Environmental Assessment

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

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-04071

Project Name: NRP INC

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico / Municipio of Hatillo

Preparer: Allyson Rezac, Deputy Program Manager

Certifying Officer Name and Title:

Permit and Environmental Compliance Officers:

Sally Acevedo Cosme

Pedro De León Rodriguez

Ivelisse Lorenzo Torres

Santa Damarys Ramírez Lebrón

Janette I. Cambrelén

Limary Vélez Marrero

Mónica M. Machuca Ríos

María T. Torres Bregón - Environmental Compliance Manager

Angel G. López-Guzmán - Deputy Director

Javier Mercado Barrera,

Abdul Feliciano Plaza,

Priscilla Toro Rivera

Juan C. Perez Bofill - Director for Disaster Recovery

Consultant (if applicable): SWCA Environmental Consultants

Direct Comments to: PR Department of Housing, environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov

Project Location:

The proposed project, which includes the construction of a roofed warehouse, is located on a 2.41-acre parcel (Castradal Number (Parcel 051-000-001-23-000) at Carretera 488 KM 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico, 00659 (18.424375, -66.807581). (see **Appendix A, Figure 1**- Site Location and **Figure 2**- Site Vicinity). This property is in a rural

area in the central portion of Hatillo Municipio. Access to the project areas is provided via an existing paved road that runs east/west to the southern portion of the property.

The applicant has identified a location in the south-central portion of the parcel for the roofed warehouse related to the Intended Use of Grant Funds that are being evaluated under this Environmental Assessment, also shown on Figures 1 and 2:

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

The proposed project includes the construction and installation of a new warehouse with a roof. The only proposed location for the warehouse is on the southern portion of the parcel, close to the paved access road and will require no tree clearing or ground drilling for construction; therefore, the project will have minimal ground disturbance. The applicant owns the property and currently uses it for agricultural use; therefore, no acquisition or conversion is required. The project does not require utility connections to electricity or water.

The new warehouse is approximately 400 square feet (sq ft), 20 feet (ft) by 20 ft by 10 ft fully enclosed structure and will provide a place for the applicant to store commercial farming and fishing equipment. The warehouse will be secured with concrete footers that are 1 ft by 1 ft and placed up to 2 ft deep into the ground with six (6) 12 ft columns placed 2 ft into the ground and extending vertically 10 ft to the roof. There will be four (4) corner columns, and two (2) additional columns in the middle of the structure. There will be no permanent foundation; however, the ground will be covered with plastic and topped with gravel which does not require grading.

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

In September of 2017, Hurricanes Irma and María produced sustained winds and intense rainfall that decimated agricultural production across the island of Puerto Rico. These hurricanes caused the loss of eighty percent of crop value island wide, exacerbating challenges to food security and agricultural business development. The Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture (PRDA) estimated seven hundred and eighty million dollars (\$780 million) worth of damages from the hurricanes to the agricultural sector of the economy.

Many properties were damaged in Hurricane Maria, resulting in struggling businesses. The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (Re-Grow Program) will develop greater agricultural capacity and address the needs created by Hurricanes Irma and María with a substantial investment of Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds for a wide variety of viable and sustainable agricultural activities.

Agricultural capacity and strong food systems are fundamental to resiliency of economies and, as Puerto Rico's entire agriculture sector was devastated by the

Hurricanes, this Program is designed to revitalize this industry. The Re-Grow Program is an integral part of the long-term expansion of jobs in the sector, food security and contributing to overall economic recovery of disaster impacted populations.

The applicant does not have the resources to purchase a warehouse for their agricultural operation nor has the applicant received any other outside source of funding for the project. The new warehouse will help increase the agricultural production by providing storage space for agricultural related materials. The project as a whole will support continued local agricultural production during future disasters.

Agencies consulted for the proposed project are provided in the *List of Sources, Agencies* and *Persons Consulted* section of this Environmental Assessment (EA). Further discussion of the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives is provided in the *Cumulative Impact Analysis, Alternatives/No Action Alternative,* and *Summary of Findings* and *Conclusions* sections of this EA.

Existing Conditions and Trends

The proposed project site is an active agricultural field of maintained grass. The surrounding area consists of residences, similar agricultural fields, and small wooded areas. There are no resource areas adjacent to the project, including streams, riparian areas, nor protected lands. The proposed action associated with this grant will have a relatively small footprint on the parcel and will not alter the land use of the area.

Funding Information

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

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$9,458.29

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$9,500.00

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 REGULATIO	ONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No	The project site is not within 2,500 ft of a civil primary or commercial service airport or within 15,000 ft of a military airport. The nearest civil primary or commercial service airport, Aeropuerto Rafael Hernandez, is located 109,333 ft (21 miles [mi]) northwest of the project site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport, is located 274,453 ft (52 mi) east of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with airport hazards requirements. The Airport Hazards Partner Worksheet and Airport Hazards Map (Figure B 1-1) are provided in Appendix B,
		Attachment 1.
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes No	The project site is not located in a Coastal Barrier Resource Systems Unit (CBRS) or Otherwise Protected Area (OPA). The closest CBRS unit, Penon Brusi, is located 22,013 ft (4 mi) north of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. The Coastal Barrier Resources Act Partner Worksheet and Coastal Barrier Resources Map (Figure B 2-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 2.

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 🖂	A review of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Community Panel 72000C0220H (effective date 4/19/2005), shows the project site is in Flood Zone X, which is not in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Flood insurance is not required. No further evaluation is required. The project is in
			compliance with the Flood Disaster Protection Act and National Flood Insurance Reform Act. The Flood Insurance Partner Worksheet and FIRM (Figure B 3-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 3.
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, A	AND REC	SULATIC	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 in Hatillo Municipio, which is within a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) designated attainment area. Municipios in Nonattainment or Maintenance areas include Arecibo, Bayamon, Catano, Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan and Toa Baja. Project activities include new construction of a warehouse. The project is not anticipated to have a negative impact on air quality. Emissions associated with the proposed actions are temporary and limited to the use of small construction equipment and will be well below the Federal General Conformity Rule de minimis thresholds. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act. The Air Quality Partner Worksheet, List of
			Non-Attainment/Maintenance Status Counties in Puerto Rico, and Clean Air Map (Figure B 4-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 4.
Coastal Zone Management Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes	No	The project site is not located within the Puerto Rico Coastal Management Zone. The closest coastal zone area is located 20,533 ft (4 mi) northwest of the project site. No further evaluation is required.

		The project is in compliance with the
		Coastal Zone Management Act.
		The Coastal Zone Management Partner Worksheet and Coastal Zone Map (Figure B 5-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 5.
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)	Yes No	The project site was evaluated for potential contamination by conducting a field site inspection on October 5, 2023 (Appendix C) to identify any onsite
		hazards including, but not limited to, soil staining, above ground storage tanks, signs of underground storage tanks, odors, hazardous debris etc. The site inspection did not identify any onsite hazards, stained soil or vegetation and the project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements.
		In addition, a desktop review of USEPA databases, NEPAssist, and other sources was conducted to determine if the project site is located near dump sites, junk yards, landfills, hazardous waste sites, or industrial sites, including USEPA National Priorities List Sites (Superfund sites), CERCLA or state-equivalent sites, RCRA Corrective Action sites with release(s) or suspected release(s) requiring clean-up action and/or further investigation. The parcel has been used for agricultural purposes and there has been no change in land use in the last 20 years. The project is located in a medium density area of Hatillo Municipio and will continue to be used for agricultural purpose.
		HUD issued a notice effective April 11, 2024 for compliance in the consideration of radon for all projects receiving HUD funding. This applies to any non-residential building associated with a HUD funded project where the intention is for the structure to be occupied for four or more hours a day. This project includes the purchase and

		installation of a warehouse whose primary purpose is to store commercial fishing and farming equipment; therefore, it falls under the exemptions listed in "Considering radon in the environmental review" of the CPD memo. The desktop review did not find any of the above-listed toxic, hazardous or radioactive substances in or within 3,000 feet of the project area. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements. The Contamination and Toxics Substances Partner Worksheet, and Contamination and Toxic Substances Map (Figure B 6-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 6.
Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	Yes No	The project involves activities that have the potential to affect protected species or habitats including but not limited to activities such as ground disturbance. Threatened, endangered, and migratory bird species were identified by reviewing data from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC) Tool. In addition, critical species habitat was reviewed through the USFWS IPaC Critical Habitat Portal. The review identified one federally listed species (Puerto Rican boa [Chilabothrus inornatus]) with the potential to occur within the project area. There is no designated or proposed critical habitat within the project area; the closest final designated critical habitat is located 34,581 ft (7 mi) northwest. The project activities will result in minor ground disturbing activities, including the installation of support columns for a new warehouse structure. A qualified biologist reviewed the proposed activity location(s) and determined that the

		project will have no effect on designated critical habitat. Due to the generalist nature of the Puerto Rican boa, forested habitat surrounding the project areas, and dense ground cover present throughout the review area, the Puerto Rican boa may occur within the project area. The applicant will employ the conservation measures outlined in the USFWS 2024 General Project Design Guidelines for the Puerto Rican boa. As such, it is anticipated that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican boa. If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project action site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the CM shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa. The Endangered Species Act Partner Worksheet, Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Memorandum with IPaC, Critical Habitat Map (Figure B 7-1) are provided
Explosive and Flammable Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	Yes No	in Appendix B, Attachment 7. The project includes the construction of a new warehouse. The project itself is not the development of a hazardous facility nor will the project increase residential densities. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements. The Explosive and Flammable Hazards Partner Worksheet is provided in Appendix B, Attachment 8.
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. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses two (2) mapped soil series: BcC (Bayamon sandy loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes) and BsC

		(Bayamon sandy clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes). Prime farmland is throughout the project area and while the project includes new construction, it is exempt from review under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FFPA) as the project is limited to construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations. No further review is required. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. The Farmlands Protection Partner Worksheet and Prime Farmland Map (Figure B 9-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 9.
Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	Yes No	The project is not located in the 100-year floodplain or ABFE special flood hazard area; therefore, no further action is required. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Hatillo; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review. HUD implemented new floodplain regulations under 89 FR 30850 effective June 24, 2024, which created the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS). The current project comprises non-critical actions that lie outside the 0.2-percent-annual-chance (500-year flood elevation), which is the approach used for this project to comply with the FFRMS; therefore, mitigation is not required, and the project is in compliance with 24 CFR Part 55. The Floodplain Management Partner Worksheet and ABFE Floodplain Map

			(Figure B 10-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 10.
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR	Yes	No	The project will involve the construction of a warehouse on an agricultural portion of the property. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consultation was performed.
Part 800			No National Historic Landmark (NHL) are within or near the project area.
			Record reviews and research were conducted at the SHPO and the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña (ICP) to determine if any archaeologically sensitive resources could be present within a 0.5-mile radius.
			The results of the record search and the site inspection indicate that there are no historic properties or cultural resources within the 0.50-mile radius study area or within the project Area of Potential Effect (APE). Based on the results of the historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the APE.
			The determination was submitted to SHPO by PRDOH for concurrence on March 18, 2024, and SHPO concurred with the No Historic Properties Affected determination on March 25, 2024. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.
			The Historic Preservation Partner Worksheet and SHPO consultation are provided in Appendix B , Attachment 11 which include the Cultural Resources Map B 11-1 .
Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet	Yes	No	The project activities are limited to the construction of a warehouse and do not involve residential new construction or rehabilitation. No further evaluation is

Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B		required. The project is in compliance with HUD's noise regulation.
Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes No	According to the USEPA's Source Water Protection, Sole Source Aquifer Protection Program, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. The Sole Source Aquifer Partner Worksheet and Sole Source Aquifer Map (Figure B 15-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 15.
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes No	A review of the National Wetland Inventory found no wetlands or riverine features on the property. The closest wetland is a freshwater emergent wetland located approximately 640 ft west of the project site at its closest point. Contractors will use appropriate erosion and sedimentation controls. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. The Wetlands Protection Partner Worksheet and Wetland Map (Figure B 12-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 12.
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes No	A review of the USFWS National Wild and Scenic River mapper identified no Wild and Scenic Rivers or National Rivers Inventory (NRI) rivers present in Hatillo Municipio. The closest Wild and Scenic River segment is located 355,801 ft (67 mi) east of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Partner Worksheet and Wild and Scenic Rivers Map (Figure B 13-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 13.
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		

Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	Yes No	The ReGrow Program intends to alleviate negative economic impacts to, and strengthen, the agricultural industry in Puerto Rico. The project's direct and indirect impacts are limited to a small area on a single land parcel. The project will benefit the farm owner by improving agricultural use and production. The project will not facilitate development that would negatively affect human health or result in disproportionate adverse environmental impacts to low-income or minority populations. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898.
		The Environmental Justice Partner Worksheet and EJScreen Report are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 14 .

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

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

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

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation			
LAND DEVELOPMENT	LAND DEVELOPMENT				
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a warehouse. The project site location is designated as General Agriculture (A-G) land use and classified as Common Rustic Floor (SRC). The proposed action is continued agricultural use of property, which is compatible with zoning and existing land use.			
		Construction actions include minor improvements which increase the current function of the existing land use. There is no change in land use since the land will continue to be used for agriculture purposes. The proposed project is in a rural agricultural and residential area, and project activities will not contribute to urban sprawl.			
		The applicant and/or construction manager is required to obtain any necessary local and territorial building and environmental permits prior to the commencement of construction activities.			
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a warehouse. Soil suitability will be assessed prior to construction and will be addressed during local permitting processes. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses two (2) mapped soil series: BcC (Bayamon sandy loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes) and BsC (Bayamon sandy clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes). Contractors will be required to use best management practices during construction to control erosion and prevent runoff. The soil is currently being used for agriculture purposes. Landslide data from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) indicates no landslides for the project area (see Appendix A, Figure A-3 USGS Landslide Map). Department of Natural and Environmental Resources			
		(DNER) authorization is required for any extraction, removal, excavation, and dredging of the components of the earth's crust.			
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a warehouse. Contractors will be required to provide health and safety plans and monitoring during construction. Noise levels will temporarily increase during construction which may impact surrounding			

	neighbors; however, program activities are limited to the existing agricultural property and will not elevate long-term ambient noise levels. Contractors will be required to comply with the applicable local noise ordinances. Noise impacts will be mitigated by restricting construction activities to daylight hours and to the hours established in the Regulation for Noise Control and Pollution in Puerto Rico. Additionally, the project does not include housing to where inhabitants would be affected.
--	---

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a warehouse. The project is not anticipated to have a significant impact on employment and income patterns; however, the project may help restore employment opportunities and income patterns.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a warehouse. The project is a rural area in Hatillo Municipio and will not alter the demographics or character of the surrounding community. Project activities will not result in any direct or indirect displacement of individuals or families.
Environmental Justice	2	The project activities include the construction of a new warehouse. The project's direct and indirect impacts are limited to a small area on a single land parcel. The project will benefit the farm owner by improving agricultural use and production. The project will not facilitate development that would negatively affect human health or result in disproportionate adverse environmental impacts to low-income or minority populations.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a warehouse on private land and will not contribute to

		any change in educational or cultural facilities or affect access to or capacity of educational or cultural facilities.
Commercial Facilities	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a warehouse. The proposed project will provide a place for the applicant to store commercial farming and fishing equipment, resulting in a net positive impact to the applicant's farm commercial output; however, the project will not put undue pressure on commercial facilities.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a warehouse on private land and will not affect access to or capacity of health care and social services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a warehouse. The proposed project may cause an increase in short-term generation of solid waste during construction. All construction debris will be disposed of at the proper facilities for the debris type (i.e., construction waste). The project will not contribute to long-term needs or changes to solid waste disposal and recycling.
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The construction of a new warehouse is not expected to result in changes in wastewater or sanitary sewer generation. Sewage will not be generated from the project. No new wastewater or sanitary sewer connections are required for this project.
Water Supply	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a new warehouse. The proposed project activities are not expected to result in significant changes to water supply. The project does not include new water connections.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a new warehouse on private land and will not affect public safety concerns such as police, fire, and emergency medical services.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a new warehouse on private land and will not result in any changes to access or use of parks, open space, and recreation areas.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a new warehouse on private land and will have no relation to transportation services. The proposed

	activities will not result in any changes in transportation and accessibility.
!	·

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The project includes the construction of a warehouse and is not located in close proximity to unique natural features or water resources; therefore, construction activities will not affect quality or access to these resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The project area has already been previously disturbed for residential home placement and farm operations; therefore, the project is not anticipated to result in any new impacts to trees, vegetation, wildlife, or native plant communities. No tree clearing or pruning is anticipated prior to warehouse construction.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
CLIMATE AND ENERG	Υ	
Climate Change Impacts	2	The proposed project includes the construction of a warehouse. The proposed ReGrow program project aims to increase resiliency in the agricultural industry to prepare for future climate related disasters, including drought. The Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation Assessment tool (https://resilience.climate.gov/#assessment-tool) provides historical and future climate data for five common climate-related hazards (extreme heat, drought, wildfires, flooding, and coastal inundation). The data model for the census tract that includes application location does not indicate a significant increase in hazard risks from climate change for drought, wildfire, or flooding, when comparing historical data (1976-2005) to future projections. The model projects a greater number of days where temperatures will exceed 90 degrees Fahrenheit after

		2015, which is a systemic trend in the model across the Island.
		The specific activities proposed for this economic development project are limited in scale and land impacts. The proposed warehouse construction activities are for individual farm use and will not result in any increase in electricity or water draw. The equipment that will be used during construction and operation will also be limited to occasional use at this specific land parcel, and therefore will not generate a significant amount of greenhouse gases. Additionally, project activities will not result in tree clearing that would contribute to a loss in carbon capture capacity.
Energy Efficiency	2	The project will not result in significant additional energy consumption as it involves only the construction of a warehouse using self-powered construction equipment on an existing farm and will not require any expansion to existing power facilities.

Additional Studies Performed:

No additional studies were performed.

Field Inspection (Date and completed by):

Field inspection completed on October 5, 2023, by Delise Torre-Ortiz, SWCA Environmental Consultants.

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

Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER). 2023. Puerto Rico DNER Species Ranges – under construction. Accessed October 5, 2023. Available at: https://arcg.is/1S9aju0.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). 2022. National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems 2023-2027. Accessed October 5, 2023. Available at: National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) 2023-2027, Appendix B: National and State Maps (faa.gov).

