

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

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-01306

Project Name: Anibal Rivera Fuentes

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico/ Corozal, PR

Preparer: Andrew McCadden

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Permit and Compliance Officers: Pedro A. De León Rodríguez.

Consultant (if applicable): Tetra Tech, 251 Calle Recinto Sur, Ste. 202, San Juan, PR 00091

Direct Comments to: PRDOH (environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov)

Project Location:

The property is a 33.38-acre site located at Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmaritos in the Municipality of Corozal, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 194-000-003-20-901). The coordinates of the project parcel are 18.266384, -66.346723.

The land is currently in used for cattle herding and raising. The past land use was for the growing of plantains, bananas, and other minor vegetables.

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

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the proposed project is approximately 0.18 acres. The proposed use of grant funds is for the purchase and installation of a water well and a fence.

The applicant plans to install a water well at 18.265717, -66.347158. The water well will be drilled to approximately 300 feet (ft) underground. The well installation boring diameter is 9.5 inch (") for a final casing of 4" PVC Schedule 40, The proposal includes the construction of an on-site concrete pad measuring 4 ft by 4 ft to delineate well location. Well includes the pumping system with the installation of a 1.5 horsepower water pump.

Power needed for the operation of the well will be supplied from the applicant residence power service connection. An electrical trench of approximately 300 linear ft at 3 feet depth will be required for the electric connection. The purpose of the water well is for irrigation of the field and water supply for the cattle.

Additionally, the applicant plans to construct a fence on the property located at coordinates 18.266621, -66.346113, 18.267027, -66.346303, 18.267689, -66.349087, and 18.267567, -66.351365. The construction consists of a fence with wood specks of 6 feet long and barbed wired. The wood specks will be installed every 10 ft at a depth of 2 ft, therefore the maximum expected ground disturbance for the fence is no more than 3 feet below ground surface. The fence will be installed on the inside of the perimeter of the parcel, the riverbank will limit the north side of the fence while the south side of the fence was traced by the applicant's need to control the cattle. The fence will be approximately 4,000 feet long. The purpose of the fence is to secure cattle. The construction of the fence will require some vegetation removal, cutting of some tree branches and/or shrubs for access.

No new water or electric power connection to the local utility services is required. The applicant's residence is currently connected to the electrical local service. Power needed for the operation of the well will be supplied from the applicant residence via an underground electrical conduit of approximately 300 linear ft at a depth of 3 feet. Water is currently supplied from the near river.

Site photos are included in **Appendix A**. A site map (Figure 1) is included in **Appendix B**.

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

The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) will increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. The purpose of this project is to provide better facilities and the required infrastructure to the operations of the farm. This agricultural project associated with the purchase and installation of a water well and a fence is keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The land proposed for the installation of the water well and fence is used for agricultural purposes. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with the project. Some ground disturbance will be required.

Structure of this Environmental Review Report (ERR).

This ERR discusses the Funding Information immediately below. The environmental impacts of the proposed action are discussed in the Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5

and 58.6 Laws and Authorities checklist and Environmental Factors checklist. The listing of Additional Studies Performed, and Sources, Agencies and Persons Consulted follows the checklists. The discussions of Public Outreach, Cumulative Impacts, Alternatives, and Summary of Findings and Conclusions are presented at the end of the ERR, before the listing of Mitigation Measures and Determination signatures. The appendices contain detailed information.

- Appendix A – Site Inspection
- Appendix B – Maps
- Appendix C – Additional Documentation
- Appendix D – Endangered Species
- Appendix E – SHPO Consultation

Funding Information

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

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$49,623.75

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$49,623.75

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	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The nearest civil airport, “Fernando Luis Ribas

24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D		Dominicci”, is approximately 107,977 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport, “Luis Muñoz Marín” is approximately 130,357 feet from the proposed site. The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements. Refer to Figure 2 in Appendix B .
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Puerto Rico has various Coastal Barrier Resources Systems (CBRS). The project is in northeastern Puerto Rico. The distance to the nearest CBRS unit is 73,976 feet. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. Refer to Figure 3 in Appendix B .
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Project site is located in Zone X, area of minimal flood hazard, a 100-year floodplain per Floodplain Insurance Map 72000C0690H, effective date April 19, 2005. This project is in compliance with Floodplain Insurance requirements. (See Figures 4 and 5, in Appendix B .)

STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5		
Clean Air Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Project site is in a county or air quality management district that is in attainment status for all criteria pollutants. The Municipio of Corozal is not listed in the EPA Green Book “Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for all Criteria Pollutants”. The purchase and installation of a water well and fence would have no impact on air quality. The project is in compliance with Clean Air Act. Refer to EPA listing in Appendix C .
Coastal Zone Management Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is located 69,772 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the PR Coastal Zone Management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See Figure 7 in Appendix B .

<p>Contamination and Toxic Substances</p> <p>24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. A site visit conducted on May 11, 2023, no debris or rubbish or visible signs vegetative stress, contamination, or toxic substances were noted at the project site.</p> <p>Site contamination was evaluated through online data searches to determine if toxic sites are located within 3,000-feet of the proposed project. There are no sites of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet of the project site.</p> <p>Refer to Figures 8 and 9 in Appendix B and the Site Inspection Report and Photos in Appendix A. The project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances.</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>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence located in an area that has been previously used for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>According to EPA NEPAAssist Enviromapper, the nearest critical or proposed critical habitat is 67,672 feet to the southeast of the project location. Per the Official Species List from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website, the Puerto Rican Boa can be found, but there are no critical habitat at this location.</p> <p>A site-specific review of endangered species was conducted in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended: 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) (See Appendix D).</p> <p>The project is Not Likely to Adversely Affect the Puerto Rican Boa, provided the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020 (Appendix D) are implemented as part of the project.</p> <p>If a Puerto Rican Boa is encountered, work will cease until it moves off the site or, failing that, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers will</p>

		<p>be notified for safe capture and relocation of the animal.</p> <p>Refer to Figures 10 and 11 in Appendix B and the USFWS Consultation Package in Appendix D. This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.</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>The project does not include development, construction, or rehabilitation that will increase residential density.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable Hazard requirements.</p> <p>Refer to site visit report in Appendix A.</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>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The project site is not designated as farmland of statewide importance or prime farmland. The project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to nonagricultural use. Although the project includes new construction, the project is exempt from review under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) as the project is limited to construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations. No further review is required.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with the FPPA. Refer to Figure 12 in Appendix B.</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 site is not located in a 100-year floodplain per Floodplain Insurance Map 72000C0690H, effective date April 19, 2005. The project site is not located in Preliminary Firm or an Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) special flood hazard area.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. See Figures 4, 5 and 6 in Appendix B.</p>
<p>Historic Preservation</p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966,</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site was evaluated on June 6, 2023, by an SOI Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian. Additionally, the site was evaluated on June 11, 2023, by an SOI Qualified Archaeologist. SHPO concurred with a finding of No Historic</p>

<p>particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>		<p>Properties Affected within the project's Area of Potential on Effects on August 18, 2023.</p> <p>Refer to Figure 13 in Appendix B and the report in Appendix E. This project is in compliance with Historic Preservation requirements.</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>HUD's noise regulations protect residential properties from excessive noise exposure. The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence at a farm site. HUD noise regulations do not apply as the project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The proposed project is in compliance with Noise Abatement and Control.</p>
<p>Sole Source Aquifers</p> <p>Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.</p>
<p>Wetlands Protection</p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The northern coast is 76,350 feet northeast of the property. The closest fresh-water bodies include the "Quebrada Riachuelo", an unnamed creek, and the "Río Grande De Manatí". The "Quebrada Riachuelo" outline the east and northern border of the property and is located at an estimated distance of 55 feet of the proposed fence APE area. The unnamed creek, tributary of the "Quebrada Riachuelo", borders the parcel east/southeast/south boundaries and is located at approximately 280 ft to the southeast of the well APE area. The "Río Grande De Manatí" is located 1,508 feet to the northwest of the property northwest boundary.</p> <p>The NWI maps identifies the unnamed creek and the "Quebrada Riachuelo" as a riverine wetland. Due to the proximity of the proposed fence to the identified wetland area an undisturbed natural buffer equal or greater than 50 feet, supplemented by standard construction BMPs, and erosion and sediment controls will be kept at all times during ground disturbance activities.</p>

		<p>APE will be clearly delimited prior to the initiation of the construction activities. With these mitigations the construction of the fence would not impact the water bodies/wetlands and includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The proposed location of the well is 280 feet away from the identified wetland.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. Refer to Figure 14 in Appendix B.</p>
<p>Wild and Scenic Rivers</p> <p>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project is not within proximity of a National Wild and Scenic River (WSR). The distance to the nearest WSR is approximately 192,007 feet. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Refer to Figure 15 in Appendix B.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
<p>Environmental Justice</p> <p>Executive Order 12898</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>No adverse environmental impacts were identified in any other compliance review portion of this project that may disproportionately be high for low-income and/or minority communities. Therefore, this topic complies with Executive Order 12898.</p>

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 project is located on a private farm. The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The project site is zoned as “Agrícola de Alta Densidad (A.a)”. The proposed action is compliant with the current agricultural land use of the Project area.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The proposed project is located in rural mountainous terrain, previously used for agricultural purposes, and now used for raising and herding cattle. Soils in the proposed project area are classified as Mucara Clay (MxF), 40 to 60 percent slopes, The project area is surrounded by mature and young secondary vegetation, 390-440 meters above mean sea level.</p> <p>The proposed location area for the well has been cleared and maintained and it will not require grading. However, the construction of the fence will require some vegetation removal, cutting of some tree branches and/or shrubs for access.</p> <p>The project site area is rated as “moderate” to “very high” for landslide susceptibility (see Figure 16 in Appendix B). The proposed location of the water well and fence does not require grading. There will be no human habitation associated with the structure and therefore extensive mitigation measures will not be required, such as retaining walls or special engineering design. Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction. There will be little to no additional runoff associated with the project.</p>
Hazards and Nuisances	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. During implementation of the project, construction activities may result in temporary elevation of ambient noise levels in immediate areas around active

including Site Safety and Noise		construction areas. The only nearby receptors are the residents of the farm. There is no access to the project area by the public. Standard BMPs, such as construction fencing, would be applied to protect the farm residents and public from typical construction hazards.
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Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
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SOCIOECONOMIC

Employment and Income Patterns	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. Temporary employment of workers related to construction activities would result, but no new permanent jobs would be created as a result of this project. These workers are expected to come from the local region. However, since the project will include an economic component, it may aid in restoring some employment opportunities and increase income. The proposed project would not negatively impact employment or income patterns.
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Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The proposed project would not result in demographic character changes or displacement. Given the nature of the project area, no relocations or demolition of residential structures or businesses would occur as part of this project.
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Environmental Justice	2	In the area (one mile radius) in which project will occur. 100% are people of color compared to PR average of 96% 69% are low income compared to PR average of 70% 19% are unemployed compared to PR average of 15% The purchase and installation of a water well and fence will result in restoration and increase in income and potential employment opportunities in the local area. The impacts would be beneficial. See EJSscreen Report in Appendix C
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Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
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COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The project would not result in any change to regional or local area educational and cultural facilities or increase demand for them.
Commercial Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The agricultural activity of the project property will improve. Other commercial facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. Health care and social services facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project. The project would not increase demand for health care and social services facilities.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	Waste vegetation from clearing activities will either be composted on site or at regional composting centers. Soil from grading would be recycled on the farm as fill. Left over construction materials that could be reused on the farm would be stored for later use. The remaining construction solid waste materials would be collected for transport to the local landfill. The amount of impact of solid waste resulting from the construction of the proposed project would be minor. During operations, the products and by-products would be agricultural, which waste would be biodegradable. Other waste components related to the operation of the proposed project includes recyclable materials such as plastics and cardboard. Recyclables will be set aside and dispose according to the local recycling management plan. The remaining municipal solid waste would be collected for the transport to the local landfill.
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The proposed project would not include any bathrooms, wastewater, or sewage facilities. Current farm conditions would remain unchanged.
Water Supply	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The proposed project will have no impact on local utility water usage. The construction of the well has an approved permit from the PRDNER dated January 30, 2023, under the Permit Number O-FA-PPAG1-SJ-00250-17012023. (See Appendix C). Water withdrawal is limited and metered as per approved permit to a maximum withdrawal flow rate of 9,600 gallons per day. The proposed project will have minor impact to water supply.

Public Safety – Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The proposed project would not create any new demand for emergency or health services.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The proposed project would not create or destroy any new parks, open space, or recreational activities. It also would not increase use of those facilities.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The proposed project would not involve the creation of new roads nor any increase in long-term traffic on existing roads. There would be some minor use of the existing road during construction. All residents and businesses would retain access to their properties during and after the project.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The proposed project will be situated on land previously used for agriculture and will have no impact to unique natural features or water resources. The proposed water withdrawal from the new well will be controlled under a permit. The impact to water resources will be minor.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The proposed project will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity. Installation of the fence would involve removal and clearing of some vegetation. The proposed project will have minimal impact on vegetation and wildlife.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
CLIMATE AND ENERGY		
Climate Change Impacts	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. This is a small agricultural project with no measurable impact on climate change factors. The project area is rural and does not have urban heat island effects. There would be no changes to the site configuration or structure that would

		specifically address the possibility and uncertainty of rising sea levels or the possibility of increases in rainfall intensity. With respect to climate change impact on the project, agricultural activities could be affected by drought.
Energy Efficiency/Energy Consumption	2	The proposed project would not include any new electrical connection to local utility service. The existing facility has the electrical utility service. The power needed for the operation of the water well will be achieved by connecting the electrical components of the well to the existing service from the applicant residence. There will be a minor change to the energy demand in the area due to the proposed project.

Additional Studies Performed: None required.

Field Inspection (Date and completed by):

Site inspection was conducted on May 11, 2023 by Carlos Medina.

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

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems:

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

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

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

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

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

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Conservation Online System:

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/report/species-listings-by-state?stateAbbrev=PR&stateName=Puerto%20Rico&statusCategory=Listed>

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

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

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

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

US Geological Survey, Data Release of May Showing Concentration of Landslides Caused by Hurricane Maria,

www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/59de6459e4b05fe04ccd39d8

List of Permits Obtained:

PRDNER Permit Number O-FA-PPAG1-SJ-00250-17012023 dated January 30, 2023

Public Outreach [24 CFR 58.43]:

The local community has been very proactive in the recovery process. Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture has worked closely with the agricultural community. The project 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 proposed project. The project consists of the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. The growth of agricultural products at the farm would not increase. The project would allow the cattle herd to be maintained on the property and for the well water to be used for irrigation and as a water supply for the cattle. The possible cumulative impacts associated to the proposed project are related to the increase in energy demand needed to operate the water well, and the withdrawal of groundwater to supply water needs for operational purposes. Power demand increase is minor, and the withdrawal of water is contained under a permit that allows a maximum daily flow rate of 9,600 gallons. There are no other wells nearby to be affected.

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

The RGRW Program's goal is to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island-wide. This Program seeks to enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. The applicant submitted a proposal to enhance agricultural facilities and infrastructure on their property through the purchase and installation of a water well and fence. Any alternative that would involve an off-property location would not enhance agricultural operations or allow for the economic development for this applicant. Among the possible impacts of alternative location, the location of the well and the fence off-property will not satisfy farms needs to secure and provide

water to cattle. Alternative parcel location might require the purchase of land. Alternative location of the well will require transportation of water to supply farms need or the continuation of the stream as water supply. The need to transport water from an off-property location might represent the need to install pipes or an increase in traffic and other vial impacts due to the transportation of water. Alternative locations off and on property may represent an impact to undisturbed and/or uneven ground which could require heavier clearing, grading and cutting activities. An offsite alternative could require the drilling of a new well, the submittal and approval of a new permit, and the need to connect the facilities to local utility services if available. Given the above-mentioned possible impacts of an alternative location, an off-property alternative was not selected.

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

Under the No Action Alternative, the applicant would not receive federal funding for the purchase and installation of a water well and fence, 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 continue 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 federal agencies associated with the topics evaluated above. There are no environmental review topics addressed above that result in the need for additional formal compliance steps with federal agencies or the requirement for mitigations other than those listed below. There may be additional approvals or permits from local agencies. For example, the Office of Permit Management (OGPe) is responsible for granting permits, licenses, certifications, consultations, construction, and any other procedure necessary for business development and land use in Puerto Rico.

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
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Endangered Species	Implement Puerto Rican Boa conservation measures prior to and during construction to avoid or minimize impacts to this species.
Water Supply	The construction of the well has an approved permit from the PRDNER dated January 30, 2023, under the Permit Number O-FA-PPAG1-SJ-00250-17012023. Conditions stated in the permit will be implemented and satisfied. Well will be only used for agricultural purposes with a maximum withdrawal flow rate of 9,600 gallons per day.
Wetlands Protection	Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction.
Permits or Agency Approvals Required	
Permit or Approval	Permit Conditions
Ground disturbance	Projects whose earthworks are more than 40 m ³ must submit an Incidental Permit. The permit must be submitted via the Single Business Portal to the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by the Water Quality Division of the PRDNER. Any necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor prior to construction activities.
Clearing activities	Activities involving the excavation or movement of any component of the terrestrial cortex material that exceeds five hundred (500) cubic meters and up to a maximum of five thousand (5,000) cubic meters require the submittal and approval of a Simple Terrestrial Cortex Removal Permit. Applications are submitted via the Single Business Portal of the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by terrestrial Cortex Extraction Permit Division of the PRDNER.
Well/Stream withdrawal	Well or water intake activities require a construction and operation permit form the Water Permits and Franchises Division (DPFA) of the PRDRNER. The SOW does involve the drilling, construction and installation of a water well. The construction of the proposed well has an approved permit from the PRDNER dated January 30, 2023, under the Permit Number O-FA-PPAG1-SJ-00250-17012023. Conditions stated in the permit will be implemented and satisfied. Well will be only used for agricultural purposes with a maximum withdrawal flow rate of 9,600 gallons per day. However, the applicant is responsible for any permits or actions to ensure current permit is active and/or the legalization (if needed) of well usage/operation once constructed. Any necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor prior to construction activities.
Utility Connections- Water supply	The project does not involve new connections to the local utility services. Facilities have local water utility services connections. However, the applicant is responsible for any

	permits or actions to ensure legalization of utility connections (if needed) prior to construction activities.
Utility Connections- LUMA/PRASA	The project does not involve new utility connections. Facilities have local utility services connections. However, the applicant is responsible for any permits or actions to ensure legalization of utility connections (if needed) prior to construction activities.

