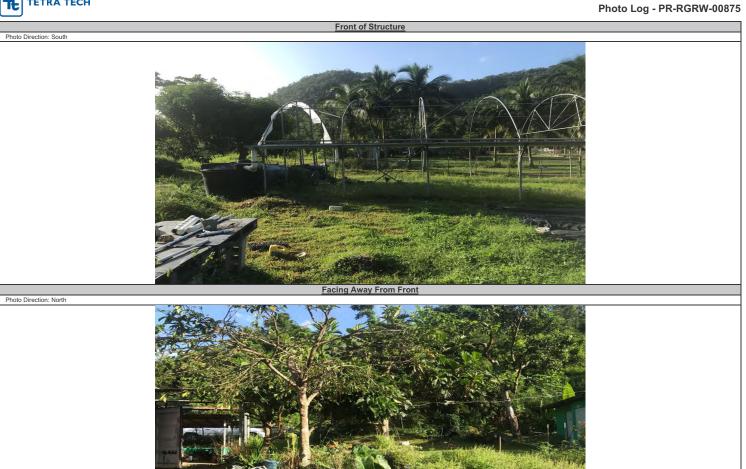


Site Sketch





































Outbu

Photo Description: Storage Photo Direction: Southwest

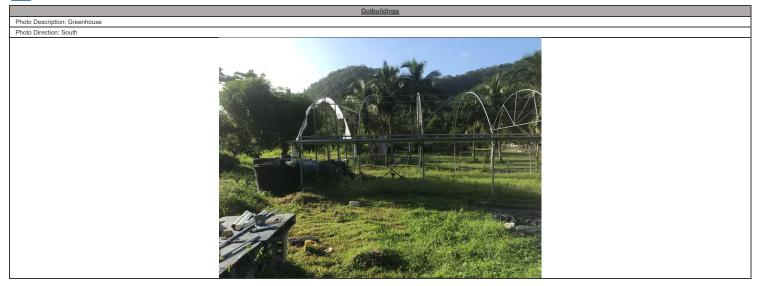


Outbuildings

Photo Description: Bathroom Photo Direction: Northeast









Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details
Photo Direction: Northeast







Photo Description: Architectural details
Photo Direction: East

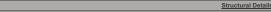


Photo Description: Architectural details
Photo Direction: North





Photo Description: Architectural details
Photo Direction: Northwest



Photo Description: Architectural details
Photo Direction: West









Photo Description: Scope of work 1 Photo Direction: East



Photo Description: Scope of work 1
Photo Direction: Southeast





Photo Description: Scope of work 1
Photo Direction: West



Photo Description: Scope of work 1
Photo Direction: Southeast





Photo Description: Scope of work 1
Photo Direction: South



Photo Description: Scope of work 1
Photo Direction: South





Photo Description: Scope of work 2
Photo Direction: West



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Scope of work 2
Photo Direction: Northeast

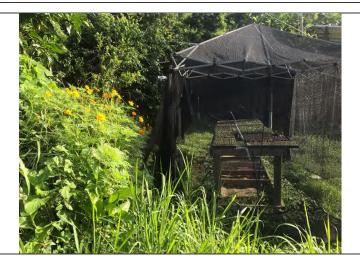




Photo Description: Scope of work 2
Photo Direction: Northwest



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Scope of work 2
Photo Direction: Northeast