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). 2023. FEMA Flood Map Service Center - Map Panel 72000C0520J (effective date 11/18/2009). Accessed October 24, 2023. Available at: https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home.

Institute of Puerto Rican Culture (ICP). 2023. San Juan, Puerto Rico. Data collection conducted on October 23, 2023.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office for Coastal Management. 2023. Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Boundary. Accessed October 5, 2023. Available at: Puerto Rico Coastal Vulnerability Viewer (arcgis.com).

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). 2023. San Juan, Puerto Rico. Data collection conducted on October 24, 2023.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). 2022a. Envirofacts Mapper. Air pollution data (ICIS-AIR), Brownfields, Hazardous Waste (RCRAInfo), Superfund National Priorities List (NPL), Toxic Releases Inventory (TRI), and National Pollutants Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES). Accessed October 5, 2023. Available at: https://geopub.epa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/EMEF/efpoints/MapServer.

USEPA. 2022b. Sole Source Aquifer Map. Accessed February 23, 2024. Available at: https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ad a1877155fe31356b.

USEPA. 2023a. Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for All Criteria Pollutants. USEPA Green Book. Accessed February 26, 2024. Available at: https://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo_pr.html.

USEPA. 2023b. EJScreen: Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool. Accessed October 24, 2023. Available at: https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/download-ejscreendata.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2019. Coastal Barrier Resources System. Accessed October 5, 2023. Available at: https://www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Mapper.html.

USFWS. 2023a. Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Accessed February 2, 2024. Available at: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/location/index.

USFWS. 2023b. Critical Habitat for Threatened & Endangered Species. Accessed October 5, 2023. Available at:

https://fws.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=9d8de5e265ad4fe 09893cf75b8dbfb77.

USFWS. 2023c. National Wetlands Inventory Surface Waters and Wetlands Mapper. Accessed October 5, 2023. Available at:

https://fwsprimary.wim.usgs.gov/wetlands/apps/wetlands-mapper/.

U.S. Forest Service. 2022. National Wild and Scenic River Segments. Accessed October 5, 2023. Available at: https://www.rivers.gov/mapping-gis.php; Wild & Scenic Rivers | US Forest Service (usda.gov).

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). 2022. Concentration of Landslides caused by Hurricane Maria, Puerto Rico. Accessed October 5, 2023. Available at: U.S. Landslide Inventory (arcgis.com).

List of Permits Obtained:

No permits have been obtained.

Public Outreach [24 CFR 58.43]:

Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture has worked closely with the agricultural community. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for HUD, the public will be notified of the project through publication of the combined Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) – Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI-RROF) notice with a 15-day public comment period.

Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]:

The construction of a warehouse at the project site is not anticipated to have a negative impact on environmental resources. None of the environmental assessment factors nor the regulations reviewed in the above checklist resulted in negative environmental impacts. Overall, the project will have a net positive impact by helping a small business increase their capacity for agricultural production. No other planned or ongoing projects were identified in the project vicinity that could contribute to cumulative impacts of environmental resources.

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

Within the boundaries of the property, other locations could be considered for the new warehouse. However, other locations may require greater environmental impacts such as additional ground disturbance or additional tree clearing and would result in higher costs to the applicant.

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

Under the No Action Alternative, the applicant would not receive federal funding to construct a new warehouse. Consequently, the applicant may not be able to recover and continue agricultural production. Given the degree of need for greater agricultural capacity in Puerto Rico following Hurricanes Irma and María, the costs of foregoing the project would exceed the benefits from the No Action Alternative.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions:

The proposed project would not result in any adverse impacts to the surrounding natural, historical, and water resources; generate significant air or noise pollution; or promote environmental or socioeconomic injustices. The proposed project is not located within a coastal zone or near a major water resource.

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
Endangered Species	General Condition:
Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	The current project activities do not involve the removal of trees. If any tree clearing is to be proposed, the project will need to be re-evaluated for impacts to threatened and endangered species.
	If a Puerto Rican Boa (Boa) is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off site on its own. If the Boa does not move off site, the construction manager shall contact the Puerto Rico DNER to relocate the Boa. The USFWS has developed the following conservation measures for the Boa:
	1. Inform all project personnel about the potential presence of the PR boa in areas where the proposed work will be conducted. A preconstruction meeting should be conducted to inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming the species as well as penalties for harassing or harming PR boas. An educational poster or sign with photo or illustration of the species should be displayed at the project site.
	2. Prior to any construction activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movements, the boundaries of the project and areas to be excluded and protected should be clearly marked in the project plan and in the field in order to avoid further habitat degradation into forested and conservation areas.
	3. Once areas are clearly marked, and prior to the use of heavy machinery and any construction activity (including removal of vegetation and earth

movement), a biologist or project personnel with experience on this species should survey the areas to be cleared to verify the presence of any PR boa within the work area.

- 4. If a PR boa is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded (see #5). Do not capture the boa. If boas need to be moved out of harm's way, designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (PRDNER phone #s: (787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124). If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities at that area must stop until the boa moves out of harm's way on its own. Activities at other work sites, where no boas have been found after surveying the area, may continue.
- 5. For all boa sightings (dead or alive), record the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where it was found. PR boa data should also include a photo of the animal (dead or alive), site GPS coordinates, the time and date, and comments on how the animal was detected and its behavior. Last Revised: January 2024
- 6. If a PR boa is captured by PRDNER personnel, record the name of that person and information on where the PR boa will be taken. This information should be reported to the Service.
- 7. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize PR boa casualties by heavy machinery or motor vehicles being used on site. Any heavy machinery left on site (staging) or near potential PR boa habitat (within 50 meters of potential boa habitat), needs to be thoroughly inspected each morning before work starts to ensure that no boas have sheltered within engine compartments or other areas of the equipment. If PR boas are found within vehicles or equipment, do not capture the animal, and let it move on its own or call PRDNER Rangers

	for safe capture and relocation of the animal (see #4). If not possible, the animal should be left alone until it leaves the vehicle on its own.
	8. PR boas may seek shelter in debris piles. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize boa casualties associated with sheltering in debris piles as a result of project activities. Debris piles should be placed far away from forested areas. Prior to moving, disposing or shredding, debris piles should be carefully inspected for the presence of boas. If debris piles will be left on site, we recommend they be placed in areas that will not be disturbed in the future.
	9. If a dead PR boa is found, immediately cease all work in that area and record the information accordingly (see #5). If the PR boa was accidentally killed as part of the project actions, please include information on what conservation measures had been implemented and what actions will be taken to avoid further killings. A dead boa report should be sent by email (see contacts below) to the Service within 48 hours of the event.
	10. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact the PRDNER for further guidance.
Historic Preservation	General Condition:
National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	If historic properties are discovered, unanticipated effects on historic properties are found, or cultural materials are encountered, work should cease in the immediate area; work can continue where no historic properties or cultural materials are present. Please contact PRDOH to consult on further actions that may be necessary to protect historic properties or cultural materials.
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	The proposed action is continued agricultural use of property, which is compatible with the existing land use.
	The applicant and/or construction manager is required to obtain any necessary local and

	territorial building and environmental permits prior to commencing construction activities.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	Soil suitability will be assessed prior to construction. Contractors will be required to use best management practices during construction.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	Contractors will be required to provide health and safety plans and monitoring during construction. Contractors will be required to comply with the applicable local noise ordinances.
	Noise impacts will be mitigated by restricting construction activities to daylight hours and to the hours established in the Regulation for Noise Control and Pollution in Puerto Rico.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	All construction debris will be disposed of at the proper facilities for the debris type (i.e. construction waste).

Determination:

Finding of No Significant Impact [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1); 40 CFR 1508.27] The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.
Finding of Significant Impact [24 CFR 58.40(g)(2); 40 CFR 1508.27] The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.
Preparer Signature:Date: 10/03/2024_
Name/Title/Organization:Allyson Rezac, Deputy Program Manager, SWCA Environmental Consultants
Certifying Officer Signature:

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

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

Appendix A Project Overview Figures

Figure 1 Site Location Map

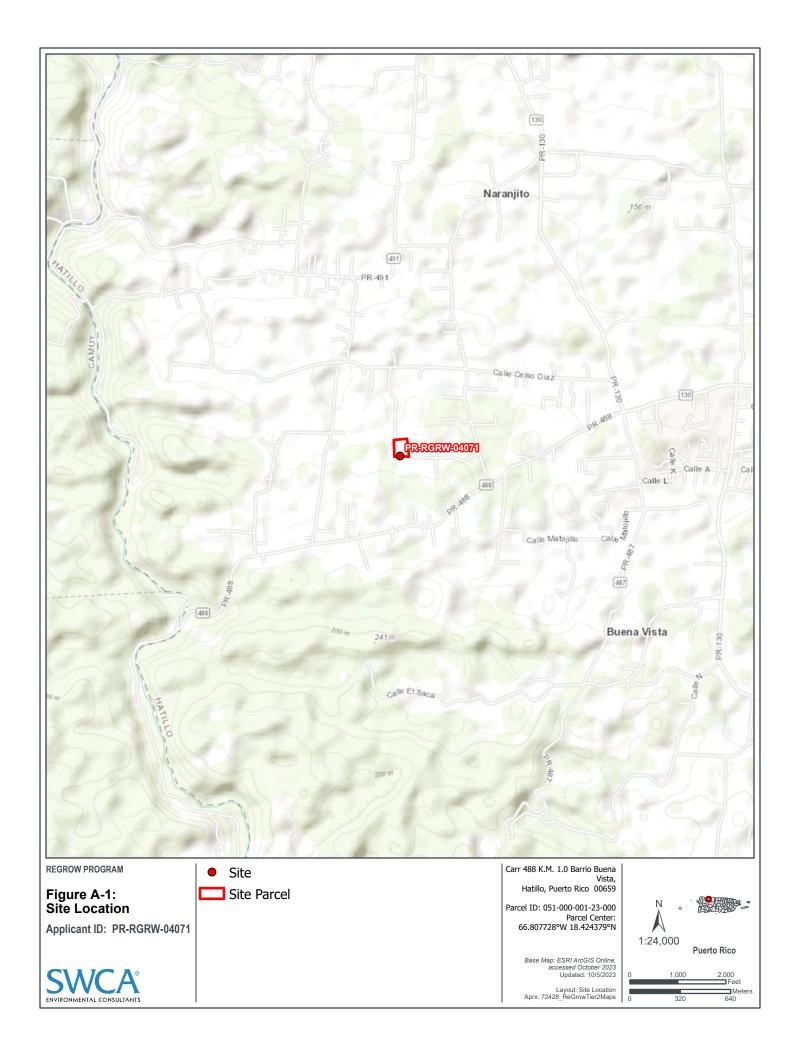
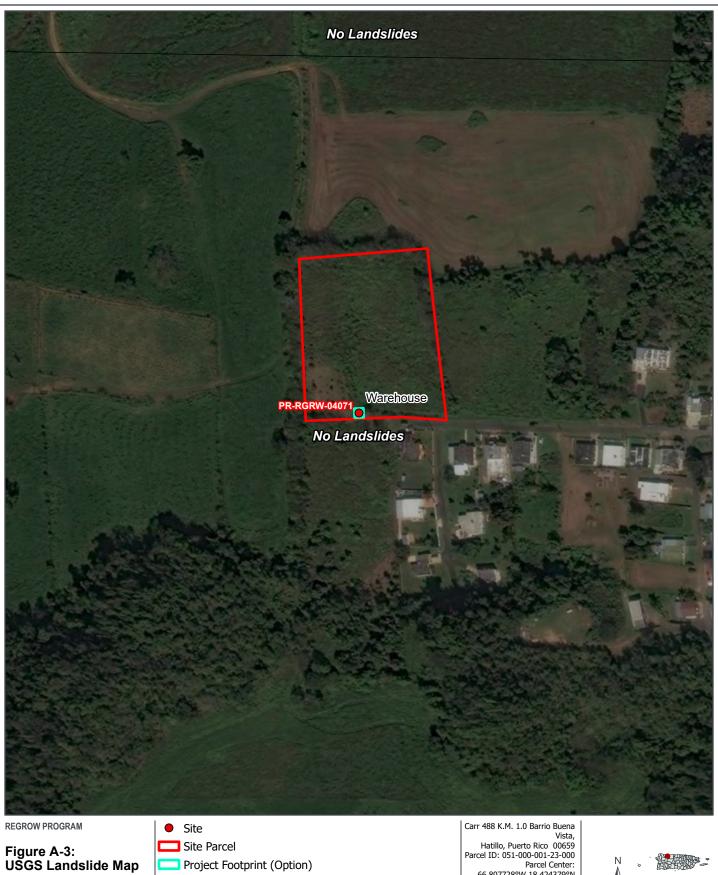


Figure 2 Site Vicinity Map



Figure 3 USGS Landslide Map



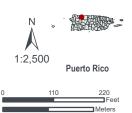
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-04071



Potential Area of Disturbance Greater than 25 Landslides per sq km Less than 25 Landslides per sq km No Landslides Not Examined

66.807728°W 18.424379°N

Data Source: https://arcgis.cuahsi.org/ arcgis/rest/services/MariaRAPID/ Hurricane_Maria_Landslides/ MapServer Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2023 Updated: 10/s/2023 Layout: Landslide



Appendix B Attachments and Supporting Documentation

Attachment 1 Airport Hazards Partner Worksheet and Airport Hazards Map



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Airport Hazards (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

htt	ps://www.	hudexchange.info/environmental-review/airport-hazards			
1.	To ensure compatible land use development, you must determine your site's proximity to civil and military airports. Is your project within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport?				
	⊠No à	If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map showing that the site is not within the applicable distances to a military or civilian airport.			
	□Yes à	Continue to Question 2.			
2.	. Is your project located within a Runway Potential Zone/Clear Zone (RPZ/CZ) or Accident Potentia Zone (APZ)?				
	□Yes, proj	ect is in an APZ à Continue to Question 3.			
	□Yes, proj	ect is an RPZ/CZ à <i>Project cannot proceed at this location</i> .			
	□No, proj	ect is not within an APZ or RPZ/CZ			
	à If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map showing that the site is not within either zone.				
3.	. Is the project in conformance with DOD guidelines for APZ?				
		ect is consistent with DOD guidelines without further action.			
	Con	RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. tinue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documentation supporting this ermination.			
		project cannot be brought into conformance with DOD guidelines and has not been ed. à <i>Project cannot proceed at this location</i> .			

If mitigation measures have been or will be taken, explain in detail the proposed measures that must be implemented to mitigate for the impact or effect, including the timeline for implementation.

Click here to enter text.

à Work with the RE/HUD to develop mitigation measures. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documentation supporting this determination.

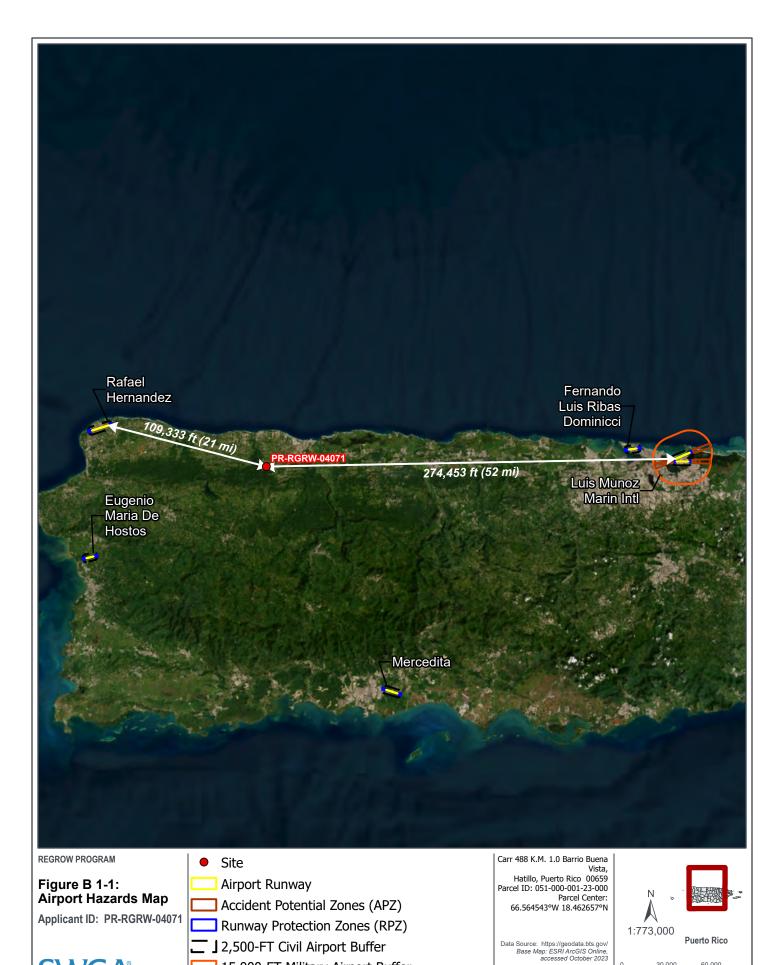
Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The project site is not within 2,500 feet of a civil primary or commercial service airport or within 15,000 feet of a military airport. The nearest civil primary or commercial service airport, Aeropuerto Rafael Hernandez, is located 109,333 feet (21 miles) northwest of the project site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport, is located 274,453 feet (52 miles) east of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with airport hazards requirements.



15,000-FT Military Airport Buffer

Updated: 10/5/2023 Layout: Airport Hazards Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps

____Meters 20,000

SWCA®
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Attachment 2

Coastal Barrier Resources Act Partner Worksheet and Coastal Barrier Resources Map



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Coastal Barrier Resources (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/coastal-barrier-resources

Projects located in the following states must complete this form.

Alabama	Georgia	Massachusetts	New Jersey	Puerto Rico	Virgin Islands
Connecticut	Louisiana	Michigan	New York	Rhode Island	Virginia
Delaware	Maine	Minnesota	North Carolina	South Carolina	Wisconsin
Florida	Maryland	Mississippi	Ohio	Texas	

1. Is the project located in a CBRS Unit?

⊠No →	If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this
	section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map showing that the site
	is not within a CBRS Unit.

 \square Yes \rightarrow Continue to 2.

<u>Federal assistance for most activities may not be used at this location. You must either choose an alternate site or cancel the project.</u> In very rare cases, federal monies can be spent within CBRS units for certain exempted activities (e.g., a nature trail), after consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) (see <u>16 USC 3505</u> for exceptions to limitations on expenditures).