Determination:

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

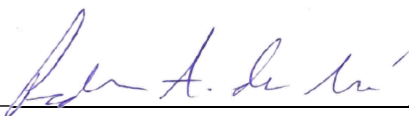
The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

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: 2/14/2024

Name/Title/Organization: Andrew McCadden, Senior Biologist, Tetra Tech Inc.

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: 3/21/2024

Name/Title: Pedro A. de León Rodríguez, MSEM/Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist

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

APPENDIX A

Site Inspection and Photos

Environmental Field Observation - Puerto Rico Department of Housing

APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Application ID	PR-RGRW-01306		
Applicant Name	ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES		
Property Address	Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito		
Parcel ID	194-000-003-20		
Coordinates	18.266384, -66.346723		
Inspector Name	Carlos O. Medina		
Inspection Date	05/11/2023		
Building Type	vacant		
Number of Units	0		
Number of Stories	0		
Year Built; Data Source	C2015; Historian		
ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS (attach photos and notes, as necessary, for any YES answers)			
OBSERVATION ITEMS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
A. Is the structure in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
B. Is structure a greenhouse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
C. Is Electricity connected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Power is connected thru applicant house.
D. Is water connected? (Utilities or Well)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Water is supplied from near river.
1. Are there signs of poor housekeeping on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Are there any 55-gallon drums visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Are there any (or signs of any) underground storage tanks on the property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Are there signs of ASTs on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5. Is there any stained soil or pavement on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6. Is a water drainage system in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of Fertilizer or Pesticides ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Are there any groundwater monitoring wells on the site or adjacent parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Is there evidence of a faulty septic system ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Is there distressed vegetation on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11. Is there any visible indication of MOLD ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

12. Is there any visible evidence of asbestos, chipping, flaking or peeling paint, or hazardous materials present in or on the structure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
13. Are any additional site hazards observed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	River stream is Northeast/North of the farm
15. Does the subject property have water frontage ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
16. Is there any indication of the presence of Wetlands ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
17. Are there any obvious signs of animals or birds nesting on or near the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
18. Is the applicant aware of any significant historical event or persons associated with the structure, or of it being located in a historic district/area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
19. Is a historic marker present?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Additional Notes:

Re Grow Additional Notes:
Case: PR-RGRW-01306
Project Name: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES
Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723

Is the field graded? For what purpose the field was graded? Month, Year: Applicant states some areas was trimming in November, 2021 only for the purpose of grass trimming.

Scope of Work: Purchase and installation of a water well and a fence (farm supplies).

Land current in use for: Land in use for grow of cattle. Around 25 heads.

Past Land use was: Platains, bananas and minor vegetables.

The applicant plans to do:
Scope of work 1: Water well, 300 feet deep with a pad 4' x 4'.

Scope of work 2: Fence, with wood specks and barber wire.

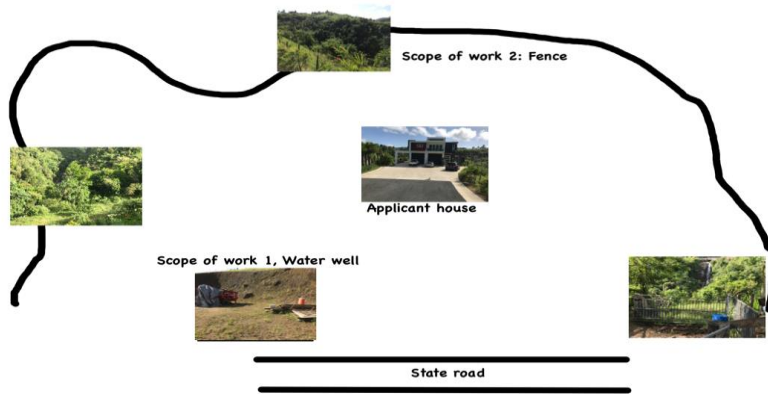
Where the applicant plans to do the ground disturbances for the scopes of work, add the coordinates, descriptions and approximately the measurements:

Scope of work 1: 18.265717, -66.347158
Water well drill to 300' underground approximately. A pad construction in cement of 4' x 4'. Power will be supplied by the applicant power services from his home. The purpose of the water well are for irrigation of the field and supplied to the cattle.

Scope of work 2: 18.266621, -66.346113, 18.267027, -66.346303, 18.267689, -66.349087, 18.267567, -66.351365
Fence with wood specks of 6' long and barber wired. The wood specks will be 2' underground. Fence will be installed on the outside perimeter of the parcel, limited by the river. This fence will be oriented from Northeast to West. Approximately 4,000' long. The purpose of the fence is to maintain the cattle secure.

Any new water connection or power connection?
Power will be from the main power intake from the applicant house to the water well pad, approximately 300' long and will be 3' underground.
No new water connection, only the water well system.

Site Sketch



Front of Structure

Photo Direction: South



Facing Away From Front

Photo Direction: North



Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction: West



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction: East



Back of Structure

Photo Direction: North



Facing Away From Back

Photo Direction: South



Side #2 of Structure

Photo Direction: East



Facing Away From Side #2

Photo Direction: West



Streetscape #1

Photo Direction: Northwest



Streetscape #2

Photo Direction: South



Address

Photo Direction: North



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Applicant house

Photo Direction: North



Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Photo Description: River

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: West



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: West



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: West



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: West



Electricity Connected

Photo Description: Power intake pole

Photo Direction: East



Standing Water

Photo Description: River

Photo Direction: Northeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Area for the water well

Photo Direction: South



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work1: Area for the water well

Photo Direction: Northeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Fence

Photo Direction: North



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Fence

Photo Direction: West



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Fence

Photo Direction: Northwest



Scope Of Work

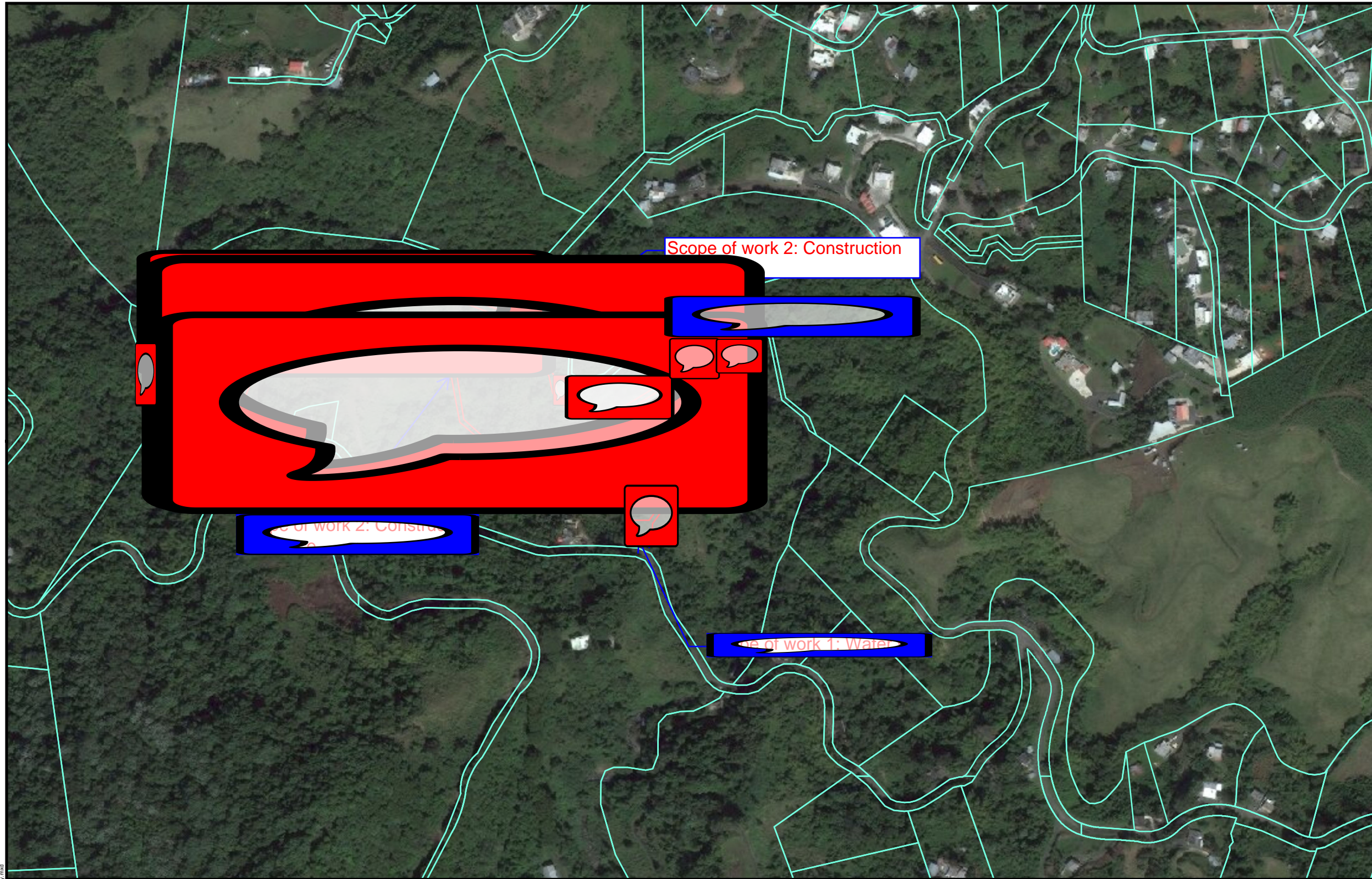
Photo Description: Scope of work map reference

Photo Direction: North



APPENDIX B

Maps



- Legend**
-  Project
 -  Parcels
 -  Area of Potential Effect

PUERTO RICO



Figure 1: PROJECT LOCATION

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306

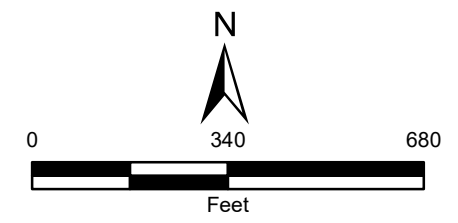
ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, PR 00783

Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384 , -66.346723



Source: CRIM
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>
 Author: TG Date: 6/20/2023





Legend

-  Project Parcel
-  Civilian Runway Protection Zones
-  Military Accident Potential Zones
-  Airport Runways
-  Civilian Airport 2,500 Feet Buffer
-  Military Airport 15,000 Feet Buffer

**Distance to Nearest Airport
in Feet: 107977 FEET**

PUERTO RICO



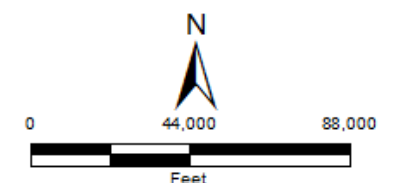
**Figure 2: AIRPORT ZONES
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306**

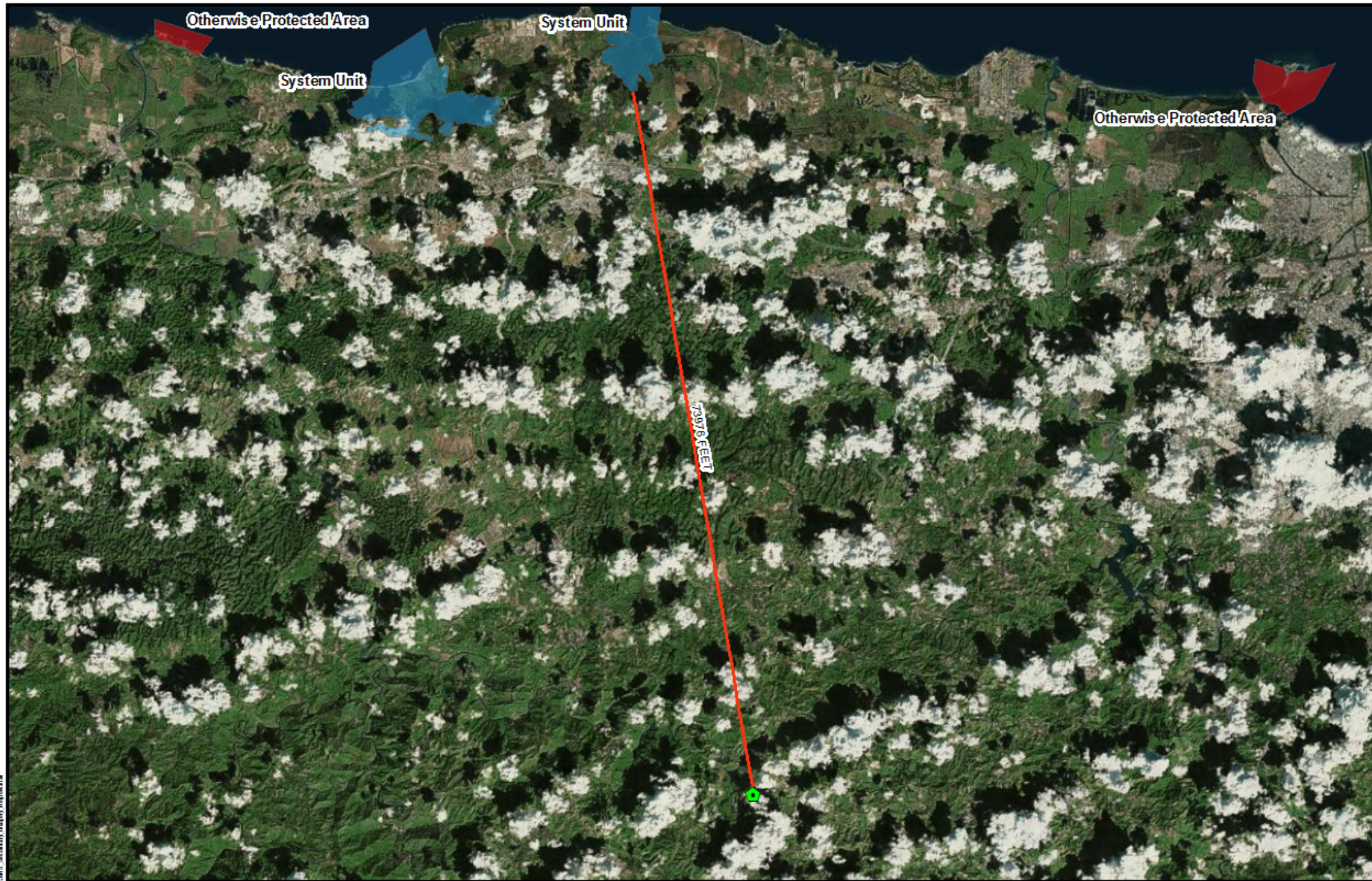
ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, Corozal, PR 00783
 Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723



Source: USDOT
<https://www.faa.gov>

Author: TG Date: 6/2/2023





Legend

Project Parcel

Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit Type

Otherwise Protected

System Unit

Distance to Nearest Coastal Barrier Resources System in Feet: 73976 FEET

PUERTO RICO



**Figure 3: COASTAL BARRIERS IMPROVEMENT ACT
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306**

ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, Corozal, PR 00783

Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

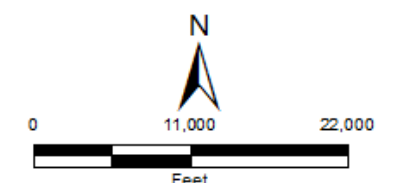
Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723