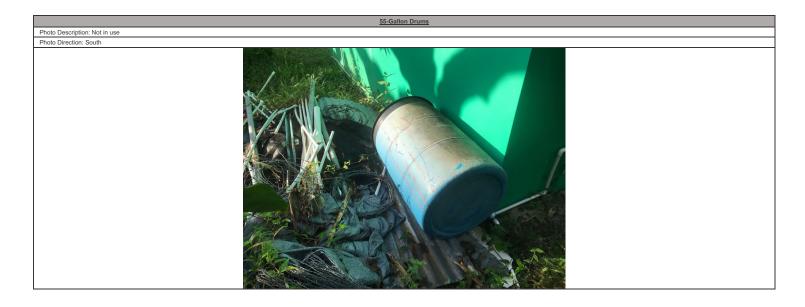














Aboveground Storage Tanks

Photo Description: Water reserves Photo Direction: Southwest

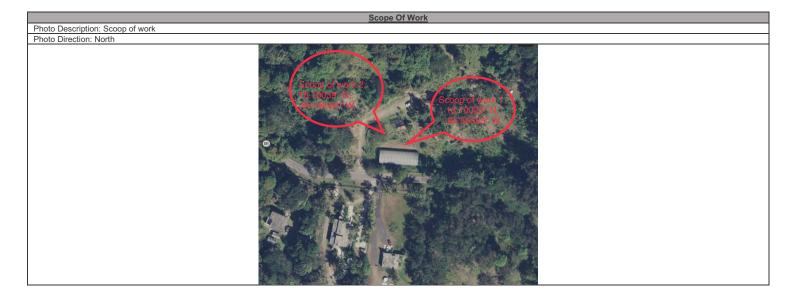


Aboveground Storage Tanks

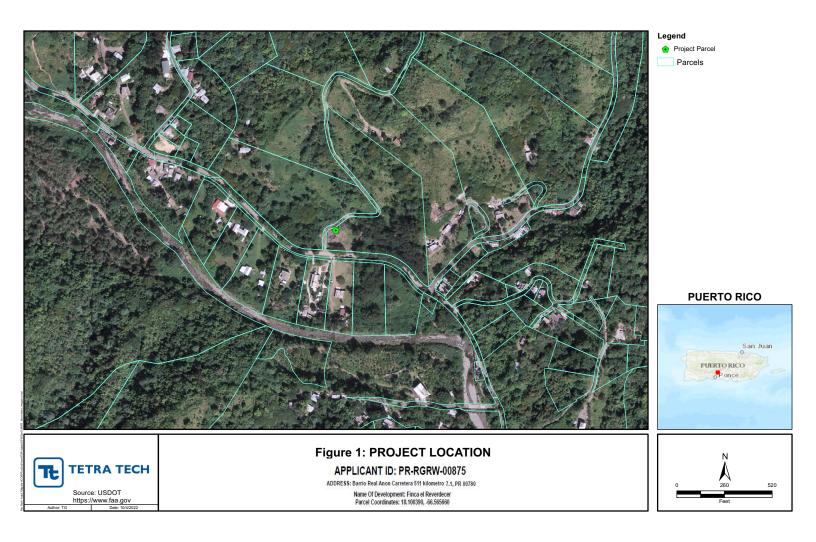
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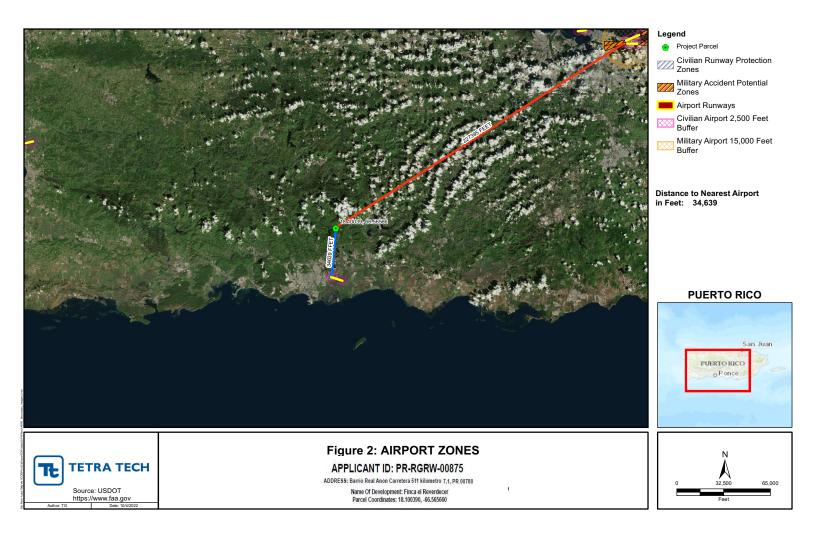


