Environmental Assessment

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

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-01159

Project Name: Omayra Sambolin Borrero

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico / Municipio of Yauco

Preparer: Alaina Callinan, Deputy Program Manager

Certifying Officer Name and Title:

Permit and Environmental Compliance Officers:

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Consultant (if applicable): SWCA Environmental Consultants

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Project Location:

The proposed project is located on a 9.71-acre parcel (Castradal Number 288-000-005-20) at Carretera 374 KM 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote, Yauco, PR 00698 (see **Appendix A, Figure** 1- Site Location and **Figure 2**- Site Vicinity). This property is in a rural area in the north-eastern portion of Yauco Municipio. The property is split by an existing unpaved road that runs north/south through the central portion of the property. Access to the project areas is provided via the unpaved road.

The applicant has identified one location for project activities related for the Intended Use of Grant Funds that are being evaluated under this Environmental Assessment, also shown on Figures 1 and 2:

• Warehouse Location (18.150033, -66.823541) is in the eastern portion of the parcel, near the central roadway.

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

The proposed project includes the purchase of various tools, farm equipment, including a lawn mower and utility vehicle, and materials to be used to expand an existing 8 feet by 10 feet (80 square feet) warehouse. The warehouse expansion will include the reinstallation of electricity and water to the warehouse. Previous electrical and water connections to the warehouse were damaged during the Hurricanes and therefore, need to be reinstalled.

The expanded warehouse footprint will be 15 feet by 15 feet (225 square feet) and will replace the existing warehouse. The warehouse will be used to store tools, produce, and other equipment. The warehouse will be built on a platform, due to the steep slope, posts to support the platform will be secured by concrete footers extending 2 feet deep into ground. No tree clearing is required for construction. However, the project will include ground disturbance associated with the installation of concrete footers in addition to the underground water connection to the existing community well connection on the property. Electrical connection to the warehouse will be an underground connection to an existing utility pole up slope from the warehouse location. The ground disturbance associated with the water and electrical connections are assumed not to exceed 6 feet in depth. The slope is estimated to exceed 25% grade as construction will take place on a hillside, some evidence of erosion is present, however the project location is currently developed and will replace the existing warehouse structure. The applicant owns the property; therefore, no acquisition is required. The project site is accessible via a dirt access road to the property.

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 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 of tools, farm equipment, including a lawn mower and utility vehicle, and materials to be used to expand an existing 8 feet by 10 feet (80 square feet) 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 adequate storage of produce and tools. The new tools, lawn mower and utility vehicle will provide increased farm capacity by making operations more efficient. 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 [24 CFR 58.40(a)]:

The general topography of the property is hilly with open pastures and vegetated areas. The property is classified as rustic agricultural land. The proposed activities are for agricultural purposes and are consistent with the current land use. The site for the warehouse is currently undeveloped and vegetated land.

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: \$36,784.37

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$36,784.37

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	NS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No	The project site is not within 2,500 feet (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, Mercedita, is located 99,624 feet (19 miles) from the project site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport, is located 299,060 feet (57 miles) from 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). There are no CBRS units in Yauco. The closest CBRS unit, Bahia de Tallaboa, is located 65,114 feet (12 miles) from 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 72000C1065J (effective date 11/18/2009), 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 Yauco 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 expanding on a previously built warehouse. The project is not anticipated to have a negative impact on air quality and will not increase residential density. 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 51,408 feet (10 miles) from the project site. To 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 5/16/2023 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 that could not be resolved with mitigation. In addition, a desktop review of USEPA databases, NEPAssist, and other sources was conducted to determine if the project site was 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 that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements. The Contamination and Toxics Substances Partner Worksheet and Map

		(Figure B 6-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 6.
Endangered Species 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 and the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) Species Ranges database. In addition, critical species habitat was reviewed through the USFWS IPaC, Critical Habitat Portal, and the DNER Puerto Rico State Wildlife Action Plan, a Ten-Year Review database.
		The review identified four federally listed species (Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk [Buteo pltypterus brunnescens], Puerto Rican Parrot [Amazona vittate], Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk [Accipiter striatus venator], Puerto Rican Boa [Chilabothrus inornatus]) and nine state listed species Puerto Rican Nightjar [Caprimulgus noctitherus], Higuero de Sierra [Crescentia portoricensis], Mottled Coqui [Eleutherodactylus eneidae], Eugenia woodburyana, Peregrine Falcon [Falco peregrinus tundrius], Brown Pelican [Pelecanus occidentalis], Polystichum calderonense, Bariaco [Trichilia triacantha], Varronia Bellinis syn. Cordia Bellonis pVarronia bellinis]) with the potential to occur within the Project area. There is no designated or proposed critical habitat within the Project area; the closest final or

		proposed designated critical habitat is located 31,680 feet (six miles) away. The project activities will result in ground disturbing activities, including site clearance and grading. A qualified biologist reviewed the proposed activity location and determined that, even though, the area contains trees that could provide suitable habitat listed species, given that no tree or vegetation removal is planned to occur, and inspectors did not observe any suitable ground or vegetative habitat, individuals, or nests for any listed species at the proposed project location, as currently designed, the proposed project activities will have No effect on any federally listed species or designated critical habitat and no impact to all state protected species. 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 Construction Manager 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
Explosive and Flammable Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	Yes No	The project includes expanding on a previously built 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
Farmlands Protection	Yes No	Partner Worksheet is provided in Appendix B, Attachment 8. This project does not include any
Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly		activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. No prime farmland or farmlands of

sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658		statewide importance are within the project area. Although 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 onfarm 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.
Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	Yes No	A review of the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) map, Community Panel 72000C1065J (effective date 11/18/2009), 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. 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 Part 800	Yes No	The project will involve the expansion of the footprint of an existing warehouse on an undeveloped property and significant ground disturbing activities of previously undisturbed soil. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consultation was performed. No National Historic Landmark (NHL) are within or near the project area. A site visit was conducted on May 16, 2023 by an SOI-qualified Archaeologist. Record reviews and research were conducted at the SHPO and the Institute for Puerto Rican Culture (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 July 21, 2023, and SHPO concurred with the No Historic Properties Affected determination on August 4, 2023. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act. The Historic Preservation Partner Worksheet, SHPO consultation, Previous Historic Investigation Map (Figure B 11-1), and Cultural Resources Map (Figure B 11-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 11.
Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	Yes No	The project activities are limited to expanding on a previously built warehouse and do not involve residential new construction or rehabilitation. No further evaluation is 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.
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes No	The project site was reviewed for wetlands using the USFWS Wetland Inventory Mapper and a visual confirmation during the field site

		inspection. No wetlands were determined to be present on site. 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 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 Yauco Municipio. The closest Wild and Scenic River segment is located 364,320 feet (69 miles) from 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 would 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	1	
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design		The project site location is classified as rustic agricultural land use. 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 project site is in a rural area of Yauco Municipio, and project activities will not contribute to urban sprawl.
	Any necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor from the appropriate department prior to construction activities.	
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/		Soil suitability will be assessed prior to construction and will be addressed during local permitting processes.

Drainage/Storm Water Runoff		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 less than 25 landslides per square kilometer for the project area (see Appendix A, Figure 3 - USGS Landslide Map).
		Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) authorization may be required for any extraction, removal, excavation, and dredging of the components of the earth's crust.
		Under the USEPA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program requirements, any project with a disturbance area equal to or greater than 1 acre requires a USEPA Construction General Permit, NPDES Permit, and formal Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The total disturbance area for this project is less than 1 acre and does not meet this threshold; therefore, these requirements do not apply.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	Contractors will be required to provide health and safety plans and monitoring during construction. Noise levels will temporarily increase during construction; however, program activities are limited to the existing farm property and will not elevate ambient noise levels long-term. Contractors will be required to comply with the applicable local noise ordinances. Noise impacts will be mitigated by restricting construction activities to daylight hours.
Energy Consumption	2	The project will not result in significant additional energy consumption as it involves only the expansion of an existing warehouse using self-powered construction equipment on an existing farm and will not require any expansion to existing power facilities. Connection will be made to an existing electrical connection on the farm. The warehouse was connected to electrical prior to the Hurricanes but connection was lost and need to be reconnected.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		
Employment and Income Patterns		The project will result in short-term benefit to employment if contractors are hired for the expansion of an existing warehouse. After construction, the project will support the continuation of operations and intended use of the farm, which produces produce for Puerto Rico communities. 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		The project is a rural area in Yauco Municipio and will not alter the demographics or character of surrounding community. Project activities will not result in any direct or indirect displacement of individuals or families.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation	
COMMUNITY FACILIT	IES AND SER	VICES	
Educational and Cultural Facilities		The proposed project activities will occur 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		The proposed project will increase agricultural production, resulting in a net positive impact to the applicant's farm commercial output and a positive benefit to surrounding commercial enterprises who purchase and sell the produce.	
Health Care and Social Services	2	The proposed project activities will occur 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 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 expansion of an existing warehouse is not expected to result in significant changes in wastewater or sanitary sewer generation.
		Sewage generation will not exceed the capacity of sewers or treatment facilities, nor does the project involve on-site waste disposal systems in areas not suitable for its use. Wastewater from the project will not enter environmentally sensitive areas, nor will the project produce any noxious odors affecting quality of life for nearby residents.
Water Supply	2	The proposed project activities are not expected to result in significant changes to water supply.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The proposed project activities will occur 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 activities will occur 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 project activities will occur on private land and 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		The project is not located in proximity to unique natural features or water resources; therefore, construction activities will not affect quality or access to these resources.

Vegetation, Wildlife	The project area has already been previously disturbed for farm operations. Although there will be some pruning of trees, the project is not anticipated to negatively impact trees, vegetation, wildlife, or native plant communities. No tree clearing will occur. Department of Economic Development and Commerce authorization may be required for pruning. The landowner and/or the contractor will contact the Permit Management Office to determine permits and
Climate Change	authorizations required prior to construction. 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 a significant 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 gas. Additionally, project activities will not result in tree clearing that would contribute to a loss in carbon capture.

Additional Studies Performed:

None Required

Field Inspection (Date and completed by):

Field inspection completed on May 16, 2023, by Delise Torres-Ortiz, SWCA Environmental Consultants.

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

Department of Economic Development and Commerce. 2023. Sole Incidental Operational Permit for Cutting, Pruning, Transplanting and Tree System Authorization. Permits Management Office. Accessed May 29, 2023. Available at: https://www.ddec.pr.gov/en/permits-management-office.

Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER). 2023a. Puerto Rico State Wildlife Action Plan a Ten-Year Review. Accessed May 30, 2023. Available at: https://arcg.is/1DmOy1.

DNER. 2023b. Puerto Rico DNER Species Ranges – under construction. Accessed June 16, 2023. Available at: https://arcg.is/1S9aju0.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). 2022. National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems 2023-2027. Accessed May 30, 2023. Available at: <u>National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) 2023-2027</u>, <u>Appendix B: National and State Maps (faa.gov)</u>.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). 2023. FEMA Flood Map Service Center - Map Panel 72000C0H545H (effective 4/19/2005). Accessed May 30, 2023. Available at: https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home.

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

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office for Coastal Management. 2023. Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Boundary. Accessed May 30, 2023. Available at: <u>Puerto Rico Coastal Vulnerability Viewer (arcgis.com)</u>.

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

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 May 31, 2023. Available at: https://geopub.epa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/EMEF/efpoints/MapServer.

USEPA. 2022b. Sole Source Aquifer Map. Accessed May 31, 2023. 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 May 31, 2023. Available at: https://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo_pr.html.

USEPA. 2023b. EJScreen: Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool. Accessed March 3, 2023. Available at: https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/download-ejscreen-data.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2019. Coastal Barrier Resources System. Accessed May 30, 2023. Available at: https://www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Mapper.html.

USFWS. 2023a. Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Accessed June 16, 2023. Available at: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/location/index.

USFWS. 2023b. Critical Habitat for Threatened & Endangered Species. Accessed June 16, 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 May 31, 2023. Available at: https://fwsprimary.wim.usgs.gov/wetlands/apps/wetlands-mapper/.

U.S. Forest Service. 2022. National Wild and Scenic River Segments. Accessed January 31, 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 May 30, 2023. Available at: <u>U.S. Landslide Inventory (arcgis.com).</u>

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 expansion of the 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 or the need for mitigation. 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 result in tree clearing prior to construction, additional ground disturbance as there is no existing warehouse to expand in other location 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 purchase equipment, and materials to expand an existing warehouse. Consequently, the applicant may not be able to recover from previous disasters 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.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions:

The proposed project would not result in any adverse effects on the surrounding natural, historical, and water resources; generate significant air or noise pollution; or promote socioeconomic injustices. The proposed project activities will not require further agency consultation. No mitigation or formal compliance steps will be required for any of the laws and authorities assessed in this review.

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 Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	General Condition: 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.
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	General Condition: 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	Any necessary construction permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor from the appropriate department prior to construction activities.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	Contractors will be required to use best management practices during construction if erosion impacts will occur. Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) authorization may be required for any extraction, removal, excavation, and dredging of the components of the earth's crust.
Vegetation, Wildlife	Department of Economic Development and Commerce authorization may be required for pruning. The landowner and/or the contractor will contact the Permit Management Office to determine permits and authorizations required prior to 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.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	All construction debris will be disposed of at the proper facilities for the debris type.