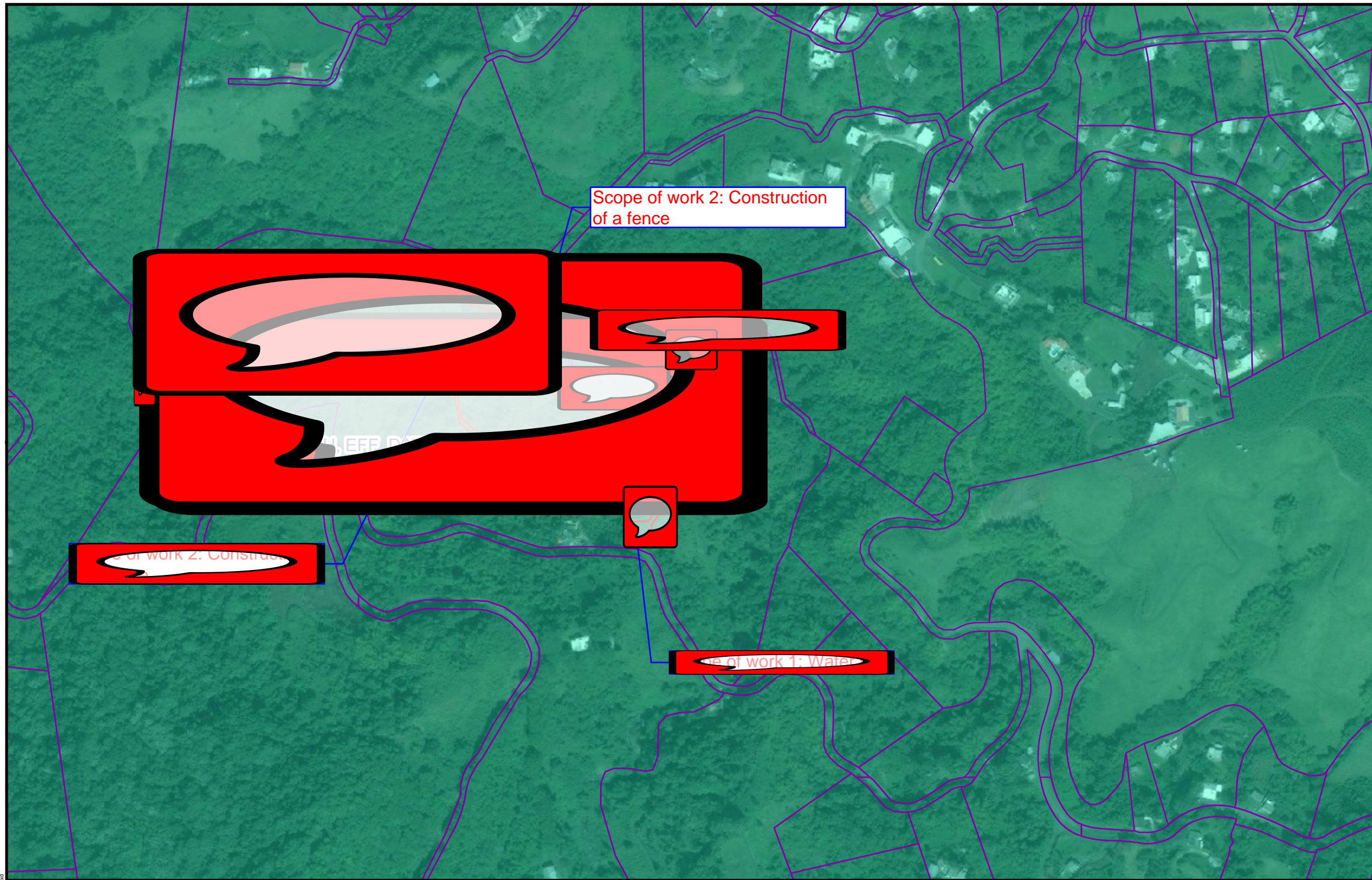











Source: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service
<https://www.fws.gov>

Author: TG

Date: 6/5/2023





- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
 -  Parcels
 -  FIRM Panels
 -  Floodway
 -  100 Yr Floodzone
 -  500 Yr Floodzone
 -  Area Of Minimal Flood Hazard
 -  Unmapped for Floodplain
 -  Area of Potential Effect

PUERTO RICO



**Figure 4: FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306**

ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, PR 00783

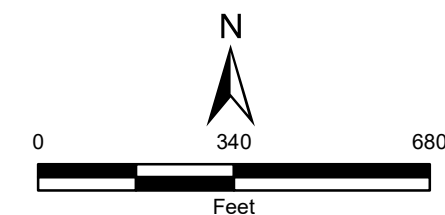
Name of Development:

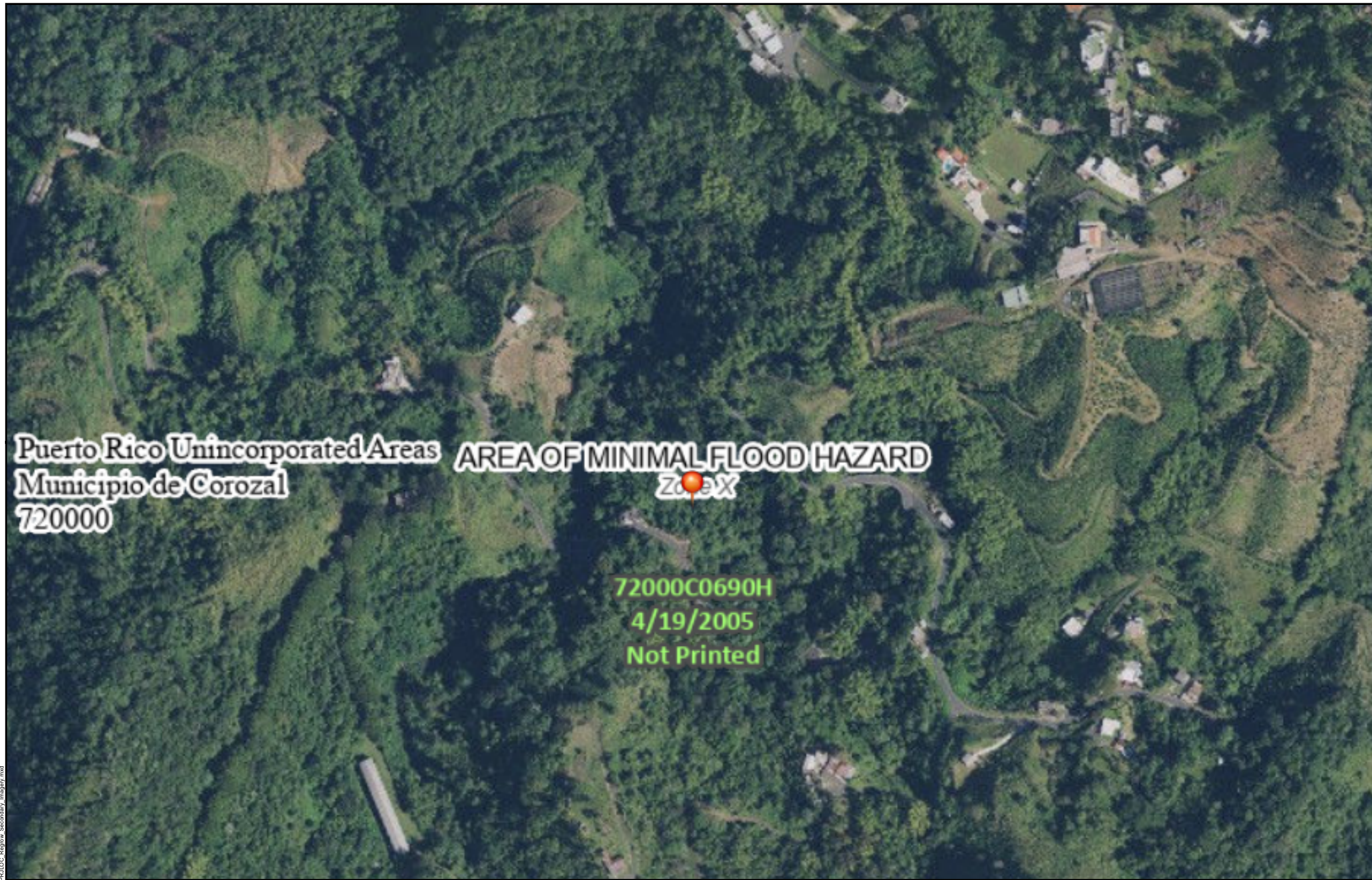
Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723



Source: FEMA
<https://msc.fema.gov>

Author: TG Date: 8/30/2023





Puerto Rico Unincorporated Areas
 Municipio de Corozal
 720000

AREA OF MINIMAL FLOOD HAZARD
 Zone X

72000C0690H
 4/19/2005
 Not Printed

Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A, V, A99
		With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR
		Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D
OTHER AREAS		NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X
		Effective LOMRs
		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
OTHER FEATURES		Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
		Coastal Transect
		Coastal Transect
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
MAP PANELS		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped
		The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

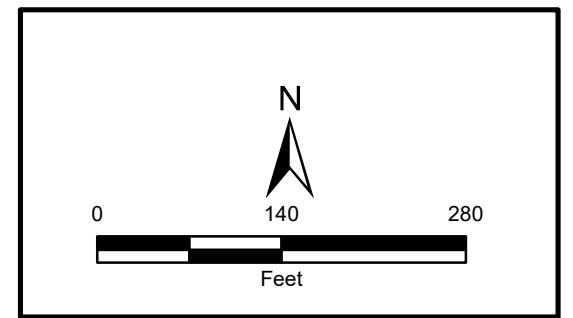


FIGURE 5: NATIONAL FLOOD HAZARD LAYER FIRMETTE

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306

ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, Corozal, PR 00783

Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

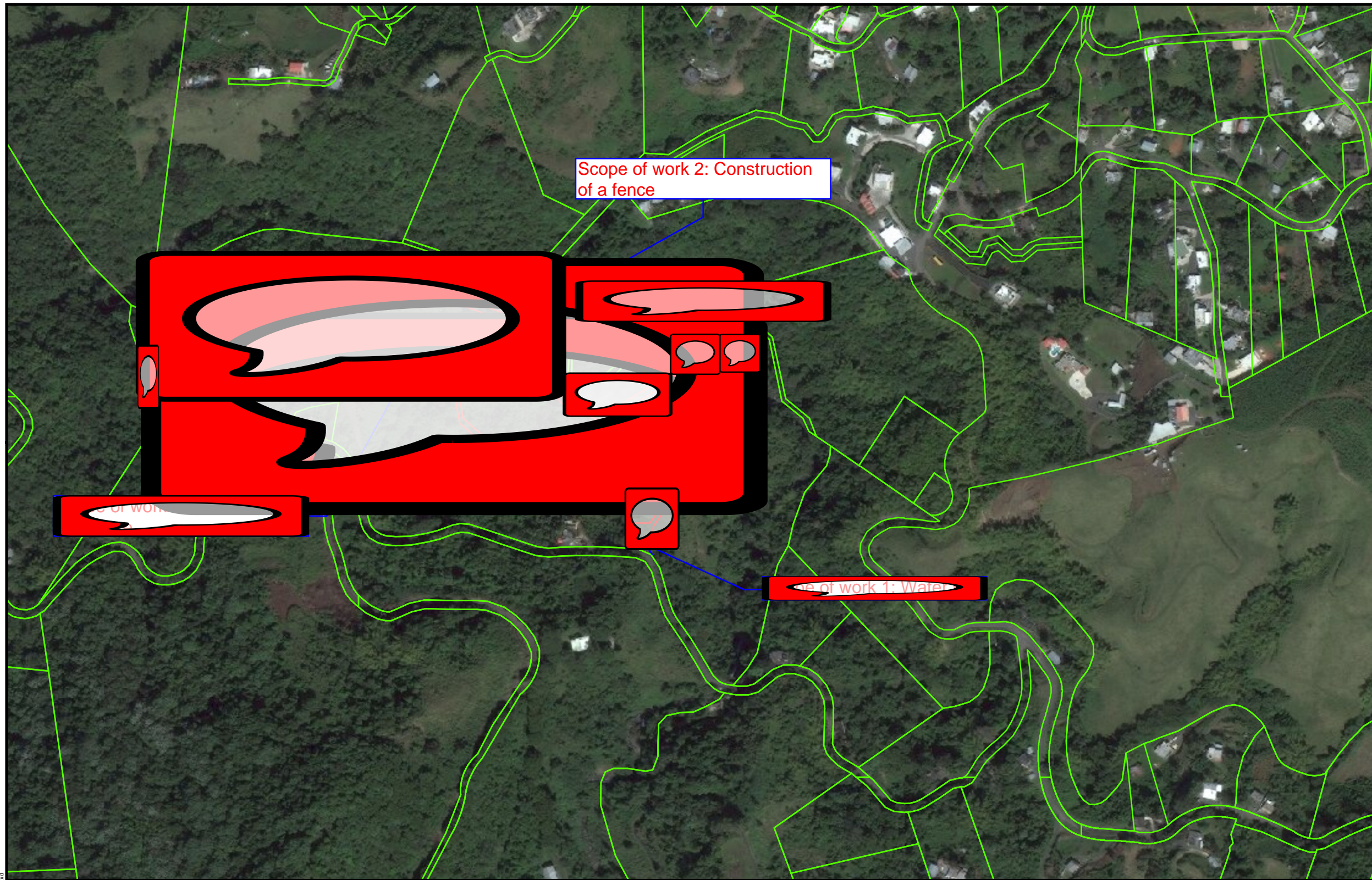
Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723



Source: FEMA
<https://www.msc.fema.gov>

Author: TG Date: 5/31/2023

File Path: \\sila20\gis\GIS\CDR\PR\Acc\GIS\SHAPE\TDR\DATA\USFIRM\FIRM\LOC_Regrow_Secondary_Imagery.mxd



- Legend**
- Project Parcel
 - Parcels
 - PuertoRico_ABFE_1PCT
 - Advisory Base Flood Elevation (zoom in to make visible)
 -
 - Flood Hazard Boundary (zoom in to make visible)
 - Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LIMWA)
 -
 - Flood Hazard Extent
 - 1% Annual Chance Flood
 - 0.2% Annual Chance Flood
 - Zone/BFE Boundary
 -
 - Flood Hazard Area (zoom in to make visible)
 - Flood Hazard Zone
 - A
 - AO
 - AE
 - Coastal A Zone
 - VE
 - X 0.2% Annual Chance Flood
 - A-Floodway
 - AE-Floodway
 - Coastal A Zone and Floodway
 - Area of Potential Effect

PUERTO RICO



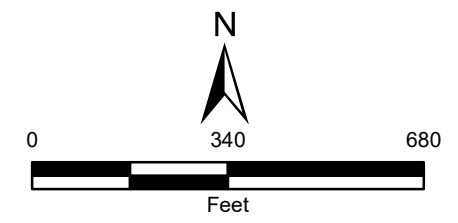
Figure 6: ADVISORY BASE FLOOD ELEVATION
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306

ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, PR 00783
 Name of Development:
 Parcel Coordinates :18.266384 , -66.346723

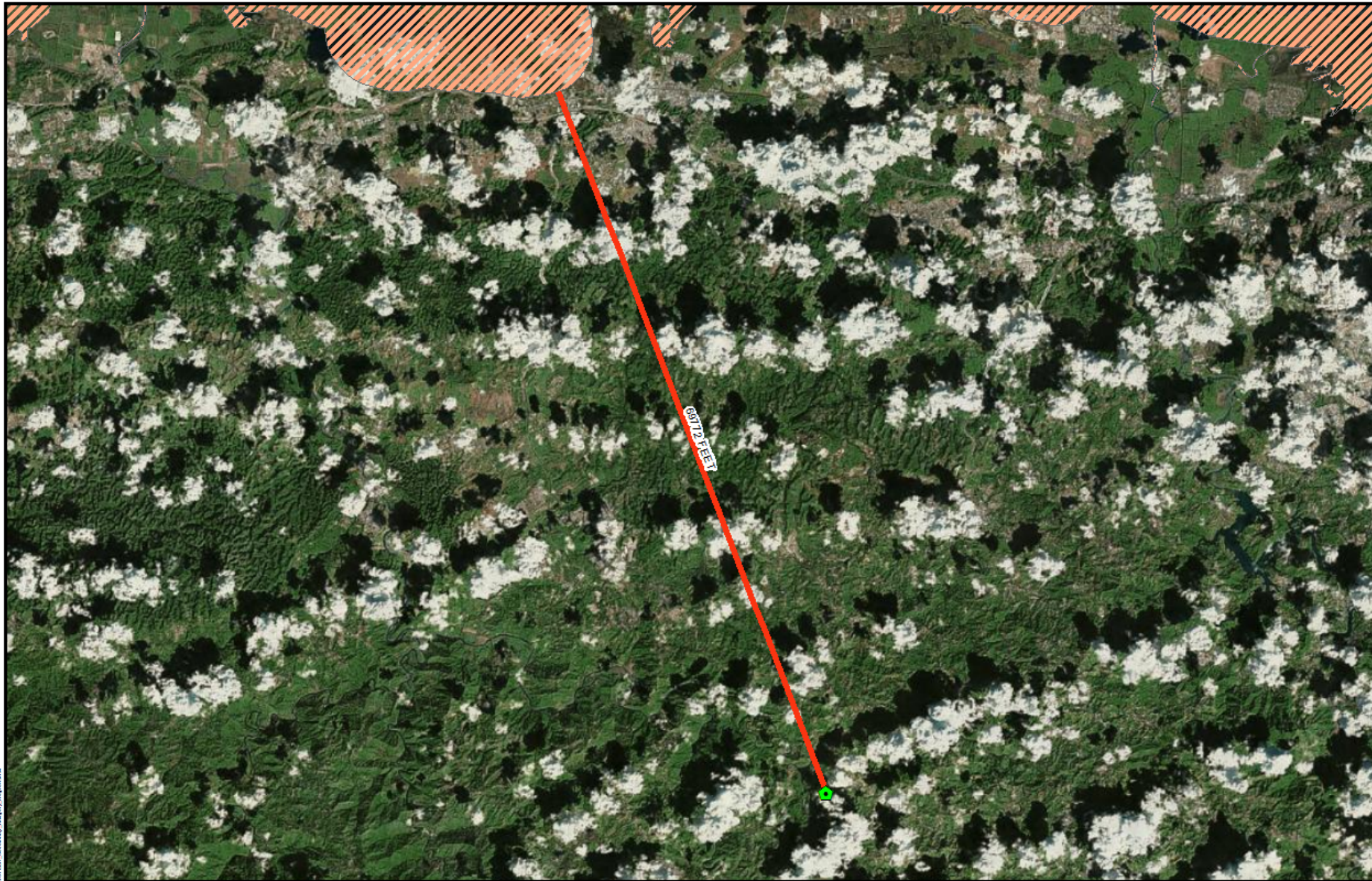




Source: FEMA
<https://gis.fema.gov>

Author: TG Date: 8/30/2023



File Path: Z:\data\USPRT\Fig\ABFE_Secundary_Imagery_Register.mxd



- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
 -  Coastal Zone Management Boundary

Distance to Nearest Coastal Zone: 69772 FEET

PUERTO RICO



Figure 7: COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

APPLICANT ID:PR-RGRW-01306

ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, Corozal, PR 00783

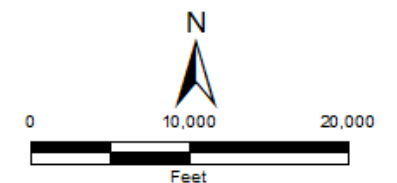
Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723



Source: NOAA's Ocean Service
<https://data.noaa.gov>

Author: TG Date: 6/5/2023





- Legend**
- RCRA
 - Project Parcel
 - ▲ Toxic Release Inventory Site
 - Superfund Site
 - Brownfield Sites
 - 3000 Ft Buffer TRI
 - 3000 Ft Buffer Superfund
 - 3000 Ft Buffer RCRA
 - 3000 Ft Buffer Brownfield

PUERTO RICO



**Figure 8: TOXIC CHEMICALS AND GASES, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS,
CONTAMINATION, AND RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306**

ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, Corozal, PR 00783

Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723

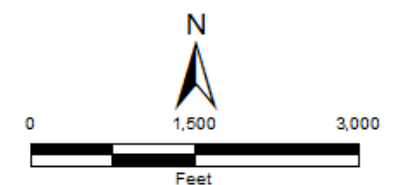


Source: E.P.A.

