

Environmental Assessment

Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects

24 CFR Part 58

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-04180

Project Name: Agrofloresta Inc.

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico / San Germán, PR

Preparer: Patricia Carmenatty

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Permit and Environmental Compliance Officers: Sally Acevedo Cosme, Pedro de León Rodríguez, Ivelisse Lorenzo, Janette Cambrelen, Santa Ramirez, Limary Vélez Marrero, Juan Carlos Perez Bofill and Mónica Machuca Ríos. María T. Torres Bregon - Environmental Manager, Angel G. Lopez Guzman - Deputy Director

Consultant: Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

Direct Comments to: Puerto Rico Department of Housing:
(environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov)

Project Location:

Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo, San German, PR 00683

Livestock trapping location: latitude 18.125057 longitude -67.047860

Containers location: latitude 18.125584 longitude -67.046137

Parcel cadastral: 285-000-007-21; 310-000-002-01

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

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-04180 consist of the purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' x 8' containers. Each container will be placed on six cement cubes with rods in the inside. Each cube will measure two feet square and will be placed on the ground. The livestock trapping (cattle corral) will be anchored to the ground with 3-inch diameter posts at a depth of three feet. The trap will be built with 3" and 1 1/2" rigid pipes and will have a size of 246 linear feet and 6 feet high. The cattle corral will be used to keep livestock safe and containers for storing tools and

crops. The project area is located at PR-119 km. 75.6, Bo. Hoconuco Bajo within the Municipality of San Germán. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area of the livestock trapping and containers location was characterized as an agrarian setting in 1959 (the earliest imagery available for the area) and it remains predominantly agricultural through to the present day.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) has been defined as the area potentially impacted by ground disturbing activities related to the installation of livestock trapping and containers. 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 livestock trapping and containers plus a 15-meter buffer and the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

A site Map is included in Figure 1, illustrating the location of the livestock trapping and containers on the property. Photos of the location are included in Section 106 documentation, Appendix 1. Site Inspection Report in Appendix 3.

Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]: The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) will increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. This agricultural project is associated with the purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers is in keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The existing area for which the proposed livestock trapping and containers has a flat topography. The area where the containers will be installed has an exposed surface in some parts, showing reddish clay soil. The area where the livestock trapping will be installed is covered with vegetation, grass and bushes. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with these placements. The current use of the land is cultivated for yautia, malanga among other tubers.

Funding Information

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
B-18-DP-72-0001 B-17-DM-72-0001 B-19-DP-78-0002 B-18-DE-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD) / Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)	\$11,938,162,230.00

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$36,906.00

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$36,906.00.

Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities

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

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required	Compliance determinations
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6		
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project consists of the purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers and will have no impact on any Airports. The site is located 58,111 feet from the nearest major civil airport (Eugenio Maria de Hostos in Mayagüez) and 376,444 feet from the military airport (Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in San Juan). This topic is in compliance with the HUD's Airport Hazard regulations without further evaluation. See the attached Airport map Runway Protection Zone, Figure 2.
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. The project is located 50,315 feet northeast of the nearest Coastal Barrier Resource System, PR-69. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. See the attached CBRS map, Figure 3.
Flood Insurance	Yes No	The project is located in a Zone X, Panels 72000C1020H eff. 4/19/2005 and

<p>Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>72000C1560J eff. 11/18/2009 on the FEMA FIRM. The project does not require flood insurance or is excepted from flood insurance. See attached Flood Map, Figure 4.</p>
<p>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5</p>		
<p>Clean Air</p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers for an agricultural site and is not located in a nonattainment municipality of Puerto Rico (Arecibo, Bayamón, Cataño, Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan, Toa Baja). The installation and operation of this project will have no impact and is in compliance with the Clean Air Act without further evaluation. See attached published list of Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for each county by year for all criteria pollutants in Appendix 2.</p>
<p>Coastal Zone Management</p> <p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located 36,169 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management Area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See the attached CZMA map, Figure 5.</p>
<p>Contamination and Toxic Substances</p> <p>24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers for an agricultural project. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. There is no site of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet of the location of the proposed project.</p>

		<p>The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements. See attached Toxics Map, Figure 6.</p>
<p>Endangered Species</p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>After reviewing data from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC) and the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) database, the Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>), Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>) and Puerto Rican Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>) could be found in the project area. The installation of the livestock trapping, and containers will require ground disturbance; however, the scope of work includes continued agricultural use of the property with no intention to cut down trees or making major changes in the topography of the project area because the livestock trapping and containers will be installed in a space that has been cleared and maintained that way for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and analysis of the IPaC lists together with field direct observations of the area where the project will be developed is currently used for agricultural purposes, the proponent has determined that the proposed project actions will have "No Effect" (NE) on the Puerto Rican boa and Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk. Based on agency data and site observations, this review concludes that the installation of the livestock trapping and containers on the parcel will also result in No Effect for the Puerto Rican Parrot. The project is 8,692 feet from the nearest final endangered species critical habitat.</p>

		<p>Therefore, the project has no critical habitats in the area.</p> <p>If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa. As established by the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures Guideline.</p> <p>https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/guideline/design/population/156/office/41430.pdf</p> <p>This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. See attached "No Effect" Memo and supporting documents in Appendix 4. See attached Endangered Species map, Figure 7.</p>
<p>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers and does not include development, construction or rehabilitation that will increase residential density. This project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable hazards without further evaluation.</p>
<p>Farmlands Protection</p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. The two locations under the project site are Farmland of statewide importance. The scope of work includes the installation of a livestock trapping and containers, and this is a construction limited to on-farm structures needed for farm operations. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. See the attached Farmlands map, Figure 8.</p>

<p>Floodplain Management</p> <p>Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located in a Zone X, Panels 72000C1020H eff. 4/19/2005 and 72000C1560J eff. 11/18/2009 (Figure 4). The site is not located in a Preliminary Firm or an Advisory Base Flood Elevation special flood hazard area. The proposed project is located in the municipality of San German; however, the proposed project is not within an area where a PFIRM was developed. Therefore, PFIRM was not considered in the review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. See attached Flood Map (Figure 9).</p>
<p>Historic Preservation</p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site was visited on October 15, 2023, by SOI-qualified archaeologist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the undertaking, the APE has been defined as the area potentially affected by ground-disturbing activities related to installation of the livestock trapping and containers. Documentation with photographs and maps was subsequently submitted to SHPO (attached Appendix 1). In a response from PR SHPO dated November 14, 2023, SHPO concurred with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected within the project's Area of Potential Effects (see attached Appendix 1). The property is not considered historic or contributing to an historic district (See attached Historic map, Figure 10). Therefore, this activity is in compliance with Historic Preservation.</p>
<p>Noise Abatement and Control</p> <p>Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers for an agricultural site. The project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The site is rural in nature and there will be no impact to or from the surrounding area from a noise</p>

		perspective. This topic is in compliance with Noise abatement and Control without further evaluation.
Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifers without further evaluation. See Sole Source Aquifers Map, Figure 11.
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Hoconuco River is approximately 510 feet from the proposed livestock trapping and approximately 713 feet from where the containers will be installed. The river is outside of the area of potential effect of the proposed activities, therefore, no wetland will be affected by the project undertaking. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. See the attached Wetlands map, Figure 12.
Wild and Scenic Rivers Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is not within proximity of the NWSRS river. The project is located 440,124 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. See Map, Figure 13.
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Based on the scope of work for this project, there will be no additional impact on low-income or minority residents. This proposed activity will not have a negative impact on Environmental Justice. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section.

Environmental Assessment Factors [24 CFR 58.40; Ref. 40 CFR 1508.8 & 1508.27] Recorded below is the qualitative and quantitative significance of the effects of the proposal on

the character, features and resources of the project area. Each factor has been evaluated and documented as appropriate and in proportion to its relevance to the proposed action. Verifiable source documentation has been provided and described in support of each determination, as appropriate. Credible, traceable and supportive source documentation for each authority has been provided. Where applicable, the necessary reviews or consultations have been completed and applicable permits of approvals have been obtained or noted. Citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references are clear. Additional documentation is attached, as appropriate. **All conditions, attenuation or mitigation measures have been clearly identified.**

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

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

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
LAND DEVELOPMENT		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The proposed action is continued agricultural use of property which is compatible with a zoning code of A-G (General Agricultural) and existing land use of SRC (Common Rustic Land). There is no urban design associated with this rural, agricultural site.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	The soil is currently being used for agriculture purposes. There is no change in land use since the land will continue to be used to agriculture purposes. In the project area the soil has been classified as Consumo clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes (CsE). The Consumo series consists of well drained, very steep soils on side slopes and narrow ridges of the strongly dissected humid uplands. The landslide data indicates low to moderate landslide susceptibility; therefore, no erosion is

		expected to occur from this project. The project will not affect the drainage in the area. There will be little to no additional runoff associated with the project. See Landslide Susceptibility Map, Figure 14.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	There are no specific environmental hazards that have been identified for this site. The site is not in a high Noise Level area, nor will the project generate any additional noise. Additionally, the project does not include housing or such to where inhabitants would be affected.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	The project will result in short-term benefit to employment when contractors are hired for the construction of the livestock trapping and containers. After construction, there may be a net positive benefit for the farm, a small business receiving this funding for economic development recovery purposes, which will aid in the continued operations of the intended use of the farm which products will be used by Puerto Rico population. The project is not anticipated to have a significant impact on Employment and Income Patterns, however, the project may help restore employment opportunities and income patterns.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The proposed project will not alter the demographic characteristics of San Germán, PR. The applicant is already located at this location and the project will provide opportunities for the continuous agricultural growth of the business.
Environmental Justice	2	In the project area within a one-mile radius: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people of color are 100% compared to PR average of 96% • 79 % of the people are low income compared to PR average of 70% • 2% of the people are unemployed compared to PR average of 15% <p>The proposed activities of the installation of the livestock and containers will have a positive impact on</p>

		creating jobs for local people. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section. See EJScreen Report in Appendix 3.
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Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project consists of purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers for an agricultural site and will have no impact on educational and cultural facilities.
Commercial Facilities	2	The proposed project may aid in restoring the demand for local commercial services; however, not to the point of putting undue pressure on commercial facilities.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The project consists of purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers for an agricultural site and will have no impact on Health Care and Social Services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The proposed project will have no impact on Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling services. The products and by-products are agricultural, and any waste would be biodegradable. The remaining construction solid waste materials would be collected for transport to the local landfill.
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The installation of the livestock trapping and containers will not produce any wastewater. Based on the scope of work is not expected to result in any significant changes in wastewater or sanitary sewer generation. The proposed project will have no impact on Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers.
Water Supply	2	The proposed project will not require an additional water supply. No new connections will be provided for potable water. The proposed project will have no impact on the water supply.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and	2	The project consists of purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers

Emergency Medical		for an agricultural site and will have no impact on Public Safety.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The proposed project will have no impact to Parks, Open Space and Recreation. The property being used is agricultural and it will continue as agricultural use.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers for an agricultural site and will have no impact on transportation and accessibility.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The proposed project will be situated on previous agriculture property and will have no impact to unique natural features or water resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The proposed project will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity. There may be wildlife attracted to the livestock trapping and containers but no negative impact on wildlife.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
Climate and Energy		
Climate Change	2	The Re-Grow Program proposed project aims to increase resiliency in the agricultural industry to prepare for future climate related disasters. The project will not contribute to climate change and will provide a minor net benefit by allowing for increased food production. On the other hand, a drought could affect agricultural activities related to the project.
Energy Efficiency /Consumption	2	The project consists of purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40'

		containers on an existing agricultural farm and will not require any expansion to existing power facilities.
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Additional Studies Performed: Not applicable.

