



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
Development
451 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410
www.hud.gov
espanol.hud.gov

**Environmental Review for Activity/Project that is
Categorically Excluded Subject to Section 58.5
Pursuant to 24 CFR 58.35(a)**

Project Information

Project Name: PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE

HEROS Number: 900000010400633

Start Date: 05/23/2024

State / Local Identifier:

Project Location: , Juncos, PR 00777

Additional Location Information:

Location centroid: Latitude 18.210636, longitude -65.916193 at the address given above. Cadastral: 253-014-126-38-000

Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

This project (PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE) entails the award of a grant to Debbie Silva Mestre, an agricultural business, at Carretera 934 Km Hm 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, PR 00777. Tax ID Number: 253-014-126-38-000. Coordinates (18.210636, -65.916193). This project had an original CENST review which included the purchase of farm equipment including a UTV, computer, tractor, and implement (Broad fork, hoe, compost fork, grape hoe, and a sang hoe) for project cost of \$25,620.18. See attached CENST environmental review. This review includes a scope item previously considered as an EA level of review (storage container, solar system, equipment) which is now evaluated as CEST level of review in accordance with FR-6492-N-01 with a project cost of \$24,379.82. The project includes the purchase and installation of a warehouse (storage container), a solar system, a replacement cistern, and a new cistern in the southern portion of the project property. The Applicant has identified two potential locations for the warehouse, one location for the solar equipment, two potential locations for the replacement cistern, and one location for the new cistern. The warehouse will consist of a prefabricated freight container that is 320 square feet (sf) in size (40 feet [ft] by 8 ft) and 9.5 ft in height. A total of three concrete beams equipped with metal anchor plates will be used to secure the warehouse to the ground, including the installation of one concrete beam at each end and at the center of the warehouse. Each concrete beam will be 10 ft in length and 1 to 2 ft in width and will be installed 3 ft deep into the ground. The concrete beams and the metal anchor plates are not included in the Applicant Intended Use of Grant Funds (IUGF) and will be funded using the Applicant's own funds. The warehouse will not require any new electric or water connections. The solar system will consist of six solar panels and will be installed to the ground surface on a cement base. The cement base will be 64 sf in size (8 ft by 8 ft). If necessary, the Applicant may install the solar panels to the roof of the existing chicken coop located adjacent to the proposed solar system location. The solar system will be used to supply energy to the existing on-site agricultural structures via a proposed underground electrical connection that will extend approximately 160

feet in a southeast to northwest direction. The underground cable will be installed no deeper than 6 ft below the ground surface. Batteries for the solar system will be stored in the existing kitchen area located along the underground cable alignment. The replacement cistern will be 600 gallons in volume and approximately 25 sf in size (5ft by 5 ft) and will be used to replace the existing 600-gallon cistern that is currently failing. The new cistern will be located on the southeastern portion of the property and will be 600 gallons in volume and approximately 25 sf in size (5ft by 5 ft). Both the replacement cistern and the new cistern will be installed directly on the ground surface and will require minimal ground disturbance. Some trees will be pruned near the proposed cistern location; however, no tree clearing or removal will be necessary. The project Debbie Silva Mestre, PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #7 - 7. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (iii): Construction of a new farm storage facility. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Construction of a new farm storage facility with ground disturbance, and CE: #10 - 10. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (xxvii): Watering tank or trough installation, if in areas not previously disturbed. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Agricultural watering tank or trough installation that includes new ground disturbance have been classified as CEST under the waiver.

Level of Environment Review Determination:

Categorically Excluded per 24 CFR 58.35(a), and subject to laws and authorities at §58.5: 58.35(a)(3)(iii)

Funding Information

Grant Number	HUD Program	Program Name	
B-17-DM-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00
B-18-DE-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00
B-18-DP-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00
B-19-DP-78-0002	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$25,620.18

Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.2 (a) (5)]: \$25,620.18

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

Summarized below are 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 or Condition	Comments on Completed Measures	Complete
Endangered	The United States Fish and Wildlife Service	N/A	

Species Act	<p>(USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on December 11, 2024, concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have No Effect (NE) on the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon. Also, the PRDOH together with the USFWS have determined that the proposed project May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican Boa and Guajon. The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: 1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) If the Guajon is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately. 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. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.</p>			
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Determination:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>This categorically excluded activity/project converts to EXEMPT per Section 58.34(a)(12), because it does not require any mitigation for compliance with any listed statutes or authorities, nor requires any formal permit or license; Funds may be committed and drawn down after certification of this part for this (now) EXEMPT project; OR</p>
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This categorically excluded activity/project cannot convert to Exempt status because one or more statutes or authorities listed at Section 58.5 requires formal consultation or mitigation. Complete consultation/mitigation protocol requirements, publish NOI/RROF and obtain "Authority to Use Grant Funds" (HUD 7015.16) per Section 58.70 and 58.71 before committing or drawing down any funds; OR
<input type="checkbox"/>	This project is not categorically excluded OR, if originally categorically excluded, is now subject to a full Environmental Assessment according to Part 58 Subpart E due to extraordinary circumstances (Section 58.35(c)).

Preparer Signature:  Date: April.7.2025

Name / Title/ Organization: Ianmario Heredia / Department of Housing - Puerto Rico

Responsible Entity Agency Official Signature:  Date: 6/4/2025

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 Environment Review Record (ERR) for the activity / project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and in accordance with recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).

**Environmental Review for Activity/Project that is
Categorically Excluded Subject to Section 58.5
Pursuant to 24 CFR 58.35(a)**

Project Information

Project Name: PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE

HEROS Number: 900000010400633

Start Date: 05/23/2024

Responsible Entity (RE): Department of Housing - Puerto Rico, P.O. Box 21365 San
Juan PR, 00928

State / Local Identifier:

RE Preparer: Ianmario Heredia

**Certifying Office
r:**

**Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Ent
ity):**

Point of Contact:

Point of Contact: Justin Neely
Consultant (if applicable): HORNE LLP

40 CFR 1506.5(b)(4): The lead agency or, where appropriate, a cooperating agency shall prepare a disclosure statement for the contractor's execution specifying that the contractor has no financial or other interest in the outcome of the action. Such statement need not include privileged or confidential trade secrets or other confidential business information.

- ✓ By checking this box, I attest that as a preparer, I have no financial or other interest in the outcome of the undertaking assessed in this environmental review.

Project Location: , Juncos, PR 00777

Additional Location Information:

Location centroid: Latitude 18.210636, longitude -65.916193 at the address given above. Cadastral: 253-014-126-38-000

Direct Comments to: environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov

Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

This project (PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE) entails the award of a grant to Debbie Silva Mestre, an agricultural business, at Carretera 934 Km Hm 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, PR 00777. Tax ID Number: 253-014-126-38-000. Coordinates (18.210636, -65.916193). This project had an original CENST review which included the purchase of farm equipment including a UTV, computer, tractor, and implement (Broad fork, hoe, compost fork, grape hoe, and a sang hoe) for project cost of \$25,620.18. See attached CENST environmental review. This review includes a scope item previously considered as an EA level of review (storage container, solar system, equipment) which is now evaluated as CEST level of review in accordance with FR-6492-N-01 with a project cost of \$24,379.82. The project includes the purchase and installation of a warehouse (storage container), a solar system, a replacement cistern, and a new cistern in the southern portion of the project property. The Applicant has identified two potential locations for the warehouse, one location for the solar equipment, two potential locations for the replacement cistern, and one location for the new cistern. The warehouse will consist of a prefabricated freight container that is 320 square feet (sf) in size (40 feet [ft] by 8 ft) and 9.5 ft in height. A total of three concrete beams equipped with metal anchor plates will be used to secure the warehouse to the ground, including the installation of one concrete beam at each end and at the center of the warehouse. Each concrete beam will be 10 ft in length and 1 to 2 ft in width and will be installed 3 ft deep into the ground. The concrete beams and the metal anchor plates are not included in the Applicant Intended Use of Grant Funds (IUGF) and will be funded using the Applicant's own funds. The warehouse will not require any new electric or water connections. The solar system will consist of six solar panels and will be installed to the ground surface on a cement base. The cement base will be 64 sf in size (8 ft by 8 ft). If necessary, the Applicant may install the solar panels to the roof of the existing chicken coop located adjacent to the proposed solar system location. The solar system will be used to supply energy to the existing on-site agricultural structures via a proposed underground electrical connection that will extend approximately 160 feet in a southeast to northwest direction. The underground cable will be installed no deeper than 6 ft below the ground surface. Batteries for the solar system will be stored in the existing kitchen area located along the underground cable alignment. The replacement cistern will be 600 gallons in volume and approximately 25 sf in size (5ft by 5 ft) and will be used to replace the existing 600-gallon cistern that is currently failing. The new cistern will be located on the southeastern portion of

the property and will be 600 gallons in volume and approximately 25 sf in size (5ft by 5 ft). Both the replacement cistern and the new cistern will be installed directly on the ground surface and will require minimal ground disturbance. Some trees will be pruned near the proposed cistern location; however, no tree clearing or removal will be necessary. The project Debbie Silva Mestre, PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #7 - 7. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (iii): Construction of a new farm storage facility. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Construction of a new farm storage facility with ground disturbance, and CE: #10 - 10. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (xxvii): Watering tank or trough installation, if in areas not previously disturbed. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Agricultural watering tank or trough installation that includes new ground disturbance have been classified as CEST under the waiver.

Maps, photographs, and other documentation of project location and description:

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE Site Map.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE IUGF CEST.pdf](#)

[ReEvaluation Memo .docx](#)

[PRDOH Regrow Puerto Rico Program - 5836 Waiver \(002\).pdf](#)

[Farm Service Agency Adopted Categorical Exclusions Identified in FR-6492-N-01.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE EFOR.pdf](#)

Level of Environmental Review Determination:

Categorically Excluded per 24 CFR 58.35(a), and subject to laws and authorities at 58.5:

58.35(a)(3)(iii)

Determination:

	This categorically excluded activity/project converts to EXEMPT per Section 58.34(a)(12), because it does not require any mitigation for compliance with any listed statutes or authorities, nor requires any formal permit or license; Funds may be committed and drawn down after certification of this part for this (now) EXEMPT project; OR
✓	This categorically excluded activity/project cannot convert to Exempt status because one or more statutes or authorities listed at Section 58.5 requires formal consultation or mitigation. Complete consultation/mitigation protocol requirements, publish NOI/RROF and obtain "Authority to Use Grant Funds" (HUD 7015.16) per Section 58.70 and 58.71 before committing or drawing down any funds; OR
	This project is not categorically excluded OR, if originally categorically excluded, is now subject to a full Environmental Assessment according to Part 58 Subpart E due to extraordinary circumstances (Section 58.35(c)).

Approval Documents:[03374-SIG-PAGE\(1\).pdf](#)**7015.15 certified by Certifying Officer****on:****7015.16 certified by Authorizing Officer****on:****Reevaluation of a Completed Review**

The environmental findings of a completed environmental review were re-evaluated to determine if the original findings are still valid for all of the three scenarios below:

- a. Substantial changes in the nature, magnitude, or extent of the project, including adding new activities not anticipated in the original scope of the project are proposed.
- b. There are new circumstances and environmental conditions which may affect the project or have a bearing on its impact, such as concealed or unexpected conditions discovered during the implementation of the project, or
- c. The selection of an alternative not in the original finding is proposed.

It was determined that the original findings were still valid.

Statement or memo documenting determination:

The project Debbie Silva Mestre, PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #7 - 7. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (iii): Construction of a new farm storage facility. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Construction of a new farm storage facility with ground disturbance, and CE: #10 - 10. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (xxxvii): Watering tank or trough installation, if in areas not previously disturbed. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Agricultural watering tank or trough installation that includes new ground disturbance have been classified as CEST under the waiver.

[ReEvaluation Memo \(1\).docx](#)[PR-RGRW-03374 CENST ERR.pdf](#)[PRDOH Regrow Puerto Rico Program - 5836 Waiver \(002\)\(1\).pdf](#)[Farm Service Agency Adopted Categorical Exclusions Identified in FR-6492-N-01\(1\).pdf](#)

Funding Information

Grant / Project Identification Number	HUD Program	Program Name	Funding Amount
B-17-DM-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00
B-18-DE-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00
B-18-DP-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00
B-19-DP-78-0002	Community Planning and Development (CPD)	Community Development Block Grants (Disaster Recovery Assistance)	\$0.00

Estimated Total HUD Funded, Assisted or Insured Amount: \$25,620.18

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$25,620.18

Compliance with 24 CFR §50.4, §58.5 and §58.6 Laws and Authorities

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §50.4, §58.5, and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determination (See Appendix A for source determinations)
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 & § 58.6		
Airport Hazards Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest civil primary or commercial service airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport, is located 84,874 ft (16 miles [mi]) from the project site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport, is located 84,874 ft (16 mi) from the project site. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.
Coastal Barrier Resources Act Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is 62,952 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no

Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]		potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Flood Map Number 72000C1235J, effective on 11/18/2009: The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 & § 58.5		
Air Quality Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under the Clean Air Act. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.
Coastal Zone Management Act Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 50,084 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Site contamination was evaluated as follows: None of the above. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements. At the time of this review, this section has not been updated in HEROS to include questions regarding radon. A review of science-based radon data offered a lack of data for the project site and radon testing was determined to be infeasible or impracticable. See attached radon documents.

Endangered Species Act Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	This project May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect, listed species, and informal consultation was conducted. With mitigation, identified in the mitigation section of this review, the project will be in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.
Explosive and Flammable Hazards Above-Ground Tanks)[24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description the project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements.
Farmlands Protection Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural use. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.
Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Flood Map Number 72000C1235J, effective on 11/18/2009: This project does not occur in a floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Juncos; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review. At the time of this review, this section has not been updated in HEROS to include questions regarding FFRMS. This project does not occur in the FFRMS floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690.
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Construction Date (AH est.): ca. 2004, Based on Section 106 consultation there are No Historic Properties Affected because there are no historic properties present. The project is in compliance with Section 106.
Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under HUD's

Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B		noise regulation. The project is in compliance with HUD's Noise regulation.
Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	The project is not located on a sole source aquifer area. According to EPA, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. This project does not involve new construction, so a visual wetlands survey was not conducted.
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 46,617 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.
HUD HOUSING ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS		
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	No adverse environmental impacts were identified in the project's total environmental review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898. On January 21, 2025, President Donald Trump issued the Executive Order 14173 titled "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity", which revoked Executive Order 12898 and eliminated federal mandates requiring agencies to assess environmental justice impacts. Consequently, there is no longer a federal requirement to address environmental justice concerns in the environmental compliance review process.

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

Summarized below are 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 or Condition	Comments on Completed Measures	Mitigation Plan	Complete
Endangered Species Act	The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on December 11, 2024, concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have No Effect (NE) on the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon. Also, the PRDOH together with the USFWS have determined that the proposed project May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican Boa and Guajon. The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: 1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) If the Guajon is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately. 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,	N/A		

	(3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.			
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Project Mitigation Plan

Should new ground disturbance occur the Karst zone must be evaluated and when necessary DNER must be consulted prior to construction activities. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on December 11, 2024, concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have No Effect (NE) on the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon. Also, the PRDOH together with the USFWS have determined that the proposed project May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican Boa and Guajon. The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: 1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) If the Guajon is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately. 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. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.

Supporting documentation on completed measures

APPENDIX A: Related Federal Laws and Authorities**Airport Hazards**

General policy	Legislation	Regulation
It is HUD's policy to apply standards to prevent incompatible development around civil airports and military airfields.		24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D

1. To ensure compatible land use development, you must determine your site's proximity to civil and military airports. Is your project within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport?

✓ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.
Document and upload the map showing that the site is not within the applicable distances to a military or civilian airport below

Yes

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest civil primary or commercial service airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport, is located 84,874 ft (16 miles [mi]) from the project site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport, is located 84,874 ft (16 mi) from the project site. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE Airports.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Coastal Barrier Resources

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
HUD financial assistance may not be used for most activities in units of the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS). See 16 USC 3504 for limitations on federal expenditures affecting the CBRS.	Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) of 1982, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 (16 USC 3501)	

1. Is the project located in a CBRS Unit?

✓ No

Document and upload map and documentation below.

Yes

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is 62,952 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE CBRS.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Flood Insurance

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Certain types of federal financial assistance may not be used in floodplains unless the community participates in National Flood Insurance Program and flood insurance is both obtained and maintained.	Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 as amended (42 USC 4001-4128)	24 CFR 50.4(b)(1) and 24 CFR 58.6(a) and (b); 24 CFR 55.1(b).

1. Does this project involve financial assistance for construction, rehabilitation, or acquisition of a mobile home, building, or insurable personal property?

No. This project does not require flood insurance or is excepted from flood insurance.

✓ Yes

2. Upload a FEMA/FIRM map showing the site here:

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE FIRM.pdf](#)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The [FEMA Map Service Center](#) provides this information in the form of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). For projects in areas not mapped by FEMA, use the best available information to determine floodplain information. Include documentation, including a discussion of why this is the best available information for the site. Provide FEMA/FIRM floodplain zone designation, panel number, and date within your documentation.

Is the structure, part of the structure, or insurable property located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area?

✓ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.

Yes

4. While flood insurance is not mandatory for this project, HUD strongly recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Will flood insurance be required as a mitigation measure or condition?

Yes

✓ No

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

Flood Map Number 72000C1235J, effective on 11/18/2009: The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.

Supporting documentation**Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?**

Yes

✓ No

Air Quality

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
The Clean Air Act is administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which sets national standards on ambient pollutants. In addition, the Clean Air Act is administered by States, which must develop State Implementation Plans (SIPs) to regulate their state air quality. Projects funded by HUD must demonstrate that they conform to the appropriate SIP.	Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq.) as amended particularly Section 176(c) and (d) (42 USC 7506(c) and (d))	40 CFR Parts 6, 51 and 93

1. Does your project include new construction or conversion of land use facilitating the development of public, commercial, or industrial facilities OR five or more dwelling units?

Yes

✓ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under the Clean Air Act. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.

Supporting documentation**Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?**

Yes

✓ No

Coastal Zone Management Act

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Federal assistance to applicant agencies for activities affecting any coastal use or resource is granted only when such activities are consistent with federally approved State Coastal Zone Management Act Plans.	Coastal Zone Management Act (16 USC 1451-1464), particularly section 307(c) and (d) (16 USC 1456(c) and (d))	15 CFR Part 930

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

Yes

☒ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload all documents used to make your determination below.

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 50,084 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE CZM.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

☒ No

Contamination and Toxic Substances

General Requirements	Legislation	Regulations
It is HUD policy that all properties that are being proposed for use in HUD programs be free of hazardous materials, contamination, toxic chemicals and gases, and radioactive substances, where a hazard could affect the health and safety of the occupants or conflict with the intended utilization of the property.		24 CFR 58.5(i)(2) 24 CFR 50.3(i)
Reference		
https://www.onecpd.info/environmental-review/site-contamination		

1. How was site contamination evaluated?* Select all that apply.

ASTM Phase I ESA

ASTM Phase II ESA

Remediation or clean-up plan

ASTM Vapor Encroachment Screening.

☒ None of the above

* HUD regulations at 24 CFR § 58.5(i)(2)(ii) require that the environmental review for multifamily housing with five or more dwelling units or non-residential property include the evaluation of previous uses of the site or other evidence of contamination on or near the site.

For acquisition and new construction of multifamily and nonresidential properties HUD strongly advises the review include an ASTM Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) to meet real estate transaction standards of due diligence and to help ensure compliance with HUD's toxic policy at 24 CFR §58.5(i) and 24 CFR §50.3(i). Also note that some HUD programs require an ASTM Phase I ESA.

2. Were any on-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances found that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property? (Were any recognized environmental conditions or RECs identified in a Phase I ESA and confirmed in a Phase II ESA?)

☒ No

Explain:

Based on ECHO reports for the facilities, there is no impact for the intended use of this project. See attached table. The environmental field observation did not note any items of concern. See the attached environmental field observation report. A google earth review of the area shows no visible hazards. The past land use for the last 10-15 year is agricultural

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Site contamination was evaluated as follows: None of the above. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements. At the time of this review, this section has not been updated in HEROS to include questions regarding radon. A review of science-based radon data offered a lack of data for the project site and radon testing was determined to be infeasible or impracticable. See attached radon documents.

Supporting documentation

[Radon Attachments.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE Toxics\(1\).pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE Toxics Table.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE Radon Memo.docx](#)

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE EFOR\(1\).pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Endangered Species

General requirements	ESA Legislation	Regulations
Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) mandates that federal agencies ensure that actions that they authorize, fund, or carry out shall not jeopardize the continued existence of federally listed plants and animals or result in the adverse modification or destruction of designated critical habitat. Where their actions may affect resources protected by the ESA, agencies must consult with the Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service ("FWS" and "NMFS" or "the Services").	The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 <i>et seq.</i>); particularly section 7 (16 USC 1536).	50 CFR Part 402

1. Does the project involve any activities that have the potential to affect species or habitats?

No, the project will have No Effect due to the nature of the activities involved in the project.

No, the project will have No Effect based on a letter of understanding, memorandum of agreement, programmatic agreement, or checklist provided by local HUD office

- ✓ Yes, the activities involved in the project have the potential to affect species and/or habitats.

2. Are federally listed species or designated critical habitats present in the action area?

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

- ✓ Yes, there are federally listed species or designated critical habitats present in the action area.

3. What effects, if any, will your project have on federally listed species or designated critical habitat?

No Effect: Based on the specifics of both the project and any federally listed species in the action area, you have determined that the project will have absolutely no effect on listed species or critical habitat. in the action area.

- ✓ May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect: Any effects that the project may have on federally listed species or critical habitats would be beneficial, discountable, or insignificant.

Likely to Adversely Affect: The project may have negative effects on one or more listed species or critical habitat.

4. Informal Consultation is required

Section 7 of ESA (16 USC. 1536) mandates consultation to resolve potential impacts to endangered and threatened species and critical habitats. If a HUD-assisted project may affect any federally listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat, then compliance is required with Section 7. See 50 CFR Part 402 Subpart B Consultation Procedures.

Did the Service(s) concur with the finding that the project is Not Likely to Adversely Affect?

- ✓ Yes, the Service(s) concurred with the finding.

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload the following below:

- (1) A biological evaluation or equivalent document
- (2) Concurrence(s) from FWS and/or NMFS
- (3) Any other documentation of informal consultation

Exception: If finding was made based on procedures provided by a letter of understanding, memorandum of agreement, programmatic agreement, or checklist provided by local HUD office, provide whatever documentation is mandated by that agreement.

No, the Service(s) did not concur with the finding.

6. For the project to be brought into compliance with this section, all adverse impacts must be mitigated. Explain in detail the exact measures that must be implemented to mitigate for the impact or effect, including the timeline for implementation. This information will be automatically included in the Mitigation summary for the environmental review. If negative effects cannot be mitigated, cancel the project using the button at the bottom of this screen.

✓ Mitigation as follows will be implemented:

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on December 11, 2024, concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have No Effect (NE) on the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon. Also, the PRDOH together with the USFWS have determined that the proposed project May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican Boa and Guajon. The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: 1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) If the Guajon is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately. 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. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.

No mitigation is necessary.

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

This project May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect, listed species, and informal consultation was conducted. With mitigation, identified in the mitigation section of this review, the project will be in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE USFWS Consultation Package.pdf](#)
[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE USFWS Conservation Measures.pdf](#)
[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE USFWS Concurrence Letter.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

✓ Yes

No

Explosive and Flammable Hazards

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
HUD-assisted projects must meet Acceptable Separation Distance (ASD) requirements to protect them from explosive and flammable hazards.	N/A	24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C

1. Is the proposed HUD-assisted project itself the development of a hazardous facility (a facility that mainly stores, handles or processes flammable or combustible chemicals such as bulk fuel storage facilities and refineries)?

☒ No

Yes

2. Does this project include any of the following activities: development, construction, rehabilitation that will increase residential densities, or conversion?

☒ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.

Yes

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

Based on the project description the project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements.

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

☒ No

Farmlands Protection

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
The Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) discourages federal activities that would convert farmland to nonagricultural purposes.	Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981 (7 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.)	7 CFR Part 658

1. Does your project include any activities, including new construction, acquisition of undeveloped land or conversion, that could convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural use?

Yes

✓ No

If your project includes new construction, acquisition of undeveloped land or conversion, explain how you determined that agricultural land would not be converted:

The proposed project includes the purchase and installation of a warehouse, a solar system, a replacement cistern, and a new cistern. The project site location(s) is classified as Agricola General (A-G) and Common Rural Land (SRC) land use. The proposed action is continued agricultural use of property, which is compatible with zoning and existing land use.

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload all documents used to make your determination below.

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural use. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE Farmlands.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Floodplain Management

General Requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, requires federal activities to avoid impacts to floodplains and to avoid direct and indirect support of floodplain development to the extent practicable.	Executive Order 11988	24 CFR 55

1. Do any of the following exemptions apply? Select the applicable citation? [only one selection possible]

- 55.12(c)(3)
- 55.12(c)(4)
- 55.12(c)(5)
- 55.12(c)(6)
- 55.12(c)(7)
- 55.12(c)(8)
- 55.12(c)(9)
- 55.12(c)(10)
- 55.12(c)(11)

☒ None of the above

2. Upload a FEMA/FIRM map showing the site here:

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE FIRM.pdf](#)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The FEMA Map Service Center provides this information in the form of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). For projects in areas not mapped by FEMA, use **the best available information** to determine floodplain information. Include documentation, including a discussion of why this is the best available information for the site.

Does your project occur in a floodplain?

☒ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.

Yes

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

Flood Map Number 72000C1235J, effective on 11/18/2009: This project does not occur in a floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. PFIRMS in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Juncos; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review. At the time of this review, this section has not been updated in HEROS to include questions regarding FFRMS. This project does not occur in the FFRMS floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE ABFE.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Historic Preservation

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Regulations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) require a consultative process to identify historic properties, assess project impacts on them, and avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects	Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f)	36 CFR 800 "Protection of Historic Properties" https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CFR-2012-title36-vol3/pdf/CFR-2012-title36-vol3-part800.pdf

Threshold

Is Section 106 review required for your project?

No, because the project consists solely of activities listed as exempt in a Programmatic Agreement (PA). (See the PA Database to find applicable PAs.)

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

- ✓ Yes, because the project includes activities with potential to cause effects (direct or indirect).

Step 1 – Initiate Consultation

Select all consulting parties below (check all that apply):

- ✓ State Historic Preservation Offer (SHPO) Completed

Indian Tribes, including Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) or Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs)

Other Consulting Parties

Describe the process of selecting consulting parties and initiating consultation here:

Only SHPO was consulted as No Historic Properties Affected was determined and no Tribal Lands were identified.

Document and upload all correspondence, notices and notes (including comments and objections received below).

Was the Section 106 Lender Delegation Memo used for Section 106 consultation?

Yes

No

Step 2 – Identify and Evaluate Historic Properties

1. Define the Area of Potential Effect (APE), either by entering the address(es) or uploading a map depicting the APE below:

In the chart below, list historic properties identified and evaluated in the APE. Every historic property that may be affected by the project should be included in the chart.

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

Address / Location / District	National Register Status	SHPO Concurrence	Sensitive Information
----------------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------	--------------------------

Additional Notes:

No Historic Properties present within the APE

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

Yes

✓ No

Step 3 –Assess Effects of the Project on Historic Properties

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

per guidance on direct and indirect effects.

Choose one of the findings below - No Historic Properties Affected, No Adverse Effect, or Adverse Effect; and seek concurrence from consulting parties.

☒ No Historic Properties Affected

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload concurrence(s) or objection(s) below.

Document reason for finding:

☒ No historic properties present.

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

No Adverse Effect

Adverse Effect

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Construction Date (AH est.): ca. 2004, Based on Section 106 consultation there are No Historic Properties Affected because there are no historic properties present. The project is in compliance with Section 106.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE SHPO Package.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

☒ No

Noise Abatement and Control

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
HUD's noise regulations protect residential properties from excessive noise exposure. HUD encourages mitigation as appropriate.	Noise Control Act of 1972 General Services Administration Federal Management Circular 75-2: "Compatible Land Uses at Federal Airfields"	Title 24 CFR 51 Subpart B

1. What activities does your project involve? Check all that apply:

New construction for residential use

Rehabilitation of an existing residential property

A research demonstration project which does not result in new construction or reconstruction

An interstate land sales registration

Any timely emergency assistance under disaster assistance provision or appropriations which are provided to save lives, protect property, protect public health and safety, remove debris and wreckage, or assistance that has the effect of restoring facilities substantially as they existed prior to the disaster

☒ None of the above

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under HUD's noise regulation. The project is in compliance with HUD's Noise regulation.

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

☒ No

Sole Source Aquifers

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 protects drinking water systems which are the sole or principal drinking water source for an area and which, if contaminated, would create a significant hazard to public health.	Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 201, 300f et seq., and 21 U.S.C. 349)	40 CFR Part 149

1. Does the project consist solely of acquisition, leasing, or rehabilitation of an existing building(s)?

Yes

✓ No

2. Is the project located on a sole source aquifer (SSA)?

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

< No

✓

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload documentation used to make your determination, such as a map of your project (or jurisdiction, if appropriate) in relation to the nearest SSA and its source area, below.

Yes

3. Does your region have a memorandum of understanding (MOU) or other working agreement with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for HUD projects impacting a sole source aquifer?

Yes

No

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

The project is not located on a sole source aquifer area. According to EPA, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE Sole Source Aquifers.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Wetlands Protection

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Executive Order 11990 discourages direct or indirect support of new construction impacting wetlands wherever there is a practicable alternative. The Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory can be used as a primary screening tool, but observed or known wetlands not indicated on NWI maps must also be processed. Off-site impacts that result in draining, impounding, or destroying wetlands must also be processed.	Executive Order 11990	24 CFR 55.20 can be used for general guidance regarding the 8 Step Process.

1. Does this project involve new construction as defined in Executive Order 11990, expansion of a building's footprint, or ground disturbance? The term "new construction" shall include draining, dredging, channelizing, filling, diking, impounding, and related activities and any structures or facilities begun or authorized after the effective date of the Order

✓ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.

Yes

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

Based on the project description this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. This project does not involve new construction, so a visual wetlands survey was not conducted.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE Wetlands.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

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

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

✓ No

Yes, the project is in proximity of a Designated Wild and Scenic River or Study Wild and Scenic River.