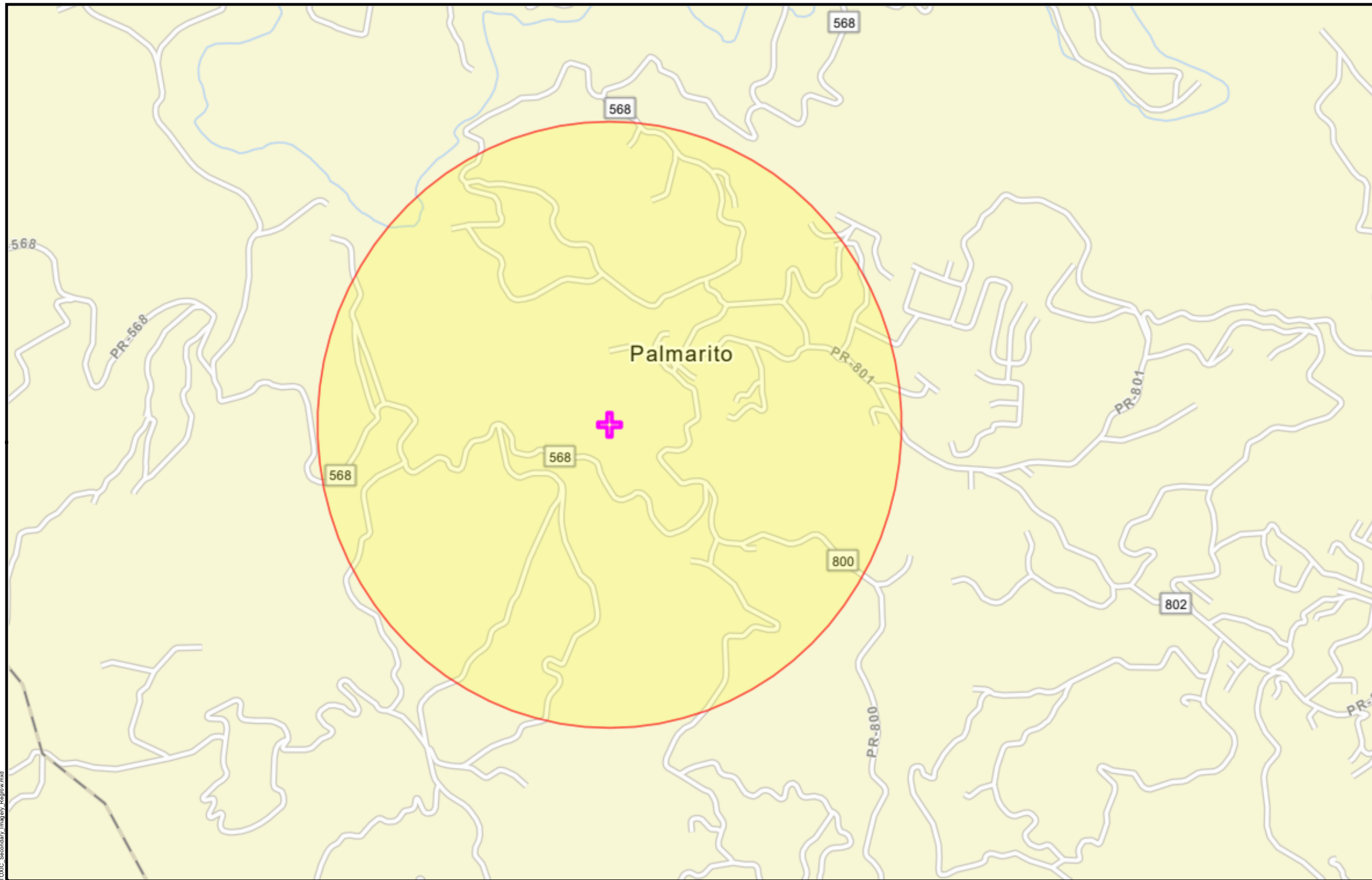
<https://www.epa.gov/fs/geospatial-data-download-service>

Author: J/BAK

Date: 6/1/2023



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Legend

- Superfund (NPL)
- Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
- Toxic Releases (TRI)
- Brownfields (ACRES)
- Hazardous Waste (RCRAInfo)
- Project Parcel

PUERTO RICO



Figure 9: NEPA Assist Map

APPLICANT ID:PR-RGRW-01306

ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, Corozal, PR 00783

Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723

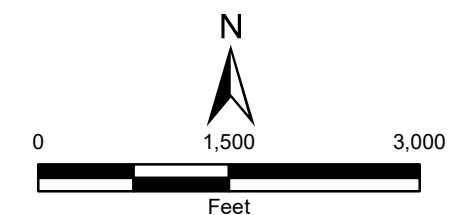


Source: E.P.A.

<https://www.epa.gov/frs/geospatial-data-download-service>

Author: JB/AK


Date: 5/18/2023





Legend

 Project Parcel

 Area of Critical Habitat

PUERTO RICO



Figure 10: ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306

ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, Corozal, PR 00783

Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

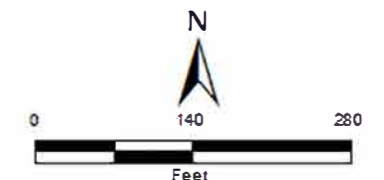
Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723

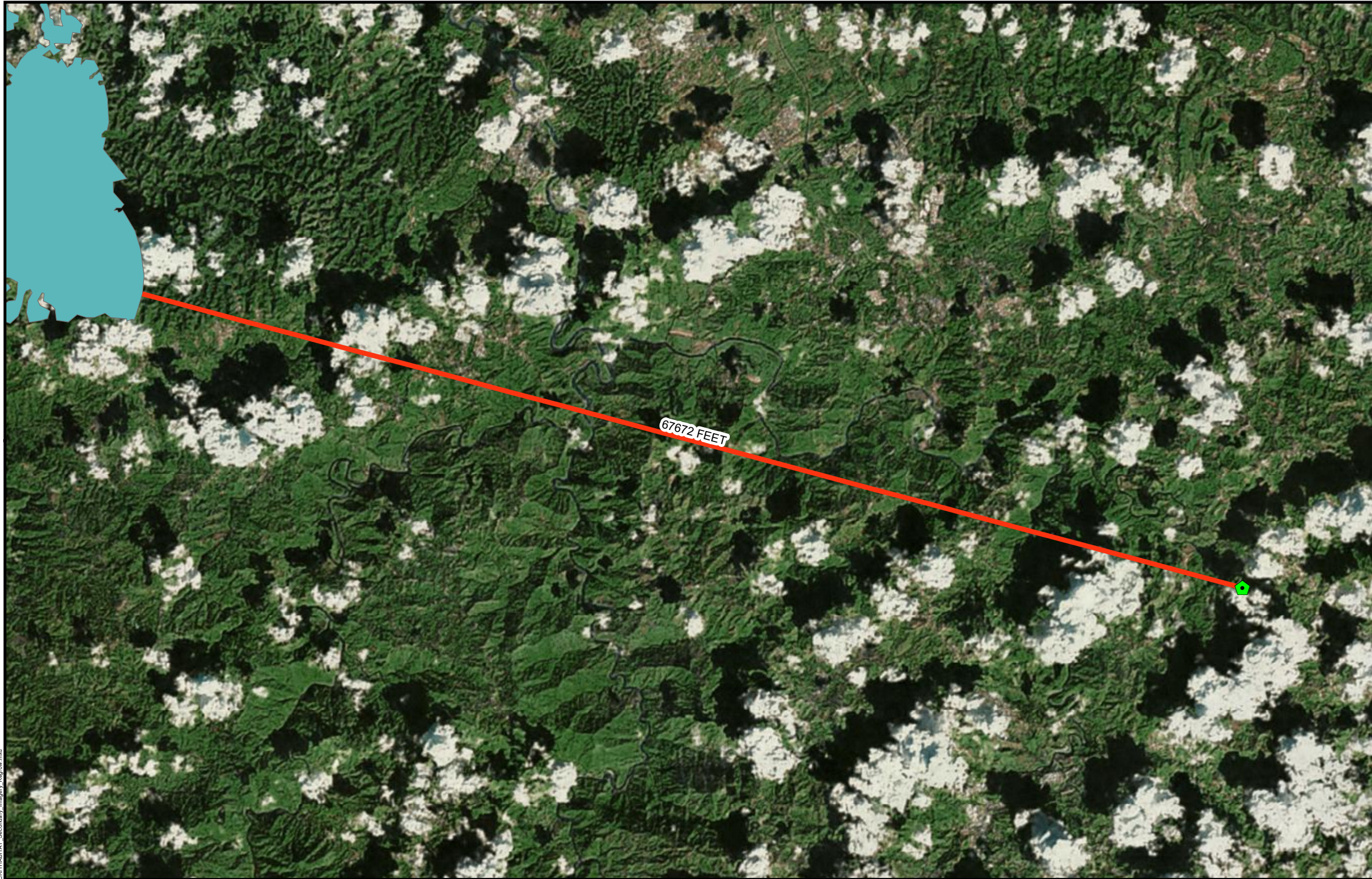


Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
<https://ecos.fws.gov>

Author: TG

Date: 6/1/2023





Legend

- ◆ Project Parcel
- comname**
- Puerto Rico harlequin butterfly

Distance to Nearest Critical Habitat in Feet: 67672 FEET

PUERTO RICO



Figure 11: CRITICAL HABITATS
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306

ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, Corozal, PR 00783

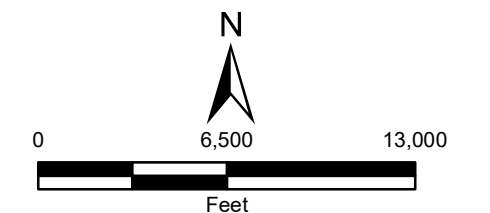
Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723



Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
<https://ecos.fws.gov>

Author: TG Date: 6/1/2023



File Path: \\nas1208\gis\1\CDR\PR\Access\Share\TDR\Data\USPR\TDR\CriticalHabitat_Secondary_Imagery_Reproj.mxd



Legend

- ⬠ Project Parcel
- Farm Class**
- All areas are prime farmland
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated
- Prime farmland if drained
- Prime farmland if irrigated
- Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
- Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

PUERTO RICO

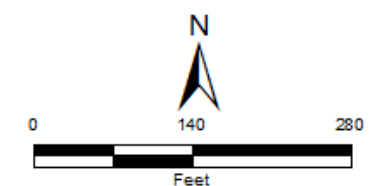


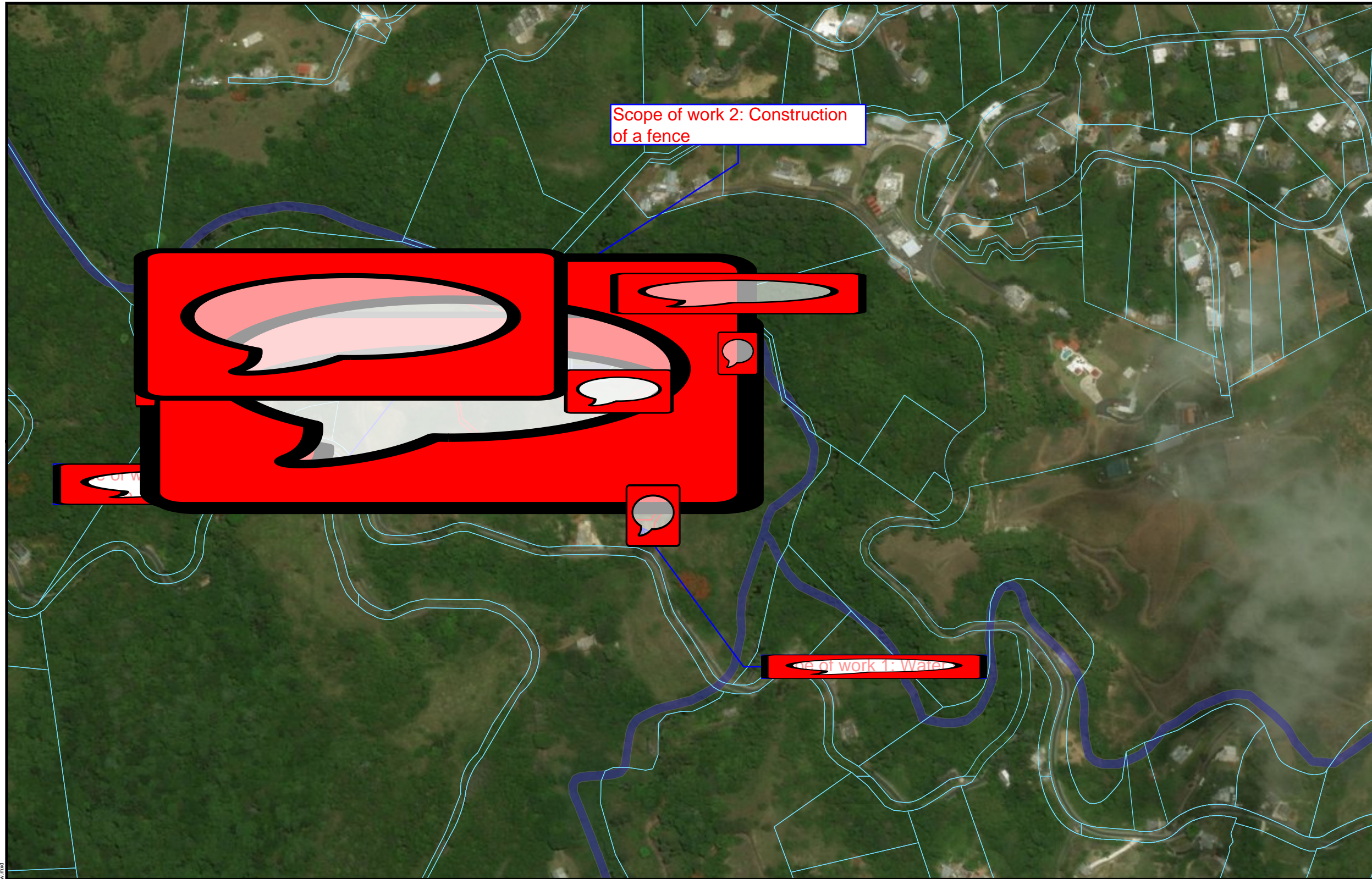
Figure 12: FARMLAND PROTECTION
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306

ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, Corozal, PR 00783
 Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723



Source: USDA
<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>
 Author: TG Date: 6/1/2023





- Legend**
- Project Parcel
 - Parcels
- WETLAND TYPE**
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
 - Estuarine and Marine Wetland
 - Freshwater Emergent Wetland
 - Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
 - Freshwater Pond
 - Lake
 - Riverine
- Area of Potential Effect