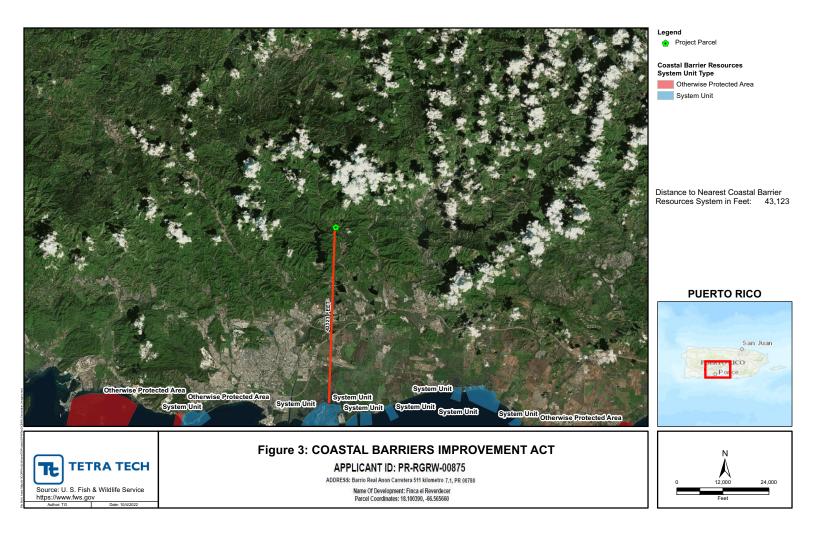




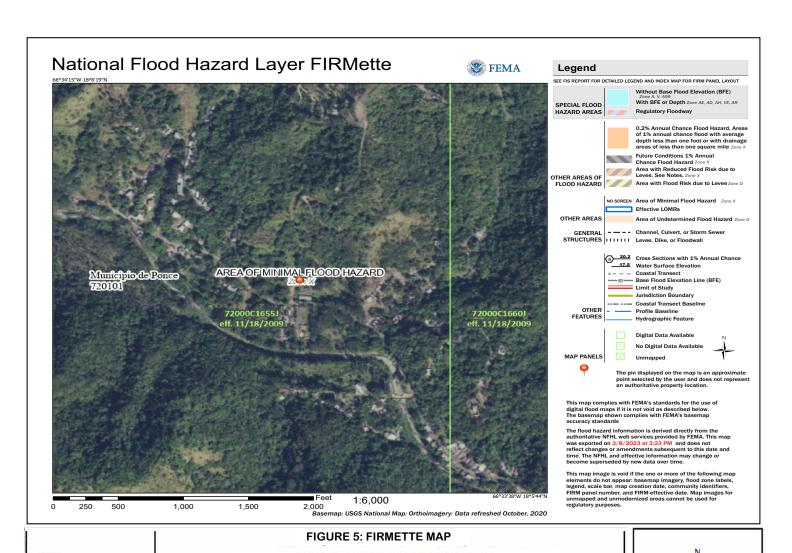
Appendix B











APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00875

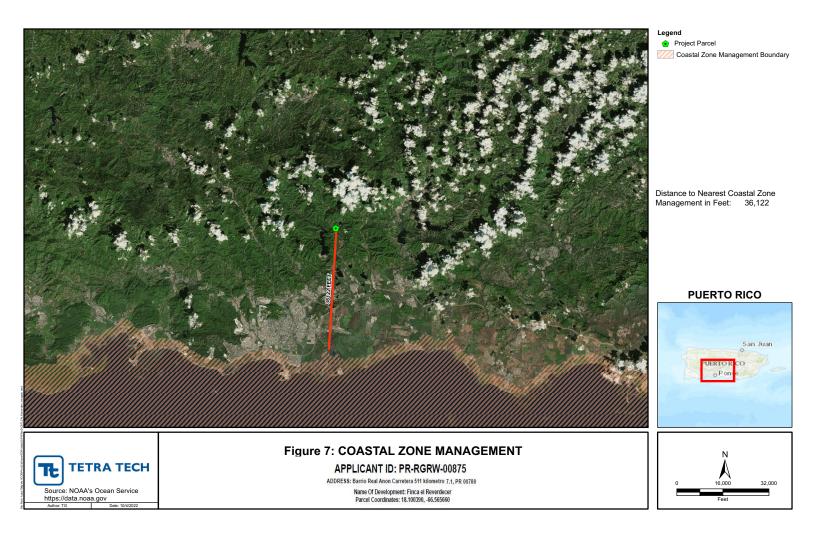
ADDRESS: Barrio Real Anon Carretera 511 kilometro 7.1, PR 00780

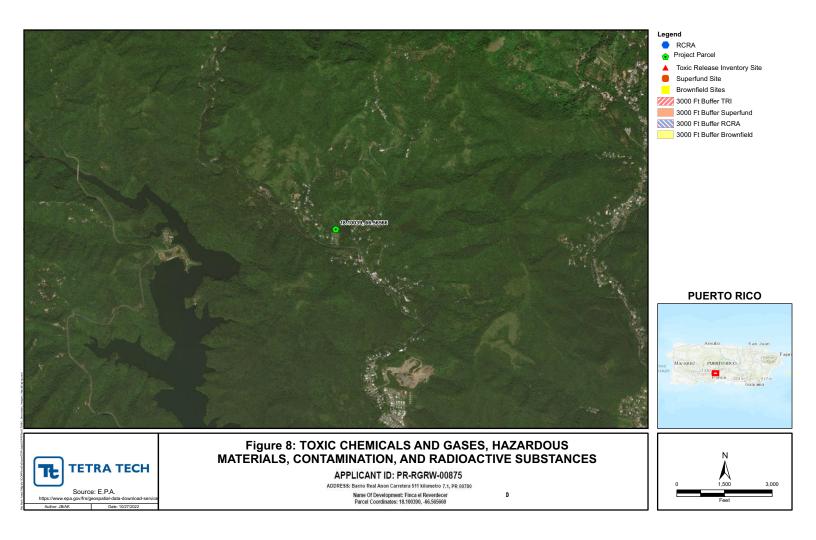
Name Of Development: Finca el Reverdecer
Parcel Coordinates: 18.100390, -66.565660