Yes, the project is in proximity of a Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI) River.

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 46,617 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE Wild and Scenic.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Environmental Justice

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Determine if the project creates adverse environmental impacts upon a low-income or minority community. If it does, engage the community in meaningful participation about mitigating the impacts or move the project.	Executive Order 12898	

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

1. Were any adverse environmental impacts identified in any other compliance review portion of this project's total environmental review?

Yes

✓ No

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section.

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

No adverse environmental impacts were identified in the project's total environmental review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898. On January 21, 2025, President Donald Trump issued the Executive Order 14173 titled "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity", which revoked Executive Order 12898 and eliminated federal mandates requiring agencies to assess environmental justice impacts. Consequently, there is no longer a federal requirement to address environmental justice concerns in the environmental compliance review process.

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No



United States Department of the Interior

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



In Reply Refer to:
FWS/R4/CESFO/72077-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-03374 Debbie M. Silva
Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo, Juncos, Puerto
Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated October 18, 2024, requesting informal consultation on the above referenced project. As per your request, our comments are provided under the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is proposing purchase of a solar system, storage container and equipment. A foundation will be made for the storage container. Two optional locations are being evaluated for the warehouse and replacement of a cistern which may require some vegetation pruning, but no tree clearing is proposed. The project will be located on a 6.13 acres on adjacent parcels at State Road PR-934, Km. 1.2, Bo. Ceiba Sur (18°12'39.2"N 65°54'58.7"W) in the municipality of Juncos.

Using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system, the PRDOH has determined that the proposed project site is located within the range of the Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican plain pigeon (*Patagioenas inornate wetmorei*) and guajón (*Eleutherodactylus cooki*).

The Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application was used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species for this project (Project code: 2024-0138208). Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa, which determined that the proposed actions for this project may affect and are likely to adversely affect (MLAA) this species. As for the guajón a may affect not likely to adversely affect determination (NLAA) was obtained. For the Puerto Rican plain pigeon a consultation is required.

Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and analysis of the site, PRDOH has determined that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican boa instead of the MLAA obtained by using the DKey. Conservation measures will be implemented in case an encounter with these species occur. As for the Puerto Rican plain pigeon, PRDOH has determined that the proposed project will have no effect (NE) on this species due to the lack of suitable habitat at project site.

We acknowledge receipt of PRDOH's NE determination for the Puerto Rican plain pigeon. Currently, we do not have information to refute that determination. Because the PRDOH made a NE determination, PRDOH is not required to conduct formal or informal section 7 consultation with the Service, and the Service is not required to concur with PRDOH's NE determination.

For the Puerto Rican boa, we have reviewed the information provided and in our files, and concur with PRDOH's determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect this species with the implementation of the conservation measures. Also, the Service acknowledges receipt and concur with the NLAA consistency letter for the guajón obtained by using the Dkey.

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 impact 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,

**LOURDES
MENA**

Lourdes Mena
Field Supervisor

Digitally signed by
LOURDES MENA
Date: 2024.12.11
20:25:38 -04'00'

drr

cc:
HUD



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

Lauren B Poche

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

SHPO-CF-12-19-24-07 **PR-RGRW-03374** (Juncos) ,Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA
Hacienda Company Peyo

Dear Ms. Poche,

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



Cuartel de Ballajá (Tercer Piso), Calle Norzagaray, Esq. Beneficencia, Viejo San Juan, PR 00901 | PO Box 9023935, San Juan, PR 00902-3935



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

April 30, 2024

Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

Executive Director

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office

Cuartel de Ballajá, Third Floor

San Juan, Puerto Rico 00901

Re: Authorization to Submit Documents for Consultation

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 review services, among others, that will support the objectives of the agenda for both CDBG-DR and CDBG -MIT Programs.

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,

Aldo A. Rivera Vázquez, PE

Director

Division of Environmental Permitting and Compliance

Office of Disaster Recovery

December 19, 2024

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

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

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: [PR-RGRW-03374](#) – Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Company Peyo – Carretera 934 Km Hm 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, 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 were approved by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Federal Register Volume 83, No. 28, 83 FR 5844, to assist the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in meeting unmet needs in the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. On August 14, 2018, an additional \$8.22 billion recovery allocation was allocated to Puerto Rico under the Federal Register Volume 83, No. 157, 83 FR 40314. With these funding allocations, the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (Housing) aims to lead a comprehensive and transparent recovery for the benefit of Puerto Rico residents.

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, HORNE is submitting documentation for activities proposed by Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Company Peyo, located at Carretera 934 Km Hm 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur in the municipality of Juncos. The undertaking for this project includes the purchase and installation of a freight container to serve as a warehouse, a solar system, installation of an underground electric line, a replacement cistern, and a new cistern in the southern portion of the project property. The Applicant has identified two potential locations for the warehouse, one location for the solar equipment, two potential locations for the replacement cistern, and one location for the new cistern. All project locations are located on a relatively flat portion of the property covered by grasslands and would not require major grading or tree clearing activities. Minimal ground disturbance will be required for placement of the warehouse, solar system,

and cisterns. Some trees will be pruned near the proposed cistern location; however, no tree clearing or removal will be necessary.

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, EHP Senior Manager
LBP/JLE

Attachments

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: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-03374	City: Juncos	

Project Location: Carretera 934 Km Hm 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, PR 00777	
Project Coordinates: (as provided by applicant during field visit) New Cistern: 18.210357, -65.915855 Replacement Cistern: 18.210917, -65.916512 Freight Container (Option 1): 18.21046, -65.916004 Freight Container (Option 2): 18.210649, -65.916354 Solar Panels: 18.210629, -65.916148 Underground Electrical Line: 18.210862, -65.916304	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 253-014-126-38	
Type of Undertaking: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair/Improvements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): ca. 2004	Property Size (acres): 6.13 acres total New Cistern: 0.0018 acre (78 sq. ft.) Replacement Cistern: 0.0018 acre (78 sq. ft.) Freight Container (Option 1): 0.0092 acre (400 sq. ft.) Freight Container (Option 2): 0.0092 acre (400 sq. ft.) Solar Panels: 0.0015 acre (64 sq. ft.) Underground Electrical Line: 0.0035 acre (154 sq. ft.)


SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian: Julia Russ, M.U.R.P; Erin Edwards, M.A.
Date Reviewed: September 25, 2024
SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Delise Torres Ortiz, M.A.
Date Reviewed: September 6, 2024

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

Project Description (Undertaking)

The project includes the purchase and installation of a warehouse, a solar system, a replacement cistern, and a new cistern in the southern portion of the project property. The Applicant has identified two potential locations for the warehouse, one location for the solar equipment, two potential locations for the replacement cistern, and one location for the new cistern. All project locations are located on a relatively flat portion of the property covered by grasslands and would not require major grading or tree clearing activities.

The warehouse will consist of a prefabricated freight container that is 320 square feet (sf) in size (40 feet [ft] by 8 ft) and 9.5 ft in height. A total of three concrete beams equipped with

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: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-03374	City: Juncos

metal anchor plates will be used to secure the warehouse to the ground, including the installation of one concrete beam at each end and at the center of the warehouse. Each concrete beam will be 10 ft in length and 1 to 2 ft in width and will be installed 3 ft deep into the ground. The concrete beams and the metal anchor plates are not included in the Applicant Intended Use of Grant Funds (IUGF) and will be funded using the Applicant's own funds. The warehouse will not require any new electric or water connections.


The solar system will consist of six solar panels and will be installed to the ground surface on a cement base. The cement base will be 64 sf in size (8 ft by 8 ft). If necessary, the Applicant may install the solar panels to the roof of the existing chicken coop located adjacent to the proposed solar system location. No ground disturbance would be necessary for this option. The solar system will be used to supply energy to the existing on-site agricultural structures via a proposed underground electrical connection that will extend approximately 160 feet in a southeast to northwest direction. The underground cable will be installed no deeper than 6 ft below the ground surface. Batteries for the solar system will be stored in the existing kitchen area located along the underground cable alignment.

The replacement cistern will be 600 gallons in volume and approximately 25 sf in size (5ft by 5 ft) and will be used to replace the existing 600-gallon cistern that is currently failing. The Applicant has selected two potential locations for the replacement cistern, one of which consists of the existing cistern location and the other is directly southwest of the existing cistern. The new cistern will be located on the southeastern portion of the property and will be 600 gallons in volume and approximately 25 sf in size (5ft by 5 ft). The new cistern will be equipped with a submersible pump to deliver water to the property. Both the replacement cistern and the new cistern will be installed directly on the ground surface and will require minimal ground disturbance. Water would be delivered through the existing above-ground water line.

Minimal ground disturbance will be required for placement of the warehouse, solar system, and cisterns. Some trees will be pruned near the proposed cistern location; however, no tree clearing or removal will be necessary.

Area of Potential Effects

As defined in 36 CFR §800.16(d), the area of potential effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the location of the warehouse, a solar system, a replacement


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: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-03374	City: Juncos

cistern, and a new cistern plus a 15-meter horizontal buffer to allow for some variation in final placement during construction and the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) who searched the records at the SHPO and the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña which shows that there are no previously recorded archaeological sites within a half-mile (mi) radius of the project location. Five (5) archaeological evaluations and four (4) Section 106 studies have been conducted within the 0.5-mi review radius with three (3) cultural resources found.

The property's east, south, and west boundaries and all project activities fall within the study area of ICP-CAT-JN-94-02-01, a Phase IA archaeological evaluation conducted in 1994 for multiple oxidation ponds with no cultural resources found and no Phase IB recommendations. ICP-CAT-JN-03-05-08, located 0.17 mi northeast of the project area, was conducted in 2003 because Pre-Columbian ceramic fragments were found on the surface during the pedestrian survey in Phase IA (ICP-CAT-JN-02-05-06) the previous year for the development of 32 lots for a residential neighborhood. No cultural resources were found in the Phase IB subsurface survey. SHPO#03-10-93-01 at 0.30 mi northeast of the project location, is a 1995 Phase IA-IB and Phase II for the development of the Project Virginia Valley. Pre-Columbian ceramic fragments and two (2) possible lithic pieces were found after conducting Phase IA/IB, and a Phase II was recommended. The same year, a Phase II investigation determined the site boundaries and the subsurface artifacts, pre-Columbian ceramic fragments (mostly eroded), and lithics (flakes and cores). ICP identified the surveys as ICP-CAT-JN-95-02-06 (Phase IA-IB) and ICP-CAT-JN-95-02-07 (Phase II), enclosing site JN-4. This archaeological site is outside of the project area's half-mile radius. Phase IB SHPO#08-18-97-03 is located 0.31 mi east of the project area, and it was conducted in 1999 for multiple construction and development projects with no cultural resources found. Finally, ICP-CAT-JN-01-04-05 was conducted 0.37 mi west of the project area as a Phase IA-IB in 2001 for the Rio Valenciano Reservoir. It resulted in the identification of archaeological site JN0100008, called Residuario Rio Valencia I. This multi-component site includes pre-Columbian ceramics and a possible round petroglyph and multiple historical structures, such as concrete structures, a house foundation, water trough, hurricane shelter ("tormentera"), bridges, footers, and a brick structure. This archaeological site is outside of

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: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-03374	City: Juncos	

the project area's half-mile radius. The survey was recorded on the quadrangular map of Juncos in SHPO archives but not found during the ICP consultation.


Three (3) Section 106 coded SHPO#07-10-14-01 were conducted in 2015 to rehabilitate residences of low-to-moderate income people with no determination available. The closest is 0.15 mi northwest of the project area, another 0.38 mi northwest, and the farthest is 0.42 mi northeast. SHPO#10-15-12-05, 0.17 mi south of the project location, is a 2012 telecommunication tower on the Ceiba Sur Site at Highway PR-934 with no cultural resources found. In 2015, SHPO#02-13-15-04 was conducted 0.46 mi southeast of the project area as an effort to repave multiple municipal roads severely deteriorated. During that same year, donations were made to rehabilitate a residence 0.49 mi northeast of the project area, coded SHPO#09-28-15-01, with no cultural resources found.

The proposed project is located in a semi-urban, mountainous area in the eastern-central portion of the island at an elevation of 528 ft (161 meters [m]) above mean sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses two (2) mapped soil series: PaE2 (Pandura loam, 12 to 40 percent slopes, eroded); PdF (Pandura-Very stony land complex, 40 to 60 percent slopes). The project area APE is in center portion of the municipality of Juncos. The general project area is located on a low-to-medium developed area with moderate to steeper dissected uplands with evergreen forests, herbaceous, and pastures. The closest freshwater source is an unnamed tributary of Río Gurabo, located 0.17 mi (0.28 kilometers [km]) northeast of the project area. The east coast is approximately 11 mi (17 km) from the project area.

Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture

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

The surrounding area is suburban with dense vegetation. Current Google Earth Pro aerial imagery shows that there are no structures within the project area. There are many structures in the surrounding area, two of which are directly adjacent to the project area. These structures have been identified as a residence and a restaurant. These structures are first visible in aerial imagery from 2004. Neither structure is visible in Earth Explorer Imagery (<https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/>) from 1977 of 1973. Therefore, while the proposed project may be visible from these structures, neither of them are of historic age.

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: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-03374	City: Juncos	


Three (3) Section 106 surveys SHPO#07-10-14-01 were conducted in 2015 to rehabilitate residences of low-to-moderate income people with no determination available. The closest is 0.15 mi northwest of the project area, another 0.38 mi northwest, and the farthest is 0.42 mi northeast. SHPO#10-15-12-05, 0.17 mi south of the project location, is a 2012 telecommunication tower on the Ceiba Sur Site at Highway PR-934 with no cultural resources found. In 2015, SHPO#02-13-15-04 was conducted 0.46 mi southeast of the project area as an effort to repave multiple municipal roads severely deteriorated. During that same year, donations were made to rehabilitate a residence 0.49 mi northeast of the project area, coded SHPO#09-28-15-01, with no cultural resources found.

Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect. The project area is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed historic district or Traditional Urban Center. There are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project location. No known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the Area of Potential Effect of case PR-RGRW-03374 is located. The closest freshwater body is approximately 0.17 mi (0.28 km) of the project area. The size of the proposed project activities is very small (0.027 acre or 1,174 sq ft) and construction of public roads, residential structures, businesses, and agricultural infrastructure and practices have impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project activities.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-03374		City: Juncos

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

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

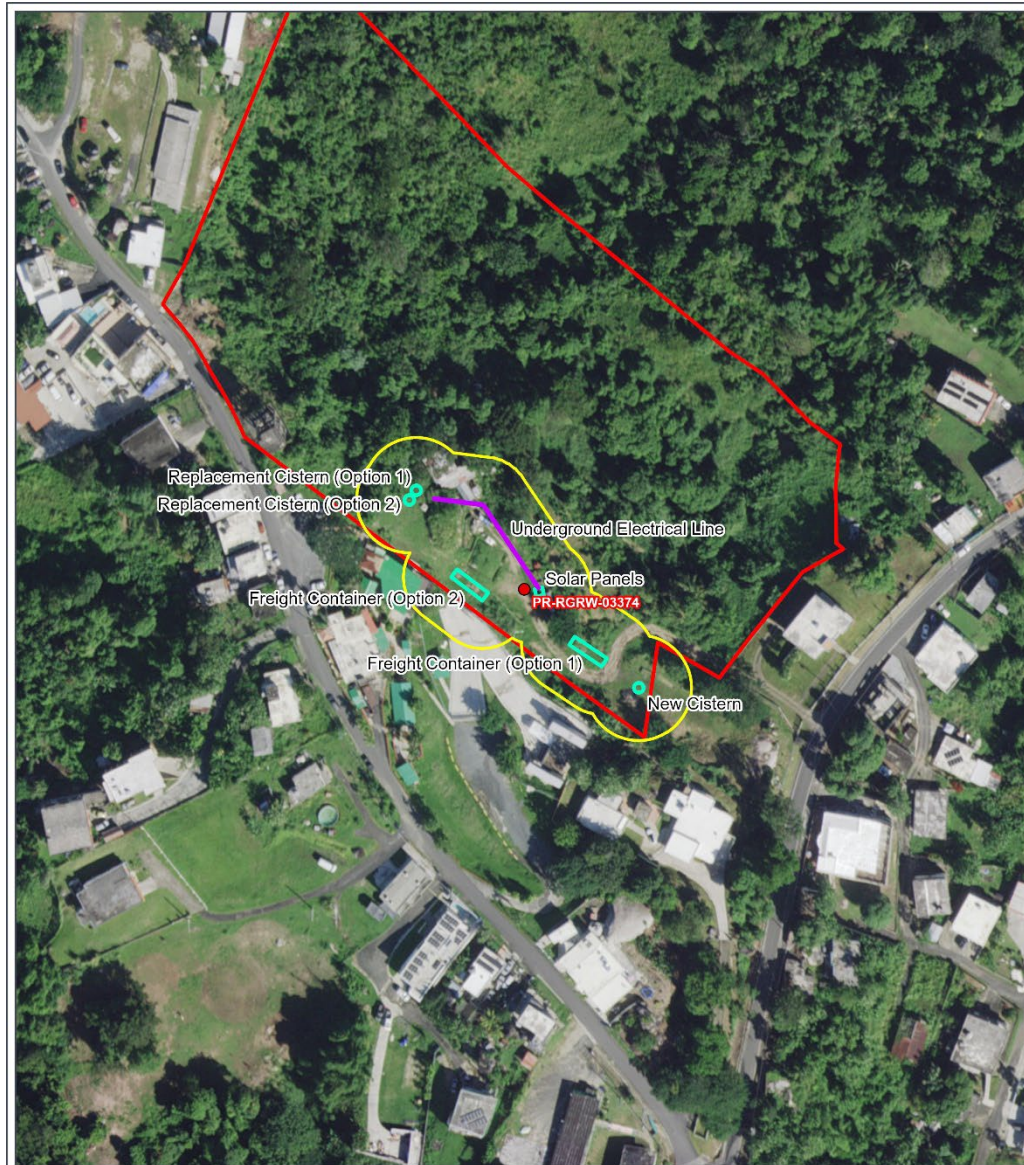
The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the above information and:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Concurs with the information provided. <input type="checkbox"/> Does not concur with the information provided.	
Comments: 	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation Officer	Date:

Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: **PR-RGRW-03374**

City: Juncos

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



REGROW PROGRAM

**Project Location
Area of Potential
Effects (APE) Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option)
- ▭ Underground Electrical Line
- ▭ APE (Buffer (15-meters))

Carr: 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Celba
Sur
Juncos, PR 00777

Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000 &
253-024-126-56
Center of Map:
65.916193°W 18.210636°N

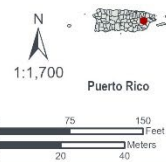
Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery

Imagery Year: 2022

Updated: 12/18/2024

Layout: APE

Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps

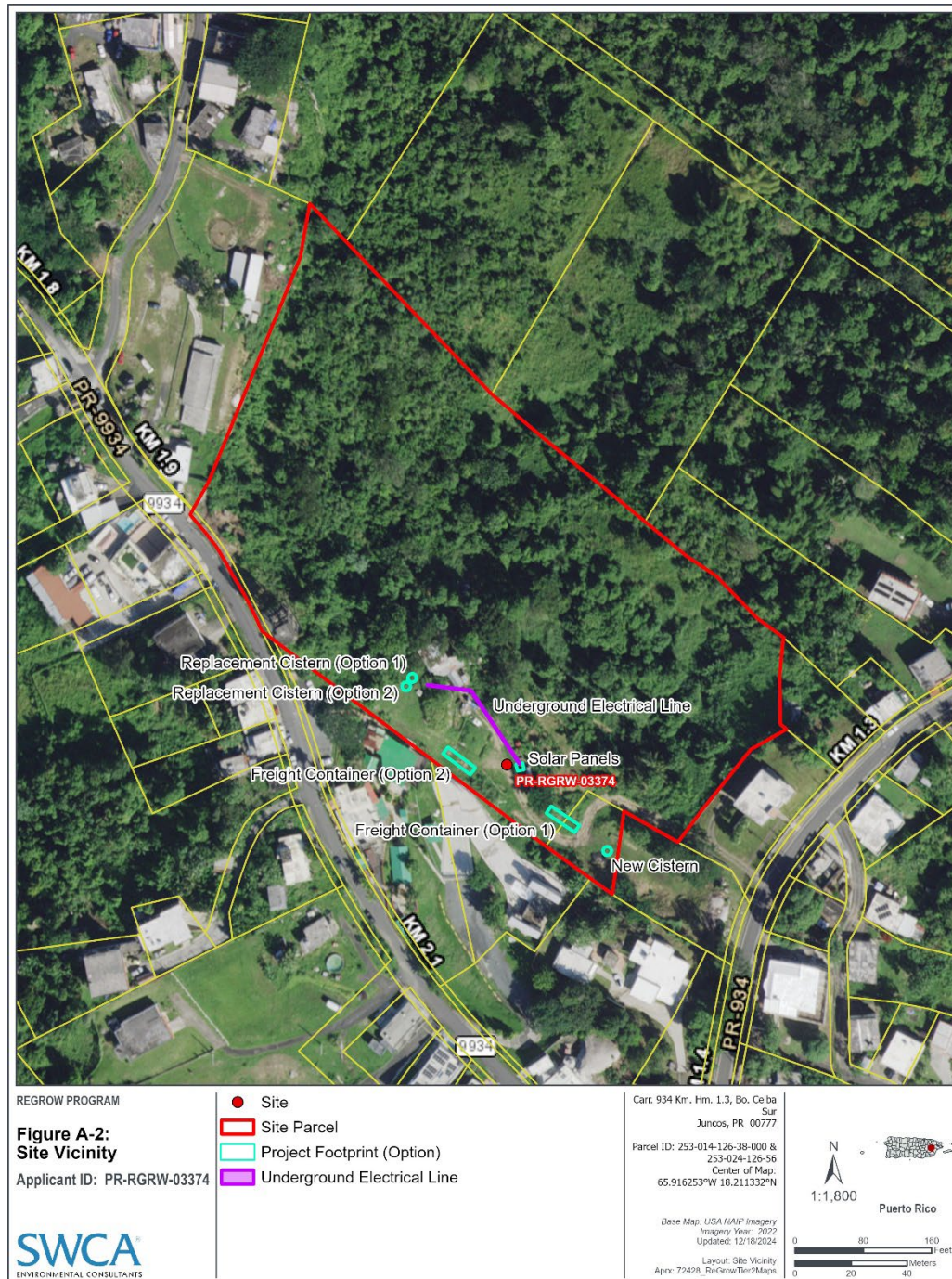


Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: **PR-RGRW-03374**

City: Juncos

Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map

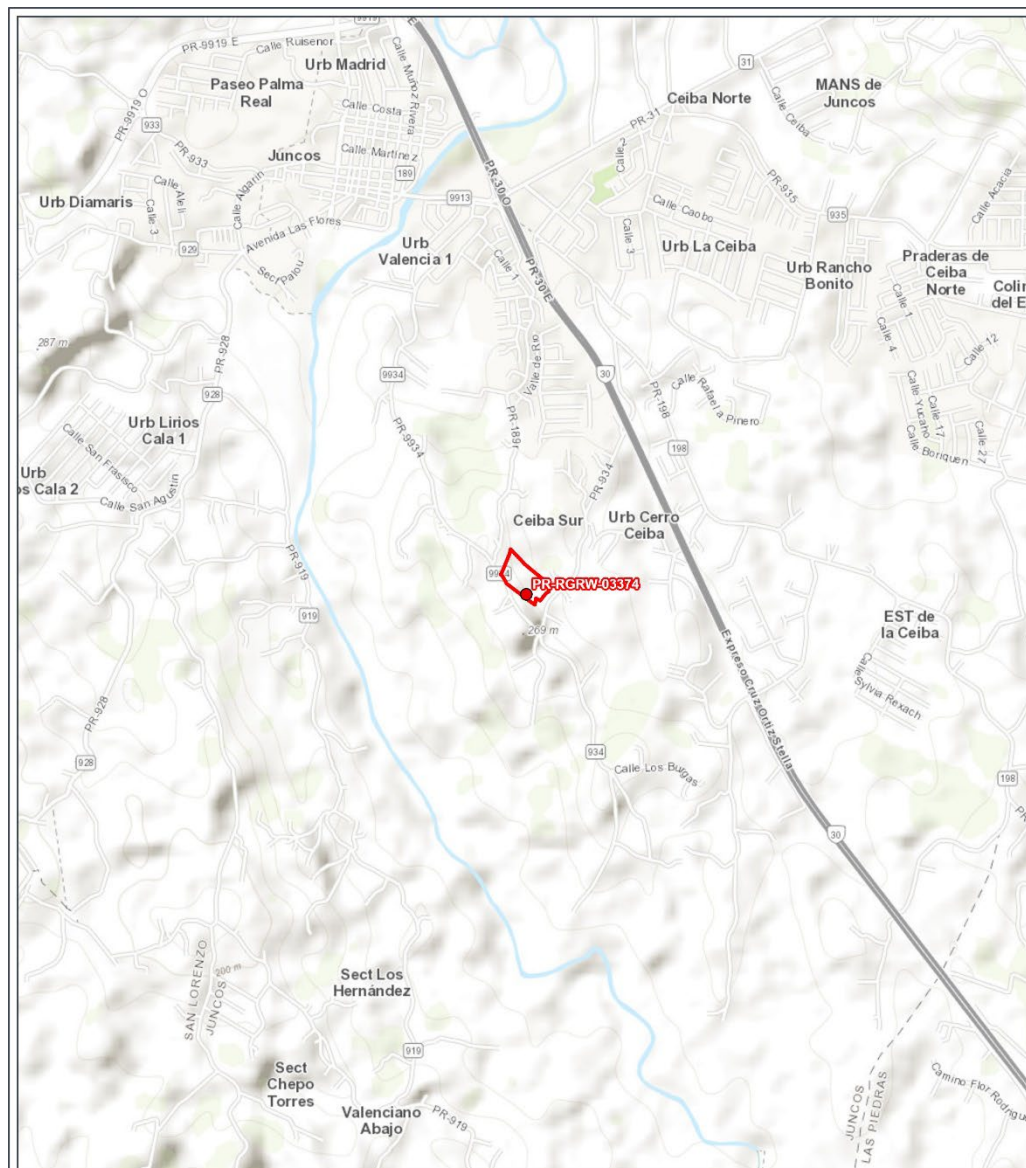


Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: **PR-RGRW-03374**

City: Juncos

Project (Parcel) Location - USGS Topographic Map



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure A-1:
Site Location**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

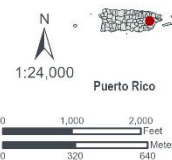
SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

● Site
□ Site Parcel

Carr: 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur
Juncos, PR. 00777

Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000 &
253-024-126-56
Center of Map:
65.916193°W 18.210636°N

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
accessed December 2024
Updated: 12/18/2024
Layout: Site Location
Aprx: 72428_RcGrowTier2Maps

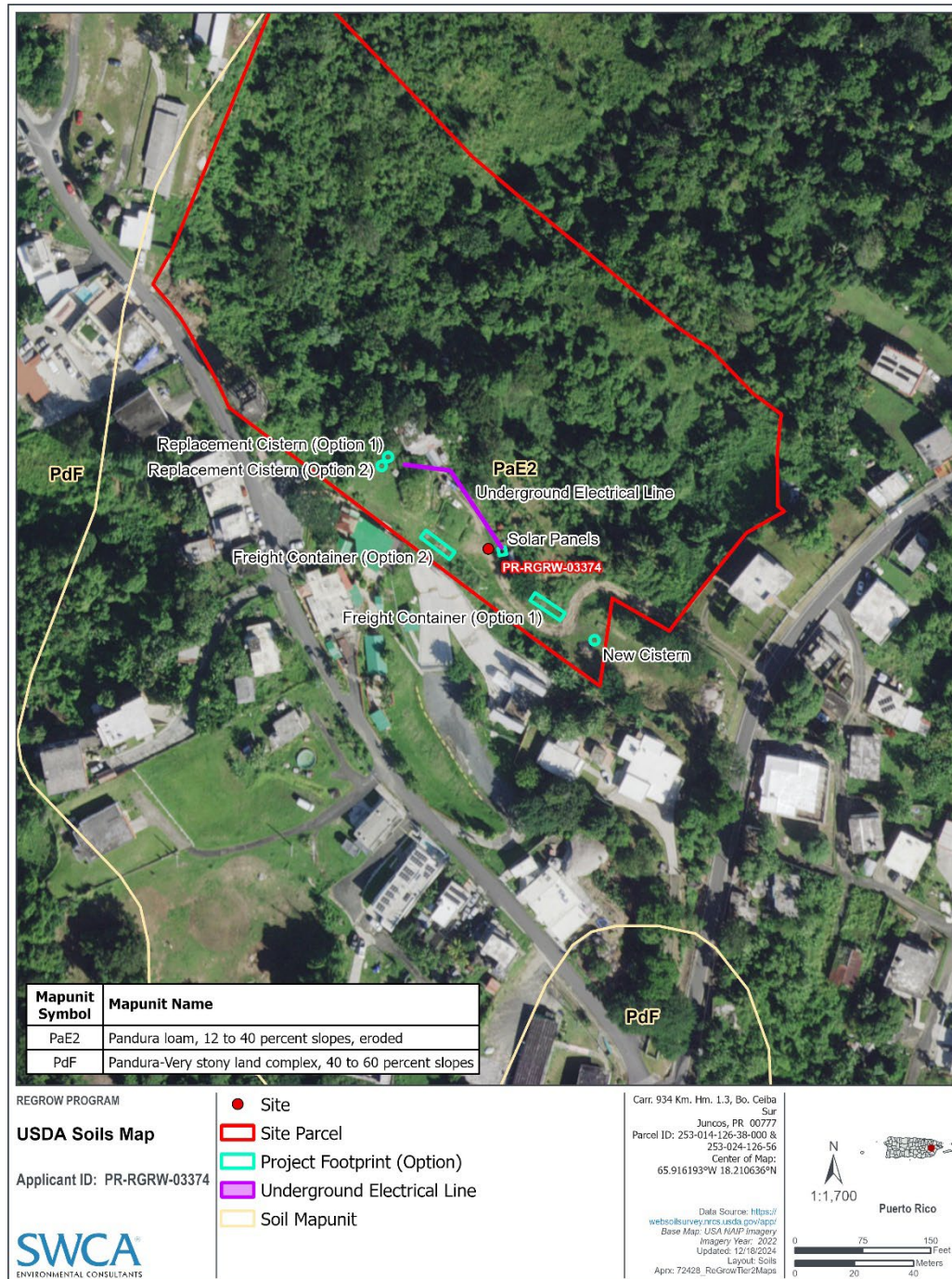


Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: **PR-RGRW-03374**

City: Juncos

Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map (Only if Archaeology Review is Required)

