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

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-00533

Project Name: Hidropónicos Cidra

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico / Cidra, PR

Preparer: Yazmin Acevedo

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Permit and Environmental Compliance Officers: Sally Acevedo Cosme, Pedro de León Rodriguez, María T. Torres Bregon, Ivelisse Lorenzo, Angel Gabriel Lopez Guzman, and Santa Ramirez, Janette I. Cambrelén

Consultant: Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

Project Location:

Barrio Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int. Cidra 00739

Greenhouse 1: latitude 18.179639, longitude -66.173039

Greenhouse 2: latitude 18.179606, longitude -66.172983

Cistern: latitude 18.179639, longitude -66.172846

Parcel cadastral # 275-000-002-95

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

Purchase and installation of two 18' x 60' greenhouses structures and a 2,000-gallon cistern for cultivation of lettuce, coriander ("cilantrillo"), and parsley. The greenhouses will have an anchorage consisting of a tube 12 inches (30.48 cm) by 12 inches (30.48 cm) by 12 (30.48 cm) inches deep. The cistern will be placed on a concrete base. All piping between the cistern and the greenhouses will be laid above ground. The Project also includes the purchase and acquisition of a cargo van. A Location Map is included in Figure 1, illustrating the location of the greenhouses and cistern on the property. Photos of the greenhouse locations are included in Section 106 documentation included in Appendix 1.

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 greenhouses and equipment placements are in keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The existing area for the proposed greenhouses and cistern placement is used for agricultural purposes. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with these greenhouses placements.

Funding Information

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
B-18-DP-72-0001	CDBG-DR, Re-Grow Puerto	\$41,279,480
B-17-DM-72-0001	Rico Urban-Rural	
	Agriculture Program	

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$51,066.66

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$51,066.66

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 REGULATI	ONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No	This project consists only of purchase and installation of two greenhouses, a cistern, and a cargo van for an agricultural project and will have no impact on any Airports. This topic is in compliance with the HUD's Airport Hazard regulations without further evaluation. The site is located 102,865 feet from the nearest airport. See the attached Airport map Runway Protection Zone, Figure 2.
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes No	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. The project is located 78,143 feet northwest of the nearest CBRS which is PR-45P. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. See the attached CBRS map, Figure 3.
Flood Insurance 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 is located in a Zone X, Panel 72000C1195H, 04/19/2005. The project does not require flood insurance or is excepted from flood insurance. See attached Flood Map, Figure 4.

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	This project consists only of the purchase and installation of equipment (two greenhouses, a cistern, and a cargo van) for an agricultural site. The installation and operation of this project will have no impact and is in compliance with the Clean Air Act without further evaluation.
Coastal Zone Management Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes No	The project is located 76,292 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See the attached CZMA map, Figure 5.
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR Part 58.5(i) (2)	Yes No	This project consists of the purchase and installation of two greenhouses, a cistern, and a cargo van for an agricultural project. There are two (2) sites of environmental concern identified within 3000 feet. These are the following. RCRA_Inactive: Cidra 110007808578 PRIDCO – 2,946.6 Feet RCRA_Inactive: Cidra 110009322054 Creative Medical Corp. – 2, 577.8 Feet None of the sites of concern are within 500 feet of the project activity site. See attached Toxics Map, Figure 6.
Endangered Species Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	Yes No	This project will have No Effect on listed species due to the nature of the activities involved in the project. The project is 1,872 feet from the nearest endangered species critical habitat. The scope of work includes continued agricultural use of the property with no intention to cut down trees. Additionally, the project has no critical habitats in the area. This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

		If a Puerto Rican BOA is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask them to relocate the Boa. See attached Endangered Species map, Figure 7.
Explosive and Flammable Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	Yes No	This project consists only of the purchase and installation of two greenhouses, a cistern, and a cargo van. The project does not include development, construction, or rehabilitation that will increase residential density. This project is in compliance with this citation without further evaluation.
Farmlands Protection Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	Yes No	This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. The project area is designated as Not Prime Farmland. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. See the attached Farmlands map, Figure 8.
Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	Yes No	The project is located in a Zone X, Panel 72000C1195H, 4/19/2005. The site is not located in an Advisory Base Flood Elevation special flood hazard area. The project is in compliance with Floodplain management requirements. See the attached Advisory Base Flood Elevation map, Figure 9.
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	Yes No	The site was visited on September 30, 2022 by SOI-qualified archaeologist. Documentation with photographs and maps was subsequently submitted to SHPO (attached). In a response from PR SHPO dated November 17, 2022, SHPO concurred with a finding of no historic properties affected within the project's Area of Potential Effects (see attached

		Appendix 1). The property is not considered historic or contributing to an historic district (See attached Historic map, Figure 10).
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	This project consists only of the purchase and installation of two greenhouses, a cistern, and a cargo van for an agricultural site. The site is rural in nature and there will be no impact to or from the surrounding area from a noise perspective. This topic is in compliance with this citation without further evaluation.
Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes No	There are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with this citation without further evaluation.
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes No	There are no wetlands within or in the vicinity of the project area. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. See the attached Wetlands map, Figure 11,
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 NWSRS river. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The project is located 136,215 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River, See the attached Wild and Scenic Rivers map, Figure 12.
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	Yes No	Based on the scope of work for this project, there will be no additional impact on low-income or minority residents. This proposed activity will not have a negative impact on Environmental Justice. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section.