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:Alaina CallinanDate:9/18/2023
Name/Title/Organization: Alaina Callinan, Deputy Program Manager
SWCA Environmental Consultants
Certifying Officer Signature:
Name /Title María T. Torres Bregón, Permits and Environmental Compliance Manager

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

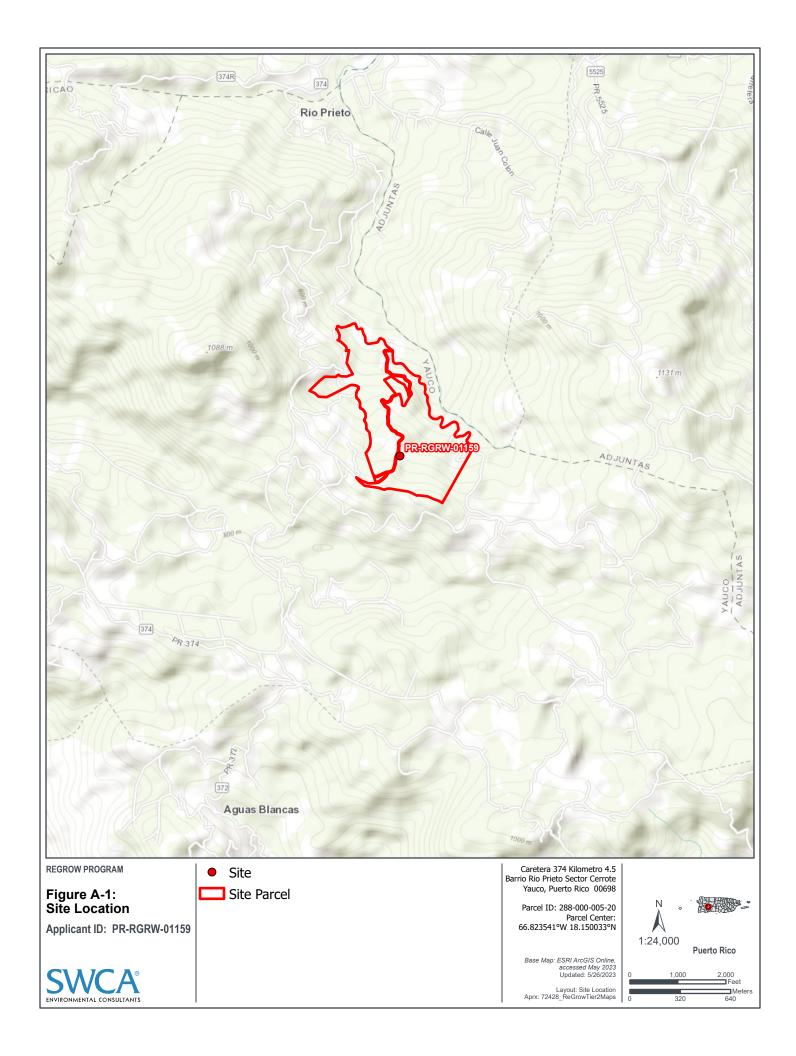


Figure 2 Site Vicinity Map

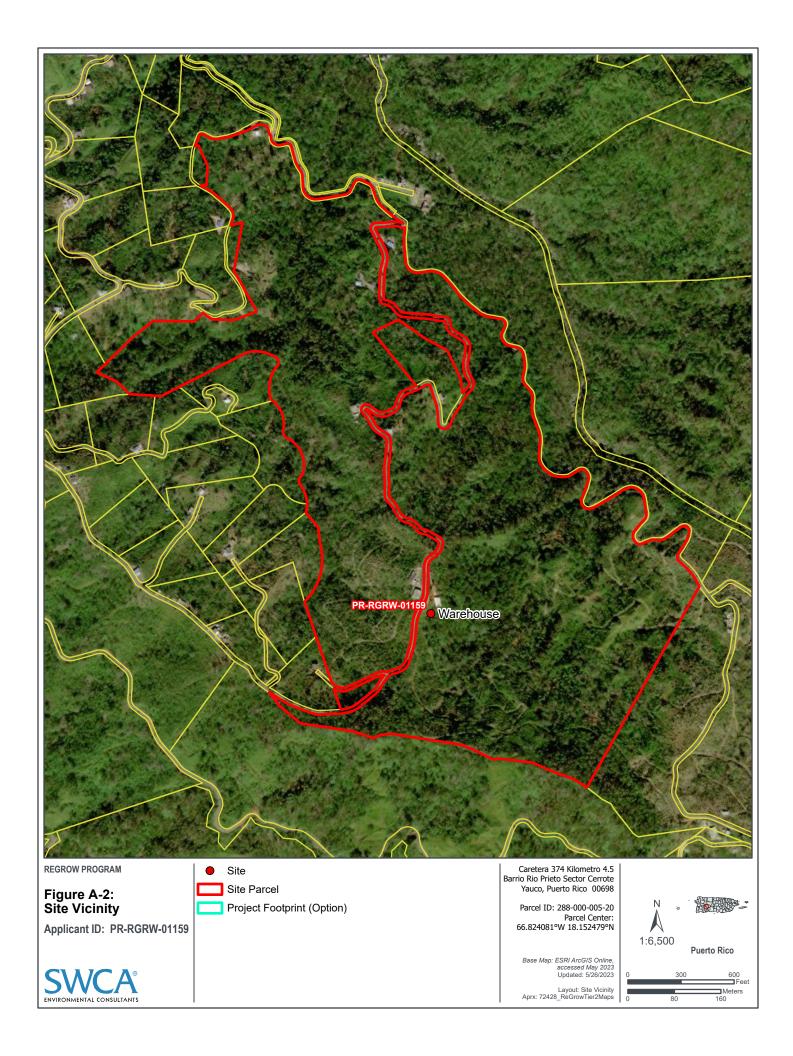
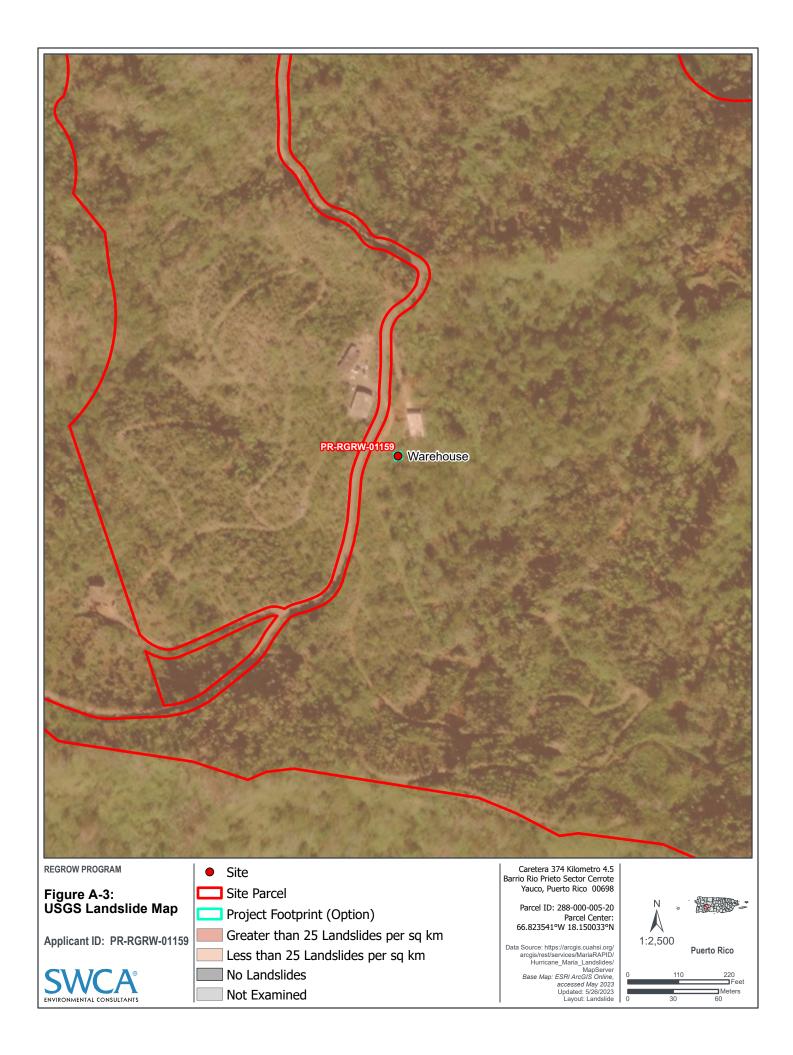


Figure 3 USGS Landslide Map



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

Α

approved. \rightarrow Project cannot proceed at this location.

	nnot take full sion of the V	responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD Vorksheet.				
Αi	rport Haz	zards (CEST and EA) – PARTNER				
<u>ht</u>	tps://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 →	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 →	Continue to Question 2.				
2.	Is your pro	Is your project located within a Runway Potential Zone/Clear Zone (RPZ/CZ) or Accident Potential Zone (APZ)?				
	□Yes, pro	ject is in an APZ \rightarrow Continue to Question 3.				
	□Yes, pro	ject is an RPZ/CZ → Project cannot proceed at this location.				
	□No, proj	ect is not within an APZ or RPZ/CZ				
	Сог	the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. In the section tinue to the Worksheet Summary below. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. It is not within either zone.				
3.	Is the proj	ect in conformance with DOD guidelines for APZ?				
	□Yes, pro	ject is consistent with DOD guidelines without further action.				
	Сог	ne RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. In tinue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documentation supporting this termination.				
	□No, the	project cannot be brought into conformance with DOD guidelines and has not been				

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.

→ 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 (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, Mercedita, is located 99,624 ft (19 miles) from the project site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport, is located 299,060 ft (57 miles) from the project site. The project is in compliance with this section. No further evaluation is required.

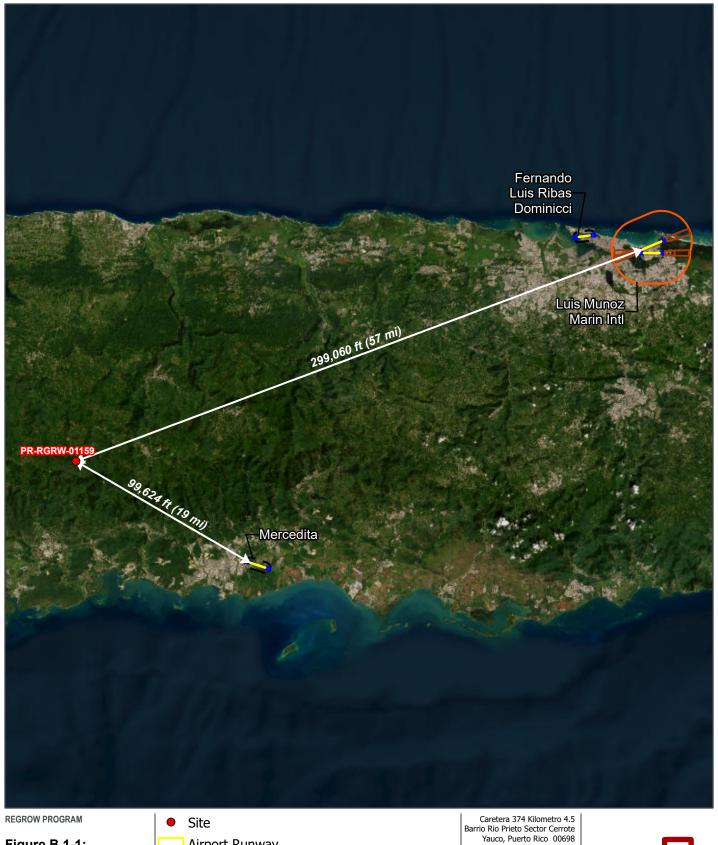


Figure B 1-1: Airport Hazards Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01159



Airport Runway

Accident Potential Zones (APZ)

Runway Protection Zones (RPZ)

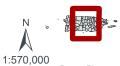
」2,500-FT Civil Airport Buffer

15,000-FT Military Airport Buffer

Parcel ID: 288-000-005-20 Parcel Center: 66.420123°W 18.225724°N

Data Source: https://geodata.bts.gov/ Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed May 2023

Updated: 5/26/2023 Layout: Airport Hazards Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps



Puerto Rico

0	25,000	50,000
		Feet
0	7.500	15.000

Attachment 2 Coastal Barrier Resources Act Partner Worksheet and Coastal Barrier Resources Map



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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?

 \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 FWS
\square 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). There are no CBRS units in Yauco. The closest CBRS unit, Bahia de Tallaboa, is located 12



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miles from the project site. The project is in compliance with this section. No further evaluation is required.

