

Environmental Assessment

Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects

24 CFR Part 58

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-04118

Project Name: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico/Ponce, PR

Preparer: Carlos Medina

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Permit and Compliance Officers: Sally Acevedo Cosme, Pedro De León Rodríguez, María T. Torres Bregón, Ángel G. López-Guzmán, Ivelisse Lorenzo Torres, Santa Damarys Ramírez Lebrón, Janette I. Cambrelén, Limary Vélez-Marrero, Juan Carlos Perez Bofill, and Mónica Machuca Ríos.

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

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

Project Location:

The property is a 36.78-acre site located at PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano in the Municipality of Ponce, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 317-000-006-05-901). The coordinates of the project site are 18.103958, -66.616201.

The farm has been used for agricultural purposes in the past with the growing of coffee and currently is used for the growing of ornamentals, tomatoes, pineapple, and cucumber.

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

The intent use of funds includes the Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks, 1,000 gallons each, at coordinates 18.102674, -66.615404. The tanks will be installed on a gravel bed to be constructed on an elevated area of the farm. The tanks will be used for rain harvesting and irrigation of the ornamentals cropping area located at coordinates 18.103760, -66.616163. The irrigation system consists of approximately 480 linear feet (ft) of an above ground PVC piping system that will convey rainwater collection from the tanks to the ornamentals area. No water or power

connections are needed for the proposed SOW. Irrigation system will work by gravity due to the difference in elevations between the tanks and the ornamentals area and will be used for storage of rainwater.

No new water or electric connection to local utility services is required. Applicant provides power requirements for the operation of the farm with a use of photovoltaic system.

The project site will require clearing, grading, and vegetation removal. However, proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees.

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

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

The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) will increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. The purpose of this project is to increase the productivity of the farm. This agricultural project associated with the installation of five (5) water tanks and the irrigation system is keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The land proposed for the installation of five (5) water tanks and the irrigation system is used for agricultural purposes. The farm has been used for agricultural purposes in the past with the growing of coffee and currently is used for the growing of ornamentals, tomatoes, pineapple, and cucumber. The parcel is located in a rural, mountainous terrain with mature vegetation surrounding the property. The residence is downhill from the entrance to the property with a paved access road. The proposed project area for the scope of work is located on a mostly maintained vegetated area. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with the project. Some ground disturbance will be required.

Structure of this Environmental Review Report (ERR).

This ERR discusses the Funding Information immediately below. The environmental impacts of the proposed action are discussed in the Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities checklist and Environmental Factors checklist. The listing of Additional Studies Performed, and Sources, Agencies and Persons Consulted follows the checklists. The discussions of Public Outreach, Cumulative Impacts, Alternatives, and Summary of Findings and Conclusions are presented at the end of the ERR, before the listing of Mitigation Measures and Determination signatures. The appendices contain detailed information.

Appendix A – Site Inspection

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

Funding Information

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

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$13,792.50

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$13,810.00

Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities

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

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6		
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The nearest civil airport, “Mercedita International Airport”, is approximately 35,434 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport, “Luis Muñoz Marin” is approximately 241,064 feet from the proposed site. The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The project is in compliance with

		Airport Hazards requirements. Refer to Figure 2 in Appendix B.
<p>Coastal Barrier Resources</p> <p>Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Puerto Rico has various Coastal Barrier Resources Systems (CBRS). The project is southern Puerto Rico. The distance to the nearest CBRS unit is 46,684 feet. The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. Refer to Figure 3 in Appendix B.</p>
<p>Flood Insurance</p> <p>Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The Project site is located in Zone X, area of minimal flood hazard, as per Floodplain Insurance Map 72000C1655J, effective date November 18, 2009. This project is in compliance with Floodplain Insurance requirements. (See Figures 4 and 5 in Appendix B.)</p>

STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5		
<p>Clean Air</p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Project site is located in the Municipio of Ponce. The Project site is not located in a county or air quality management district that is in attainment status or non-attainment status for any criteria pollutants. The list of Municipios locates with non-attainment status includes Arecibo, Bayamon, Cataño, Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan and Toa Baja. The Municipio of Ponce is not listed in the EPA Green Book "Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for all Criteria Pollutants" (See the List in Appendix C). The installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system would have no impact on air quality. The project is in compliance with Clean Air Act. Refer to EPA listing in Appendix C.</p>
<p>Coastal Zone Management</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The project is located 34,664 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone</p>

<p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)</p>		<p>Management area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the PR Coastal Zone Management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See Figure 7 in Appendix B.</p>
<p>Contamination and Toxic Substances</p> <p>24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. A site visit conducted on January 2, 2024, no debris or rubbish or visible signs vegetative stress, contamination, or toxic substances were noted at the project site.</p> <p>Site contamination was evaluated through online data searches to determine if toxic sites are located within 3,000-feet of the proposed project.</p> <p>The PRASA Ponce Sewage Treatment Plant, 2,941 feet southwest of the project site, is a RCRA and a CWA listed site. As a RCRA site it is considered inactive with no violations over the last 3 years. As a CWA site it is permitted with 4 Limit Violations over the past three years, 3 listed as "Reportable Noncompliance" from January 2021 thru September 2021 and one with each violation in the last reported quarter of 2024 (January-May). The project site is located to the northeast of the PRASA Ponce Sewage Treatment Plant. Due to its topography, slope, hydrographic conditions and distances from the site there would not be any impacts to the project site. Additional, See ECHO report in Appendix C.</p> <p>Refer to Figures 8 and 9 in Appendix B and the Site inspection report and photos in Appendix A. The project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances.</p>
<p>Endangered Species</p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system.</p> <p>According to EPA NEPAAssist Enviromapper, the nearest critical or proposed critical habitat is 39,523 feet to the southwest of the project location. The Official Species List from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for</p>

Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website lists the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk, Puerto Rican broad-winged, Puerto Rican parrot and Puerto Rico Harlequin Butterfly as being able to be found in the area, but there are no critical habitats for them at this location.

A site-specific review of endangered species was conducted in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended: 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) (See **Appendix D**).

Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, and IpaC D-Key, it was determined that there would be No Effect for Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk, Puerto Rican broad-winged and Puerto Rican parrot.

The project is Not Likely to Adversely Affect the Puerto Rican Boa and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, provided conservation measures are implemented as part of the project. Informal consultation with USFWS was completed and they concurred with determinations and state determinations.

If a Puerto Rican Boa is encountered, work will cease until it moves off the site or, failing that, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers will be notified for safe capture and relocation of the animal, in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures.

If a worker believes they have spotted a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly, work should cease within the area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #s: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124).

Refer to Figures 10 and 11 in **Appendix B** and the Endangered Species Package in **Appendix D**. This

		project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.
<p>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The project does not include development, construction, or rehabilitation that will increase residential density.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable Hazard requirements.</p> <p>Refer to site visit report in Appendix A.</p>
<p>Farmlands Protection</p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The project site is not designated as farmland of statewide importance or prime farmland. The project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to nonagricultural use. Although the project includes new construction, the project is exempt from review under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FFPA) as the project is limited to construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations. No further review is required.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. Refer to Figure 12 in Appendix B.</p>
<p>Floodplain Management</p> <p>Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The Project site is not located in a 100-year floodplain per Floodplain Insurance Rate Map 72000C1655J, effective date November 18, 2009. The project site is not located in an Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) special flood hazard area.</p> <p>PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canóvanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The</p>

		<p>proposed project is located in the municipality of Ponce; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. See Figures 4, 5 and 6 in Appendix B.</p>
<p>Historic Preservation</p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system.</p> <p>The site was evaluated on February 8, 2024, by an SOI Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian. Additionally, the site was evaluated on January 30, 2024, by an SOI Qualified Archaeologist. SHPO concurred with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected within the project's Area of Potential on Effects on February 29, 2024.</p> <p>Refer to Figure 13 in Appendix B and the Section 106 Consultation Package in Appendix E. This project is in compliance with Historic Preservation requirements.</p>
<p>Noise Abatement and Control</p> <p>Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. HUD's noise regulations protect residential properties from excessive noise exposure. HUD noise regulations do not apply as the project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The proposed project is in compliance with Noise Abatement and Control.</p>
<p>Sole Source Aquifers</p> <p>Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The nearest Sole Source Aquifer is 5,337,760 feet to the northwest of the project site. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.</p> <p>Refer to Figure 17 in Appendix B.</p>

<p>Wetlands Protection</p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The south coast is 45,250 feet south of the property. The closest fresh-water bodies include an unnamed creek 1,900 feet southeast of the property.</p> <p>There are no NWI mapped wetlands within or adjacent to the project area.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. Refer to Figure 14 in Appendix B.</p>
<p>Wild and Scenic Rivers</p> <p>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. This project is not within proximity of a National Wild and Scenic River (WSR). The distance to the nearest WSR is approximately 293,069 feet. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Refer to Figure 15 in Appendix B.</p>

<p>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</p>		
<p>Environmental Justice</p> <p>Executive Order 12898</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. No adverse environmental impacts were identified in any other compliance review portion of this project that may disproportionately be high for low-income and/or minority communities. Therefore, this topic complies with Executive Order 12898.</p>

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

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

(1) Minor beneficial impact

(2) No impact anticipated

(3) Minor Adverse Impact – May require mitigation

(4) Significant or potentially significant impact requiring avoidance or modification which may require an Environmental Impact Statement

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
LAND DEVELOPMENT		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The proposed project is located on a private farm. The project site is not zoned. The proposed action is compliant with the current agricultural land use of the Project area and will not contribute to urban sprawl.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The proposed project is located in rolling terrain, previously used for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>Soils in the proposed project area are classified as Caguabo gravelly clay loam, 20 to 60 percent slopes (CbF2); Consumo clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes (CuF2); and Mucara silty clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded (MuF2), surrounded by farmland with secondary forest vegetation cover further east 165 meters above mean sea level.</p> <p>Projects larger than 1 acre must comply with the CWA and develop a SWPPP with the NPDES. The proposed project area is approximately 0.83 acres.</p> <p>The project site will require clearing, grading, and vegetation removal. However, proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees. Activities involving the excavation or movement of any component of the terrestrial cortex material that exceeds five hundred (500) cubic meters and up to a maximum of five thousand (5,000) cubic meters require the submittal</p>

		<p>and approval of a Simple Terrestrial Cortex Removal Permit. Applications are submitted via the Single Business Portal of the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by terrestrial Cortex Extraction Permit Division of the PRDNER.</p> <p>The project site area is rated “high” for landslide susceptibility. There will be no human habitation associated with the structure and therefore extensive mitigation measures will not be required, such as retaining walls or special engineering design.</p> <p>There will be little to no additional runoff associated with the project.</p>
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. During implementation of the project, construction activities may result in temporary elevation of ambient noise levels in immediate areas around active construction areas. The only nearby receptors are the residents of the farm. There is no access to the project area by the public.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. Temporary employment of workers related to construction activities would result, but no new permanent jobs would be created as a result of this project. These workers are expected to come from the local region. However, since the project will include an economic component, it may aid in restoring some employment opportunities and increase income.</p> <p>The proposed project would not negatively impact employment or income patterns.</p>
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The proposed project would not result in demographic character changes or displacement. Given the nature of the project area, no relocations or

		demolition of residential structures or businesses would occur as part of this project.
Environmental Justice	2	In the area (one mile radius) in which project will occur. 100% are people of color compared to PR average of 96%. 83% are low income compared to PR average of 70%. 16% are unemployed compared to PR average of 15%. The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. This project will result in restoration and increase in income and potential employment opportunities in the local area. The impacts would be beneficial. See EJSscreen Report in Appendix C

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The project would not result in any change to regional or local area educational and cultural facilities or increase demand for them.
Commercial Facilities	2	The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The agricultural activity of the project property will improve. Other commercial facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. Health care and social services facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project. The project would not increase demand for health care and social services facilities.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. Waste vegetation from clearing activities will