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 action is continued agricultural use of property which is compatible with zoning and existing land use. There is no urban design associated with this rural, agricultural site.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	The soil is currently being used for agriculture purposes. There is no change in land use since the land will continue to be used to agriculture purposes. The landslide data indicates moderate landslide susceptibility. See attached Landslide Susceptibility map, Figure 13. There will be little to no additional runoff associated with the project.

Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	There are no specific environmental hazards that have been identified for this site. The site is not in a high Noise Level area, nor will the project generate any additional noise. Additionally, the project does not include housing or such to where inhabitants would be affected.
Energy Consumption	2	The project should not trigger any additional energy consumption since the project is a purchase and installation of two greenhouses, a cistern, and a cargo van on an existing agricultural farm and will not require any expansion to existing power facilities.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONON	AIC .	
Employment and Income Patterns	2	The project is not anticipated to have a significant impact on Employment and Income Patterns. However, since the project will include an economic component, it may aid in restoring some employment opportunities and income patterns.
II		

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES		
Educational and Cultural Facilities		The proposed project will have no impact on educational or cultural facilities.
Commercial Facilities	2	The proposed project may aid in restoring the demand for local commercial services; however, not to the point of putting undue pressure on commercial facilities.

Health Care and Social Services	2	The proposed project will have no impact on Health Care and Social Services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The proposed project will have no impact on Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling services. The products and by-products are agricultural, and any waste would be biodegradable.
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The proposed project will have no impact on Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers.
Water Supply	2	The proposed project will require additional water supply but not from a municipal water supply. The water will come from the proposed water cistern that will be filled by the proponent. The proposed project will have no impact on the water supply.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The proposed project will have no impact on Public Safety.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The proposed project will have no impact to Parks, Open Space and Recreation. The property being used is agricultural and it will continue as agricultural use.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The proposed project will have no impact to Transportation and Accessibility nor any infrastructure on Puerto Rico.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources		The proposed project will be situated on previous agriculture 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. There may be wildlife attracted to the greenhouse but no negative impact on wildlife.
Climate Change	2	There will be no impact on the climate due to this work.

Additional Studies Performed: Not applicable.

Field Inspection (Date and completed by): September 30, 2022, Jaqueline Lopez, SOl-Qualified Archaeologist

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

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems: www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/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 Park Service, National Registry of Natural Landmarks. www.nature.nps.gov/nnl/docs/NNLRegistry.pdf

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

National Wild and Scenic Rivers System: www.rivers.gov/puerto-rico.php

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

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

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

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

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

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

List of Permits Obtained: None required.

Public Outreach [24 CFR 58.43]: Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture has worked closely with the agricultural community. The project will publish 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 placement of the greenhouses on this agricultural site.

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

The "Alternative" action would mean that the applicant would not be able to experience the growth needed to recover and expand their agriculture activities. The Alternative action would not allow for this economic development for this applicant. A provision of the grant allows for economic development for businesses and will allow the applicant to continue cultivating of lettuce, coriander ("cilantrillo"), and parsley in the two new greenhouses and be able to take them to sales markets. The location for the placements of the greenhouses will be on the flattest part approximately 35 meters from the entrance to the farm and 20 meters from the existing residential structure. The existing area for the proposed placements is used for agricultural purposes.

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

The 'No-Action' alternative would mean that the applicant would not receive federal funding to provide for the greenhouses and equipment 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 environmental nor is there the requirement for further consultation with any agency. There are no environmental review topics addressed that result in the need for formal compliance steps or the requirement for mitigation

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure

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 hum environment.	an
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>Yazmín M. Acevedo / Environmental Specialist/ Behar Yba & Associates LLC</u>	rra
Certifying Officer Signature:	
Name/Title: Janette Cambrelén, Permit 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).



Figures



Location: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-00533

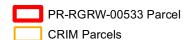
Luis Román (Hidroponicos Cidra Inc.) Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int.

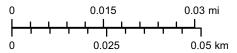
Bo. Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Cidra, PR

Catastro: 275-000-002-95 Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below