Field Inspection (Date and completed by): October 15, 2023, Jaqueline Lopez, SOI- Qualified Archaeologist

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

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems:

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

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, Puerto Rico map.

www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf

National Park Service, National Registry of Natural Landmarks.

www.nature.nps.gov/nnl/docs/NNLRegistry.pdf

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

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

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

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

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

US Environmental Protection Agency, National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Nonattainment Areas for Criteria Pollutants (Green Book):

www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo_pr.html

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Conservation Online System:

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp0/reports/species-listed-by-state-report?state=PR&status=listed>

Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Mapping Service:

<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home> (compilation of numerous maps)

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

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

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

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

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

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

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

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

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

List of Permits Obtained: None.

Public Outreach [24 CFR 58.43]: Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture has worked closely with the agricultural community. This project will include a FONSI/NOI-RROF in compliance with NEPA regulations for HUD.

Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]: In accordance with 24 CFR 58.32 (Aggregation), there are no cumulative impacts associated with the purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers for an agricultural site.

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

The Regrow Program purpose is to enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities while promoting and increasing food security island wide. The "Alternative" action would mean that the applicant would consider other locations for the livestock trapping and containers. However, other locations may result in tree clearing prior to construction and/or need to

fill in some steep area. Any option that requires going off-site would not contribute to the improvement and growth of agricultural production or enable economic development for this applicant.

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

The 'No-Action' alternative would mean that the applicant would not receive federal funding to provide the purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers for an agricultural site which would inhibit the economic growth opportunity that the applicant would not otherwise have under the PRDOH Re-Grow Puerto Rico program. As a result, these owners may not be able to experience the growth needed to recover and expand their agriculture activities. A provision of the grant allows for economic development for businesses. The No-Action alternative would not allow for the economic development for this applicant.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions: The proposed activity has been found to not have any adverse effects on the environment nor is there the requirement for further consultation with any agency. There are no environmental review topics addressed that result in the need for formal compliance steps or the requirement for mitigation.

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	Soil suitability will be assessed prior to construction. Contractors will be required to use BMPs during construction if erosion impacts occur. DNER authorization may be required for any ground disturbance associated with the activities in the proposed project.
Endangered Species Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not

	move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa.

Determination:

Finding of No Significant Impact [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1); 40 CFR 1508.27]


The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

Finding of Significant Impact [24 CFR 58.40(g)(2); 40 CFR 1508.27]

The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Preparer Signature:  Date: 3/7/2024

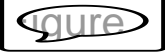
Name/Title/Organization: Patricia Carmenatty / Environmental Specialist/ Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: April 15, 2024

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

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

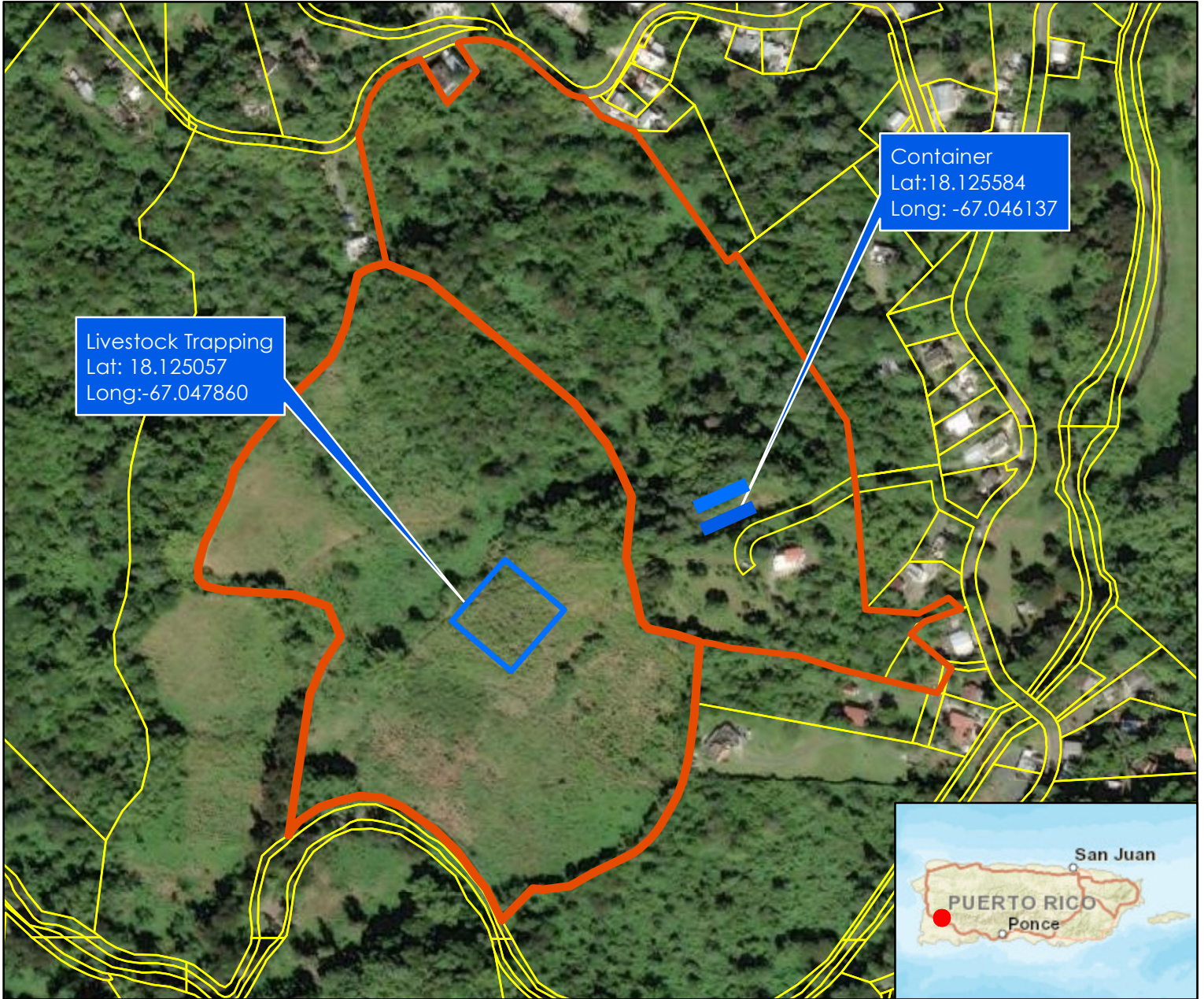
Figures



Location: Aerial Map

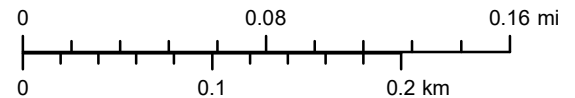
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc.
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo,
San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below



Legend:

- Parcels
- CRIM Parcels



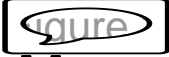
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google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



1:4,000

Source

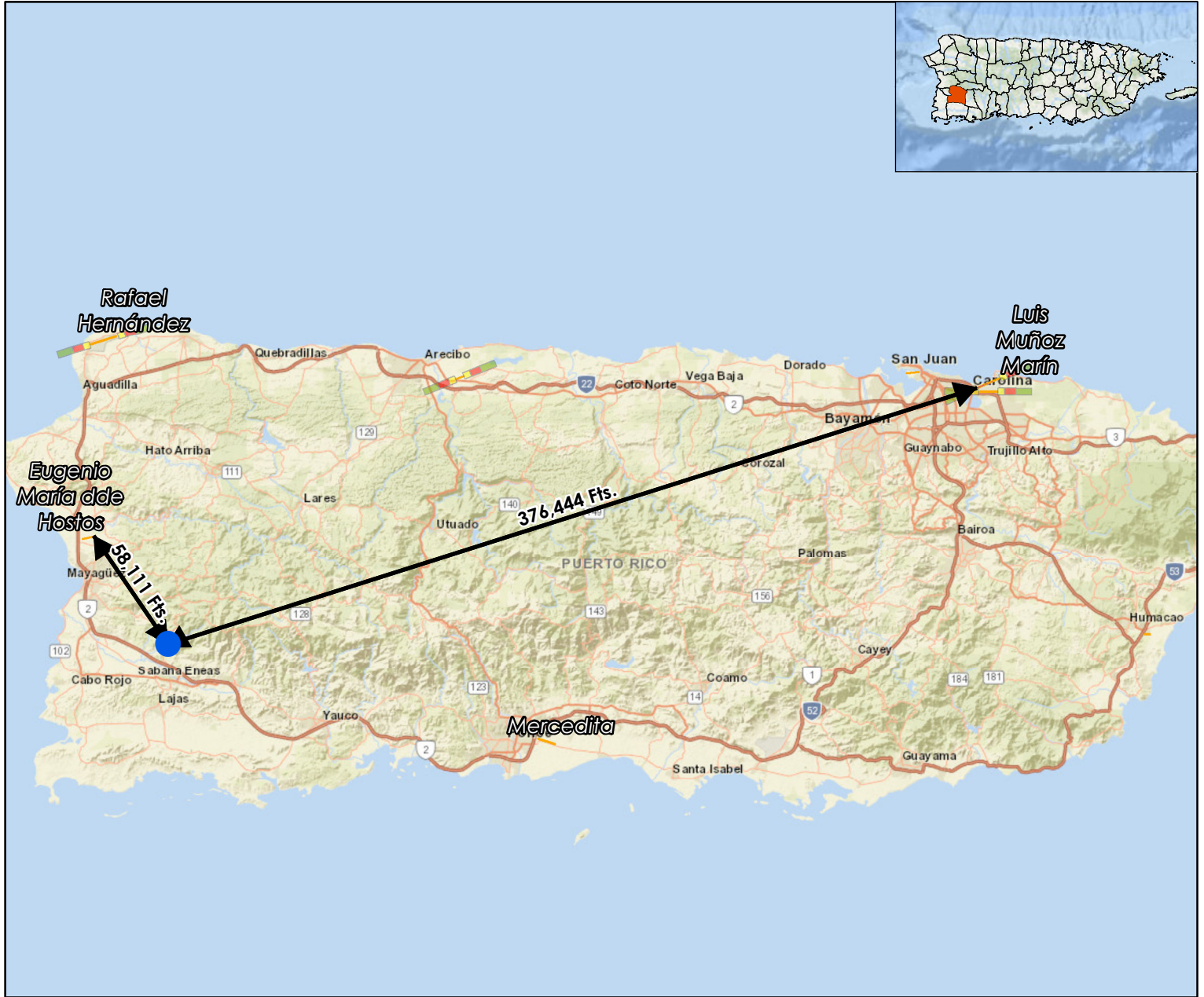
Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>



Airports Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agroforesta Inc.
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo, San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat:18.125584, Long: -67.046137

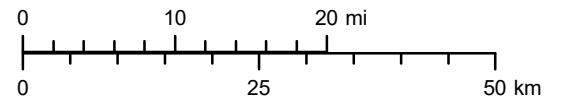


Legend:

● PR-RGRW-04180

Accident_Potential_Zone_Rev2

- APZ 1
- APZ 2
- Clear Zone
- SJU Military Runaway
- PR Airport Runaway



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



1:800,000

Source

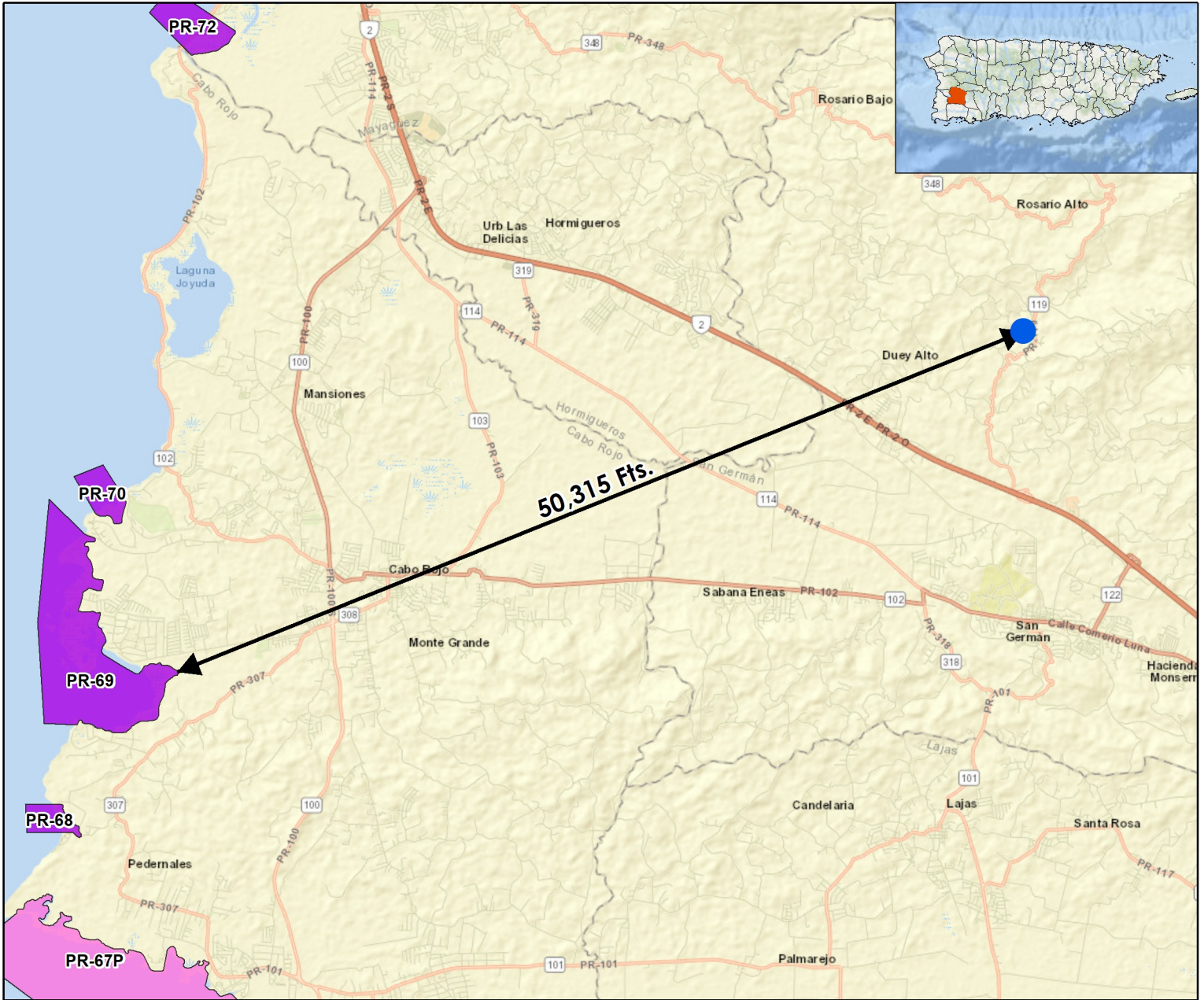
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
<https://adds-faa.opendata.arcgis.com/>

Figure

Coastal Barrier Resources System

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoco
San German, PR
285-000-007-21 / 318



Legend:

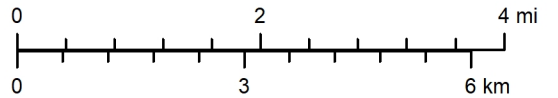
● PR-RGRW-04180

Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS)

Unit_Type

Otherwise Protected Area

System Unit



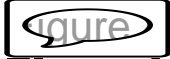
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



1:100,000

Source

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



Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)

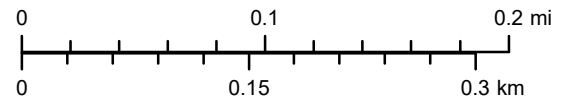
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc.
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo,
San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat:18.125584, Long: -67.046137



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- Area of Minimal Flood Hazard-Zone X Zone X
- FIRM Panel



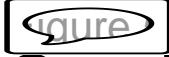
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



1:5,000

Source

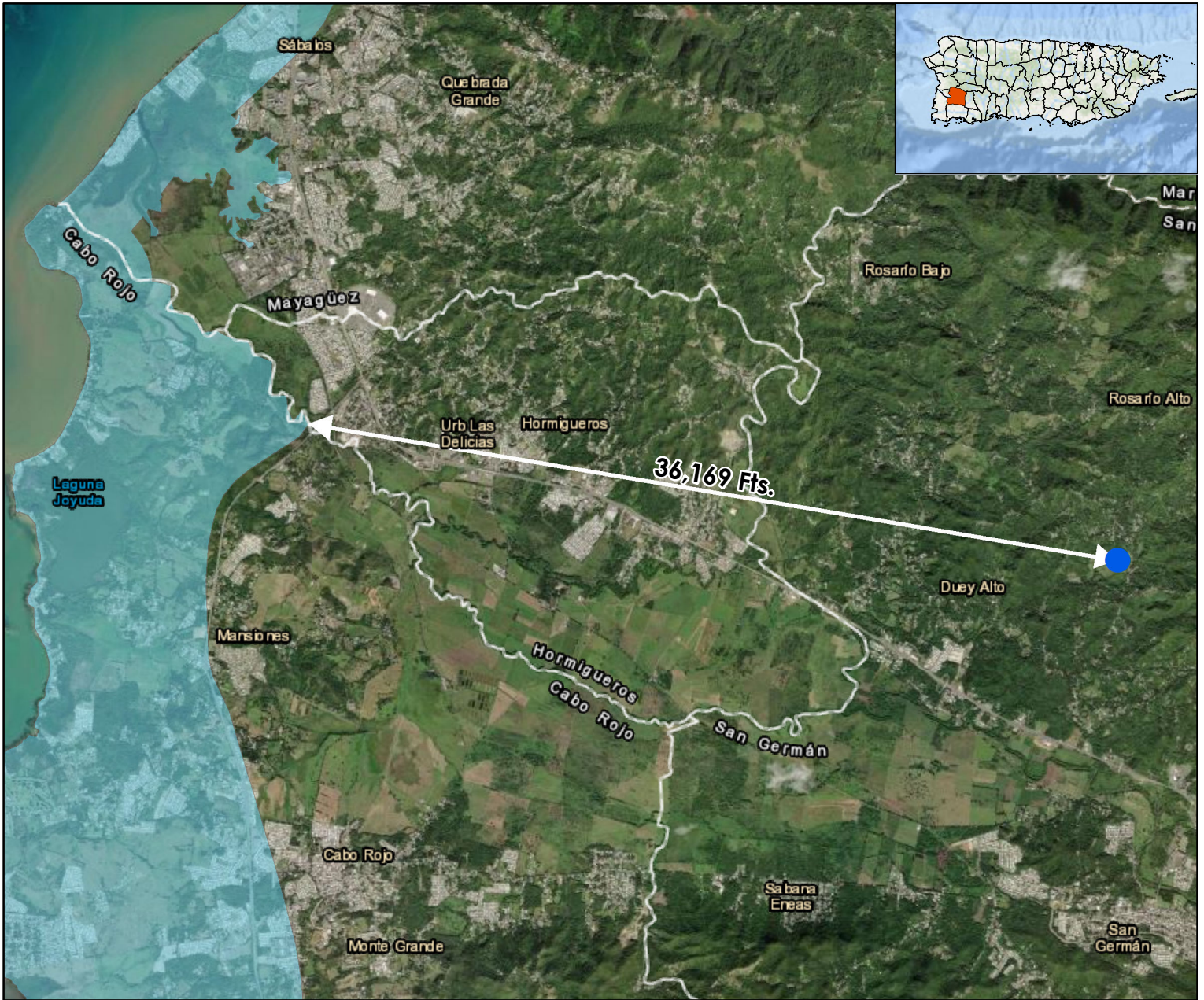
FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer
<https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/national-flood-hazard-layer>



Coastal Zone Management

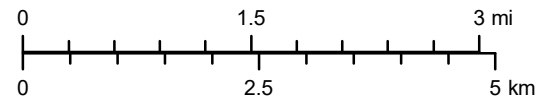
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc.
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo, San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat:18.125584, Long: -67.046137



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-04180
- Coastal Zone Management



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community



1:80,000

Source

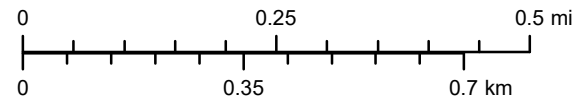
NOAA Office for Coastal Management (NOAA/OCM)
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/inport/item/53132>





Toxic and Hazardous Facilities

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc.
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo,
San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat:18.125584, Long: -67.046137



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-04180
-  3,000 Ft. (914.4 Mts.) Buffer

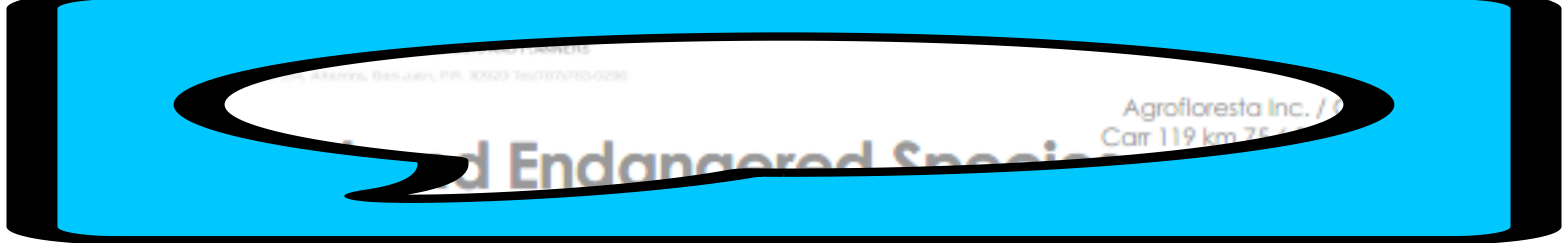
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors





1:12,000

Source

EPA Facility Registry Service (FRS)
<https://www.epa.gov/frs>



11/21/2023, 10:34:50 AM

-  USFWS Critical Habitat - Final
-  PR-RGRW-04180

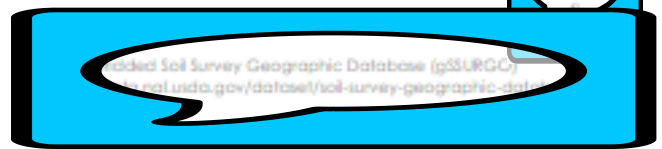
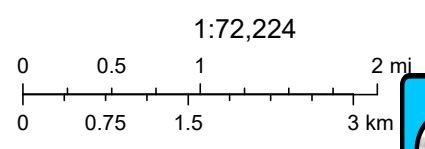