PUERTO RICO

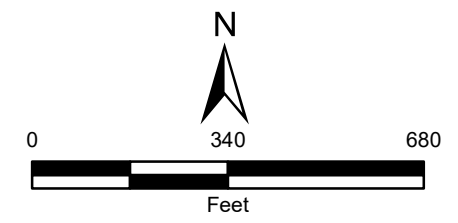


Figure 14: WETLANDS
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306

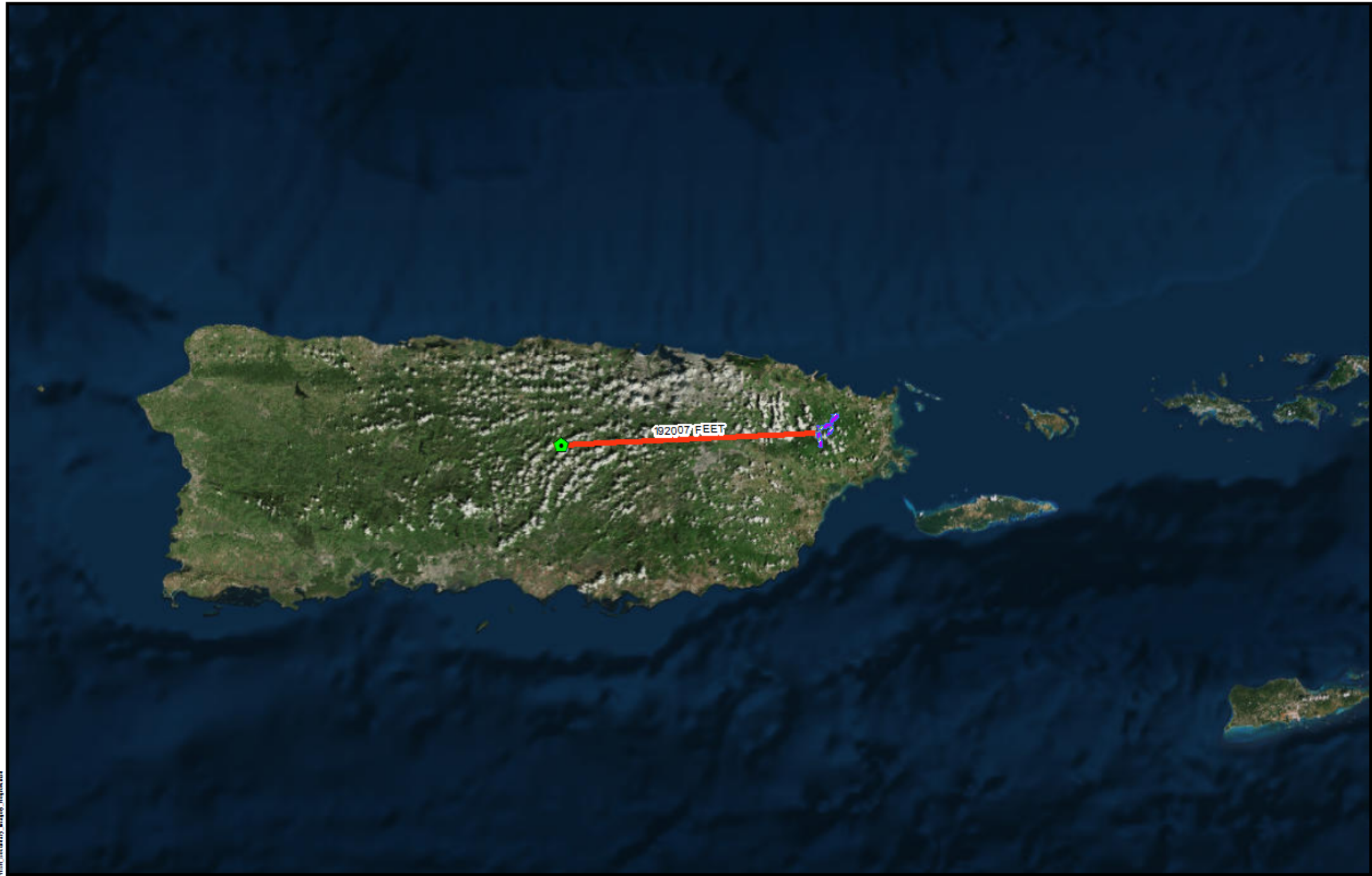
ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, PR 00783
 Name of Development:
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723





Source: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service
<https://www.fws.gov>
 Author: TG Date: 8/30/2023



File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\PR\WETLANDS - Secondary Imagery - RGRW.mxd



- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
 -  Wild and Scenic Rivers

Distance to Nearest Wild and Scenic River in Feet: 19207 FEET

PUERTO RICO



The data, information, and other materials contained herein are the property of Tetra Tech, Inc. and are provided to you under license. All rights reserved.

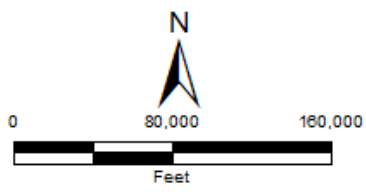


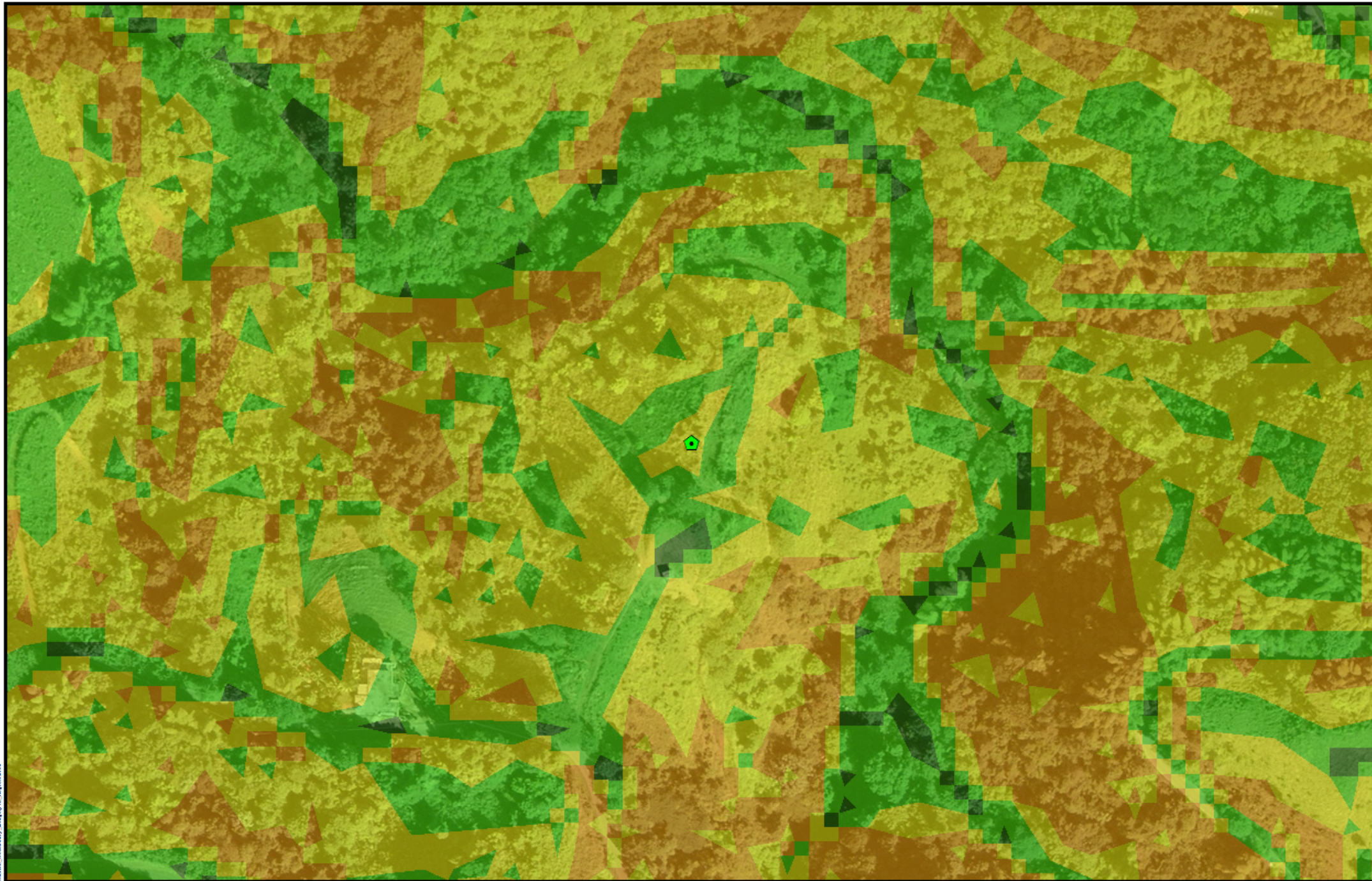
Source: U. S. Forest Service
<https://www.fs.usda.gov>







Author: TG Date: 6/1/2023

**Figure 15: WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306**

ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, Corozal, PR 00783
 Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723





- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
- Landslide Susceptibility**
-  Extremely High
 -  Very High
 -  High
 -  Moderate
 -  Low

PUERTO RICO



**Figure 16: SLOPE AND EROSION
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306**

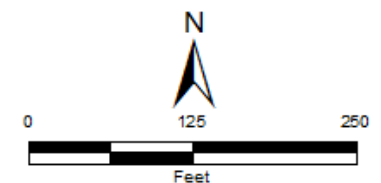
ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, Corozal, PR 00783

Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723



Source: PRDOH
<http://s://uegs.ma.psa.rogis.com>
<http://ps/w/e/bap/pv/le/w/r/in/ole/x.html?k=1-0506eco7f15491daee17647f19248ee>
 Author: TG Date: 6/1/2023



APPENDIX C

Additional Information



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 December 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

EJScreen Community Report

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

Corozal Municipio, PR

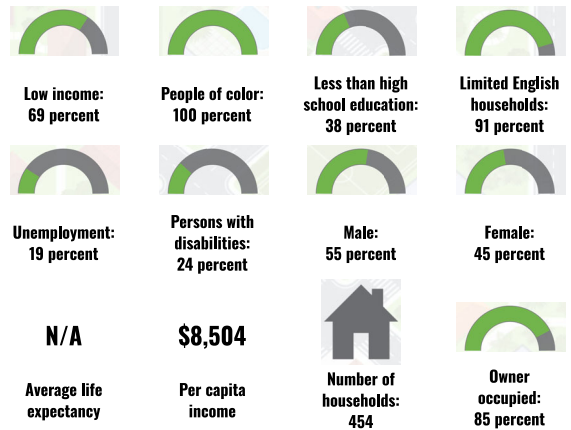
1 mile Ring Centered at 18.266378,-66.346723
 Population: 1,343
 Area in square miles: 3.14

A3 Landscape



February 8, 2024
 Project 1
 Search Result (point)
 1:2,257
 0 0.03 0.06 0.1 mi
 0 0.04 0.09 0.17 km
 Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community, Esri, HERE, Garmin, IGC

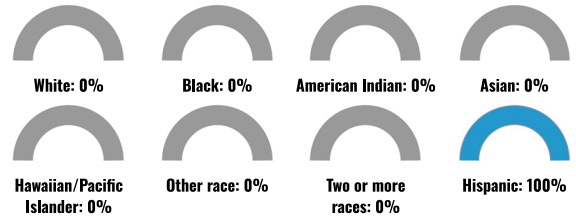
COMMUNITY INFORMATION



LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	1%
Spanish	99%
Total Non-English	99%

BREAKDOWN BY RACE



BREAKDOWN BY AGE



LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



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

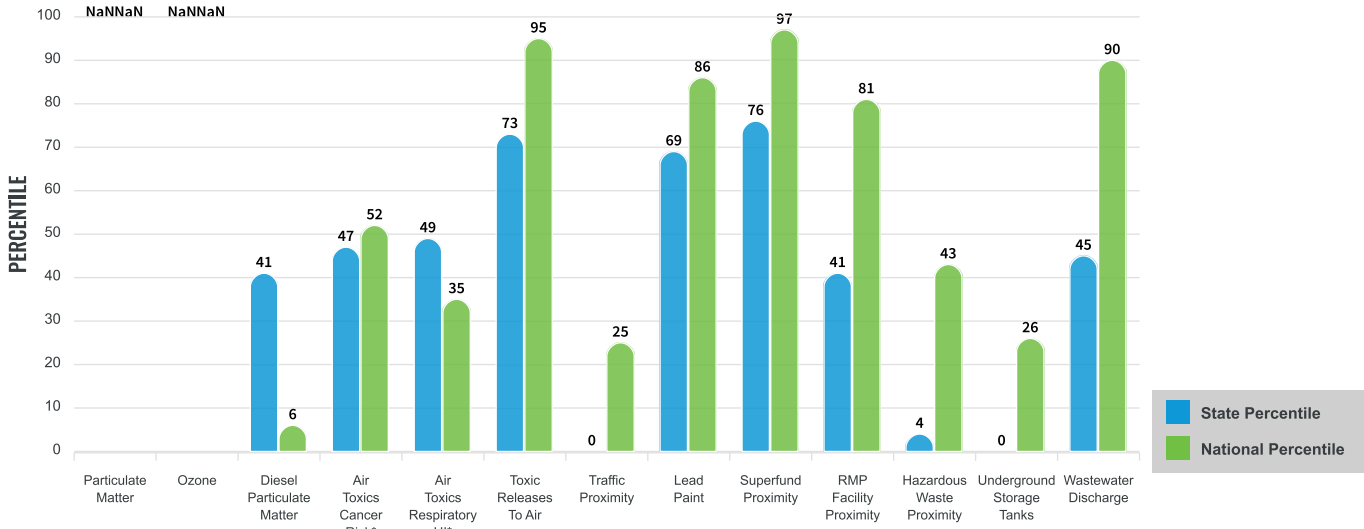
Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

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

EJ INDEXES

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

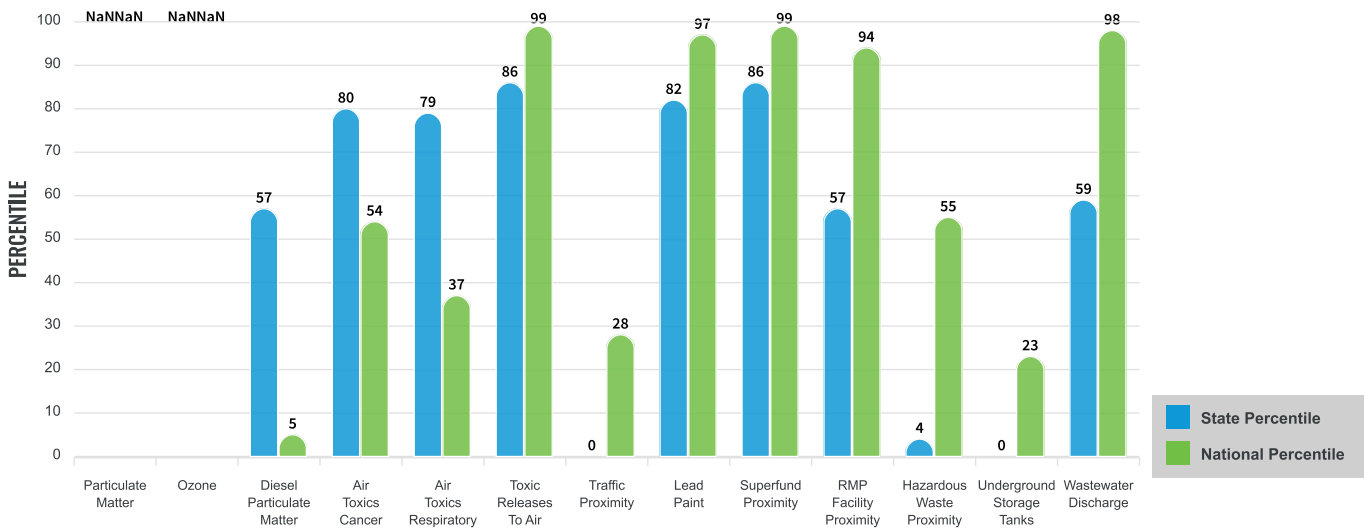
EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

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

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



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

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.266378,-66.346723

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 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.0312	0.0667	41	0.261	1
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	20	15	25	5
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.2	0.19	17	0.31	4
Toxic Releases to Air	1,600	4,300	74	4,600	69
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	1.4	180	1	210	5
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.22	0.16	76	0.3	50
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.15	0.15	77	0.13	78
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.14	0.47	41	0.43	42
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.06	0.76	3	1.9	11
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	0.032	1.7	0	3.9	24
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.0022	2.3	44	22	55
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index	85%	83%	39	35%	97
Supplemental Demographic Index	54%	43%	78	14%	99
People of Color	100%	96%	29	39%	97
Low Income	69%	70%	38	31%	93
Unemployment Rate	19%	15%	67	6%	94
Limited English Speaking Households	91%	67%	94	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	38%	21%	88	12%	95
Under Age 5	8%	4%	88	6%	74
Over Age 64	21%	22%	48	17%	71
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>.

Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

Superfund	0
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	0
Water Dischargers	0
Air Pollution	0
Brownfields	0
Toxic Release Inventory	0

Other community features within defined area:

Schools	1
Hospitals	0
Places of Worship	0

Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	No
Impaired Waters	Yes

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

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.266378,-66.346723

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

HEALTH INDICATORS					
INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A	N/A	20%	N/A
Heart Disease	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Asthma	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	N/A
Cancer	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Persons with Disabilities	22.3%	21.6%	53	13.4%	91

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

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS					
INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	41%	32%	70	14%	95
Lack of Health Insurance	8%	7%	68	9%	57
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.266378,-66.346723



GOBIERNO DE PUERTO RICO
DEPARTAMENTO DE RECURSOS NATURALES Y AMBIENTALES

SECRETARÍA AUXILIAR DE PERMISOS, ENDOSOS Y SERVICIOS ESPECIALIZADOS
PERMISO DE CONSTRUCCION DE POZO

Aníbal Rivera Fuentes
HC 6 Box 13770
Corozal, Puerto Rico 00783

30 JAN 2023

Permiso Núm. O-FA-PPAG1-SI-00250-17012023

El solicitante en epígrafe radicó ante este Departamento una Solicitud de Permiso para construir un (1) nuevo pozo a nivel freático en terrenos de su propiedad, localizados en la carretera PR 568, Km 14.4, Barrio Palmarito en la municipalidad de Corozal.

Del pozo propuesto esperan poder extraer 9,600 galones diarios.

El agua extraída será utilizada para USO AGRÍCOLA.

El Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales en virtud de los poderes que nos confiere la Ley Número 23 de 20 de junio de 1972, y la Ley Número 136 de 3 de junio de 1976, CONCEDE este permiso al solicitante (en adelante Concesionario) para construir un (1) pozo (s) en el lugar arriba indicado para los fines y propósitos antes mencionados, y conforme a las siguientes condiciones.

AM

CONDICIONES GENERALES

- 1) El aprovechamiento de las aguas alumbradas mediante el pozo se limitará únicamente al uso del agua necesaria para desarrollar el sistema, estudios hidrogeológicos y realizar pruebas de calidad hasta tanto el Concesionario obtenga una Franquicia o Autorización de este Departamento que le permita extraer las aguas para determinada actividad
- 2) El Concesionario permitirá al personal del Departamento la inspección del o los pozo (s) aquí autorizado y someterá la información que se le solicite con relación al mismo.
- 3) Este permiso o copia de éste con el sello del Departamento al relieve estará disponible para ser inspeccionado en el lugar de la perforación o de la construcción durante todo el tiempo en que se realice la obra.
- 4) Dentro de un periodo no mayor de treinta (30) días de finalizada la construcción del pozo, el Concesionario someterá a este Departamento un Informe de Terminación de Obras. El informe será firmado y certificado correcto por el contratista o ingeniero a cargo de las obras.
- 5) El Concesionario informará por escrito al Departamento sobre cualquier suceso que pueda afectar adversamente los recursos de agua o la salud y seguridad pública y que surja como resultado de la construcción del pozo.
- 6) Este permiso no podrá ser transferido sin la autorización previa del Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales.