2. Indicate your recommended course of action for the RE/HUD

☐ Consultation with the FW	15
☐ Cancel the project	

Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The project site is not located in a Coastal Barrier Resource Systems Unit (CBRS) or Otherwise Protected Area (OPA). The closest CBRS unit, Penon Brusi, is located 22,013 feet (4 miles) north of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.

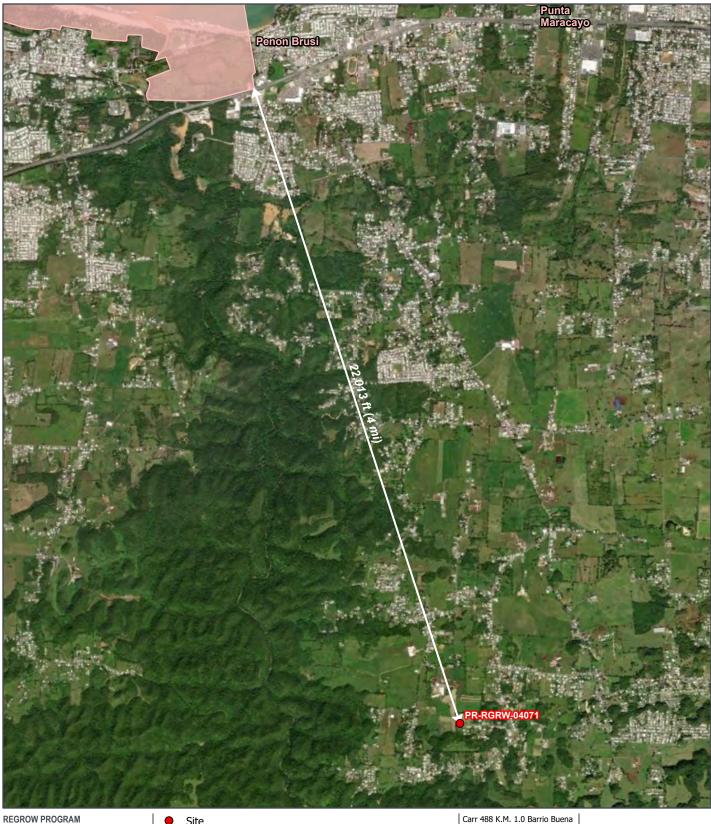


Figure B 2-1: Coastal Barrier Resources Map

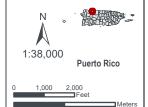
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-04071



Otherwise Protected Area System Unit

Carr 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico 00659 Parcel ID: 051-000-001-23-000 Parcel Center: 66.817588°W 18.453189°N

Data Source: https://cbrsgis.wim. usgs.gov/arcgis/rest/services/Coastal BarrierResourcesSystem/MapServer Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2023 Updated: 10/5/2023 Layout: Coastal Barrier Resources System



Attachment 3 Flood Insurance Partner Worksheet and Flood Insurance Rate Map



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Flood Insurance (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/flood-insurance

1.	cor	es this project involve mortgage insurance, refinance, acquisition, repairs, rehabilitation, or instruction of a structure, mobile home, or insurable personal property? No. This project does not require flood insurance or is excepted from flood insurance. — Continue to the Worksheet Summary.
	\boxtimes	/es → Continue to Question 2.
2.	The	by ide a FEMA/FIRM map showing the site. E Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The FEMA Map Service provides this information in the form of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).
	Flo	he structure, part of the structure, or insurable property located in a FEMA-designated Special od Hazard Area? No Continue to the Worksheet Summary.
		Yes → Continue to Question 3.
3.		he community participating in the National Flood Insurance Program <i>or</i> has less than one year seed since FEMA notification of Special Flood Hazards?
		Yes, the community is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program. Flood insurance is required. Provide a copy of the flood insurance policy declaration or a paid receipt for the current annual flood insurance premium and a copy of the application for flood insurance. → Continue to the Worksheet Summary.
		Yes, less than one year has passed since FEMA notification of Special Flood Hazards. If less than one year has passed since notification of Special Flood Hazards, no flood Insurance is required. → Continue to the Worksheet Summary.
		No. The community is not participating, or its participation has been suspended. Federal assistance may not be used at this location. Cancel the project at this location.

Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

A review of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Community Panel 72000C0220H (effective date 4/19/2005), shows the project site is in Flood Zone X, which is not in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Flood insurance is not required. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Flood Disaster Protection Act and National Flood Insurance Reform Act.



Open Water

Zone AH

Attachment 4

Air Quality Partner Worksheet, List of Non-Attainment/Maintenance Status Counties in Puerto Rico, and Clean Air Map



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Air Quality (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/air-quality

1.	Does your project include new construction or conversion of land use facilitating the development of public, commercial, or industrial facilities OR five or more dwelling units?
	\square Yes \rightarrow Continue to Question 2.
	\boxtimes No \rightarrow If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Provide any documents used to make your determination.
2.	Is your project's air quality management district or county in non-attainment or maintenance status for any criteria pollutants? Follow the link below to determine compliance status of project county or air quality management district: http://www.epa.gov/oaqps001/greenbk/
	 No, project's county or air quality management district is in attainment status for all criteria pollutants → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination. Yes, project's management district or county is in non-attainment or maintenance status for one or more criteria pollutants. → Continue to Question 3.
3.	Determine the <u>estimated emissions levels of your project for each of those criteria pollutants</u> that are in non-attainment or maintenance status on your project area. Will your project exceed any of the <i>de minimis or threshold</i> emissions levels of non-attainment and maintenance level pollutants or exceed the screening levels established by the state or air quality management district?
	 □ No, the project will not exceed <i>de minimis</i> or threshold emissions levels or screening levels → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Explain how you determined that the project would not exceed de minimis or threshold emissions.

☐ Yes, the project exceeds <i>de minimis</i> emissions levels or screeni
--

- → Continue to Question 4. Explain how you determined that the project would not exceed de minimis or threshold emissions in the Worksheet Summary.
- 4. For the project to be brought into compliance with this section, all adverse impacts must be mitigated. Explain in detail the exact measures that must be implemented to mitigate for the impact or effect, including the timeline for implementation.

Click here to enter text.

Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

Project activities include the construction of a new warehouse. The project is not anticipated to have a negative impact on air quality. Emissions associated with the proposed actions are temporary and limited to the use of small construction equipment and will be well below the Federal General Conformity Rule de minimis thresholds. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.



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

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

Data is current as of January 31, 2024

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

* The 1997 Primary Annual PM-2.5 NAAQS (level of 15 µg/m³) is revoked in attainment and maintenance areas for that NAAQS. For additional information see the PM-2.5 NAAQS SIP Requirements Final Rule, effective October 24, 2016. (81 FR 58009)

Change the State:		
PUERTO RICO	~	GO

Important Not	es		D	ownload Nationa	al Dataset: dbf	xls	Data diction	nary (PDF)
County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or/ Part County	Population (2010)	State/ County FIPS Codes
PUERTO RI	CO							
Arecibo Municipio	Lead (2008)	Arecibo, PR	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 192021222324	//		Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	22,921	72/021
Catano Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Whole	28,140	72/033
Guaynabo Municipio	PM-10 (1987)	Mun. of Guaynabo, PR	929394959697989900010203040506070809	02/11/2010	Moderate	Part	90,470	72/061
Guaynabo Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)		18192021222324	//		Part	23,802	72/061
Salinas Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Salinas PR	18192021222324	//		Part	23,401	72/123
San Juan Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	147,963	72/127
Toa Baja Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	52,441	72/137

Important Notes

Discover. Connect. Ask.

Follow.

2024-01-31

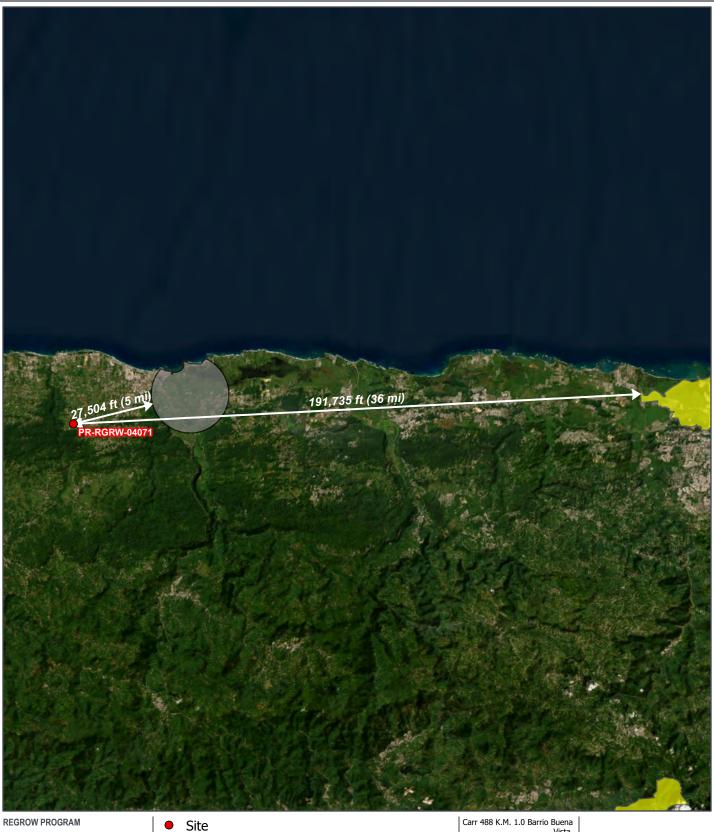


Figure B 4-1: Clean Air Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-04071

8-Hour Ozone (2015 Standard)*

Lead (2008 Standard)

PM-2.5 (2012 Standard)*

Sulfur Dioxide (2010 Standard)

*No Data in Puerto Rico

Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico 00659 Parcel ID: 051-000-001-23-000 Parcel Center: 66.531536°W 18.438576°N

Data Source: https://geopub.epa.gov/ arcgis/rest/services/NEPAssist/ NEPAVELayersPublic. fgdb/MapServer Base Map: ESRI ArcGls Online. accessed October 2023 Updated: 10/5/2023 Layout. Clean Air Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps



Attachment 5 Coastal Zone Management Partner Worksheet and Coastal Zone Map



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Coastal Zone Management Act (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

https://www.onecpd.info/environmental-review/coastal-zone-management

Projects located in the following states must complete this form.

Alabama	Florida	Louisiana	Mississippi	Ohio	Texas
Alaska	Georgia	Maine	New Hampshire	Oregon	Virgin Islands
American Samona	Guam	Maryland	New Jersey	Pennsylvania	Virginia
California	Hawaii	Massachusetts	New York	Puerto Rico	Washington
Connecticut	Illinois	Michigan	North Carolina	Rhode Island	Wisconsin
Delaware	Indiana	Minnesota	Northern	South Carolina	

1. Is the project located in, or does it affect, a Coastal Zone as defined in your state Coastal Management Plan?

- □Yes → Continue to Question 2.
 □No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map showing that the site is not within a Coastal Zone.
- 2. Does this project include activities that are subject to state review?
 - ☐Yes → Continue to Question 3.
 ☐No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide documentation used to make your determination.
- 3. Has this project been determined to be consistent with the State Coastal Management Program?

 □Yes, with mitigation. → The RE/HUD must work with the State Coastal Management

 Program to develop mitigation measures to mitigate the impact or effect of the project.

\Box Yes, without mitigation. \Rightarrow If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is
in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide documentation
used to make your determination.

\Box N \rightarrow	Drainet	cannot proceed	1 a+ +hic	lacation
\square INO $\overline{}$	Project	carrior proceed	a a c u iiis	iocation.

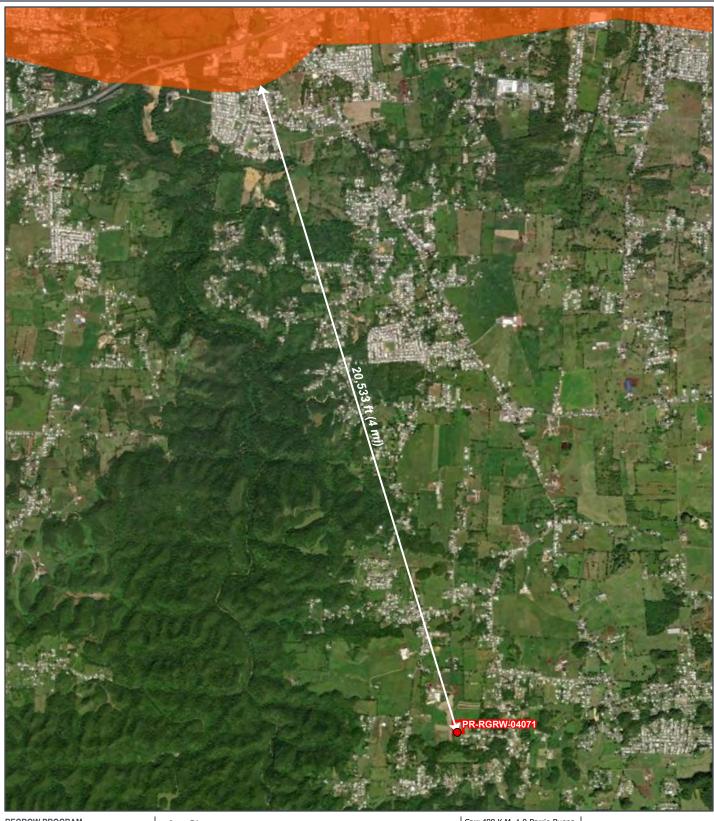
Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The project site is not located within the Puerto Rico Coastal Management Zone. The closest coastal zone area is located 20,533 feet (4 miles) northwest of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.



REGROW PROGRAM

Figure B 5-1: Coastal Zone Management Map

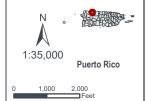
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-04071



Coastal Management Zone

Carr 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico 00659 Parcel ID: 051-000-001-23-000 Parcel Center: 66.816402°W 18.451411°N

Data Source: https://coast.noaa.gov/ arcgis/rest/services/Hosted/ Coastal/ZoneManagementAct/ Base Map: ESRI Arc6IS Online, accessed October 2023 Updated: 10/5/2023 Layout: Coastal Zone Management Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps



Attachment 6 Contamination and Toxics Substances Partner Worksheet, **Desktop Review**Summary and Map



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Contamination and Toxic Substances (Multifamily and Non-Residential Properties) – PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/site-contamination

1.	How was site contamination evaluated? $^{\mathrm{1}}$ Select all that apply.
	☐ ASTM Phase I ESA
	☐ ASTM Phase II ESA
	☐ Remediation or clean-up plan
	☐ ASTM Vapor Encroachment Screening
	☑ None of the above
	à Provide documentation and reports and include an explanation of how site contamination was
	evaluated in the Worksheet Summary.
	Continue to Question 2.
2.	Were any on-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances found that could affect
	the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property?
	(Were any recognized environmental conditions or RECs identified in a Phase I ESA and
	confirmed in a Phase II ESA?)
	⊠ No à Explain below.
	The project site was evaluated for potential contamination by conducting a field site inspection on October 5, 2023 to identify any onsite hazards including, but not limited to, soil staining, above ground storage tanks, signs of underground storage tanks, odors, hazardous debris etc. The site inspection did not identify any onsite hazards (see Appendix C- Environmental Site Inspection Report).
	à If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with
	this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.
	☐ Yes à Describe the findings, including any recognized environmental conditions (RECs),
	in Worksheet Summary below. Continue to Question 3.
IUD r	egulations at 24 CFR § 58.5(i)(2)(ii) require that the environmental review for multifamily housing with five

¹ HUD regulations at 24 CFR § 58.5(i)(2)(ii) require that the environmental review for multifamily housing with five or more dwelling units or non-residential property include the evaluation of previous uses of the site or other evidence of contamination on or near the site. For acquisition and new construction of multifamily and nonresidential properties HUD strongly advises the review include an ASTM Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) to meet real estate transaction standards of due diligence and to help ensure compliance with HUD's toxic policy at 24 CFR §58.5(i) and 24 CFR §50.3(i). Also note that some HUD programs require an ASTM Phase I ESA.

3.	Can adverse environmental impacts be mitigated?				
	\Box Adverse environmental impacts cannot feasibly be mitigated \rightarrow HUD assistance may not be				
	used for the project at this site. Project cannot proceed at this location.				
	☐ Yes, adverse environmental impacts can be eliminated through mitigation. à Provide all mitigation requirements² and documents. Continue to Question 4.				
4.	Describe how compliance was achieved. Include any of the following that apply: State Voluntary Clean-up Program, a No Further Action letter, use of engineering controls ³ , or use o institutional controls ⁴ . Click here to enter text.				
	If a remediation plan or clean-up program was necessary, which standard does it follow?				
	☐ Risk-based corrective action (RBCA)				
	à Continue to the Worksheet Summary.				

Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The project site was evaluated for potential contamination by conducting a field site inspection on October 5, 2023 (Appendix C) to identify any onsite hazards including, but not limited to, soil staining, above ground storage tanks, signs of underground storage tanks, odors, hazardous debris etc. The site inspection did not identify any onsite hazards, stained soil or vegetation and the project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements.