Figure 8

Farmland Protection

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

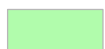
Agroforesta Inc.
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo,
San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat:18.125584, Long: -67.046137

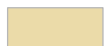


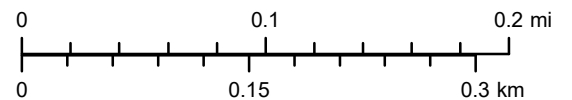
Legend:

 PR-RGRW-04180

Farm Class

 Farmland of statewide importance

 Not prime farmland



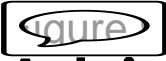
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



1:5,000

Source

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



Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc.
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo,
San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat:18.125584, Long: -67.046137

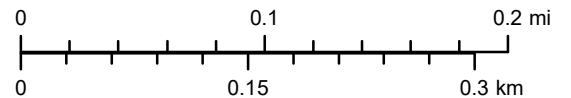


Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- 0.2-Percent Annual Chance Flood
- 1-Percent Annual Chance Flood
- Hydrography
- Advisory Base Flood Elevation

Flood Zone

- A
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



1:5,000

Source

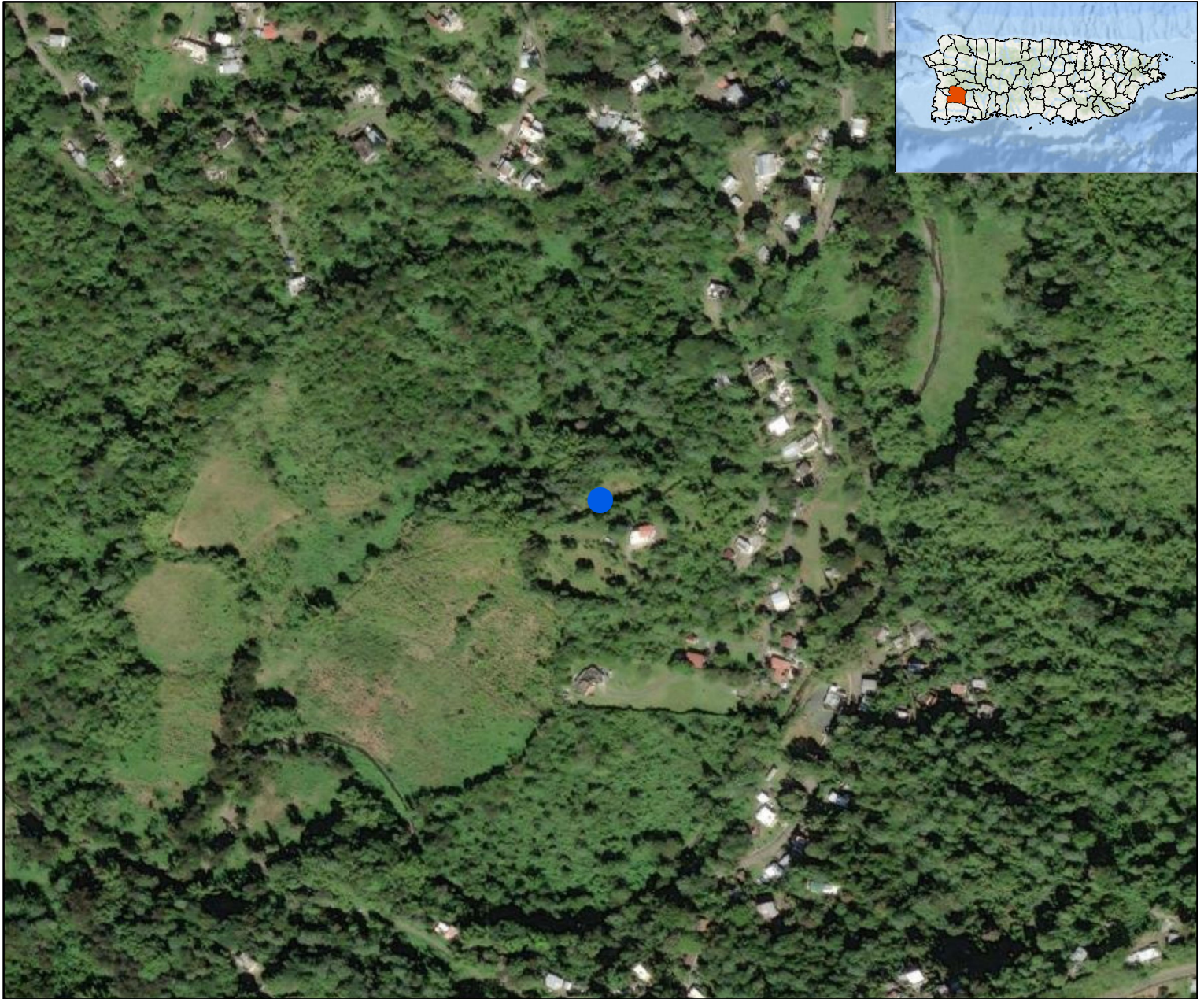
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Junta de Planificacion de Puerto Rico (JP)
Mapas de Niveles de Inundacion Base Recomendados
<https://maps.jp.pr.gov/>

Figure 1

Historic Preservation

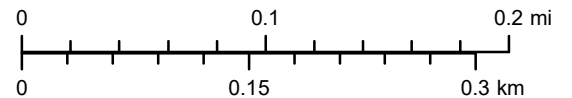
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc.
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo,
San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat:18.125584, Long: -67.046137



Legend:

 PR-RGRW-04180



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



1:5,000

Source

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

Source Aquifers

Cor 1181



W-04180

Source Aquifers

0 310

Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar, Geographics, and the GIS User Community

Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

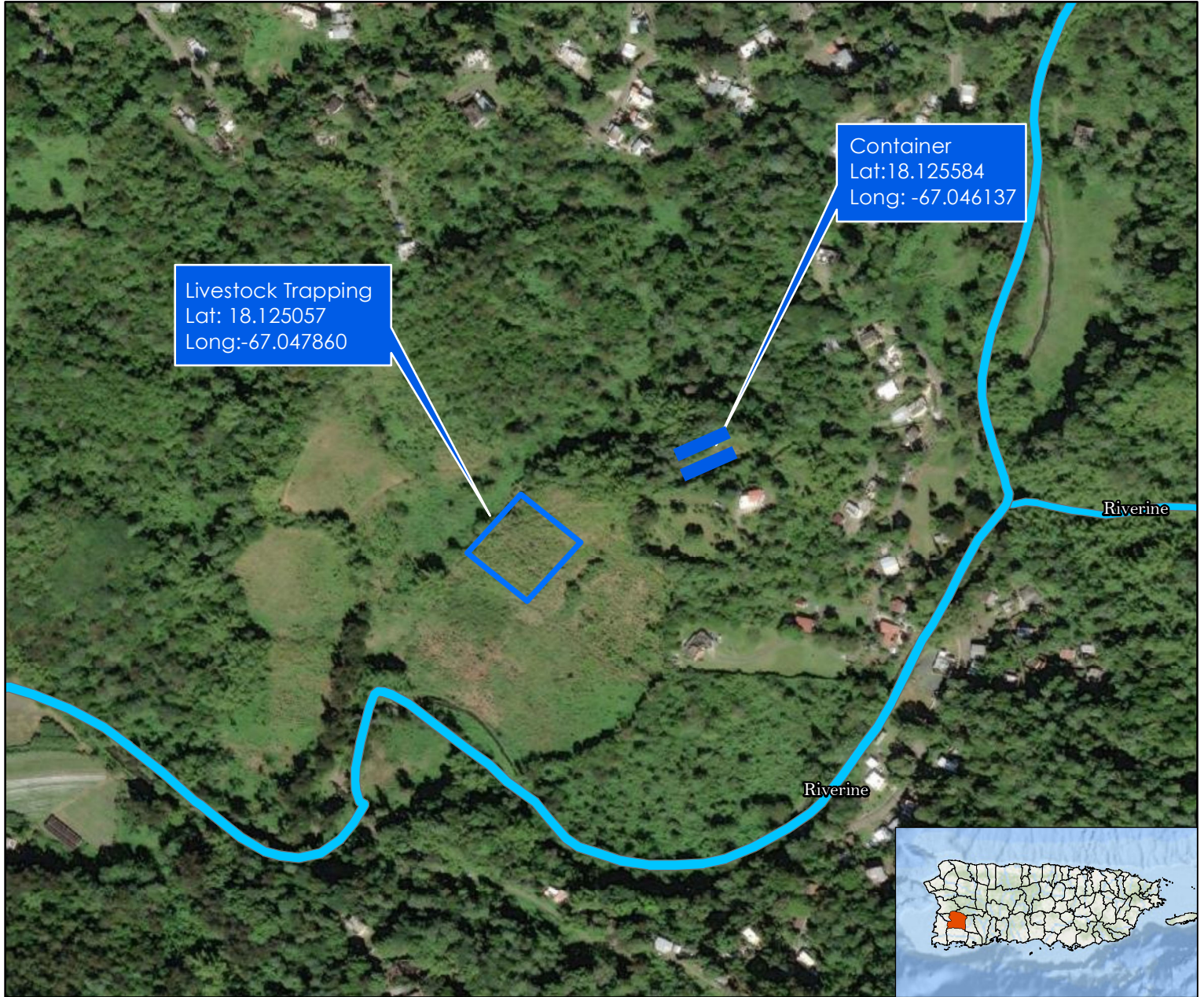
Source

Figure 1

Wetlands

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc.
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo,
San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat:18.125584, Long: -67.046137



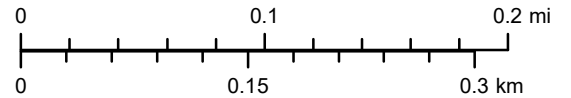
Legend:

● Applicant Structure



National Wetlands Inventory

■ Riverine



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



1:5,000

Source

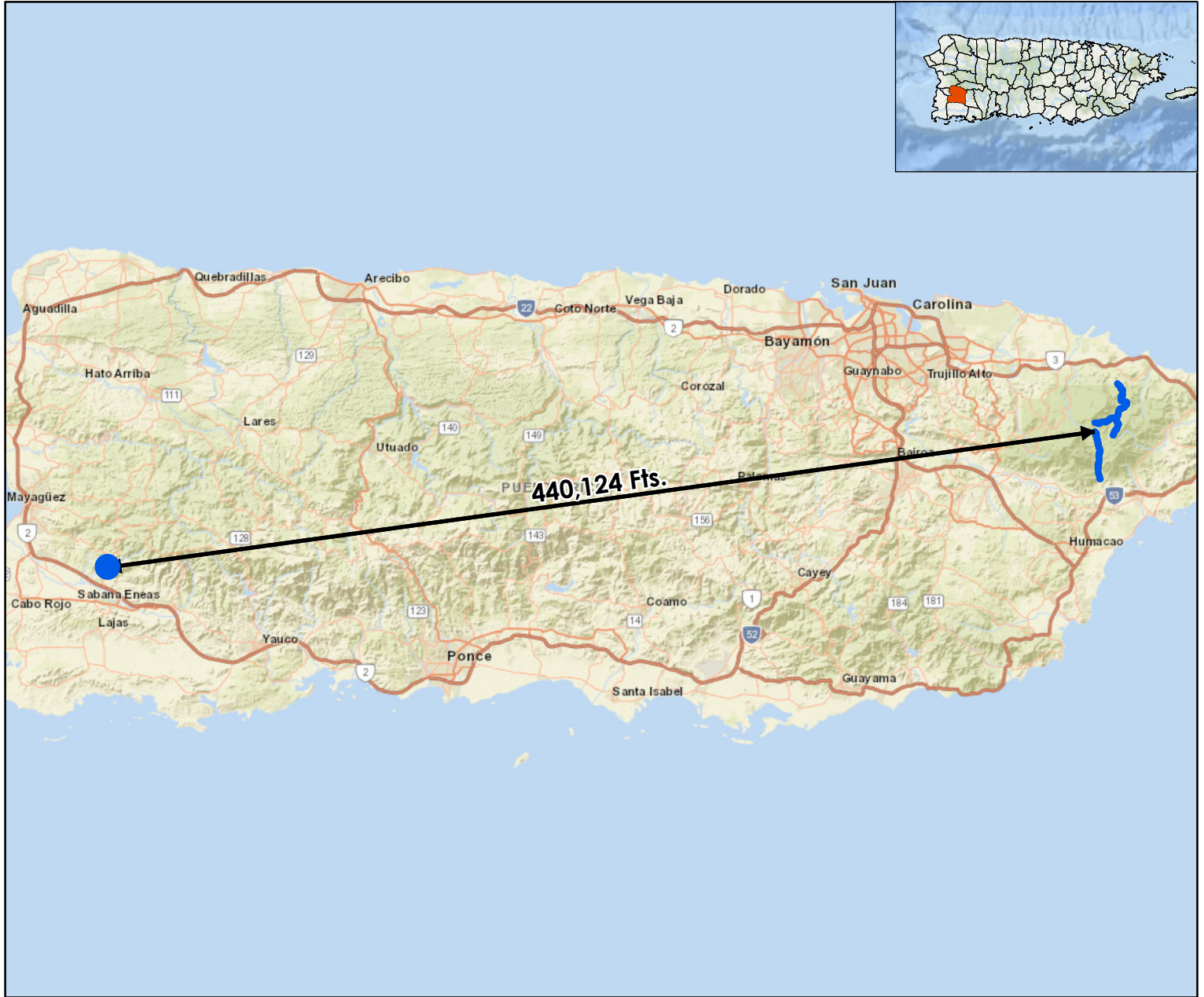
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - National Wetlands Inventory
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory>

Figure 1

Wild and Scenic Rivers

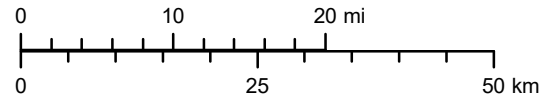
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc.
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo,
San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat:18.125584, Long: -67.046137



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-04180
- Wild and Scenic Rivers



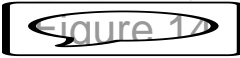
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



1:800,000

Source

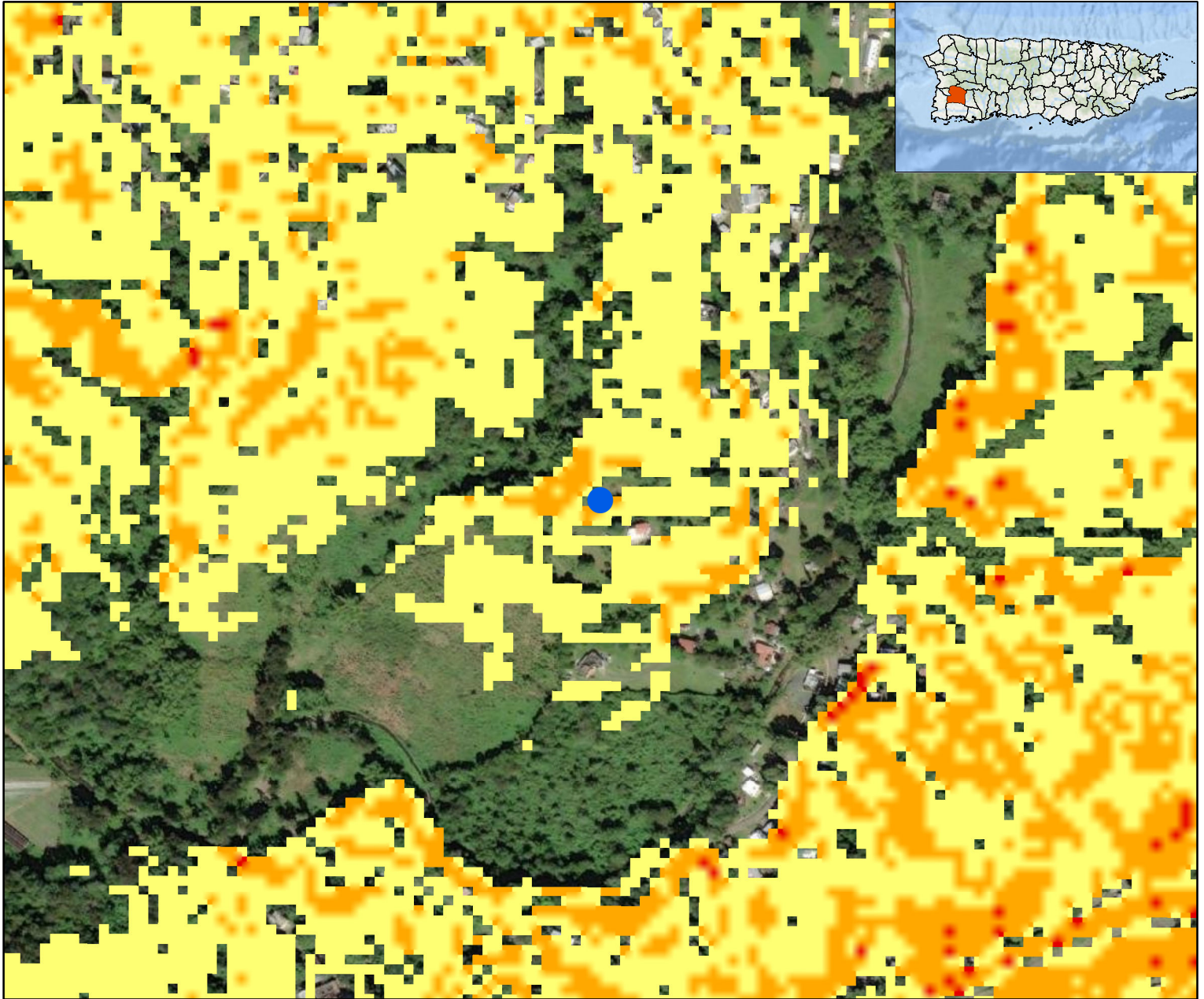
FWS National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
<https://www.rivers.gov/mapping-gis.php>









Landslide Susceptibility

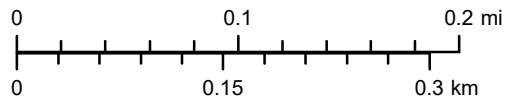
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agroforesta Inc.
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo, San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat:18.125584, Long: -67.046137



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-04180
-  Low
-  Moderate
-  High
-  Very High
-  Extremely High



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



1:5,500

Source

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

Appendix 1



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

November 14, 2023

Lauren Bair Poche

HORNE

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

SHPO 10-27-23-16 SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION SUBMITTAL:
PR-RGRW-04180 – AGROFLORESTA INC. / CARLOS TORRES VIADA – CARR. 119,
KM 75.6, BO. HOCONUCO BAJO, SAN GERMÁN, PUERTO RICO

Dear Ms. Bair,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela
State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/MB



October 27, 2023

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

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

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-04180 – Agrofloresta Inc./Carlos Torres Viada – Carr 119 Km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo, San Germán, 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). 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, HORNE is submitting documentation for activities proposed by Agrofloresta Inc./Carlos Torres Viada located at Carr 119 Km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo, in the municipality of San Germán. The undertaking for this project includes purchase and installation of a 32' by 54' livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers and the purchase of a woodchipper, aligner wallow, bush whacker, and heifers. Ground disturbance is required for the installation of the containers and cattle corral. Each container will be placed on six cement cubes with rods in the inside. Each cube will measure two feet square and will be placed on the ground. The livestock trapping (cattle corral) will be anchored to the ground with 3-inch diameter posts at a depth of three feet spaced 6-8 feet apart.

Based on the submitted documentation, the Program requests a concurrence that a finding of no historic properties affected is appropriate for this proposed project.

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


Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Lauren B. Poche'.

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: Agrofloresta Inc./Carlos Torres Viada		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04180	City: San Germán	

Project Location: Carr 119 Km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo	
Project Coordinates: 18.125057, -67.047860; 18.125584, -67.046137	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 285-000-007-21; 310-000-002-01	
Type of Undertaking: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair/Improvements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): n/a	Property Size (acres): 38.94

SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jaqueline López Meléndez
Date Reviewed: October 15, 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 activities for PR-RGRW-04180 consist of the purchase and installation of 32' by 54' livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers and the purchase of a woodchipper, aligner wallow, bush whacker, and heifers. Ground disturbance is required for the installation of the containers and cattle corral. Each container will be placed on six cement cubes with rods in the inside. Each cube will measure two feet square and will be placed on the ground. The livestock trapping (cattle corral) will be anchored to the ground with 3-inch diameter posts at a depth of three feet placed 6-8 feet apart. The project area is located at PR-119 km. 75.6, Bo. Hoconuco Bajo within the Municipality of San Germán. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area of the livestock trapping and containers location was characterized as an agrarian setting in 1959 (the earliest imagery available for the area) and it remains predominantly agricultural through to the present day.

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 are the locations of the livestock trapping (cattle corral) and containers plus a 15-meter buffer around both locations. the visual APE is the view shed of the proposed project locations.

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: Agrofloresta Inc./Carlos Torres Viada	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04180	City: San Germán

Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that there are no reported archaeological sites, archaeological materials of significant cultural properties within a half-mile (0.50 miles) radius of the project location. The closest reported archaeological site to the PR-RGRW-04180 project area is the Pre-Columbian and historic site SG-8 (SHPO: SN0100008) located 2.11 miles northwest. The proposed project is located in San Germán, at an elevation between 295 and 230 feet above sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area is within mapped soil series: Consumo clay. The project area APE is in CsE. The nearest bodies of water are an unnamed creek, located 0.10 miles southwest and Hoconuco river, located 0.15 miles east. The coast is approximately 8.91 miles west from the project area.


There are two (2) archaeological studies within 0.50 miles radius of the project area, one with positive results (see table). Daubon (1981) conducted an archaeological survey that encompassed the project area and yielded positive results for historic archaeological resources located more than 0.50 miles away.

The soil in the project area has been classified as Consumo clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes (CsE). The Consumo series consists of well drained, very steep soils on side slopes and narrow ridges of the strongly dissected humid uplands.

The project area does not have cultural resources that are listed either on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nor is it located in a Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. On October 14, 2023, we visually inspected the project area. The areas where the livestock trapping (cattle corral) and containers will be placed both have a flat topography. The area where the shipping containers will be installed has an exposed surface in some parts, showing a reddish clay soil. The area where the cattle corral will be installed is covered with vegetation, grass and bushes. No cultural remains can be observed on the surface of the parcel.

Determination

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. There are 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-04180 is located. The construction of public oads and agricultural infrastructure has minimally impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project activities.

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: Agrofloresta Inc./Carlos Torres Viada	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04180	City: San Germán

Recommendation

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

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

This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

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


PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGrow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Applicant: Agrofloresta Inc./Carlos Torres Viada		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04180	City: San Germán	

Table of archaeological sites, historic properties and historic districts located within the project area or within a 0.50-miles radius

Name	SHPO id #	IPRC id #	Distance/Direction	Description	NRHP (listed, eligible, non-eligible, no data)
None	-	-	-	-	-

Table of cultural resources surveys conducted within the project area or within a 0.50-miles radius.