TETRA TECH









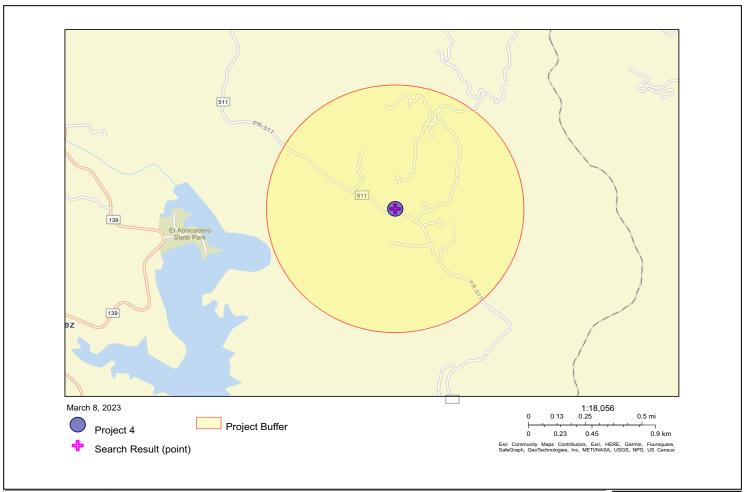




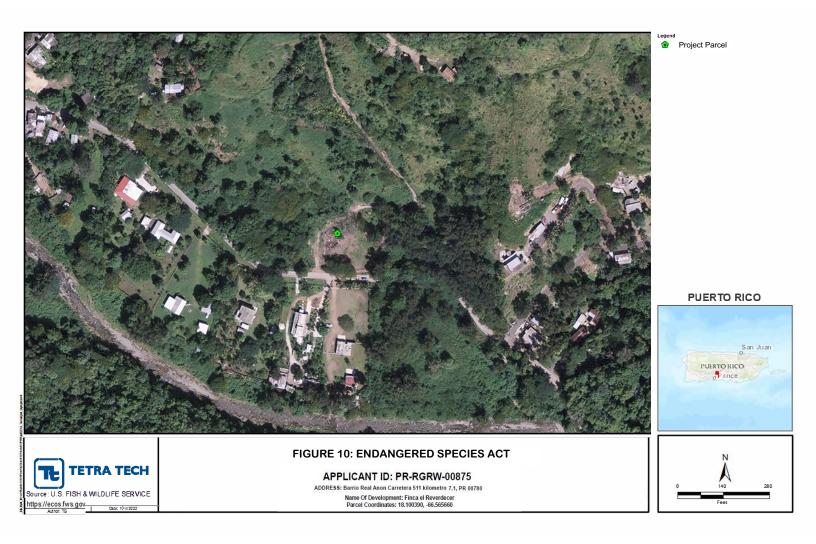
FIGURE 9: NEPASSIST MAP

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00875

ADDRESS: Barrio Real Anon Carretera 511 kilometro 7.1, PR 00780

Name Of Development: Finca el Reverdecer Parcel Coordinates: 18.100390, -66.565660





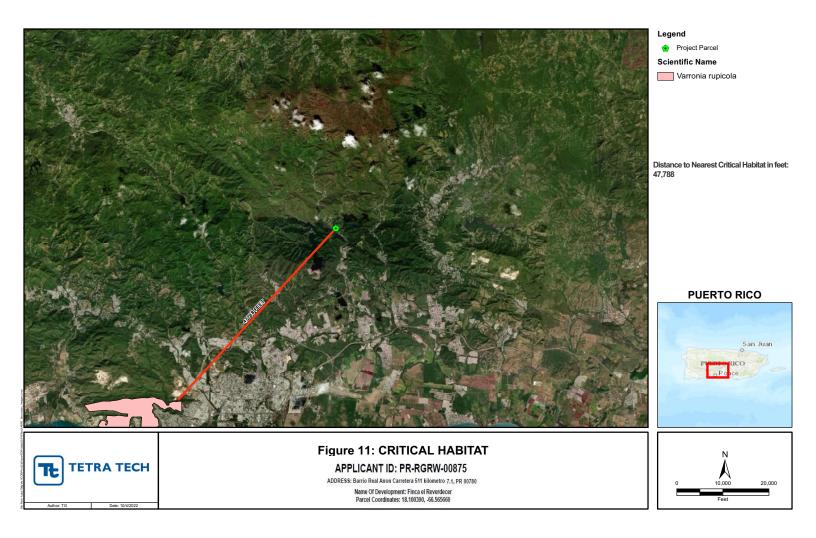




FIGURE 12: FARMLAND PROTECTION

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00875

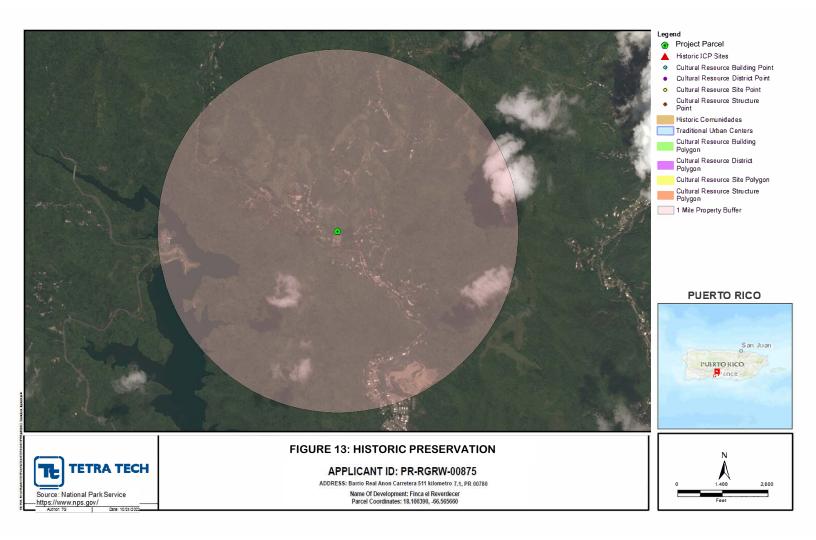
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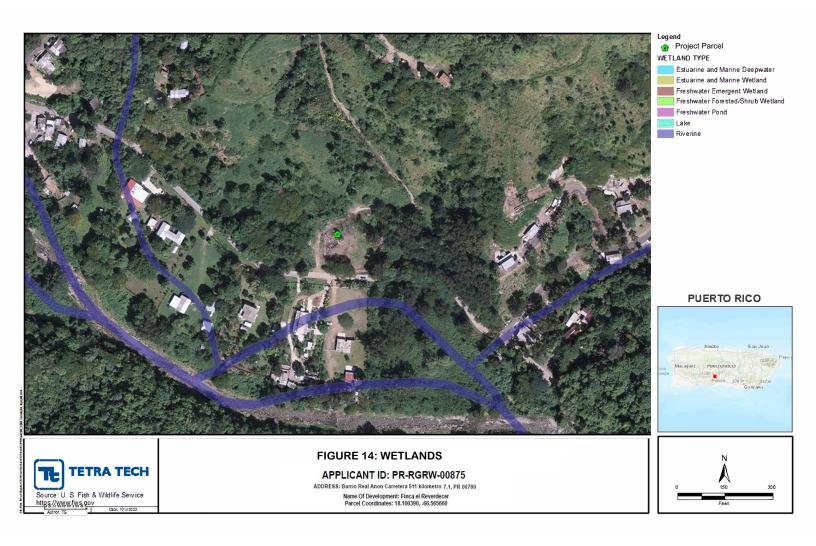
Name Of Development: Finca el Reverdecer