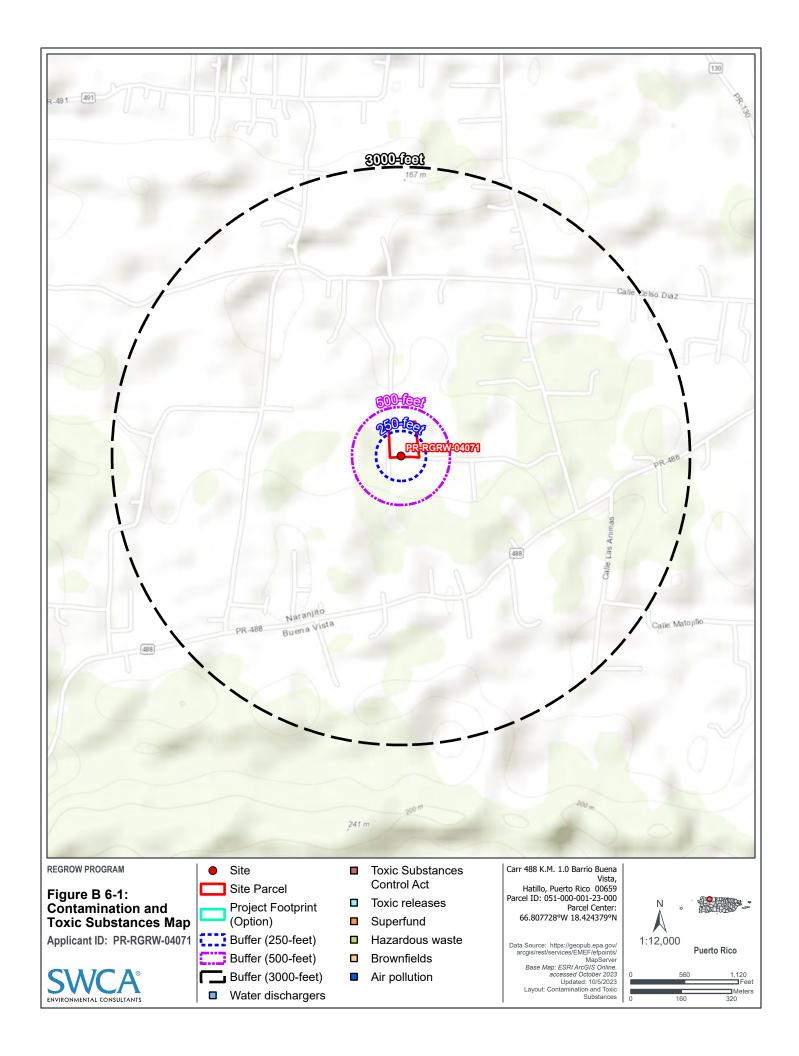
² Mitigation requirements include all clean-up actions required by applicable federal, state, tribal, or local law. Additionally, provide, as applicable, the long-term operations and maintenance plan, Remedial Action Work Plan, and other equivalent documents.

³ Engineering controls are any physical mechanism used to contain or stabilize contamination or ensure the effectiveness of a remedial action. Engineering controls may include, without limitation, caps, covers, dikes, trenches, leachate collection systems, signs, fences, physical access controls, ground water monitoring systems and ground water containment systems including, without limitation, slurry walls and ground water pumping systems.

⁴ Institutional controls are mechanisms used to limit human activities at or near a contaminated site, or to ensure the effectiveness of the remedial action over time, when contaminants remain at a site at levels above the applicable remediation standard which would allow for unrestricted use of the property. Institutional controls may include structure, land, and natural resource use restrictions, well restriction areas, classification exception areas, deed notices, and declarations of environmental restrictions.

In addition, a desktop review of USEPA databases, NEPAssist, and other sources was conducted to determine if the project site is located near dump sites, junk yards, landfills, hazardous waste sites, or industrial sites, including USEPA National Priorities List Sites (Superfund sites), CERCLA or state-equivalent sites, RCRA Corrective Action sites with release(s) or suspected release(s) requiring clean-up action and/or further investigation.

The desktop review did not find any of the above-listed toxic, hazardous or radioactive substances in or within 3,000 feet of the project area. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements.



Attachment 7

Endangered Species Act Partner
Worksheet, Threatened and Endangered
Species Technical Memorandum,
USFWS IPaC Species List, and Critical
Habitat Map



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Endangered Species Act (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/endangered-species

1. Does	he project	: involve any	activities that	have the	potential to	affect sp	ecies or l	habitats?
---------	------------	---------------	-----------------	----------	--------------	-----------	------------	-----------

- □No, the project will have No Effect due to the nature of the activities involved in the project.
 - → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section.

 Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination.
- □No, the project will have No Effect based on a letter of understanding, memorandum of agreement, programmatic agreement, or checklist provided by local HUD office.

Explain your determination:

Click here to enter text.

- → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section.

 Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination.
- \boxtimes Yes, the activities involved in the project have the potential to affect species and/or habitats. \Rightarrow Continue to Question 2.

2. Are federally listed species or designated critical habitats present in the action area? Obtain a list of protected species from the Services. This information is available on the <u>FWS Website</u>.

□No, the project will have No Effect due to the absence of federally listed species and designated critical habitat.

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section.

Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination. Documentation may include letters from the Services, species lists from the Services' websites, surveys or other documents and analysis showing that there are no species in the action area.

- 3. Recommend one of the following effects that the project will have on federally listed species or designated critical habitat:
 - □ No Effect: Based on the specifics of both the project and any federally listed species in the action area, you have determined that the project will have absolutely no effect on listed species or critical habitat.
 - → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section.

 Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination. Documentation should include a species list and explanation of your conclusion, and may require maps, photographs, and surveys as appropriate.
 - May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect: Any effects that the project may have on federally listed species or critical habitats would be beneficial, discountable, or insignificant.
 - → Partner entities should not contact the Services directly. If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, they will have to complete Informal Consultation. Provide the RE/HUD with a biological evaluation or equivalent document. They may request additional information, including surveys and professional analysis, to complete their consultation.
 - □Likely to Adversely Affect: The project may have negative effects on one or more listed species or critical habitat.
 - → Partner entities should not contact the Services directly. If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, they will have to complete Formal Consultation. Provide the RE/HUD with a biological evaluation or equivalent document. They may request additional information, including surveys and professional analysis, to complete their consultation.

Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

Threatened, endangered, and migratory bird species were identified by reviewing data from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC) Tool. In addition, critical species habitat was reviewed through the USFWS IPaC and Critical Habitat Portal databases. The review identified one federally listed species, Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*), with the potential to occur within the project area.

Based on the site inspection and proposed project activities, the project will have *no effect* on designated critical habitat. Due to the generalist nature of the Puerto Rican boa, forested habitat surrounding the project areas, and dense ground cover present throughout the review area, the Puerto Rican boa may occur within the project area. The applicant will employ the conservation

measures outlined in the USFWS 2024 General Project Design Guidelines for the Puerto Rican boa. As such, it is anticipated that the project *may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect* the Puerto Rican boa. See the attached USFWS informal consultation request and subsequent concurrence, dated August 4, 2024.



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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



In Reply Refer to: FWS/R4/CESFO/72065-Gen

Submitted Via Electronic Mail: jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov

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

Re: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-04071 NRP Inc., Hatillo, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated July 09, 2024, requesting informal consultation on the above referenced project. As per your request, our comments are provided under the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is proposing the construction of a new warehouse (20 feet (Ft) x 20 Ft). The project will be located at State Road PR-488, Km 1, Bo. Buena Vista (18°25'29.5"N 66°48'27.5"W) in the municipality of Hatillo. The project location consists of herbaceous vegetation bordered by shrubs and trees. However, vegetation removal or tree clearing will not be required.

Using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system, PRDOH has determined that the proposed project (Project code: 2024-0044572) lies within the range of the Puerto Rican boa (*Epicrates inornatus* now known as *Chilabothrus inornatus*).

Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and analysis of the IPaC lists, PRDOH has determined that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican boa. Conservation measures developed by the Service will be implemented prior to and during the warehouse construction to avoid or minimize impacts to this species.

We have reviewed the information provided in your letter and our files, and concur with your determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican boa with the implementation of the conservation measures.

Mr. Pérez-Bofill

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

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact us via email at <u>caribbean_es@fws.gov</u> or by phone at (786) 244-0081.

Sincerely,

LOURDES MENA Digitally signed by LOURDES MENA Date: 2024.08.04 14:29:08 -04'00'

Lourdes Mena Field Supervisor

drr

cc:

Susan Fischer, SWCA



10245 West Little York Road, Suite 600 Houston, Texas 77040 Tel 281.617.3217 Fax 281.617.3227 www.swca.com

June 26, 2024

Robert Tawes Division Supervisor, Environmental Review U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Southeast Regional Office 1875 Century Boulevard Atlanta, GA 30345

Email: robert_tawes@fws.gov

Re: Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species Evaluation for the Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow PR-RGRW-04071 Project/ SWCA Project No. 72428

Dear Mr. Tawes:

SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA), on behalf of the Puerto Rico Department of Housing, is requesting informal consultation under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 *et seq.*), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*) for the proposed ReGrow PR-RGRW-04071 Project (project). The project is located on 2.41 acres at Carretera 488 KM 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico, 00659 (66.807643°W 18.424847°N).

The proposed project involves the construction of a new warehouse. Construction of the warehouse will not require any vegetation removal or tree clearing.

Using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system, we have determined that the proposed project lies within the range of the following federally listed species:

Species	Listing Status
Puerto Rican Boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)	Endangered

No designated or proposed critical habitat for any listed species was identified within the project area. Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the existing habitat, we have made the following effects determinations:

Species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures to be Implemented	
Puerto Rican Boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)	Not likely to adversely affect (NLAA)	Puerto Rican Boa General Project Design Guidelines	

In accordance with the 2024 Puerto Rican Boa General Project Design Guidelines, if a Puerto Rican Boa (PR Boa) is found in the project action site, work shall cease until the individual moves off on its own. If the PR Boa does not move off, the construction manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the PR Boa.

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NLAA determination included in this letter. Attached to this letter, we are including the documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species. If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me at (346) 388-1157 or susan.fischer@swca.com.

Sincerely,

Susan Fischer Wildlife Ecologist

SWCA Environmental Consultants

Attachments: Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Memorandum



10245 West Little York Road, Suite 600 Houston, Texas 77040 Tel 281.617.3217 Fax 713.896.3189 www.swca.com

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

To: Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

P.O. Box 491

Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622

From: Susan Fischer, Project Biologist on behalf of the Puerto Rico Department of Housing

Date: June 3, 2024

Re: Threatened and Endangered Species Evaluation for the Puerto Rico Department of

Housing ReGrow PR-RGRW-04071 Project/ SWCA Project No. 72428

Project Description

NRP INC, the applicant, is proposing to construct a new warehouse on a 2.41-acre property in the Municipio of Hatillo, Puerto Rico (project) (Appendix A, Figure 1). The project is located at Carretera 488 KM 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico, 00659, in a rural area. The estimated dimensions of the warehouse will be approximately 20 feet by 20 feet (400 square feet) (Appendix A, Figure 2).

Existing conditions

The existing habitat conditions at the proposed warehouse location consist of herbaceous vegetation bordered by shrubs and trees. Forested areas lie approximately 215 feet south of the location. There are no wetlands or waterbodies mapped within or adjacent to the subject property (Appendix A, Figure 3). Construction of the warehouse would not require any vegetation or tree removal. Representative photographs of the proposed locations are provided in Appendix B.

Federally Protected Species

SWCA obtained a federal threatened and endangered species list from the USFWS (2024) Information for Planning and Consultation ("IPaC") website for a 100-foot buffer around the warehouse location (review area) (Appendix C). The IPaC automatically generates a list of species and other resources of concern, such as critical habitat, that are known or expected to be in the specified area and could potentially be directly or indirectly affected. According to the IPaC query for the project, one federally listed endangered species has the potential to occur in the review area; the Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*). SWCA also evaluated the review area for potential habitat for bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) and golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*) as they are protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 ("BGEPA").

The bald and golden eagle's range do not extend into Puerto Rico (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2024); therefore, these species were eliminated from further analysis for this project. Table 1 identifies the species

carried forward for further evaluation and summarizes each species' habitat requirements, potential for occurrence in the project area, and determination of effects.

Table 1. Federally Listed Species Range and/or Habitat Requirements

Common Name (Scientific Name)	Status*	Range or Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence in Project Area	Determination of Effects/Impacts
Reptiles				
Puerto Rican Boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)	FE	Considered to be a habitat generalist, the Puerto Rican boa tolerates a wide variety of terrestrial and arboreal habitats, including rocky areas, haystack hill, trees and branches, rotting stumps, caves, plantations, various types of forested areas such as karst and mangrove forests, forested urban and rural areas, and along streams and road edges (USFWS 2011).	May occur. The project area is located within 215 feet of forested areas and vegetative ground cover is present throughout the project area.	May affect, but not likely to adversely affect. See discussion below.

^{*}Status Definitions:

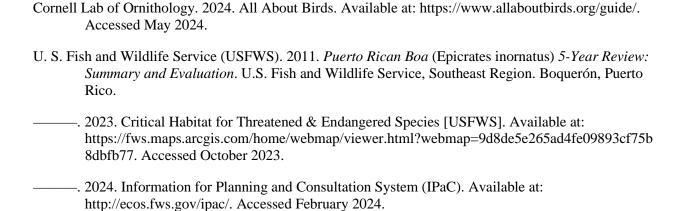
FE = Federally listed endangered

The Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) was completed for the project, which generated a *may affect* determination for the Puerto Rican boa (Appendix D). Due to the generalist nature of the Puerto Rican boa, forested habitat located approximately 215 feet south of the project area, and vegetative ground cover present throughout the project area, the Puerto Rican boa may occur within the project area. The applicant will employ the conservation measures outlined in the 2024 USFWS General Project Design Guidelines for the Puerto Rican boa (Appendix E), including but not limited to issuing a stop work if a Puerto Rican boa were to occur within the project area, and contacting the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources for safe capture and relocation of the individual if such action is required. However, based on the site visit and habitat evaluations, the Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk is considered unlikely to occur within the project area due to lack of suitable habitat. Therefore, it is anticipated that the project *may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect* the Puerto Rican boa.

Critical Habitat and National Wildlife Refuges

Potential effects to habitat(s) within the project area critical to endangered species must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves, while any activity proposed on National Wildlife Refuge lands must undergo a compatibility determination conducted by the Refuge. No designated critical habitats are present within 100-feet of any of the proposed project location options (Appendix A, Figure 4) (USFWS 2023).

LITERATURE CITED



APPENDIX A Maps

Figure 1 USGS Topographic Map

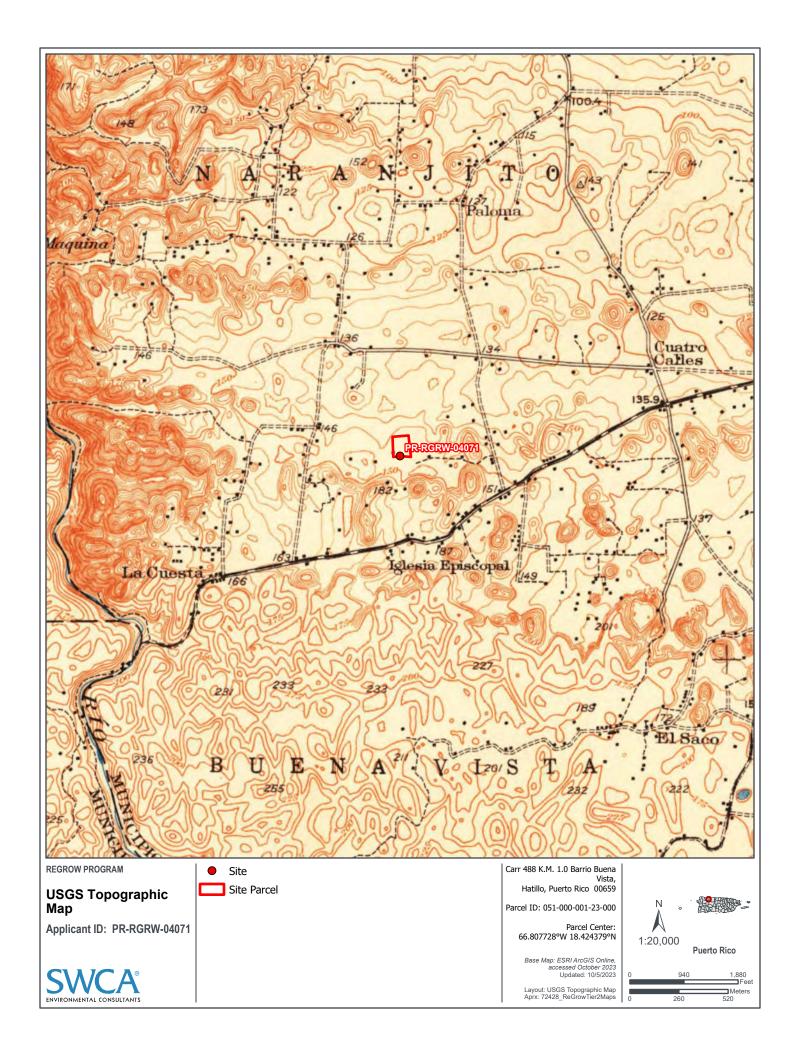
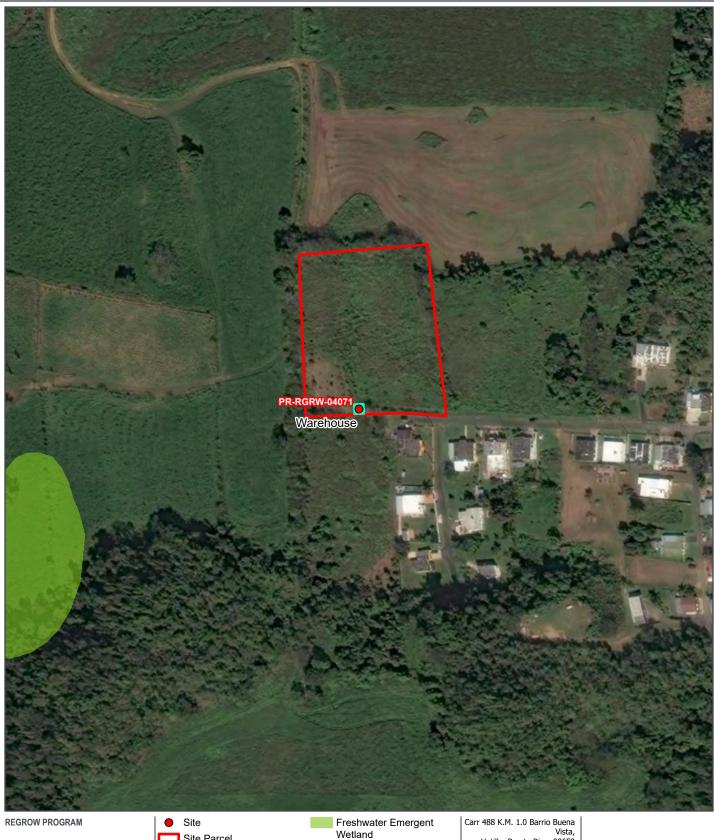


Figure 2 Site Vicinity Map



Figure 3
Wetlands Map



Wetlands Protection Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-04071



Site Parcel

Project Footprint (Option)

NHD Stream

Estuarine and Marine Deepwater

Estuarine and Marine Wetland

Freshwater Forested/ Shrub Wetland

Freshwater Pond

Lake Riverine Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico 00659 Parcel ID: 051-000-001-23-000 Parcel Center: 66.807728°W 18.424379°N