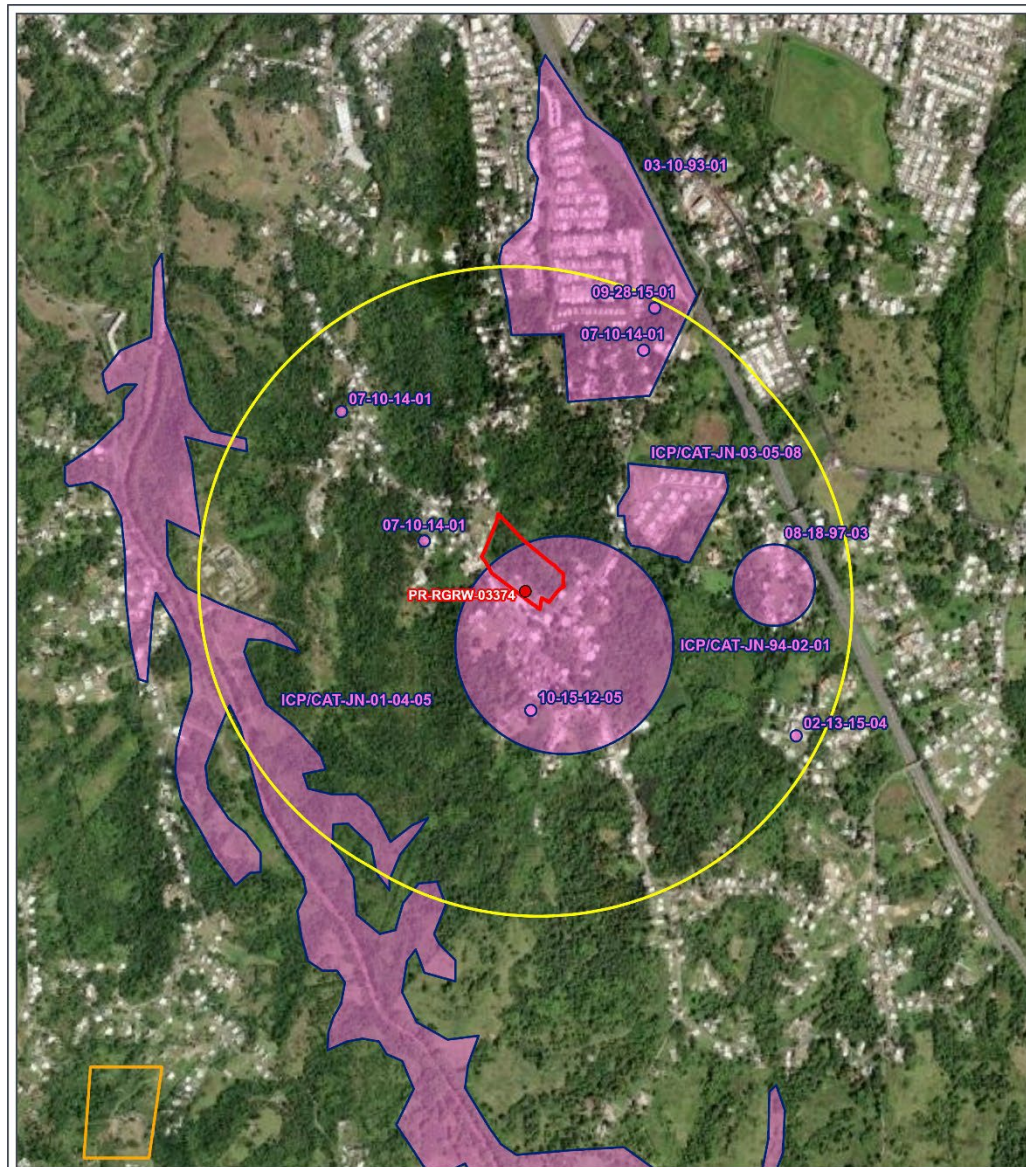


Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: **PR-RGRW-03374**

City: Juncos

Project (Parcel) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map



REGROW PROGRAM

Previous Investigation Map

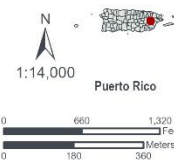
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

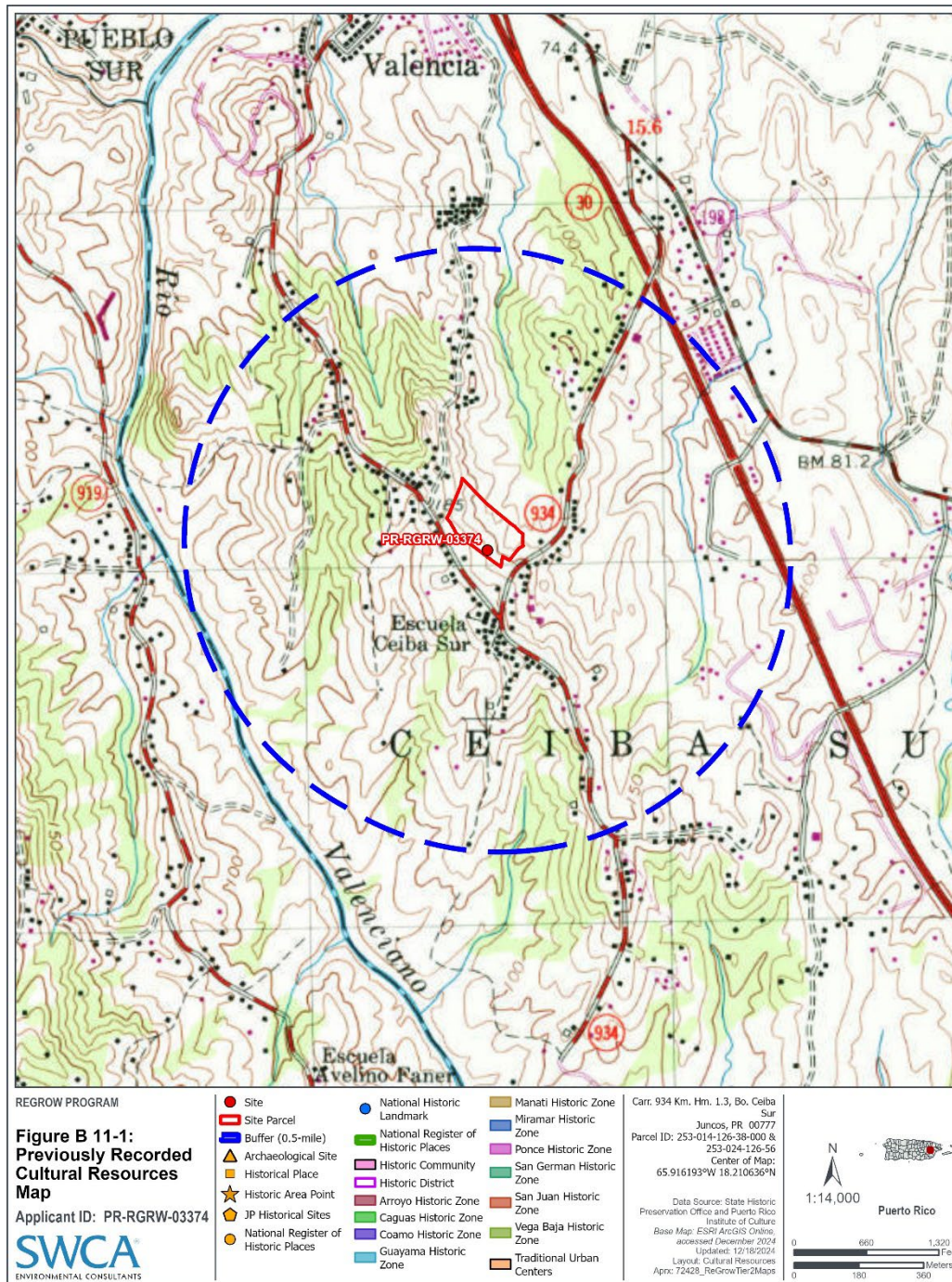
- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option)
- ▭ Buffer (0.5-mile)
- ▭ Previously Recorded Survey
- ▭ MIPR Archeologia
- ▭ Traditional Urban Centers

Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Celba Sur
Juncos, PR. 00777
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000 & 253-024-126-56
Center of Map:
65.916193°W 18.210636°N

Data Source: State Historic Preservation Office and Puerto Rico Institute of Culture
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed December 2024
Updates: 12/18/2024
Layout: Previous Investigation Aprx: 72428_RaGrowTier2Maps



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

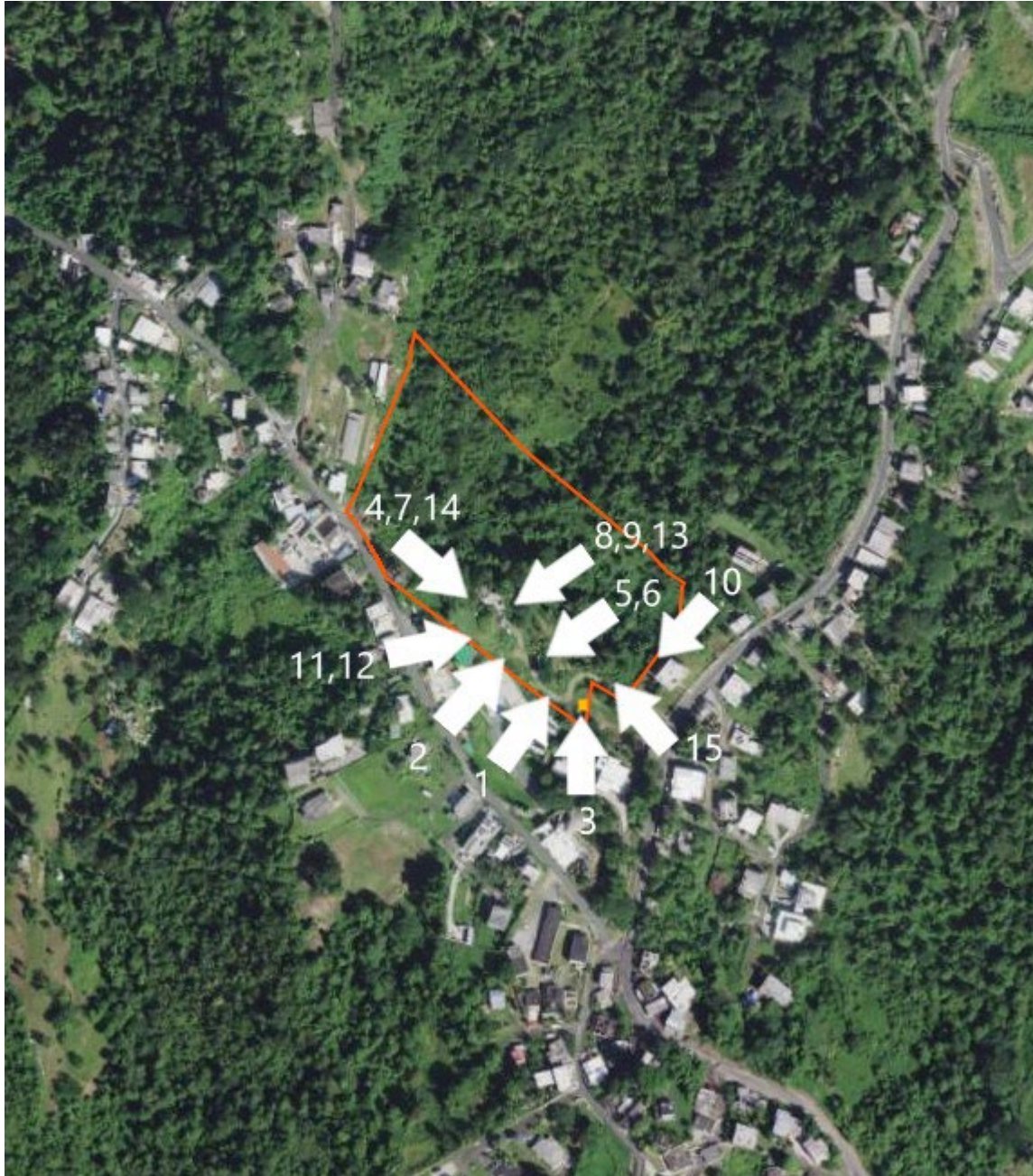


Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: **PR-RGRW-03374**

City: Juncos

Photograph Key



Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: **PR-RGRW-03374**

City: Juncos

Photo #:
01

Date:
08/21/24

Photo Direction:
Southeast

Description:
Overview of the project location for a freight container (option 1) (40x8x9.5ft) used as a warehouse on three concrete beams with metal anchor plates welded to the container. Crop area for recajo, an area where they used it for construction (mixing cement), and an unused cistern.



Photo #:
02

Date:
08/21/24

Photo Direction:
Southwest

Description:
This alternative location for the freight container (option 2) will be used as a warehouse on three concrete beams with metal anchor plates welded to the container.



Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: **PR-RGRW-03374**

City: Juncos

Photo #: **Date:**

03 08/21/24

Photo Direction:

Southwest

Description:

Overview of the project location for the new 600-gallon cistern and submersible water pump to provide water to the nearby crops. If the submersible water pump is not approved the applicant will install the cistern on a higher terrain behind the cistern pictured and at the side of the bolder.



Photo #: **Date:**

04 08/21/24

Photo Direction:

Northeast

Description:

Overview of an existing cistern that provides water to the animals (pigs). The applicant is requesting a 600-gallon cistern to replace this one due to being broken; the aboveground water line is already installed. The area needs pruning. This is the project location of Replacement Cistern Option 1 and 2.



Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: **PR-RGRW-03374**

City: Juncos

Photo #:
05

Date:
08/21/24

Photo Direction:
Northeast

Description:
The applicant plans to use this area for six solar panels installed on an 8 by 8 ft concrete base with a metal frame on the ground. Alternately, on the roof of the chicken coop if the structure is reinforced.



Photo #:
06

Date:
08/21/24

Photo Direction:
Southeast

Description:
The applicant plans to use this area for six solar panels installed on an 8 by 8 ft concrete base with a metal frame on the ground. The applicant mentioned it can also be installed on the roof of the chicken coop if the structure is reinforced.



Photo #:
07

Date:
08/21/24

Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: **PR-RGRW-03374**

City: Juncos

Photo Direction:

Northeast

Description:

The solar panel system batteries will be stored inside the kitchen area. The picture shows two small (35-pound approx.) propane gas tanks.



Photo #:

08

Date:

08/21/
2024

Photo Direction:

North

Description:

The solar panel system and the batteries will be connected through an underground cable. The picture shows the approximate direction of the underground cable.



Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: **PR-RGRW-03374**

City: Juncos

Photo #:
09

Date:
08/21/24

Photo Direction:
Southeast

Description:
The solar panel system and the batteries will be connected through an underground cable. The picture shows the approximate direction of the underground cable.



Photo #:
10

Date:
08/21/24

Photo Direction:
Northeast

Description:
Overview of a structure that could have a partial or direct view of the project area built over 20 years ago.



Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: **PR-RGRW-03374**

City: Juncos

Photo #:
11

Date:
08/21/24

Photo Direction:
Northeast

Description:
Overview of Restaurant Casaju, built in the 2000s, has a direct view of the project location from the back of the restaurant.



Photo #:
12

Date:
08/21/24

Photo Direction:
Northwest

Description:
This picture is a closer overview of Restaurant Casaju, built in the 2000s, and has a direct view of the project location from the back of the restaurant.



Applicant: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo

Case ID: PR-RGRW-03374

City: Juncos

Photo #: 13
Date: 08/21/24

Photo Direction:
Southwest

Description:
Overview of a broken cistern the applicant uses to store animal food because it is broken and a partial view of the back of Restaurant Casaju.



Photo #: 14
Date: 08/21/24

Photo Direction:
Northeast

Description:
Overview of an unused propane gas tank usually used for the kitchen.





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: Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-03374	City: Juncos	

Photo #: 15	Date: 08/21/24	
Photo Direction: Northwest		
Description: This picture overviews the access road conditions to get to the project areas. A four by four is needed to access it.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:57:20.85
 319° NW
 Calle B
 Ceiba Sur
 Juncos



DEPARTMENT OF

HOUSING

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO



Memorandum to File

Date: 3/31/2025

From: Justin Neely
Environmental Manager
CDBG-DR Program
Regrow Puerto Rico Program
Puerto Rico Department of Housing

Application Number: PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE

Project: Debbie Silva Mestre

Re: Justification for the Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing

After reviewing Application Number PR-RGRW-03374-W-RE under the Regrow Puerto Rico Program, administered by the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (**PRDOH**), to complete the property's contamination analysis in accordance with 24 C.F.R. § 50.3(i) and 24 C.F.R. § 58.5(i), we have determined that testing the property's radon levels is infeasible and impracticable.

Per the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (**HUD**) CPD Notice 23-103, the recommended best practices and alternative options for radon testing are infeasible and impracticable in this case due to the following reasons:

- As required by the CPD Notice 23-103, the scientific data reviewed in lieu of testing must consist of a minimum of ten documented test results over the previous ten years. If there are less than ten documented results over this

period, it is understood that there is a lack of scientific data. The latest report for radon testing in Puerto Rico was prepared in 1995 by the U.S. Department of the Interior in Cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. No other completed studies and reports on radon testing are available in Puerto Rico.

- There is no available science-based or state-generated information for Puerto Rico for the last ten years that can be used to determine whether the project site is in a high-risk area. The Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (**CDC**), National Environmental Public Health Tracking, and Radon Testing map do not include Puerto Rico data.
- There are only two (2) licensed professionals in Puerto Rico who can conduct radon testing using the American National Standards Institute/American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (**ANSI/AARST**) testing standards, which makes it difficult, time-consuming, and highly expensive to coordinate and secure a site visit for the contamination evaluation.
- Do-it-yourself (**DIY**) radon test kits are known to be unreliable in assuring and controlling the quality of the test results; they are not readily available in Puerto Rico, and the cost and time required for purchasing and sending them for analysis are unreasonable when weighed against the results' reliability and the need for prompt results.
- Local authorities in Puerto Rico do not have the specialized radon monitoring equipment or trained staff needed to conduct the radon testing analysis and ensure proper quality control and quality assurance practices are adhered to. We also do not have a radiation laboratory certified for radon testing.

As part of the evaluation for this determination, PRDOH sent information requests to six (6) local agencies at the state and federal levels. We received responses from the following agencies:

- United States Geological Survey;
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- Puerto Rico Department of Health; and
- United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The agencies mentioned above confirmed the lack of scientific data on Radon testing for Puerto Rico and the technical difficulties that we face to comply with HUD's Radon testing requirement. For the above-mentioned reasons, Radon testing is infeasible and impracticable for this property, and no further consideration of Radon is needed for the environmental review.



ENVIRONMENTAL SITE REVIEW AND INSPECTION FORM

ReGrow

Applicant Name:	Debbie Silva Mestre		
App ID:	PR-RGRW-03374	ETO	035
Project Name:	Debbie Silva Mestre	Municipio:	Juncos
Address:	Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur	Zip Code:	00777
Parcel ID(s):	253-024-126-56	Lat:	18.2105556
Project Budget:	\$24,379.82	Long:	-65.9161111

*****Pay attention to the color coding – this will indicate what you are responsible for filling in*****

Task:	Name:		Date Completed:	Notes:
➤ Pre-Site Inspector	Delise Torres-Ortiz			
❖ Site-Inspector	Delise Torres-Ortiz			
Communication Log: (this is used by anyone who wants to record contact with the applicant)	Staff who called or emailed	Date & Time	Form of communication (email, phone, etc.) and which email /number/etc.used)	
	Delise Torres-Ortiz	8/19/2024 – 11:07 am	Email: siempreatusalud@gmail.com	
	Delise Torres-Ortiz	8/19/2024 -	Call: 787-236-3670 787-241-4552	No answer – both 21 agosto 1pm

Canopy Document Notes/Summary:

▪ EA Preparer	Annika Kiemm				
Scope of Work from IUGF:	The project includes the purchase of a solar system, storage container and equipment. A foundation will be made for the storage container. T				
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▪ GIS review Floodplain?	Floodway on/near parcel	N	100-year on/near parcel	N	500-year on/near parcel	N
❖ Will project activities occur within a Floodway?			No			
❖ Will project activities occur within a 100-year Floodplain?			No			

❖ **Site-Visit Form**

❖ General Site Conditions and Field Notes:			
Does the address match the parcel location?	Yes	Does the lat/long match the parcel location?	Yes
Comments on location:			
<u>Question</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Comments:</u>	
Was property accessible by vehicle?	Y		
Were there any access issues? Examples of access issues: Dogs, Locked gate, Traffic hazards, Uncooperative residents, Confrontational Neighbors, *If no access issues please indicate with "None"	Y	A 4 by 4 is needed to access the project areas.	
Are water wells present? *please include lat/long of water well so it can be denoted on the sitemap	N		
Are creeks or ponds present? *please include lat/long of water well so it can be denoted on the sitemap	N		
Are any potential wetlands on-site or visible on adjacent parcel? *please include lat/long of water well so it can be denoted on the sitemap	N		



❖ **Parcel Conditions**

Note – for Any Yes answers specify type, contents, and location (get photo points)
(These questions are mostly concerned with contamination – all HUD activities must be “free and clear of contamination” and while it’s important to be able to show there is no site-contamination we also have to keep in mind what the HUD funded project is and the regulatory requirements of the activity)

Are commercial or industrial hazardous facilities at parcel or within visual sight?	N	
Are there signs of underground storage tanks?	N	
Are any above-ground tanks (relevant to the activities in the IUGF *unless they are a source of contamination) >10 gallons present? If yes, what are the contents and conditions of each tank?	N	
Are 55-gallon drums present? If yes, what are the content and conditions of each tank?	N	
Are abandoned vehicles or electrical equipment present?	N	
Are there any signs of illegal dumping within or next to the applicant parcel?	N	



ENVIRONMENTAL SITE REVIEW AND INSPECTION FORM
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Is other potential environmentally hazardous debris on the parcel?	N	
Is there non-environmentally hazardous debris on the parcel?	N	
Are any leaks, soil stains, or stressed vegetation present? If yes, what is the source of the staining/stress?	N	
Are there any pungent, foul or noxious odors?	N	
Other Components Related to Project (e.g., gas tanks, cisterns, water tanks, abandoned vehicles, etc.)		
Type	Details	
Cistern		
Cistern		
Propane gas tanks		
Are there any potentially hazardous trees that could fall?	N	
Are any bird nests visible?	N	
Are there any animal burrows visible?	N	
Are there any signs of potential/preferred T&E habitat in the area?	N	



Natural Resources (e.g., endemic plants, endangered species, water bodies, wetlands, etc.) {include the ones inside the property and in direct sight view of the site location}

Type or Species	Description

Are there any buildings in direct visual sight of the project locations? Take photo and ask applicant when the structure was built)

Y

A restaurant and a residence.

Structures (e.g., residences, commercial buildings, etc.) {include the ones inside the property and in direct sight view of the site location}

Built Date	Type of Construction
More than 20 years ago	Residence
More than 20 years ago	Restaurant

❖ **Additional Environmental Hazards Analysis**

Based on the above findings, does additional information need to be obtained from the applicant to determine whether an environmental hazard is present?

N

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

Delise Torres Ortiz
{Delise Torres Ortiz}
{August 21, 2024}



ENVIRONMENTAL SITE REVIEW AND INSPECTION FORM

ReGrow

Following pages are used for:

Location Map with parcel boundaries and building point (Aerial base with streets labelled)

Photos taken during inspection, with Date / Type / Direction associated with the photo



Site-Visit Tips:

Tips before going to the field:

1. Confirm with the applicant the appointment the same week, the day prior, or the same day hours before leaving for the site inspection.
2. Check the vehicle, and equipment (e.g. did you download the field map)
3. Don't leave the field without the contact information of the applicant, you may need directions along the way.
4. Make sure you read the Pre-Site Environmental Questionnaire.
 - a. It is good practice to ask the EA writer and the Project Manager (PM) if they want us to pay attention or to ask something in particular.
5. The RFA document might give you what the funds were requested for, this is important because sometimes the applicants will keep talking about the projects, but not mention who's going to pay what.
6. Sign the JHA; make sure the PM has the time to prepare the document.

For the following always take pictures:

1. If there is a sign of site preparation, please ask when it happened and what they did (e.g. grading, filling, etc.)
2. Tree clearing – ask them about permits, and what type of tree it is.
3. When an applicant is not sure about the exact location of the project, make sure you take several overview pictures or a central point with N, E, S, and W views.
 1. Please be prepared to let the applicant know where wetlands are located within their parcel boundaries. This will help ensure they do not try and plan to locate any activities within wetlands (and/or ensure we know which permits will be required).
4. Ask about any organic debris (grasses, dirt, etc.) and other materials such as construction materials, buckets, tarps, etc., and what they plan to do to them.
5. Structures with a direct view of the project (ask when it was built).
6. Natural resources – water bodies, burrows, birds or nests, wetlands, erosion, landslides, etc.

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Frame #	View	Description
01	SE	Overview of the project location for a freight container (40x8x9.5ft) used as a warehouse on three concrete beams with metal anchor plates welded to the container. The picture shows the crop area for recajo, an area where they used it for construction (mixing cement), and an unused cistern.
02	SW	This alternative location for the freight container will be used as a warehouse on three concrete beams with metal anchor plates welded to the container. The corrugated galvanized panels protect one of the crops and can be moved to another area.
03	SW	Overview of the project location for a new 600-gallon cistern and submergible water pump to provide water to the nearby crops. If the submergible water pump is not approved the applicant will install the cistern on a higher terrain behind the cistern pictured and at the side of the bolder; the area will require basic pruning.
04	NE	Overview of an existing cistern that provides water to the animals (pigs). The applicant is requesting another 600-gallon cistern to replace this one due to being broken; the aboveground water line is already installed. The area needs pruning.
05	NE	The applicant plans to use this area for six solar panels installed on an 8 by 8 ft concrete base with a metal frame on the ground. The applicant mentioned it can also be installed on the roof of the chicken coop if the structure is reinforced.
06	SE	The applicant plans to use this area for six solar panels installed on an 8 by 8 ft concrete base with a metal frame on the ground. The applicant mentioned it can also be installed on the roof of the chicken coop if the structure is reinforced.
07	NE	The solar panel system batteries will be stored inside the kitchen area. The picture shows two small (35-pound approx.) propane gas tanks.
08	N	The solar panel system and the batteries will be connected through an underground cable. The picture shows the approximate direction of the underground cable.
09	SE	The solar panel system and the batteries will be connected through an underground cable. The picture shows the approximate direction of the underground cable.

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

10	NE	Overview of a structure that could have a partial or direct view of the project area built over 20 years ago.
11	NE	Overview of Restaurant Casaju, built in the 2000s, has a direct view of the project location from the back of the restaurant.
12	NW	This picture is a closer overview of Restaurant Casaju, built in the 2000s, and has a direct view of the project location from the back of the restaurant.
13	SW	Overview of a broken cistern the applicant uses to store animal food because it is broken and a partial view of the back of Restaurant Casaju.
14	NE	Overview of an unused propane gas tank usually used for the kitchen.
15	NW	This picture overviews the access road conditions to get to the project areas. A four by four is needed to access it.

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 01	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Southeast		
Description: Overview of the project location for a freight container (40x8x9.5ft) used as a warehouse on three concrete beams with metal anchor plates welded to the container. The picture shows the crop area for recajo, an area where they used it for construction (mixing cement), and an unused cistern.		

Aug 21, 2024 12:46:59.25
140° SE
Calle B
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Photo #: 02	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Southwest		
Description: This alternative location for the freight container will be used as a warehouse on three concrete beams with metal anchor plates welded to the container. The corrugated galvanized panels protect one of the crops and can be moved to another area.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:04:00.68
224° SW
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 03	Date: 08/21/ 2024
Photo Direction: Southwest	
Description: Overview of the project location for a new 600-gallon cistern and submergible water pump to provide water to the nearby crops. If the submergible water pump is not approved the applicant will install the cistern on a higher terrain behind the cistern pictured and at the side of the bolder; the area will require basic pruning.	




Photo #: 04	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northeast		
Description: Overview of an existing cistern that provides water to the animals (pigs). The applicant is requesting another 600-gallon cistern to replace this one due to being broken; the aboveground water line is already installed. The area needs pruning.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 05	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northeast		
Description: The applicant plans to use this area for six solar panels installed on an 8 by 8 ft concrete base with a metal frame on the ground. The applicant mentioned it can also be installed on the roof of the chicken coop if the structure is reinforced.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:00:28.58
41° NE
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Aug 21, 2024 13:00:28.58
41° NE
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Photo #: 06	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Southeast		
Description: The applicant plans to use this area for six solar panels installed on an 8 by 8 ft concrete base with a metal frame on the ground. The applicant mentioned it can also be installed on the roof of the chicken coop if the structure is reinforced.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:03:44.24
142° SE
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111


Photo #: 07	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northeast		
Description: The solar panel system batteries will be stored inside the kitchen area. The picture shows two small (35-pound approx.) propane gas tanks.		

Photo #: 08	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: North		
Description: The solar panel system and the batteries will be connected through an underground cable. The picture shows the approximate direction of the underground cable.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:42:37.99
1° N
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 09	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Southeast		
Description: The solar panel system and the batteries will be connected through an underground cable. The picture shows the approximate direction of the underground cable.		

Photo #: 10	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northeast		
Description: Overview of a structure that could have a partial or direct view of the project area built over 20 years ago.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 11	Date: 08/21/ 2024
Photo Direction: Northeast	
Description: Overview of Restaurant Casaju, built in the 2000s, has a direct view of the project location from the back of the restaurant.	