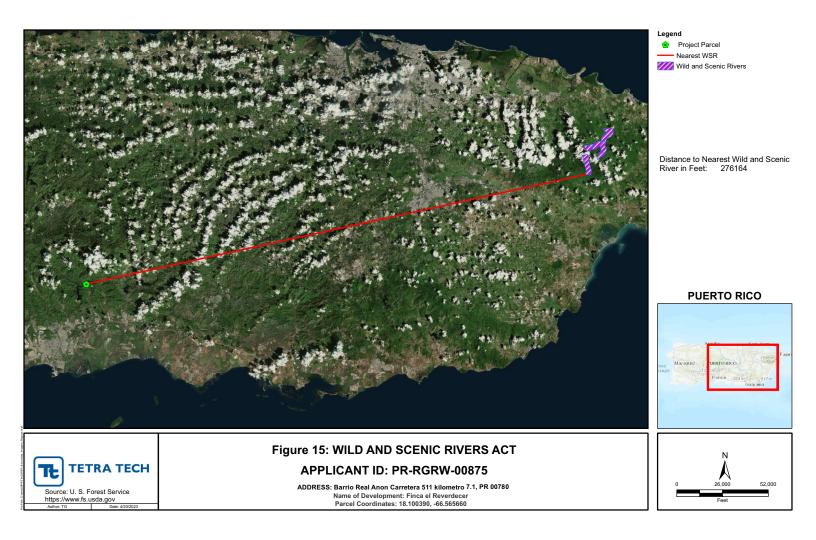
Parcel Coordinates: 18.100390, -86.565660

TETRA TECH

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

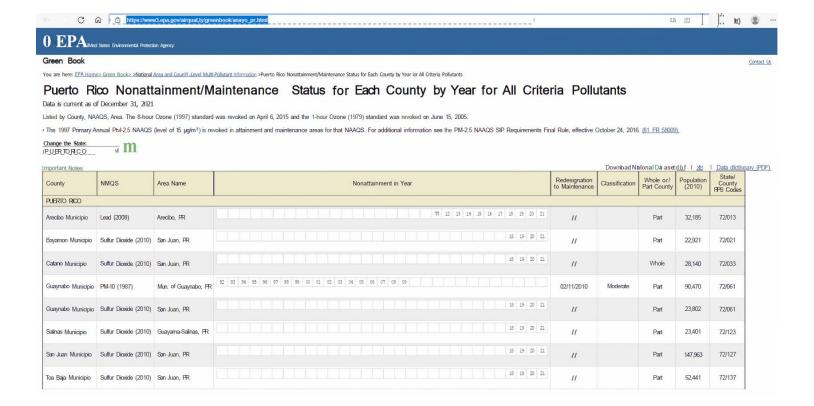








Appendix C



Appendix D

IPaCU.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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

Ponce County, Puerto Rico



Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

\((787) 834-1600

(787) 851-7440

<u> CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV</u>

MAILING ADDRESS

Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

TEOR CONSULTATIO 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 <u>Ecological Services Program</u> 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 <u>NOAA</u> <u>Fisheries</u> for <u>species under their jurisdiction</u>.

- 1. Species listed under the <u>Endangered Species Act</u> are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the <u>listing status page</u> for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
- 2. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, 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

Endangered

Endangered

Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk Buteo platypterus brunnescens

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512

Puerto Rican Parrot Amazona vittata Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067

Reptiles

NAME STATUS

Puerto Rican Boa Chilabothrus inornatus

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-incidental-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 <u>Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC)</u> 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 <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u> 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 (<u>Eagle Act</u> 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 <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. This data is derived from a growing collection of <u>survey, banding, and citizen science datasets</u>.

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 <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (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 <u>Eagle Act</u> 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 <u>Diving Bird Study</u> and the <u>nanotag studies</u> or contact <u>Caleb Spiegel</u> or <u>Pam Loring</u>.

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 <u>National Wildlife Refuge</u> 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 <u>NWI wetlands</u> 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>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District</u>.

Wetland information is not available at this time

This can happen when the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map service is unavailable, or for very large projects that intersect many wetland areas. Try again, or visit the <u>NWI map</u> to view wetlands at this location.

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.

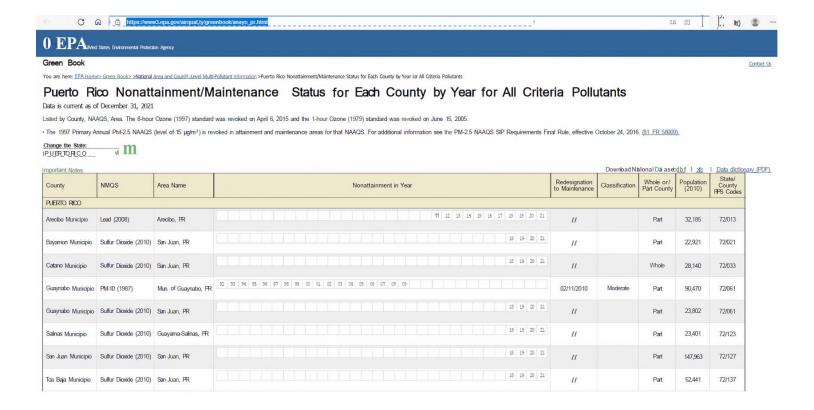
Data exclusions

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 tuberficid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

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

Appendix C



Appendix D

IPaCU.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

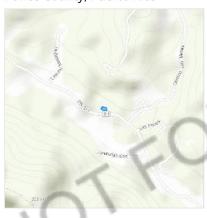
IPaC resource list

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Location

Ponce County, Puerto Rico



Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

\((787) 834-1600

(787) 851-7440

<u> CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV</u>

MAILING ADDRESS

Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

TEOR CONSULTATIO 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.