		<p>either be composted on site or at regional composting centers. Soil from grading would be recycled on the farm as fill. Left over construction materials that could be reused on the farm (e.g., piping, gravel) would be stored for later use. The remaining construction solid waste materials would be collected for transport to the local landfill. The amount of impact of solid waste resulting from the construction of the proposed project would be minor. During operations, the products and by-products would be agricultural, which waste would be biodegradable. Other waste components related to the operation of the proposed project includes recyclable materials such as plastics and cardboard. Recyclables will be set aside and dispose according to the local recycling management plan.</p>
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The proposed project would not include any bathrooms, wastewater, or sewage facilities. Current farm conditions would remain unchanged.</p>
Water Supply	2	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The SOW does not involve water connections or use water for operational purposes. Irrigation system will work by gravity due to the difference in elevations between the rainwater collection tanks and the ornamentals area and will be used for storage of rainwater. The proposed project does not represent an increase in current water demand.</p>
Public Safety – Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The proposed project would not create any new demand for emergency or health services.</p>
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The proposed project would not create or destroy any new parks, open space, or recreational activities. It also would not increase use of those facilities.</p>
Transportation and Accessibility	2	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The proposed project would not involve the</p>

		creation of new roads nor any increase in long-term traffic on existing roads. There would be some minor use of the existing road during construction. All residents and businesses would retain access to their properties during and after the project.
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Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The proposed project will be situated on land previously used for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>The proposed project will have no impact to unique natural features or water resources.</p>
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	<p>The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The proposed project will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity.</p> <p>Waste vegetation from clearing activities will either be composted on site or at regional composting centers. Soil from grading would be recycled on the farm as fill. The project site will require clearing, grading, and vegetation removal. Proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees.</p> <p>The proposed project will have minimal impact on vegetation and no impact on wildlife.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
CLIMATE AND ENERGY		
Climate Change Impacts	2	The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The project area is rural and does not have urban heat island effects. There would be no changes to the site configuration or structure that would specifically address the possibility and uncertainty of rising sea levels or the possibility of increases in rainfall intensity. Proposal includes 5 storage tanks for a 5,000 gallons storage capacity. Water will be used on an "as needed" basis to minimize the possible impact of drought. However, due to the location of project in an area of a young secondary montane wet noncalcareous evergreen forest, drought is not expected. This is a small agricultural project with no measurable impact on climate change factors.
Energy Efficiency/Energy Consumption	2	The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. The proposed project is an agricultural project that does not involve energy use. Applicant provides power requirements for the operation of the farm with a use of photovoltaic system. There would be no change in energy demand in the area.

Additional Studies Performed: None required.

Field Inspection (Date and completed by):

Site inspection was conducted on January 2, 2024 by Javier Ramos.

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

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems:

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

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, Puerto Rico [map](http://www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf).
www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf

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

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

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

US Environmental Protection Agency, National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Nonattainment Areas for Criteria Pollutants (Green Book):
www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo_pr.html

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Conservation Online System:
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/report/species-listings-by-state?stateAbbrev=PR&stateName=Puerto%20Rico&statusCategory=Listed>

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

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

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

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

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

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

List of Permits Obtained:

None

Public Outreach [24 CFR 58.43]:

The local community has been very proactive in the recovery process. Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture has worked closely with the agricultural community. The project will include a FONSI / NOI-RROF in compliance with NEPA regulations for HUD.

Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]:

In accordance with 24 CFR 58.32 (Aggregation), there are no cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project. The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system.

The project would allow more space for the storage of rainwater leading to a more efficient processing and growing of the agricultural products. The SOW does not involve the connection to electric or water utilities. Applicant provides power requirements for the operation of the farm with a use of photovoltaic system. Therefore, water and power use would not increase with the installation of the water tanks and the irrigation system and should have no impact on the local utilities supply or demand.

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

The RGRW Program's goal is to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island-wide. This Program seeks to enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. Alternative locations off and on property may represent an impact to undisturbed and/or uneven ground, sloped terrain or within forested areas, which could require heavier clearing and grading activities. Any alternative that would involve an off-property location might require the purchase of land, the need for storage area, the movement of products, equipment, infrastructure, water and power utility connections, among others, representing an additional cost. An off-property alternative will not enhance and expand agricultural production or allow for the economic development for this applicant. Given the above-mentioned possible impacts of an alternative location, an off-property alternative was not selected.

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

The project consists of a Scope of Work of the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks and an irrigation system. Under the No Action Alternative, the applicant would not receive federal funding for the proposed action, which would inhibit the economic growth opportunity that the applicant would not otherwise have under the PRDOH Re-Grow Puerto Rico program. As a result, these owners may not be able to experience the growth needed to recover and expand their agriculture activities. A provision of the grant allows for economic development for businesses. The No-Action alternative would not allow for the economic development for this applicant.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions:

The proposed activity has been found to not have any adverse effects on the environment nor is there the requirement for further consultation with federal agencies associated with the topics evaluated above. There are no environmental review topics addressed above that result in the need for additional formal compliance steps with federal agencies or the requirement for mitigations other than those listed below. There may be additional approvals or permits from local agencies. For example, permits may

be required from PRDNER for any water or other utility connections and the Office of Permit Management (OGPe) is responsible for granting permits, licenses, certifications, consultations, construction, and any other procedure necessary for business development and land use in Puerto Rico. The appropriate and necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor, from the appropriate Department or concerned agency, prior to construction activities.

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

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

The environmental review topics addressed in this environmental review include all formal compliance steps with federal agencies and mitigations (listed in table below) needed for compliance with 24 CFR 58.

Any permits or approvals that have been issued during the preparation of this environmental review have been included in the evaluation of impacts and mitigations. Any special permit conditions or requirements associated with these permits are listed in the Mitigation Measures and Conditions table below.