Photo #: 12	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northwest		
Description: This picture is a closer overview of Restaurant Casaju, built in the 2000s, and has a direct view of the project location from the back of the restaurant.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 13	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Southwest		
Description: Overview of a broken cistern the applicant uses to store animal food because it is broken and a partial view of the back of Restaurant Casaju.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:47:59.85
246° SW
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos


Aug 21, 2024 13:47:59.85
246° SW
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Photo #: 14	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northeast		
Description: Overview of an unused propane gas tank usually used for the kitchen.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:50:16.41
37° NE
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Aug 21, 2024 13:50:16.41
37° NE
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 15	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northwest		
Description: This picture overviews the access road conditions to get to the project areas. A four by four is needed to access it.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:57:20.85
319° NW
Calle B
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Aug 21, 2024 13:57:20.85
319° NW
Calle B
Ceiba Sur
Juncos



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September 30, 2024

Lourdes Mena
Field Supervisor
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office Park I, Suite 303
State Road #2 Km 156.5
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico 00680
Email: Caribbean_es@fws.gov; Lourdes_Mena@fws.gov

**Re: Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species Evaluation for the Puerto Rico
Department of Housing ReGrow PR-RGRW-03374 Project/ SWCA Project No. 72428**

Dear Ms. Mena:

SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA), on behalf of the Puerto Rico Department of Housing, is requesting informal consultation under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 *et seq.*), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*) for the proposed ReGrow PR-RGRW-03374 Project (project). The Project is located on 6.13 acres on two adjacent parcels at Carretera 934 Km, Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, Puerto Rico 00777 and Carretera 934 Km, Hm. 1.2, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, Puerto Rico 00777 (18.21087833, -65.91631167).

The project includes the purchase of a solar system, storage container and equipment. A foundation will be made for the storage container. Two optional locations are being evaluated for the warehouse and replacement cistern. Replacement of the cistern may require some vegetation pruning, but no tree clearing is proposed.

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

Species	Listing Status
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon (<i>Patagioenas inornata wetmorei</i>)	Endangered
Guajón (<i>Eleutherodactylus cooki</i>)	Threatened

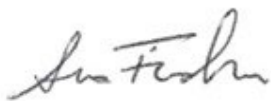
No designated or proposed critical habitat for any listed species was identified within the project area. Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the existing habitat, we have made the following effects determinations:

Species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures to be Implemented
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Not likely to adversely affect (NLAA)	Puerto Rican Boa General Project Design Guidelines
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon (<i>Patagioenas inornata wetmorei</i>)	No effect (NE)	No conservation measures
Guajón (<i>Eleutherodactylus cooki</i>)	Not likely to adversely affect (NLAA)	Guajón Conservation Measures

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

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NLAA 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 you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me at (346) 388-1157 or susan.fischer@swca.com.

Sincerely,



Susan Fischer
Wildlife Ecologist
SWCA Environmental Consultants

Attachments: Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Memorandum



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TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

To: Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 491
Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622

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

Date: September 30, 2024

Re: **Threatened and Endangered Species Evaluation for the Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow PR-RGRW-03374 Project/ SWCA Project No. 72428**

Project Description

Debbie Silva Mestre (the Applicant) is proposing the installation of a warehouse, solar system, replacement cistern, and a new cistern on a 6.13-acre property in the Municipio of Juncos, Puerto Rico (project) (Appendix A, Figure 1). The project is located on two adjacent parcels at Carretera 934 Km, Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, Puerto Rico 00777 and Carretera 934 Km, Hm. 1.2, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, Puerto Rico 00777, in a rural area.

The warehouse will consist of a prefabricated freight container that is 320 square feet (sf) in size (40 feet [ft] by 8 ft) and 9.5 ft in height. A total of three concrete beams equipped with metal anchor plates will be used to secure the warehouse to the ground, including the installation of one concrete beam at each end and at the center of the warehouse. Each concrete beam will be 10 ft in length and 1 to 2 ft in width and will be installed 3 ft deep into the ground.

The solar system will consist of six solar panels and will be installed to the ground surface on a cement base. The cement base will be 64 sf in size (8 ft by 8 ft). If necessary, the Applicant may install the solar panels to the roof of the existing chicken coop located adjacent to the proposed solar system location. The solar system will consist of six solar panels and will be installed to the ground surface on a cement base. The cement base will be 64 sf in size (8 ft by 8 ft). If necessary, the Applicant may install the solar panels to the roof of the existing chicken coop located adjacent to the proposed solar system location. No ground disturbance would be necessary for this option. The solar system will be used to supply energy to the existing on-site agricultural structures via a proposed underground electrical connection that will extend approximately 160 feet in a southeast to northwest direction. Batteries for the solar system will be stored in the existing kitchen area located along the underground cable alignment. The underground cable will be installed no deeper than 6 ft below the ground surface.

The replacement cistern will be 600 gallons in volume and approximately 25 sf in size (5ft by 5 ft) and will be used to replace the existing 600-gallon cistern that is currently failing. The Applicant has selected two potential locations for the replacement cistern, one of which consists of the existing cistern location

and the other is directly southwest of the existing cistern. The new cistern will be located on the southeastern portion of the property and will be 600 gallons in volume and approximately 25 sf in size (5ft by 5 ft). The new cistern will be equipped with a submersible pump to deliver water to the property. Both the replacement cistern and the new cistern will be installed directly on the ground surface and will require minimal ground disturbance. Water would be delivered through the existing above-ground water line.

The applicant has identified two potential locations for the warehouse, one location for the solar equipment, two potential locations for the replacement cistern, and one location for the new cistern (Appendix A, Figure 2).

Existing conditions

The existing habitat conditions at the warehouse, solar system, and new cistern locations consist of cleared, mowed lawn, and vegetation at the existing cistern location consists of tall, overgrown grasses; forested areas lie adjacent to the north and northeast. There are no wetlands or waterbodies mapped within or adjacent to the subject property (Appendix A, Figure 3). Replacement of the existing cistern would require some pruning of the vegetation within the cistern location area, but no other vegetation removal or any tree clearing is proposed. Representative photographs of the proposed locations are provided in Appendix B.

Federally Protected Species

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

The bald and golden eagle’s range do not extend into Puerto Rico (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2024); therefore, these species were eliminated from further analysis for this project. Table 1 identifies the species carried forward for further evaluation and summarizes each species’ habitat requirements, potential for occurrence in the project area, and determination of effects.

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

Common Name (Scientific Name)	Status*	Range or Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence in Project Area	Determination of Effects/Impacts
Birds				
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon (<i>Columba inornata wetmorei</i>)	FE	The Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon is found mostly in wooded ravines, second-growth areas, bamboo thickets, and patches of farmland and pasture within moist mountain forests (Birds of Puerto Rico 2024). The species nests in bamboo groves and hardwood canyons (USFWS 1982).	<i>Unlikely to occur.</i> There are no wooded ravines or bamboo thickets within the proposed project locations.	<i>No effect.</i> There is no suitable habitat for the Puerto Rican plain pigeon within the project area.

Common Name (Scientific Name)	Status*	Range or Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence in Project Area	Determination of Effects/Impacts
Amphibians				
Guajón (<i>Eleutherodactylus cooki</i>)	FT	This species has specific habitat known as guajonales, which are rock formations found in caves and cavities. They can also be found in rocky streams, or anywhere with a combination of water, vegetation, and rocks, including culverts (USFWS 2024b).	<i>Unlikely to occur.</i> Although there is one intermittent stream located within the review area, there are few to no rocks along or within the stream.	<i>May affect, but not likely to adversely affect.</i> See discussion below.
Reptiles				
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	FE	Considered to be a habitat generalist, the Puerto Rican boa tolerates a wide variety of terrestrial and arboreal habitats, including rocky areas, haystack hill, trees and branches, rotting stumps, caves, plantations, various types of forested areas such as karst and mangrove forests, forested urban and rural areas, and along streams and road edges (USFWS 2011).	<i>May occur.</i> The project area is located within and adjacent to the forested areas and dense vegetative ground cover is present throughout the review area.	<i>May affect, but not likely to adversely affect.</i> See discussion below.

*Status Definitions:

FE = Federally listed endangered; FT = Federally listed threatened

Based on a site visit and habitat evaluations, the Puerto Rican plain pigeon and guajón are considered unlikely to occur within the project area due to lack of suitable habitat. Due to the generalist nature of the Puerto Rican boa and forested habitat surrounding the project areas, the Puerto Rican boa may occur within the project area. The Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) was completed for the project, which generated a *may affect not likely to adversely affect* determination for the guajón, a *may affect* determination for the Puerto Rican boa (Appendix D).

Due to the proximity to guajón critical habitat (1,350 feet west of the project area) and forested areas, the applicant will employ conservation measures for the guajón and Puerto Rican boa, as outlined in Appendix E, including but not limited to issuing a stop work if a Puerto Rican boa were to occur within the project area, and contacting the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources for safe capture and relocation of the individual if such action is required. As such, it is anticipated that the project *may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect* the Puerto Rican boa and the guajón, and will have *no effect* on the Puerto Rican plain pigeon.

Critical Habitat and National Wildlife Refuges

Potential effects to habitat(s) within the project area critical to endangered species must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves, while any activity proposed on National Wildlife Refuge lands must undergo a compatibility determination conducted by the Refuge. No designated critical habitats are present within 100-feet of any of the proposed project location options (Appendix A, Figure 4) (USFWS 2024c).

LITERATURE CITED

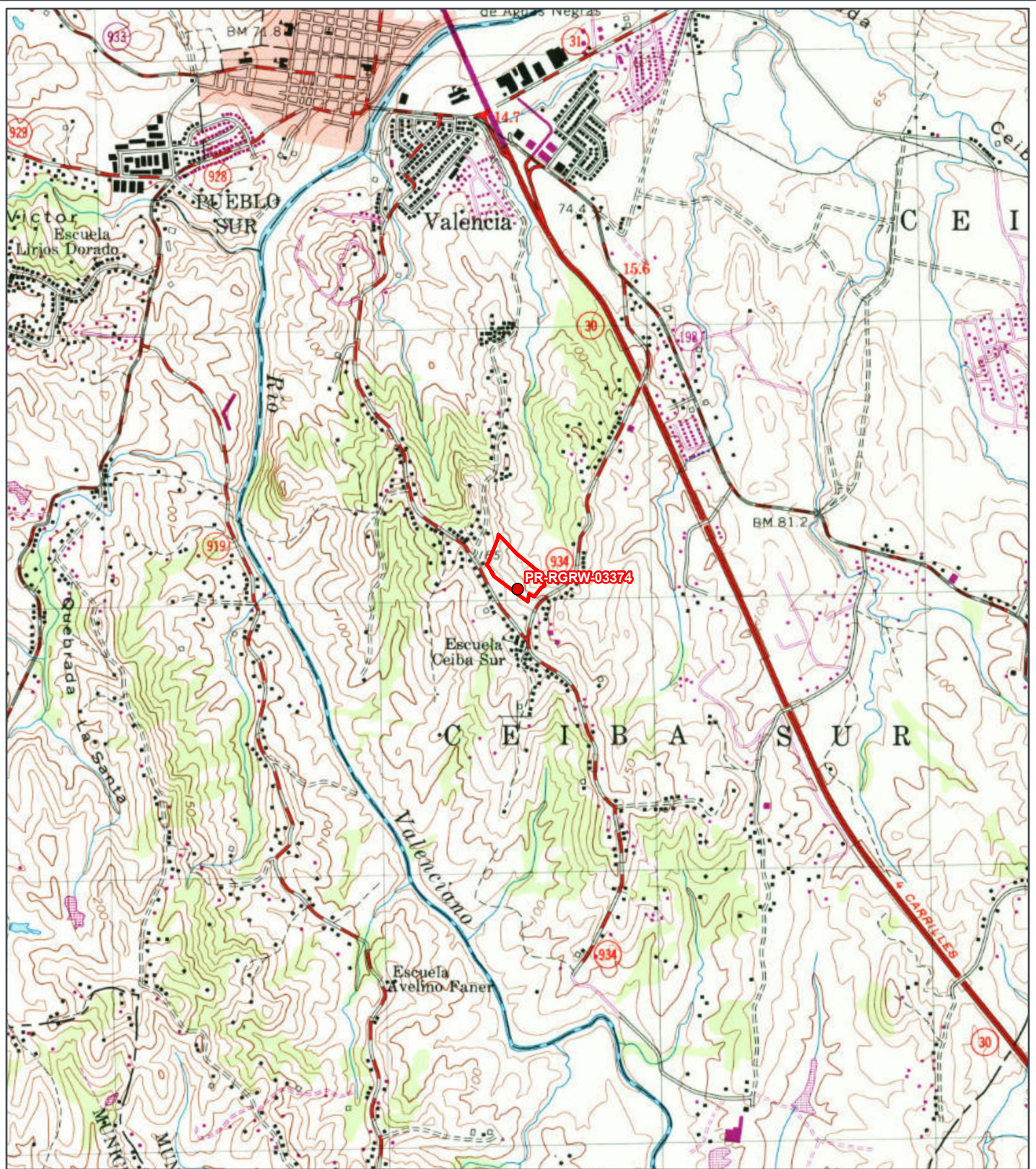
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APPENDIX A

Maps

Figure 1

USGS Topographic Map



REGROW PROGRAM

USGS Topographic Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

SWCA
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- Site
- Site Parcel

Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, PR 00777 and Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000 & Carretera 934 Km. Hm. 1.2, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, Puerto Rico 00777

253-024-126-56 & 253-014-126-38-000
Center of Map:
65.916193°W 18.210636°N

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed August 2024
Updated: 8/23/2024

Layout: USGS Topographic Map
Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps

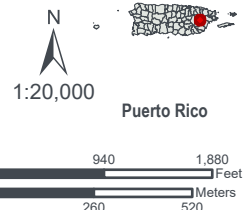


Figure 2
Site Vicinity Map



REGROW PROGRAM

Site Vicinity

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- Underground Electrical Line

Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, PR 00777 and Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000 & Carretera 934 Km. Hm. 1.2, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, Puerto Rico 00777

2253-024-126-56 & 253-014-126-38-000
Center of Map:
65.916253°W 18.211332°N

Base Map: USA NAIIP Imagery
Imagery Year: 2022
Updated: 8/23/2024

Layout: Site Vicinity
Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps

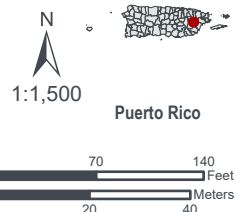
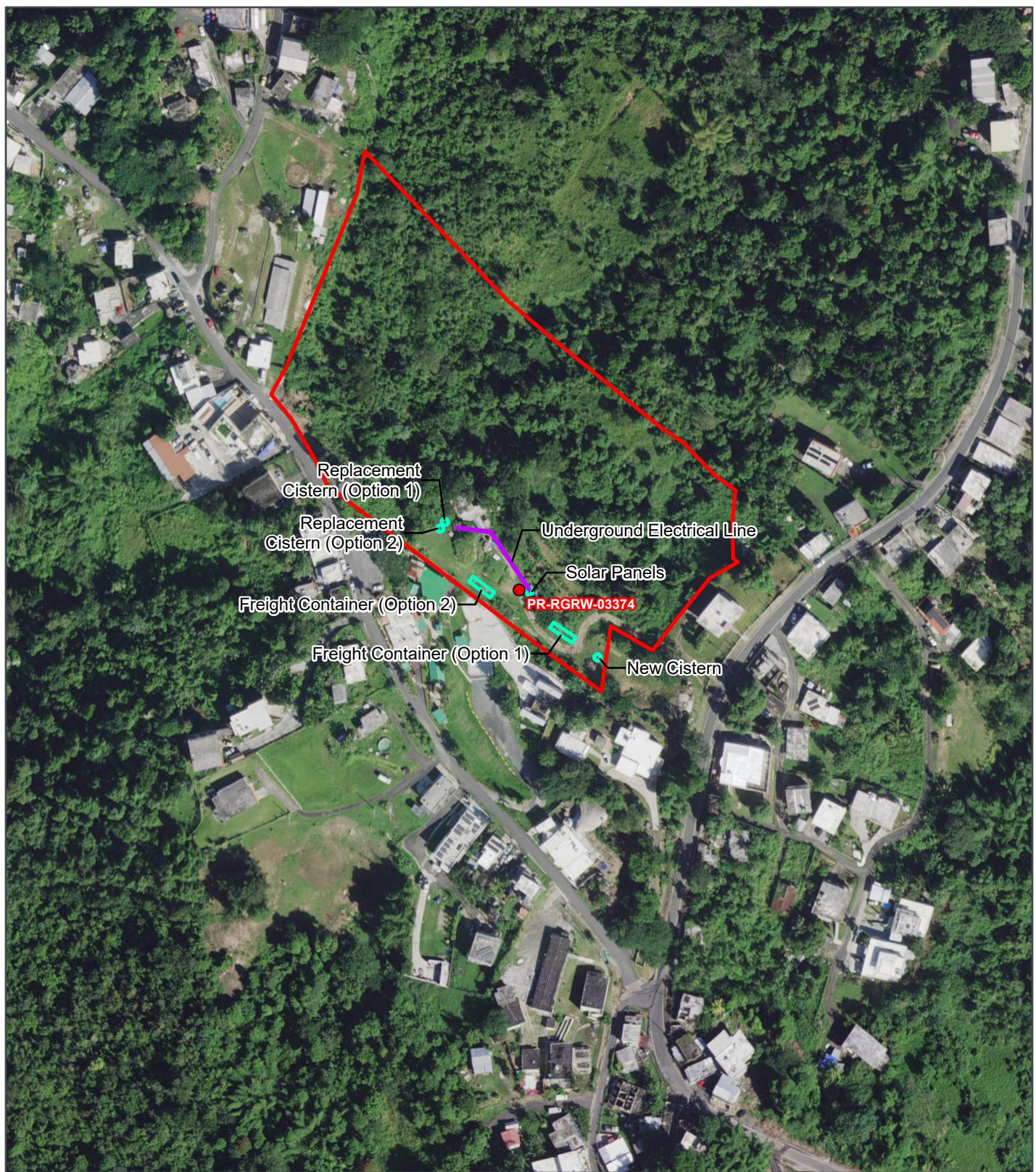


Figure 3
Wetlands Map



REGROW PROGRAM

Wetlands Protection Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- Underground Electrical Line
- NHD Stream
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater

- Estuarine and Marine Wetland
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Riverine

Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, PR 00777 and Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000 & Carretera 934 Km. Hm. 1.2, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, Puerto Rico 00777

22253-024-126-56 & 253-014-126-38-000
Center of Map:

65.916193°W 18.210636°N

Data Source: <https://apps.nationalmap.gov/downloader/#/>
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory/data-download>

Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery
Imagery Year: 2022

Updated: 8/23/2024

Layout: Wetlands Protection

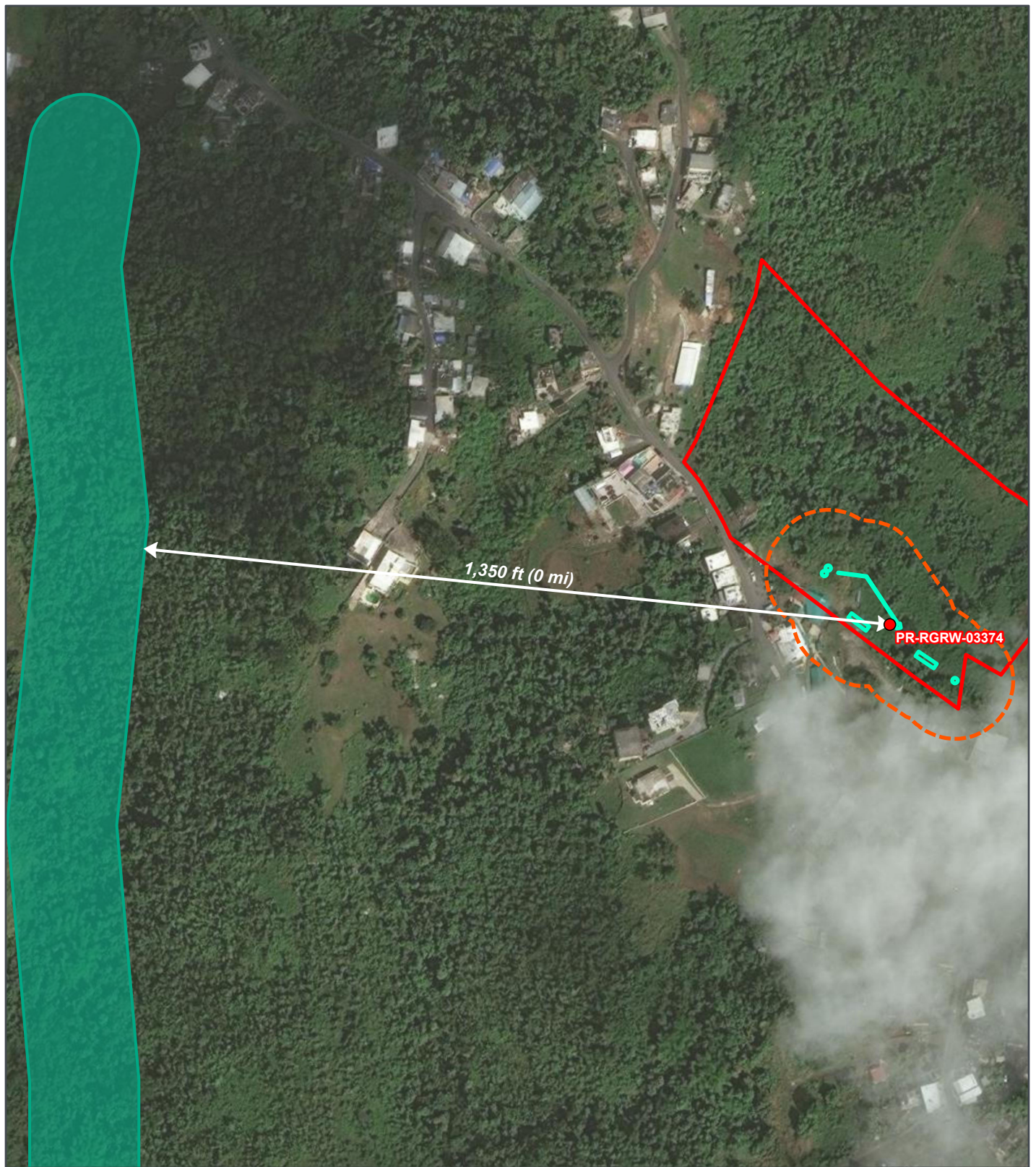
N
1:2,500



Puerto Rico



Figure 4
Critical Habitat Map



REGROW PROGRAM

Critical Habitat Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

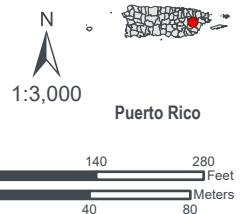
SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

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

Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur,
Juncos, PR 00777 and
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000 &
Carretera 934 Km, Hm. 1.2, Bo. Ceiba
Sur, Juncos, Puerto Rico 00777
2253-024-126-56 & 253-014-126-38-000
Center of Map:

65.918127°W 18.210829°N


Data Source: https://services.arcgis.com/QVENGdaPbd4LUkLV/arcgis/rest/services/USFWS_Critical_Habitat/Base_Map/ESRI/ArcGIS/Online
accessed August 2024
Updated: 8/23/2024
Layout: Critical Habitat
Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps



APPENDIX B

Photographic Log

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 01	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Southeast		
Description: Overview of the project location for a freight container (40x8x9.5ft) used as a warehouse on three concrete beams with metal anchor plates welded to the container. The picture shows the crop area for recajo, an area where they used it for construction (mixing cement), and an unused cistern.		

Aug 21, 2024 12:46:59.25
140° SE
Calle B
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Photo #: 02	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Southwest		
Description: This alternative location for the freight container will be used as a warehouse on three concrete beams with metal anchor plates welded to the container. The corrugated galvanized panels protect one of the crops and can be moved to another area.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:04:00.68
224° SW
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 03	Date: 08/21/ 2024
Photo Direction: Southwest	
Description: Overview of the project location for a new 600-gallon cistern and submergible water pump to provide water to the nearby crops. If the submergible water pump is not approved the applicant will install the cistern on a higher terrain behind the cistern pictured and at the side of the bolder; the area will require basic pruning.	



--

Photo #: 04	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northeast		
Description: Overview of an existing cistern that provides water to the animals (pigs). The applicant is requesting another 600-gallon cistern to replace this one due to being broken; the aboveground water line is already installed. The area needs pruning.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 05	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northeast		
Description: The applicant plans to use this area for six solar panels installed on an 8 by 8 ft concrete base with a metal frame on the ground. The applicant mentioned it can also be installed on the roof of the chicken coop if the structure is reinforced.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:00:28.58
41° NE
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Aug 21, 2024 13:00:28.58
41° NE
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Photo #: 06	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Southeast		
Description: The applicant plans to use this area for six solar panels installed on an 8 by 8 ft concrete base with a metal frame on the ground. The applicant mentioned it can also be installed on the roof of the chicken coop if the structure is reinforced.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:03:44.24
142° SE
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Aug 21, 2024 13:03:44.24
142° SE
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 07	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northeast		
Description: The solar panel system batteries will be stored inside the kitchen area. The picture shows two small (35-pound approx.) propane gas tanks.		


Aug 21, 2024 13:25:22.69
56° NE
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Photo #: 08	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: North		
Description: The solar panel system and the batteries will be connected through an underground cable. The picture shows the approximate direction of the underground cable.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:42:37.99
1° N
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 09	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Southeast		
Description: The solar panel system and the batteries will be connected through an underground cable. The picture shows the approximate direction of the underground cable.		

Photo #: 10	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northeast		
Description: Overview of a structure that could have a partial or direct view of the project area built over 20 years ago.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 11	Date: 08/21/ 2024
Photo Direction: Northeast	
Description: Overview of Restaurant Casaju, built in the 2000s, has a direct view of the project location from the back of the restaurant.	





Photo #: 12	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northwest		
Description: This picture is a closer overview of Restaurant Casaju, built in the 2000s, and has a direct view of the project location from the back of the restaurant.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 13	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Southwest		
Description: Overview of a broken cistern the applicant uses to store animal food because it is broken and a partial view of the back of Restaurant Casaju.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:47:59.85
246° SW
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos


Aug 21, 2024 13:47:59.85
246° SW
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Photo #: 14	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northeast		
Description: Overview of an unused propane gas tank usually used for the kitchen.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:50:16.41
37° NE
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Aug 21, 2024 13:50:16.41
37° NE
Puerto Rico 934
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Project #: PR-RGRW-03374	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur Juncos 00777	Coordinates: 18.2105556, -65.9161111

Photo #: 15	Date: 08/21/ 2024	
Photo Direction: Northwest		
Description: This picture overviews the access road conditions to get to the project areas. A four by four is needed to access it.		

Aug 21, 2024 13:57:20.85
319° NW
Calle B
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

Aug 21, 2024 13:57:20.85
319° NW
Calle B
Ceiba Sur
Juncos

APPENDIX C

USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation Species List



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Post Office Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491
Phone: (939) 320-3135 Fax: (787) 851-7440
Email Address: CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV

In Reply Refer To:

08/30/2024 22:05:57 UTC

Project Code: 2024-0138208

Project Name: PR-RGRW-03374

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

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through IPaC by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

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

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)).

(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at: <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see [Migratory Bird Permit | What We Do | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \(fws.gov\)](#).

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(939) 320-3135

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0138208

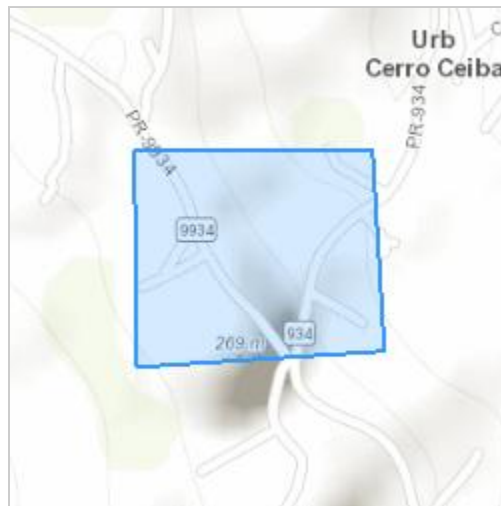
Project Name: PR-RGRW-03374

Project Type: Disaster-related Grants

Project Description: Installation of a warehouse, solar system, and cisterns. Some pruning of vegetation will be required.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.21033125,-65.91609400231226,14z>



Counties: Juncos County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

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

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

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

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

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

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon <i>Patagioenas inornata wetmorei</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7955	Endangered

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/HWBN3KA7SFERVC7CY2I6EZNIGA/documents/generated/7159.pdf	Endangered

AMPHIBIANS

NAME	STATUS
Guajon <i>Eleutherodactylus cooki</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6963 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/HWBN3KA7SFERVC7CY2I6EZNIGA/documents/generated/7136.pdf	Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: SWCA Environmental Consultants
Name: Susan Fischer
Address: 10245 West Little York Road
Address Line 2: Suite 600
City: Houston
State: TX
Zip: 77040
Email: susan.fischer@swca.com
Phone: 3463881157

APPENDIX D

USFWS Consistency Letter



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Post Office Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491
Phone: (939) 320-3135 Fax: (787) 851-7440
Email Address: CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV

In Reply Refer To:
Project code: 2024-0138208
Project Name: PR-RGRW-03374

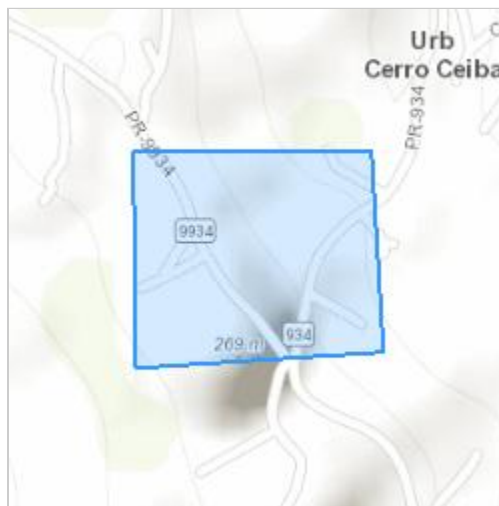
08/30/2024 22:07:16 UTC

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-03374' for specified threatened and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On August 30, 2024, Susan Fischer used the Caribbean DKey; dated April 03, 2024, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-03374'. The project is located in Juncos County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.21033125,-65.91609400231226,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-03374':

Installation of a warehouse, solar system, and cisterns. Some pruning of vegetation will be required.