30 JAN 2023

- 7) El Concesionario vendrá obligado a responder por los daños que pueda irrogarles a terceras personas o a la propiedad pública o privada en el proceso de construcción y/o utilización de las obras autorizadas mediante este permiso.
- 8) Este Permiso estará sujeto a enmienda, suspensión o revocación por este Departamento conforme al Reglamento para el Aprovechamiento, Uso, Conservación y Administración de las Aguas de Puerto Rico. No se entenderá que impone obligación alguna al Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico o sus funcionarios a indemnizar al Concesionario por los daños que pueda sufrir como consecuencia de enmienda, suspensión o revocación.
- 9) Este permiso no le exime de obtener cualquier otro permiso requerido por los Gobiernos Estatal y Federal para la construcción del pozo.
- 10) El o los pozo (s) a construirse deberán guardar una distancia mínima de 100 metros entre ellos, que garantice que no afectará a cualquier pozo existente en el área.

CONDICIONES ESPECIALES

- DM*
- 1) Se autoriza al Concesionario a construir un (1) pozo para extraer agua del acuífero a nivel freático.
 - 2) Este permiso se concede por un término de un (1) año el cual comenzará a partir de la fecha de aprobación.
 - 3) El Informe de Terminación de Obras (formulario adjunto) que se solicita en el Inciso Número 4 de las Condiciones Generales de este permiso deberá someterse utilizando el formato que acompaña este permiso. Este informe será sometido en original.
 - 4) Junto al Informe de Terminación de Obras (formato adjunto) el Concesionario someterá los resultados de la prueba de bombeo y la Certificación de Instalación del metro (formato adjunto). Las pruebas de bombeo que se realicen, tendrán una duración mínima de 24 horas consecutivas.
 - 5) El Concesionario instalará en un lugar accesible y antes de cualquier desviación del agua extraída del pozo, metro de flujo instantáneo y caudal acumulativo. A este metro se le dará un mantenimiento adecuado, según las recomendaciones del fabricante. Cualquier rotura, falla y/o cese de funcionamiento de este metro se anotará en el registro requerido. Se someterá un informe escrito al Secretario, dentro de un término no mayor de 7 días contados a partir de la fecha del cese de funcionamiento del metro, en el cual se detallará la falla ocurrida y la acción remediadora tomada.
 - 6) El diseño del pozo deberá contar con un sello sanitario que impida la infiltración de aguas superficiales a través del terreno y la región anular de la camisa.
 - 7) El Concesionario realizará pruebas de calidad de las aguas del pozo certificadas por un Químico Licenciado de PR y someterá los resultados de las mismas junto al Informe de Terminación de Obras. Los parámetros analizados serán:

pH en unidades estándar
 Cloruros en mg/l de Cl
 Calcio en mg/l de Ca²⁺
 Magnesio en mg/l de Mg²⁺
 Sodio en mg/l de Na⁺
 Potasio en mg/l de K⁺
 Bicarbonato en mg/l de HCO₃⁻
 Manganeseo en mg/l de Mn²⁺
 Carbón Orgánico Total (TOC)

Alcalinidad en mg/l de CaCO₃
 Dureza Total en mg/l de CaCO₃
 Sólidos totales disueltos en mg/l
 Conductividad en µmhos/cm
 Nitrato en mg/l de N.
 Carbonato en mg/l de CO₃²⁻
 Hierro en mg/l de Fe²⁺
 Sílice en mg/l de SiO₂
 Sulfato en mg/l de SO₄²⁻

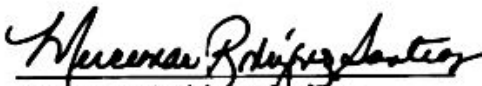
- 8) El Concesionario someterá fotografías de la construcción del pozo desde diferentes ángulos en donde se pueda apreciar el pozo antes, durante y después de la construcción del pozo, el número de serie del metro y la lectura del mismo legible. Además, deberá indicar la fecha en que fueron tomadas las fotos.
- 9) El Concesionario notificará a la División de Permisos y Franquicias de Agua al teléfono 787-999-2200 Ext. 2804 la fecha de comienzo de la obra autorizada en este permiso.
- 10) Una vez someta toda la información solicitada se comenzará con la evaluación de la Solicitud de Franquicia previamente radicada.

En el caso de que el (la) concesionario(a) haya cometido infracciones, el otorgamiento de este permiso no constituye una renuncia del DRNA a instar acciones legales o a continuar acciones judiciales o procedimientos administrativos *cuasi judiciales* que se hayan iniciado contra el (la) concesionario(a).

El Concesionario tendrá derecho a solicitar una reconsideración a la determinación del Departamento o a solicitar una Vista Administrativa de acuerdo a las disposiciones del Artículo 13 del Reglamento para el Aprovechamiento, Uso, Conservación y Administración de las Aguas de Puerto Rico, de no estar de acuerdo con algunas de las condiciones del presente Permiso. La solicitud deberá ser radicada por escrito dentro de un término de treinta (30) días a partir de la fecha de aprobación de este Permiso en la Oficina de Secretaría del Departamento.

Cualquier violación intencional a la Ley Número 23 de 20 de junio de 1972, a la Ley 136 de 3 de junio de 1976, y a la Ley Número 416 del 22 de septiembre de 2004, según enmendadas o el incumplimiento de cualesquiera de las condiciones en el presente Permiso podrá conllevar la revocación de éste.

NOTIFÍQUESE:



Mercedes Rodríguez Santiago
Secretaria Auxiliar

Aprobada hoy día 30 De quero de 2023.

APPENDIX D
Endangered Species



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Bayamón | Mayagüez | Maricao | Rio Grande | St Croix
P.O. Box 491
Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622



In Reply Refer to:
FWS/R4/CESFO/72047-Gen

Submitted Via Electronic Mail (jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov)

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

Re: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-01306 Aníbal Rivera
Fuentes, Corozal, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated September 07, 2023, requesting comments on the above referenced project. As per your request, our comments are provided under the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) on behalf of Aníbal Rivera Fuentes (the Applicant) is proposing the construction of a 300 FT water well and the installation of 4,000 FT long fence outside the perimeter of the parcel. The proposed project location will be at PR-568 Km 14.4, Bo. Palmarito (18°15'46.0"N 66°20'52.5"W) in the municipality of Corozal, Puerto Rico.

Using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system the proponent has determined that the proposed project lies within the range of Puerto Rican boa (*Epicrates inornatus* now known as *Chilabothrus inornatus*).

Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and existing habitat, the proponent has determined that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican boa. Conservation measures will be implemented prior to and during the construction to avoid or minimize impacts to these species.

We have reviewed the information provided in your letter and our files, and concur with your determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican boa with the implementation of the conservation measures. As per the conservation recommendations, please note that if a Puerto Rican boa is encountered during the project

activities, it should not be captured. If a boa needs to be moved out of harm's way, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) should be contacted for safe capture and relocation of the animal. If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities in the area where the boa is found must stop until it moves out of harm's way on its own.

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Edwin E. Muñiz
Field Supervisor

drr

Edwin E Muñiz
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
PO Box 491
Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622
Email: caribbean_es@fws.gov

Dear Mr. Muñiz:

Subject – Endangered Species Concurrence for NLAA Determination for PR-RGRW-01306

Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is requesting informal consultation under Section 7 (a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) for the proposed project PR-RGRW-01306, located on Carr. 568 Km 14.4 Bo. Palmarito in the Municipality of Corozal, Puerto Rico, 18.262779, -66.347905 (Parcel ID# 194-000-003-20-901).

The proposed project consists of two scopes of work. Scope 1 is for the installation of a new, approximately 300-foot, water well located at 18.265717, -66.347158 in the leveled area southwest of the residence. The well would include a 4-foot by 4-foot cement pad, with power supplied by a 300-foot-long underground powerline (approximately 3 foot deep) from the residence to the well. The powerline would run south from the residence, along the western edge of the access road, then west to the well. The purpose of the water well is for field irrigation and water supply for the cattle.

Scope 2 is the construction of a fence installed on the outside perimeter of the parcel. The fence would be constructed with 6-foot wooden posts, buried up 2 to 3 feet deep, and barbed wire. The fence will be approximately 4,000 feet long. The purpose of the fence is to maintain the cattle herd on the property. Installation of the fence would involve removal and clearing of some vegetation at the northern boundary that appears suitable to the Puerto Rican Boa.

The parcel was previously used for growing plantains, bananas, and other minor vegetables. The parcel is currently used for raising and herding cattle. The parcel is located in a rural, mountainous terrain with mature vegetation surrounding the property. The residence is downhill from the entrance to the property with a paved access road. The area immediately west of the access road has been excavated to provide an area level with that of the residence. Surrounding landscape includes mountainous, forested terrain on all sides of the parcel. The Quebrada Riachuelo River outlines the northern border of the parcel. The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) indicated that wetlands are located within the parcel, but not within the proposed project area.

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

Species	Status
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered

No Critical Habitats for any species were noted within the parcel. Upon review of iNaturalist.org, no sightings of the Puerto Rican Boa have been recorded within at least 3 miles of the proposed project area. Based on the nature of the project, previous site disturbance, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, we have made the following effects determinations:

Species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures to be implemented (if needed)
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Not Likely To Adversely Affect (NLAA)	USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020

Given the current land use, previous ground disturbance, and lack of sightings of the Puerto Rican Boa within the vicinity, PRDOH has determined that the project is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican Boa provided the attached Conservation Measures are implemented as part of the proposed project.

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NLAA determinations included in this letter. Attached to this letter, we are including the documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species. If more information is required, please contact **Point of Contact** at **Email address and phone number**.

Attachments:

- IPaC Resource List
- Site Photos
- Project Location Map
- Area of Potential Effect Map
- Wetland Map
- USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020

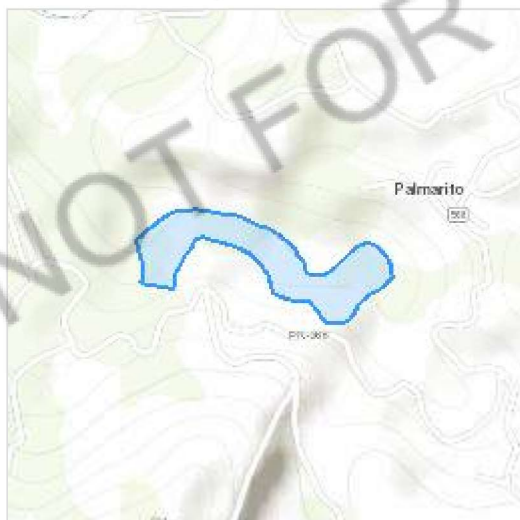
IPaC resource list

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

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

Location

Corozal County, Puerto Rico



Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

☎ (787) 834-1600

📠 (787) 851-7440

✉ CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV

MAILING ADDRESS

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

Office Park I

State Road #2 Km 156.5, Suite 303}

Mayaguez, PR 00680

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

Endangered species

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

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

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

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

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

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

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

-
1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).

2. [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.

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

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628	Endangered

Critical habitats

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

There are no critical habitats at this location.

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

Bald & Golden Eagles

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

Additional information can be found using the following links:

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

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

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

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

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

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

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

What if I have eagles on my list?

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

Migratory birds

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

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

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

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

The [data](#) in this location indicates there are no migratory [birds of conservation concern](#) expected to occur in this area.

There may be migratory birds in your project area, but we don't have any survey data available to provide further direction. For additional information, please refer to the links above for recommendations to minimize impacts to migratory birds or contact your local FWS office.

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

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

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

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

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

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

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

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

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

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

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

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

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [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 at this location.

Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

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](#).

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

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

Data limitations

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

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

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

Data exclusions

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

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies.

Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

Front of Structure

Photo Direction: South



Facing Away From Front

Photo Direction: North



Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction: West



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction: East



Back of Structure

Photo Direction: North



Facing Away From Back

Photo Direction: South



Side #2 of Structure

Photo Direction: East



Facing Away From Side #2

Photo Direction: West



Streetscape #1

Photo Direction: Northwest



Streetscape #2

Photo Direction: South



Address

Photo Direction: North



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Applicant house

Photo Direction: North



Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Photo Description: River

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: West



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: West



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: West



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: West



Electricity Connected

Photo Description: Power intake pole

Photo Direction: East



Standing Water

Photo Description: River

Photo Direction: Northeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Area for the water well

Photo Direction: South



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work1: Area for the water well

Photo Direction: Northeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Fence

Photo Direction: North



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Fence

Photo Direction: West

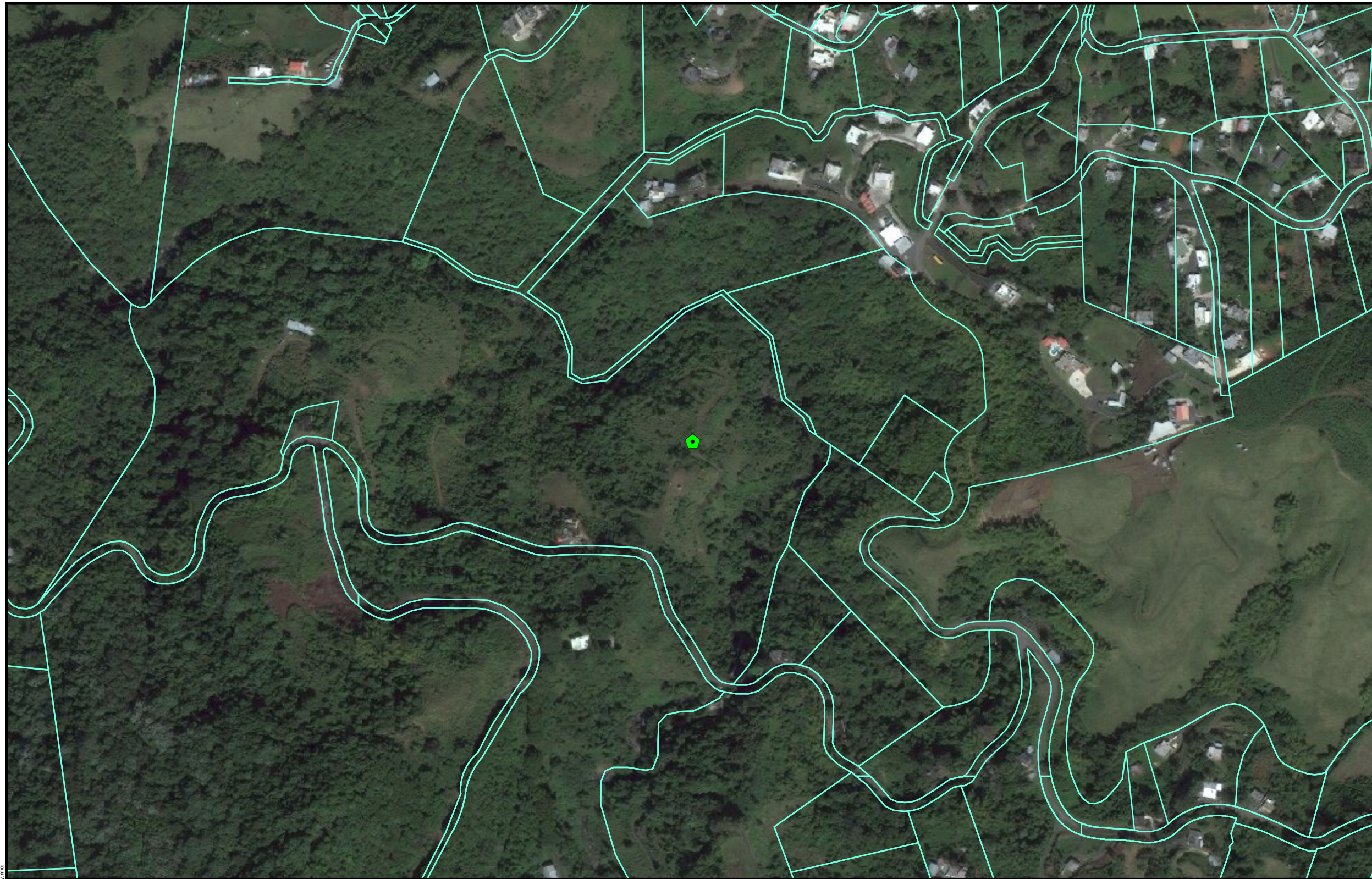



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Fence

Photo Direction: Northwest





- Legend**
-  Project
 -  Parcels

PUERTO RICO



APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306

ADDRESS: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito, PR 00783

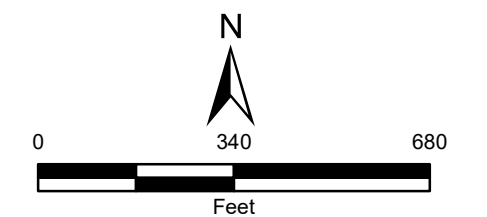
Name of Development: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Parcel Coordinates: 18.266384 , -66.346723