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction.
Endangered Species	<p>Implement Puerto Rican Boa conservation measures prior to and during construction to avoid or minimize impacts to this species. If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa. PRDNER phone #: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124.</p> <p>Implement Puerto Rico Harlequin Butterfly conservation measures prior to and during construction to avoid or minimize impacts to this species. If a worker believes they have spotted a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly, work should cease within the area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources</p>

	(PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #s: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124).
Permits or Agency Approvals Required	
Permit or Approval	Permit Conditions
Ground disturbance	Projects whose earthworks are more than 40 m ³ must submit an Incidental Permit. The permit must be submitted via the Single Business Portal to the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by the Water Quality Division of the PRDNER. Any necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor prior to construction activities.
Clearing activities	Activities involving the excavation or movement of any component of the terrestrial cortex material that exceeds five hundred (500) cubic meters and up to a maximum of five thousand (5,000) cubic meters require the submittal and approval of a Simple Terrestrial Cortex Removal Permit. Applications are submitted via the Single Business Portal of the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by terrestrial Cortex Extraction Permit Division of the PRDNER.

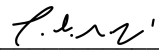
Determination:

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


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

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

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

Preparer Signature:  Date: 5/14/2024

Name/Title/Organization: Carlos Medina, Environmental Specialist, Tetra Tech Inc.

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: June 4, 2024

Name/Title: Santa D. Ramirez Lebron / Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist

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

APPENDIX A

Site Inspection and Photos

Environmental Field Observation - Puerto Rico Department of Housing

APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Application ID	PR-RGRW-04118		
Applicant Name	Del Sur Farms, Inc.		
Property Address	PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano		
Parcel ID	317-000-006-05		
Coordinates	18.103958, -66.616201		
Inspector Name	Javier Ramos		
Inspection Date	01/02/2024		
Building Type	Lean To		
Number of Units	1		
Number of Stories	1		
Year Built; Data Source	----; Historian		
ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS (attach photos and notes, as necessary, for any YES answers)			
OBSERVATION ITEMS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
A. Is the structure in use?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Applicant house
B. Is structure a greenhouse?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tomatoes growing
C. Is Electricity connected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Applicant use a solar system to have electricity
D. Is water connected? (Utilities or Well)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
1. Are there signs of poor housekeeping on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Are there any 55-gallon drums visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Are there any (or signs of any) underground storage tanks on the property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Are there signs of ASTs on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5. Is there any stained soil or pavement on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6. Is a water drainage system in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of Fertilizer or Pesticides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Are there any groundwater monitoring wells on the site or adjacent parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Is there evidence of a faulty septic system?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Is there distressed vegetation on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11. Is there any visible indication of MOLD?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

12. Is there any visible evidence of asbestos, chipping, flaking or peeling paint, or hazardous materials present in or on the structure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
13. Are any additional site hazards observed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
14. Is there any permanent standing water , such as a pond or stream, located on the site (do not include ponding from recent rain / weather events)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
15. Does the subject property have water frontage ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
16. Is there any indication of the presence of Wetlands ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
17. Are there any obvious signs of animals or birds nesting on or near the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
18. Is the applicant aware of any significant historical event or persons associated with the structure, or of it being located in a historic district/area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
19. Is a historic marker present?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Additional Notes:

Case: PR-RGRW-04118

Project Name: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201

Is the field graded? For what purpose the field was graded? Month, Year: None

Scope of Work: The proposed project includes the purchase and installation of an irrigation system and water tank.

Land current in use for: The farm is used for ornamentals, tomatoes, pineapple, and cucumber.

Past Land use was: The farm was used to grow coffee.

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

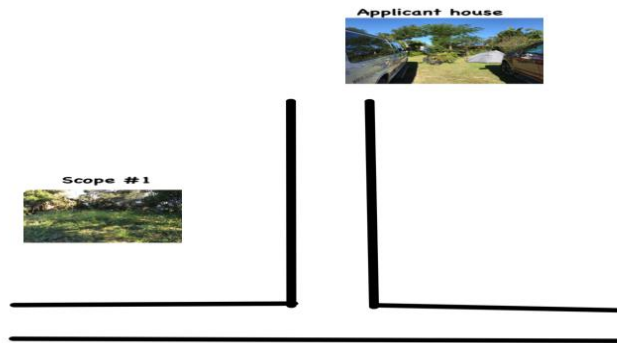
Scope of work: 18.102674, -66.615404 The applicant is proposing a 5,000-gallon water tanks installation to collect rainwater that would be above ground on a gravel bed. The water would be distributed with an above ground PVC pipe system. The PCV system would be arriving in the plantations in coordinates 18.103760, -66.616163. The water tank would be in an elevated area and the system will work with gravity.

Any new water connection or power connection?

No new connections needed.

If the scope of work included tools, machinery, or farms products, Where the applicant will be storing them? N/A

Site Sketch



Front of Structure

Photo Direction: Northwest



Facing Away From Front

Photo Direction: Southeast



Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction: West



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction: East



Back of Structure

Photo Direction: Northwest



Facing Away From Back

Photo Direction: Southeast



Side #2 of Structure

Photo Direction: Southeast



Facing Away From Side #2

Photo Direction: Northwest



Streetscape #1

Photo Direction: Northeast



Streetscape #2

Photo Direction: Southwest



Address

Photo Direction: Northwest



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Applicant house

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: West



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

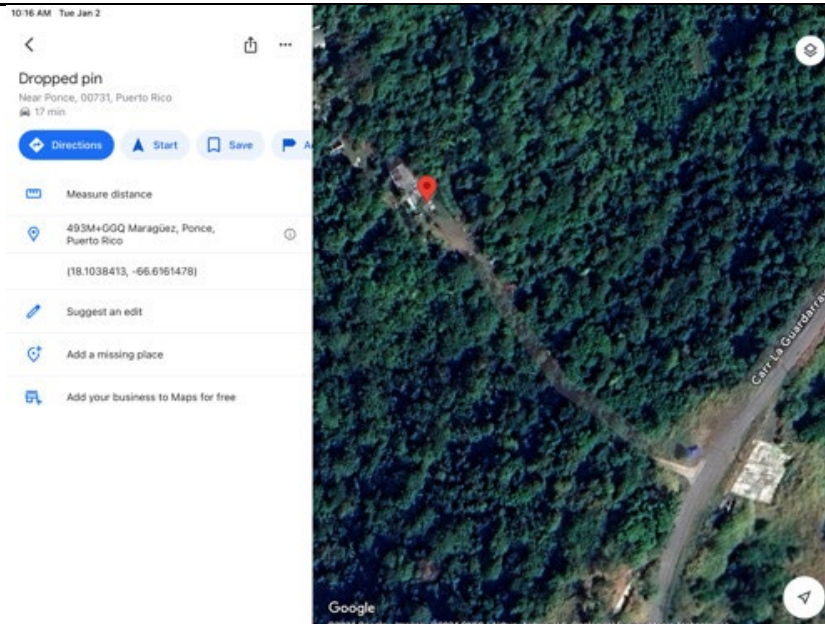
Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Applicant house