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Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the <u>Ecological Services Program</u> 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 <u>NOAA</u> <u>Fisheries</u> for <u>species under their jurisdiction</u>.

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- 2. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, 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 Buteo platypterus brunnescens

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512

Puerto Rican Parrot Amazona vittata

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067

Endangered

Endangered

Reptiles

NAME STATUS

Puerto Rican Boa Chilabothrus inornatus

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

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

Endangered

Critical habitats

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

There are no critical habitats at this location.

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-incidental-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.

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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.

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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 <u>National Wildlife Refuge</u> 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 <u>NWI wetlands</u> 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>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District</u>.

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

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

Data limitations

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

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

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

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tuberficid 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

January 17, 2023

Lauren Bair Poche

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

SHPO: 12-16-22-01 PUERTO RICO DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR RE-GROW PR URBAN-RURAL AGRICULTURAL RE-GROW PROGRAM, PR-RGRW-00875, FINCA EL REVERDECER, BO. REAL ANÓN, CARR. 511 KM 7.1, PONCE, 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





December 16, 2022

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-00875 – Finca El Reverdecer – Bo. Real Anón, Carr 511 Km 7.1, Ponce, 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 new construction activities by Finca El Reverdecer at Bo. Real Anón, Carr 511 Km 7.1, in the municipality of Ponce. The undertaking consists of the installation of a 70' x 30' greenhouse tunnel and the construction of a 350' to 400' deep water well.

Based on the submitted documentation prepared by SOI-qualified Archaeologist Dr. Jesus E. Vega, 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 <u>lauren.poche@horne.com</u> 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	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Subrecipient: Finca El Reverdecer	,
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00875	City: Ponce

Project Location: Bo. Real Anón Carr. 511 Km 7.1 Ponce PR 00780

Project Coordinates: 18.100390, -66.565660

TPID (Número de Catastro): 317-070-018-03

Type of Undertaking:

☐ Substantial Repair

☑ New Construction

Construction Date (AH est.): 2014

Property Size (acres): 5.45

SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jesus E. Vega, Ph.D.

Date Reviewed: December 14, 2022

Site Visit: November 11, 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 activities for Finca El Reverdecer are the installation of a 70' x 30' greenhouse tunnel and the construction of a 350'-400' deep water well in compliance with Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination. All activities will require ground disturbance. The property is located at Bo. Real Anón Carr. 511 Km 7.1 in the Municipality of Ponce. Previously an empty lot, the land is now currently used for the cultivation of table vegetable crops. Upon installation, the applicant plans to purchase a portable generator. The applicant receives energy from the off-grid system, and the land is connected to PRASA. No existing structures are associated with this undertaking.

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 will be centered on the area(s) potentially impacted by ground disturbance related to the following scope(s) of work: the installation of a 70' x 30' greenhouse tunnel at 18.10029° N, -66.56555° W and the construction of a 350'-400' deep water well at 18.10039° N, -66.56566°

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO CEPARITIES OF HOUSEACT	
Subrecipient: Finca El Reverdecer		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00875	City: Ponce	

W. The direct APE includes a 15-meter buffer to the rear and sides. 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 the project area is within a half-mile distance of one recorded archaeological site and/or NRHP listed/eligible historic property. "No data" 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 on a rural, mountainous area, on soil classified as Quebrada silty clay loam (QeF2), with 40 to 60 percent slopes, and covered with dense, secondary woodland vegetation. It is 190 meters above the mean sea level, approximately 9.71 miles from the south coast, and the closest body of fresh-water body, Lago Cerrillos, is 0.63 miles southwest.

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
Hacienda	PO0200005	No data	0.45 mi NW	Historic, remnants of hacienda	No data
Paraíso				near the Inabón River.	

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

Author	Title	Year	SHPO/IPRC ID	Results	Location
Miguel	Phase 1A-1B, Para el	1997	CAT-PO-97-17-02	Negative	0.23 mi SE
Rodríguez	Reemplazo del Puente				
López	492 en la PR-511, Km 10.5				
	Sobre el Río Inabón				
Marlene	Phase 1A-1B, Mejoras al	1992	CAT-PO-92-13-02	Positive	0.45 mi NW
Ramos Vélez	Servicio de Acueducto				

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 El Reverdecer	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00875	City: Ponce

Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the closest reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties, associated with Hacienda Paraíso (PO0200005), are 0.45 miles (2,353.44 feet) northwest 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-00875 is located. The proposed project area is not within the boundaries or visual APE of any NRHP listed/eligible historic properties nor to a Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. Additionally, the closest fresh-water body is 0.63 miles (3,335.97 feet) away. The slope of the APE is excessive in terms of prehistoric settlement patterns. Surrounding terrain has been minimally impacted by the construction of agricultural infrastructure and public roads. 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 El Reverdecer			
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00875	City: Ponce		