Author	Phase/Title	Year	SHPO / IPRC code	Results	Distance/Direction
Antonio Daubón	IA/ Wastewater treatment facilities planned for Barceló-La Cuchilla	1981	ICP/CAT-SG-81-01-01	Positive. Historic archaeological sites located more than 0.50 miles away	Within
Rossanna Santos	IA-IB/ Mejoras al Sistema de Acueductos	1989	ICP/CAT-SG-89-02-01	Negative	0.09 mi E

Project (PR-RGRW-04180) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
San Juan, P.O. Box 110, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00901-0110

Application ID: PR-RGRW-04180

Area of Potential Effect

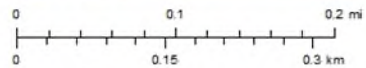
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc. / Carlos Torres Viada
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hooanuco Bajo,
San Germán, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below



Legend:

- Area of Potential Effect
- Applicant Structure
- Parcels
- CRIM Parcels



Service layer Credits Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Locus, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community. Source: Esri, Mapbox, Bartholomew Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cadprca/>

Project (PR-RGRW-04180) Location - Aerial Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Carretera, Barrio 1 Oriente, J.R. Sal y Fomento 554, Arecibo, San Juan, P.R. 00609 Tel: (787) 930-2230

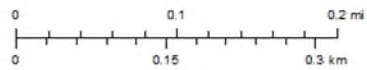
Application ID: PR-RGRW-04180

Location: Aerial Map
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc. / Carlos Torres Viada
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hocoanuco Bajo,
San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 31 0-000-002-01
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below



- Legend:**
- Applicant Structure
 - Parcels
 - CRIM Parcels



Service Layer Credits Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Source: Esri, Mapbox, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source
Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdripr/>

Project (PR-RGRW-04180) Location - USGS Topographic Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Corona, Suite 10 Suite A-10, Calle Ponce 664, Arroyo, San Juan, P.R. 00986 Tel: (787) 740-3292

Application ID: PR-RGRW-04180

Location: USGS Topographic Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

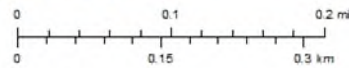
Agrofloresta Inc. / Carlos Torres Viada
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hocanuca Bajo,
San Germán, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- Parcels
- Contour Interval 20 Feet

Quadrangle: Rosario



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Ireland), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth.



Source

United States Geological Survey (USGS)
National Geographic Map Database
https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ngmdb/ngmdb_home.html

Project (PR-RGRW-04180) Location – Soils Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

Application ID: PR-RGRW-04180

Agrofloresta Inc. / Carlos Torres Viada
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Haconuco Bajo,
San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below

Soils Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

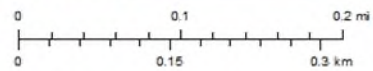


Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- Parcels
- Soil Map Unit Symbol

Soil Map Unit Symbol

- CbF - Caguabo clay loam, 20 to 60 percent slopes
- CsE - Consumo clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes
- HmE - Humatas clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes
- MrE - Morado clay loam, 20 to 40 percent slopes
- ReA - Reilly sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, LEOS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Source: Esri, Mapbox, DeLorme, Geoportals, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth

Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<http://catastro.crim.net/cadprp/>



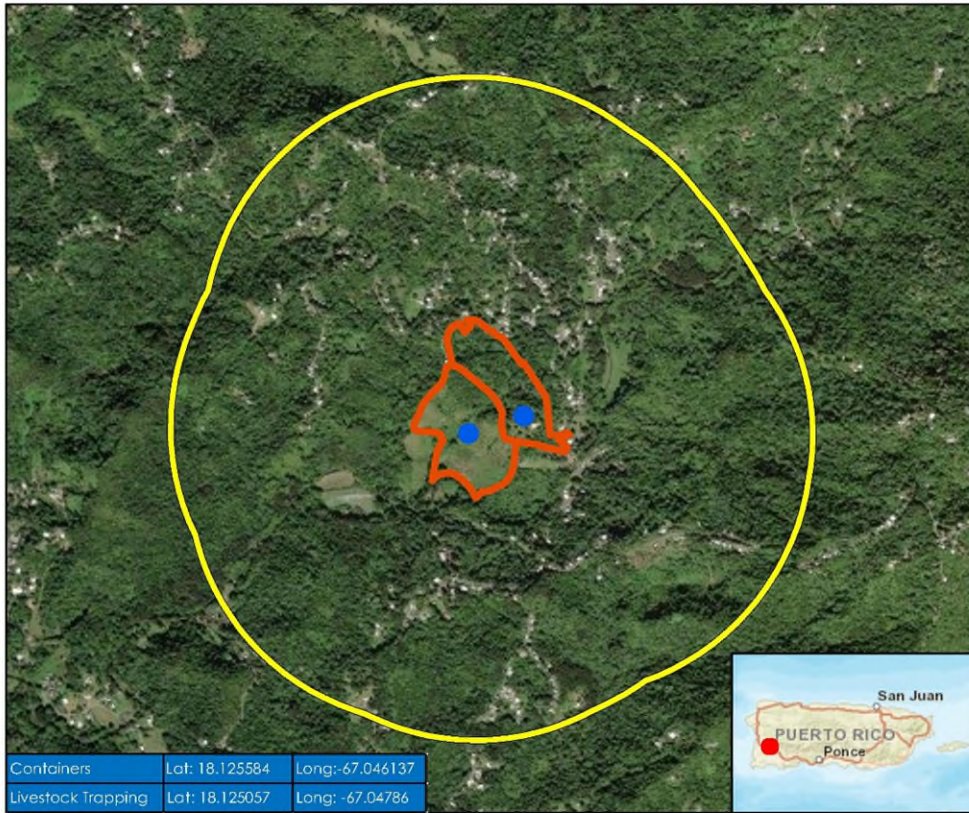
Project (PR-RGRW-04180) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Cond. 100001 1 Suite J-3, Calle Porcelo 204, Arecibo, San Juan, P.R. 00920 TEL:787-763-0290

Application ID: PR-RGRW-04180

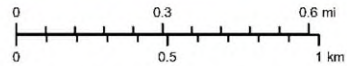
Previous Investigations: Aerial Map
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc. / Carlos Torres Viada
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Haconuco Bajo,
San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- 0.5 Mile (0.8Km) Buffer
- Parcels



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crim.net/cadppca/>

Project (PR-RGRW-04180) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map

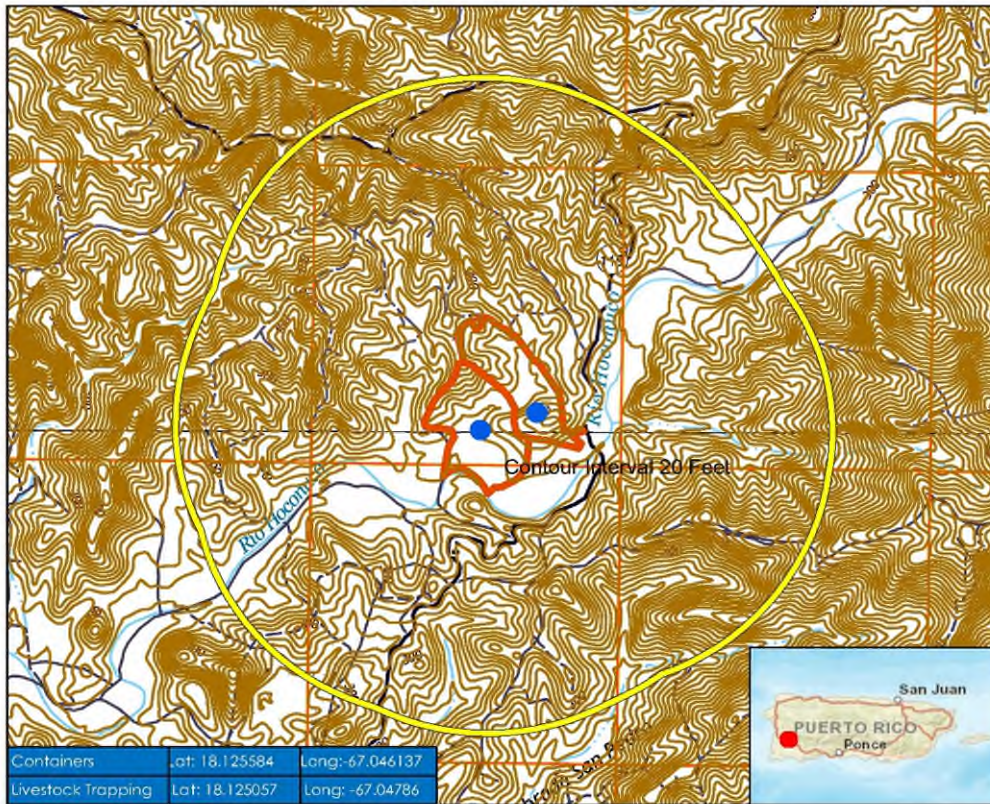
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Corporation, Service 1, Suite 403, Calle Ponce 524, San Germán, San Juan, P.R. 00929 Tel: 787-2783-2290

Application ID: PR-RGRW-04180

Previous Investigations: USGS Topographic Map

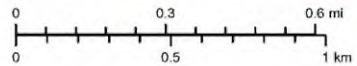
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc. / Carlos Torres Viada
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hacoanuco Bajo,
San Germán, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
 - 0.5 Mile (0.8Km) Buffer
 - Parcels
 - Contour Interval 20 Feet
- Quadrangle: Rosario**



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Ireland), NSCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

United States Geological Survey (USGS)
National Geographic Map Database
https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ngmdb/ngmdb_home.html

Photograph Key

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Ciudad, Havana 1, Suite 213, Calle Pinar del 554, Alhambra, San Juan, P.R. 00909 Tel: (787) 733-0290

Application ID: PR-RGRW-04180

Area of Potential Effect

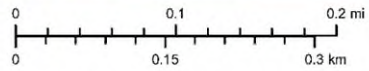
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrofloresta Inc. / Carlos Torres Viada
Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo,
San German, PR 00683
Catastro: 285-000-007-21 / 310-000-002-01
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below



Legend:

-  Area of Potential Effect
-  Applicant Structure
-  Parcels
-  CRIM Parcels



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Ireland), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdrppc/>



Applicant: Agrofloresta Inc./Carlos Torres Viada

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04180

City: San Germán



Photo #: 1

Description (include direction): General area where the containers will be installed, looking northeast.

Date: October 14, 2023



Photo #: 2

Description (include direction): General area where the livestock trapping (cattle corral) be installed, looking south.

Date: October 14, 2023



October 20, 2022

Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

Cuartel de Ballajá Bldg.

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Re: Authorization to Submit Documents

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela:

The U.S. Department of Housing (HUD) approved the allocations of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-DR) funds on February 9, 2018. It also approved the allocation of Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funds on January 27, 2020. The purpose of these allocations is to address unsatisfied needs as a result of Hurricanes Irma and Maria in September 2017; and to carry out strategic and high-impact activities to mitigate disaster risks and reduce future losses.

To comply with the environmental requirements established by HUD, the Department of Housing of Puerto Rico (PRDOH) contracted Horne Federal LLC to provide environmental registry review services, among others, that will support the objectives of the agenda for both CDBG-DR and CDBG -MIT Programs.