Photo Direction: West



Greenhouse Photos

Photo Description: Green house

Photo Direction: Northwest



Electricity Connected

Photo Description: Solar system

Photo Direction: Southwest



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a water tanks system

Photo Direction: Northeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a water tanks system

Photo Direction: Southeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a water tanks system

Photo Direction: West



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a water tanks system

Photo Direction: Southeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a water tanks system (route of the PVC tube system overground)

Photo Direction: Southeast



Scope Of Work

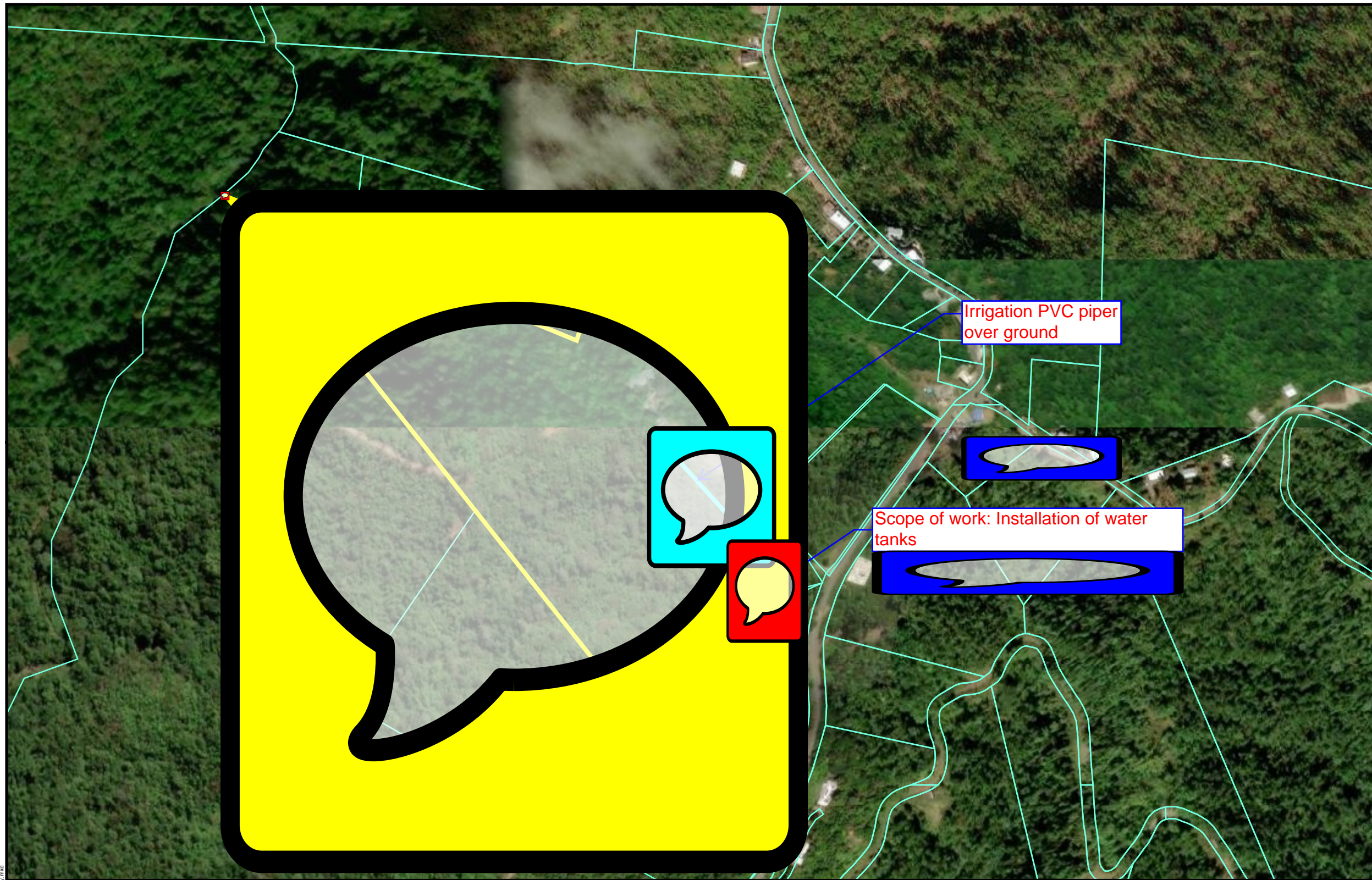
Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a water tanks system (end area for the PVC tube system overground)

Photo Direction: Southeast



APPENDIX B

Maps



- Legend**
- Project Parcel
 - Parcels
 - Area of Potential Effect
 - Project Parcel Boundaries
 - Water connection