Data Source: https:// apps.nationalmap.gov/downloader/#/ https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory/data-download Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2023 Updated: 10/5/2023 Layout: Wetlands Protection

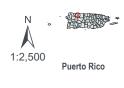
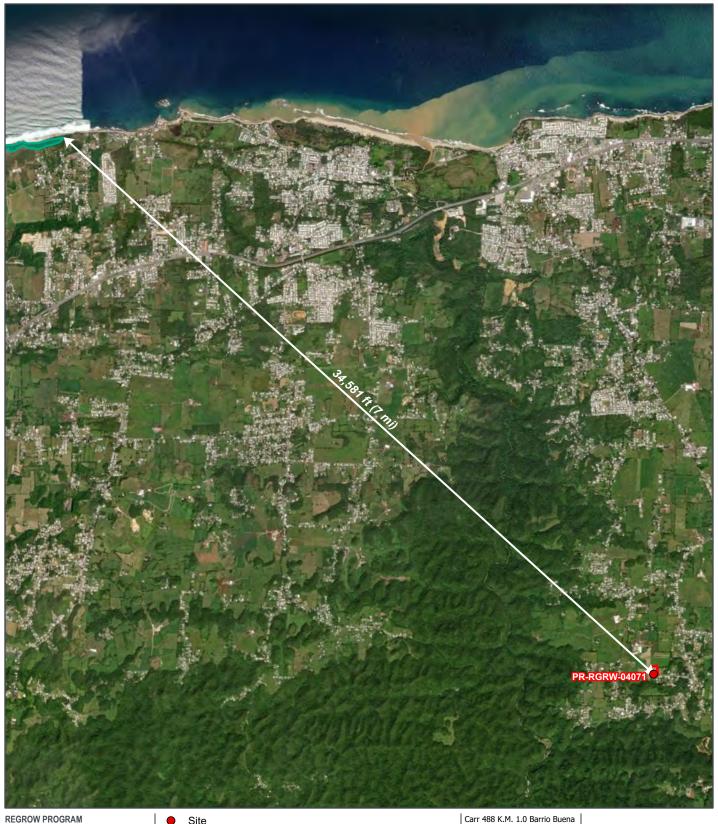




Figure 4 Critical Habitat Map



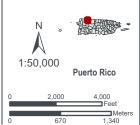
Critical Habitat Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-04071

Site
Site Parcel
Buffer (100-ft)
Critical Habitat - Final
National Wildlife Refuges

Carr 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico 00659 Parcel ID: 051-000-001-23-000 Parcel Center: 66.844698°W 18.45635°N

Data Source: https://services.arcgis. com/QVENGdaPbd4LUkLV/arcgis/ rest/services/USFWS Critical_Habitat/ Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2023 Updated: 10/5/2023 Layout: Critical Habitat Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





APPENDIX B Photographic Log

Project #: PR-RGRW-04071 Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena
Vista, Hatillo, PR 00659

Photographer: Armando Ramos
Coordinates: 18.424375, -66.807581

Photo #: 01

Date: 10/05/2 023

Photo Direction: Southwest

Description:Overview of site location for warehouse 20x20x10-9.5ft.



Photo #: 02

Date: 10/05/2 023

Photo Direction:Northwest

Description:Photo taken from SE corner of site location for open warehouse

20x20x10-9.5ft.



Project #: PR-RGRW-04071 Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena
Vista, Hatillo, PR 00659

Photographer: Armando Ramos
Coordinates: 18.424375, -66.807581

Photo #: 03

Date: 10/05/2 023

Photo Direction: Southeast

Description:

Photo taken from NW corner of site location for an open warehouse 20x20x10-9.5ft.



Photo #: 04

Date: 10/05/2 023

Photo Direction:

Southwest

Description:
Photo taken from
NE corner of site
location for an open
warehouse
20x20x10-9.5ft.



Project #: PR-RGRW-04071	Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena	Coordinates: 18.424375, -66.807581
Vista, Hatillo, PR 00659	

Photo #: 05

Date: 10/05/2 023

Photo Direction:

East

Description:

Photo taken from southeast corner of site location towards the applicant's residence and trees.



APPENDIX C USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation Species List



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Post Office Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491
Phone: (787) 834-1600 Fax: (787) 851-7440

Phone: (787) 834-1600 Fax: (787) 851-7440 Email Address: <u>CARIBBEAN ES@FWS.GOV</u>

In Reply Refer To: February 02, 2024

Project Code: 2024-0044572 Project Name: PR-RGRW-04071

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project

location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

THE FOLLOWING SPECIES LIST IS NOT A SECTION 7 CONSULTATION. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE TO COMPLETE THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

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

Federal agencies are required to "request of the Secretary of Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action". The enclosed species list provides information to assist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) consultation process under section 7 of the Act. However, **the enclosed species list does not complete the required consultation process.** The species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and designated critical habitats, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. A discussion between the Federal agency and the Service should include what types of listed species may occur in the proposed action area and what effect the proposed action may have on those species. This process initiates informal consultation.

Once a species list is obtained for the proposed project, an effect determination for endangered and threatened species should be made. The applicant could make an effect determination by using available keys on IPaC for specific species. For species with no determination keys, the applicant should request concurrence from the Service by sending a project package

to <u>caribbean es@fws.gov</u>. To obtain guidance for completing this process and the minimum requirements for project packages, please visit:

 $\underline{https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/consultation-under-section-7-of-the-endangered-species-act-with-the-caribbean-ecological\%20Services-field-office-template-letter.pdf$

When a federal agency, after discussions with the Service, determines that the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect any listed species, or adversely modify any designated critical habitat, and the Service concurs, the informal consultation is complete, and the proposed project moves ahead. If the proposed action is suspected to affect a listed species or modify designated critical habitat, the Federal agency may then prepare a Biological Assessment (B.A.) to assist in its determination of the project's effects on species and their habitat. However, a B.A. is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a B.A. where the agency provides the Service with an evaluation on the likely effects of the action to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a B.A. are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a federal agency determines, based on its B.A. or biological evaluation, that listed species and/ or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to further consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species, and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation process. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species.

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action". Please use this list to determine whether your project requires consultation and to make your effects determination. For more guidance, use the Guideline for Consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office by clicking here.

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office caribbean es@fws.gov
Post Office Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491
(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491 (787) 834-1600

PROJECT SUMMARY

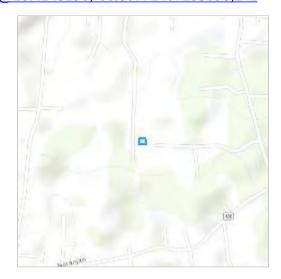
Project Code: 2024-0044572 Project Name: PR-RGRW-04071

Project Type: Disaster-related Grants

Project Description: Construction of a roofed warehouse.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@18.4245196,-66.80771407233098,14z



Counties: Hatillo County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 1 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

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

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

1. <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.

REPTILES

NAME STATUS

Puerto Rican Boa *Chilabothrus inornatus*

Endangered

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628

General project design guidelines:

 $\underline{https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/DWJRT27JP5HH5PHDYK3AK3T3HA/documents/generated/7159.pdf}$

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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 OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act¹ and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats³, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles".

- 1. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
- 2. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
- 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

THERE ARE NO BALD AND GOLDEN EAGLES WITHIN THE VICINITY OF YOUR PROJECT AREA.

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 habitats³ should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles".

- 1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
- 2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
- 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

THERE ARE NO FWS MIGRATORY BIRDS OF CONCERN WITHIN THE VICINITY OF YOUR PROJECT AREA.

WETLANDS

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>.

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

Project code: 2024-0044572 02/02/2024

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

Project code: 2024-0044572 02/02/2024

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: SWCA

Name: Kaitie Wilms

Address: 911 Hammond Drive

City: North Augusta

State: SC Zip: 29841

Email kaitie.wilms@swca.com

Phone: 8436930711

APPENDIX D USFWS Consistency Letter



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

Phone: (787) 834-1600 Fax: (787) 851-7440 Email Address: <u>CARIBBEAN ES@FWS.GOV</u>

In Reply Refer To: February 02, 2024

Project code: 2024-0044572 Project Name: PR-RGRW-04071

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-04071' for specified threatened

and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to

the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On February 02, 2024, Kaitie Wilms used the Caribbean DKey; dated January 19, 2024, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online IPaC application to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-04071'. The project is located in Hatillo County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@18.4245196,-66.80771407233098,14z



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-04071':

Construction of a roofed warehouse.

Project code: 2024-0044572

Based on your answers and the assistance of the Service's Caribbean DKey, you made the following effect determination(s) for the proposed Action:

SpeciesListing StatusDeterminationPuerto Rican Boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)EndangeredMay affect

<u>Consultation with the Service is not complete.</u> Further consultation with the Caribbean Ecological Services office is required for those species with a determination of "may affect" listed above. Please contact the Caribbean Ecological Services office to discuss methods to avoid or minimize potential adverse effects to those species.

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

Action Description

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

1. Name

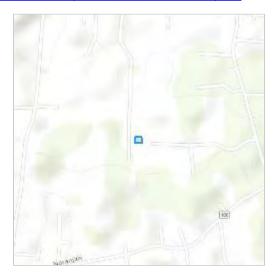
PR-RGRW-04071

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-04071':

Construction of a roofed warehouse.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@18.4245196,-66.80771407233098,14z



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

10. Is the proposed project adjacent or within a forested area?

Note: Examples of immediately adjacent to forested areas are rock walls and haystack hills ("mogotes"), wet montane forest, lowland wet forest, remnant coastal, mangrove forest, damp and dry limestone karst forests, pastureland with patches of exotic trees.

No

11. Is the proposed project an existing facility or the expansion of an existing facility within the footprint of the already developed area?

No

12. Is the proposed project a new facility which would require earth moving, vegetation clearing, or debris removal using heavy machinery, the use of staging areas, construction of temporary access roads?

No

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

Automatically answered

Yes

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: SWCA

Name: Kaitie Wilms

Address: 911 Hammond Drive

City: North Augusta

State: SC 29841 Zip:

kaitie.wilms@swca.com Email

Phone: 8436930711

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development

APPENDIX E Project Design Guidelines

General Project Design Guidelines (1 Species)

Generated February 02, 2024 07:51 PM UTC, IPaC v6.104.2-rc1



IPaC - Information for Planning and Consultation (https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/): A project planning tool to help streamline the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service environmental review process.

Table of Contents

Species Document Availability	_
Puerto Rican Boa - Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office	2

Species Document Availability

Species with general design guidelines

Puerto Rican Boa Chilabothrus inornatus

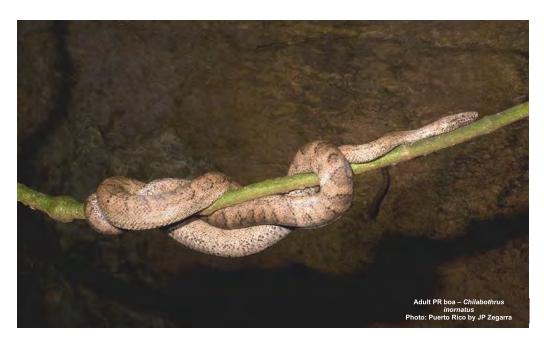


U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)

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

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



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

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

Conservation Measures:

- 1. Inform all project personnel about the potential presence of the PR boa in areas where the proposed work will be conducted. A pre-construction meeting should be conducted to inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming the species as well as penalties for harassing or harming PR boas. An educational poster or sign with photo or illustration of the species should be displayed at the project site.
- 2. Prior to any construction activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movements, the boundaries of the project and areas to be excluded and protected should be clearly marked in the project plan and in the field in order to avoid further habitat degradation into forested and conservation areas.
- 3. Once areas are clearly marked, and prior to the use of heavy machinery and any construction activity (including removal of vegetation and earth movement), a biologist or project personnel with experience on this species should survey the areas to be cleared to verify the presence of any PR boa within the work area.
- 4. If a PR boa is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded (see #5). **Do not capture the boa.** If boas need to be moved out of harm's way, designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (PRDNER phone #s: (787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124). **If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities at that area must stop until the boa moves out of harm's way on its own**. Activities at other work sites, where no boas have been found after surveying the area, may continue.
- 5. For all boa sightings (dead or alive), record the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where it was found. PR boa data should also include a photo of the animal (dead or alive), site GPS coordinates, the time and date, and comments on how the animal was detected and its behavior.

- 6. If a PR boa is captured by PRDNER personnel, record the name of that person and information on where the PR boa will be taken. This information should be reported to the Service.
- 7. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize PR boa casualties by heavy machinery or motor vehicles being used on site. Any heavy machinery left on site (staging) or near potential PR boa habitat (within 50 meters of potential boa habitat), needs to be thoroughly inspected each morning before work starts to ensure that no boas have sheltered within engine compartments or other areas of the equipment. If PR boas are found within vehicles or equipment, do not capture the animal, and let it move on its own or call PRDNER Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (see #4). If not possible, the animal should be left alone until it leaves the vehicle on its own.
- 8. PR boas may seek shelter in debris piles. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize boa casualties associated with sheltering in debris piles as a result of project activities. Debris piles should be placed far away from forested areas. Prior to moving, disposing or shredding, debris piles should be carefully inspected for the presence of boas. If debris piles will be left on site, we recommend they be placed in areas that will not be disturbed in the future.
- 9. If a dead PR boa is found, immediately cease all work in that area and record the information accordingly (see #5). If the PR boa was accidentally killed as part of the project actions, please include information on what conservation measures had been implemented and what actions will be taken to avoid further killings. A dead boa report should be sent by email (see contacts below) to the Service within 48 hours of the event.
- 10. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact the PRDNER for further guidance.

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

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

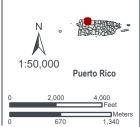


Figure B 7-1: Critical Habitat Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-04071

Site Site Parcel Buffer (100-ft) Critical Habitat - Final National Wildlife Refuges Carr 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico 00659 Parcel ID: 051-000-001-23-000 Parcel Center: 66.844698°W 18.45635°N

Data Source: https://services.arcgis. com/QVENGdaPbd4LUkLV/arcgis/ rest/services/USFWS Critical_Habitat/ Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2023 Updated: 10/5/2023 Layout: Critical Habitat Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





Attachment 8 Explosive and Flammable Hazards Partner Worksheet



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Explosive and Flammable Hazards (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/explosive-and-flammable-facilities

1.	Does the proposed HUD-assisted project include a hazardous facility (a facility that mainly stores, handles or processes flammable or combustible chemicals such as bulk fuel storage facilities and refineries)? ☑ No → Continue to Question 2.		
	□ Yes		
	Explain:		
	Click here to enter text.		
	→ Continue to Question 5.		
2.	Does this project include any of the following activities: development, construction, rehabilitation that will increase residential densities, or conversion?		
	\boxtimes No \rightarrow If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.		
	section. Continue to the worksheet Summary below.		
	\square Yes \rightarrow Continue to Question 3.		
3. Within 1 mile of the project site, are there any current <i>or planned</i> stationary aboveground stora containers:			
	 Of more than 100-gallon capacity, containing common liquid industrial fuels OR Of any capacity, containing hazardous liquids or gases that are not common liquid industrial fuels? 		
	□ No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide all documents used to make your determination.		
	☐ Yes → Continue to Question 4.		
	1. Is the Separation Distance from the project acceptable based on standards in the Regulation? Please visit HUD's website for information on calculating Acceptable Separation Distance. □ Yes		
	→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.		

Provide map(s) showing the location of the project site relative to any tanks and your separation distance calculations. If the map identifies more than one tank, please identify the tank you have chosen as the "assessed tank."

□ No

→ Continue to Question 6.

Provide map(s) showing the location of the project site relative to any tanks and your separation distance calculations. If the map identifies more than one tank, please identify the tank you have chosen as the "assessed tank."

5. Is the hazardous facility located at an acceptable separation distance from residences and any other facility or area where people may congregate or be present?

Please visit HUD's website for information on calculating Acceptable Separation Distance.

☐ Yes

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.

Provide map(s) showing the location of the project site relative to residences and any other facility or area where people congregate or are present and your separation distance calculations.

□ No

→ Continue to Question 6.

Provide map(s) showing the location of the project site relative to residences and any other facility or area where people congregate or are present and your separation distance calculations.

6. For the project to be brought into compliance with this section, all adverse impacts must be mitigated. Explain in detail the exact measures that must be implemented to make the Separation Distance acceptable, including the timeline for implementation. If negative effects cannot be mitigated, cancel the project at this location.

Note that only licensed professional engineers should design and implement blast barriers. If a barrier will be used or the project will be modified to compensate for an unacceptable separation distance, provide approval from a licensed professional engineer.

Click here to enter text.

Worksheet Summary

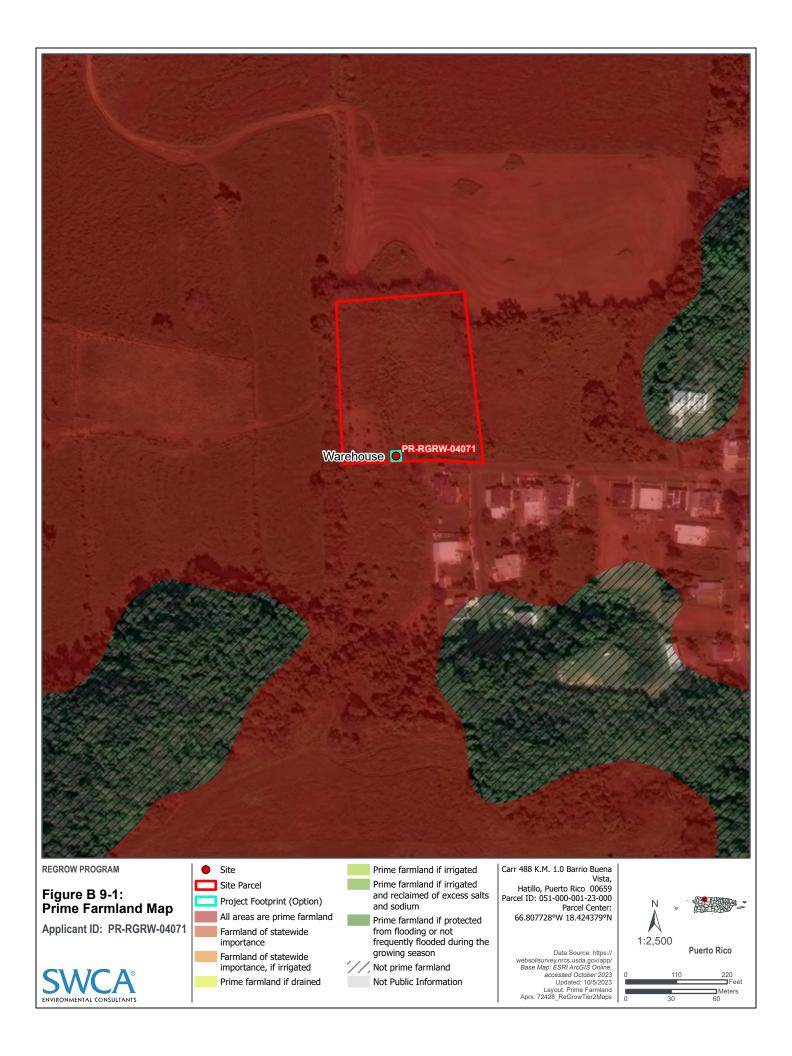
Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The project includes the construction of a new warehouse. The project itself is not the development of a hazardous facility nor will the project increase residential densities. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements.