Source: ESRI
<https://www.fws.gov>

Author: TG Date: 6/20/2023

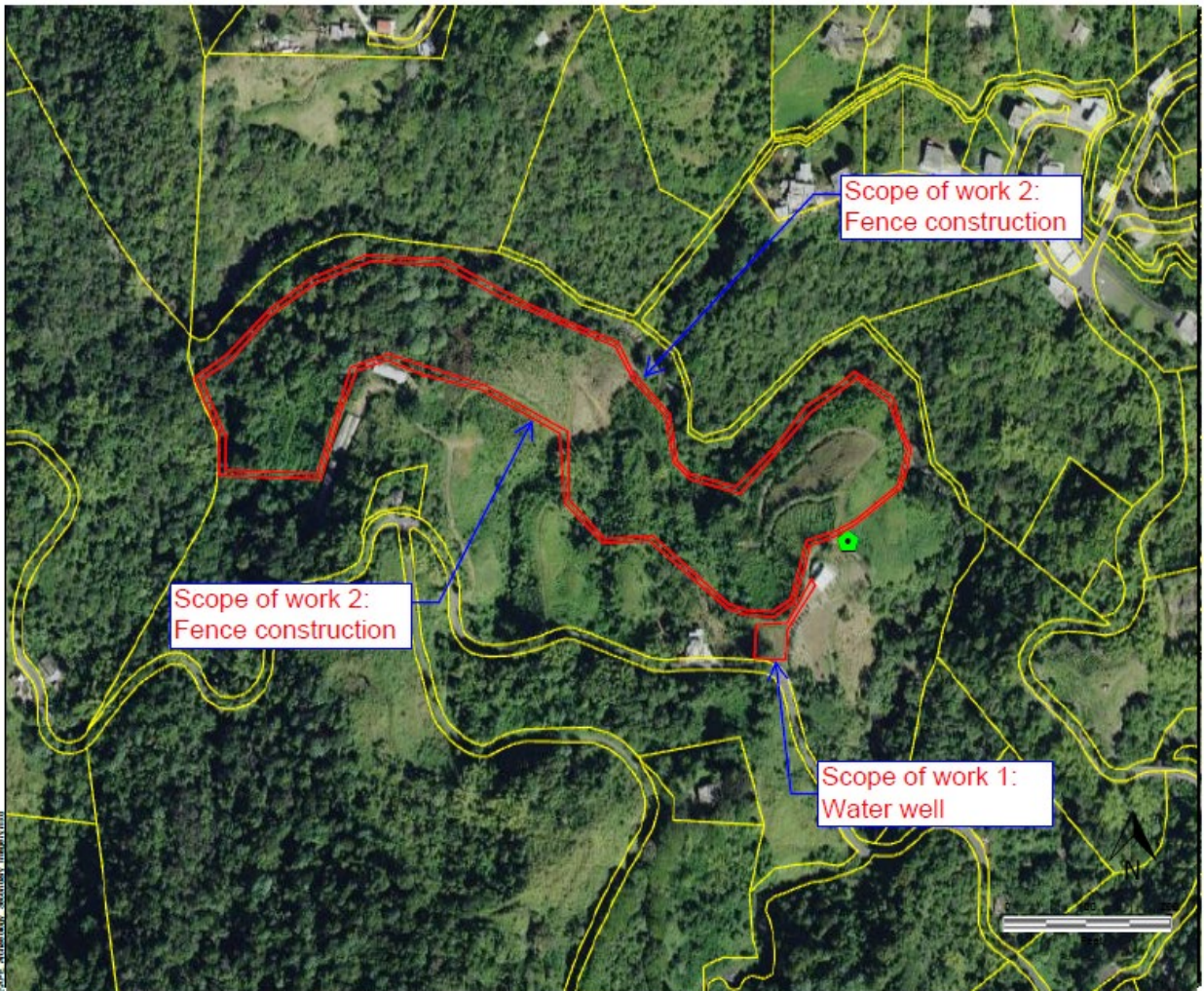


Subrecipient: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306

City: Corozal

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




TETRA TECH

Source: CRIM

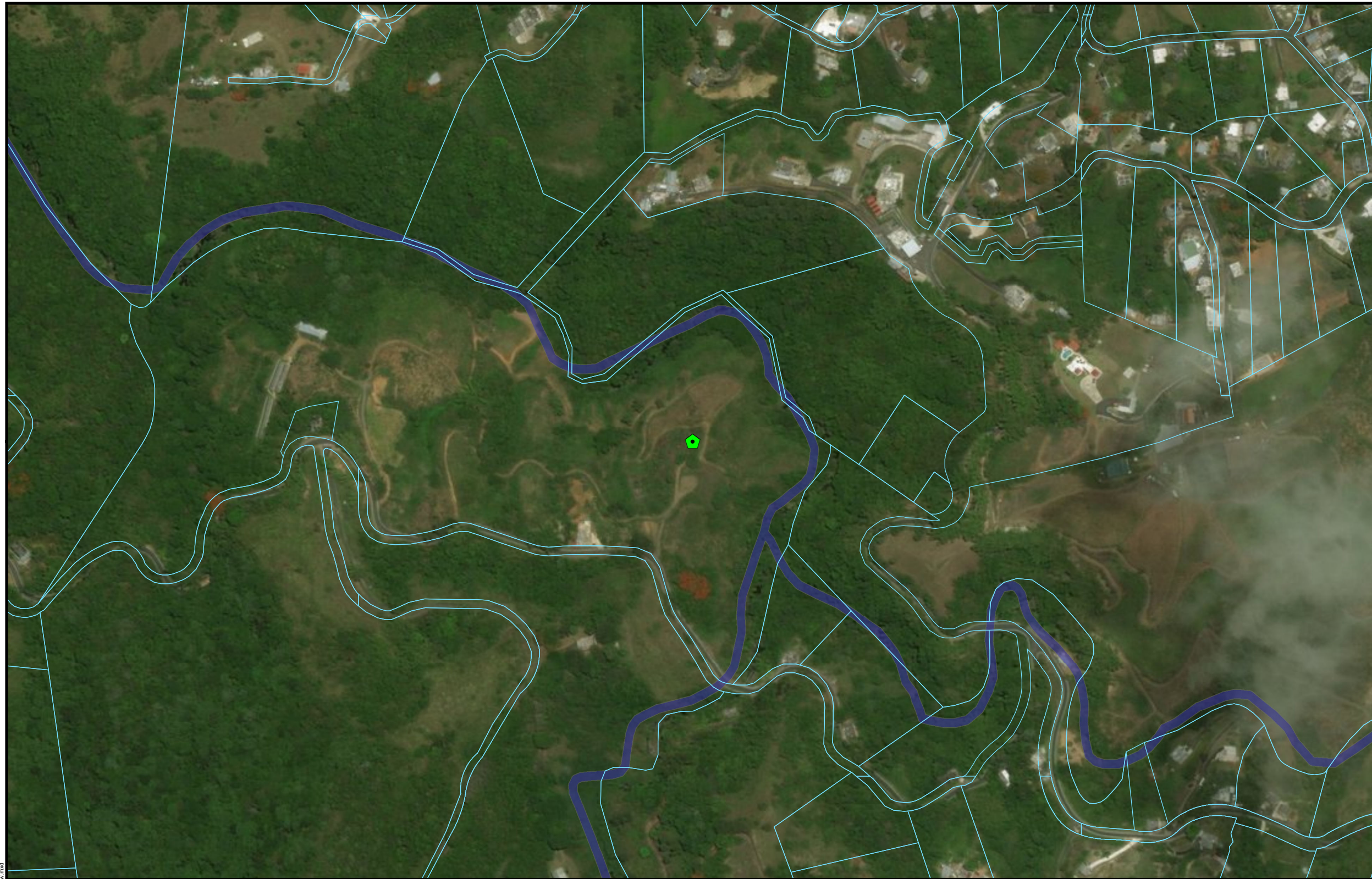
Author: TG

Date: 10/7/2022

Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Parcelario
-  Area of Potential Effect





- Legend**
- Project Parcel
 - Parcels
- WETLAND TYPE**
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
 - Estuarine and Marine Wetland
 - Freshwater Emergent Wetland
 - Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
 - Freshwater Pond
 - Lake
 - Riverine

PUERTO RICO



File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\PR\WETLAND_Secondary_Imagery_Regrow.mxd

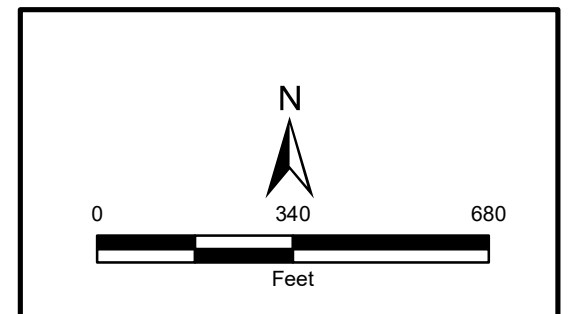
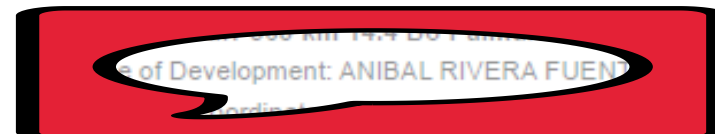


Source: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service
<https://www.fws.gov>

Author: TG Date: 8/30/2023



APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01306



USFWS Puerto Rican boa Conservation Measures

Puerto Rican Boa

Generated August 30, 2023 04:37 PM UTC, IPaC v6.97.0-rc3





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

Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*)

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

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



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

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

Conservation Measures:

1. Inform all project personnel about the potential presence of the PR boa in areas where the proposed work will be conducted. A pre-construction meeting should be conducted to inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming the species as well as penalties for harassing or harming PR boas. An educational poster or sign with photo or illustration of the species should be displayed at the project site.
2. Prior to any construction activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movements, the boundaries of the project and areas to be excluded and protected should be clearly marked in the project plan and in the field in order to avoid further habitat degradation into forested and conservation areas.
3. Once areas are clearly marked, and prior to the use of heavy machinery and any construction activity (including removal of vegetation and earth movement), a biologist or personnel with experience on this species should survey the areas to be cleared to verify the presence of any PR boa within the work area.
4. The PR boa is considered more active at night. Thus, in order to maximize its detection, the species should be searched at nights prior to habitat disturbance.
5. Once the area has been searched for PR boas, vegetation should first be cleared by hand to the maximum extent possible. Vegetation should be cut about one meter above ground prior to the use of heavy machinery for land clearing. Cutting vegetation by hand will allow boas present on site to move away on their own to adjacent available habitat. Any stone walls or naturally occurring rock piles must be carefully dismantled by hand as these are refuges for the snake. This will allow any boas present to vacate the site without injury.
6. For all boa sightings (dead or alive), record the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where it was found. PR boa data should also include a photo of the animal (dead or alive), site GPS coordinates, the time and date, and comments on how the animal was detected and its behavior.

7. If a PR boa is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded (see #6). **Do not capture the boa.** If boas need to be moved out of harm's way, designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (PRDNER phone #: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124). If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities at this area must stop until the boa moves out of harm's way on its own. Activities at other work sites, where no boas have been found after surveying the area, may continue.
8. If a PR boa is captured by the PRDNER, record the name of the PRDNER staff and information on where the PR boa will be taken. This information should be reported to the Service.
9. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize PR boa casualties by heavy machinery or motor vehicles being used on site. Any heavy machinery left on site (staging) or near potential PR boa habitat (within 50 meters of potential boa habitat), needs to be thoroughly inspected each morning before work starts to ensure that no boas have sheltered within engine compartments or other areas of the equipment. If PR boas are found within vehicles or equipment, do not capture the animal and let it move on its own or call PRDNER Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (see #7). If not possible, the animal should be left alone until it leaves the vehicle on its own.
10. PR boas may seek shelter in debris piles. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize boa casualties associated with sheltering in debris piles as a result of project activities. Debris piles should be placed far away from forested areas. Prior to moving, disposing or shredding, debris piles should be carefully inspected for the presence of boas. If debris piles will be left on site, we recommend they be placed in areas that will not be disturbed in the future.
11. If a dead PR boa is found, immediately cease all work in that area and record the information accordingly (see #6). If the PR boa was accidentally? killed as part of the project actions, please include information on what conservation measures had been implemented and what actions that will be taken to avoid further killings. A dead boa report should be sent by email (see contacts below) to the Service within 48 hours of the event.
12. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact the PRDNER for further guidance.

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

- Marelisa Rivera, Deputy Field Supervisor
 - Email: marelisa_rivera@fws.gov
 - Office phone (786) 244-0081 or mobile (305) 304-1814
- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov
 - Office phone (786) 244-0081 or mobile (305) 304-1386

APPENDIX E

Section 106 Consultation



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

August 18, 2023

Lauren Bair Poche

HORNE

10000 Perkins Rowe, Suite 610, Bldg G

Baton Rouge, LA 70810

SHPO 08-14-23-06 SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION SUBMITTAL:
PR-RGRW-01306- ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES – CARR. 568, KM 14.4, BO.
PALMARITO, COROZAL, 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



August 14, 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-01306 – Anibal Rivera Fuentes – Carr 568 Km 14.4, Bo. Palmarito, Corozal 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 Anibal Rivera Fuentes at the property located at Carr 568 Km 14.4, in Bo. Palmarito in the municipality of Corozal. The proposed activities for this case consist of the installation of a water well which will be drilled to approximately 300 feet underground with new a 4' by 4' cement pad, and a new fence around a pasture to secure cattle.

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,



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: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306	City: Corozal	

Project Location: Carr 568 km 14.4 Bo Palmarito	
Project Coordinates: 18.266384, -66.346723	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 194-000-003-20-901	
Type of Undertaking: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair/Improvements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): c2015	Property Size (acres): 33.38

SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian: Maria Lopez Schmid
Date Reviewed: June 6, 2023
SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Roberto G. Munoz-Pando, PhD
Date Reviewed: June 11, 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 previous land use of the farm was the growing of plantains, bananas, and other minor vegetables. The current land use is for cattle herding and raising.

Scope of Work 1 is the installation of a water well. The coordinates for Scope of Work 1 are 18.265717, -66.347158. The Scope of Work 1 consists of a water well drill to approximately 300 feet underground, and the construction of a cement pad measuring 4 feet by 4 feet. Power will be supplied by the applicant power services from his home, approximately 3 feet underground. The purpose of the water well is for irrigation of the field and water supply for the cattle.

Scope of Work 2 is the construction of a fence. The coordinates for Scope of Work 2 are 18.266621, -66.346113, 18.267027, -66.346303, 18.267689, -66.349087, 18.267567, -66.351365. The Scope of Work 2 construction consists of a fence with wood specks of 6 feet long and barber wired. The wood specks will be 2 feet underground, therefore the maximum expected ground disturbance for Scope of Work 2 is of no more than 3 feet below ground surface. The fence will be installed on the inside of the perimeter of the parcel, the riverbank will limit the North side of the fence while the South side of the fence was traced by the applicant's need to control the cattle. The fence will be approximately 4,000 feet long. The purpose of the fence is to secure cattle.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REgROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Applicant: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306	City: Corozal

Area of Potential Effects

As defined in 36 CFR §800.16(d), the area of potential effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the area that encompasses Scope of Work 1 and Scope of Work 2 and that the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.


Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that the project area has no known archaeological sites within 0.5 miles of the APE. No cultural resources studies have been previously performed within 0.5 miles of the APE. Although the Municipality of Corozal has a great tradition of precolonial and colonial settlements because of the alleged abundance of gold in the Cibuco River during early Spanish Colonial times, the APE is not located near any known culturally sensitive area. The probability to find significant cultural heritage sites within the APE is considered low.

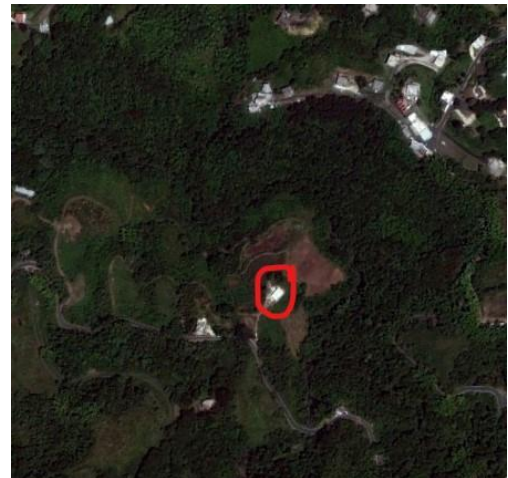
Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that the project area is **not** within the boundaries of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. Additionally, there are **no** NRHP-listed historic properties within the quarter mile buffer zone from the APE.

The proposed project is situated in a rural, mountainous terrain with mature vegetation surrounding the property. A circa 2015 building is located immediately to the south of the APE geocoordinates. This building appears in a 2016 aerial image, but not a 2014 one. The building is a two-story single-family concrete house with a contemporary style. The house has slab on grade foundation, flat concrete roof, and is supported by concrete columns and walls. This

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: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306	City: Corozal

building shown below is modern and **does not** meet the requirements to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.




Figures 1 & 2. Applicant's house, view to the North; and detail of the 2016 aerial photograph indicating location of the house.

Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

The project area is not located within the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that no previously identified historic properties are located within or adjacent to the parcel that contains the proposed Area of Potential Effect. In addition, no known historic properties within 0.5 miles of the APE were identified during the background research conducted of the area. No previous known cultural resource studies have been conducted of the area at least 0.5 miles away from the APE. As mentioned previously, the Cibuco River Area has a rich history of precolonial and Spanish colonial occupation due to the alleged ease of mining for gold in the waters of

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Applicant: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306	City: Corozal

this river; however, the river is not within a half a mile of APE. Therefore, no impact to historic properties is anticipated for this project.