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

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Guajon (<i>Eleutherodactylus cooki</i>)	Threatened	NLAA
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered	May affect

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

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

Action Description

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

1. Name

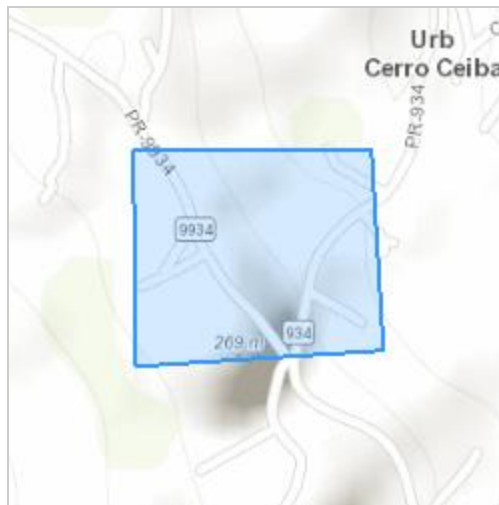
PR-RGRW-03374

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-03374':

Installation of a warehouse, solar system, and cisterns. Some pruning of vegetation will be required.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.21033125,-65.91609400231226,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

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

Yes

11. Is the project area more than 1 acre?

No

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

No

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

No

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

Automatically answered

Yes

15. Does the proposed project intersect the Coquí Guajón area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes

16. Will the proposed project involve the installation of retaining walls or gabions?

No

17. Will the proposed project implement the USFWS Conservation Measures for the Coquí Guajón (*Eleutherodactylus cooki*)?

Yes

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: SWCA Environmental Consultants
Name: Susan Fischer
Address: 10245 West Little York Road
Address Line 2: Suite 600
City: Houston
State: TX
Zip: 77040
Email: susan.fischer@swca.com
Phone: 3463881157

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development

APPENDIX E

Project Design Guidelines

General Project Design Guidelines (2 Species)

Generated August 30, 2024 10:11 PM UTC, IPaC v6.114.0-rc2

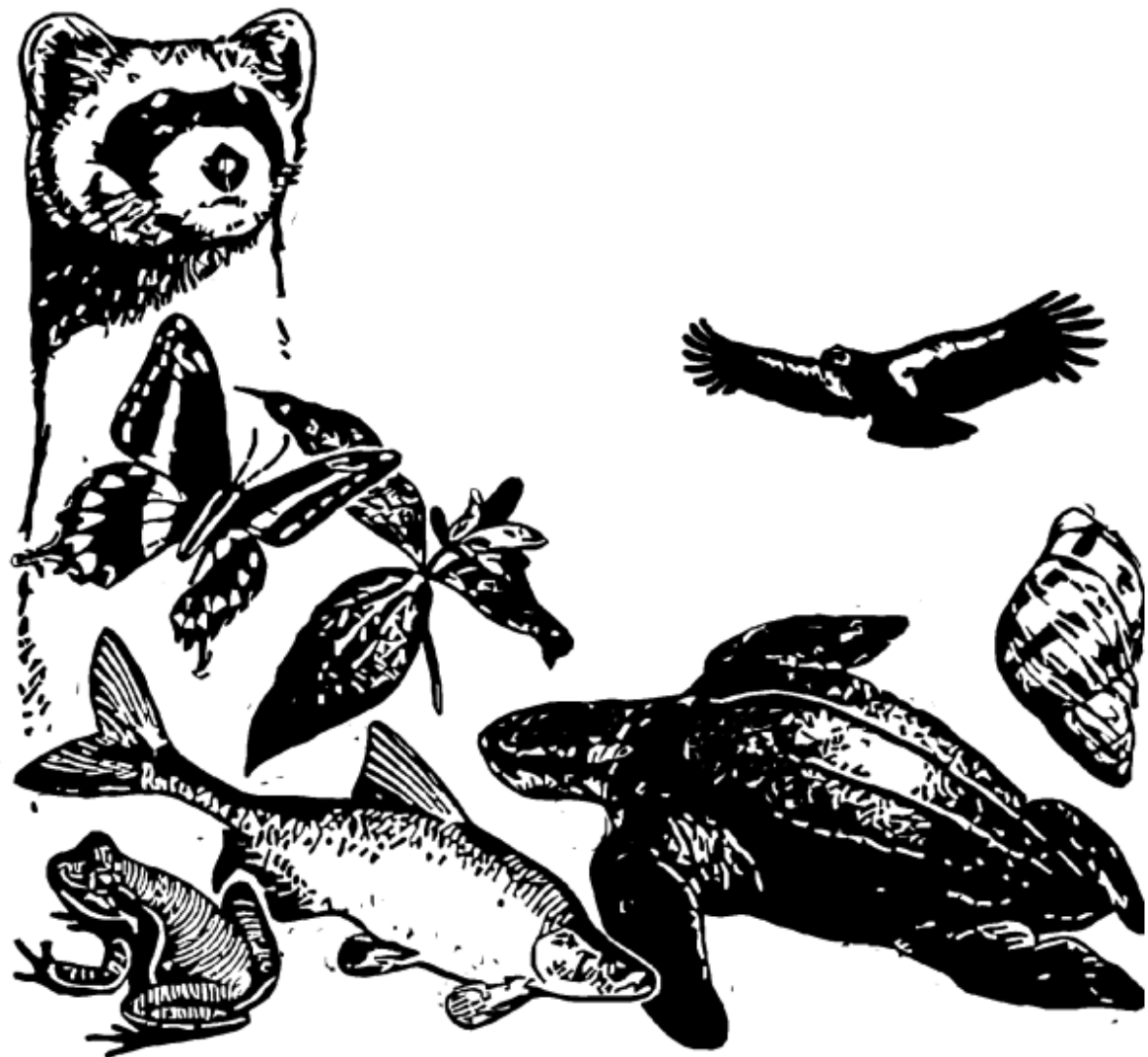


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Species Document Availability	<u>1</u>
Guajon - Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office	<u>2</u>
Puerto Rican Boa - Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office	<u>15</u>

Species Document Availability

Species with general design guidelines

Guajon *Eleutherodactylus cooki*

Puerto Rican Boa *Chilabothrus inornatus*

Species without general design guidelines available

Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon *Patagioenas inornata wetmorei*

General Project Design Guidelines - Guajon and 2 more species

Published by Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office - Publication Date: October 12, 2023 for the following species included in your project

Guajon *Eleutherodactylus cooki*

Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon *Patagioenas inornata wetmorei*

Puerto Rican Boa *Chilabothrus inornatus*

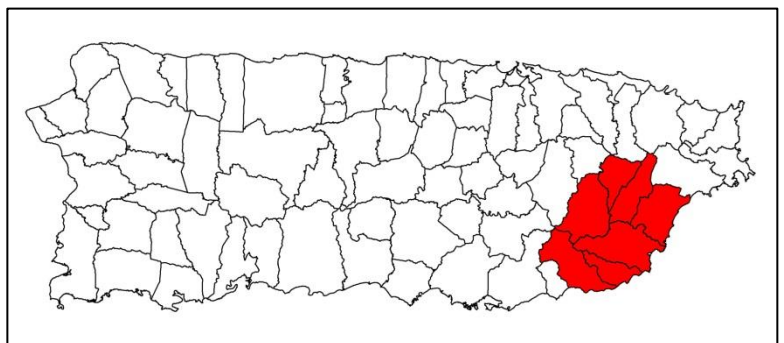


U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

Conservation Measures for the Coquí Guajón (*Eleutherodactylus cooki*)

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 Coquí guajón destroy its eggs, and/or modify its critical habitat is subject to penalties under Federal law. If federal funds or permits are needed, the funding or permitting agency shall 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. Download the [project evaluations fact sheet](#) to learn more about the requirements or visit our [project evaluations webpage](#).

The coquí guajón is a relatively large species within the coqui frog family, reaching approximately 3 inches in length with females being larger than males. The species is considered mostly nocturnal, but can also be heard calling during daylight hours and late afternoon. This coquí was federally listed as threatened in 1997 and is only known to occur in southeastern Puerto Rico in the Municipalities of Yabucoa, San Lorenzo, Patillas, Humacao, Las Piedras, Juncos, and Maunabo (shaded area in map below). You may find more information on this species including a recording of its call here: <http://www.proyectocoqui.com/portfolio/coqui-guajon/#.XHginIW6PIV>, and educational materials including a printable poster here: <https://www.coquiguajon.org/materiales-educativos>.



The coquí guajón utilizes large to small caves and crevices formed by different sized granite boulders within rocky streams. This type of habitat is commonly known as *guajonal*. The species also has been detected using road culverts and adjacent to Puerto Rico's sewer and aqueduct water

Last Revised: October 2023

facilities. Projects that occur upstream or upland where the species occurs may also impact its habitat further downstream.

Critical habitat has been designated in each of the municipalities mentioned above, all within private lands. The enclosed link describes and illustrates all of the 17 designated critical habitats for this species: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2006-10-05/pdf/06-8482.pdf>. You may also download spatial data for these critical habitats by searching here: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/report/table/critical-habitat.html>.

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

Conservation Measures:

1. Confirm the presence/absence of the species at the project site. The most effective way to do this is to identify the guajon's call during the late afternoon or night. You may contact the Service for recommendations on how and when to do this.
2. Inform all project personnel about the potential presence of the coquí guajón 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 this species. An educational poster or sign with photo or illustration of the species should be displayed at the project site.
3. Proposed activities should avoid adversely affecting any of the 17 critical habitat units or any other occupied guajón habitat.
4. Be advised that the designated critical habitat is not the entire range of the species; the species can be found in any boulder type habitat in streams, ravines or drainages within the above referenced Municipalities. If the species is detected outside of the designated critical habitat areas, it is still protected under the Endangered Species Act.
5. Prior to any construction activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movement, the boundaries of the project area, the buffer zones, and areas to be excluded and protected should be clearly marked in the project plan and in the field.
6. It is important to implement proper erosion and sedimentation control measures when working within or adjacent to coqui guajón habitat. Sediment runoff can adversely impact the species and its habitat by filling the caves and crevices where the species occurs and uses to lay its eggs. As water is a very important component of the species' habitat, any stream, creek, or similar body of water with the habitat characteristics indicated above may harbor the species, hence it should be protected to the maximum extent possible.
7. Areas that can be impacted by construction or any other activity would potentially require the relocation of frogs and consultation with the Service for such action is required. If

Last Revised: October 2023

relocation is proposed, a capture and relocation protocol should be developed and sent to the Service for evaluation before the project starts. Capture and relocation of frogs should be conducted only by qualified personnel avoiding harming, injury or killing individuals.

8. A before and after photographic record of the project area should be established. In addition, a record of all coquí guajón detections, including date, time, location, and approximate number of individuals should be established.
9. Projects must comply with all State laws and regulations. Also, contact PRDNER for further guidance.

If you have any questions regarding the comments above, please contact the Service Monday to Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov
 - (305) 304-1386
- Jan P. Zegarra, Fish and Wildlife Biologist
 - Email: janz_zegarra@fws.gov
 - (786) 933-1451

Guidance for Repair, Replacement, and Clean-up of structures in Streams and Waterways of Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands

In Puerto Rico (PR) and US Virgin Islands (USVI), flooding caused by heavy rainfall events, tropical storms, and hurricanes can damage stream crossings (bridges, culverts, low-water crossings, etc.) and in-stream structures (piers, docks, etc.), and create debris jams. Many streams in PR and USVI support an array of aquatic species, including anadromous and catadromous native fish and a suite of native shrimp. Repair and clean-up activities in streams have the potential to adversely affect these species and their habitat, causing sedimentation in areas downstream of the project and disruption of sediment transport leading to channel instability.

This guidance applies to repair, replacement, and clean-up projects related to storm damage or natural processes. The guidance applies to creeks, rivers, and tidally-influenced waters in PR and USVI. All projects in aquatic habitats should be considered with the following conditions below.

General Guidance for Road Crossing Structures

Road-Stream Crossing Removal and Associated Channel Restoration

If a temporary crossing structure will be removed, the affected area should be restored to a natural state. Following structure removal, the stream channel should be reconstructed to match natural bankfull (i.e., channel shape from effective discharge or channel forming discharge [Figure 1]) width, channel slope and active floodplain dimensions, which exist upstream and downstream of the structure being removed. This activity should occur to restore physical and biological aquatic habitat connectivity, most notably, passage for aquatic and terrestrial organisms.

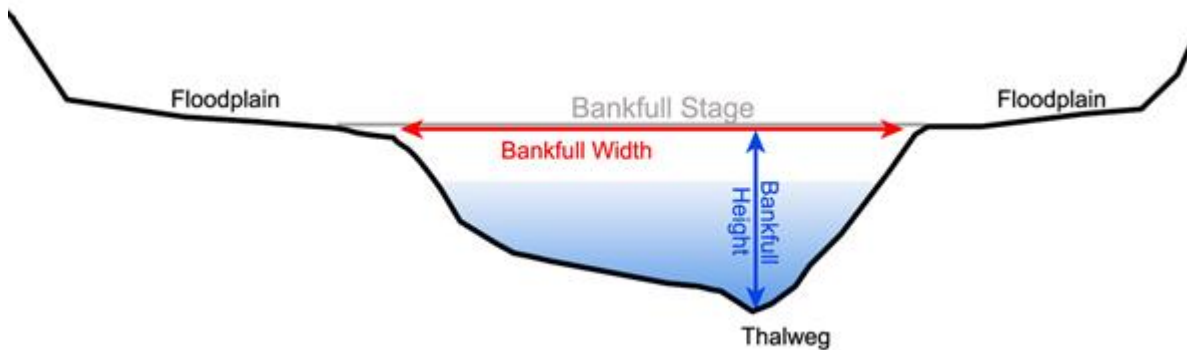


Figure 1. Bankfull Cross Section.

Road-Stream Crossing Replacement Structure

Replacement with a culvert or open-bottomed structure. Culvert refers to a variety of closed-bottomed metal and concrete structures. Open-bottomed structures include arches, three-sided boxes and bridges. Structure widths should be at least 1.2 times bankfull width with stable bank rocks on both sides. Structures should be constructed in a manner that accommodates 100-year flows, (Figures 2 and 3) and allows for natural stream processes including sediment and woody debris transport to the greatest degree possible given the structure dimensions. Flood relief culverts (Figure 4) on unconfined floodplains may be used. Crossings with large unconfined floodplains may require additional capacity or may include floodplain relief structures.

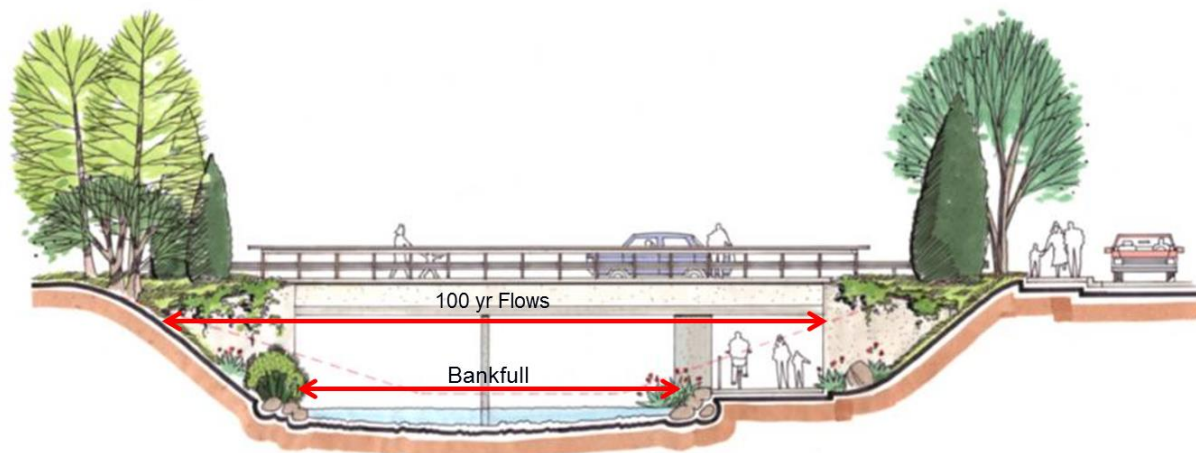


Figure 2. 100 yr Flow Design.



Figure 3. Bridge with Floodplain and Height Capacity for 100 yr Flows.



Figure 4. Bankfull Channel Culvert with Flood Relief Culverts at Floodplain Elevation.

Design Criteria

Stream crossing designs are intended to replicate the natural stream processes within and immediately adjacent to a culvert or opened-bottom structure. Aquatic organism passage, sediment transport and flood and wood conveyance within the structure are intended to imitate the stream conditions upstream and downstream of the crossing, as close to natural conditions as the structure type allows (Figures 5 and 6). Culverts and open-bottomed structures, when properly sized and designed, can accomplish these natural stream processes. Culverts should be partially filled with

material that simulates the natural streambed. Open-bottomed structures should contain substrate that matches the natural stream channel.



Figure 5. Poor design has resulted in scour and degradation below culvert and obstruction to fish passage.



Figure 6. Bankfull Bottomless Arch Culvert with Floodplain Relief Drain.

Implementation of a replacement project requires a high level of information and site-specific data regarding stream hydrology and geomorphology, as well as engineering and construction expertise. Project design criteria include several components as described below.

Structure Width

The width of structures (at bankfull or top of bank elevation) should be equal to or greater than 1.2 times bankfull channel width. A single structure span of the width is preferred but multiple culverts are allowed, and should be accompanied with flood relief drains. The minimum structure width of a culvert should be five feet to allow placement of substrate material. The width of the structures within the vertical adjustment potential should be equal to or greater than 1.2 times bankfull channel width. No piers, footers, piles, or abutments should be within 1.2 times bankfull width, unless there are constraints in placement and design criteria which then should allow for a minimum amount of structures.

Structure Alignment

The structure should achieve optimal orientation relative to both the road and stream channel. Replacement structures are sometimes shifted to achieve better alignment with the natural stream channel pattern at the crossing location. Skew angle should be in line with stream channel orientation.

Structure Capacity

The structure should accommodate a 100-year flood flow without significant change in substrate size and composition. To meet this requirement, unconstrained channel types may require structures wider than 1.2 times bankfull or additional flood relief structures. The headwater depth to structure height ratio should not exceed 0.8:1 for 100-year flows in order to allow for additional vertical clearance for woody debris and sediment transport.

Channel Slope

The culvert structure slope should match an appropriate reference reach of the natural stream (assessed at a minimum of approximately 20-30 times the channel width upstream and 20-30 times the channel width downstream of the site, though a suitable reference reach could be located further upstream or downstream). The maximum slope should not exceed 3.5 percent because of difficulties in retaining substrate within the structure at higher gradients, increasing both costs and design complexity. Bridges do not have a maximum slope range.

Embedment

If a culvert is used, the bottom of the culvert should be buried into the streambed not less than 20 percent of the culvert height.

Elevation

For open-bottomed structures, the footings or foundation should be designed to be stable for the maximum scour depth. The structure should also provide a low flow channel.

Substrate

Material in structures should match the natural stream channel. Bed materials should match natural stream bed mobility characteristics. Bank and other key bed structural elements (e.g. steps, weirs, ribs, etc.) should be stable at the 100-year flow.

Geotechnical analysis

Structure design and construction methods may be influenced by soil composition and subsurface conditions including, but not limited to, the presence of bedrock and clay. The need for geotechnical analysis is determined on a project-specific basis and is not always necessary.

These recommendations promote the use of the U.S. Forest Service's Stream Simulation approach for designing road-stream crossings, an approach which our agencies have successfully used on previous projects to support recovery of anadromous and catadromous fishes by restoring stream habitat.

Specific Conditions for Road-Stream Crossings:

A. Bridge and Culvert Repair, Replacement, or Upgrade to a Higher Preference Order

All bridge and culvert projects should follow the guidelines below and the General Conditions in D. General design drawings and recommendations are shown in Appendix A. Stream crossing structures are listed in order of preference from 1 (most preferred) to 4 (least preferred). Bridges that fully span the stream and have no in-stream pilings are preferred over other crossing types and should be used whenever possible as they minimize impacts to listed species and critical habitat, and reduce the need for future repairs.

Order of Preference	Structure	Project Description	Conditions
N/A	Bridge	Repair/ reinforcement	Follow the General Conditions listed in D. below.
		Repair/reinforcement with new rip rap	<i>Placement of new rip rap in-stream should be consulted on with the Service on a case-by-case basis for specific recommendations.</i>
1	Bridge – no in-stream pilings	Replacement or upgrade	1) Remove all remnants of the damaged structure from the stream channel and dispose of in an off-site disposal area. 2) Follow the General Conditions listed in D. below.
2	Bridge – with in-stream pilings	Replacement or upgrade	<i>All bridge replacements and upgrades that require in-stream supports should be consulted on with the Service on a case- by-case basis for specific recommendations.</i>
3	Culvert – bottomless	Replacement or upgrade	1) Culvert width should be 1.2 times bankfull width. 2) Multiple culverts are needed when the maximum culvert width available is reached, but bankfull width has not been reached. 3) Culvert slope should match channel grade. 4) It is recommended that floodplain relief drains be installed in road approaches.
4	Culvert – box, elliptical or round (in order of preference for minimization of impacts)	Replacement	1) Culvert width should be 1.2 times bankfull width. 2) Culvert should be counter sunk below substrate to a depth of 20% of the culvert diameter (round) or rise (elliptical, box). 3) Multiple culverts are needed when the maximum culvert width available is reached, but bankfull width has not been reached. 4) Culvert slope should match channel grade. 5) It is recommended that floodplain relief drains be installed in road approaches.

B. Demolition and Removal of Damaged Structures

- Conduct activities in a manner that minimizes disturbance to the stream bottom and banks.
- The structure should be lifted or floated out of the stream, not dragged on the bottom.
- Wooden pilings should be cut or pinched off at the substrate level.

- Remove all remnants of the damaged structure from the stream channel and dispose of in an off-site disposal area.
- In addition, follow the General Conditions listed in D. below.

C. Debris Removal

- When feasible and safe, natural woody debris should remain in the stream.
- Conduct activities in a manner that minimizes disturbance to the stream bottom and banks.
- Debris should be lifted or floated out of the stream, not dragged on the bottom.
- In addition, follow the General Conditions listed in D. below.

D. General Conditions for all Projects

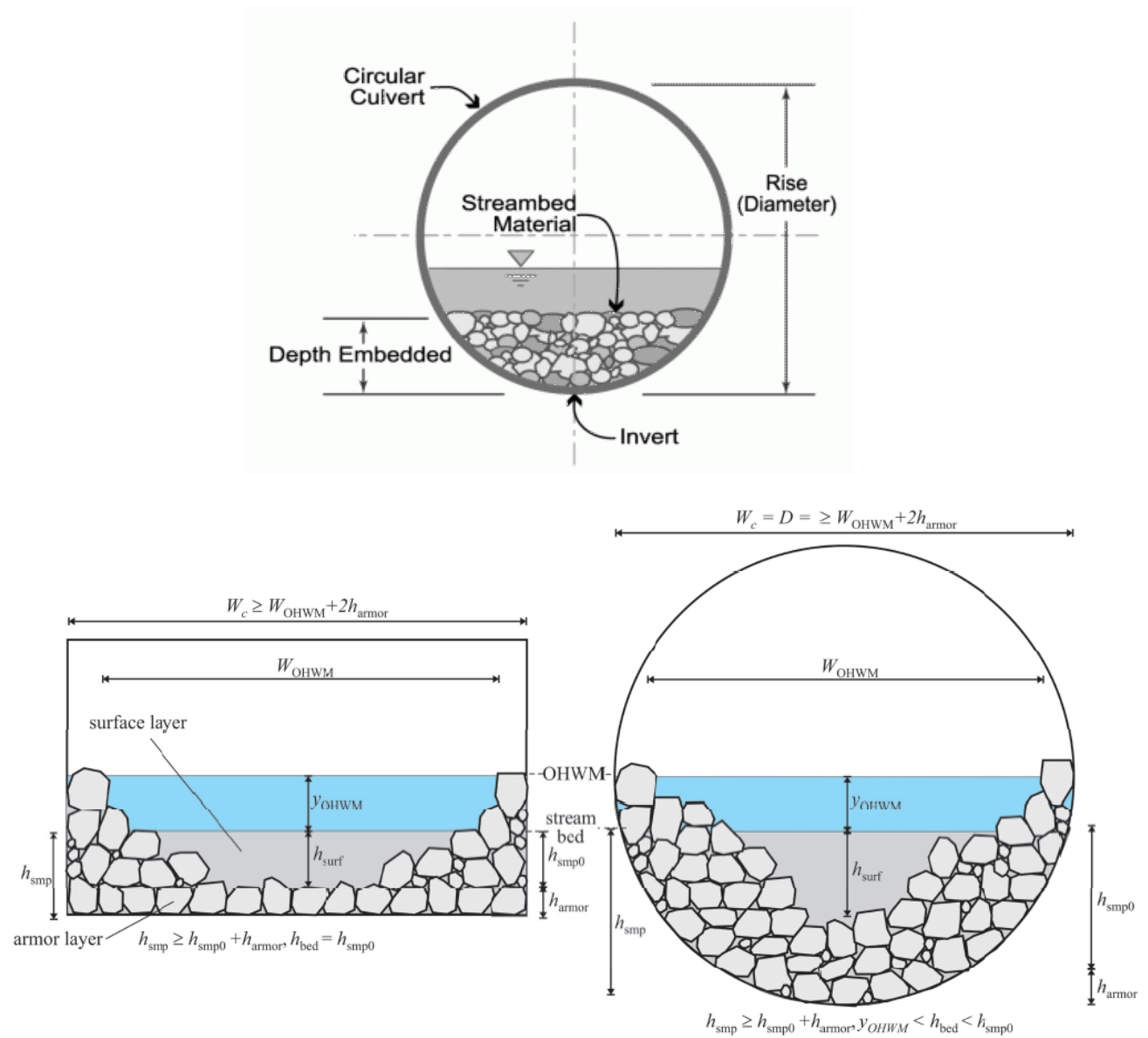
1. Keep in-stream work to a minimum.
2. Conduct work activities from atop a stable streambank or reinforced platform, when feasible, and in a manner that does not degrade or destabilize the streambank.
3. Install erosion and sediment control devices before any work is performed, and closely monitor and maintain for the life of the construction project. Implement the appropriate best management practices for preventing and minimizing erosion and sediment outlined in the following manuals: *Florida Stormwater, Erosion, and Sediment Control Inspector's Manual* (July 2008), and *State of Florida Erosion and Sediment Control Designer and Reviewer Manual* (July 2007).
4. Keep land clearing to the minimum level necessary for project completion. Stream bank vegetation should be left intact to the extent practicable. Cutting vegetation is preferred to root grubbing near streams.
5. Cover disturbed areas with erosion controls mats and revegetated promptly with native grasses.
6. Locate debris collection sites, borrow sites, fill dirt stockpiles, and equipment staging areas at least 200 feet from stream channels to minimize the potential of sediments and contaminants entering the waterway.

E. Low Water Crossings-Fords

1. All recommendations for Low Water Crossings-Fords can be found in the U.S. Forest Service Publications Number 0625 1808—SDTDC Titled “Low-Water Crossings: Geomorphic, Biological, and Engineering Design Considerations”.

Contact Information: Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Marelisa Rivera
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 491
Carr 301, Bo Corozo
Boqueron, Puerto Rico 00622
Phone: (787) 851-7297 x 206
<https://www.fws.gov/caribbean/>

Appendix A General Design Drawings for Fish Passage Structures



General Project Design Guidelines - Guajon and 2 more species

Published by Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office for the following species included in your project

Guajon *Eleutherodactylus cooki*

Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon *Patagioenas inornata wetmorei*

Puerto Rican Boa *Chilabothrus inornatus*

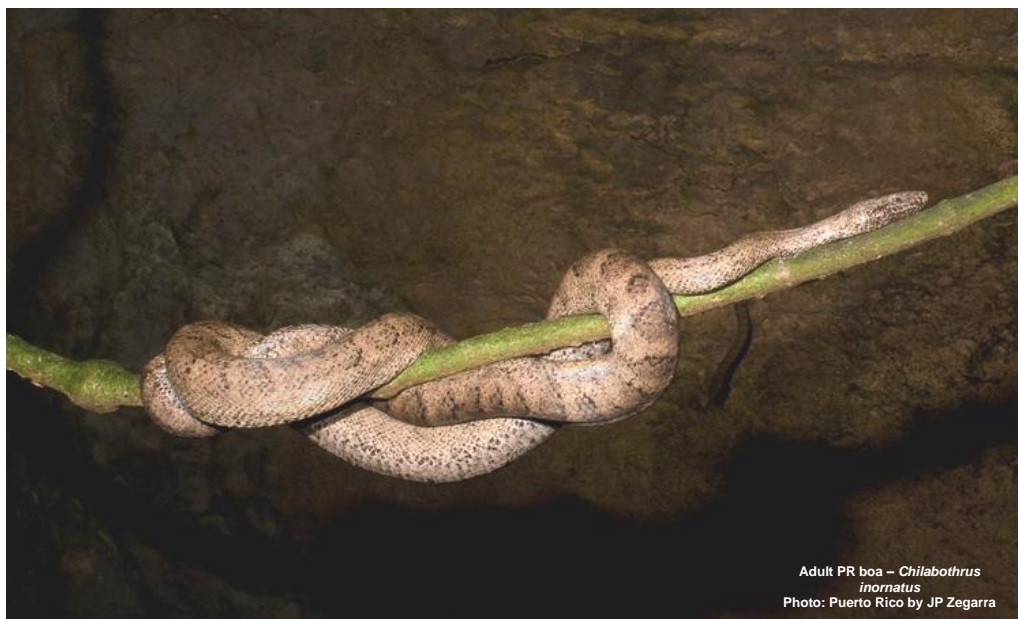


U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

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

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

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



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

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

Conservation Measures:

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

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

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

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



December 23, 2024

TO: José M. Olmo Terrasa, Esq.
Deputy Director for Economic Recovery Grant Management Re-Grow PR
Urban Rural Agriculture Program

RE: Endangered Species Concurrence - Conservation Measures Implementation
Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo (PR-RGRW-03374)

Dear Mr. Olmo:

This memorandum is to notify the Re-Grow PR Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (Re-Grow Program) that on September 30, 2024, for the case **PR-RGRW-03374**, the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division submitted an 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, which consists of the purchase of a solar system, storage container and equipment, for Debbie M. Silva Mestre DBA Hacienda Compay Peyo, an agricultural business, located PR-934 Km. 1.3, Ceiba Sur Ward, Juncos, PR 00777; latitude 18.21087833, longitude -65.91631167.