Legend





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Source

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



Airports

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

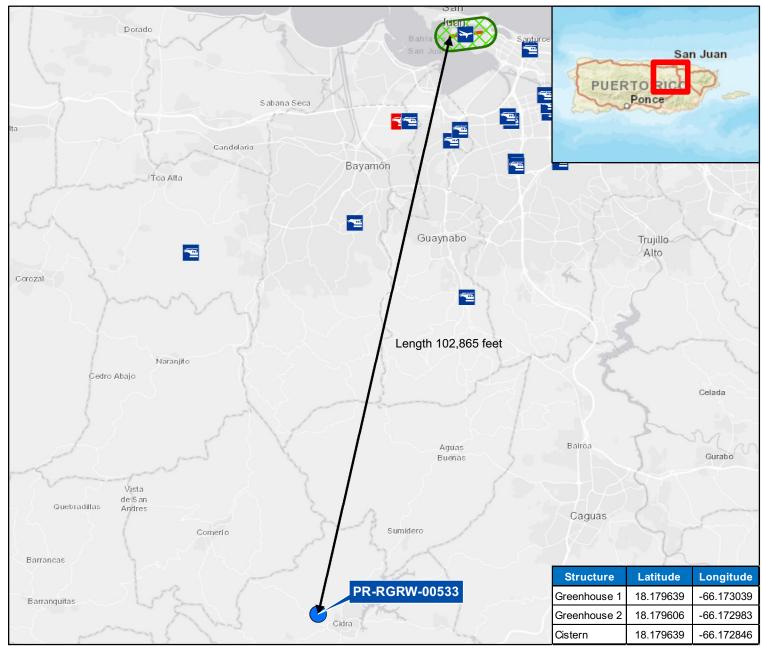
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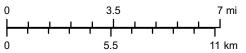


Civilian Airport

Civilian Heliport

Military Heliport
Airport Runaway

Civilian Airports 2,500ft (762m) Buffer



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Source

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



Coastal Barrier Resources System

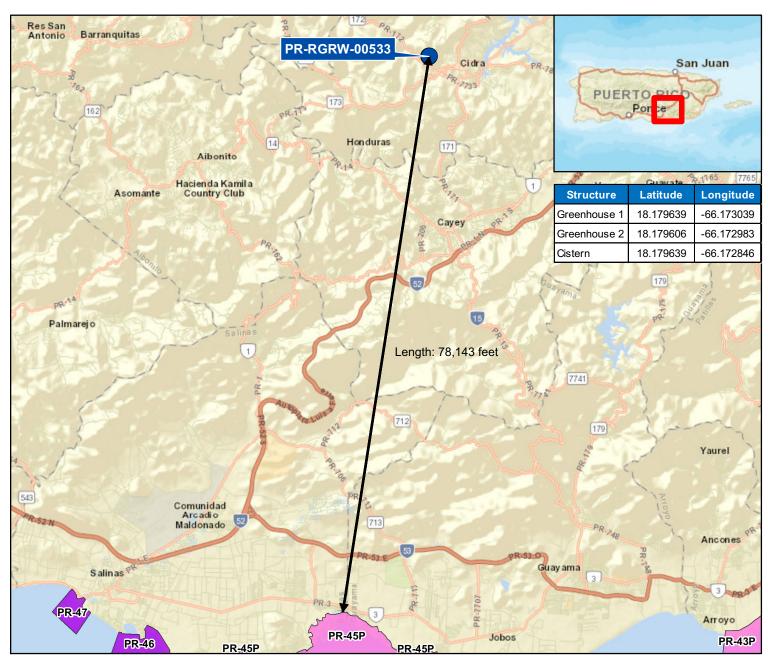
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-00533

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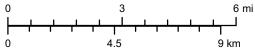




Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS)

Otherwise Protected Area

System Unit



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Source

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



Flood Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

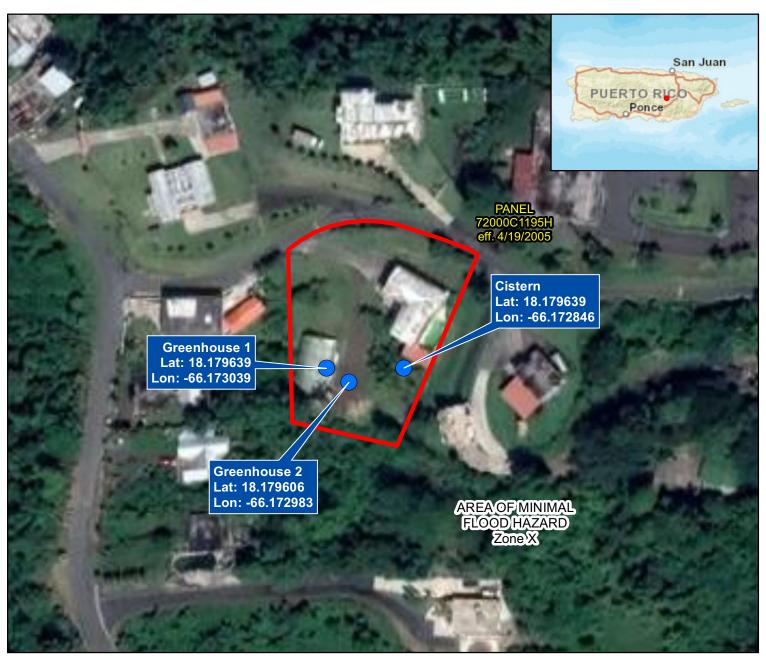
Application ID: PR-RGRW-00533

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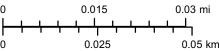
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Without Base Flood Elevation Channel, Culvert, or Storm Zone A, V, Sewer (BFE) IIIII Levee, Dike, or Floodwall Zone AE, AO, AH, With BFE or Depth Base Flood Elevation (m) Regulatory Floodway Profile Baseline 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Zone X Hydrographic Feature Hazard FIRM Panel Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X