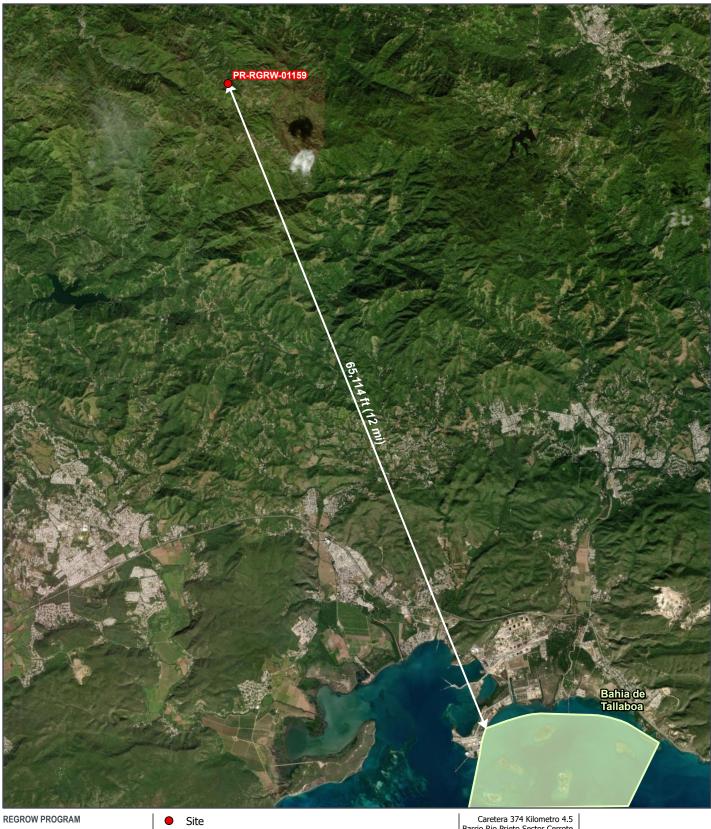


Figure B 2-1: Coastal Barrier Resources Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01159

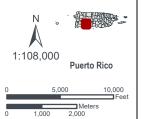


Otherwise Protected Area System Unit

Caretera 374 Kilometro 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote Yauco, Puerto Rico 00698

Parcel ID: 288-000-005-20 Parcel Center: 66.788543°W 18.066856°N

Data Source: https://cbrsgis.wim. usgs.gov/arcgis/rest/services/Coastal BarrierResourcesSystem/MapServer Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed May 2023 Updated: 5/26/2023 Layout: Coastal Barrier Resources System



Attachment 3 Flood Insurance Partner Worksheet and Flood Insurance Rate Map



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Flood Insurance (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

Insurance is required.

→ Continue to the Worksheet Summary.

htt	ps://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/flood-insurance
1.	Does this project involve mortgage insurance, refinance, acquisition, repairs, rehabilitation, or construction 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.
	\square Yes \rightarrow 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).
	Is the structure, part of the structure, or insurable property located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area? □ No → Continue to the Worksheet Summary.
	\square Yes \rightarrow Continue to Question 3.
3.	Is the community participating in the National Flood Insurance Program <i>or</i> has less than one year passed 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.

□ 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.

☐ 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

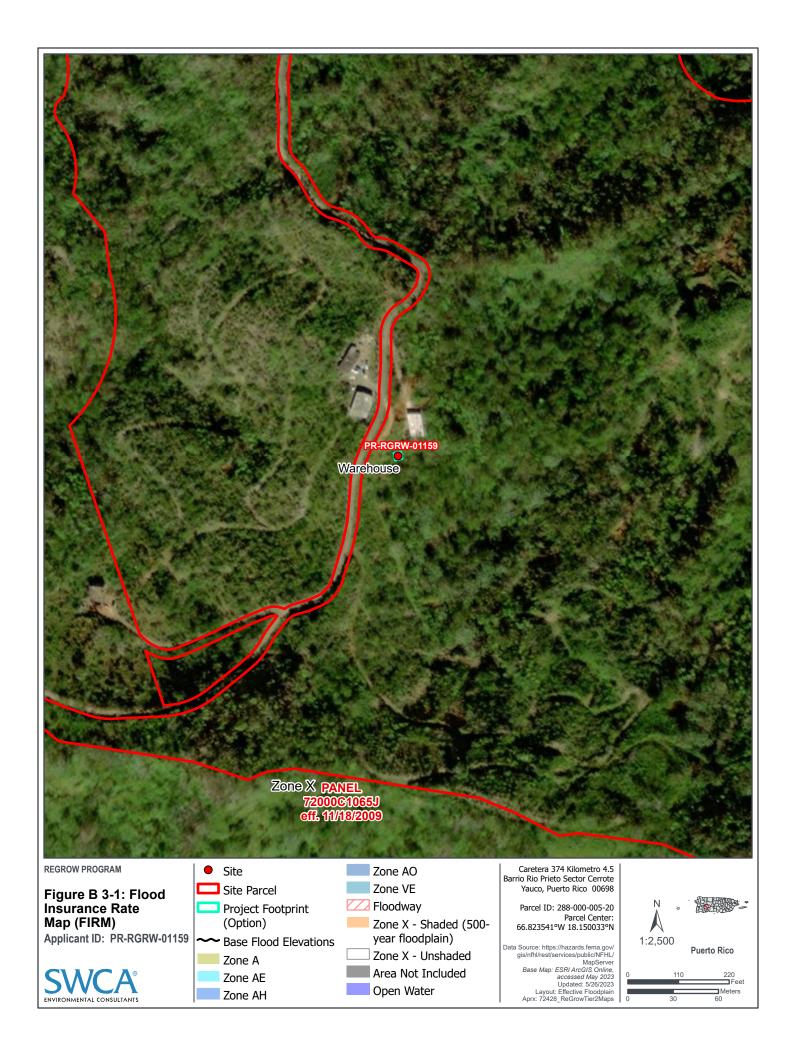
Worksheet Summary

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 72000C1065J (effective date 11/18/2009), shows the project site is in Flood Zone X, which is not in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Flood insurance is not required. The project is in compliance with this section. No further evaluation is required.



Attachment 4

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



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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?
	\boxtimes Yes \rightarrow Continue to Question 2.
	\square 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/
	http://www.epa.gov/oaqpsoo1/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?
	\square 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

→ 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.

\Box	Yes	the	nroiect	exceeds	de	minimis	emissions	level	s or	screening	level	ls
$\mathbf{-}$	103,	uic	project	CACCCUS	иc	1111111111113	CITIISSIOTIS	ICVCI	3 01	3CI CCI IIII	ICVC	

- → 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.

The project site is in Yauco Municipio, which is within a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) designated attainment area. Project activities include expanding on a previously built warehouse. The project is not anticipated to have a negative impact on air quality and will not increase residential density. 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.



Figure B 4-1: Clean Air Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01159

8-Hour Ozone (2015 Standard)*

Lead (2008 Standard)

PM-2.5 (2012 Standard)*

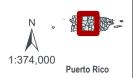
Sulfur Dioxide (2010 Standard)

*No Data in Puerto Rico

Caretera 374 Kilometro 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote Yauco, Puerto Rico 00698

Parcel ID: 288-000-005-20 Parcel Center: 66.559062°W 18.232052°N

Data Source: https://geopub.epa.gov/ arcgis/rest/services/NEPAssist/ NEPAVELayersPublic. fgdb/MapServer Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed May 2023 Updated: 5/26/2023 Layout. Clean Air Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps



Attachment 5 Coastal Zone Management Partner Worksheet and Coastal Zone Map



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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	Guam	Maryland	New Jersey	Pennsylvania	Virginia
Samona					
California	Hawaii	Massachusetts	New York	Puerto Rico	Washington
Connecticut	Illinois	Michigan	North Carolina	Rhode Island	Wisconsin
Delaware	Indiana	Minnesota	Northern	South Carolina	
			Mariana Islands		

- 1. Is the project located in, or does it affect, a Coastal Zone as defined in your state Coastal Management Plan?
 - \Box Yes \rightarrow Continue to Question 2.

 \Box Yes \rightarrow

- ⋈ 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?
 - □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

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?
	\Box Yes with mitigation \rightarrow The RF/HIID must work with the State Coastal Management

☐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.

\square 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.

 \square No \rightarrow Project cannot proceed at this location.

Continue to Question 3.

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 10 miles from the project site. The project is in compliance with this section. No further evaluation is required.

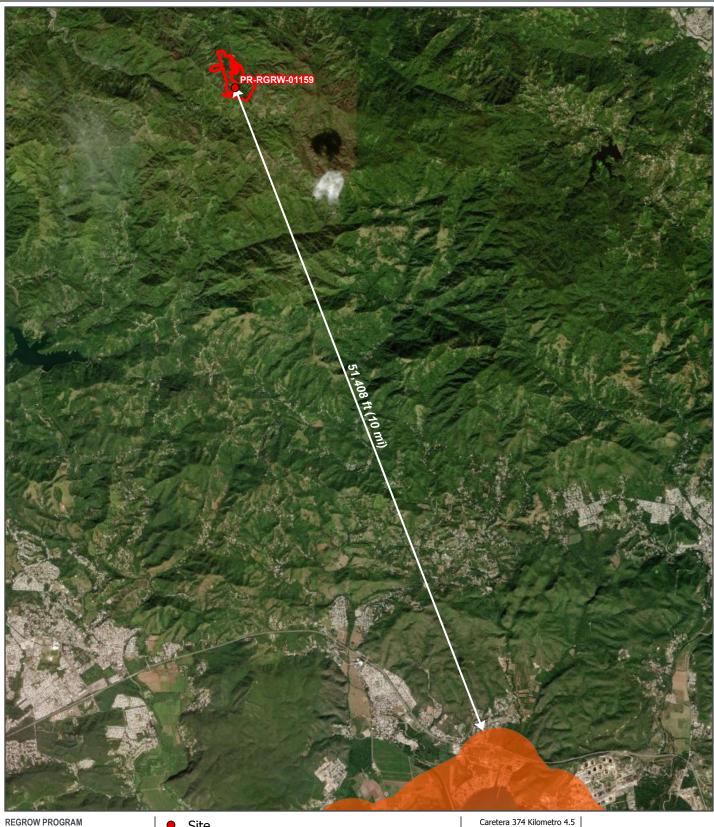


Figure B 5-1: Coastal Zone Management Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01159



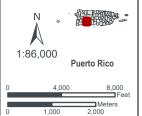
Site

Coastal Management Zone

Caretera 374 Kilometro 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote Yauco, Puerto Rico 00698

> Parcel ID: 288-000-005-20 Parcel Center: 66.796762°W 18.084042°N

Data Source: https://coast.noaa.gov/ arcgis/rest/services/Hosted/ Coastal/ZoneManagementAU Base Map: ESRI ArcGIen ChaCU Base Map: 2023 Updated: 5/30/2023 Layout: Coastal Zone Management Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier/2Maps



Attachment 6 Contamination and Toxics Substances Partner Worksheet and Map



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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? 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
	→ 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 → Explain below.
	Click here to enter text.
	ightarrow If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with
	this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.
	\square Yes $ o$ Describe the findings, including any recognized environmental conditions
	(RECs), in Worksheet Summary below. Continue to Question 3.
3.	Can adverse environmental impacts be mitigated?

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.

	☐ Adverse environmental impacts cannot feasibly be mitigated → <u>HUD assistance may not be used for the project at this site</u> . <u>Project cannot proceed at this location</u> .					
	 ☐ Yes, adverse environmental impacts can be eliminated through mitigation. → 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 of institutional controls ⁴ . Click here to enter text.					
	If a remediation plan or clean-up program was necessary, which standard does it follow? ☐ Complete removal					
	☐ Risk-based corrective action (RBCA)					
	→ 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 5/16/2023 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 that could not be resolved with mitigation.

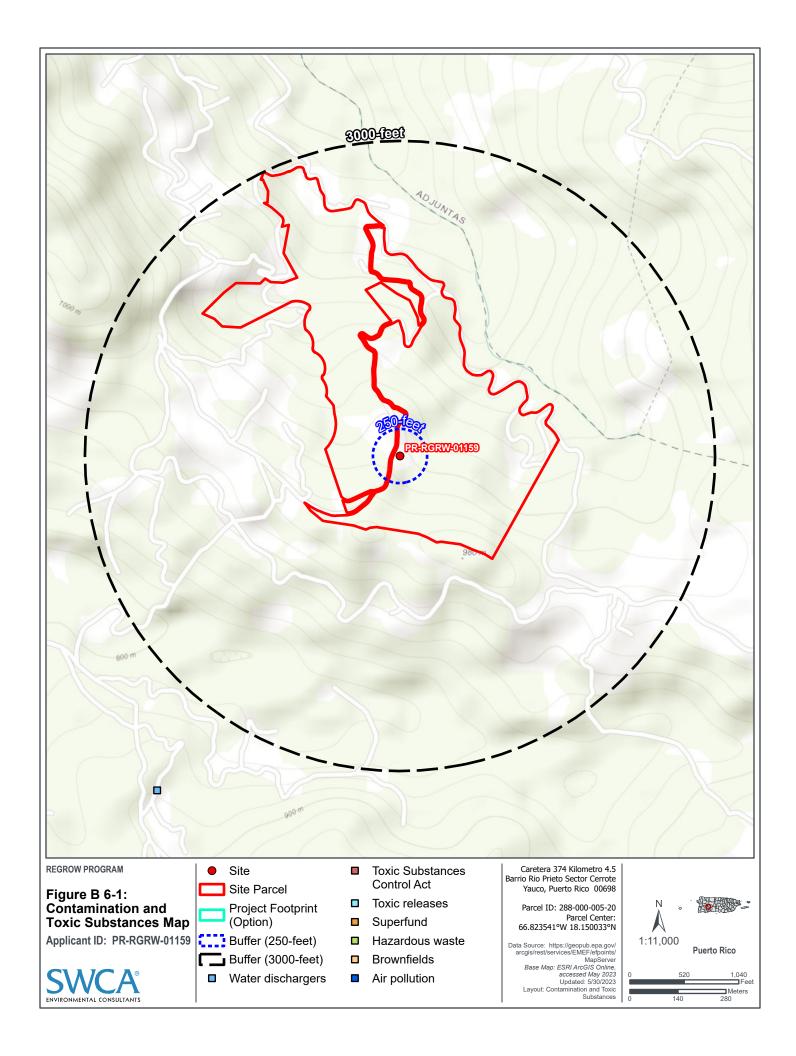
In addition, a desktop review of USEPA databases, NEPAssist, and other sources was conducted to determine if the project site was located near dump sites, junk yards, landfills, hazardous waste sites, or industrial sites, including USEPA National Priorities List Sites (Superfund sites), CERCLA or state-equivalent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

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.