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

Name of Species	Status
Puerto Rican Boa	Endangered
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon	Endangered
Guajón	Threatened
Critical Habitat	
There were no Critical Habitats noted within the project area.	

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on December 11, 2024, concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have **No Effect (NE)** on the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon. Also, the PRDOH together with the USFWS have determined that the proposed project **May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)** the Puerto Rican Boa and Guajón.

The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: 1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) If the Guajón is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately.

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.

In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, **the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.**

In order to facilitate the species identification, please, find attached the Caribbean Endangered and Threatened Animals Fact Sheets for: Puerto Rican Boa and Guajón.

USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office key contact information:

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

Sincerely,

Permits and Environmental Compliance Division
Disaster Recovery Office

Caribbean ES Puerto Rican Boa

Puerto Rican Boa

Generated August 01, 2024 02:11 PM UTC, IPaC v6.112.0-rc2





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

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

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

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



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

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

Conservation Measures:

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

6. If a PR boa is captured by PRDNER personnel, record the name of that person and information on where the PR boa will be taken. This information should be reported to the Service.
7. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize PR boa casualties by heavy machinery or motor vehicles being used on site. Any heavy machinery left on site (staging) or near potential PR boa habitat (within 50 meters of potential boa habitat), needs to be thoroughly inspected each morning before work starts to ensure that no boas have sheltered within engine compartments or other areas of the equipment. If PR boas are found within vehicles or equipment, do not capture the animal, and let it move on its own or call PRDNER Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (see #4). If not possible, the animal should be left alone until it leaves the vehicle on its own.
8. PR boas may seek shelter in debris piles. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize boa casualties associated with sheltering in debris piles as a result of project activities. Debris piles should be placed far away from forested areas. Prior to moving, disposing or shredding, debris piles should be carefully inspected for the presence of boas. If debris piles will be left on site, we recommend they be placed in areas that will not be disturbed in the future.
9. If a dead PR boa is found, immediately cease all work in that area and record the information accordingly (see #5). If the PR boa was accidentally killed as part of the project actions, please include information on what conservation measures had been implemented and what actions will be taken to avoid further killings. A dead boa report should be sent by email (see contacts below) to the Service within 48 hours of the event.
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- Jan Zegarra, Fish and Wildlife Biologist
 - Email: jan_zegarra@fws.gov
 - Office phone (786) 933-1451



Distribution

Biological Information

Reproduction

The reproductive activity of the guajón increases in the rainy and hotter months during summer and fall and decreases in the cooler and drier winter months. The female coqui guajón typically lays an egg mass on the rock surfaces with an average of approximately 16 eggs. The male guajón provides parental care to the egg mass by keeping the eggs hydrated and protecting them from predators. One male guajón can provide care to multiple egg masses from different females. In approximately 20-29 days eggs hatch into tiny frogs, of 0.34 inch (8.7 mm) in length on average. This is the most critical life stage for these animals.

Habitat

The name guajón is derived from the typical rock formations of the species habitat known as "guajonales". These are caves and cavities made of plutonic, granitic or sedimentary rocks. The species also lives in rocky stream banks covered with moss, ferns and other vegetation. "Guajonales" also usually occur along creeks or other natural water runoff areas.

Diet

The guajón coqui is an important primary consumer of invertebrates. They can eat a large variety of insects like cockroaches and crickets as well as other invertebrates such as spiders.

Distribution

The guajón frog is endemic to Puerto Rico and is restricted to the southeastern part of the island. Guajón populations are known to occur in the

Also Known As:

Puerto Rican Rock or Cave Frog

Puerto Rican Demon

Family: Leptodactylidae

Order: Anura

Description

The guajón coqui is the second largest *Eleutherodactylus* frog species in Puerto Rico, reaching body sizes of approximately 2-3 inches (5-7.6 cm) in length and females being larger than males. The guajón coqui is characterized by large bulging eyes and large truncate disks at the end of its long feet. The guajón has a solid brown coloration on the dorsal area. Females are uniformly white on the ventral area, and males have a yellow coloration on the ventral area extending from the vocal sac to the abdomen and flanks. The guajón coqui's voice is low and melodious, consisting of a series of 3 to 7 notes of the same type. Males will actively call during the late afternoon and night and to a lesser degree during daylight hours.

THREATENED

following: municipalities: San Lorenzo, Juncos, Las Piedras, Huitrucao, Yabucoa, Maunabo, Patillas. Populations are extremely limited in distribution within its habitat and only occur on privately-owned lands.

Threats

Deforestation and degradation of the guajón's habitat is one of the major threats to the species. These include deforestation for rural and urban development, in addition to road and water reservoir constructions. Other threats include stream water pollution, erosion, pathogens and parasites.

Conservation Measures

The species was listed under the Endangered Species Act in 1997. On W07, the USFWS designated 17 critical habitat units within the species' known range. The USFWS works closely with other federal agencies that permit, finance or conduct activities within designated critical habitat, looking for ways to avoid or minimize impacts to the species.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits the killing, harassing, trapping, purchasing or selling any species, as well as parts and products derived from the species.

References

- Rivero, JA. 1978. Los anfibios y reptiles de Puerto Rico. U.P.R. Editorial Unhiersitarta. San Juan, Puerto Rico 152 pp.
- Moreno, JA. (ed.) 1991. Status y distribución de los anfibios y reptiles de Puerto Rico. Publ. Cien. Misc.
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Additional Information

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Address: P.O. Box 491 Boquerón, PR 00622
Phone: 787-851-7297 / Fax: 787-787-7440
Website: www.iws.gov/caribbean



Contamination and Toxics Sites Summary
Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba Sur, Juncos, PR 00777

Database	Primary ID	Facility Name	Facility Address	Secondary ID	Latitude	Longitude	Distance (ft)	Status
Water Discharger	110000576038	PRASA CEIBA SUR WTP	RD 934 KM 1 4 SECTOR GANDUL	PRR000011429	18.21	-65.92	2,000	Non-Major, Permit Admin Continued. No violations identified in the last 12 quarters. No hazards anticipated due to the applicant property being connected to municipal water.
Hazardous Waste	110000576038	PRASA CEIBA SUR WTP	RD 934 KM 1 4 SECTOR GANDUL	PR0025119	18.21	-65.92	2,000	Inactive; no violations identified.
Water Discharger	110071817539	GEOTECHNICAL EXPLORATION PLAN FOR THE PROPOSED VALENCIANO RESERVOIR	ROAD PR-919, KM. 1.4, CEIBA SUR WARD, JUNCOS, PR 00777	PRR1000K6	18.2096	-65.9228	2,200	Non-Major, Permit Effective; no violations identified. No hazards anticipated due to the applicant property being connected to municipal water.



Detailed Facility Report

Facility Summary

CEIBA SUR-JUNCOS FILTRATION PLANT

PR-9934 KM 1.5, JUNCOS, PR 00777

FRS (Facility Registry Service) ID: 110000576038

EPA Region: 02

Latitude: 18.212785

Longitude: -65.92144

Locational Data Source: RMP

Industries: Utilities

Indian Country: N

Enforcement and Compliance Summary

Statute	CAA
Compliance Monitoring Activities (5 years)	--
Date of Last Compliance Monitoring Activity	--
Compliance Status	--
Qtrs in Noncompliance (of 12)	--
Qtrs with Significant Violation	--
Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Penalties from Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
EPA Cases (5 years)	--
Penalties from EPA Cases (5 years)	--
Statute	CWA
Compliance Monitoring Activities (5 years)	--
Date of Last Compliance Monitoring Activity	09/13/2019
Compliance Status	No Violation Identified
Qtrs in Noncompliance (of 12)	0
Qtrs with Significant Violation	0
Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	1
Penalties from Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	\$0
EPA Cases (5 years)	--
Penalties from EPA Cases (5 years)	--

Statute	RCRA
Compliance Monitoring Activities (5 years)	--
Date of Last Compliance Monitoring Activity	--
Compliance Status	No Violation Identified
Qtrs in Noncompliance (of 12)	0
Qtrs with Significant Violation	0
Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Penalties from Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
EPA Cases (5 years)	--
Penalties from EPA Cases (5 years)	--
Statute	SDWA
Compliance Monitoring Activities (5 years)	--
Date of Last Compliance Monitoring Activity	--
Compliance Status	Enforcement Priority
Qtrs in Noncompliance (of 12)	2
Qtrs with Significant Violation	1
Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	1
Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Penalties from Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
EPA Cases (5 years)	--
Penalties from EPA Cases (5 years)	--

Regulatory Information

Clean Air Act (CAA): No Information

Clean Water Act (CWA): Non-Major, Permit Admin Continued (PR0025119)

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): Inactive Other, (PRR000011429)

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA): OWNER: Local government, PRIMARY SERVICE AREA DESCRIPTION: Residential Area, SOURCE: Surface water, TYPE: Community water system Permit Active (PR0005166)

Go To Enforcement/Compliance Details

Known Data Problems <<https://epa.gov/resources/echo-data/known-data-problems>>

Other Regulatory Reports

Air Emissions Inventory (EIS): No Information

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (eGGRT): No Information

Toxic Releases (TRI): No Information

Compliance and Emissions Data Reporting Interface (CEDRI): No Information

Facility/System Characteristics

Facility/System Characteristics

System	Statute	Identifier	Universe	Status	Areas	Permit Expiration Date	Indian Country	Latitude	Longitude
FRS		110000576038					N	18.212785	-65.92144
ICIS		40867					N	18.210234	-65.925164
ICIS		6684229					N	18.212785	-65.92144
RMP	CAA	100000099831		INACTIVE			N	18.212785	-65.92144
ICIS-NPDES	CWA	PR0025119	Non-Major: NPDES Individual Permit	Admin Continued		10/31/2024	N	18.212222	-65.925556
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PRR000011429	Other	Inactive ()			N	18.209374	-65.915668
SDWIS	SDWA	PR0005166	OWNER: Local government, PRIMARY SERVICE AREA DESCRIPTION: Residential Area, SOURCE: Surface water, TYPE: Community water system	Active	Population Served: 39140		N		

System	Statute	Identifier	Facility Name	Facility Address	Facility County
FRS		110000576038	CEIBA SUR-JUNCOS FILTRATION PLANT	PR-9934 KM 1.5, JUNCOS, PR 00777	Juncos Municipio
ICIS		40867	CEIBA SUR FILTRATION PLANT	STATE RD #9935 KM 1.5, JUNCOS, PR 00666	Juncos Municipio
ICIS		6684229	PRASA CEIBA SUR JUNCOS FILTRATION PLANT	CARR. 934, KM 1.4, JUNCOS, PR 00777	Juncos Municipio
RMP	CAA	100000099831	CEIBA SUR - JUNCOS FILTRATION PLANT	PR 9934 KM. 1.5, JUNCOS, PR 00777	Juncos Municipio
ICIS-NPDES	CWA	PR0025119	PRASA CEIBA SUR WTP	STATE RD. #9935, KM 1.5, JUNCOS, PR 00666	Juncos Municipio
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PRR000011429	PRASA CEIBA SUR WTP	RD 934 KM 1.4 SECTOR GANDUL, JUNCOS, PR 00777	Juncos Municipio
SDWS	SDWA	PR0005166	JUNCOS - CEIBA SUR	PR	

System	Identifier	SIC Code	SIC Description
ICIS-NPDES	PR0025119	4941	Water Supply

System	Identifier	NAICS Code	NAICS Description
RMP	100000099831	22131	Water Supply and Irrigation Systems

Identifier	Effluent Guideline (40 CFR Part)	Effluent Guideline Description
PR0025119	000	No Applicable Effluent Guidelines

Reservation Name	Tribe Name	EPA Tribal ID	Distance to Tribe (miles)
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No data records returned

Last 5 Years

Statute	Source ID	System	Activity Type	Compliance Monitoring Type	Lead Agency	Date	Finding (if applicable)
SDWA	PR0005166	SDWIS		Sanitary Survey, Complete	State	04/18/2022	

Entries in *italics* are not included in ECHO's Compliance Monitoring Activity counts because they are not compliance monitoring strategy activities or because they are not counted as inspections within EPA's Annual Results.

[illegible]

Sanitary survey result codes: S = Significant Deficiencies R = Recommendations Made X = Not Evaluated D = Sanitary Defect
M = Minor Deficiencies N = No Deficiencies or Z = Not Applicable -- = Not Reported to EPA
Recommendations

Statute	Source ID	Current SNC (Significant Noncompliance)/HPV (High Priority Violation)	Current As Of	Qtrs with NC (Noncompliance) (of 12)	Data Last Refreshed
CWA	PR0025119	No	09/30/2024	0	01/17/2025
RCRA	PRR000011429	No	01/18/2025	0	01/17/2025
SDWA	PR0005166	Yes	09/30/2024	2	01/11/2025

Statute	Program/Pollutant/Violation Type	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10	QTR 11	QTR 12
	CWA (Source ID: PR0025119)	10/01-12/31/21	01/01-03/31/22	04/01-06/30/22	07/01-09/30/22	10/01-12/31/22	01/01-03/31/23	04/01-06/30/23	07/01-09/30/23	10/01-12/31/23	01/01-03/31/24	04/01-06/30/24	07/01-09/30/24
	Facility-Level Status	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified
	Quarterly Noncompliance Report History			Resolved		Resolved							

[illegible]

Statute	Violation Type/Category		QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10	QTR 11	QTR 12	
SDWA (Source ID: PR0005166)			10/01-12/31/21	01/01-03/31/22	04/01-06/30/22	07/01-09/30/22	10/01-12/31/22	01/01-03/31/23	04/01-06/30/23	07/01-09/30/23	10/01-12/31/23	01/01-03/31/24	04/01-06/30/24	07/01-09/30/24	10/01-12/31/24
	Facility-Level Status		No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	Violation	No Violation	No Violation	Enforcement Priority	
	Category	Violation Type													
SDWA	TT (Treatment Technique Violation)	Interim and Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule									10/01/2023 - 10/31/2023				

*Quarter 13 data is voluntarily entered and/or incomplete, and may not form a complete picture for that quarter. Read more <<https://epa.gov/help/reports/dfr-data-dictionary#sdwacomp>>
SDWA Compliance Data Last Reported: 09/30/2024

Informal Enforcement Actions

Last 5 Years

Statute	System	Source ID	Type of Action			Lead Agency	Date
SDWA	SDWS	PR0005166	State Formal Notice of Violation issued			State	07/09/2021

Entries in *italics* are not counted as "informal enforcement actions" in EPA policies pertaining to enforcement response tools.

Formal Enforcement Actions

Last 5 Years

Statute	System	Law/ Section	Source ID	Type of Action	Case No.	Lead Agency	Case Name	Issued/ Filed Date	Settlements/ Actions	Settlement/ Action Date	Federal Penalty Assessed	State/ Local Penalty Assessed	Penalty Amount Collected	SEP Value	Comp Action Cost
CWA	ICIS- NPDES	301	NPDES/PR0025119	Judicial	02- 2011- 0007	EPA	PRASA - Puerto Nuevo Regional WWTP et al.	09/15/2015	2	05/23/2016	\$0	--	--	--	\$700,000,000
										03/22/2024	\$0	--	--	--	\$530,000,000

SDWA (Safe Drinking Water Act) Violations and Enforcement Actions (5 Years)

Violations											Enforcement Actions			
Source ID	Noncompliance Period	Violation ID	Federal Rule	Contaminant	Category	Description	Measured Value	State MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)	Federal MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)	Status	Date	Category	Description	Agency
PR0005166	10/01/2023 - 10/31/2023	7626918	Interim and Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule	Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule	TT	Treatment Technique Violation	--	--	--	Archived				
PR0005166	07/01/2020 - 07/29/2020	7626915	Consumer Confidence Rule	Consumer Confidence Rule	Other	Other Violation	--	--	--	Resolved	07/29/2020	Resolving	State Compliance achieved	State
PR0005166	06/26/2020 - 07/31/2021	7626917	Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule	Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule	TT	Treatment Technique Violation	--	--	--	Resolved	07/31/2021	Resolving	State Compliance achieved	State
											07/09/2021	Informal	State Formal Notice of Violation issued	State
PR0005166	01/01/2020 - 01/31/2020	7626916	Surface Water Treatment Rule	Surface Water Treatment Rule	MR	Monitoring and Reporting	--	--	--	Resolved	02/29/2020	Resolving	State Compliance achieved	State
PR0005166	04/01/2016 - 10/18/2019	7626867	Lead and Copper Rule	Lead and Copper Rule	MR	Monitoring and Reporting	--	--	--	Resolved	10/18/2019	Resolving	State Compliance achieved	State
											12/31/2018	Resolving	State Compliance achieved	State
											05/17/2016	Informal	State Formal Notice of Violation issued	State
PR0005166	10/01/2015 - 10/18/2019	7626866	Lead and Copper Rule	Lead and Copper Rule	MR	Monitoring and Reporting	--	--	--	Resolved	10/18/2019	Resolving	State Compliance achieved	State
											12/31/2018	Resolving	State Compliance achieved	State
											10/23/2015	Informal	State Formal Notice of Violation issued	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	07/22/1990	Informal	State Formal Notice of Violation issued	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	10/01/2014	Informal	State Formal Notice of Violation issued	State

Violations											Enforcement Actions			
Source ID	Noncompliance Period	Violation ID	Federal Rule	Contaminant	Category	Description	Measured Value	State MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)	Federal MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)	Status	Date	Category	Description	Agency
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	05/08/2015	Informal	State Formal Notice of Violation issued	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	03/17/2014	Informal	State Other	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12/31/2009	Resolving	State Compliance achieved	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	04/06/2011	Informal	State Formal Notice of Violation issued	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11/14/2005	Informal	State Public Notification requested	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	08/12/2005	Informal	State Public Notification requested	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	08/14/2003	Informal	State Public Notification requested	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	08/12/2002	Informal	State Public Notification requested	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12/27/1989	Informal	State Violation/Reminder Notice	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	04/28/1999	Informal	State Formal Notice of Violation issued	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12/27/1989	Informal	State Public Notification received	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	09/30/1985	Informal	State Public Notification received	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11/20/1997	Informal	State Violation/Reminder Notice	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	02/11/1998	Informal	State Public Notification requested	EPA
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	09/30/1989	Informal	State Public Notification received	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	03/21/2003	Formal	State Administrative/Compliance Order without penalty issued	EPA
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12/17/1993	Informal	Federal Proposed Administrative Order Issued	EPA
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	09/30/1989	Informal	State Violation/Reminder Notice	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	09/30/1987	Informal	State Violation/Reminder Notice	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	09/30/1985	Informal	State Violation/Reminder Notice	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	04/20/1994	Informal	State Public Notification requested	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	02/16/1994	Informal	State Public Notification requested	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	01/28/1994	Informal	State Public Notification received	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	09/22/1993	Informal	State Public Notification received	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	07/08/1992	Formal	State Administrative/Compliance Order without penalty issued	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	05/01/1992	Informal	State Public Notification received	State

Violations											Enforcement Actions			
Source ID	Noncompliance Period	Violation ID	Federal Rule	Contaminant	Category	Description	Measured Value	State MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)	Federal MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)	Status	Date	Category	Description	Agency
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	02/26/1992	Informal	State Public Notification received	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	01/17/1992	Informal	State Public Notification received	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	10/23/1991	Informal	State Public Notification received	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	05/16/1991	Informal	State Public Notification requested	State
PR0005166	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	03/20/2003	Formal	State Administrative/Compliance Order without penalty issued	EPA

Environmental Conditions

Watersheds

12-Digit WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) HUC (RAD (Reach Address Database))	WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) Subwatershed Name (RAD (Reach Address Database))	State Water Body Name (ICIS (Integrated Compliance Information System))	Beach Closures Within Last Year	Beach Closures Within Last Two Years	Pollutants Potentially Related to Impairment	Watershed with ESA (Endangered Species Act)-listed Aquatic Species?
210100050406	Rio Valenciano	VALENCIANO RIVER	No	No	Ammonia & ammonium-total Cadmium, total (as Cd) Chromium, hexavalent (as Cr) Copper, total (as Cu) Enterococci Lead, total (as Pb) Phosphorus, total (as P) Turbidity pH	Yes

Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)

State	Report Cycle	Assessment Unit ID	Assessment Unit Name	Water Condition	Cause Groups Impaired	Drinking Water Use	Ecological Use	Fish Consumption Use	Recreation Use	Other Use
PR	2022	PRER14G2	RIO VALENCIANO	Impaired - 303(d) Listed - With Restoration Plan	AMMONIA METALS (OTHER THAN MERCURY) NUTRIENTS OTHER CAUSE PATHOGENS PH/ACIDITY/CAUSTIC CONDITIONS TURBIDITY	Not Supporting	Not Supporting	--	Not Supporting	--

Air Quality Nonattainment Areas

Pollutant	Within Nonattainment Status Area?	Nonattainment Status Applicable Standard(s)	Within Maintenance Status Area?	Maintenance Status Applicable Standard(s)
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No data records returned

Pollutants

Toxics Release Inventory History of Reported Chemicals Released or Transferred in Pounds per Year at Site

TRI Facility ID	Year	Air Emissions	Surface Water Discharges	Off-Site Transfers to POTWs (Publicly Owned Treatment Works)	Underground Injections	Disposal to Land	Total On-Site Releases	Total Off-Site Transfers
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No data records returned

Toxics Release Inventory Total Releases and Transfers in Pounds by Chemical and Year

Chemical Name

No data records returned

CWA (Clean Water Act) Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Pollutant Loadings

DMR and TRI Multi-Year Loading Report

NPDES ID	Description	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
PR0025119	DMR Pollutant Loadings (lb/year)	688	119	45.92	111	3.67
PR0025119	DMR Pollutant Loadings - Load Over Limit (lb/year)	0	0	0	0	0
PR0025119	DMR Conventional Loadings (lb/year)	--	--	--	--	--
PR0025119	DMR Conventional Loadings - Load Over Limit (lb/year)	--	--	--	0	--
PR0025119	DMR Toxic-Weighted Loadings (lb-eq/year)	12.89	0.5174	0.6833	3.49	3.88
PR0025119	DMR Toxic-Weighted Loadings - Load Over Limit (lb-eq/year)	0	0	0	0	0

Community

Environmental Justice

This section shows indexes from EJScreen, EPA's screening tool for environmental justice (EJ) concerns. EPA uses these indexes to identify geographic areas that may warrant further consideration or analysis for potential EJ concerns. Use of these indexes does not designate an area as an "EJ community" or "EJ facility." EJScreen provides screening level indicators, not a determination of the existence or absence of EJ concerns. For more information, see the EJScreen home page.

Potential Environmental Justice Concerns

- US Territory
- Supplemental/EJ index percentiles >= 90 (Census block group)
- Supplemental/EJ index percentiles >= 90 (1-mile average)

EJScreen Indexes Shown

Index Type Supplemental (default)

Related Reports

EJScreen Community Report

Download Data

Census Block Group ID: 720775003022	US (Percentile)			State (Percentile)		
Supplemental Indexes	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Avg	1-mile Max	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Avg	1-mile Max
Count of Indexes At or Above 90th Percentile	5	6	6	1	1	1
Particulate Matter 2.5	--	N/A	--	--	N/A	--
Ozone	--	N/A	--	--	N/A	--
Nitrogen Dioxide	40	53	87	51	53	74
Diesel Particulate Matter	22	22	28	70	69	79
Toxic Releases to Air	84	93	98	20	41	63
Traffic Proximity	92	93	97	58	61	77
Lead Paint	96	91	97	79	65	86
Risk Management Plan (RMP) Facility Proximity	0	0	--	0	0	--
Hazardous Waste Proximity	96	95	97	80	76	84
Superfund Proximity	99	99	99	91	90	95
Underground Storage Tanks (UST)	0	0	--	0	0	--
Wastewater Discharge	98	98	99	49	52	62
Drinking Water Noncompliance	--	N/A	--	--	N/A	--

Map Display Based on: ☒ US ☐ State

Display Map Layer Summary - Number of Indexes

☐ Facility 1-mile Radius ☐ Facility Census Block Group



Earthstar Geographics | Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/... Powered by Esri <<https://www.esri.com/>>

Community Water System Service Area Boundary

This section provides information on the average number of elevated EJScreen indexes for systems with estimated service area boundaries. This values is calculated based on the intersection of the water system's estimated service area and US Census block groups with an index above the 90th percentile. For example, a system that intersects 5 total Census block groups, with 2 block groups having 12 indexes above the 90th percentile and 3 block groups having 11 indexes above 90th percentile, would have an average of 11.4. For more information, see the DFR Data Dictionary <<https://epa.gov/help/reports/dfr-data-dictionary#sdwaej>>.

PWSID	Supplemental Indexes At or Above 90th Percentile for Estimated Service Area		EJ Indexes At or Above 90th Percentile for Estimated Service Area	
	US	State	US	State
PR0005166	T	T	T	T

Demographic Profile of Surrounding Area (1-Mile Radius)

This section provides demographic information regarding the community surrounding the facility. ECHO compliance data alone are not sufficient to determine whether violations at a particular facility had negative impacts on public health or the environment. Statistics are based upon the 2022 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year Summary and are accurate to the extent that the facility latitude and longitude listed below are correct. Census boundaries and demographic data for U.S. Territories are based on the "2020 Island Areas Demographic Profiles" from the U.S. Census Bureau. EPA's spatial processing methodology considers the overlap between the selected radii and ACS census block groups in determining the demographics surrounding the facility. For more detail about this methodology, see the DFR Data Dictionary <<https://epa.gov/help/reports/dfr-data-dictionary#demographic>>.

General Statistics (ACS (American Community Survey))		Age Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Total Persons	6,697	Children 5 years and younger	301 (4%)
Population Density	2,163/sq.mi.	Minors 17 years and younger	1,438 (21%)
Housing Units in Area	3,218	Adults 18 years and older	5,259 (79%)
Percent People of Color	99%	Seniors 65 years and older	1,370 (20%)
Households in Area	2,449		
Households on Public Assistance	89	Race Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Persons With Low Income	4,830	White	2,291 (34%)
Percent With Low Income	72%	African-American	0 (0%)
		Hispanic-Origin	6,636 (99%)
		Asian	0 (0%)
		Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0 (0%)
		American Indian	0 (0%)
		Other/Multiracial	1,682 (25%)
Geography		Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.	Less than 9th Grade	748 (15.75%)
Center Latitude	18.212785	9th through 12th Grade	359 (7.56%)
Center Longitude	-65.92144	High School Diploma	1,308 (27.54%)
Total Area	3.121 sq.mi.	Some College/2-year	555 (11.69%)
Land Area	99%	B.S./B.A. (Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts) or More	1,045 (22%)
Water Area	1%		
Income Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Households (%)			
Less than \$15,000	995 (40.63%)		
\$15,000 - \$25,000	380 (15.52%)		
\$25,000 - \$50,000	640 (26.13%)		
\$50,000 - \$75,000	266 (10.86%)		
Greater than \$75,000	168 (6.86%)		



Detailed Facility Report

Facility Summary

GEO TECHNICAL EXPLORATION PLAN FOR THE PROPOSED VALENCIANO RESERVOIR

ROAD PR-919, KM. 1.4, CEIBA SUR WARD, JUNCOS, PR 00777

FRS (Facility Registry Service) ID: 110071817539

EPA Region: 02

Latitude: 18.2096

Longitude: -65.9228

Locational Data Source: NPDES

Industries: --

Indian Country: N

Enforcement and Compliance Summary

Statute	CWA
Compliance Monitoring Activities (5 years)	--
Date of Last Compliance Monitoring Activity	--
Compliance Status	No Violation Identified
Qtrs in Noncompliance (of 12)	0
Qtrs with Significant Violation	0
Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Penalties from Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
EPA Cases (5 years)	--
Penalties from EPA Cases (5 years)	--

Regulatory Information

Clean Air Act (CAA): No Information

Clean Water Act (CWA): Non-Major, Permit Effective (PRR1000K6)

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): No Information

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA): No Information

Other Regulatory Reports

Air Emissions Inventory (EIS): No Information

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (eGGRT): No Information

Toxic Releases (TRI): No Information

Compliance and Emissions Data Reporting Interface (CEDRI): No Information

Go To Enforcement/Compliance Details
Known Data Problems <<https://epa.gov/resources/echo-data/known-data-problems>>

Facility/System Characteristics

Facility/System Characteristics

System	Statute	Identifier	Universe	Status	Areas	Permit Expiration Date	Indian Country	Latitude	Longitude
FRS		110071817539					N	18.2096	-65.9228
ICIS-NPDES	CWA	PRR1000K6	Non-Major: General Permit Covered Facility	Effective	Construction Stormwater	02/16/2027	N	18.2096	-65.9228

Facility Address

System	Statute	Identifier	Facility Name	Facility Address	Facility County
FRS		110071817539	GEOTECHNICAL EXPLORATION PLAN FOR THE PROPOSED VALENCIANO RESERVOIR	ROAD PR-919, KM. 1.4, CEIBA SUR WARD, JUNCOS, PR 00777	
ICIS-NPDES	CWA	PRR1000K6	GEOTECHNICAL EXPLORATION PLAN FOR THE PROPOSED VALENCIANO RESERVOIR	ROAD PR-919, KM. 1.4, CEIBA SUR WARD, JUNCOS, PR 00777	

Facility SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) Codes

System	Identifier	SIC Code	SIC Description
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No data records returned

Facility NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) Codes

System	Identifier	NAICS Code	NAICS Description
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No data records returned

Facility Industrial Effluent Guidelines

Identifier	Effluent Guideline (40 CFR Part)	Effluent Guideline Description
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No data records returned

Facility Tribe Information

Reservation Name	Tribe Name	EPA Tribal ID	Distance to Tribe (miles)
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No data records returned

Enforcement and Compliance

Compliance Monitoring History

Last 5 Years

Statute	Source ID	System	Activity Type	Compliance Monitoring Type	Lead Agency	Date	Finding (if applicable)
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No data records returned

Entries in *italics* are not included in ECHO's Compliance Monitoring Activity counts because they are not compliance monitoring strategy <https://www.epa.gov/compliance/compliance-monitoring-programs> activities or because they are not counted as inspections within EPA's Annual Results <https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/enforcement-data-and-results>.

Compliance Summary Data

Statute	Source ID	Current SNC (Significant Noncompliance)/HPV (High Priority Violation)	Current As Of	Qtrs with NC (Noncompliance) (of 12)	Data Last Refreshed
CWA	PRR1000K6	No	09/30/2024	0	01/17/2025

Three-Year Compliance History by Quarter

Statute	Program/Pollutant/Violation Type	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10	QTR 11	QTR 12
	CWA (Source ID: PRR1000K6)	10/01-12/31/21	01/01-03/31/22	04/01-06/30/22	07/01-09/30/22	10/01-12/31/22	01/01-03/31/23	04/01-06/30/23	07/01-09/30/23	10/01-12/31/23	01/01-03/31/24	04/01-06/30/24	07/01-09/30/24
	Facility-Level Status	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified
	Quarterly Noncompliance Report History												

Informal Enforcement Actions

Last 5 Years

Statute	System	Source ID	Type of Action	Lead Agency	Date
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No data records returned

Entries in *italics* are not counted as "informal enforcement actions" in EPA policies pertaining to enforcement response tools.

Formal Enforcement Actions

Last 5 Years

Statute	System	Law/Section	Source ID	Type of Action	Case No.	Lead Agency	Case Name	Issued/Filed Date	Settlements/Actions	Settlement/Action Date	Federal Penalty Assessed	State/Local Penalty Assessed	Penalty Amount Collected	SEP Value	Comp Action Cost
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No data records returned

Environmental Conditions

Watersheds

12-Digit WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) HUC (RAD (Reach Address Database))	WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) Subwatershed Name (RAD (Reach Address Database))	State Water Body Name (ICIS (Integrated Compliance Information System))	Beach Closures Within Last Year	Beach Closures Within Last Two Years	Pollutants Potentially Related to Impairment	Watershed with ESA (Endangered Species Act)-listed Aquatic Species?
210100050406	Rio Valenciano	VALENCIANO RIVER	No	No	--	Yes

Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)

State	Report Cycle	Assessment Unit ID	Assessment Unit Name	Water Condition	Cause Groups Impaired	Drinking Water Use	Ecological Use	Fish Consumption Use	Recreation Use	Other Use
PR	2022	PRER14G2	RIO VALENCIANO	Impaired - 303(d) Listed - With Restoration Plan	AMMONIA METALS (OTHER THAN MERCURY) NUTRIENTS OTHER CAUSE PATHOGENS PH/ACIDITY/CAUSTIC CONDITIONS TURBIDITY	Not Supporting	Not Supporting	--	Not Supporting	--

Air Quality Nonattainment Areas

Pollutant	Within Nonattainment Status Area?	Nonattainment Status Applicable Standard(s)	Within Maintenance Status Area?	Maintenance Status Applicable Standard(s)
No data records returned				

Pollutants

Toxics Release Inventory History of Reported Chemicals Released or Transferred in Pounds per Year at Site

TRI Facility ID	Year	Air Emissions	Surface Water Discharges	Off-Site Transfers to POTWs (Publicly Owned Treatment Works)	Underground Injections	Disposal to Land	Total On-Site Releases	Total Off-Site Transfers
No data records returned								

Toxics Release Inventory Total Releases and Transfers in Pounds by Chemical and Year

Chemical Name
No data records returned

CWA (Clean Water Act) Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR)
Pollutant Loadings

DMR and TRI Multi-Year Loading Report

NPDES ID	Description
No data records returned	

Community

Environmental Justice

This section shows indexes from EJScreen, EPA's screening tool for environmental justice (EJ) concerns. EPA uses these indexes to identify geographic areas that may warrant further consideration or analysis for potential EJ concerns. Use of these indexes does not designate an area as an "EJ community" or "EJ facility." EJScreen provides screening level indicators, not a determination of the existence or absence of EJ concerns. For more information, see the EJScreen home page.

Potential Environmental Justice Concerns

US Territory

Supplemental/EJ index percentiles >= 90 (Census block group)

Supplemental/EJ index percentiles >= 90 (1-mile average)

EJScreen Indexes Shown

Related Reports

Index Type

Supplemental (default)

EJScreen Community Report

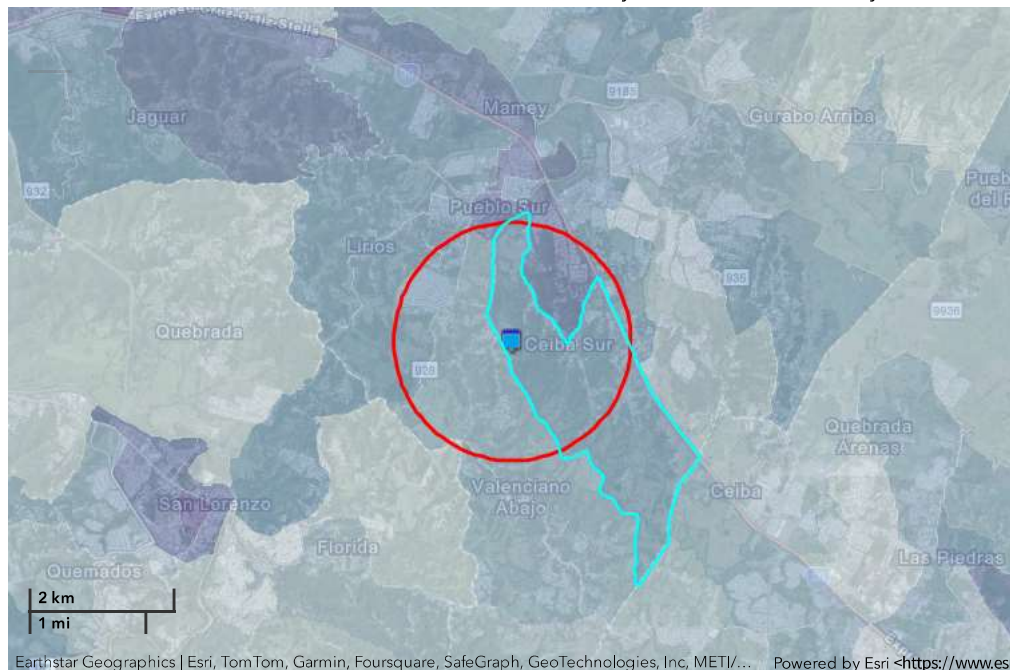
Census Block Group ID: 720775003022		US (Percentile)			State (Percentile)		
Supplemental Indexes		Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Avg	1-mile Max	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Avg	1-mile Max
Count of Indexes At or Above 90th Percentile		5	5	6	1	1	1
Particulate Matter 2.5		--	N/A	--	--	N/A	--
Ozone		--	N/A	--	--	N/A	--
Nitrogen Dioxide		40	44	76	51	48	74
Diesel Particulate Matter		22	22	28	70	70	79
Toxic Releases to Air		84	92	98	20	35	63
Traffic Proximity		92	92	97	58	60	77
Lead Paint		96	89	97	79	61	86

Census Block Group ID: 720775003022	US (Percentile)			State (Percentile)		
	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Avg	1-mile Max	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Avg	1-mile Max
Risk Management Plan (RMP) Facility Proximity	0	0	--	0	0	--
Hazardous Waste Proximity	96	96	97	80	78	84
Superfund Proximity	99	99	99	91	90	95
Underground Storage Tanks (UST)	0	0	--	0	0	--
Wastewater Discharge	98	98	99	49	52	62
Drinking Water Noncompliance	--	N/A	--	--	N/A	--

Map Display Based on: ☒ US ☐ State

Display Map Layer

Summary - Number of Indexes

☐ Facility 1-mile Radius ☐ Facility Census Block Group

Demographic Profile of Surrounding Area (1-Mile Radius)

This section provides demographic information regarding the community surrounding the facility. ECHO compliance data alone are not sufficient to determine whether violations at a particular facility had negative impacts on public health or the environment. Statistics are based upon the 2022 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year Summary and are accurate to the extent that the facility latitude and longitude listed below are correct. Census boundaries and demographic data for U.S. Territories are based on the "2020 Island Areas Demographic Profiles" from the U.S. Census Bureau. EPA's spatial processing methodology considers the overlap between the selected radii and ACS census block groups in determining the demographics surrounding the facility. For more detail about this methodology, see the DFR Data Dictionary <<https://epa.gov/help/reports/dfr-data-dictionary#demographic>>.

General Statistics (ACS (American Community Survey))

Total Persons	5,135
Population Density	1,657/sq.mi.
Housing Units in Area	2,421
Percent People of Color	100%
Households in Area	1,883
Households on Public Assistance	45
Persons With Low Income	3,824
Percent With Low Income	74%

Geography

Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.
Center Latitude	18.2096
Center Longitude	-65.9228

Age Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)

Children 5 years and younger	218 (4%)
Minors 17 years and younger	1,111 (22%)
Adults 18 years and older	4,024 (78%)
Seniors 65 years and older	1,110 (22%)

Race Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)

White	1,737 (34%)
African-American	0 (0%)
Hispanic-Origin	5,105 (99%)
Asian	0 (0%)
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0 (0%)
American Indian	0 (0%)
Other/Multiracial	1,306 (25%)

Geography	
Total Area	3.121 sq.mi.
Land Area	99%
Water Area	1%
Income Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Households (%)	
Less than \$15,000	718 (38.15%)
\$15,000 - \$25,000	316 (16.79%)
\$25,000 - \$50,000	534 (28.37%)
\$50,000 - \$75,000	163 (8.66%)
Greater than \$75,000	151 (8.02%)

Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Less than 9th Grade	576 (15.83%)
9th through 12th Grade	297 (8.16%)
High School Diploma	1,095 (30.09%)
Some College/2-year	378 (10.39%)
B.S./B.A. (Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts) or More	749 (20.58%)

Radon Attachments



August 20, 2024

Mrs. Carmen R. Guerrero Pérez
Director
Caribbean Environmental Protection Division
City View Plaza II – Suite 7000
#48 Rd. 165 km 1.2
Guaynabo, PR 00968-8069

Via email: guerrero.carmen@epa.gov

RE: Request for information regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) kindly requests your assistance in gathering data, information, or reports related to radon testing in Puerto Rico, as this information is crucial for our compliance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Planning and Development (CPD) Notice CDP-23-103.

This Notice emphasizes the importance of radon testing and mitigation in ensuring safe living environments, particularly in HUD-assisted properties. PRDOH, as the grantee of the Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery and Mitigation (CDBG-DR/MIT), is responsible for ensuring compliance with environmental requirements under CDBG-DR/MIT programs. To fulfill our obligations under this Notice, we must compile comprehensive and up-to-date information on radon levels, testing practices, and any mitigation efforts within the islands of Puerto Rico.

Specifically, we are seeking for possible availability of the following information:

Radon testing data – Results from radon testing conducted within your agency's purview, including details on location, testing methods, and recorded radon levels.

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Davila, Rio Piedras, PR 00981 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365
Tel: (787) 274-2527 | www.usenda.pr.gov



August 20, 2024

Dr. Silvina Cancelos
Professor
College of Engineering
University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez Campus
259 Norte Blvd. Alfonso Valdés Cobián
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico

Via email: silvina.cancelos@upr.edu

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This information is vital to ensure that our radon management strategies are practical and compliant with federal requirements. If some of this information may be sensitive or confidential, we are prepared to discuss any necessary agreements or protocols for sharing this data securely.

Please let us know if you require additional details or have any questions regarding this request. We would greatly appreciate your response by September 15, 2024, so we can incorporate this data into our ongoing compliance efforts.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support. We look forward to working together on this critical initiative.

Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Oleg Pavetko, Pavetko.Oleg@epa.gov
Mr. Matthew Laitila, laitila.matthew@epa.gov

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Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Dr. Carlos Marín, carlos.marin3@upr.edu



August 20, 2024

Dr. Jessica Izárry
Director
Office of Island Affairs
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1324 Cll Canada, San Juan, 00920
Guaynabo, PR 00968-8069

Via email: OIA@cdc.gov

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CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Rico
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Sincerely,


William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary



August 20, 2024

Mrs. Anais Rodríguez
Secretary
Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources
Carretera 8838, km. 6.3, Sector El Cinco,
Río Piedras San Juan, PR 00926

Via email: anais.rodriguez@dma.pr.gov

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Sincerely,


William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Luis Márquez, secretariogaire@dma.pr.gov
Eng. Amarilis Rosario, aire@dma.pr.gov
Mrs. Elid Ortega, ortega@dma.pr.gov



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

August 20, 2024

Dr. Carlos R. Mellado López
Secretary
Puerto Rico Department of Health
PO Box 70184
San Juan, PR 00936-8184

Via email: dr.carlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov

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GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

August 20, 2024

Mrs. Holly Weyers
Regional Director, Southeast – Puerto Rico
US Geological Survey
3916 Sunset Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607

Via email: hweyers@usgs.gov

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CDBG-DR/MIT Program
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Sincerely,


William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Raúl Hernández Dabla, rhernandez2@salud.pr.gov

CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CDP-23-103 for Puerto Rico
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Sincerely,


William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Mr. R. Randall Schumann, rschumann@usgs.gov

From: Charp, Paul (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP) <pac4@cdc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 6:36 AM
To: Miranda, Sandra (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Irizarry, Jessica (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Rzeszutarski, Peter (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP); Vinson, D. Aaron (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP)
Cc: Kostak, Liana (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Vazquez, Germaine (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP)
Subject: RE: REHi: Puerto Rico Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Good morning, Sandra and others,

In response to the request from Mr. William Rodriguez of the Department of Housing, Government of Puerto Rico, I have reviewed all the available data within the CDC National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network system for data related to radon in Puerto Rico. In addition to the tracking data available on the internet, I also reached out to Mr. Aaron Vinson of the NCEH Tracking Branch.

I was not able to find any data in the CDC systems and this was confirmed by Mr. Vinson. We also reached out the US Environmental Protection Agency who indicated they had no radon data in their systems. Please relay this information to Mr. Rodriguez in your response to his requests

If you have any additional questions, please contact me.

Thank you and best regards,

Paul A. Charp, Ph.D., Fellow, HPS
Senior Health Physicist
Emerging Environmental Hazards and Health Effects Branch (EEHHEB)
Division of Environmental Health Science and Practice (DEHSP)
National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
pcharp@cdc.gov
770-488-0723 office
404.388.0614 Cell



From: Schumann, R. Randall <rschumann@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 4:39 PM
To: Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>; Weyers, Holly S <hsweyers@usgs.gov>
Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>
Subject: RE: Request for Information- Radon testing and levels

Dear Ms. Medina Smaine,

In the early 1990s the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) conducted geologic assessments of radon potential for all 50 states and the territories of Guam and Puerto Rico, in collaboration with the U.S. EPA. I conducted the geologic radon potential assessment for Puerto Rico. The PDF file of the report is too large to attach to this message but it can be obtained at <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/1993/0292k/report.pdf>. The USGS did not conduct indoor radon testing and we did not conduct field studies associated with this assessment; it was based on existing data. Mr. David Saldana of the Puerto Rico Department of Health kindly provided us with data for 610 homes that were tested for indoor radon by his agency between 1993 and 1995, which are summarized in the report. I am not aware of any other radon-related geologic studies conducted in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico by the U.S. Geological Survey.

Best regards,

R. Randall Schumann
Scientist Emeritus
U.S. Geological Survey
Geosciences and Environmental Change Science Center
Denver, Colorado, USA
rschumann@usgs.gov
<https://www.usgs.gov/staff-profiles/r-randall-schumann>

From: Raul Hernandez Doble <rhernandez2@salud.pr.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 2:13:31 PM
To: Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>; Dr. Carlos Mellado <drcarlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov>
Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Mayra Toro Tirado <mtoro@salud.pr.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Request for Information- Radon testing and levels

Good afternoon. Ms. Medina

I regret to inform that we do not have any recent information on radon testing, since we do not have a certified radiation laboratory certified for radon testing. There are companies that sell test kits available online that can be done and mailed to a testing laboratory. There are also lists of radon contractors and these companies that process radon testing cartridges with instructions, on the Environmental Protection Agency Indoor air Quality web page. The last radon study in Puerto Rico done by the PR Department of Health was done on the year 1993.

Raul Hernandez Doble
Director, Seccion Salud Radiologica
Division de Salud Ambiental
Secretaria Auxiliar para la Vigilancia y la Proteccion de la Salud Publica
rhernandez2@salud.gov.pr
Phone: (787)765-2929 ext. 3210

From: Reyes, Brenda <Reyes.Brenda@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 11:48 AM
To: Cesar O Rodriguez Santos <cesarrodriguez@drna.pr.gov>; Maritza Rosa Olivares <maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov>; Silvina Cancelos Mancini <silvina.cancelos@upr.edu>; Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>
Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Povetko, Oleg (he/him/his) <Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Saludos.

La EPA esta trabajando una respuesta a su petición. Se sometió borrador a la directora y el subdirector para su aprobación y firma.

Brenda Reyes Tomassini
Public Affairs
U.S. EPA
Region 2
Caribbean Environmental Protection Division
(787) 977-5869/(787) 977-5865
Mobile: 202-834-1290

From: Silvina Cancelos Mancini <silvina.cancelos@upr.edu>
Sent: Friday, September 6, 2024 15:04
To: Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>
Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Maritza Rosa Olivares <maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov>; Reyes, Brenda <Reyes.Brenda@epa.gov>; Povetko, Oleg <Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Estimada Melanie Medina

Quería dejarle saber que recibimos su correo el 21 de agosto al igual que el de Maritza Rosa el pasado 4 de septiembre. Ya las personas involucradas de EPA, junto conmigo y el Dr. Marín estamos al tanto del asunto y estamos trabajando para poder enviarles la información.

Atentamente

Silvina Cancelos
Professor
Associate Director
Mechanical Engineering Department
University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez
Call BOX 9000 Mayaguez PR 00680
Tel: 787-832-4040 ext 5956
email: silvina.cancelos@upr.edu



Bubble Dynamics Lab
University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez



EPA REGION 2
CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

September 23, 2024

VIA EMAIL

William O. Rodriguez Rodriguez, Esq.
Secretary
Puerto Rico Department of Housing
Barbosa Ave. 606 Building Juan C. Cordero
San Juan, PR 00917
Email: W.Rodriguez@vivienda.pr.gov

RE: EPA Response to August 20, 2024 request for information of data on radon testing and levels in Puerto Rico

Dear Honorable Secretary Rodriguez Rodriguez:

This communication is in response to your letter of August 20, 2024 addressed to the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) and referred to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico.

EPA's National Radon Action Plan 2021–2025 sets a goal for the nation to find, fix and prevent high indoor radon levels in 8 million buildings by 2025 and prevent 3,500 lung cancer deaths per year. Under this Plan, leaders from across multiple sectors are working together to plan, guide, and sustain nationwide action to prevent exposure to radon.

Due to the lack of data in Puerto Rico, EPA undertook an investigation in collaboration with the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez (UPRM) Campus, Departments of Civil Engineering and Surveying and Mechanical Engineering, to find out if radon presented a problem in Puerto Rico. Up until 2021, the only data we had for Puerto Rico was a 1993-1995 mail-in radon screening study referred to by the U.S. Geological Survey report (USGS, 1995) in which the USGS concluded that several areas of Puerto Rico have the geologic potential to generate indoor radon levels exceeding the EPA Action Level of 4 pCi/L (picocuries per liter), perhaps locally reaching very high levels above 50 pCi/L, if a house construction and

ventilation allow for soil-gas radon to enter and concentrate within the structure.¹ According to the USGS report, most of these areas are located in the northwest part of the island. Please note that the actual 1993-1995 study documentation is not available to the EPA.

Typical radon testing technology used in mainland United States (charcoal canisters or electric-powered devices) are impractical in Puerto Rico because of high humidity and power outages. The recovery and rebuilding of communities following the aftermath of 2017 Hurricanes Irma and Maria presented an opportunity to develop radon prevention and mitigation strategies in 2019. Initially, EPA sampled indoor radon air in over 170 single-family residences in the municipalities of San Sebastian, Lares, Ciales, Arecibo, Morovis, Camuy, and Hatillo and later expanded the project to other municipalities such as Rincon, Aguada, Aguadilla, Isabela, Quebradillas, Barceloneta and Vega Baja. The quality assurance protocols were anchored in American National Standards Institute/American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (ANSI/AARST) standards of practice (ANSI/AARS, 2019). The sampling was designed in two stages: scoping and confirmatory sampling. The scoping sampling was conducted using Corentium Home (CH) electronic monitors and E-Perm systems. Locations measuring above the EPA Action Level of 4 pCi/L with CH were measured at the second stage of the sampling using RAD7 and Corentium Pro Continuous Radon Monitors (CRMs). Nationally certified radon sampling professionals led by one such professional from the UPRM conducted confirmatory sampling in the second stage. Also, during the study, the nationally certified radon mitigation professionals inspected several homes with elevated indoor radon levels.

Mapping radon in Puerto Rico proved to be a complicated endeavor given the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. EPA and UPRM continue to work on the project, however, results have not been finalized, and no scientific report has been published yet. Unfortunately, EPA cannot share preliminary data at this time because it contains privileged information. Nevertheless, preliminary data from the study does show homes with levels over 4 pCi/L (EPA Action Level) that might need mitigation to protect the health of their inhabitants.

Although many states have developed laws and regulations governing radon disclosure, certification, and mitigation, Puerto Rico lacks legislation or mandatory radon testing provisions for new construction, remodeling, selling or buying homes. Given this loophole and aiming to answer your request, the EPA can provide information on Best Management Practices for sampling indoor radon in Puerto Rico.

¹ Reference: USGS. Geologic Radon Potential of Guam and Puerto Rico, Report 93-292-K. Washington, DC: USGS. Retrieved 9/11/2024, from <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/1993/0292k/report.pdf>.

CITY VIEW PLAZA II BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR
ROUTE 185 GUAYNABO, PR 00988

2

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me at 787-977-5865 or guerrero.carmen@epa.gov or have your staff contact Reyes, Brenda at reyes.brenda@epa.gov or (787) 977-5869.

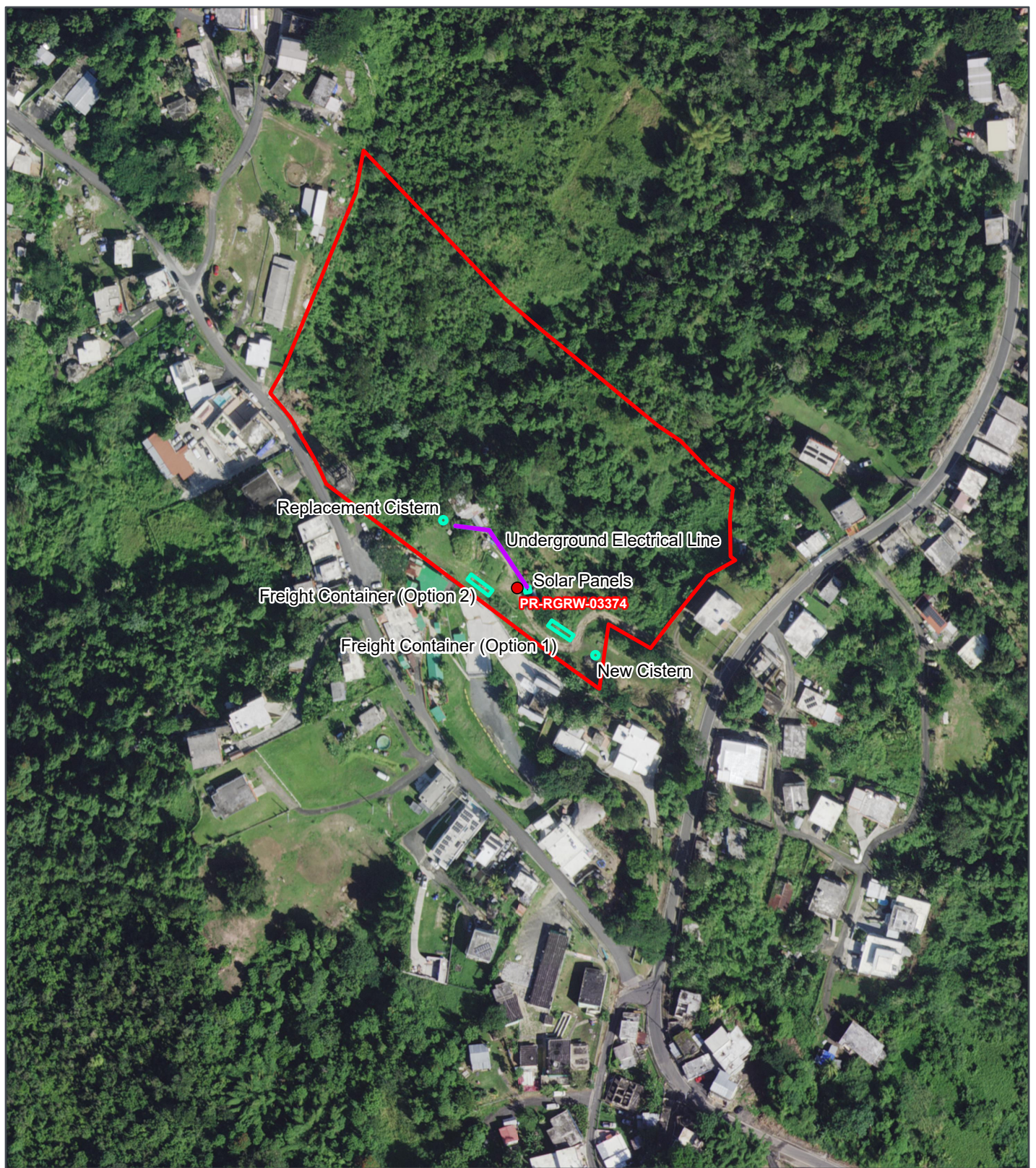
Sincerely,

**CARMEN
GUERRERO
PEREZ**

Carmen R. Guerrero Pérez
Director

Digitally signed by
CARMEN GUERRERO PEREZ
Date: 2024.09.23 09:41:39
-04'00'

cc: Roberto Mendez, Esq (Acting Secretary, PR Department of Natural and Env. Resources)
Melany Medina: mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov
Elaine Dume Mejia: Edume@vivienda.pr.gov
Luz S Colon Ortiz: Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov
Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez: arivera@vivienda.pr.gov
Cesar O. Rodriguez: cesarrodriiguez@drna.pr.gov
Marita Rosa Olivares: maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov



REGROW PROGRAM

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

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- | | |
|---|--|
| ● Site | Zone AE |
| Site Parcel | Coastal A Zone |
| Project Footprint (Option) | Coastal A Zone and Floodway |
| Underground Electrical Line | Zone AE-Floodway |
| Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) | Zone AO |
| 0.2% Annual Chance Flood | Zone VE |
| 1% Annual Chance Flood | Zone X (500-year floodplain) |
| Zone A | Zone/BFE Boundary |
| Zone A-Floodway | |

Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba
Sur, Juncos, PR 00777
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000

65.916193°W 18.210636°N

Data Source: https://gis.fema.gov/arcgis/rest/services/DR/PuertoRico_ABFE_1PCT/MapServer

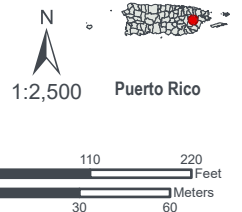
Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery

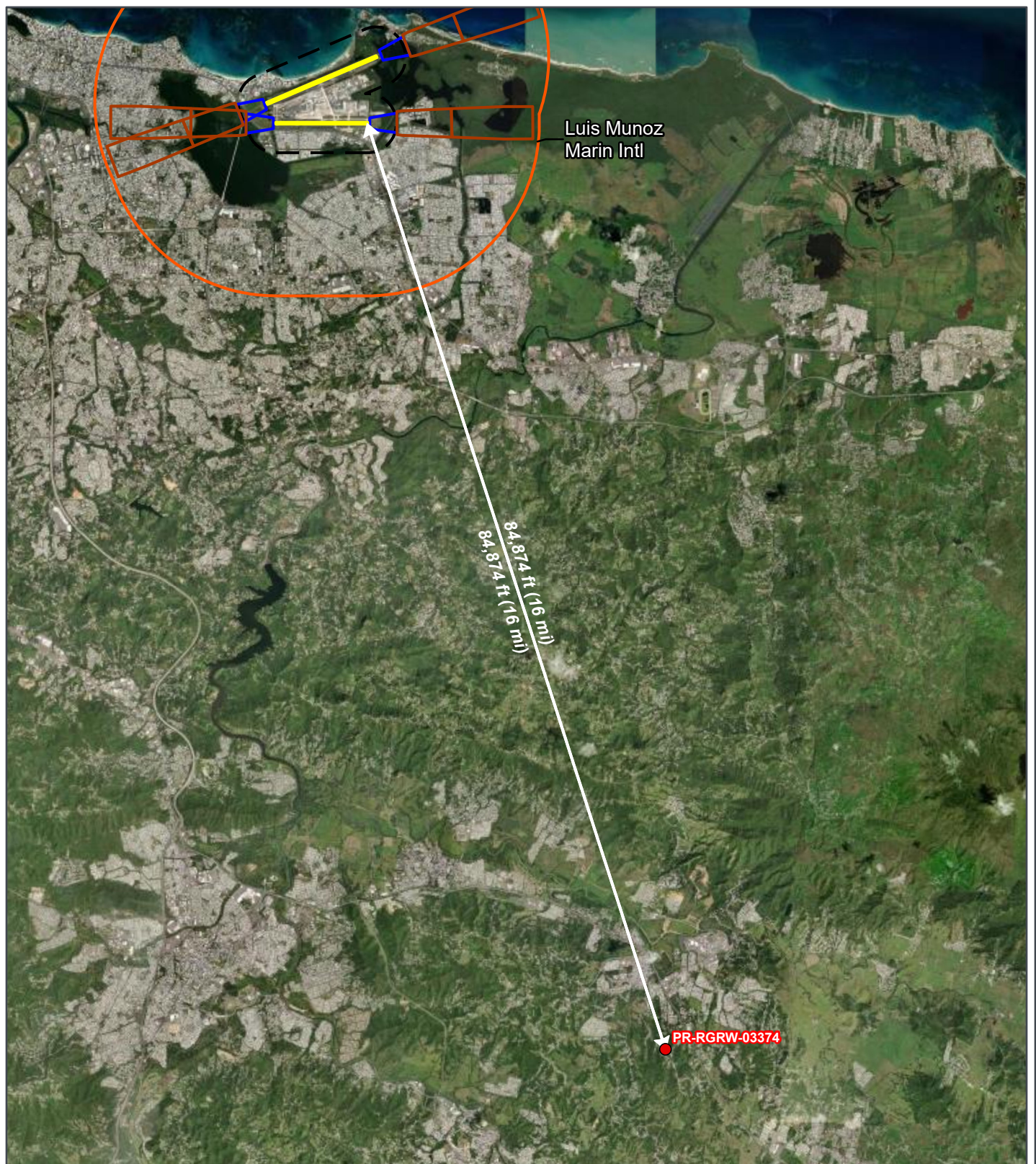
Imagery Year: 2022

Updated: 9/6/2024

Layout: ABFE 1Pct

Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

Figure B 1-1: Airport Hazards Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