Zone D

Area of Undetermined Flood

Hazard



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Source

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/national-flood-hazard-layer



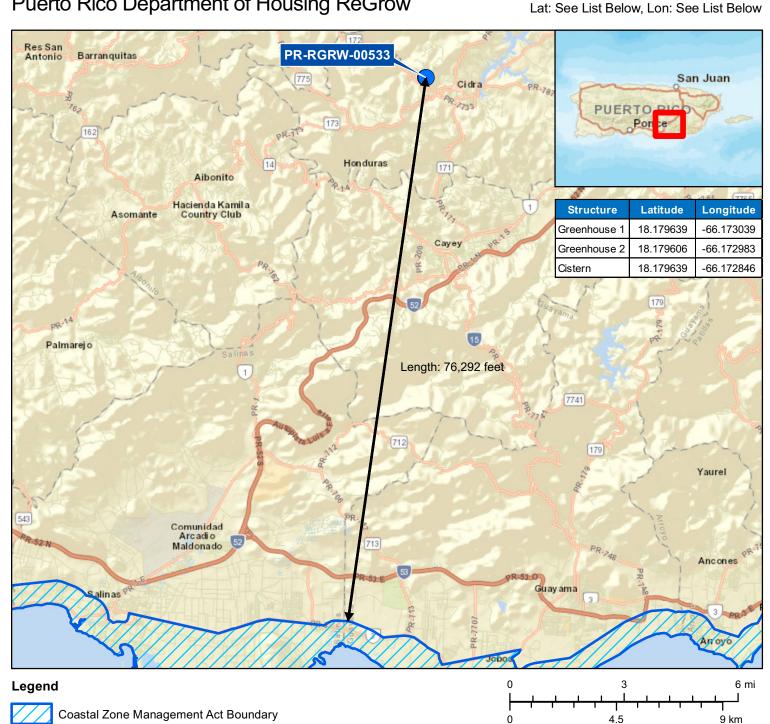
Coastal Zone Management Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-00533

Luis Román (Hidroponicos Cidra Inc.) Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int.

> Bo. Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Cidra, PR

Catastro: 275-000-002-95



Source

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) NOAA Office for Coastal Management (NOAA/OCM) https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/inport/item/53132

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Toxic and Hazardous Facilities

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

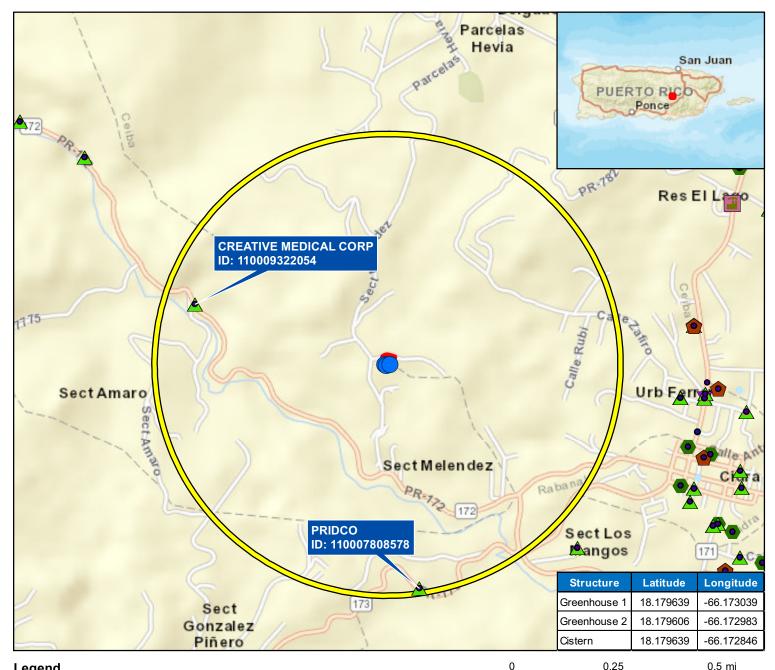
Application ID: PR-RGRW-00533

Luis Román (Hidroponicos Cidra Inc.) Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int.

Bo. Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Cidra, PR

Catastro: 275-000-002-95

Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below



Legend



PR-RGRW-00533 Parcel

3000 ft (914.4 m) Buffer

ACRES

AIR

ICIS

NPDES



RCRA_ACTIVE

RCRA_INACTIVE

RCRA LQG

RCRA_TRANS

RCRA_TSD

Source

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Facility Registry Service (FRS) https://www.epa.gov/frs

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0.4

0.8 km

Facility URL:

https://ofmpub.epa.gov/frs_public2/fii_query_detail.disp_program_facility?p_registry_id=110007808578 https://ofmpub.epa.gov/frs_public2/fii_query_detail.disp_program_facility?p_registry_id=110009322054



Threatened and Endangered Species Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