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 that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property.



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. Do	es the proj	ect involve any	activities that have the	potential to affect s	pecies or habitats?
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- □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.

No suitable habitat for any federal or state listed species is present within the proposed project location and no tree clearing or vegetation removal is proposed as a part of construction activities; therefore, project activities will have *no effect* to any federal listed species or critical habitat and *no impact* on state listed species. The project site is six miles away from the closest final or proposed designated critical habitat. See the attached Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Memorandum.

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

For: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

CDBG-DR & CDBG-MIT Program ReGrow Environmental Assessment

From: Susan Fischer, Wildlife Ecologist

Date: June 21, 2023

Re: Threatened and Endangered Species Review for Carretera 374 KM 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto

Sector Cerrote, Yauco

Project Name: Omayra Sambolin Borrero / PR-RGRW-01159

Site Address: Carretera 374 KM 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote, Yauco

GPS Coordinates: 18.15015, -66.823387

This Threatened and Endangered Species Review evaluates the expansion of an existing warehouse. This parcel is located at Carretera 374 KM 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote, Yauco, Puerto Rico. To complete this review, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system, Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) Species Ranges, and Puerto Rico State Wildlife Action Plan_a Ten Year Review online mapping databases were consulted, then a site inspection performed to evaluate on-site nest and habitat potential. For the purposes of this review, the evaluation encompasses a maximum 100-foot buffer around the proposed project location.

The species list for the site was generated by the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office in Boqueron, Puerto Rico (attached). Since all project activities will occur on land, marine and aquatic species have been excluded from the evaluation. For any activities located near wetlands and/or waterbodies, best management practices (BMPs) will be implemented to prevent impacts to freshwater species. According to the IPaC results, the property is located within the habitat range of four terrestrial species considered to be threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act:

- Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo pltypterus brunnescens*)
- Puerto Rican Parrot (Amazona vittata)
- Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (Accipiter striatus venator)
- Puerto Rican Boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)

A review of the Puerto Rico DNER Species Ranges online system indicated the following additional state-listed species may occur in within the review area:

- Puerto Rican Nightjar (*Caprimulgus noctitherus*)
- Higuero de Sierra (Crescentia portoricensis)
- Mottled Coqui (*Eleutherodactylus eneidae*)

- Eugenia woodburyana
- Peregrine Falcon (Falco peregrinus tundrius)
- Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*)
- Polystichum calderonense
- Bariaco (*Trichilia triacantha*)
- Varronia Bellinis syn. Cordia Bellonis (Varronia bellinis)

A site inspection on May 16, 2023 found the parcel is situated in a rural area. The property is used for residential and agricultural production and the lot consists of a mix of cleared and forested areas. The proposed project area consists of an existing warehouse and cleared area. Representative photographs of the subject property are included in the Environmental Field Assessment Photographic Log. The review area does contain trees that could provide suitable habitat to multiple federal- and state-listed species; however, no tree or vegetation removal is planned to occur, and inspectors did not observe any suitable ground or vegetative habitat, individuals, or nests for any listed species at the proposed project location. There is no critical habitat for any species found within the subject property based on the USFWS and Puerto Rico State Wildlife Action Plan a Ten Year Review databases.

Based on agency data and site observations, this review concludes that the expansion of the existing warehouse on the parcel will result in *no effect* to all state and federally protected species with the potential to occur in the area.

I can be reached by phone (346-388-1157) or email (Susan.Fischer@swca.com) with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Susan Fischer Wildlife Ecologist

SWCA Environmental Consultants

Sutish

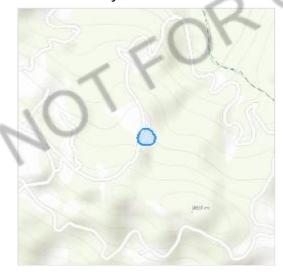
IPaC resource list

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

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

Location

Yauco County, Puerto Rico



Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

\((787) 834-1600

(787) 851-7440

CARIBBEAN ES@FWS.GOV

NOT FOR CONSULTATIO

MAILING ADDRESS

Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

Office Park I State Road #2 Km 156.5, Suite 303} Mayaguez, PR 00680

Endangered species

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

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

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

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

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

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

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact <u>NOAA Fisheries</u> for <u>species under their jurisdiction</u>.

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

2. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

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

Birds

NAME STATUS

Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk Buteo platypterus

Endangered

brunnescens

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

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

Puerto Rican Parrot Amazona vittata

Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

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

Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk Accipiter striatus

Endangered

venator

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/604

Reptiles

NAME

Puerto Rican Boa Chilabothrus inornatus

Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

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

Critical habitats

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

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

Bald & Golden Eagles

There are no documented cases of eagles being present at this location. However, if you believe eagles may be using your site, please reach out to the local Fish and Wildlife Service office.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Managment https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
 https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds
 https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf

What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u> and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (<u>Eagle Act</u> requirements may apply). To see a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the <u>Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool</u>.

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS <u>Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC)</u> and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

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

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

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the <u>Eagle Act</u> should such impacts occur. Please contact your local Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office if you have questions.

Migratory birds

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

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

- 1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
- 2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

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

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

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

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

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

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS <u>Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC)</u> and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

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

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

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

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

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

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

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to <u>obtain a permit</u> to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

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

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the <u>National Wildlife Refuge</u> system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to <u>NWI wetlands</u> and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local <u>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District</u>.

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

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

Data limitations

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

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

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

Data exclusions

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

Data precautions

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

OTFOR

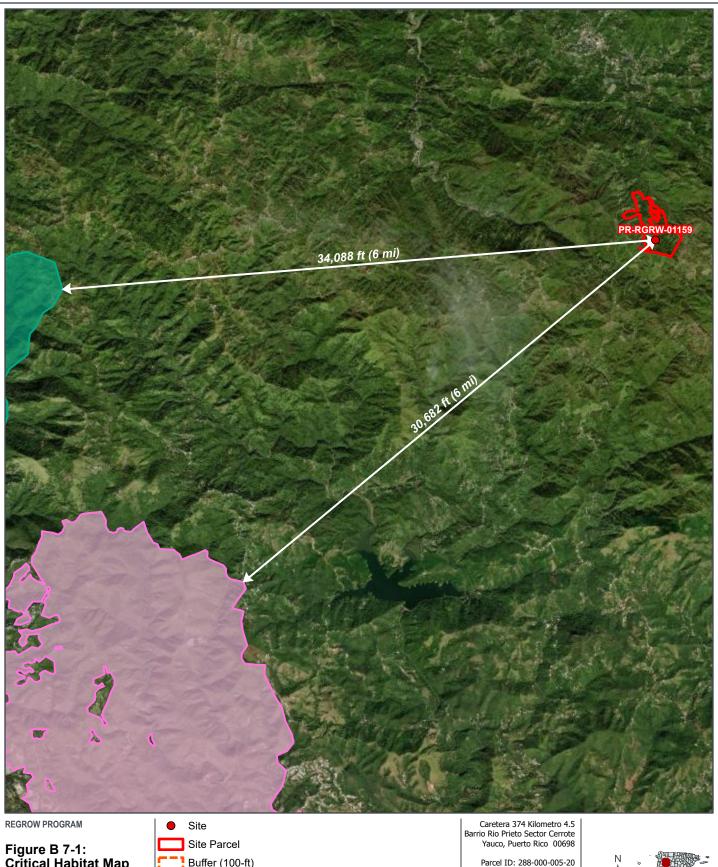


Figure B 7-1: Critical Habitat Map

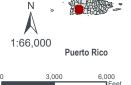
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01159



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

Parcel ID: 288-000-005-20 Parcel Center: 66.872399°W 18.122938°N

Data Source: https://services.arcgis. com/QVENGdaPbd4LUkLV/arcgis/ rest/services/USFWS_Critical_Habitat/ Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online. accessed May 2023 Updated: 5/26/2023 Layout: Critical Habitat Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps



____Meter 1,760

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? ☑ No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.
	☐ Yes → Continue to Question 3.
3.	Within 1 mile of the project site, are there any current <i>or planned</i> stationary aboveground storage 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?
	\square No \Rightarrow 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.
	\square Yes \rightarrow Continue to Question 4.
	4. 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 expanding on a previously built warehouse. The project itself is not the development of a hazardous facility nor will the project increase residential densities. Project activities are therefore an exempt activity. No further evaluation is required.

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 → Continue to Question 2.
	⊠ No
	ightarrow 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 not exempt it from FPPA requirements) Contact NRCS at the local USDA service center
	 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
	□ No → 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 → Continue to Question 3.
3.	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.

→ 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.

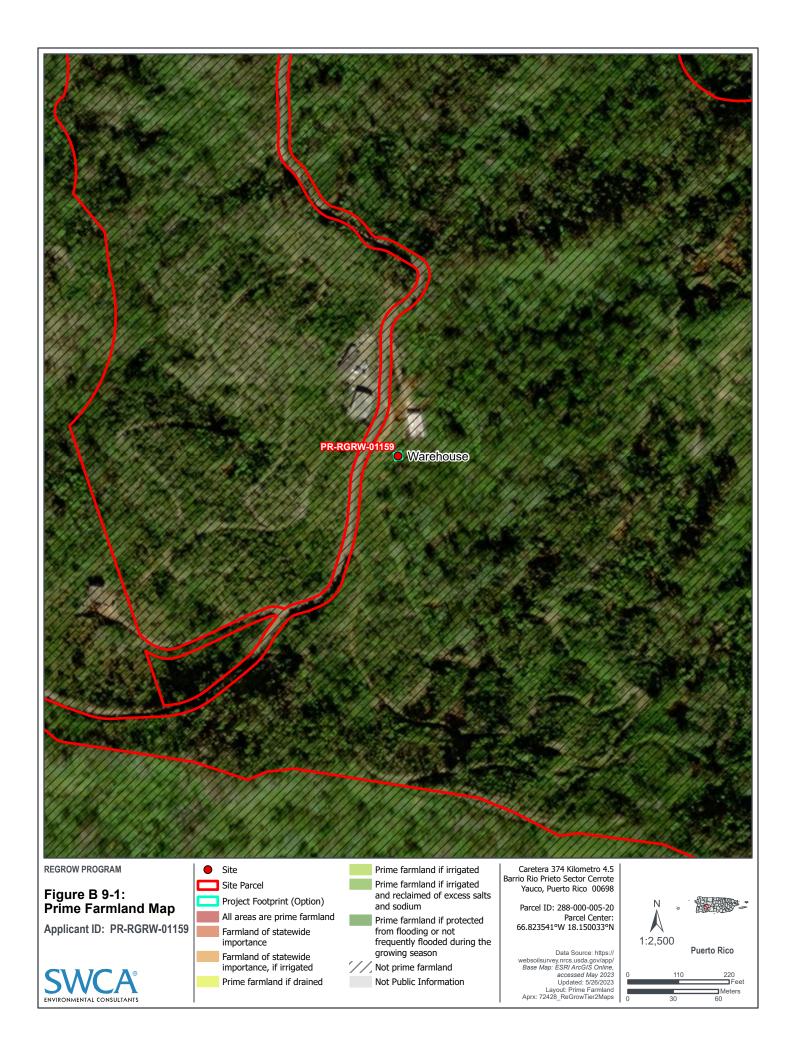
Worksheet Summary

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. No prime farmland or farmlands of statewide importance are within the project area. Although 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.



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

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/floodplain-management

1.	 Does <u>24 CFR 55.12(c)</u> exempt this project from compliance with HUD's floodplain management regulations 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.		
	→ 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.		
	\boxtimes No \rightarrow Continue to Question 2.		
2.	Provide a FEMA/FIRM map showing the site. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The <u>FEMA Map</u> <u>Service Center</u> provides this information in the form of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).		
	Does your project occur in a floodplain? ⊠ No → Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.		
	 ☐ Yes Select the applicable floodplain using the FEMA map or the best available information: ☐ Floodway → Continue to Question 3, Floodways 		
	☐ Coastal High Hazard Area (V Zone) → Continue to Question 4, Coastal High Hazard Areas		
	☐ 500-year floodplain (B Zone or shaded X Zone) → Continue to Question 5, 500-year Floodplains		
	☐ 100-year floodplain (A Zone) → 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. → Continue to Worksheet Summary.
	\square No \Rightarrow 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 → 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)). → Continue to Question 6. 8-Stan Process
	→ 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. → Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process
5.	500-year Floodplain
	Is this a critical action?
	□ No → 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 → 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. → 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.
	→ 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.