Recommendation

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

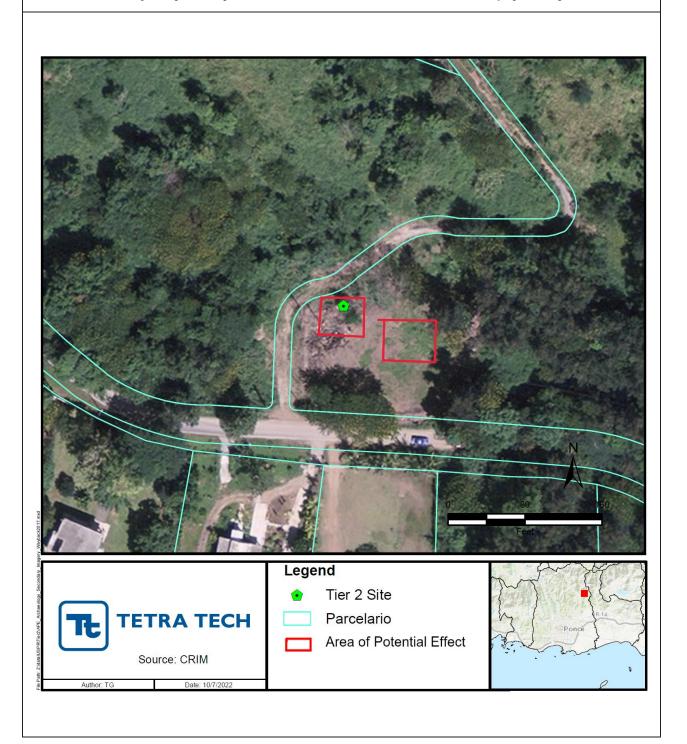
following determination is appropriate for the undertaking (Choose One):
☑ No Historic Properties Affected
□ No Adverse Effect
Condition (if applicable):
□ Adverse Effect
Proposed Resolution (if appliable)
This Couling is to be Commisted by CUDO Claff Only

This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Sta	ff Only
The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed and:	d the above information
☐ Concurs with the information provided.	
□ Does not concur with the information provided.	
Comments:	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela	Date:
State Historic Preservation Officer	Dale.



Case ID: PR-RGRW-00875 City: Ponce

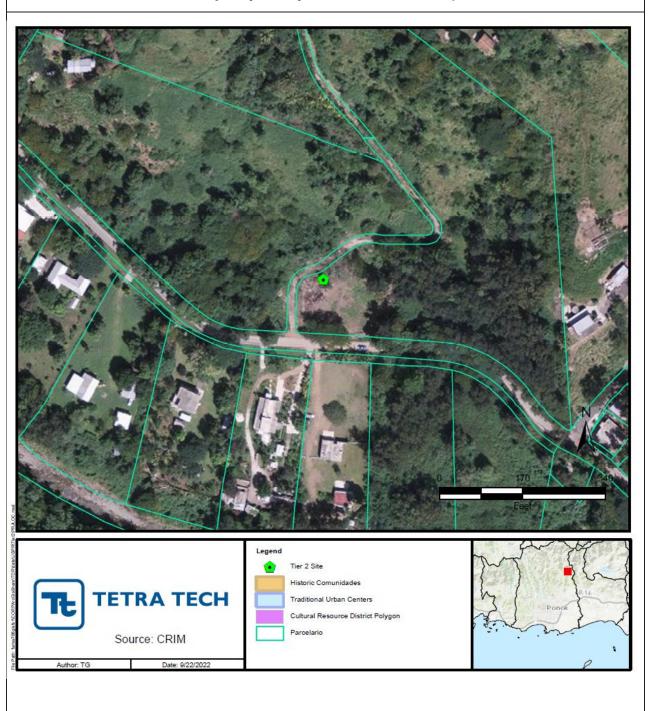
Project (Parcel) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)





Case ID: PR-RGRW-00875 City: Ponce

Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map





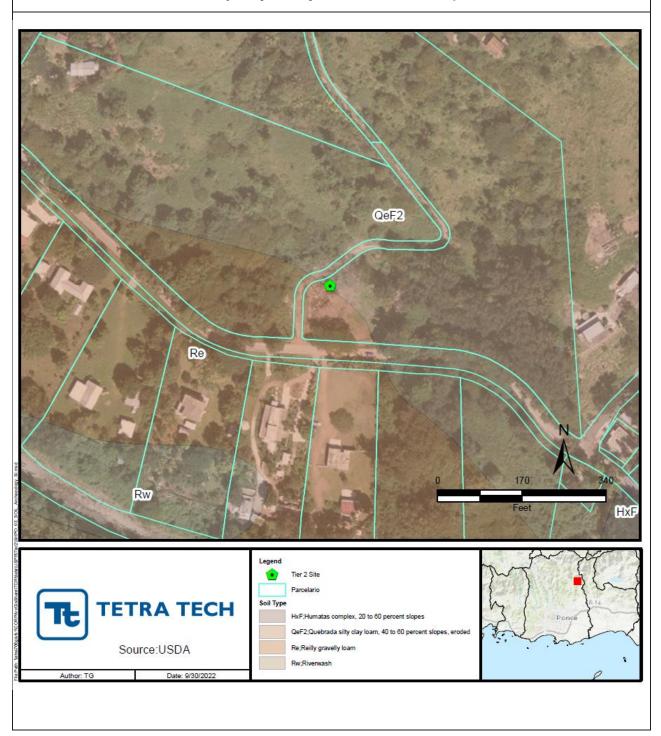
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00875 City: Ponce

Project (Parcel) Location - USGS Topographic Map Quadrangle: Ponce, Date: 3/25/1994 Legend Tier 2 Site TETRA TECH Historic Comunidades Traditional Urban Centers Source: USGS Cultural Resource District Polygon