In line to expedite the processes, Horne Federal LLC, is authorized to submit to the State Historic Preservation Officer, documentation of projects related to both the CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT on behalf of PRDOH.

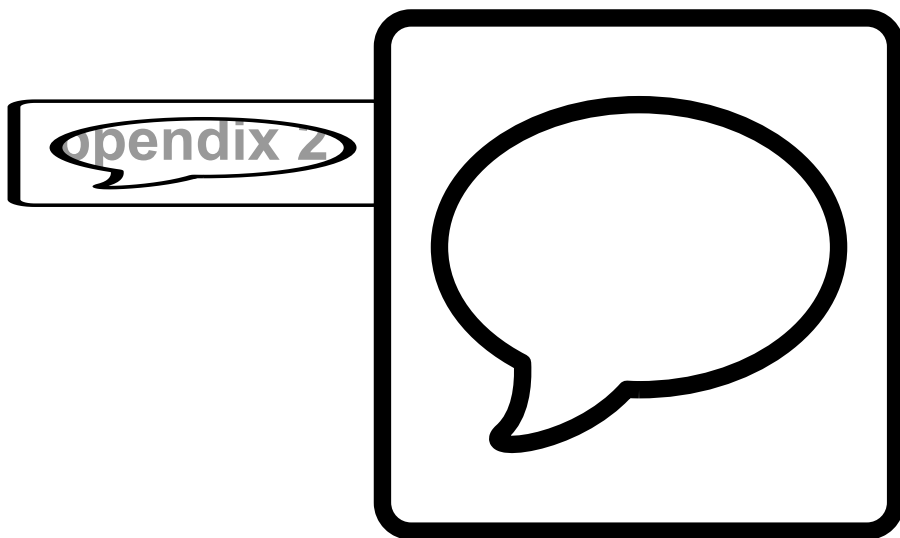
Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JB', is written over the typed name.

Juan C. Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng

Director of Disaster Recovery

CDBG DR-MIT





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

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

Data is current as of March 31, 2023

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

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

Change the State:

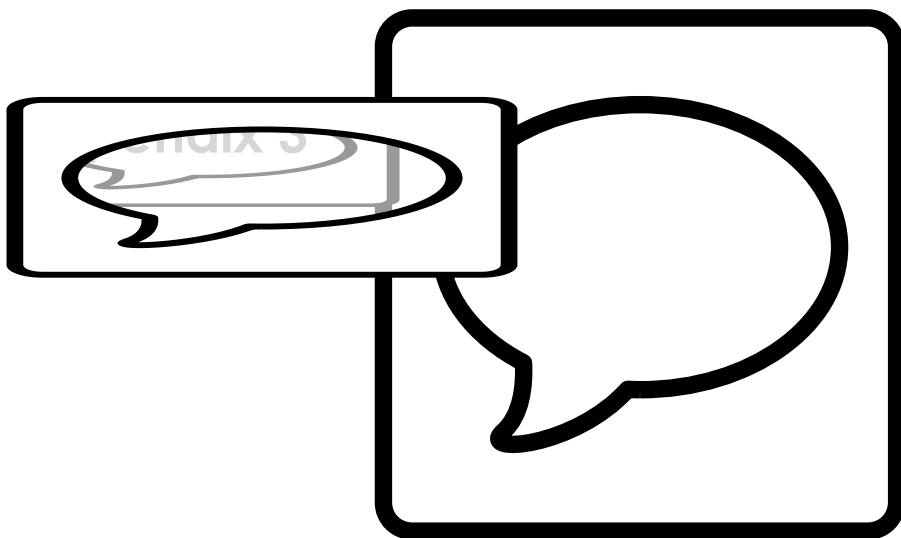
PUERTO RICO

Important Notes

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

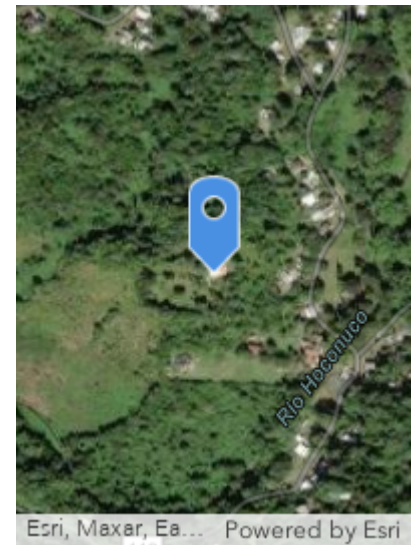
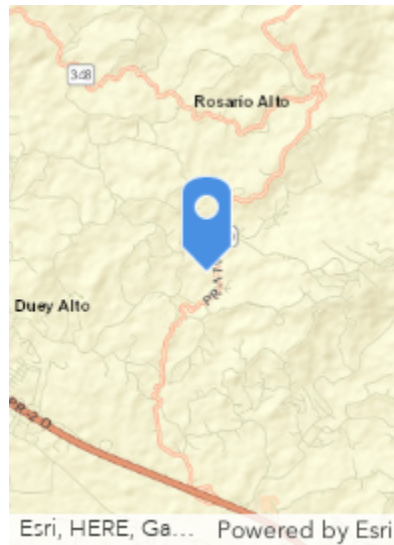
County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or Part County	Population (2010)	State/County FIPS Codes
PUERTO RICO								
Arecibo Municipio	Lead (2008)	Arecibo, PR	11121314151617181920212223	//		Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	22,921	72/021
Catano Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Whole	28,140	72/033
Guaynabo Municipio	PM-10 (1987)	Mun. of Guaynabo, PR	929394959697989900010203040506070809	02/11/2010	Moderate	Part	90,470	72/061
Guaynabo Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	23,802	72/061
Salinas Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Guayama-Salinas, PR	181920212223	//		Part	23,401	72/123
San Juan Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	147,963	72/127
Toa Baja Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	52,441	72/137

Important Notes



APPLICANT/LOCATION INFORMATION

Applicant ID:	PR-RGRW-04180
Applicant Name:	Agrofloresta Inc
Parcel ID:	285-000-007-21
Latitude:	18.125584
Longitude:	-67.046137
Street Address:	Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo,
Municipio:	San German
Zip Code:	00683
Site Inspector:	Egon Gonzale
Date of Visit:	October 5, 2023
Time of Visit:	10:18
Building Type:	40 foot Container and Corral



FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Question	Answer	Notes
A. Is the structure in use?	No	
B. Is the structure a greenhouse?	No	
C. Is Electricity connected? (Utilities or Well)	Yes	Electricity provided by public company
D. Is water connected? (Utilities or Well)	Yes	Water is supplied by water company
1. Are there signs of poor housekeeping on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, strom debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.)	No	
2. Are there any 55-gallon drums visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	No	
3. Are there any (or signs of any) underground storage tanks on the property?	Yes	Water box 4200 Gal
4. Are there signs of AST on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	No	
5. Is there any stained soil or pavement on the parcel?	No	
6. Is a water drainage system in use?	No	
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of Fertilizer or Pesticides?	No	No fertilizers or pesticide in use
8. Are there any groundwater monitoring wells on the site or adjacent parcel?	No	
9. Is there evidence of a faulty septic system?	No	
10. Is there distressed vegetation on the parcel?	No	
11. Is there any visible indication of mold?	No	
12. Is there any visible evidence of asbestos, chipping, and flaking or peeling paint, or hazardous materials present in or on the structure?	No	
13. Are any additional site hazards observed?	No	
14. Is there any permanent standing water, such as a pond or stream, located on the site(do not include ponding from recent rain / weather events)?	Yes	Water stream and Hoconuco River
15. Does the subject property have water frontage?	No	
16. Is there any indication of the presence of wetlands?	No	
17. Are there any obvious signs of animals or birds nesting on or near the site?	No	
18. Is the applicant aware of any significant historcal event or persons associated with the structure, or of it being located in a historic district/ area?	No	
19. Is a historic marker present?	No	

Front of Structure

Photo Direction:

Comments: 40ft Shipping Container will be used to store equipment



Facing Away from Front

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Back of Structure

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Facing Away from Back

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Side #2 of Structure

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Facing Away from Side #2

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Streetscape #1

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Streetscape #2

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Address

Photo Direction:

Comments: Entrance



Architectural Details 1

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Culcuma, Ginger, avocado, Malanga, Yautia, Yuca, Piña, Guineo, Platano,



Architectural Details 2

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Cepo for 50 cattle



Architectural Details 3

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Corral



Architectural Details 4

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Corral



Architectural Details 5

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Corral



Architectural Details 6

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Stream located near property



Architectural Details 7

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: 4200Gal waterbox underground



Architectural Details 8

Photo Direction:

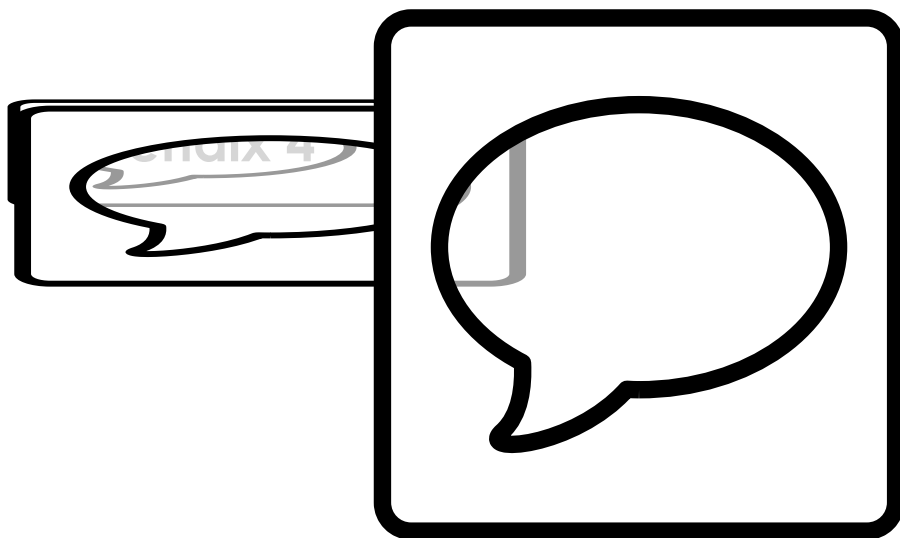
Photo Description: House in property



EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES					
Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.08	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.6	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.0243	0.0667	33	0.261	1
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	20	15	25	5
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.2	0.19	17	0.31	4
Toxic Releases to Air	150	4,300	14	4,600	28
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	39	180	36	210	35
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.15	0.16	64	0.3	42
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.22	0.15	87	0.13	87
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.074	0.47	17	0.43	19
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.17	0.76	32	1.9	31
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	0.63	1.7	64	3.9	42
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.00038	2.3	21	22	40
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index	90%	83%	60	35%	98
Supplemental Demographic Index	51%	43%	71	14%	99
People of Color	100%	96%	30	39%	97
Low Income	79%	70%	58	31%	97
Unemployment Rate	2%	15%	18	6%	31
Limited English Speaking Households	83%	67%	81	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	41%	21%	92	12%	96
Under Age 5	2%	4%	40	6%	23
Over Age 64	27%	22%	69	17%	84
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A%	N/A	20%	N/A

*Diesel particulate matter, air toxics cancer risk, and air toxics respiratory hazard index are from the EPA's Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that the air toxics data presented here 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>.