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

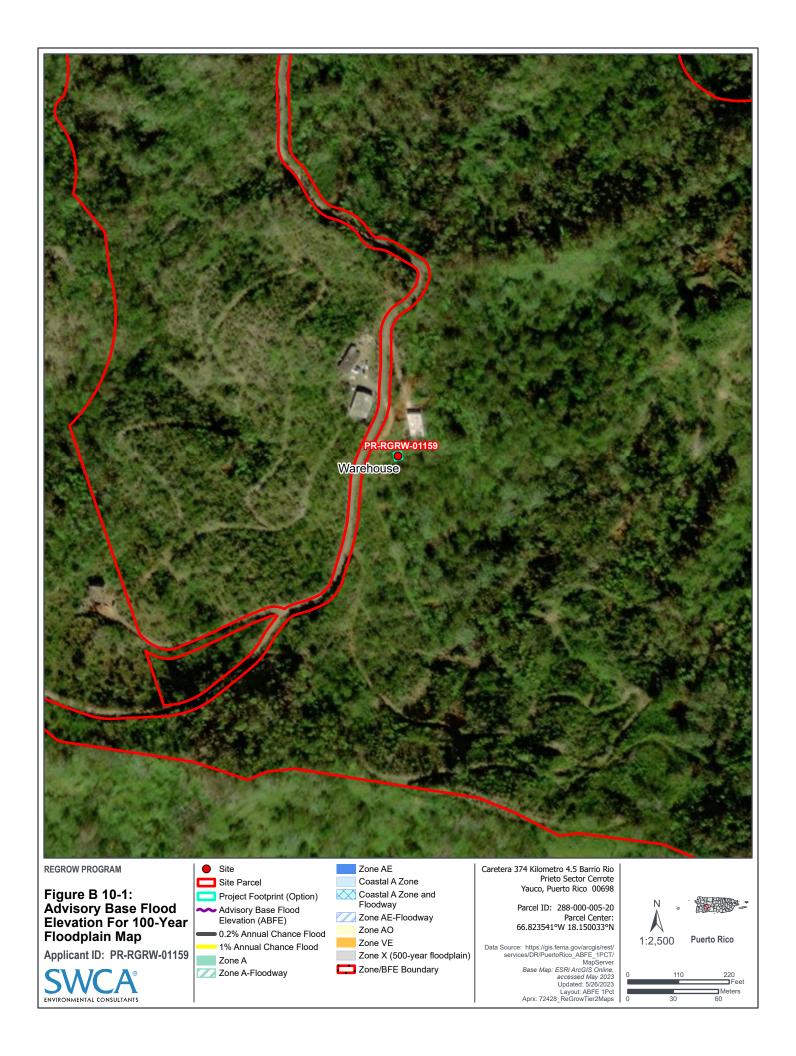
Worksheet Summary

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 72000C1065J (effective date 11/18/2009), 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.



Attachment 11

Historic Preservation Partner Worksheet, SHPO Consultation, Historic Property Map, and Cultural 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.

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: Click here to enter text.

 \rightarrow 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.

The proposed project is located on a 9.71-acre parcel (Castradal Number 288-000-005-20) at Carretera 374 KM 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote, Yauco, PR 00698. The applicant has identified one location for project activities related for the Intended Use of Grant Funds that are being evaluated under this Environmental Assessment, also shown on Figures 1 and 2:

- Warehouse Location (18.150033, -66.823541) is in the eastern portion of the parcel, near the central roadway.
- 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 concrete base plus a 15-meter
 horizontal buffer to allow for some variation in 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.

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 within a half-mile (mi) radius of the project location. A potentially significant aboveground cultural property has been identified within the review radius, discussed in the following section. One archaeological evaluation (SHPO 07-11-16-01) associated with ICP YA-26 has been conducted within the half mile review area, which is also discussed below.

The proposed project is in a rural area of Yauco, directly south of Rio Prieto. It is in the southwestern foothills of the central mountains, at an elevation of 2,572 ft (ft; approx. 900 meters [m]) above mean sea level (amsl) at the warehouse site. The general project area is situated on a southeast-facing mountain slope with residential structures present to the northeast and northwest. The surrounding area is mountainous with dense secondary tropical forest and vegetation. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses one mapped soils series: MkF – Maricao clay, 20 to 60 percent slopes. The APE crosses one additional mapped soil series as well: AbF – Agueybana clay, 12 to percent slopes. The closest freshwater source per USGS water data files is the Rio Guayo, located about 2,117 ft (645 m) east of the warehouse project area. The south coast is approximately 11 mi (17.7 km) from the project area.

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 Hacienda Arbela (Grillasca de Yauco) is approximately 0.42 miles to the north of the project site. "Hacienda Arbela was established by Domingo Mariani Dominicci (1815-1902) when he separated a land of 471 cuerdas from his Hacienda Santa Clara, which already at that date consisted of approximately 1,400 cuerdas. Arbela was Mariani Dominicci's wedding gift to his eldest daughter, Maria degli Angeli, Mariani Mariani (1872-) when she married the Corsican José María Trani Dragoni (1856-1919) on July 19, 1889. The years following Hurricane San Ciriaco in 1899 until Trani Dragoni's death in 1919 were marred by financial difficulties that culminated, among other legal issues, in a 1925 foreclosure action filed by Banco Crédito y Ahorro Ponceño evidenced by information in the Trani Family Documents Collection at the University of Puerto Rico Library. Already widowed, Angela relied heavily on the advice of her deceased husband's relative (son of Francisco Grillasca Dragoni), eventual mayor of Ponce Andrés Grillasca Salas (1888-1973) who was married to Angela Trani Mariani (1895-1992) and who financed the operation of the Arbela for some years after Trani Dragoni's feat. After a series of court battles, Hacienda Arbela passed from the estate of José Maria Trani Dragoni ca. 1928 to Andrés Grillasca Salas and became known as Hacienda Grillasca... Andrés Grillasca Salas owned and operated Hacienda Arbela until the 1960s, when most of his land was sold to the Government of Puerto Rico, segregated, and distributed in "parcels" to local residents. In 1978 the owner of what remained was José Vera, owner of the processing

facilities and 22 cuerdas of the approximately 1,000 that at one point formed the hacienda." (Hacienda Arbela / Grillasca de Yauco – Official Directory of Puerto Rico (aquiestapr.com). The buildings on the site date from 1932, as the previous buildings burned in a fire. This Hacienda has not been listed in the National Register yet but should be studied further for consideration. The number assigned to the property by SHPO isYU0100022, and the number assigned by ICP is YA-26.

SHPO has recorded information on the Hacienda in 1977, 1987, and 2016. Pumarada in 1987 stated "Even though its structures date from c1932, the magnificent conditions in which its owner preserves this hacienda, and its machinery make it one of the most important in the region. The association that the figures Luis had with it also adds importance. Muñoz Marín, Andrés Grillasca, and Domingo Mariani. A way must be found so that this farm can continue to be preserved as it has been until now. A remedy must be sought for the insufficient motive water that prevents the economical processing of coffee." The survey in 2016 was numbered Código SHPO 07-11-16-01. No other surveys have been recorded in the area.

The project area is in a rural area of Yauco, directly south of Rio Prieto. The area is mountainous with dense tropical vegetation. The project site sits on the downward slope of a mountain, with some housing to the northwest and one residence to the northeast. Historic aerials from 1959 (https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer) show one building to the west of the project site but it is not visible from the project site. This building disappears off the 1993 Google Earth aerial. The project site holds one house, the owner's house, which has a date of construction from the owner of 2010 which appears consistent with the form and construction materials used. Other buildings on the site include chicken coops, sheds, an outdoor kitchen, and the warehouse that will be expanded. As the project site sits on the downward slope of a ridge side and is surrounded by dense vegetation, the project site will not be visible from Hacienda Arbela. Houses to the south and west also will not see the site due to dense vegetation and the elevation of the site.

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, <u>Guidance on Archeological Investigations in HUD Projects</u>.

\square Yes \rightarrow Provide survey(s) and	report(s) and continue to Step 3.
Additional notes:	
Click here to enter text.	
\boxtimes No \rightarrow 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:

 \boxtimes 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:

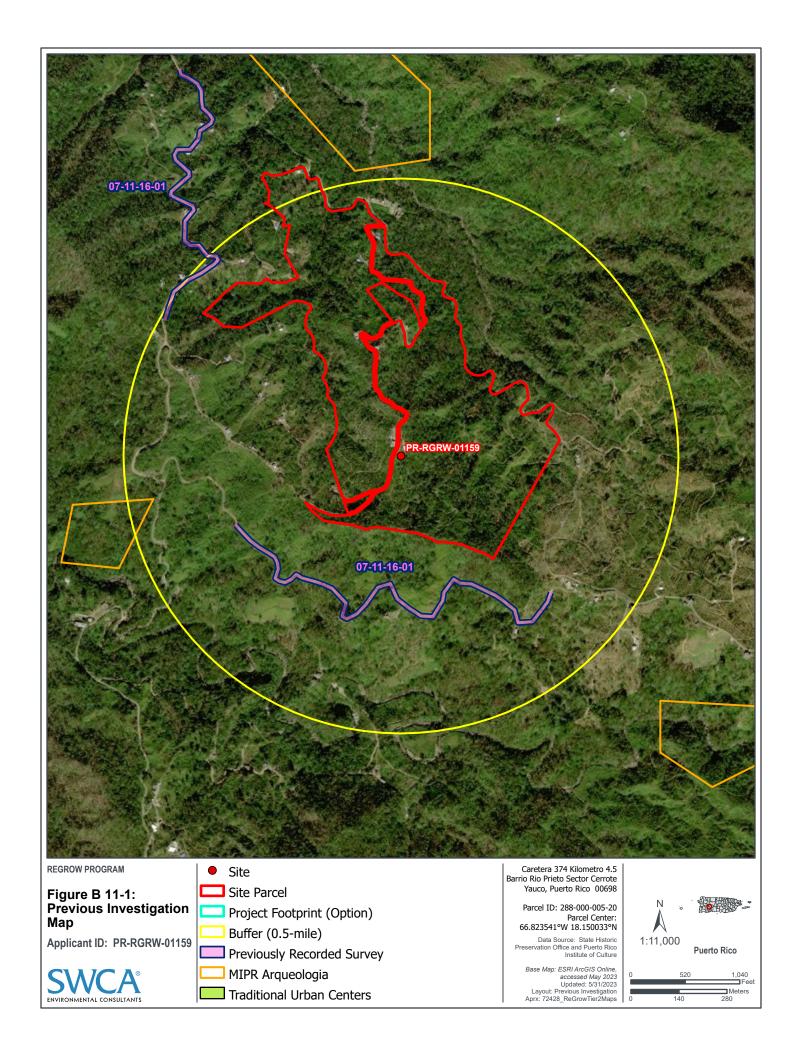
Comments may include recommendations for avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation. The project will involve new construction of a warehouse on an undeveloped property and significant ground disturbing activities of previously undisturbed soil. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consultation was performed.

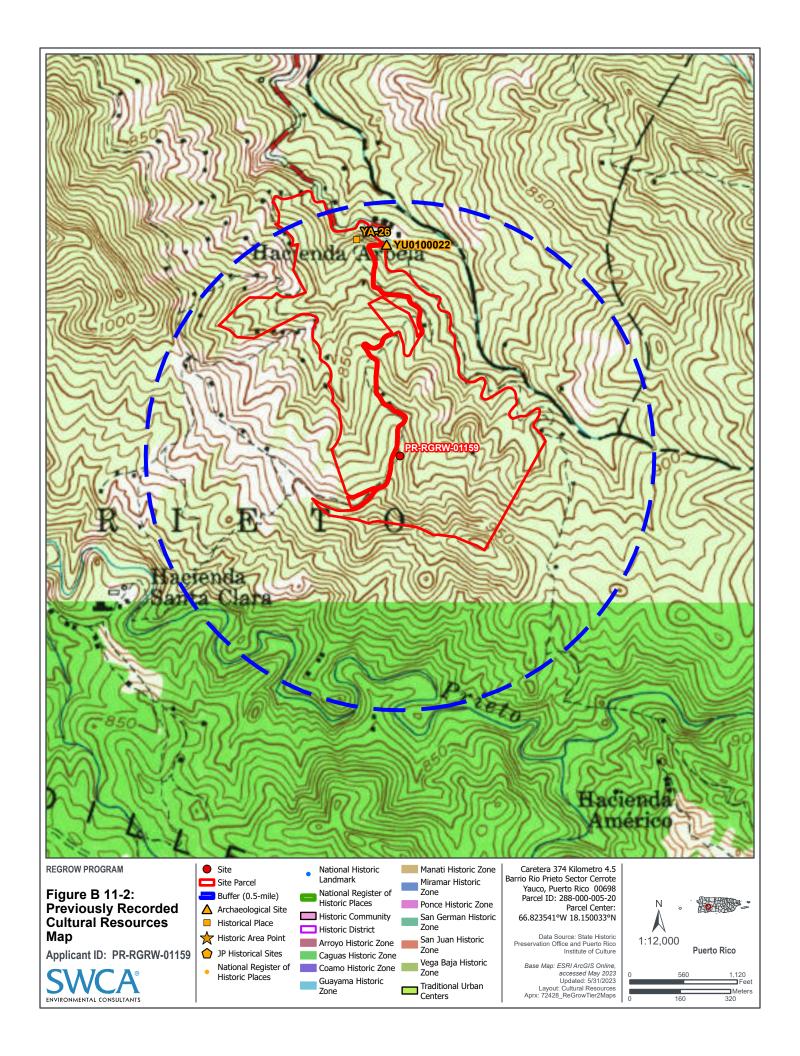
No National Historic Landmark (NHL) are within or near the project area.