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

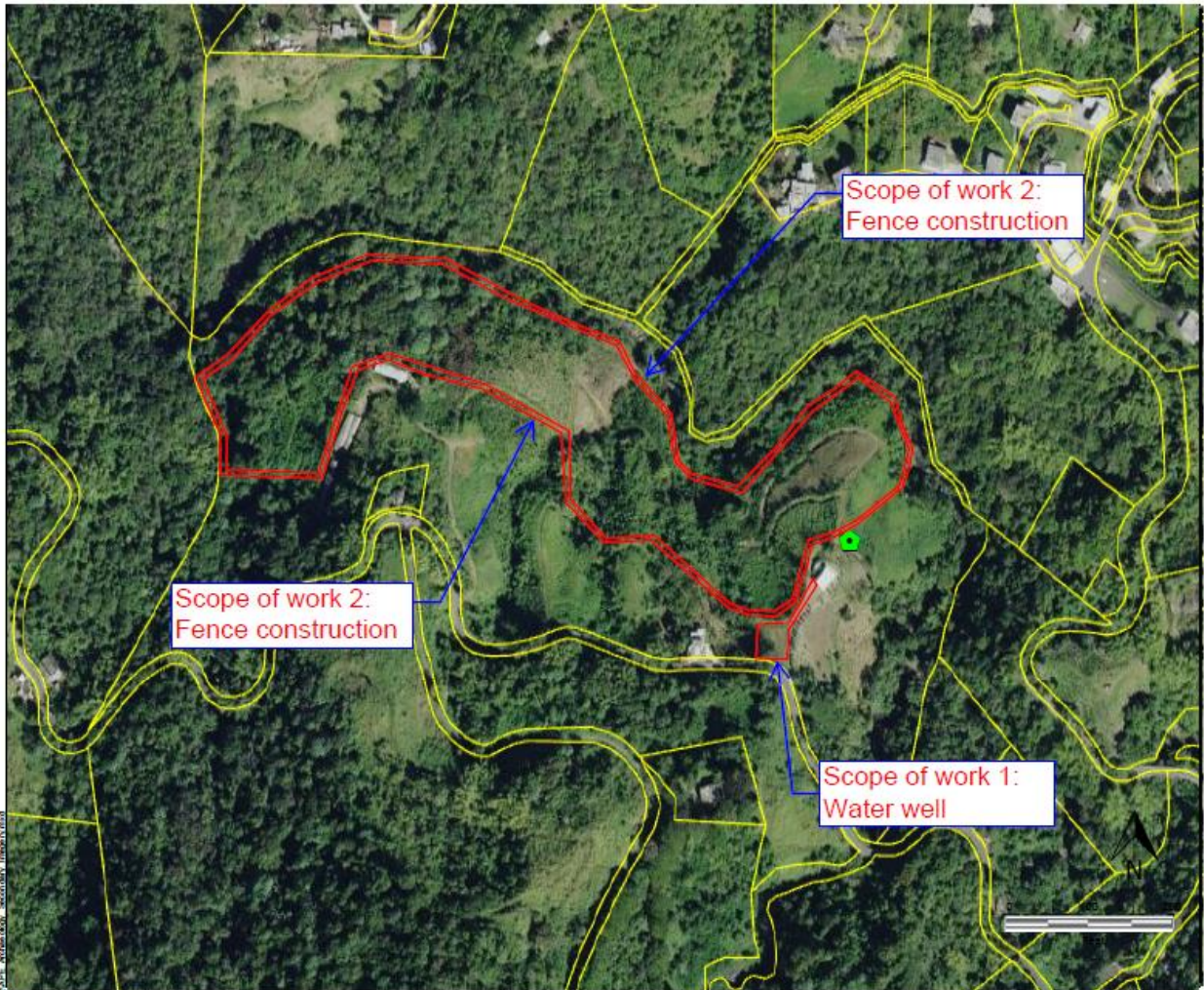
The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the above information and: <input type="checkbox"/> Concurs with the information provided. <input type="checkbox"/> Does not concur with the information provided.	
Comments: 	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation Officer	Date:

Applicant: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306

City: Corozal

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




Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 10/7/2022

Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Parcelario
-  Area of Potential Effect



Applicant: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306

City: Corozal

Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map








Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 9/22/2022

Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Historic Comunidades
-  Traditional Urban Centers
-  Cultural Resource District Polygon
-  Parcelario

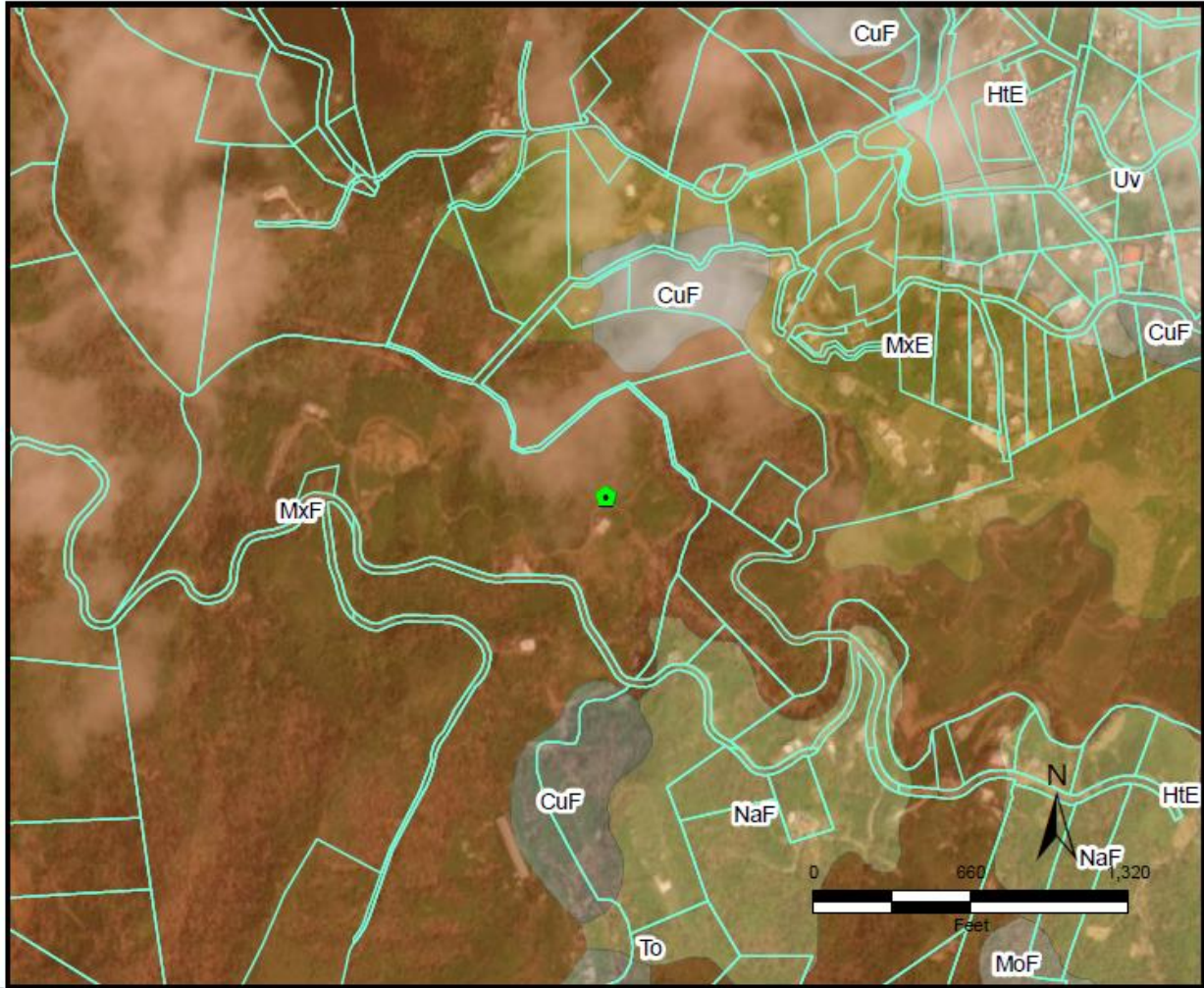


Applicant: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306

City: Corozal








Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map



Source: USDA

Author: TG

Date: 7/27/2023

- Legend**
-  Tier 2 Site
 -  Parcelario
 - Soil Type**
 -  CuF: Consumo clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes
 -  MxE: Mucara clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes
 -  MxF: Mucara clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes
 -  NaF: Naranjito silty clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes
 -  Uv: Urban land/Vega Alta complex

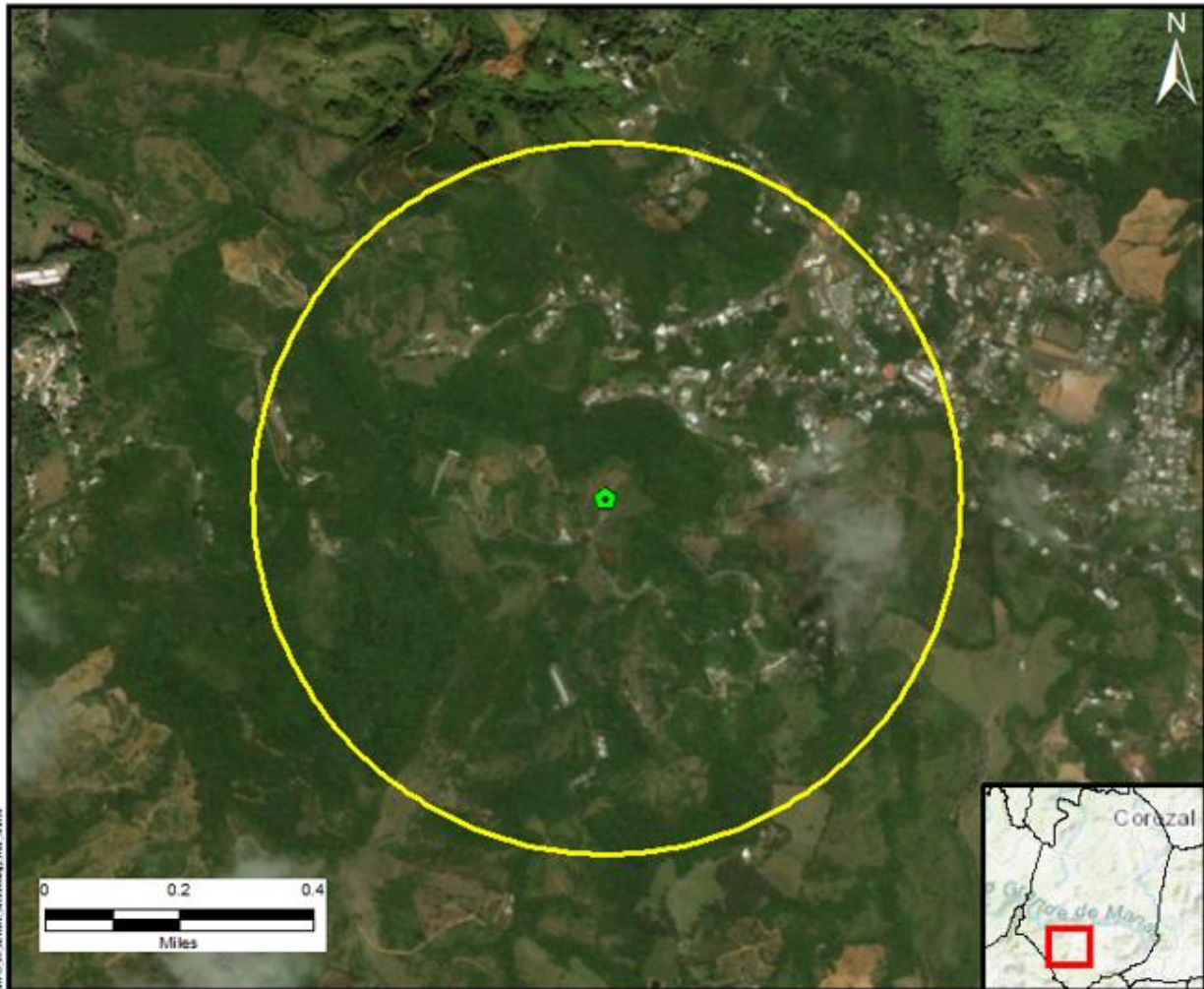


Applicant: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306

City: Corozal

Project (Parcel) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map



Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, Imagery © Mapbox





Source: National Park Service

Author: TG

Date: 9/29/2022

Legend

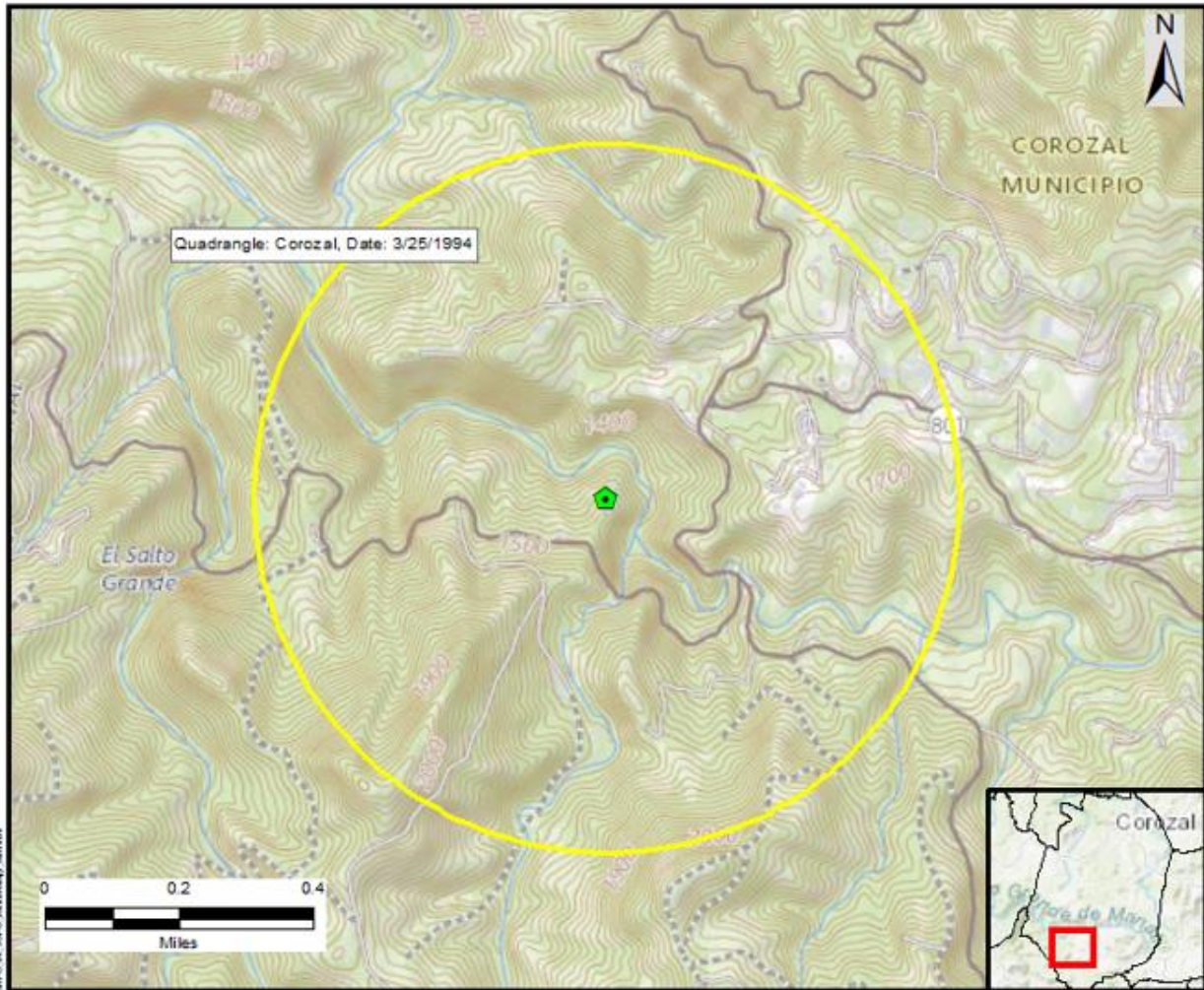
-  Tier 2 Site
-  Half Mile Buffer
-  Historic Comunidades
-  Traditional Urban Centers
-  Cultural Resource District Polygon

Applicant: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306

City: Corozal






Project (Parcel) Location with Previously Recorded Cultural Resources USGS Topographic Map



Source: National Park Service

Author: TG

Date: 9/29/2022

- Legend
-  Tier 2 Site
 -  Half Mile Buffer
 -  Historic Comunidades
 -  Traditional Urban Centers
 -  Cultural Resource District Polygon

Applicant: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306

City: Corozal

Photograph Key



Applicant: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306

City: Corozal



Photo #: 1

Description (include direction): View to the Southeast

Date: 5/11/2023

Scope Of Work 1: Installation of a water well



Photo #: 2

Description (include direction): View to the Northeast

Date: 5/11/2023

Scope Of Work 1: Installation of a water well

Applicant: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306

City: Corozal



Photo #: 3

Description (include direction): View to the East

Date: 5/11/2023

Scope Of Work 1: Installation of a water well



Photo #: 4

Description (include direction): View to the Northeast

Date: 5/11/2023

Scope Of Work 2: Fence construction

Applicant: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306

City: Corozal



Photo #: 5

Description (include direction): View to the North

Date: 5/11/2023

Scope Of Work 2: Fence construction



Photo #: 6

Description (include direction): View to the Northwest

Date: 5/11/2023

Scope Of Work 2: Fence construction

Applicant: ANIBAL RIVERA FUENTES

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01306

City: Corozal



Photo #: 7

Description (include direction): View to the North

Date: 5/11/2023

Scope Of Work 2: Fence construction



Photo #: 8

Description (include direction): View to the Northwest

Date: 5/11/2023

Scope Of Work 2: Fence construction



October 20, 2022

Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

Cuartel de Ballajá Bldg.

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Re: Authorization to Submit Documents

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela:

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

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

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

Cordially,

Juan C. Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng

Director of Disaster Recovery

CDBG DR-MIT