Attachment 9 Farmlands Protection Partner Worksheet and Prime Farmland Map





U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Farmlands Protection (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/farmlands-protection

1.	land or conversion, that could convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural use?
	☐ Yes à Continue to Question 2.
	⊠ No
	à If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section
	Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.
2.	Does "important farmland," including prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide or local importance regulated under the Farmland Protection Policy Act, occur on the project site?
	You may use the links below to determine important farmland occurs on the project site:
	 Utilize USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Web Soil Survey
	http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm
	 Check with your city or county's planning department and ask them to document if the project
	is on land regulated by the FPPA (zoning important farmland as non-agricultural does no
	exempt it from FPPA requirements)
	 Contact NRCS at the local USDA service center
	http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?agency=nrcs or your NRCS state soil scientist
	http://soils.usda.gov/contact/state_offices/ for assistance
	\square No à If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this
	section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to
	make your determination.
	☐ Yes à Continue to Question 3.
2	Consider alternatives to completing the project on important farmland and means of avoiding

- Consider alternatives to completing the project on important farmland and means of avoiding impacts to important farmland.
 - Complete form <u>AD-1006</u>, "Farmland Conversion Impact Rating" and contact the state soil scientist before sending it to the local NRCS District Conservationist.
 - Work with NRCS to minimize the impact of the project on the protected farmland. When you have finished with your analysis, return a copy of form AD-1006 to the USDA-NRCS State Soil Scientist or his/her designee informing them of your determination.

Work with the RE/HUD to determine how the project will proceed. Document the conclusion:

□ Project will proceed with mitigation.

Explain in detail the proposed measures that must be implemented to mitigate for the impact or effect, including the timeline for implementation.

Click here to enter text.

 \rightarrow If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide form AD-1006 and all other documents used to make your determination.

□ Project will proceed without mitigation.

Explain why mitigation will not be made here:

Click here to enter text.

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide form AD-1006 and all other documents used to make your determination.

Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses four (4) mapped soil series: BcC (Bayamon sandy loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes), BsC (Bayamon sandy clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes), RsF (Rock outcrop-San German complex, 20 to 60 percent slopes), and RtF (Rock outcrop[1]Tanama complex, 12 to 60 percent slopes). Aplthough the project includes new construction, the project is exempt from review under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FFPA) as the project is limited to construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations. No further review is required. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.

Attachment 10 Floodplain Management Partner Worksheet and Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Floodplain Management (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

tps:/	ps://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/floodplain-management		
 Does 24 CFR 55.12(c) exempt this project from compliance with HUD's floodplain maregulations in Part 55? ✓ Yes 			
	Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(c) here. If project is exempt under 55.12(c)(6) or (8), provide supporting documentation. Click here to enter text.		
	à If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Continue to the Worksheet Summary.		
	□ No à Continue to Question 2.		
2.	Provide a FEMA/FIRM map showing the site. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The FEMA Map Service Center provides this information in the form of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).		
	Does your project occur in a floodplain? ☐ No à Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.		
	 ☐ Yes Select the applicable floodplain using the FEMA map or the best available information: ☐ Floodway à Continue to Question 3, Floodways 		
	☐ Coastal High Hazard Area (V Zone) à <i>Continue to Question 4, Coastal High Hazard Areas</i>		
	☐ 500-year floodplain (B Zone or shaded X Zone) à <i>Continue to Question 5, 500-year Floodplains</i>		
	100-year floodplain (A Zone) à The 8-Step Process is required. Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process		
3.	Floodways Is this a functionally dependent use? ☐ Yes		

	The 8-Step Process is required. Work with HUD or the RE to assist with the 8-Step Process. à Continue to Worksheet Summary.
	□ No à Federal assistance may not be used at this location unless an exception in 55.12(c) applies. You must either choose an alternate site or cancel the project.
4.	Coastal High Hazard Area Is this a critical action such as a hospital, nursing home, fire station, or police station? ☐ Yes à Critical actions are prohibited in coastal high hazard areas unless an exception in 55.12(c) applies. You must either choose an alternate site or cancel the project.
	□ No Does this action include new construction that is not a functionally dependent use, existing construction (including improvements), or reconstruction following destruction caused by a disaster?
	 ☐ Yes, there is new construction of something that is not a functionally dependent use. New construction must be designed to FEMA standards for V Zones at 44 CFR 60.3(e) (24 CFR 55.1(c)(3)(i)). à Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process
	 □ No, this action concerns only existing construction. Existing construction must have met FEMA elevation and construction standards for a coastal high hazard area or other standards applicable at the time of construction. à Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process
5.	500-year Floodplain Is this a critical action? □ No à If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Continue to the Worksheet Summary
	below. □Yes à Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process
6.	8-Step Process. Is this 8-Step Process required? Select one of the following options: □ 8-Step Process applies. This project will require mitigation and may require elevating structure or structures. See the link to the HUD Exchange above for information on HUD's elevation requirements. à Work with the RE/HUD to assist with the 8-Step Process. Continue to Worksheet Summary.
	☐ 5-Step Process is applicable per 55.12(a)(1-3). Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(a) here. Click here to enter text. à Work with the RE/HUD to assist with the 5-Step Process. Continue to Worksheet Summary.
	☐ 8-Step Process is inapplicable per 55.12(b)(1-4). Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(b) here.

Click here to enter text.

à If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.

Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

A review of the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) map, Community Panel 72000C0220H (effective date 4/19/2005), shows the project site is in Flood Zone X. The project is not located in the 100-year floodplain or ABFE special flood hazard area; therefore, no further action is required. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988.

HUD implemented new floodplain regulations under 89 FR 30850 effective June 24, 2024 which created the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS). The current project comprises non-critical actions that lie outside the 0.2-percent-annual-chance (500-year flood elevation), which is the approach used for this project to comply with the FFRMS; therefore, mitigation is not required, and the project is in compliance with 24 CFR Part 55.



Figure B 10-1: Advisory Base Flood Elevation For 100-Year Floodplain Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-04071



Zone A

Project Footprint (Option) Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE)

0.2% Annual Chance Flood 1% Annual Chance Flood

Zone A-Floodway

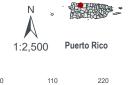
Coastal A Zone and Floodway

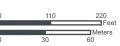
Zone AE-Floodway Zone AO

> Zone VE Zone X (500-year floodplain) Zone/BFE Boundary

Data Source: https://gis.fema.gov/arcgis/rest/ services/DR/PuertoRico_ABFE_1PCT/ MapServer Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2023 Updated: 10/5/2023 Layout: ABFE_1Pdt Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps

Parcel Center: 66.807728°W 18.424379°N





Attachment 11 Historic Preservation Partner Worksheet and SHPO Consultation



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Historic Preservation (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/historic-preservation

Threshold

Is Section 106 review required for your project?

□ No, because a Programmatic Agreement states that all activities included in this project are exempt. (See the <u>PA Database</u> to find applicable PAs.)

Either provide the PA itself or a link to it here. Mark the applicable exemptions or include the text here:

Click here to enter text.

→ Continue to the Worksheet Summary.

□ No, because the project consists solely of activities included in a No Potential to Cause Effects memo or other determination [36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)].

Either provide the memo itself or a link to it here. Explain and justify the other determination here:

Click here to enter text.

→ Continue to the Worksheet Summary.

The Section 106 Process

After determining the need to do a Section 106 review, HUD or the RE will initiate consultation with regulatory and other interested parties, identify and evaluate historic properties, assess effects of the project on properties listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and resolve any adverse effects through project design modifications or mitigation.

Step 1: Initiate consultation

Step 2: Identify and evaluate historic properties

Step 3: Assess effects of the project on historic properties

Step 4: Resolve any adverse effects

Only RE or HUD staff may initiate the Section 106 consultation process. Partner entities may gather information, including from SHPO records, identify and evaluate historic properties, and make initial assessments of effects of the project on properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Place. Partners should then provide their RE or HUD with all of their analysis and documentation so that they may initiate consultation.

Step 1 - Initiate Consultation

The following parties are entitled to participate in Section 106 reviews: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs); federally recognized Indian tribes/Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs); Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs); local governments; and project grantees. The general public and individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in a project may participate as consulting parties at the discretion of the RE or HUD official. Participation varies with the nature and scope of a project. Refer to HUD's website for guidance on consultation, including the required timeframes for response. Consultation should begin early to enable full consideration of preservation options.

Use the When To Consult With Tribes checklist within Notice CPD-12-006: Process for Tribal Consultation to determine if the RE or HUD should invite tribes to consult on a particular project. Use the <u>Tribal Directory Assessment Tool (TDAT)</u> to identify tribes that may have an interest in the area where the project is located. Note that only HUD or the RE may initiate consultation with Tribes. Partner entities may prepare a draft letter for the RE or HUD to use to initiate consultation with tribes, but may not send the letter themselves.

List all organizations and individuals that you believe may have an interest in the project here: SHPO

→ Continue to Step 2.

Step 2 - Identify and Evaluate Historic Properties

Provide a preliminary definition of the Area of Potential Effect (APE), either by entering the address(es) or providing a map depicting the APE. Attach an additional page if necessary.

As defined in 36 CFR §800.16(d), the area of potential effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the location of the warehouse with a roof plus a 15-meter horizontal buffer to allow for some variation in final placement during construction and the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

Gather information about known historic properties in the APE. Historic buildings, districts and archeological sites may have been identified in local, state, and national surveys and registers, local historic districts, municipal plans, town and county histories, and local history websites. If not already listed on the National Register of Historic Places, identified properties are then evaluated to see if they are eligible for the National Register. Refer to HUD's website for guidance on identifying and evaluating historic properties.

In the space below, list historic properties identified and evaluated in the APE.

Every historic property that may be affected by the project should be listed. For each historic property or district, include the National Register status, whether the SHPO has concurred with the finding, and whether information on the site is sensitive. Attach an additional page if necessary. 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 archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) who searched the records at the SHPO and the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña which shows that there are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile (mi) radius of the project location. One (1) archaeological evaluation and one (1) survey of cultural resources have been conducted within the 0.5 mi review radius with no cultural resources found. The nearest archaeological report is ICP-CAT-HT-12-10-01, at 0.04 mi east of the project location, for segregating of multiple lots. The archaeological evaluation SHPO code 08-23-13-01 is located 0.33 mi northwest of the project location sponsored by the CDBG Program as the basic allocation proposal for 2013.

The proposed project is located in a semi-urban, flat area in the northern coast of the island at an elevation of 459 feet (ft; 150 meters [m]) above mean sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses four (4)_mapped soil series: BcC (Bayamon sandy loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes), BsC (Bayamon sandy clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes), RsF (Rock outcrop-San German complex, 20 to 60 percent slopes), and RtF (Rock outcropTanama complex, 12 to 60 percent slopes). The project area APE is in the west portion of the municipality of Hatillo. The general project area is on flat and open fields towards the north, and gentle slopes towards the south, surrounded by subtropical forest vegetation. The land in the west and north is primarily used for agricultural purposes, while residential neighborhoods are present from the northeast to the southwest. The closest freshwater source is Río Camuy, located 1.04 mi (1.68 kilometers [km]) west of the project area. The north coast is approximately4.65 mi (7.48 km) from the project area.

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) shows that the project area is not within the boundaries of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed Traditional Urban Center or Historic District.

The only survey directly focused on historic architectural resources in proximity to the project area, Código SHPO #08-23-13-01, was performed in 2013 for an annual program using CDBG funds and the survey area is 0.34 mi to the northwest of the project site. The findings were negative and No Historic Properties found.

The project area is in a suburban area of Hatillo, in Barrio Naranjito . The project area is flat and is divided into agricultural fields, with trees between each field. Historic aerials from 1972 show one building to the east of the project site, but that building is no longer extant (https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer). Google Earth imageryy shows houses and buildings to the east of the project site by October, 1993 (googleearth.com) and the project site and owner's house are not developed yet. A construction date of 1995 is appropriate for the owner's house. As the project site rests at the end of the street, in an area of land that has never been built on, and is surrounded by tall trees and vegetation, no historic buildings or properties will be affected by the project.

Provide the documentation (survey forms, Register nominations, concurrence(s) and/or objection(s), notes, and photos) that justify your National Register Status determination.

Was a survey of historic buildings and/or archeological sites done as part of the project?

If the APE contains previously unsurveyed buildings or structures over 50 years old, or there is a likely presence of previously unsurveyed archeological sites, a survey may be necessary. For Archeological surveys, refer to HP Fact Sheet #6, Guidance on Archeological Investigations in HUD Projects.

Yes → Provide survey(s) and report(s) and continue to Step 3.
 Additional notes:
 Click here to enter text.
 No → Continue to Step 3.

Step 3 - Assess Effects of the Project on Historic Properties

Only properties that are listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places receive further consideration under Section 106. Assess the effect(s) of the project by applying the Criteria of Adverse Effect. (36 CFR 800.5) Consider direct and indirect effects as applicable as per HUD guidance.

Choose one of the findings below to recommend to the RE or HUD.

Please note: this is a recommendation only. It is **not** the official finding, which will be made by the RE or HUD, but only your suggestion as a Partner entity.

Document reason for finding:

☑ No historic properties present.

☐ Historic properties present, but project will have no effect upon them.

☐ No Adverse Effect

Document reason for finding and provide any comments below.

Comments may include recommendations for mitigation, monitoring, a plan for unanticipated discoveries, etc.

Click here to enter text.

☐ Adverse Effect

Document reason for finding:

Copy and paste applicable Criteria into text box with summary and justification.

Criteria of Adverse Effect: 36 CFR 800.5]

Click here to enter text.

Provide any comments below:

Comments may include recommendations for avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation.

Click here to enter text.

Remember to provide all documentation that justifies your National Register Status determination and recommendations along with this worksheet.



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

Monday, March 25, 2024

Lauren B Poche

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

SHPO-CF-03-17-24-12 PR-RGRW-04071 (Hatillo), NRP Inc.

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,

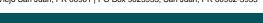
Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer

my afaction

CARC/GMO/OJR





oech.pr.gov



March 18, 2024

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

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

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-04071 – NRP Inc. – Carr 488 K.M. 1.0, Barrio Buena Vista, Hatillo, 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 were approved by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Federal Register Volume 83, No. 28, 83 FR 5844, to assist the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in meeting unmet needs in the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. On August 14, 2018, an additional \$8.22 billion recovery allocation was allocated to Puerto Rico under the Federal Register Volume 83, No. 157, 83 FR 40314. With these funding allocations, the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (Housing) aims to lead a comprehensive and transparent recovery for the benefit of Puerto Rico residents.

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, we are submitting documentation for activities proposed by: NRP Inc. at Carretera 488 KM 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista in the municipality of Hatillo. The undertaking for this project includes the construction of a roofed warehouse. The new warehouse is approximately 400 square feet (ft), a 20 ft by 20 ft by 10-foot structure, that will be open on all sides. The warehouse will be secured with concrete footers that are 1 ft by 1 ft and placed up to 2 ft deep into the ground with six (6) 12-ft columns placed 2 ft into the ground and extending vertically 10 ft to the roof. There will be four (4) corner columns, and two (2) additional columns in the middle of the structure.



There will be no permanent foundation, but the ground will be covered with plastic and topped with gravel which does not require grading.

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

Please contact me by email at <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, EHP Senior Manager

LBP/JLE

Attachments

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 104 NURA Effect Protection	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Applicant: NRP INC	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071	City: Hatillo

	\/\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	
Project Location: Carretera 488 KM 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico, 00659		
Project Coordinates: 18.424375, -66.807581 (as provided by applicant during field visit)		
TPID (Número de Catastro): 051-000-001-23-000		
Type of Undertaking:		
☐ Substantial Repair/Improvements		
New Construction		
Construction Date (AH est.):	Property Size (acres): 2.41 acres	
Owner's House: ca. 1995	Warehouse: 0.009183 acres (400 sq ft)	
Neighbor's Houses: ca. 1995		

SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian: Erin Edwards, MPS
Date Reviewed: January 30, 2024
SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Delise Torres Ortiz, M.A.
Date Reviewed: January 23, 2024.

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

Project Description (Undertaking)

The proposed project includes the construction of a roofed warehouse. Activities are located within an active agricultural farm. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery at https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer, the general area has been used for agriculture since at least 1972, the earliest date for which aerial data is present.

The proposed project includes the construction and installation of a new warehouse with a roof. The only proposed location for the warehouse is on the southern portion of the parcel, close to the paved access road and will require no tree clearing or ground drilling for construction; therefore, the project will have minimal ground disturbance. The applicant owns the property and currently uses it for agricultural use; therefore, no acquisition or conversion is required.

The new warehouse is approximately 400 square feet (ft), a 20 ft by 20 ft by 10-foot structure, that will be open on all sides. The warehouse will be secured with concrete footers that are 1 ft by 1 ft and placed up to 2 ft deep into the ground with six (6) 12-ft columns placed 2 ft into the ground and extending vertically 10 ft to the roof. There will be four (4) corner

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: NRP INC	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071	City: Hatillo

columns, and two (2) additional columns in the middle of the structure. There will be no permanent foundation; however, the ground will be covered with plastic and topped with gravel which does not require grading.

The warehouse will have a lean-on roof at the back of the structure that will aid in the collection of rainwater in a 400-gallon cistern placed over concrete blocks on a 5 ft by 5-ft platform. The applicant will also install a solar-system on the roof of the warehouse. The water catchment system and solar power will be purchased and installed by the applicant in the future.

Area of Potential Effects

As defined in 36 CFR §800.16(d), the area of potential effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the location of the warehouse with a roof plus a 15-meter horizontal buffer to allow for some variation in final placement during construction and the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) who searched the records at the SHPO and the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña which shows that there are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile (mi) radius of the project location. One (1) archaeological evaluation and one (1) survey of cultural resources have been conducted within the 0.5 mi review radius with no cultural resources found. The nearest archaeological report is ICP-CAT-HT-12-10-01, at 0.04 mi east of the project location, for segregating of multiple lots. The archaeological evaluation SHPO code 08-23-13-01 is located 0.33 mi northwest of the project location sponsored by the CDBG Program as the basic allocation proposal for 2013.

The proposed project is located in a semi-urban, flat area in the northern coast of the island at an elevation of 459 feet (ft; 150 meters [m]) above mean sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses four (4)_mapped soil series: BcC (Bayamon sandy

Puerto Rico 2017 Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR Program	
ReGrow Puerto Rico Program	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Applicant: NRP INC	19121
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071	City: Hatillo

loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes), BsC (Bayamon sandy clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes), RsF (Rock outcrop-San German complex, 20 to 60 percent slopes), and RtF (Rock outcrop-Tanama complex, 12 to 60 percent slopes). The project area APE is in the west portion of the municipality of Hatillo. The general project area is on flat and open fields towards the north, and gentle slopes towards the south, surrounded by subtropical forest vegetation. The land in the west and north is primarily used for agricultural purposes, while residential neighborhoods are present from the northeast to the southwest. The closest freshwater source is Río Camuy, located 1.04 mi (1.68 kilometers [km]) west of the project area. The north coast is approximately4.65 mi (7.48 km) from the project area.

Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) shows that the project area is not within the boundaries of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed Traditional Urban Center or Historic District.

The only survey directly focused on historic architectural resources in proximity to the project area, Código SHPO #08-23-13-01, was performed in 2013 for an annual program using CDBG funds and the survey area is 0.34 mi to the northwest of the project site. The findings were negative and No Historic Properties found.

The project area is in a suburban area of Hatillo, in Barrio Naranjito . The project area is flat and is divided into agricultural fields, with trees between each field. Historic aerials from 1972 show one building to the east of the project site, but that building is no longer extant (https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer). Google Earth imageryy shows houses and buildings to the east of the project site by October, 1993 (googleearth.com) and the project site and owner's house are not developed yet. A construction date of 1995 is appropriate for the owner's house. As the project site rests at the end of the street, in an area of land that has never been built on, and is surrounded by tall trees and vegetation, no historic buildings or properties will be affected by the project.

Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

- Direct Effect:
 - o None
- Indirect Effect:
 - o None

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: NRP INC	5 * 5 = =1
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071	City: Hatillo

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect. The project area is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed historic district or Traditional Urban Center. There are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project location. No known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the Area of Potential Effect of case PR-RGRW04071 is located. The closest freshwater body is approximately1.04 mi (1.68 km) west of the project area. The size of the proposed project activities is very small (400 sq. ft.) and construction of public roads, residential structures, and agricultural infrastructure and practices has disturbed the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the project project activities.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM	
ReGrow Puerto Rico Program	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Applicant: NRP INC	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071	City: Hatillo

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

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing requests that the Puerto Rico SHPO concur that th	١E
following determination is appropriate for the undertaking (Choose One):	

□ No Adverse Effect	
Condition (if applicable):	
□ Adverse Effect	
Proposed Resolution (if applia	ble)

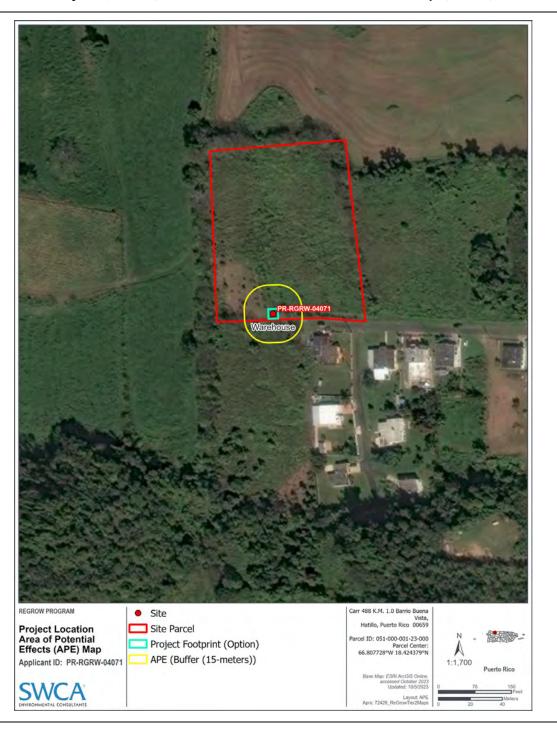
This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

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 State Historic Preservation Officer	Date:	



Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071 City: Hatillo

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



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGrow Puerto Rico Program Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



1:900

Applicant: NRP INC

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-04071

SWCA

City: Hatillo Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071

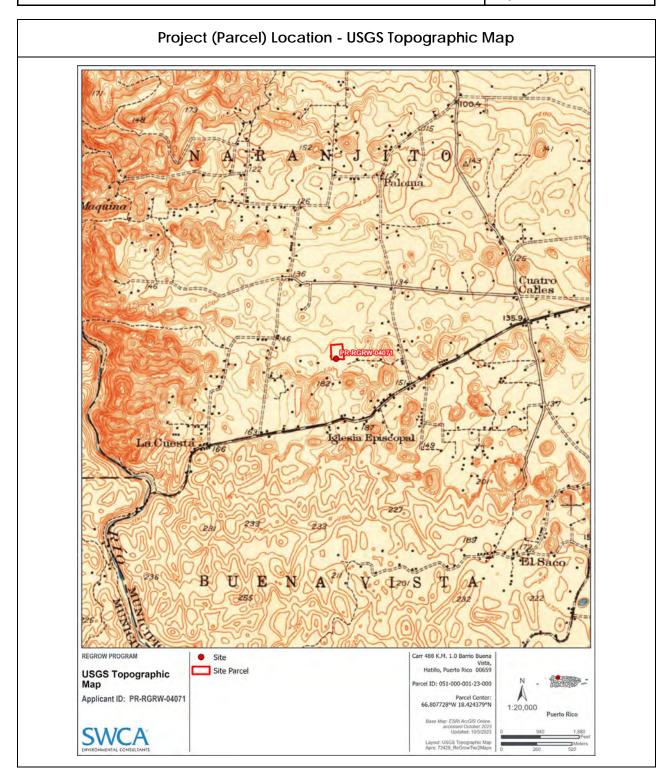
Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map Warehouse Carr 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico 00659 REGROW PROGRAM Site Figure A-2: Site Vicinity Site Parcel Parcel ID: 051-000-001-23-000 Parcel Center: 66.807643°W 18.424847°N Project Footprint (Option)

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Applicant: NRP INC

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071 City: Hatillo





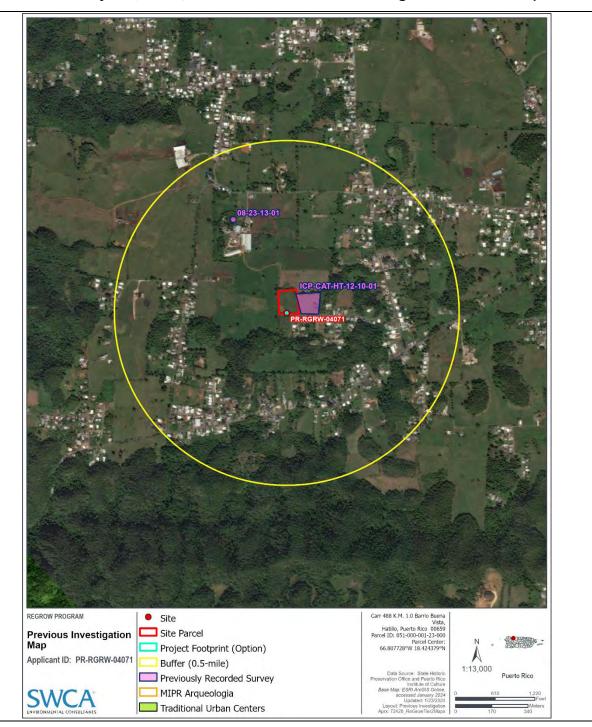
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071 City: Hatillo

Project (Parcel) Location - Soils Map Be@ Warehous Mapunit Symbol **Mapunit Name** Bayamon sandy loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes BcC BsC Bayamon sandy clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes Rock outcrop-San German complex, 20 to 60 percent slopes Rock outcrop-Tanama complex, 12 to 60 percent slopes Carr 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico 00659 Parcel ID: 051-000-001-23-000 Parcel Center: 66.807728°W 18.424379°N REGROW PROGRAM **USDA Soils Map** Site Parcel Project Footprint (Option) Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-04071 Soil Mapunit SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS



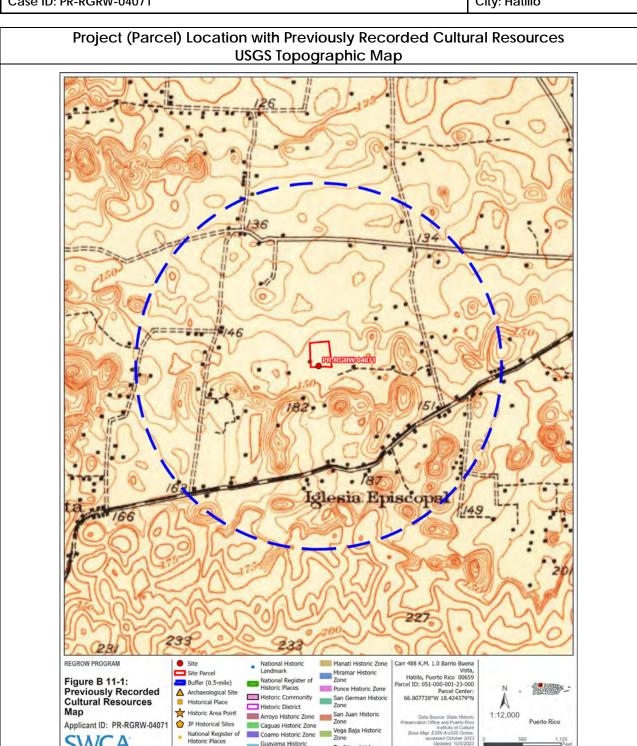
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071 City: Hatillo

Project (Parcel) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map





Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071 City: Hatillo



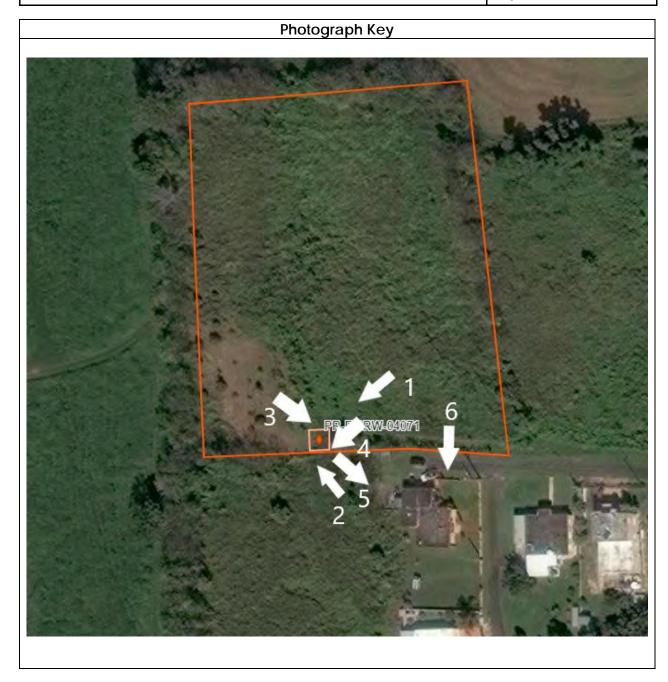
Guayama Historic Zone

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



Applicant: NRP INC

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071 City: Hatillo



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

ReGrow Puerto Rico Program

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Applicant: NRP INC

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071 City: Hatillo

Photo #: 01

Date: 10/05/2023

Photo Direction:

Southwest

Description:

Overview of site location for garage/warehouse 20x20x10-9.5ft.



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

Photo #: 02

Date: 10/05/2023

Photo Direction:

Northwest

Description:

Photo taken from SE corner of site location for open garage/warehouse 20x20x10-9.5ft.



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

ReGrow Puerto Rico Program

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Applicant: NRP INC

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071 City: Hatillo

Photo #: 03

Date: 10/05/2023

Photo Direction:

Southeast

Description:

Photo taken from NW corner of site location for an open garage/warehouse 20x20x10-9.5ft.



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

Photo #: 04

Date: 10/05/2023

Photo Direction:

Southwest

Description:

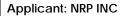
Photo taken from NE corner of site location for an open garage/warehouse 20x20x10-9.5ft.



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

ReGrow Puerto Rico Program

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Case ID: PR-RGRW-04071

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

City: Hatillo

Photo #: 05

Date: 10/05/2023

Photo Direction:

East

Description:

Photo taken from southeast corner of site location towards the applicant's residence and trees.



Photo #: 06

Date: 10/05/2023

Photo Direction:

South

Description:

Applicant's residence, built in 1990's.





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

Attachment 12 Wetlands Protection Partner Worksheet and Map



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Wetlands (CEST and EA) – Partner

Click here to enter text.

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/wetlands-protection

<u> </u>	/www.nudexchange.imo/environmental-review/wetlands-protection	
1.	Does this project involve new construction as defined in Executive Order 11990, expansion of a building's footprint, or ground disturbance? The term "new construction" includes draining, dredging, channelizing, filling, diking, impounding, and related activities and construction of any any structures or facilities. □ No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.	
	\boxtimes Yes \rightarrow Continue to Question 2.	
2.	Will the new construction or other ground disturbance impact a wetland as defined in E.O 11990?	
	⋈ No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map or any other relevant documentation to explain your determination.	
	\square Yes \rightarrow Work with HUD or the RE to assist with the 8-Step Process. Continue to Question 3.	
3.	Does Section 55.12 state that the 8-Step Process is not required?	
	 □ No, the 8-Step Process applies. This project will require mitigation and may require elevating structure or structures. See the link to the HUD Exchange above for information on HUD's elevation requirements. → Work with the RE/HUD to assist with the 8-Step Process. Continue to Worksheet Summary. 	
	□ 5-Step Process is applicable per 55.12(a). Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(a) here. Click here to enter text. → Work with the RE/HUD to assist with the 5-Step Process. This project may require mitigation or alternations. Continue to Worksheet Summary.	
	☐ 8-Step Process is inapplicable per 55.12(b). Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(b) here.	

- → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to Worksheet Summary.
- ☐ 8-Step Process is inapplicable per 55.12(c).

Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(c) here.

Click here to enter text.

 \rightarrow If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to Worksheet Summary.

Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

Click here to enter text.

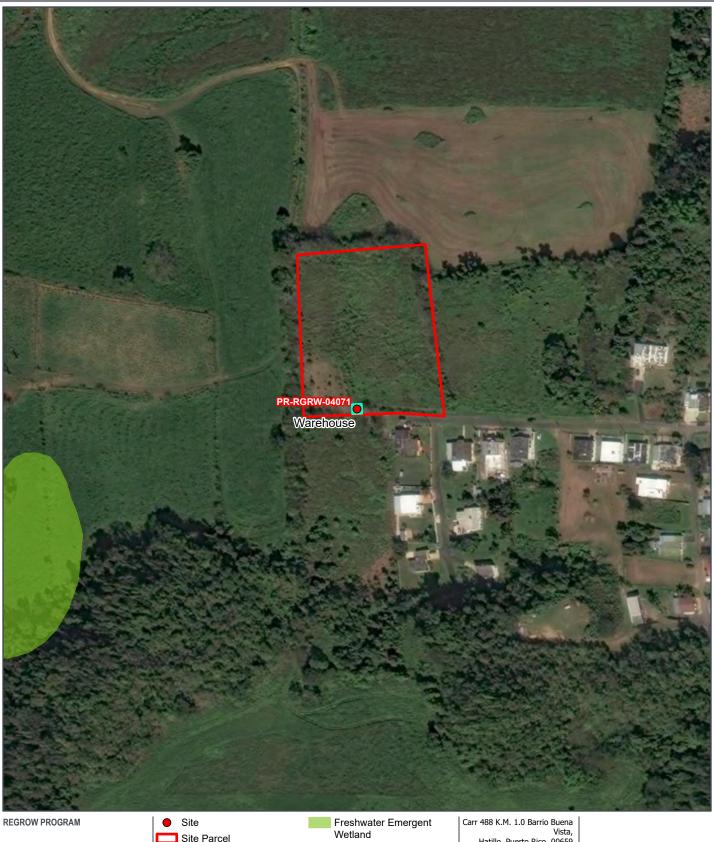


Figure B 12-1: Wetlands Protection Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-04071



Site
Site Parcel
Project Footprint (Option)
NHD Stream

Estuarine and Marine Deepwater

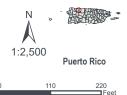
Estuarine and Marine Wetland

Freshwater Forested/ Shrub Wetland

Freshwater Pond

Lake Riverine Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico 00659 Parcel ID: 051-000-001-23-000 Parcel Center: 66.807728°W 18.424379°N

Data Source: https:// apps.nationalmap.gov/downloader/#/ https://www.fws.gov/program/nationalwetlands-inventory/data-download Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2023 Updated: 10/5/2023 Layout: Wetlands Protection



Meters 60

Attachment 13 Wild and Scenic Rivers Partner Worksheet and Wild and Scenic Rivers Map

Wild and Scenic Rivers (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation			
The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act	The Wild and Scenic Rivers	36 CFR Part 297			
provides federal protection for	Act (16 U.S.C. 1271-1287),				
certain free-flowing, wild, scenic	particularly section 7(b) and				
and recreational rivers	(c) (16 U.S.C. 1278(b) and (c))				
designated as components or					
potential components of the					
National Wild and Scenic Rivers					
System (NWSRS) from the effects					
of construction or development.					
References					
https://www.hudexchange.info/en	vironmental-review/wild-and-so	cenic-rivers			

1. Is your project within proximity of a NWSRS river as defined below?

Wild & Scenic Rivers: These rivers or river segments have been designated by Congress or by states (with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Interior) as wild, scenic, or recreational

<u>Study Rivers:</u> These rivers or river segments are being studied as a potential component of the Wild & Scenic River system.

<u>Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI):</u> The National Park Service has compiled and maintains the NRI, a register of river segments that potentially qualify as national wild, scenic, or recreational river areas

\boxtimes No

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Provide documentation used to make your determination, such as a map identifying the project site and its surrounding area or a list of rivers in your region in the Screen Summary at the conclusion of this screen.

	Yes,	the p	roject	is in	proximity	of a	Nationwide	Rivers	Inventory	(NRI)	River
--	------	-------	--------	-------	-----------	------	------------	--------	-----------	-------	-------

→ Continue to Question 2.

2. Could the project do any of the following?

- Have a direct and adverse effect within Wild and Scenic River Boundaries,
- Invade the area or unreasonably diminish the river outside Wild and Scenic River Boundaries, or
- Have an adverse effect on the natural, cultural, and/or recreational values of a NRI segment.

Consultation with the appropriate federal/state/local/tribal Managing Agency(s) is required, pursuant to Section 7 of the Act, to determine if the proposed project may have an adverse effect on a Wild & Scenic River or a Study River and, if so, to determine the appropriate avoidance or mitigation measures.

<u>Note</u>: Concurrence may be assumed if the Managing Agency does not respond within 30 days; however, you are still obligated to avoid or mitigate adverse effects on the rivers identified in the NWSRS

- No, the Managing Agency has concurred that the proposed project will not alter, directly, or indirectly, any of the characteristics that qualifies or potentially qualifies the river for inclusion in the NWSRS.
- → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Provide documentation of the consultation (including the Managing Agency's concurrence) and any other documentation used to make your determination.
- ☐ Yes, the Managing Agency was consulted and the proposed project may alter, directly, or indirectly, any of the characteristics that qualifies or potentially qualifies the river for inclusion in the NWSRS.
- → The RE/HUD must work with the Managing Agency to identify mitigation measures to mitigate the impact or effect of the project on the river.

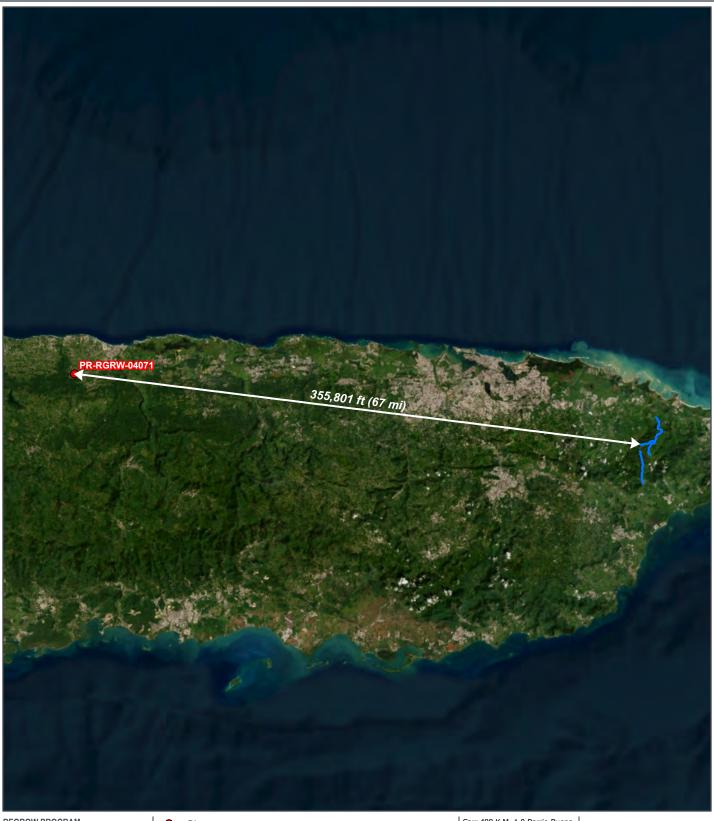
Worksheet Summary

Compliance Determination

Provide a clear description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your region

Click here to enter text.
Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?
☐ Yes
⊠ No



REGROW PROGRAM

Figure B 13-1: National Wild and Scenic River Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-04071



Site

National Wild and Scenic River

Carr 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista, Hatillo, Puerto Rico 00659 Parcel ID: 051-000-001-23-000 Parcel Center: 66.298477°W 18.364017°N

Data Source: https://apps.fs.usda.gov/ arcx/rest/services/EDW/ EDW_WildScenicRiverSegments_01/ MapServer Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2023 Updated: 10/5/2023 Layout: Wild and Scenic Rivers



30,000	60,000 Feet
9,000	Meters 18,000

Attachment 14 Environmental Justice Partner Worksheet and EJScreen Report



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Environmental Justice (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/environmental-justice

HUD strongly encourages starting the Environmental Justice analysis only after all other laws and authorities, including Environmental Assessment factors if necessary, have been completed.

- 1. Were any adverse environmental impacts identified in any other compliance review portion of this project's total environmental review?
 - \square Yes \rightarrow Continue to Question 2.
 - If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.
- 2. Were these adverse environmental impacts disproportionately high for low-income and/or minority communities?

□Yes

Explain:

Click here to enter text.

→ The RE/HUD must work with the affected low-income or minority community to decide what mitigation actions, if any, will be taken. Provide any supporting documentation.

□No

Explain:

Click here to enter text.

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.

Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

Click here to enter text.



EJScreen Community Report

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

Hatillo Municipio, PR

1 mile Ring Centered at 18.424377,-66.807582 Population: 2,247 Area in square miles: 3.14

A3 Landscape



Unemployment: 3 percent Persons with disabilities: 55 percent 14 percent 55

100 percent

Per capita

income

N/A \$12,681

Low income:

82 percent

Average life

expectancy

Number of households:

Less than high

school education:

29 percent

45 percent

Limited English

households:

78 percent

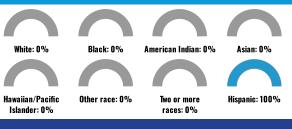
Owner occupied: 76 nercent

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	2%
Spanish	98%
Total Non-English	98%

BREAKDOWN BY RACE

COMMUNITY INFORMATION



BREAKDOWN BY AGE

From Ages 1 to 4	2%
From Ages 1 to 18	17%
From Ages 18 and up	83%
From Ages 65 and up	20%

LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



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

Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

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

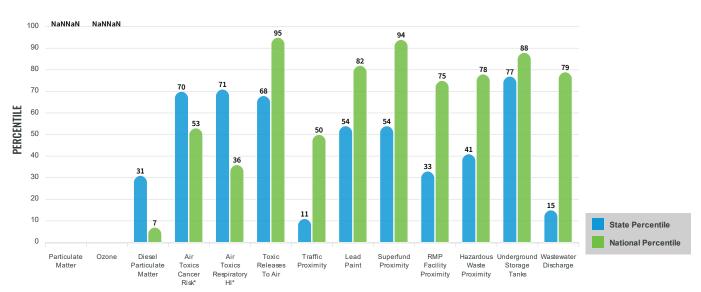
EJ INDEXES

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

EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION

 \equiv

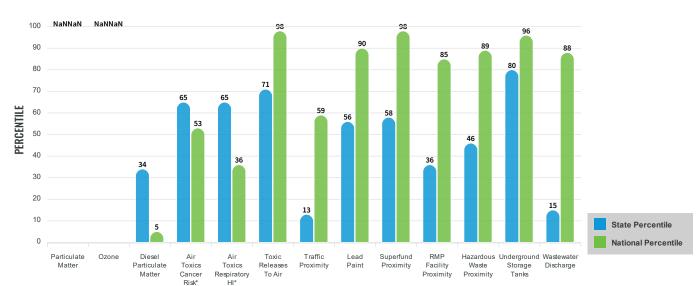
 \equiv



SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

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

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



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

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.424377,-66.807582

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES					
Particulate Matter (µg/m³)	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.08	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.6	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter (µg/m³)	0.0227	0.0667	30	0.261	1
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	20	15	25	5
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.2	0.19	17	0.31	4
Toxic Releases to Air	1,300	4,300	65	4,600	64
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	8.7	180	11	210	15
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.12	0.16	58	0.3	38
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.083	0.15	52	0.13	60
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.1	0.47	30	0.43	31
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.21	0.76	38	1.9	37
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km²)	1.5	1.7	71	3.9	53
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.00015	2.3	13	22	33
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index	91%	83%	67	35%	99
Supplemental Demographic Index	48%	43%	60	14%	99
People of Color	100%	96%	31	39%	98
Low Income	82%	70%	65	31%	97
Unemployment Rate	3%	15%	20	6%	41
Limited English Speaking Households	79%	67%	71	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	29%	21%	73	12%	91
Under Age 5	2%	4%	37	6%	20
Over Age 64	20%	22%	45	17%	69
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A%	N/A	20%	N/A

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

Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:	
Superfund	
	0
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	0
Water Dischargers	0
Air Pollution	
Brownfields	U
DI OMIIIIGIUS	
•	U
Toxic Release Inventory	
	0

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

chools	0
lospitals	0
laces of Worship	0

Other community features within defined area:

Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	No
Impaired Waters	Ves

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

HEALTH INDICATORS								
INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE			
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A	N/A	20%	N/A			
Heart Disease	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A			
Asthma	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	N/A			
Cancer	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A			
Persons with Disabilities	12.6%	21.6%	10	13.4%	50			

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

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS						
INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE	
Broadband Internet	31%	32%	52	14%	89	
Lack of Health Insurance	7%	7%	64	9%	54	
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Transportation Access	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.424377,-66.807582

Attachment 15 Sole Source Aquifer Partner Worksheet and Map



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

Sole Source Aquifers (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

30	Die Source Aquirers (CEST and EA) - PARTNER
<u>ht</u>	tps://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/sole-source-aquifers
1.	Is the project located on a sole source aquifer (SSA)¹? ⊠No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide documentation used to make your determination, such as a map of your project or jurisdiction in relation to the nearest SSA.
	□Yes → Continue to Question 2.
2.	Does the project consist solely of acquisition, leasing, or rehabilitation of an existing building(s)? \Box Yes \Rightarrow The review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.
	\square No \rightarrow Continue to Question 3.
3.	Does your region have a memorandum of understanding (MOU) or other working agreement with EPA for HUD projects impacting a sole source aquifer? Contact your Field or Regional Environmental Officer or visit the HUD webpage at the link above to determine if an MOU or agreement exists in your area. □Yes → Continue to Question 4.
	\square No \rightarrow Continue to Question 5.
4.	Does your MOU or working agreement exclude your project from further review? □Yes → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide documentation used to make your determination and document where your project fits within the MOU or agreement.
	\square No \rightarrow Continue to Question 5.
5.	Will the proposed project contaminate the aquifer and create a significant hazard to public health?

Consult with your Regional EPA Office. Your consultation request should include detailed information about your proposed project and its relationship to the aquifer and associated streamflow source area.

¹ A sole source aquifer is defined as an aquifer that supplies at least 50 percent of the drinking water consumed in the area overlying the aquifer. This includes streamflow source areas, which are upstream areas of losing streams that flow into the recharge area.

EPA will also want to know about water, storm water and waste water at the proposed project. Follow your MOU or working agreement or contact your Regional EPA office for specific information you may need to provide. EPA may request additional information if impacts to the aquifer are questionable after this information is submitted for review.

- □No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide your correspondence with the EPA and all documents used to make your determination.
- ☐Yes → The RE/HUD will work with EPA to develop mitigation measures. If mitigation measures are approved, attach correspondence with EPA and include the mitigation measures in your environmental review documents and project contracts. If EPA determines that the project continues to pose a significant risk to the aquifer, federal financial assistance must be denied. Continue to Question 6.

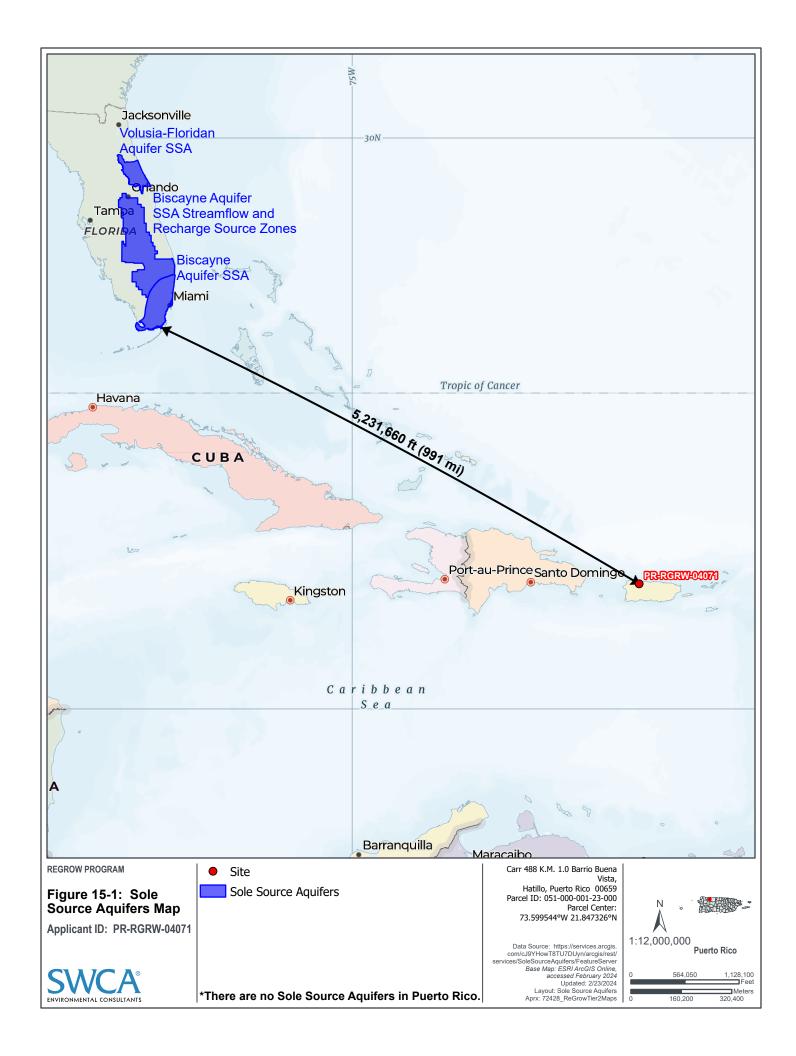
Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

According to the USEPA's Source Water Protection, Sole Source Aquifer Protection Program, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.



Appendix C Environmental Site Inspection Report



ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD ASSESSMENT FORM ReGrow



Applicant Name: NRP INC	Program ID: PR-RGRW-04071
Project Coordinates:	Parcel ID: 18.424375, -66.807581
Parcel Address: Carr 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena Vista	Municipio: Hatillo
Zip Code: 00659	

Inspector Name: Delise Torres-Ortiz Inspection Date: October 5 th , 2023

General Site Conditions

Was property accessible by vehicle?	Yes	Comment:
Access issues?	No	Comment: None
Are water wells present?	No	Comment:
Are creeks or ponds present?	No	Comment:
Are any potential wetlands onsite or visible on adjacent parcel?	No	Comment:

Parcel Conditions

Note – for Any Yes answers specify type, contents and location

Do any of the proposed project work areas show evidence of site preparation?	No	Comment: If yes, ask applicant when the preparation work was completed.
Are commercial or industrial hazardous facilities at parcel or within visual sight?	No	Comment:
Are there signs of underground storage tanks?	No	Comment:
Are above-ground tanks >10 gallons present? If Yes, also state condition.	Yes	Comment: Cistern (empty and not in use).
Are 55-gallon drums present? If Yes, also state condition.	No	Comment:



ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD ASSESSMENT FORM ReGrow



Are abandoned vehicles or electrical equipment present?	No	Comment:
Is other potential environmentally hazardous debris on the parcel?	No	Comment:
Is there non-environmentally hazardous debris on the parcel?	No	Comment:
Are any leaks, soil stains, or stressed vegetation present associated with any of the above or separately?	No	Comment:
Are there any pungent, foul or noxious odors?	No	Comment:
Are there any potentially hazardous trees that could fall?	No	Comment:
Are any bird nests visible?	No	Comment:
Are there any animal burrows visible?	No	Comment:
Are there any buildings in direct visual sight of the project locations?	Yes	Comment: Applicant's residence was built around the 1990s.

Additional Needs Analysis

Based on the above findings, does additional information need to be obtained from the applicant to determine whether an environmental hazard is present?	No	Comment:
--	----	----------

☑ I verify that I have physically visited this property and that the findings outlined above are accurate.

Delise Torres Ortiz {Delise Torres-Ortiz} {October 5th, 2023}



ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD ASSESSMENT FORM ReGrow



Following pages are used for:

Location Map with parcel boundaries and building point (Aerial base with streets labelled) Photos taken during inspection, with Date / Type / Direction associated with the photo

Project #: PR-RGRW-04071 Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena
Vista, Hatillo, PR 00659

Photographer: Armando Ramos
Coordinates: 18.424375, -66.807581

Photo #: 01 **Date:** 10/05/2 023

Photo Direction:Southwest

Description:Overview of site location for warehouse 20x20x10-9.5ft.



Photo #: 02

Date: 10/05/2 023

Photo Direction: Northwest

Description:
Photo taken from
SE corner of site
location for open
warehouse
20x20x10-9.5ft.



Project #: PR-RGRW-04071 Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena
Vista, Hatillo, PR 00659
Photographer: Armando Ramos
Coordinates: 18.424375, -66.807581

Photo #: 03

Date: 10/05/2 023

Photo Direction:Southeast

Description:

Photo taken from NW corner of site location for an open warehouse 20x20x10-9.5ft.



Photo #: 04

Date: 10/05/2 023

Photo Direction:

Southwest

Description:

Photo taken from NE corner of site location for an open warehouse 20x20x10-9.5ft.



Project #: PR-RGRW-04071 Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: 488 K.M. 1.0 Barrio Buena
Vista, Hatillo, PR 00659

Photographer: Armando Ramos
Coordinates: 18.424375, -66.807581

Photo #: 05

Date: 10/05/2 023

Photo Direction:

East

Description:

Photo taken from southeast corner of site location towards the applicant's residence and trees.



Photo #: 06

Date: 10/05/2 023

Photo Direction:

South

Description:

Applicant's residence, built in 1990's.