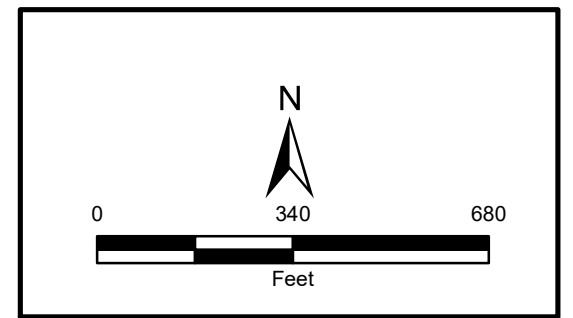
Figure 1: PROJECT LOCATION

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731

Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

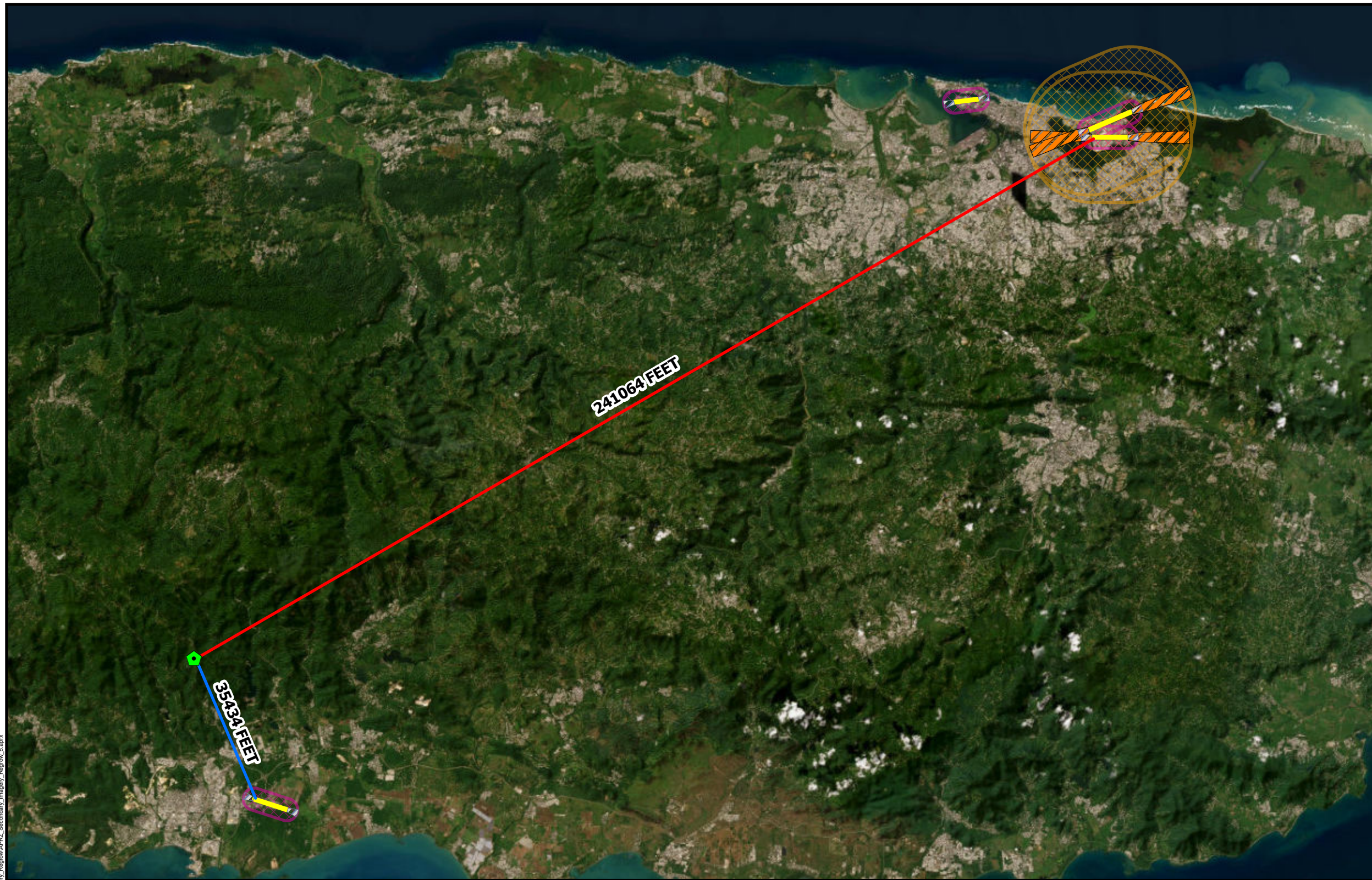
Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958 , -66.616201



Source: CRIM
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>

Author: TG Date: 3/22/2024

File Path: Z:\data\USRT\Tier\PR\LOI_Region_Secundary_Images.mxd



Legend

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

**Distance to Nearest Airport
in Feet: 35,434**

**Distance to Nearest Civilian Airport
in Feet: 35,434**

**Distance to Nearest Military Airport
in Feet: 241,064**

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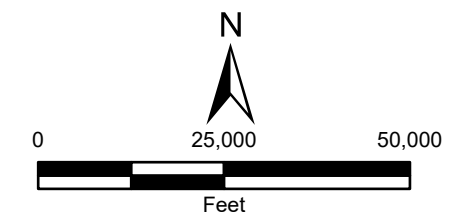
Figure 2: AIRPORT ZONES
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