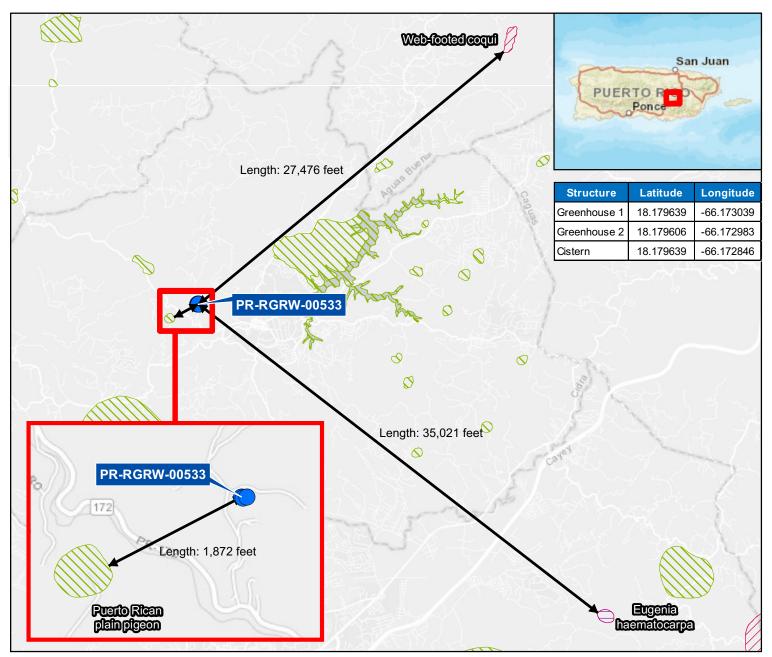
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Catastro: 275-000-002-95

Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below



Legend



PR-RGRW-00533



BIRD

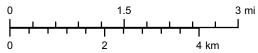


MARINE MAMMAL

HABITATS



REPTILE/AMPHIBIAN



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Source

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Response and Restoration https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/



Farmland Protection

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

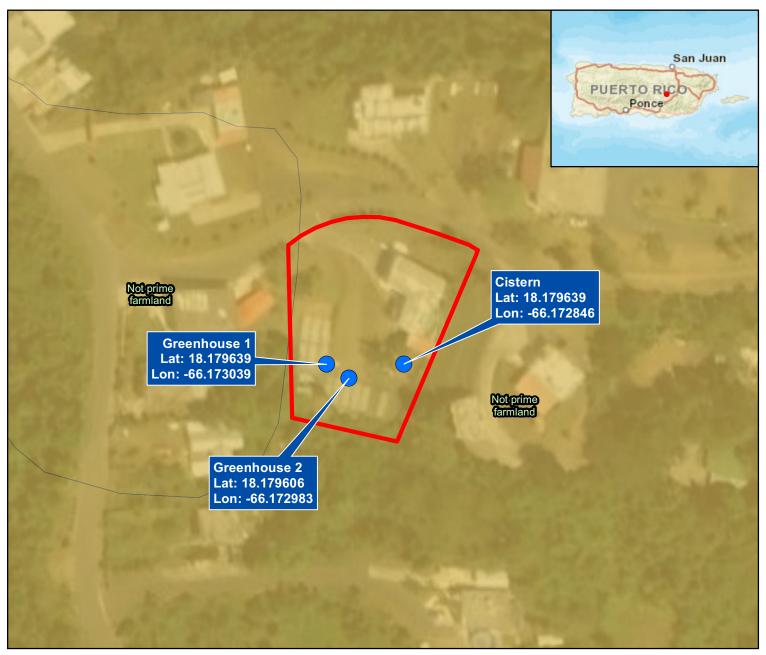
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Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below







PR-RGRW-00533



PR-RGRW-00533 Parcel



All areas are prime farmland



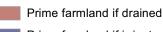
Farmland of statewide importance

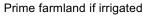


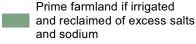
Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

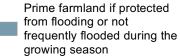


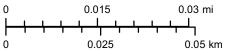
Not prime farmland











Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

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



Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-00533

Luis Román (Hidroponicos Cidra Inc.)
Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int.
Ro. Rio Abaio Soctor Molandoz

Bo. Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Cidra, PR

Catastro: 275-000-002-95 Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below





Hydrography

Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFE)

1-percent annual chance flood

0.2-percent annual chance flood

Flood Zone



AE

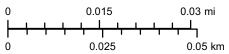
Coastal A



VE

0.2% Annual Chance Flood





Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

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



Historic Preservation

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-00533

Luis Román (Hidroponicos Cidra Inc.) Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int.

Bo. Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Cidra, PR

Catastro: 275-000-002-95

Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below



Legend

00533_LOCATION

PR-RGRW-00533 Parcel

Cultural Resource Building

Cultural Resource Structure

Cultural Resource Object

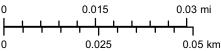
Cultural Resource Site

Cultural Resource District

Sensitive Archaeological Zones



// Traditional Urban Centers



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

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



Wetlands

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-00533

Luis Román (Hidroponicos Cidra Inc.) Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int.