A site visit was conducted on May 16, 2023 by an SOI-qualified Archaeologist. Record reviews and research were conducted at the SHPO and the Institute for Puerto Rican Culture (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 June 20, 2023, and SHPO concurred with the No Historic Properties Affected determination on August 8, 2023. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.

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

August 4, 2023

Lauren Bair Poche

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

SHPO: 07-24-23-01 PUERTO RICO DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR RE-GROW PR URBAN-RURAL AGRICULTURAL RE-GROW PROGRAM, PR-RGRW-01159, OMAYRA SAMBOLÍN BORRERO, PR-374 KM 4.5 BO. RÍO PRIETO, SECTOR CERROTE, YAUCO, PUERTO RICO

Dear Ms. Poche,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/LGC





July 21, 2023

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela Director Ejecutivo Oficina Estatal de Conservación Histórica Cuartel de Ballajá (Tercer Piso) San Juan, PR 00902-3935

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

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-01159 – Omayra Sambolin Borrero – Carretera 374 KM 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote Itosano, Yauco, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected*

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela.

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

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, we are submitting documentation for activities proposed by Omayra Sambolin Borrero in Bo. Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote at Carr. 374 Km 4.5 in the municipality of Yauco. The proposed activities of Atabey LLC consist of the purchase of various tools, farm equipment, including a lawn mower and utility vehicle, and materials to be used to replace and expand an existing 8 foot (ft) by 10 ft (80 square feet [sq. ft]) warehouse. The warehouse expansion will include the reinstallation of underground electricity and water connections to the warehouse. Previous electrical and water connections to the warehouse were damaged during the Hurricanes and therefore, need to be reinstalled. The expanded warehouse footprint will be 15 ft by 15 ft (225 sq. ft) and will replace the existing 8 ft by 10 ft warehouse. The warehouse will be used to store tools, produce, and other equipment. The warehouse will be built on a platform, due to the steep slope, posts to support the platform will be secured by concrete footers extending 2 ft deep into the ground. No tree clearing is required for construction. However, the project will include ground disturbance associated with the installation of concrete footers as well as the underground water and electrical connections. The water connection will be to the existing well on the property. Electrical connection to the warehouse will be an underground connection to an existing utility pole up-slope from the warehouse location.



The ground disturbance associated with the water and electrical connections are assumed not to exceed 6 ft in depth. The slope is estimated to exceed 25% grade as construction will take place on a hillside, some evidence of rill erosion is present, however the project location is currently developed and will replace the existing warehouse structure.

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, Historic Preservation Senior Manager

Attachments

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Applicant: Omayra Sambolin Borrero

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01159 City: Yauco

Project Location: Carretera 374 KM 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote, Yauco, PR 00698

Project Coordinates (as provided by the applicant during field visit):

Warehouse CenterPoint: 18.150033, -66.823541

TPID (Número de Catastro): 288-000-005-20

Type of Undertaking:

☐ Substantial Repair/Improvements

Construction Date (AH est.): Owners House: ca. | Property Size (acres): Total Parcel: 117.39 acres

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

2010; shed/kitchen/warehouse: ca. 2010 Warehouse: 225 sq. ft. (0.005 acre)

SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian: Erin Edwards

Date Reviewed: June 7, 2023

SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Delise Torres-Ortiz and Rob Lackowicz

Date Reviewed: June 9, 2023

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 purchase of various tools, farm equipment, including a lawn mower and utility vehicle, and materials to be used to replace and expand an existing 8 foot (ft) by 10 ft (80 square feet [sq. ft]) warehouse. The warehouse expansion will include the reinstallation of underground electricity and water connections to the warehouse. Previous electrical and water connections to the warehouse were damaged during the Hurricanes and therefore, need to be reinstalled.

The expanded warehouse footprint will be 15 ft by 15 ft (225 sq. ft) and will replace the existing 8 ft by 10 ft warehouse. The warehouse will be used to store tools, produce, and other equipment. The warehouse will be built on a platform, due to the steep slope, posts to support the platform will be secured by concrete footers extending 2 ft deep into the ground. No tree clearing is required for construction. However, the project will include ground disturbance associated with the installation of concrete footers as well as the underground water and electrical connections. The water connection will be to the existing well on the property. Electrical connection to the warehouse will be an underground connection to an existing utility pole up-slope from the warehouse location.

Applicant: Omayra Sambolin Borrero Case ID: PR-RGRW-01159 City: Yauco	
	• •
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
ReGrow Puerto Rico Program	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM	

The ground disturbance associated with the water and electrical connections are assumed not to exceed 6 ft in depth. The slope is estimated to exceed 25% grade as construction will take place on a hillside, some evidence of rill erosion is present, however the project location is currently developed and will replace the existing warehouse structure. The applicant owns the property; therefore, no acquisition is required. The project site is accessible via an unpaved access road to the property.

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 concrete base plus a 15-meter horizontal buffer to allow for some variation in 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 within a half-mile (mi) radius of the project location. A potentially significant aboveground cultural property has been identified within the review radius, discussed in the following section. One archaeological evaluation (SHPO 07-11-16-01) associated with ICP YA-26 has been conducted within the half mile review area, which is also discussed below.

The proposed project is in a rural area of Yauco, directly south of Rio Prieto. It is in the southwestern foothills of the central mountains, at an elevation of 2,572 ft (ft; approx. 900 meters [m]) above mean sea level (amsl) at the warehouse site. The general project area is situated on a southeast-facing mountain slope with residential structures present to the northeast and northwest. The surrounding area is mountainous with dense secondary tropical forest and vegetation. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses one mapped soils series: MkF – Maricao clay, 20 to 60 percent slopes. The APE crosses one additional mapped soil series as well: AbF – Agueybana clay, 12 to percent slopes. The closest freshwater source per USGS water data files is the Rio Guayo, located about 2,117 ft

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: Omayra Sambolin Borrero	,
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01159	City: Yauco

(645 m) east of the warehouse project area. The south coast is approximately 11 mi (17.7 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 Hacienda Arbela (Grillasca de Yauco) is approximately 0.42 miles to the north of the project site. "Hacienda Arbela was established by Domingo Mariani Dominicci (1815-1902) when he separated a land of 471 cuerdas from his Hacienda Santa Clara, which already at that date consisted of approximately 1,400 cuerdas. Arbela was Mariani Dominicci's wedding gift to his eldest daughter, Maria degli Angeli, Mariani Mariani (1872-) when she married the Corsican José María Trani Dragoni (1856-1919) on July 19, 1889. The years following Hurricane San Ciriaco in 1899 until Trani Dragoni's death in 1919 were marred by financial difficulties that culminated, among other legal issues, in a 1925 foreclosure action filed by Banco Crédito y Ahorro Ponceño evidenced by information in the Trani Family Documents Collection at the University of Puerto Rico Library. Already widowed, Angela relied heavily on the advice of her deceased husband's relative (son of Francisco Grillasca Dragoni), eventual mayor of Ponce Andrés Grillasca Salas (1888-1973) who was married to Angela Trani Mariani (1895-1992) and who financed the operation of the Arbela for some years after Trani Dragoni's feat. After a series of court battles, Hacienda Arbela passed from the estate of José Maria Trani Dragoni ca. 1928 to Andrés Grillasca Salas and became known as Hacienda Grillasca... Andrés Grillasca Salas owned and operated Hacienda Arbela until the 1960s, when most of his land was sold to the Government of Puerto Rico, segregated, and distributed in "parcels" to local residents. In 1978 the owner of what remained was José Vera, owner of the processing facilities and 22 cuerdas of the approximately 1,000 that at one point formed the hacienda." (Hacienda Arbela / Grillasca de Yauco – Official Directory of Puerto Rico (aquiestapr.com). The buildings on the site date from 1932, as the previous buildings burned in a fire. This Hacienda has not been listed in the National Register yet but should be studied further for consideration. The number assigned to the property by SHPO is YU0100022, and the number assigned by ICP is YA-26.

SHPO has recorded information on the Hacienda in 1977, 1987, and 2016. Pumarada in 1987 stated "Even though its structures date from c1932, the magnificent conditions in which its owner preserves this hacienda, and its machinery make it one of the most important in the region. The association that the figures Luis had with it also adds importance. Muñoz Marín,

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: Omayra Sambolin Borrero	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01159	City: Yauco

Andrés Grillasca, and Domingo Mariani. A way must be found so that this farm can continue to be preserved as it has been until now. A remedy must be sought for the insufficient motive water that prevents the economical processing of coffee." The survey in 2016 was numbered Código SHPO 07-11-16-01. No other surveys have been recorded in the area.

The project area is in a rural area of Yauco, directly south of Rio Prieto. The area is mountainous with dense tropical vegetation. The project site sits on the downward slope of a mountain, with some housing to the northwest and one residence to the northeast. Historic aerials from 1959 (https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer) show one building to the west of the project site but it is not visible from the project site. This building disappears off the 1993 Google Earth aerial. The project site holds one house, the owner's house, which has a date of construction from the owner of 2010 which appears consistent with the form and construction materials used. Other buildings on the site include chicken coops, sheds, an outdoor kitchen, and the warehouse that will be expanded. As the project site sits on the downward slope of a ridge side and is surrounded by dense vegetation, the project site will not be visible from Hacienda Arbela. Houses to the south and west also will not see the site due to dense vegetation and the elevation of the site.

Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

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-RGRW-01159 is located. Although Rio Guayo is just over 0.6 km from the site location, proposed activity will impact a very small area (0.005 acre) in a location that has been previously modified by clearing, grading and previous site development using private funds have impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no impact to cultural properties is anticipated for this reconstruction project.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM	
REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Applicant: Omayra Sambolin Borrero	,
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01159	City: Yauco

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	ne
following determination is appropriate for the undertaking (Choose One):	

☑ No Historic Properties Affected	
□ No Adverse Effect	
Condition (if applicable):	
□ Adverse Effect	
Proposed Resolution (if appliable)	

This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

initial and the second		
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-01159 City: Yauco

Project (Parcel) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial) Warehouse Caretera 374 Kilometro 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote Yauco, Puerto Rico 00698 REGROW PROGRAM Site Project Location Area of Potential Effects (APE) Map ☐ Site Parcel Parcel ID: 288-000-005-20 Project Footprint (Option) Parcel Center: 66.823541°W 18.150033°N APE (Buffer (15-meters)) Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01159 1:1,700 **SWCA**

Layout: APE Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps



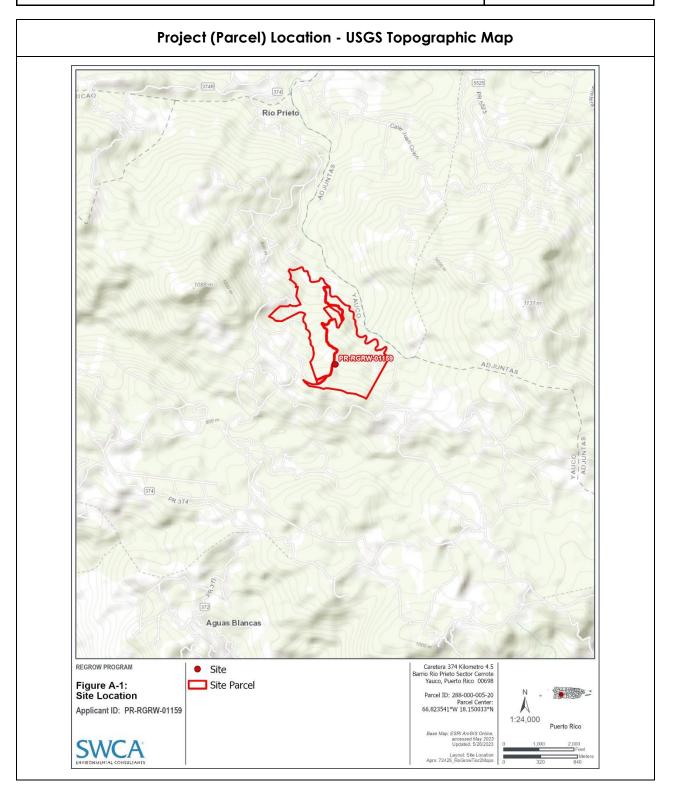
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01159 City: Yauco

Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map Caretera 374 Kilometro 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote Yauco, Puerto Rico 00698 REGROW PROGRAM Site Parcel Figure A-2: Site Vicinity Parcel ID: 288-000-005-20 Parcel Center: 66.824081°W 18.152479°N Project Footprint (Option) Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01159 **SWCA** Layout: Site Vicinity Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps

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



Applicant: Omayra Sambolin Borrero

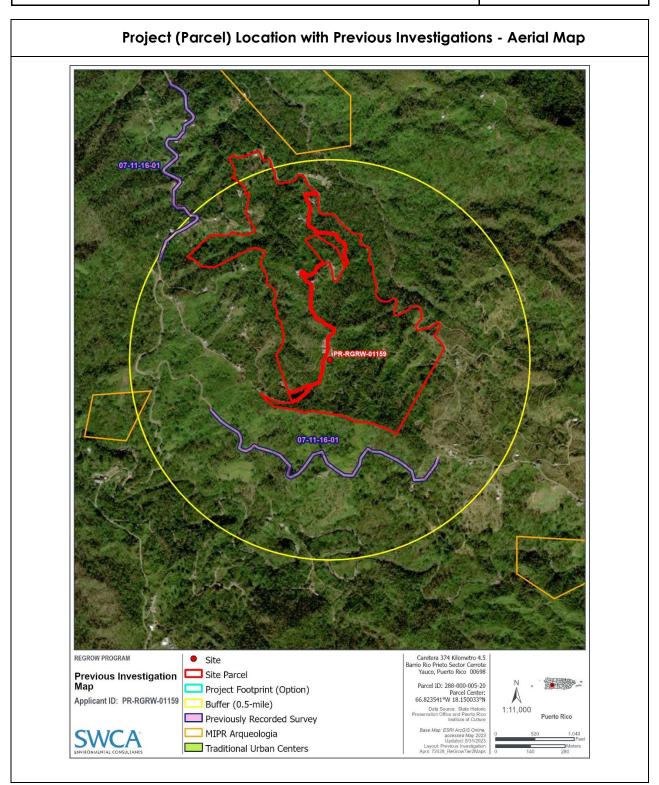




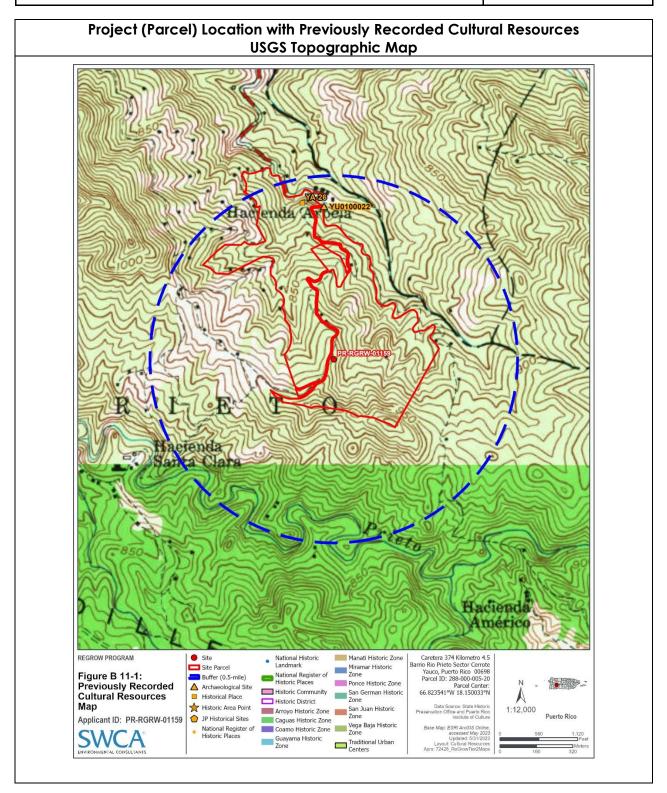
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01159 City: Yauco

Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map Mapunit Symbol Mapunit Name AbF Agueybana clay, 12 to 60 percent slopes Cuchillas silty clay loam, 20 to 60 percent slopes CvF Maricao clay, 20 to 60 percent slopes MkF 159 Warehouse Caretera 374 Kilometro 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote Yauco, Puerto Rico 00698 REGROW PROGRAM Site ☐ Site Parcel **USDA Soils Map** Project Footprint (Option) Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01159 Parcel Center: 66.823541°W 18.150033°N Soil Mapunit **SWCA**





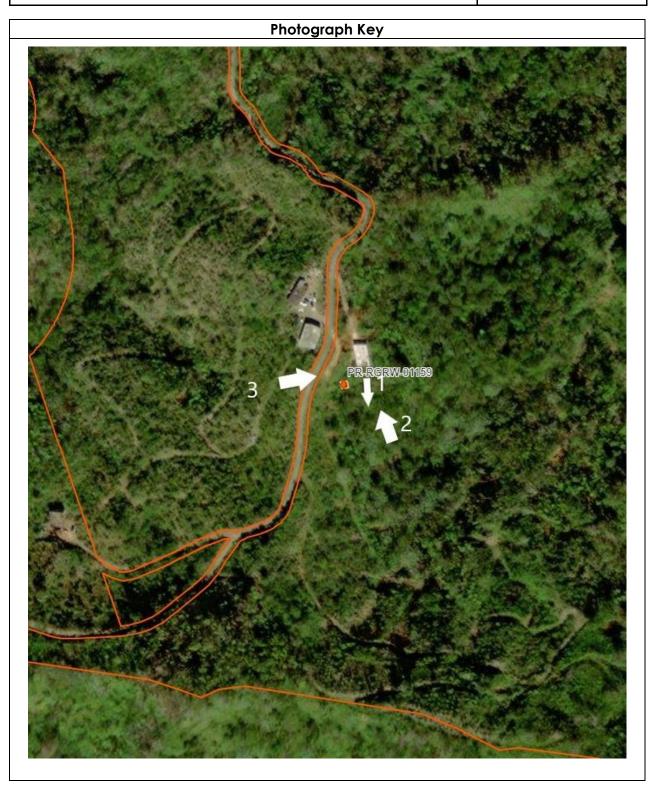




PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Applicant: Omayra Sambolin Borrero



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



Applicant: Omayra Sambolin Borrero

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01159 City: Yauco

Photo #:

Date:

01

5/16/2023

Photo Direction:

Southwest

Description:

Overview of the site location for an extension of a warehouse/shed from 8x10ft to 15x15ft. It shows the applicant opening the structure surrounded by steep terrain and animal crates.



Photo #:

Date:

02

5/16/2023

Photo Direction:

North

Description:

North facing overview of the site location for an extension of a warehouse/shed from 8x10ft to 15x15ft. Also depicted is the water pipe, a chicken coop, the applicant's house, a kitchen for the farm workers, another animal crate, and the landscape and vegetation.



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Case ID: PR-RGRW-01159 City: Yauco

Photo #: Date: 03 5/16/ 2023

Photo Direction:

South

Description:

This picture depicts the applicant's residence, which is the only structure inside her property after segregating the land, built around the mid-2010s.



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

Attachment 12 Wetlands Protection Partner Worksheet and Wetland 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

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

<u>µs./</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. Click here to enter text.

- → 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.

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

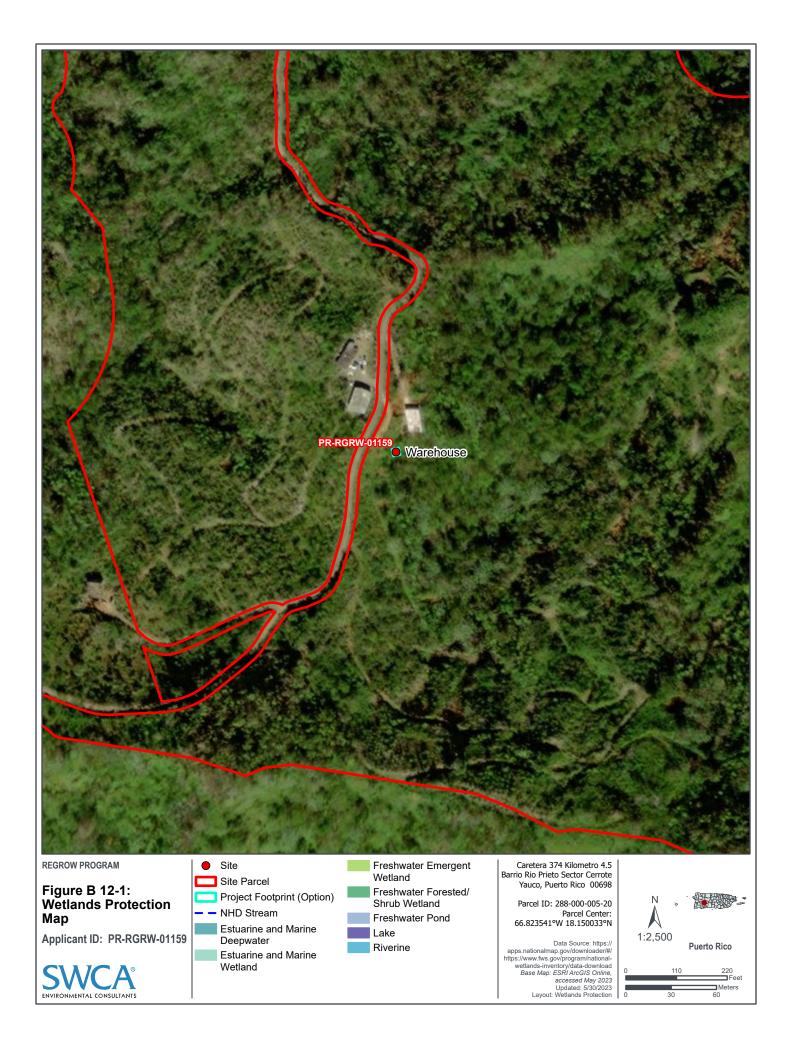
Worksheet Summary

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.

The project site was reviewed for wetlands using the USFWS Wetland Inventory Mapper and a visual confirmation during the field site inspection. No wetlands were determined to be present on site. The project is in compliance with this section. No further evaluation is required.



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/environmental-review/wild-and-scenic-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 pr	oject	is in	proximity of	of a Nationwide	Rivers I	nventory ((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

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 Yauco Municipio. The closest Wild and Scenic River segment is located 69 miles from the project site. The project is in compliance with this section. No further evaluation is required.

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required						
\square Yes						
⊠ No						

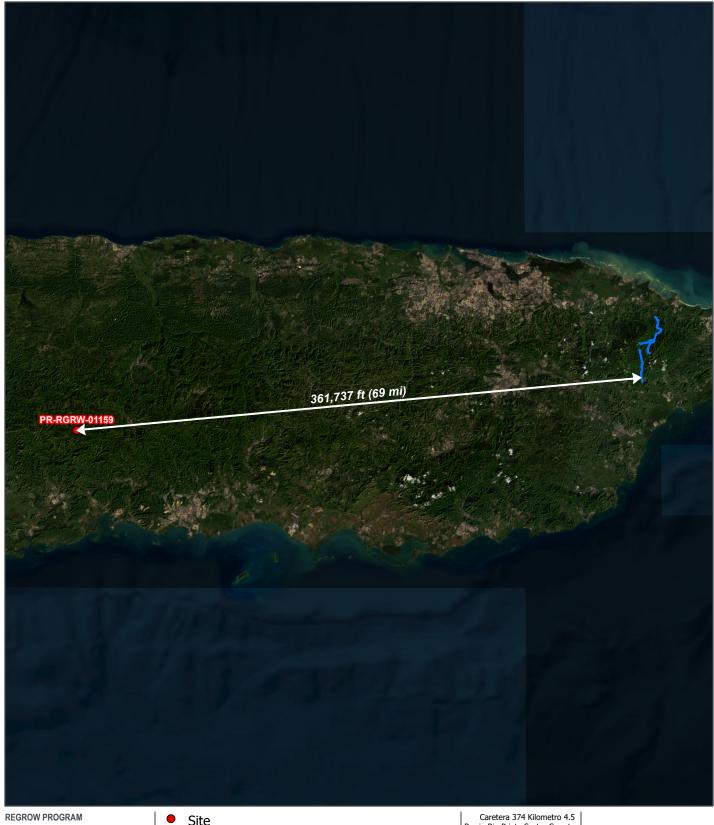


Figure B 13-1: National Wild and Scenic River Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01159

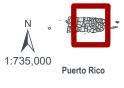


National Wild and Scenic River

Caretera 374 Kilometro 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote Yauco, Puerto Rico 00698

> Parcel ID: 288-000-005-20 Parcel Center: 66.30474°W 18.196405°N

Data Source: https://apps.fs.usda.gov/ arcx/rest/services/EDW/ EDW_WildScenicRiverSegments, 01/ MapServer Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed May 2023 Updated: 5/30/2023 Layout: Wild and Scenic Rivers





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.
 - ⊠No → 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.

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 would not facilitate development that would negatively affect human health or result in disproportionate adverse environmental impacts to low-income or minority populations.