Technical Memorandum

November 22, 2023

For: Puerto Rico Department of Housing
CDBG-DR & CDBG-MIT Program
ReGrow Environmental Assessment

From: Behar Ybarra & Associates

RE: Threatened and Endangered Species Review for Case PR-RGRW-04180 at Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo, San German, PR 00683.

This Threatened and Endangered Species Review evaluates a cattle corral located at coordinates: latitude 18.125057, longitude -67.047860 and the installation of two containers at: latitude 18.125584 longitude -67.046137 on Carr 119 km 75.6 Barrio Hoconuco Bajo, San German, PR 00683. The project is part of the Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) that aims to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security inland wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities.

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-04180 consist of the purchase and installation of livestock trapping (cattle corral), woodchipper, aligner wallow, bush whacker, two 40' containers and heifers. Each container will be placed on six cement cubes with rods in the inside. Each cube will measure two feet square and will be placed on the ground. The livestock trapping (cattle corral) will be anchored to the ground with 3-inch diameter posts at a depth of three feet. The project area is located at PR-119 km. 75.6, Bo. Hoconuco Bajo within the Municipality of San Germán. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area of the livestock trapping and container location was characterized as an agrarian setting in 1959 (the earliest imagery available for the area) and it remains predominantly agricultural through to the present day.

Existing Conditions and Trends:

For the proposed project parcel 285-000-007-21 and 310-000-002-01, the areas are designated as Farmland of statewide importance. The project area is located in the rural mountainous area of San Germán. The project has a flat topography. The area where the shipping container will be installed has an exposed surface in some parts, showing reddish clay soil. The area where the livestock trapping will be installed is covered with vegetation, grass and bushes. Photos of the proposed project areas are included in the Site Inspection Report, See Appendix 3. The land has been used for agricultural uses for over 20 years and the proposed project will not change the land use associated with these placements. The closer Final Critical Habitat is located at 8,692 feet from the project location and the Hoconuco River is approximately 510 feet from the proposed livestock trapping and approximately 713 feet from where the containers will be installed, see Figures 7 and 11.

Using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system (See Exhibit A), we have determined that the proposed project lies within the range of the following federally listed species and critical habitats:

Name of species	Threatened/Endangered/Candidate
Reptiles	
Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered
Birds	
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>)	Endangered
Critical Habitat	
There are no critical habitats within the project area.	

The nature of the project, scope of work, information available, a careful analysis of the IPaC, the Puerto Rico Boa conservation measures, the Caribbean Dkey dated November 20, 2023, in the US Fish and Wildlife Service’s online IPaC application, and the observations during the field visit, were used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species from this project. Based on that information and the answer inputted into the Dkey, it was determined that the proposed action will have “No Effect” determination on the Puerto Rican Boa and Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, see Exhibit A. Based on agency data and site observations, this review concludes that the installation of the livestock trapping and containers on the parcel will also result in no effect for the Puerto Rican Parrot. There is no critical habitat for any species that could be found within the property based on the USFWS database.

Name of the species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures that will be implemented
Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	No Effect (NE)	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	No Effect (NE)	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>)	No Effect (NE)	No Conservation Measures
Critical Habitats		
There are no critical habitats within the project area.		

If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa.

For any questions or concerns, we can be reached by phone 787-783-0290 or email (patricia.carmenatty@byaea.com).

Patricia Carmenatty Santiago



B.S. Biologist, Behar Ybarra & Associates

Exhibit A: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Post Office Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491
Phone: (787) 834-1600 Fax: (787) 851-7440
Email Address: CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV

In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2024-0018156
Project Name: PR-RGRW-04180

November 20, 2023

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

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

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

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

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

to caribbean_es@fws.gov. To obtain guidance for completing this process and the minimum requirements for project packages, please visit:

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

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

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

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

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

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

caribbean_es@fws.gov

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

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

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(787) 834-1600

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0018156

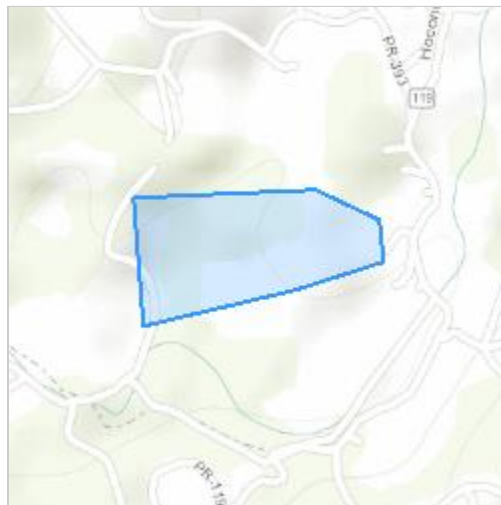
Project Name: PR-RGRW-04180

Project Type: New Constr - Above Ground

Project Description: The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-04180 consist of the purchase and installation of 32' by 54' livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers and the purchase of a woodchipper, aligner wallow, bush whacker, and heifers. Ground disturbance is required for the installation of the containers and cattle corral. Each container will be placed on six cement cubes with rods in the inside. Each cube will measure two feet square and will be placed on the ground. The livestock trapping (cattle corral) will be anchored to the ground with 3-inch diameter posts at a depth of three feet placed 6-8 feet apart. The project area is located at PR-119 km. 75.6, Bo. Hoconuco Bajo within the Municipality of San Germán. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area of the livestock trapping and containers location was characterized as an agrarian setting in 1959 (the earliest imagery available for the area) and it remains predominantly agricultural through to the present day.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.125062399999997,-67.04710088948531,14z>



Counties: San Germán County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 3 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

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

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

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot <i>Amazona vittata</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067	Endangered

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/3FCLDQRUMRDGPEAIKSTCXE2SWI/documents/generated/7140.pdf	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

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

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats³, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

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

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

MIGRATORY BIRDS

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

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats³ should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

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

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

WETLANDS

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

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

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

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Post Office Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491
Phone: (787) 834-1600 Fax: (787) 851-7440
Email Address: CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV

In Reply Refer To:
Project code: 2024-0018156
Project Name: PR-RGRW-04180

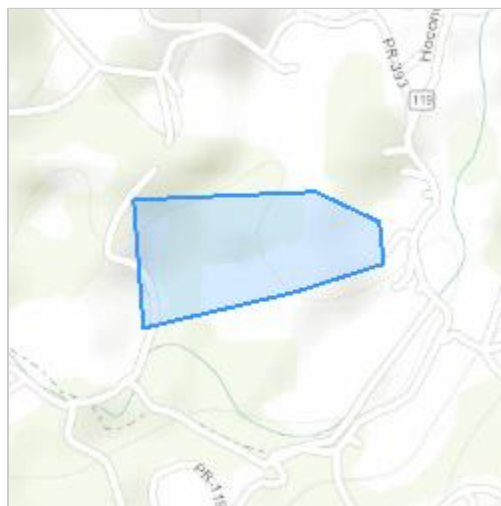
November 20, 2023

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-04180' for specified threatened and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On November 20, 2023, Patricia Carmenatty used the Caribbean DKey; dated October 12, 2023, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-04180'. The project is located in San Germán County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.125062399999997,-67.04710088948531,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-04180':

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-04180 consist of the purchase and installation of 32' by 54' livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers and the purchase of a woodchipper, aligner wallow, bush whacker, and heifers. Ground disturbance is required for the installation of the containers and cattle corral. Each container will be placed on six cement cubes with rods in the inside. Each cube will measure two feet square and will be placed on the ground. The livestock trapping (cattle corral) will be anchored to the ground with 3-inch diameter posts at a depth of three feet placed 6-8 feet apart. The project area is located at PR-119 km. 75.6, Bo. Hoconuco Bajo within the Municipality of San Germán. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area of the livestock trapping and containers location was characterized as an agrarian setting in 1959 (the earliest imagery available for the area) and it remains predominantly agricultural through to the present day.

Based on your answers and the assistance of the Service's Caribbean DKey, you determined the proposed Action will have "No Effect" on the following species:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered	No effect
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	Endangered	No effect

Thank you for informing the Service of your "No Effect" determination(s) for this project. No further consultation/coordination for this project is required for these species. However, be aware that reinitiation of consultation may be necessary if later modifications are made to the project so that it no longer meets the criteria or outcome described above, or if new information reveals effects of the action that could affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered, or if a new species is listed.

This letter serves as documentation of your consideration of the federally listed species as required under section 7 of the ESA. However, effects to the other federally listed species or critical habitat as listed below from the "IPaC print-out for the project" (see below) should be considered as part of your ESA review for the project.

The Service will notify you within 30 calendar days if we determine that this proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a "No Effect" (NE) determination for Federally listed species in the Caribbean. If we do not notify you within that timeframe, you may proceed with the Action under the terms of the NE concurrence provided here. This verification period allows the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office to apply local knowledge to evaluate the Action, as we may identify a small subset of actions having unanticipated impacts. In such instances, the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office may request additional information to verify the effects determination reached through the DKey.

Note: Projects located within the range of the Puerto Rican boa or the Virgin Islands tree boa might encounter these species during project activities. **This letter does not provide take to handle or move these species.** If relocation of the species is needed, please contact either the Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources (DNER) at 787-724-5700, 787-230-5550, or

787-771-1124 for projects in Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) at 340-775-6762 for projects in the Virgin Islands. Otherwise, contact the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office (caribbean_es@fws.gov) to determine whether the consultation needs to be reinitiated.

In addition to the species listed above, the following species and/or critical habitats may also occur in your project area and **are not** covered by this conclusion. Effects to the other federally listed species or critical habitat as listed below should be considered as part of your ESA review for the project.

- Puerto Rican Parrot *Amazona vittata* Endangered

If the proposed project is located within species range where a DKey has not been developed for those species, please follow the established guidance for initiating section 7 consultation Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office.

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

Action Description

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

1. Name

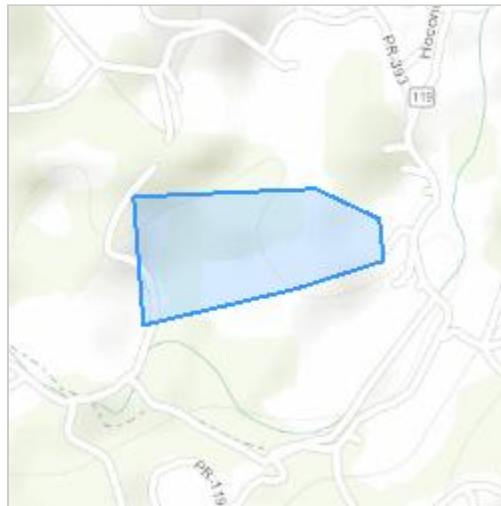
PR-RGRW-04180

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-04180':

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-04180 consist of the purchase and installation of 32' by 54' livestock trapping (cattle corral) and two 40' containers and the purchase of a woodchipper, aligner wallow, bush whacker, and heifers. Ground disturbance is required for the installation of the containers and cattle corral. Each container will be placed on six cement cubes with rods in the inside. Each cube will measure two feet square and will be placed on the ground. The livestock trapping (cattle corral) will be anchored to the ground with 3-inch diameter posts at a depth of three feet placed 6-8 feet apart. The project area is located at PR-119 km. 75.6, Bo. Hoconuco Bajo within the Municipality of San Germán. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area of the livestock trapping and containers location was characterized as an agrarian setting in 1959 (the earliest imagery available for the area) and it remains predominantly agricultural through to the present day.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.125062399999997,-67.04710088948531,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

Yes

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

Automatically answered

Yes

11. Does the proposed project intersect the Puerto Rican Broad-winged hawk area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes