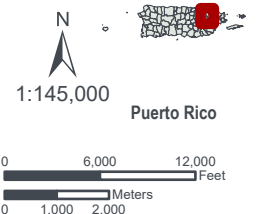
- Site
- ▬ Airport Runway
- ▬ Accident Potential Zones (APZ)
- ▬ Runway Protection Zones (RPZ)
- ▬ 2,500-FT Civil Airport Buffer
- ▬ 15,000-FT Military Airport Buffer

Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba
Sur, Juncos, PR 00777
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000

65.916193°W 18.210636°N

Data Source: <https://geodata.bts.gov/>
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
accessed August 2024

Updated: 8/23/2024
Layout: Airport Hazards
Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

Figure B 2-1: Coastal Barrier Resources Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- Otherwise Protected Area
- System Unit

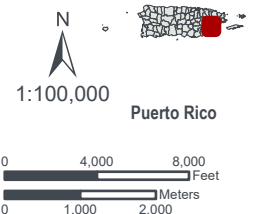
Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba
Sur, Juncos, PR 00777
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000

65.916193°W 18.210636°N

Data Source: <https://cbrsgis.wim.usgs.gov/arcgis/rest/services/CoastalBarrierResourcesSystem/MapServer>

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed August 2024

Updated: 8/23/2024
Layout: Coastal Barrier Resources System





REGROW PROGRAM

Figure B 5-1: Coastal Zone Management Map

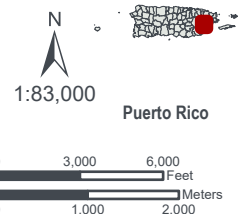
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

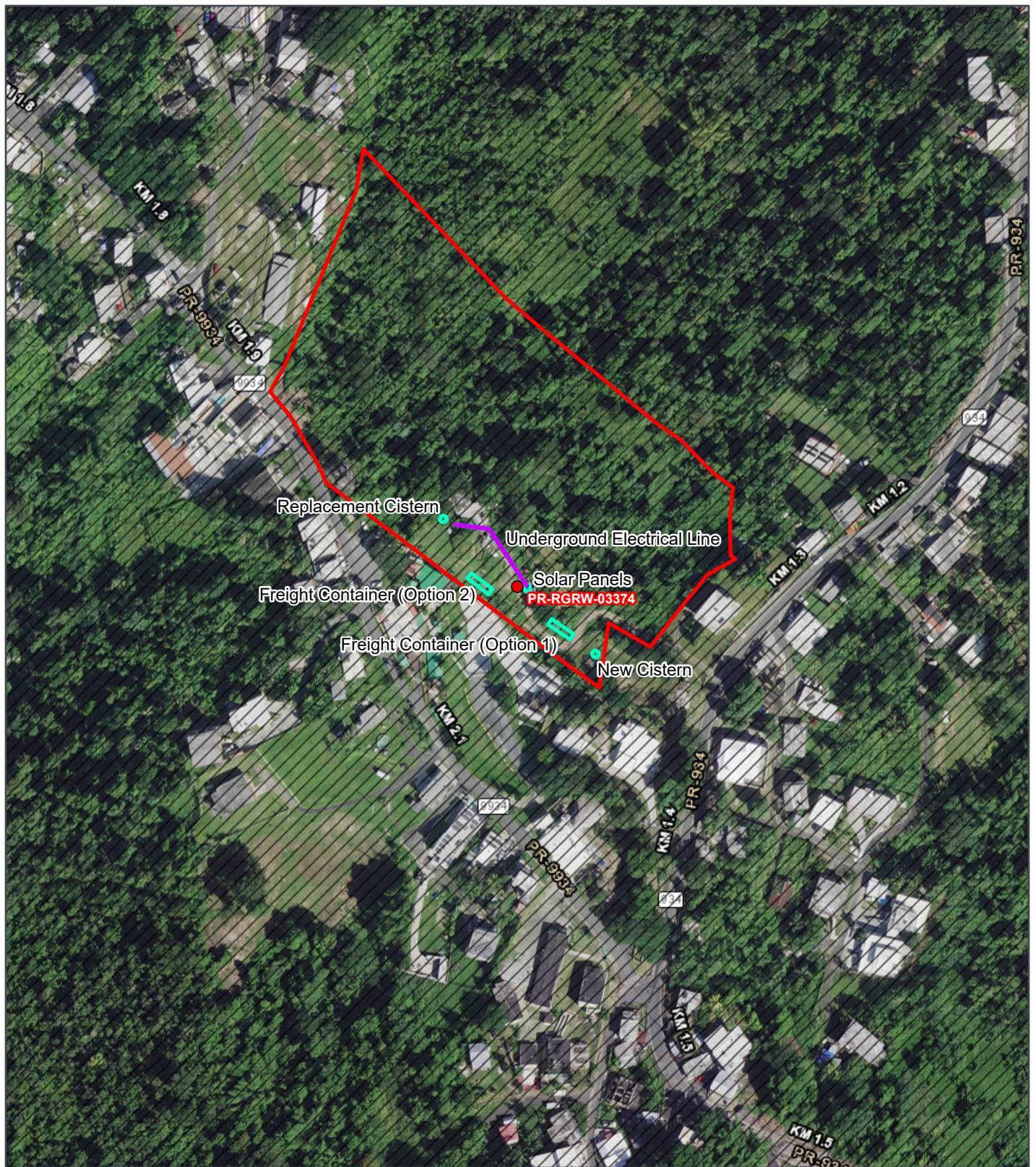
SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- Coastal Management Zone

Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba
Sur, Juncos, PR 00777
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000 &

65.916193°W 18.210636°N
Data Source: <https://coast.noaa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/Hosted/CoastalZoneManagementAct/BaseMap>: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed August 2024
Updated: 8/23/2024
Layout: Coastal Zone Management
Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

Figure B 9-1: Prime Farmland Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

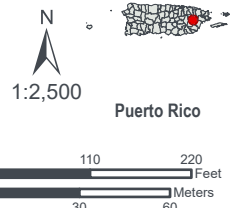
SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

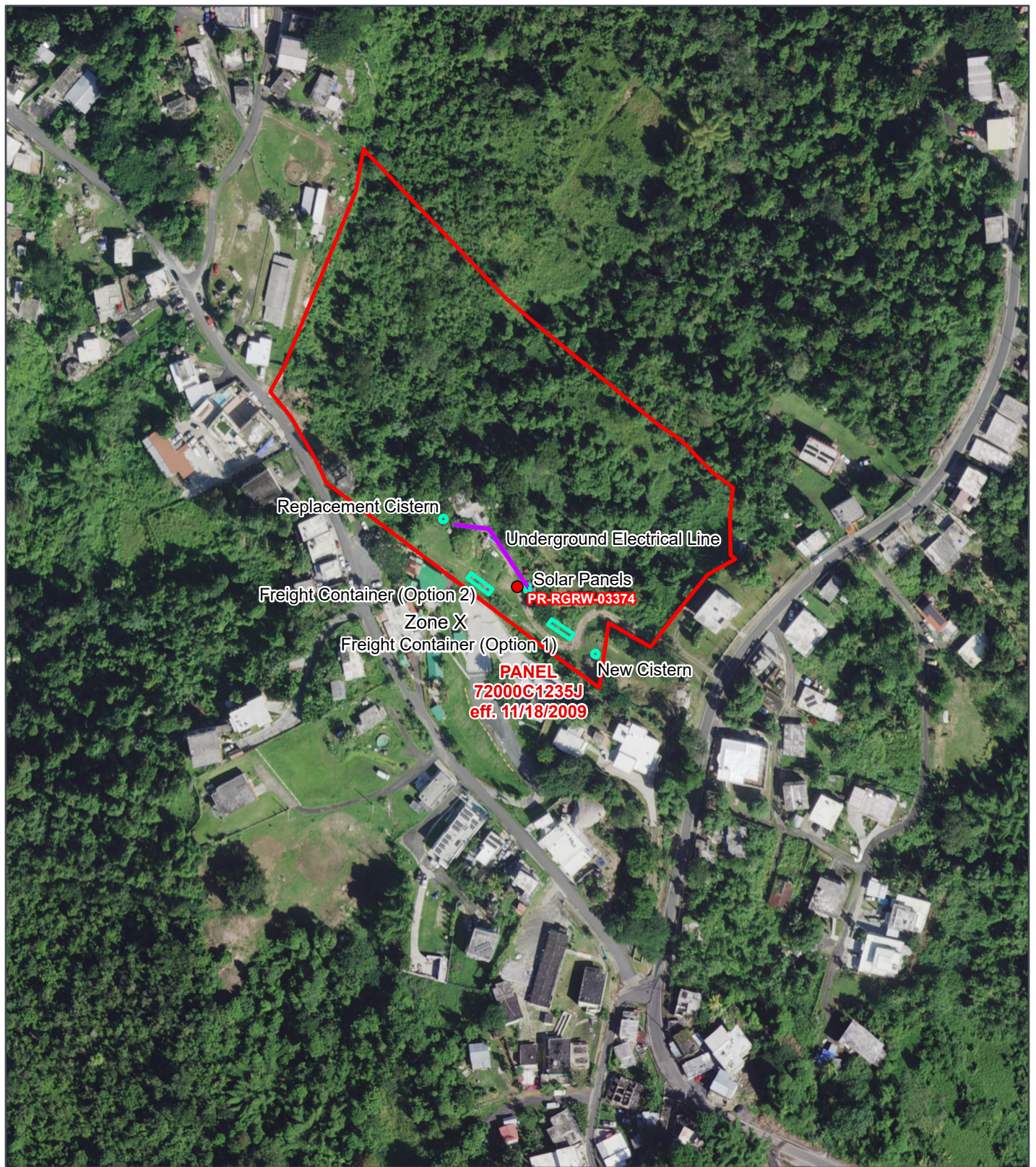
- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option)
- ▭ Underground Electrical Line
- ▭ All areas are prime farmland
- ▭ Farmland of statewide importance
- ▭ Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

- ▭ 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
- ▭ Not prime farmland
- ▭ Not Public Information

Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba
Sur, Juncos, PR 00777
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000 &

65.916193°W 18.210636°
NData Source: <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>
Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery
Imagery Year: 2022
Updated: 9/6/2024
Layout: Prime Farmland
Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

Figure B 3-1: Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)

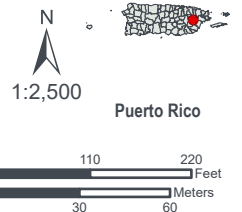
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

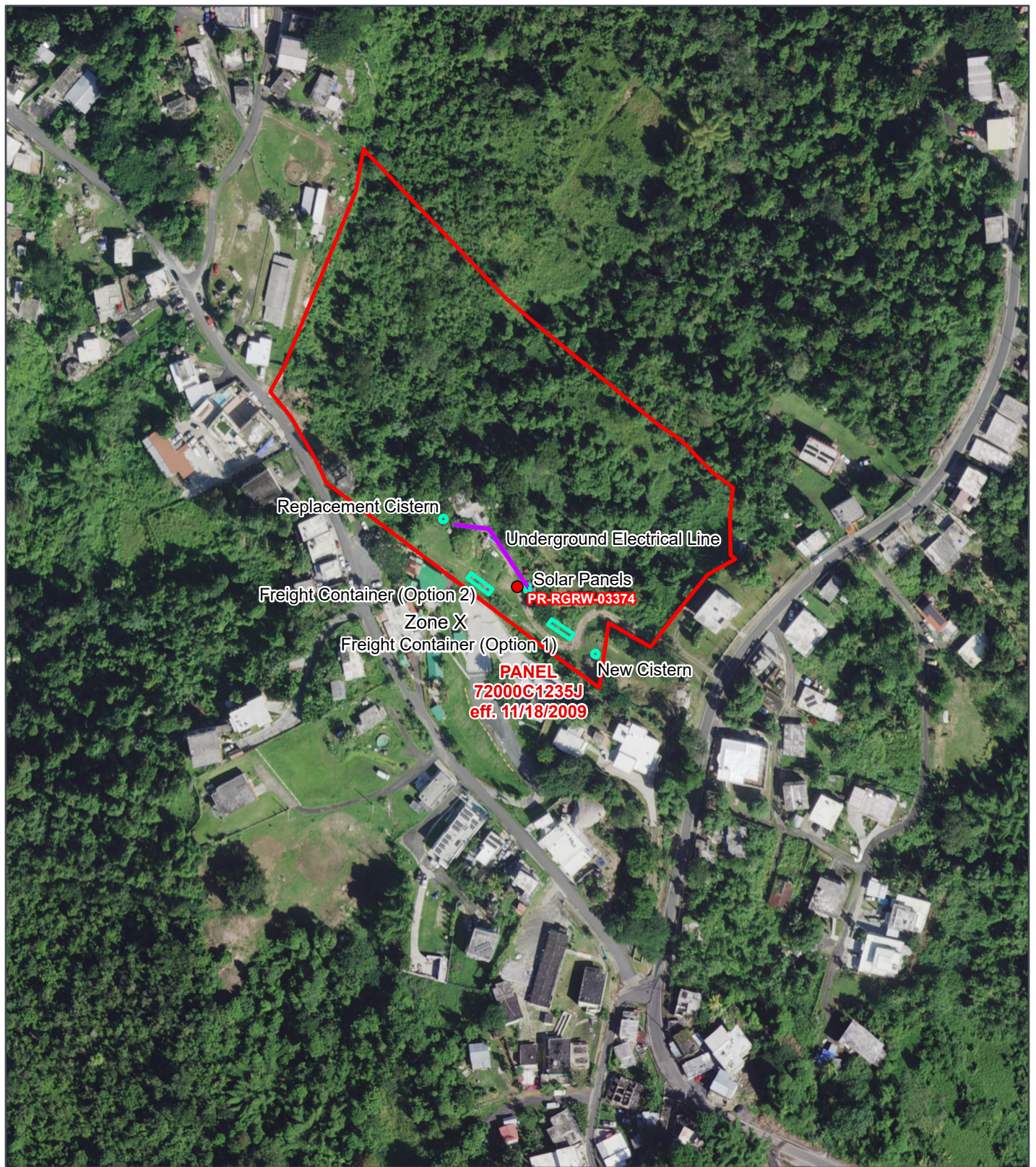
SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ● Site | Zone AH |
| ▭ Site Parcel | Zone AO |
| ▭ Project Footprint (Option) | Zone VE |
| ▭ Underground Electrical Line | Floodway |
| ~ Base Flood Elevations | Zone X - Shaded (500-year floodplain) |
| ▭ Zone A | Zone X - Unshaded |
| ▭ Zone AE | Area Not Included |
| | Open Water |

Carr: 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba
Sur, Juncos, PR 00777
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000

65.916193°W 18.210636°N
Data Source: <https://hazards.fema.gov/gis/nfhl/rest/services/public/NFHL/MapServer>
Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery
Imagery Year: 2022
Updated: 9/6/2024
Layout: Effective Floodplain
Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

Figure B 3-1: Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)

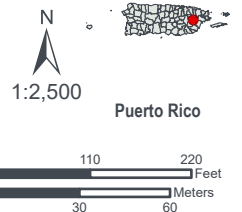
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

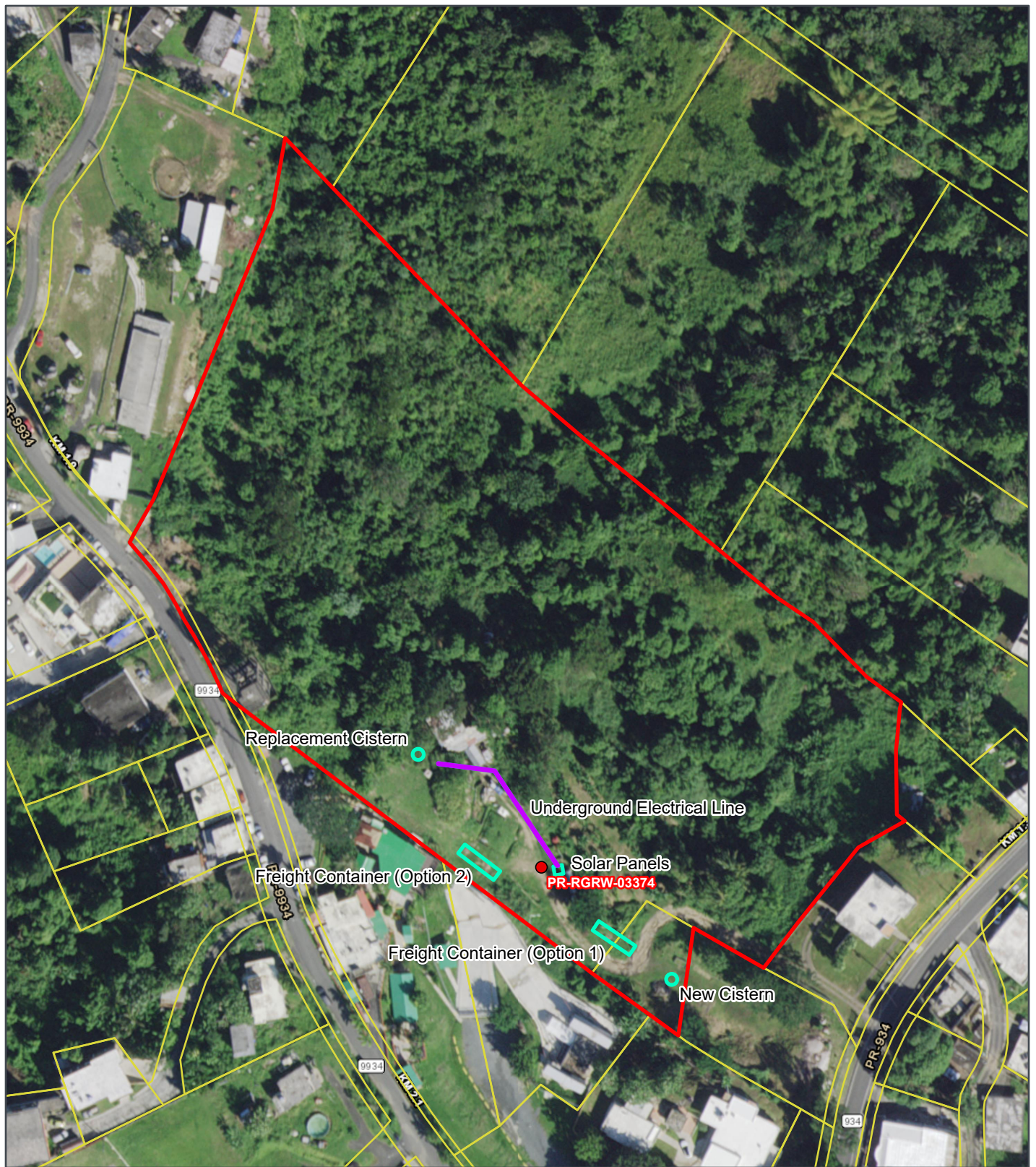
SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| ● Site | Zone AH |
| ▭ Site Parcel | Zone AO |
| ▭ Project Footprint (Option) | Zone VE |
| ▭ Underground Electrical Line | ▨ Floodway |
| ~ Base Flood Elevations | ▨ Zone X - Shaded (500-year floodplain) |
| ▭ Zone A | ▭ Zone X - Unshaded |
| ▭ Zone AE | ▭ Area Not Included |
| | ▭ Open Water |

Carr: 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba
Sur, Juncos, PR 00777
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000

65.916193°W 18.210636°N
Data Source: <https://hazards.fema.gov/gis/nfhl/rest/services/public/NFHL/MapServer>
Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery
Imagery Year: 2022
Updated: 9/6/2024
Layout: Effective Floodplain
Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

Figure A-2: Site Vicinity

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- Underground Electrical Line

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Sur, Juncos, PR 00777
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000

65.916193°W 18.210636°N

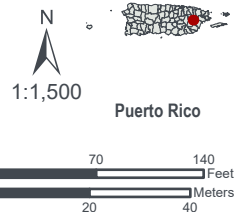
Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery

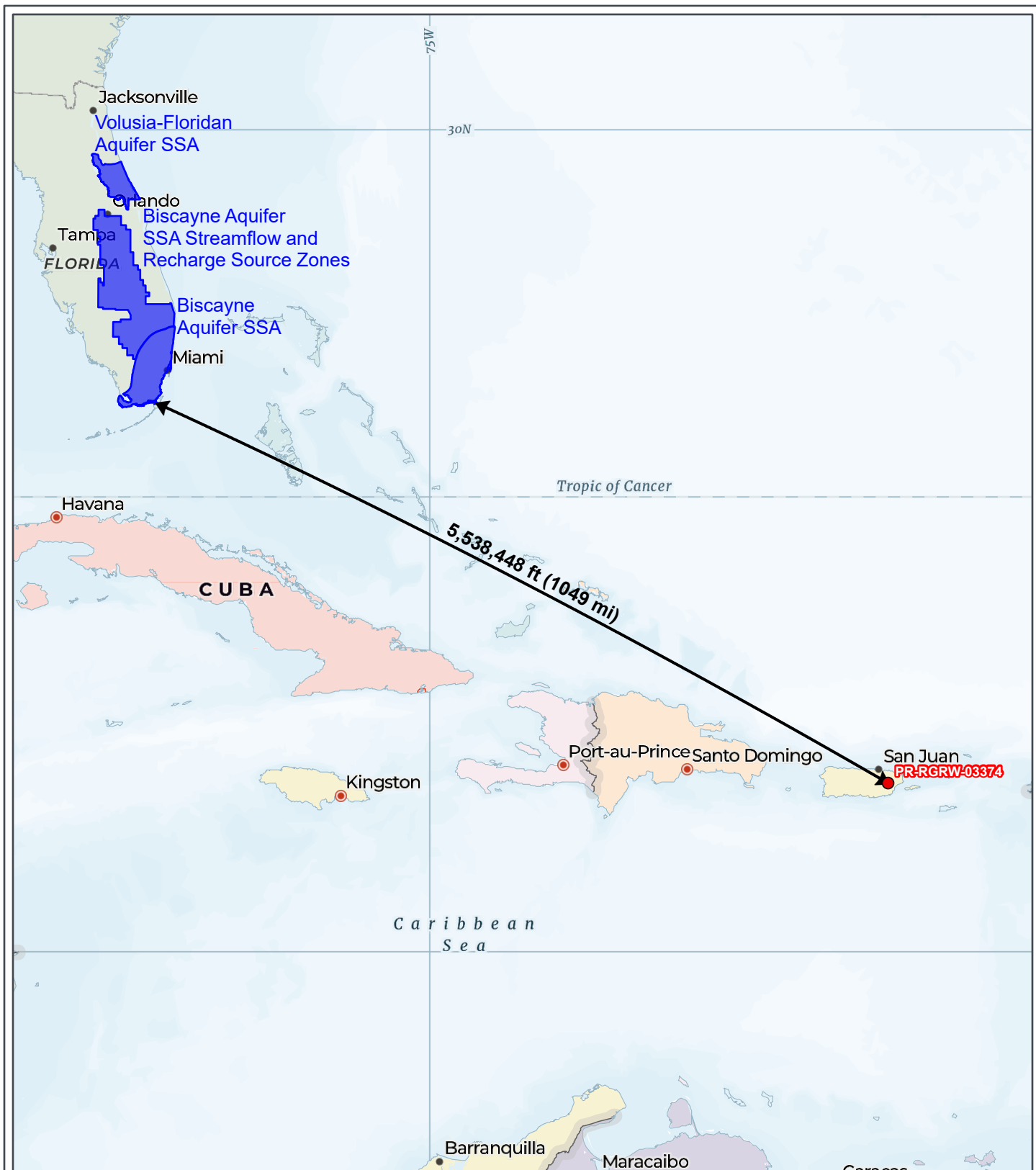
Imagery Year: 2022

Updated: 9/6/2024

Layout: Site Vicinity

Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

Figure 12-1: Sole Source Aquifers Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

● Site

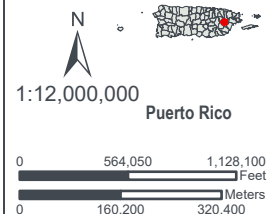
■ Sole Source Aquifers

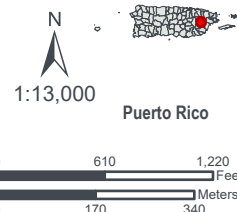
*There are no Sole Source Aquifers in Puerto Rico.

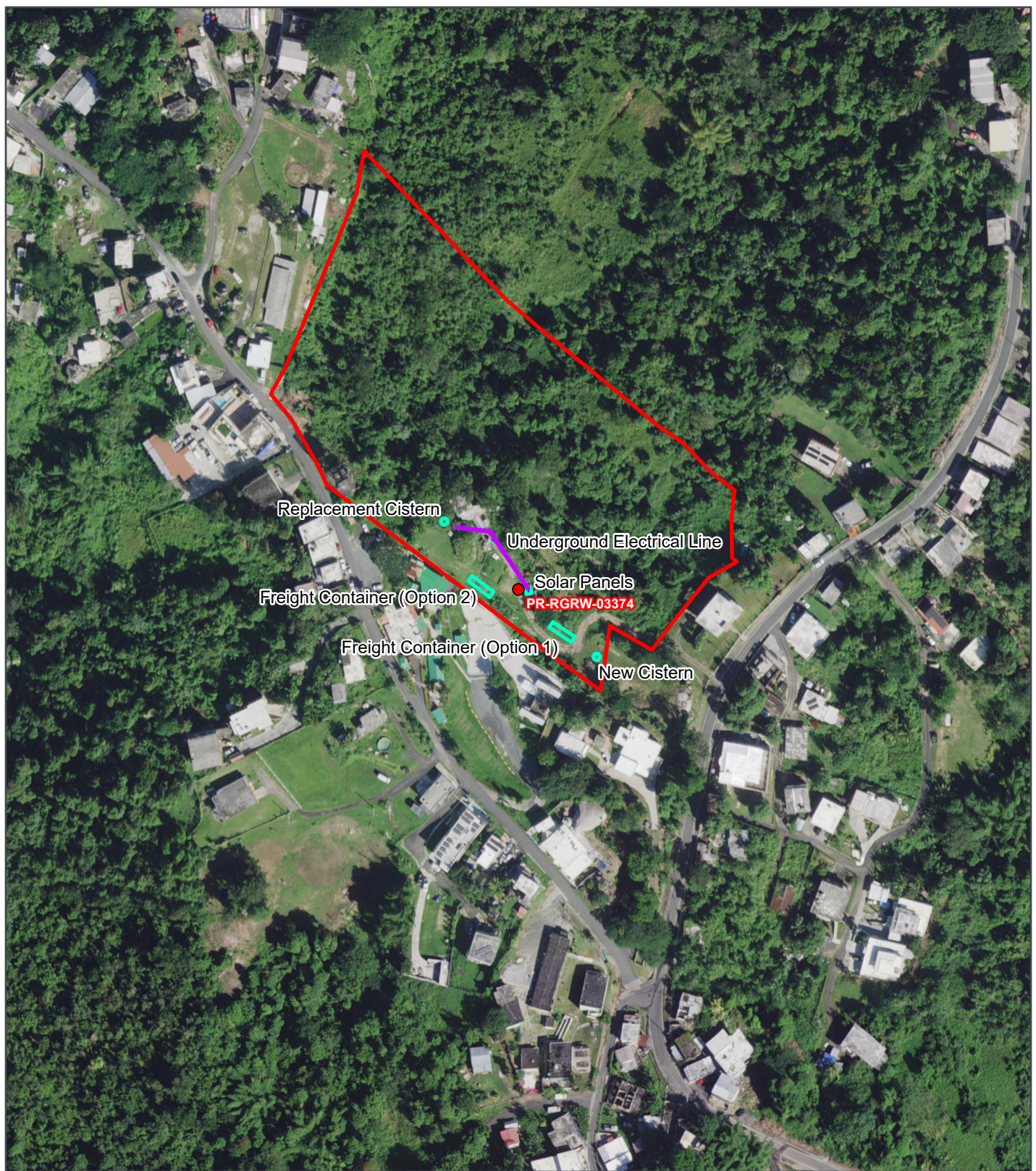
Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba
San Juan, PR 00777
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000 &

65.916193°W 18.210636°N

Data Source: <https://services.arcgis.com/cJ9YHowT8TU7DUyn/arcgis/rest/services/SoleSourceAquifers/FeatureServer>
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed August 2024
Updated: 8/23/2024
Layout: Sole Source Aquifers
Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps







REGROW PROGRAM

Figure B 13-1: Wetlands Protection Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

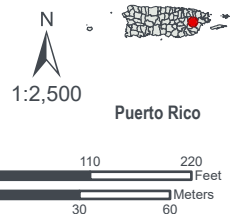
- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option)
- ▭ Underground Electrical Line
- NHD Stream
- ▭ Estuarine and Marine Deepwater

- ▭ Estuarine and Marine Wetland
- ▭ Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- ▭ Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- ▭ Freshwater Pond
- ▭ Lake
- ▭ Riverine

Carr, 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba
Sur, Juncos, PR 00777
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000 &

65.916193°W 18.210636°N

Data Source: <https://apps.nationalmap.gov/downloader/#/>
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory/data-download>
 Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery
 Imagery Year: 2022
 Updated: 9/6/2024
 Layout: Wetlands Protection





REGROW PROGRAM

Figure B 14-1: National Wild and Scenic River Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-03374

SWCA
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

● Site

— National Wild and Scenic River

Carr. 934 Km. Hm. 1.3, Bo. Ceiba
Sur, Juncos, PR 00777
Parcel ID: 253-014-126-38-000

65.916193°W 18.210636°N

Data Source: https://apps.fs.usda.gov/arcx/rest/services/EDW/EDW_WildScenicRiverSegments_01/mapserver
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed August 2024
Updated: 8/23/2024