6/5/23, 3:45 PM EJScreen Report



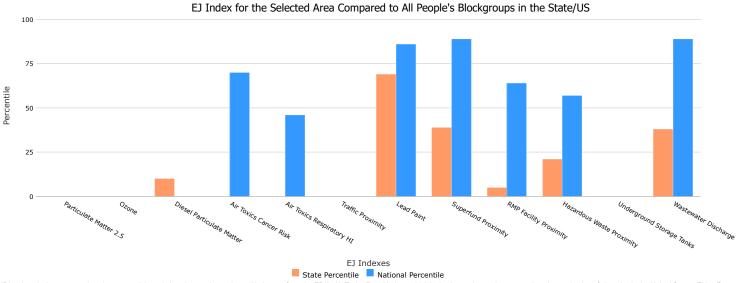


EJScreen Report (Version 2.11)

1 mile Ring around the Corridor PUERTO RICO, EPA Region 2 Approximate Population: 359 Input Area (sq. miles): 5.45 PR-RGRW-001159

Selected Variables	Percentile in State	Percentile in USA
Environmental Justice Indexes		
Particulate Matter 2.5 EJ Index	N/A	N/A
Ozone EJ Index	N/A	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter EJ Index*	10	0
Air Toxics Cancer Risk EJ Index*	0	70
Air Toxics Respiratory HI EJ Index*	0	46
Traffic Proximity EJ Index	0	0
Lead Paint EJ Index	69	86
Superfund Proximity EJ Index	39	89
RMP Facility Proximity EJ Index	5	64
Hazardous Waste Proximity EJ Index	21	57
Underground Storage Tanks EJ Index	0	0
Wastewater Discharge EJ Index	38	89

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



*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 provide broad 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 figure and any additional significant figures here are due to rounding. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update. (https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update)

6/5/23, 3:45 PM EJScreen Report



Sites reporting to EPA				
Superfund NPL	0			
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities (TSDF)	0			

Colonted Verickles	Value	State		USA	
Selected Variables	Value	Avg.	%tile	Avg.	%tile
Pollution and Sources					
Particulate Matter 2.5 (µg/m³)	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.67	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	42.5	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter* (µg/m³)	0.0146	0.108	8	0.294	<50th
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	23	0	28	<50tl
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.2	0.21	0	0.36	<50tl
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	0.13	610	0	760	0
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.14	0.14	64	0.27	41
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.057	0.15	33	0.13	48
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.12	0.97	4	0.77	21
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.091	0.9	20	2.2	17
Underground Storage Tanks (∞unt/km²)	0	1.7	0	3.9	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.0011	5	41	12	50
Socioeconomic Indicators	·				
Demographic Index	95%	83%	84	35%	99
Supplemental Demographic Index	54%	44%	77	15%	99
People of Color	99%	99%	29	40%	96
Low Income	91%	72%	85	30%	99
Unemployment Rate	12%	15%	49	5%	87
Limited English Speaking	80%	68%	75	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	32%	22%	76	12%	92
Under Age 5	6%	4%	80	6%	62
Over Age 64	19%	20%	42	16%	65
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	-999999900%	N/A	20%	N/A

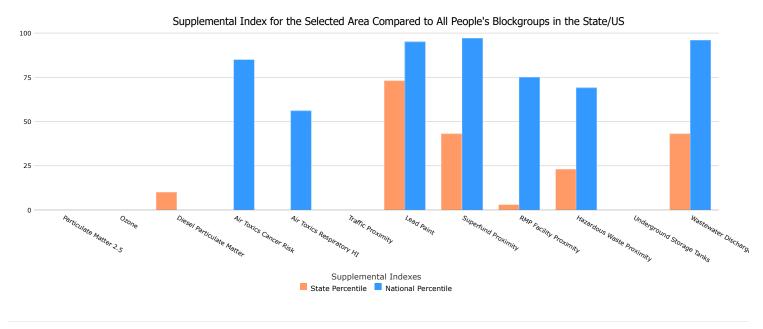
EJScreen is a screening tool for pre-decisional use only. It can help identify areas that may warrant additional consideration, analysis, or outreach. It does not provide a basis for decision-making, but it may help identify potential areas of EJ concern. Users should keep in mind that screening tools are subject to substantial uncertainty in their demographic and environmental data, particularly when looking at small geographic areas. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJScreen documentation for discussion of these issues before using

6/5/23, 3:45 PM EJScreen Report

reports. This screening tool does not provide data on every environmental impact and demographic factor that may be relevant to a particular location. EJScreen outputs should be supplemented with additional information and local knowledge before taking any action to address potential EJ concerns.

Selected Variables	Percentile in State	Percentile in USA			
Supplemental Indexes					
Particulate Matter 2.5 Supplemental Index	N/A	N/A			
Ozone Supplemental Index	N/A	N/A			
Diesel Particulate Matter Supplemental Index*	10	0			
Air Toxics Cancer Risk Supplemental Index*	0	85			
Air Toxics Respiratory HI Supplemental Index*	0	56			
Traffic Proximity Supplemental Index	0	0			
Lead Paint Supplemental Index	73	95			
Superfund Proximity Supplemental Index	43	97			
RMP Facility Proximity Supplemental Index	3	75			
Hazardous Waste Proximity Supplemental Index	23	69			
Underground Storage Tanks Supplemental Index	0	0			
Wastewater Discharge Supplemental Index	43	96			

Supplemental Indexes - The supplemental indexes offer a different perspective on community-level vulnerability. They combine data on low-income, limited English speaking, less than high school education, unemployed, and low life expectancy populations with a single environmental indicator.



This report shows the values for environmental and demographic indicators, EJScreen indexes, and supplemental indexes. It shows environmental and demographic raw data (e.g., the estimated concentration of ozone in the air), and also shows what percentile each raw data value represents. These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state, EPA region, or nation. For example, if a given location is at the 95th percentile nationwide, this means that only 5 percent of the US population has a higher block group value than the average person in the location being analyzed. The years for which the data are available, and the methods used, vary across these indicators. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJScreen documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports. For additional information, see: www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice

Appendix C Environmental Site Inspection Report





Applicant Name: Omayra Sambolín Borrero	Program ID: PR-RGRW-01159
Project Coordinates: 18.15015, -66.823387	Parcel ID: 288-000-005-20
Parcel Address: Carretera 374 KM 4.5 Barrio Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote	Municipio: Yauco
Zip Code: 00698	

Inspector Name: Delise Torres-Ortiz	Inspection Date: May 16 th , 2023
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General Site Conditions

Was property accessible by vehicle?	Yes	Comment:
Access issues?	Yes	Comment: Dogs, Locked gate, Traffic hazards (holes)
Are water wells present?	No	Comment:
Are creeks or ponds present?	Yes	Comment: An intermittent stream is present in the property.
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?	Yes	Comment: The area already has a warehouse in bad condition still in use. During Hurricane Maria and Fiona and Tropical Storm Isaias, this structure suffered considerable damage.
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.	No	Comment:





Are 55-gallon drums present? If Yes, also state condition.	No	Comment:	
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: The applicant residence is nearby.	





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

Delise Torres-Ortiz {Delise Torres-Ortiz} {May 15th, 2023}





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

Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote, Yauco, PR 00698

Photo #: 5/16/ 01 2023

Photo Direction: Southwest

Description:

This picture
overlooks the site
location for an
extension of a
warehouse/shed
8x10ft to 15x15ft. It
shows the applicant
opening the
structure
surrounded by
steep terrain and
animal crates.

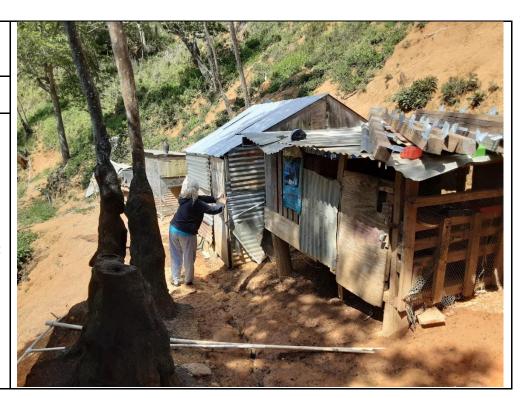


Photo #: Date: 5/16/ 02 2023

Photo Direction:

North

Description:

This picture overlooks the site location for an extension of a warehouse/shed 8x10ft to 15x15ft from the southern part; it shows the water pipe, a chicken coop, the warehouse/shed 8x10ft, a partial view of an animal crate and the applicant's residence, a wood structure used as a kitchen for the farm's workers and another animal crate (first floor), and the area's landscape and vegetation.



Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote, Yauco, PR 00698

Photo #: 03

Date: 5/16/ 2023

Photo Direction: West (top)

Description:

This picture shows the inside of the warehouse/shed, 8x10ft, which is proposed to be rebuilt or expanded to 15x15ft, specifically the ceiling and the walls, taken from the northeast corner of the structure.



Photo #: 04

Date: 5/16/ 2023

Photo Direction: West (bottom)

Description:

This picture shows the inside of the warehouse/shed 8x10ft that is proposed to be rebuilt or extended to 15x15ft, specifically the door and the platform (which will be remade using concrete), taken from the northeast corner of the structure.



Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote, Yauco, PR 00698

Photo #: 05

Date: 5/16/ 2023

Photo Direction:

Southwest

Description:

This picture overviews the northeast corner of the project location for an extension 15x15ft, showing the vegetation, an animal crate, the warehouse/shed 8x10ft, and a chicken coop.

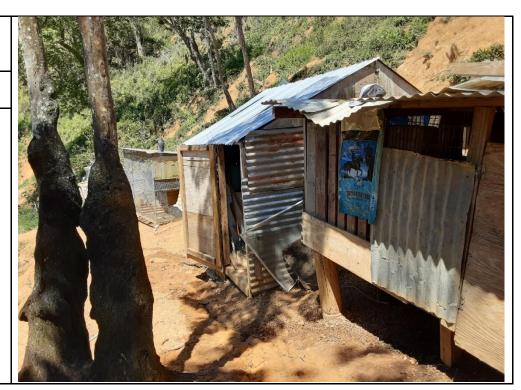


Photo #: 06

Date: 5/16/ 2023

Photo Direction:

Northeast

Description:

This picture overviews the southeast corner of the site location for an extension of a warehouse/shed from 8x10ft to 15x15ft; it also shows the chicken coop, the warehouse (middle), a partial view of the animal crate, and the applicant's residence, a wood structure from where the applicant plans to connect the electricity and the landscape of the site location.



Photo #: 07

Date: 5/16/ 2023

Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote, Yauco, PR 00698

Photo Direction:North

Description:

This picture is an overview taken from the center of the site location for a warehouse/shed 8x10ft to 15x15ft, and it shows farm equipment (mostly cages) and the southern portion of the structure.



Photo #: 08

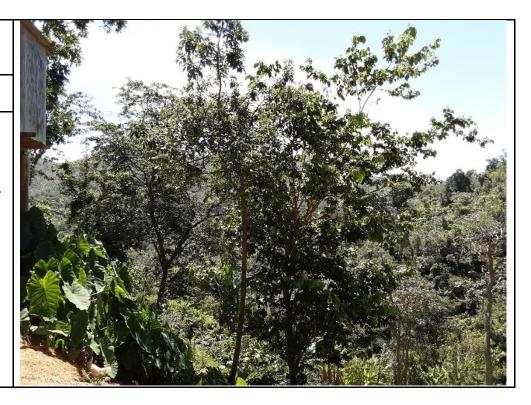
Date: 5/16/ 2023

Photo Direction:

East

Description:

This picture is an overview taken from the center of the site location for a warehouse/shed 8x10ft to 15x15ft, and it shows a partial view of the wood structure used as a kitchen for the farm workers and the area's vegetation.



Project #: PR-RGRW-01159 Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carretera 374 KM 4.5 Barrio
Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote, Yauco, PR 00698

Photo #: 09

Date: 5/16/ 2023

Photo Direction: South

Description:

This picture is an overview taken from the center of the site location for a warehouse/shed 8x10ft to 15x15ft, and it shows the area's vegetation and steep landscape, one of the farm access roads, and the chicken coop.



Photo #: 10 **Date:** 5/16/ 2023

Photo Direction:

West

Description:

This picture is an overview taken from the center of the site location for a warehouse/shed 8x10ft to 15x15ft, and it shows the area's vegetation and steep landscape, one of the farm access roads, a partial view of the chicken coop, and farm equipment.



Photo #: 11 **Date:** 5/16/ 2023

Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote, Yauco, PR 00698

Photo Direction: Southeast

Description:

This picture overlooks the area where the applicant signaled to be an intermittent stream that is planned to be used in the crops (see the darkest vegetation).



Photo #: 12 **Date:** 5/16/ 2023

Photo Direction:

East

Description:

This picture overviews the primary electrical source where the applicant plans to connect the extension of the proposed warehouse/shed 15x15ft from a pole.



Photo #: 5/16/ 2023

Rio Prieto Sector Cerrote, Yauco, PR 00698

Photo Direction: East, Close-up

Description:

This picture overviews the primary water source where the applicant plans to connect the extension of the proposed warehouse/shed 15x15ft underground. The water comes from a community water well outside the applicant's property.



Photo #: 5/16/ 2023

Photo Direction: South

Description:

This picture presents the applicant's residence, which is the only structure inside her property after segregating the land, built around the mid-2010s.