Case ID: PR-RGRW-00875 City: Ponce

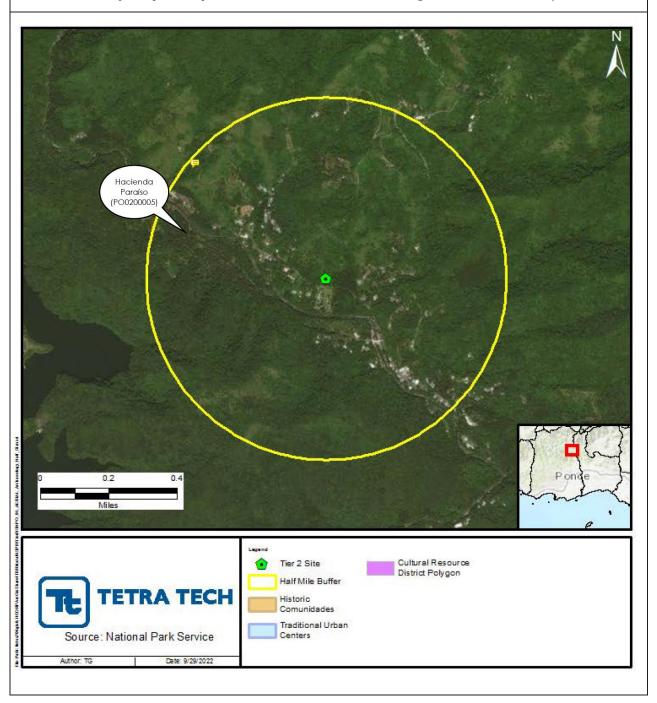
Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map





Case ID: PR-RGRW-00875 City: Ponce

Project (Parcel) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map

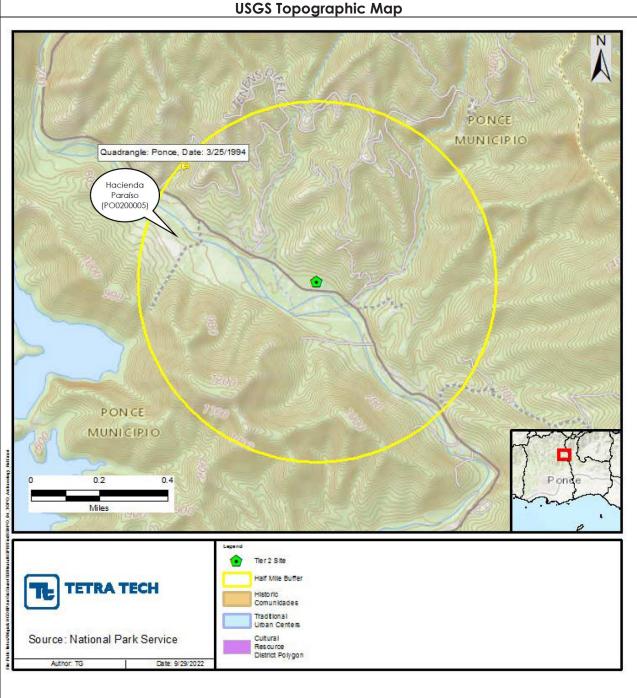


Case ID: PR-RGRW-00875



City: Ponce

Project (Parcel) Location with Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

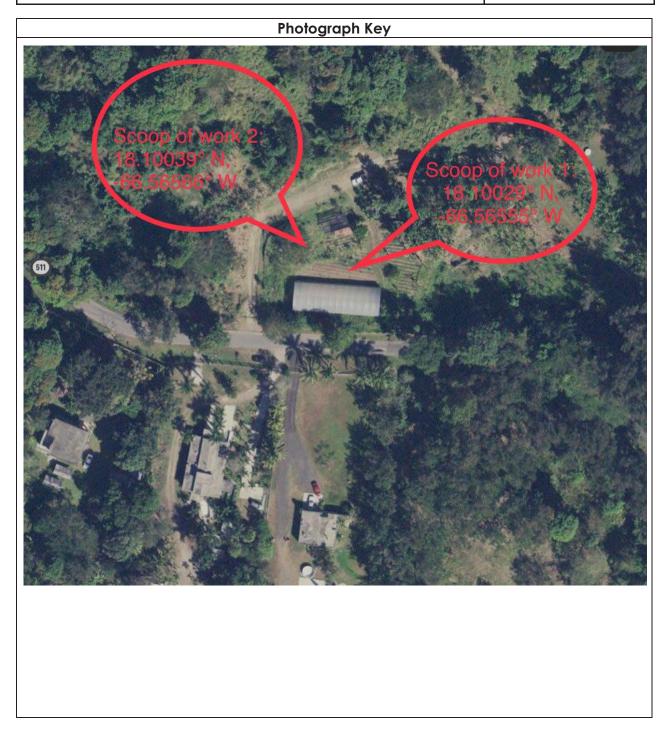


PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM
REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Subrecipient: Finca El Reverdecer

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00875 City: Ponce



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM
REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Subrecipient: Finca El Reverdecer

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00875 City: Ponce



Photo #: 1 Description (include direction): View to the East

Date: 11/2022 Scope of Work 1, the installation of a 70' x 30' greenhouse tunnel: 18.10029° N, -66.56555° W



Photo #: 2 **Description (include direction):** View to the Northwest

Date: 11/2022 Scope of Work 2, the construction of a 350'-400' deep water well: 18.10039° N, -66.56566° W



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