Bo. Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Cidra, PR

Catastro: 275-000-002-95 Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below



Legend

National Wetlands Inventory

Estuarine and Marine Deepwater

Estuarine and Marine Wetland

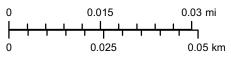
Freshwater Emergent Wetland

Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland

Freshwater Pond

Lake

Riverine



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

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



Wild and Scenic Rivers

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

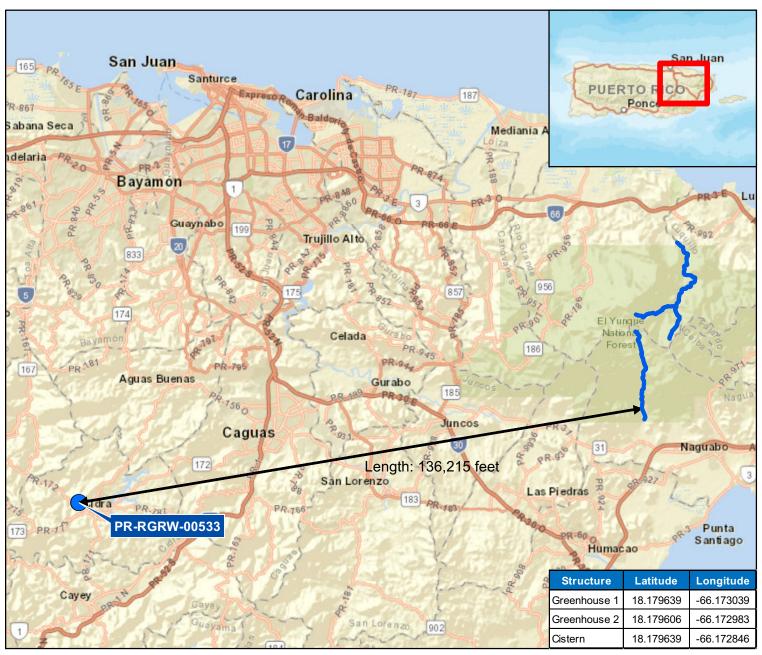
Application ID: PR-RGRW-00533

Luis Román (Hidroponicos Cidra Inc.) Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int.

> Bo. Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Cidra, PR

Catastro: 275-000-002-95

Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below



Legend



Wild and Scenic Rivers



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Source

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) National Wild and Scenic Rivers System https://www.rivers.gov/mapping-gis.php



Landslide Susceptibility Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-00533

Luis Román (Hidroponicos Cidra Inc.) Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int.

> Bo. Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Cidra, PR

> > Catastro: 275-000-002-95

Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below





PR-RGRW-00533

PR-RGRW-00533 Parcel

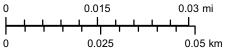
Landslide Susceptibility

Low Moderate

High

Very High

Extremely High



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

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



Appendix 1



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

November 17, 2022

Lauren Bair Poche

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

SHPO 11-07-22-02 SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION SUBMITTAL: PR-RGRW-00533 – HIDROPÓNICOS CIDRA – CARR 172 KM 10.9 INT., BO. RÍO ABAJO, SECTOR MELÉNDEZ, CIDRA, PUERTO RICO

Dear Ms. Bair,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer

Party aphibir

CARC/GMO/MB





November 7, 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-00533 – Hidroponicos Cidra – Carr 172 Km 10.9 Int. Bo. Río Abajo, Sector Meléndez, Cidra, 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 Hidroponicos Cidra at Carr 172 Km 10.9 Int. Bo. Río Abajo, Sector Meléndez in the municipality of Cidra. The undertaking consists of the construction of two new greenhouse on the parcel and the installation of a new 2,000 gallon cistern.

Based on the submitted documentation prepared by SOI-qualified Archaeologist Jaqueline López Meléndez, 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

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: Hidroponicos Cidra	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533	City: Cidra

Project Location: Carr 172 Km 10.9 Int. Bo. Río Abajo Sector Meléndez

Project Coordinates: 18.179639 -66.173039, 18.179606 -66.172983, 18.179639 -66.172846

TPID (Número de Catastro): 275-000-002-95

Type of Undertaking:

□ Substantial Repair

☑ New Construction

Construction Date (AH est.): n/a

Property Size (acres): 0.54

SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Site Visit by: Jaqueline López Meléndez, September 30, 2022 **Date Reviewed**: October 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 undertaking consists of the construction of two 18' x 60' new greenhouses in the parcel and the installation of a new 2,000 gallons cistern. There is one structure in the parcel, which is the main residence of the applicant. The terrain is steep, but the greenhouses will be located on the flattest part 35 meters from the entrance to the farm and 20 meters from the existing residential structure. The existing area for the proposed placements is used for agricultural purposes. The main purpose of the proposed greenhouses will be the cultivation of lettuce, coriander ("cilantrillo"), and parsley.

The greenhouses will have an anchorage consisting of a tube 30.48 cm by 30.48 cm by 30.48 cm deep. The legs of the greenhouses will be inserted into these tubes. The cistern will be placed on a concrete base. All piping between the cistern and the greenhouses will be laid above ground.

In the area where the greenhouses will be placed are the pipes from the previous greenhouse. These are in poor condition and will be removed for the new greenhouses. In the key photo you can see a roof in the area of greenhouse 1. This roof consisted of a plastic sheeting placed over the greenhouse that was ripped off by Hurricane Fiona on September 18, 2022.

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

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM	
REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Applicant: Hidroponicos Cidra	,
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533	City: Cidra

and scope of the Undertaking, the APE has been defined as the area potentially impacted by ground disturbing activities related to the construction of the new greenhouses (Figure 1). The installation of the greenhouse anchorage consisting of pipes 30.48 cm wide by 30.48 cm long by 30.48 cm deep will be the area of impact on the project site.

Identification of Historic Properties – Archaeology

A Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), conducted background research to identify archaeological surveys, previously recorded archaeological sites, and National Register districts within a 0.5 miles radius. Background research indicates no resources are present within the 0.50 miles study area. The closest identified cultural resource to the project area is the Trapiche Hernández located 0.58 miles southeast of the APE.

The project area does not have cultural resources that are included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or in a Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. According to the soil book in the project area we have Caguabo clay loam soils, 40 to 60 percent slopes (CaF). This is a very steep, well-drained soil on side slopes and mountaintops of strongly dissected uplands. The surface consists of a 4-inch thick dark grayish-brown lomic clay soil, followed by a 5-inch thick, stratum of lomic clay with brown pebbles and the substrate beginning at 10 inches is a mixture of weathered volcanic rocks. The project area has steep topography and the project will occur in the flat area. To the north and south of this plain the terrain has steep slopes. It is evident that the plain was made with heavy machinery (Photos 3 and 6). The topography in the project area is not suitable for the settlement of Pre-Columbian groups.

On September 30, 2022, we visually inspected the project area. The area where the greenhouse will be placed has good visibility. During the visual inspection of the exposed surface we found no evidence of archaeological cultural resources within the APE.

Determination

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect the historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect.

Review of existing archaeological background information and the results of the surface walkover to the project area indicate that there are no historic properties or cultural resources within the 0.50-mile radius study area or within the project APE.

Review of existing background information found that the proposed project area is not within the boundaries or visual APE of an eligible / listed National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)

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: Hidroponicos Cidra	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533	City: Cidra

nor to a Traditional Urban Center / Historic District. Visual inspection of the APE and its surroundings found no evidence of cultural materials.

The impacts of construction access to the area, generational use of the land for agriculture, and cutting and grading of the original surface have altered the landscape. The topography, which is characterized by steep slopes of more than 30 degrees, is considered excessive for prehistoric or historic sites or resources.

We have concluded that the undertaking will not affect any historic properties and that a determination of No Historic Properties Affected is appropriate for this 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: Hidroponicos Cidra	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533	City: Cidra
Recommendation (Please keep on same page as	SHPO Staff Section)
The Puerto Rico Department of Housing requests to following determination is appropriate for the under	
No Historic Properties Affected	
□ No Adverse Effect	
Condition (if applicable):	
□ Adverse Effect	
Proposed Resolution (if appliable)	
This Section is to be Complete	ed by SHPO Staff Only
The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office and:	e has reviewed the above information
☐ Concurs with the information provided.	
\square Does not concur with the information provided	
Comments:	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela	

State Historic Preservation Officer

Date:



Applicant: Hidroponicos Cidra

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533 City: Cidra

Figure 1. Project (PR-RGRW-00533) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)

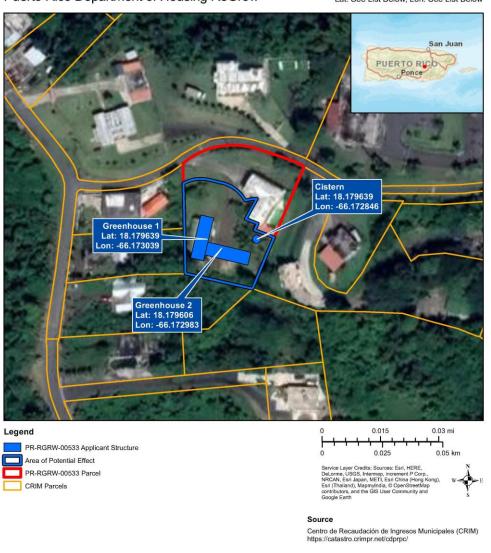


Area of Potential Effect

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Appication ID: PR-RGRW-00533

Luis Román (Hidroponicos Cidra Inc.) Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int. Bo. Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Cidra, PR Catastro: 275-000-002-95 Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below





Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533 City: Cidra

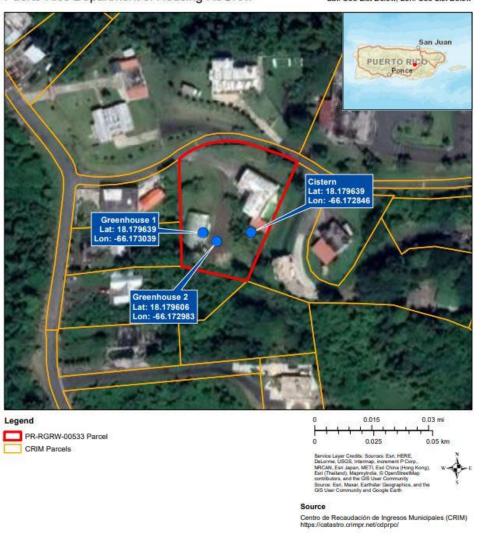
Figure 2. Project (PR-RGRW-00533) Location - Aerial Map



Location: Aerial Map Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-00533

Luis Román (Hidroponicos Cidra Inc.) Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int. Bo. Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Cidra, PR Catastro: 275-000-002-95 Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below





Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533 City: Cidra

Figure 3. Project (PR-RGRW-00533) Location – USGS Topographic Map





Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533

City: Cidra

Project (PR-RGRW-00533) Location – Soils Map



Soils Map Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Appication ID: PR-RGRW-00533

Luis Román (Hidroponicos Cidra Inc.) Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int. Bo. Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Cidra, PR Catastro: 275-000-002-95

Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below







PR-RGRW-00533

PR-RGRW-00533 Parcel Soil Map Unit Symbol

Soil Map Unit Symbol

- CaF Caguabo clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes
- * MxE Mucara clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes

Source

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



Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533 City: Cidra

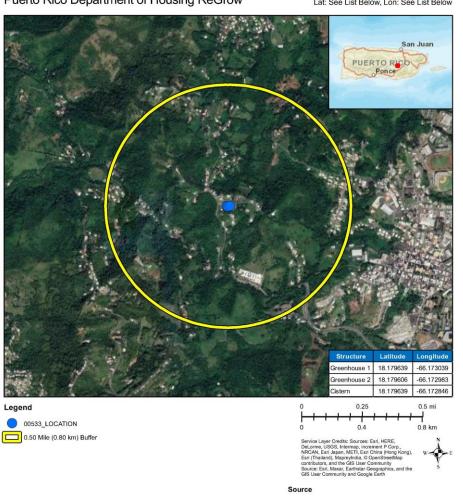
Project (PR-RGRW-00533) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map



Previous Investigations: Aerial Map Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Appication ID: PR-RGRW-00533

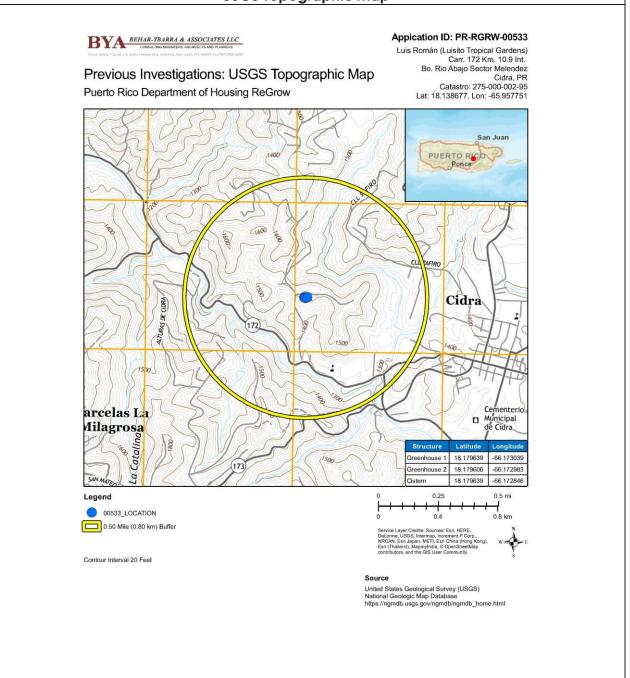
Luis Román (Hidroponicos Cidra Inc.) Carr. 172 Km. 10.9 Int. Bo. Rio Abajo Sector Melendez Cidra, PR Catastro: 275-000-002-95 Lat: See List Below, Lon: See List Below





Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533 City: Cidra

Project (PR-RGRW-00533) Location with Previously Recorded Cultural Resources USGS Topographic Map





Applicant: Hidroponicos Cidra

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533 City: Cidra

Photograph Key





Applicant: Hidroponicos Cidra

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533

City: Cidra



Photo #: 1

Date: September 30, 2022

Description (include direction): Project area looking southeast.



Photo #: 2



Applicant: Hidroponicos Cidra

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533

City: Cidra

Date: Date: September 30, 2022

Description (include direction): Area where greenhouse 2 will be installed, looking southeast.



Photo #: 3

Date: September 30, 2022

Description (include direction): Cut north of greenhouse 1, looking northeast.



Applicant: Hidroponicos Cidra

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533

City: Cidra



Photo #: 4

Date: Date: September 30, 2022

Description (include direction): Greenhouse 2, looking south.



Photo #: 5

Date: September 30, 2022

Description (include direction): Greenhouse 1, looking south.



Applicant: Hidroponicos Cidra

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00533 City: Cidra



Photo #: 6	Description (include direction): Area where cistern will be installed, looking southeast.
Date: September 30, 2022	



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