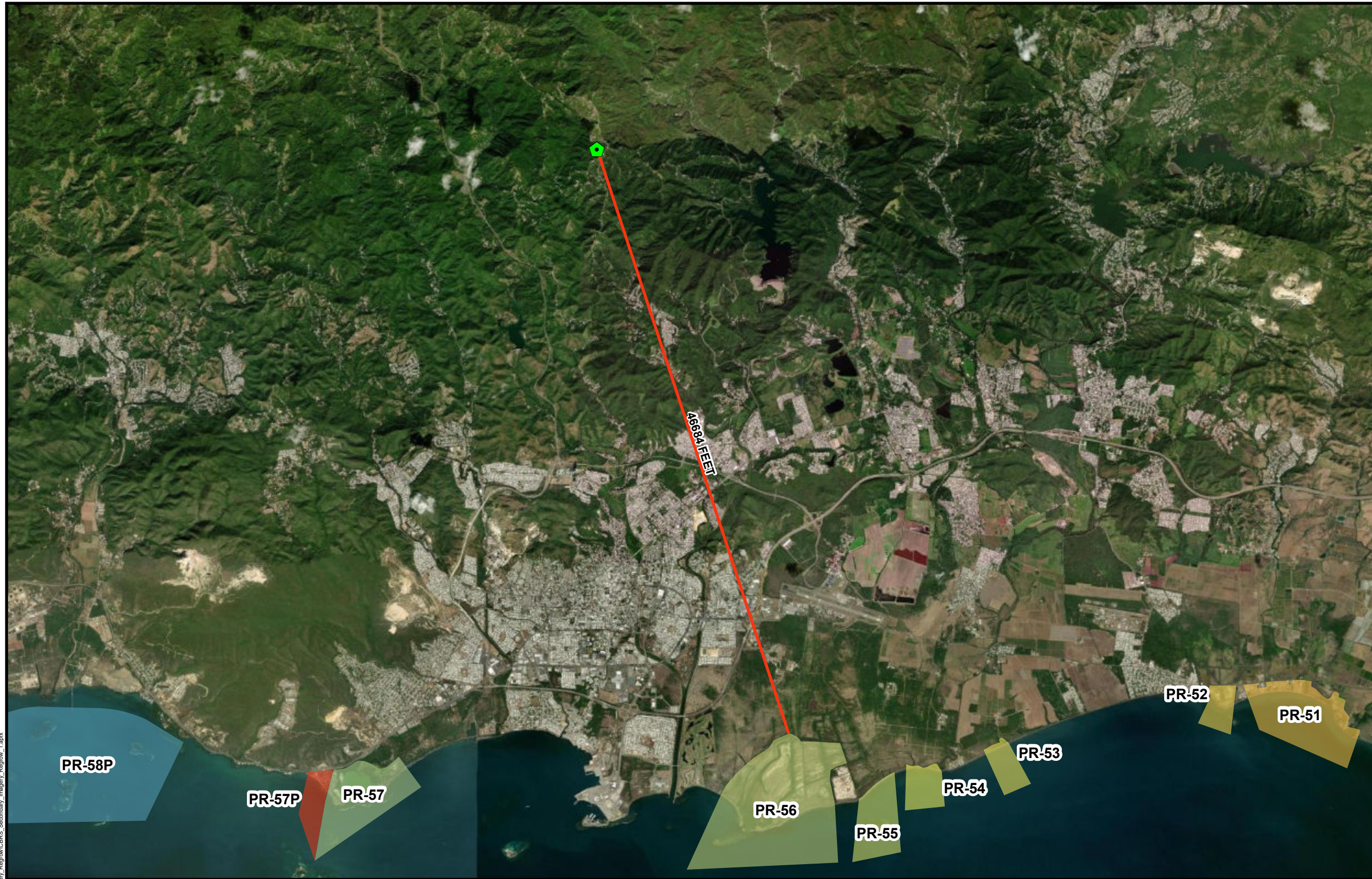
ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce PR 00731
Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.
Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958 , -66.616201



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

Author: TG Date: 5/3/2024





- Legend**
- Project Parcel
 - Coastal Barrier Resources System Boundary**
 - Unit**
 - PR-51
 - PR-52
 - PR-53
 - PR-54
 - PR-55
 - PR-56
 - PR-57P
 - PR-58P

Distance to Nearest Coastal Barrier Resources System:
46684 Feet

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

Author: TG

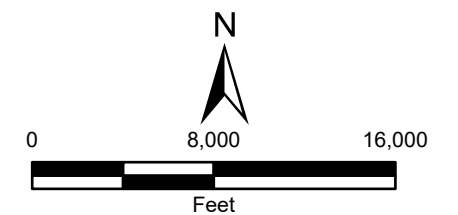
Date: 10/17/2023

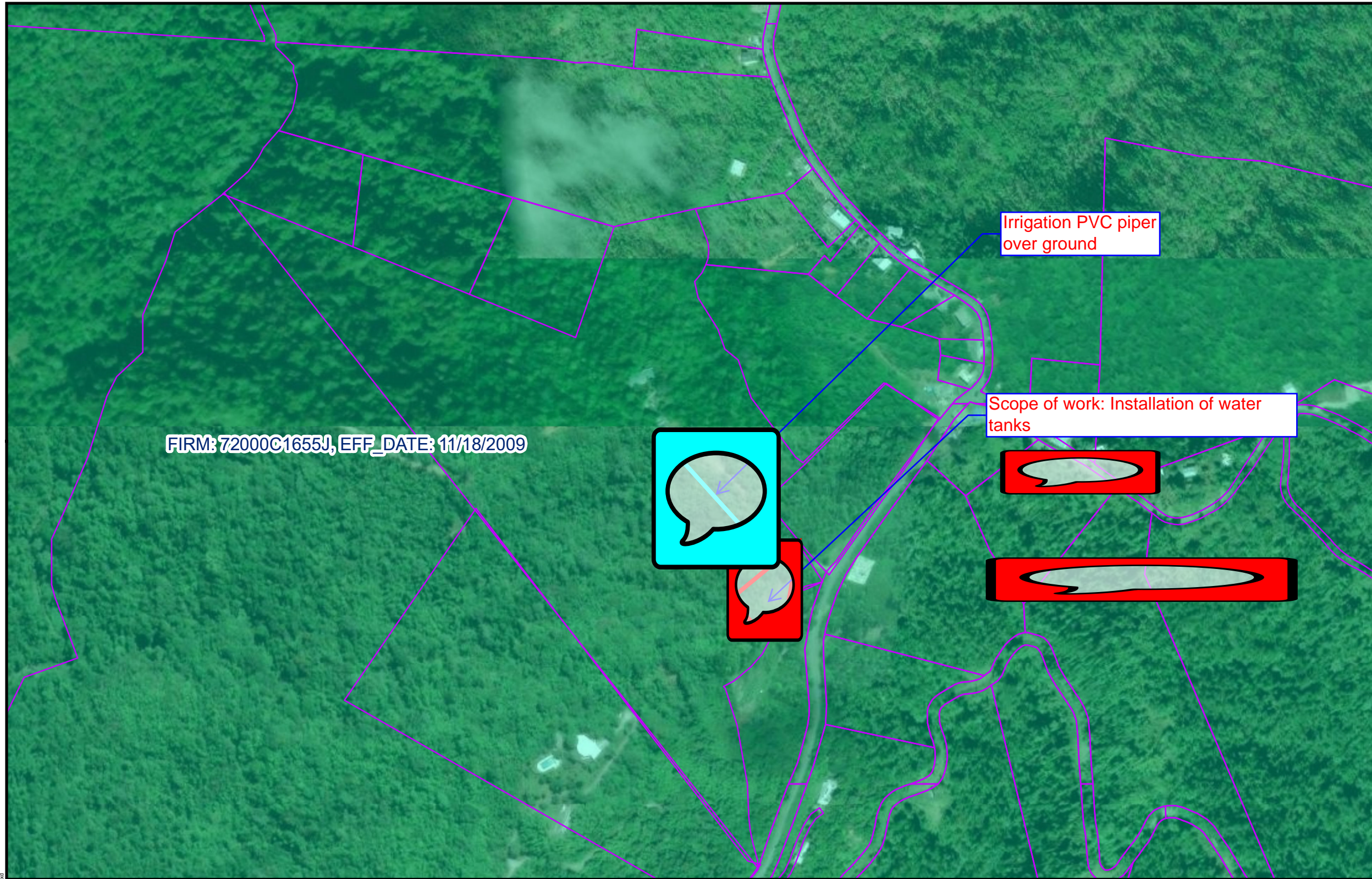
Figure 3: COASTAL BARRIERS IMPROVEMENT ACT
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731

Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201





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

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Figure 4: FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731

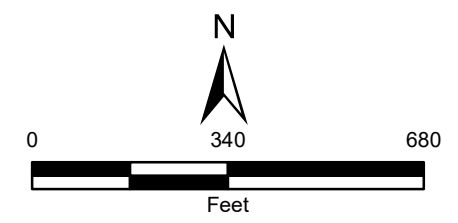
Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201

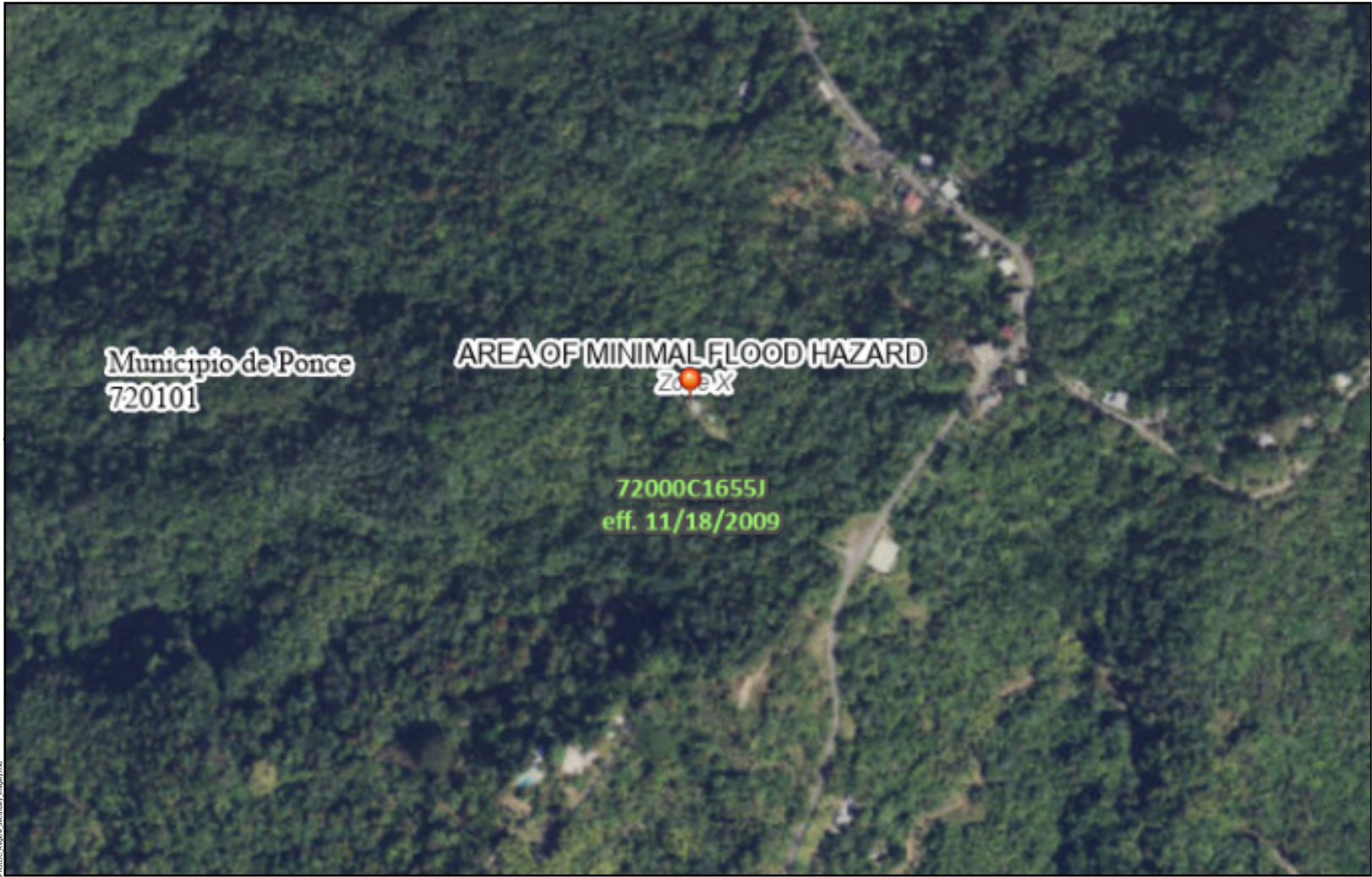


Source: FEMA
<https://msc.fema.gov>

Author: TG Date: 4/8/2024



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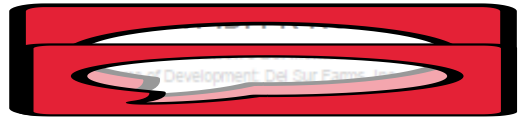
Legend

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

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

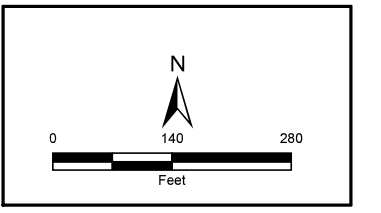


FIGURE 5: NATIONAL FLOOD HAZARD LAYER FIRMETTE

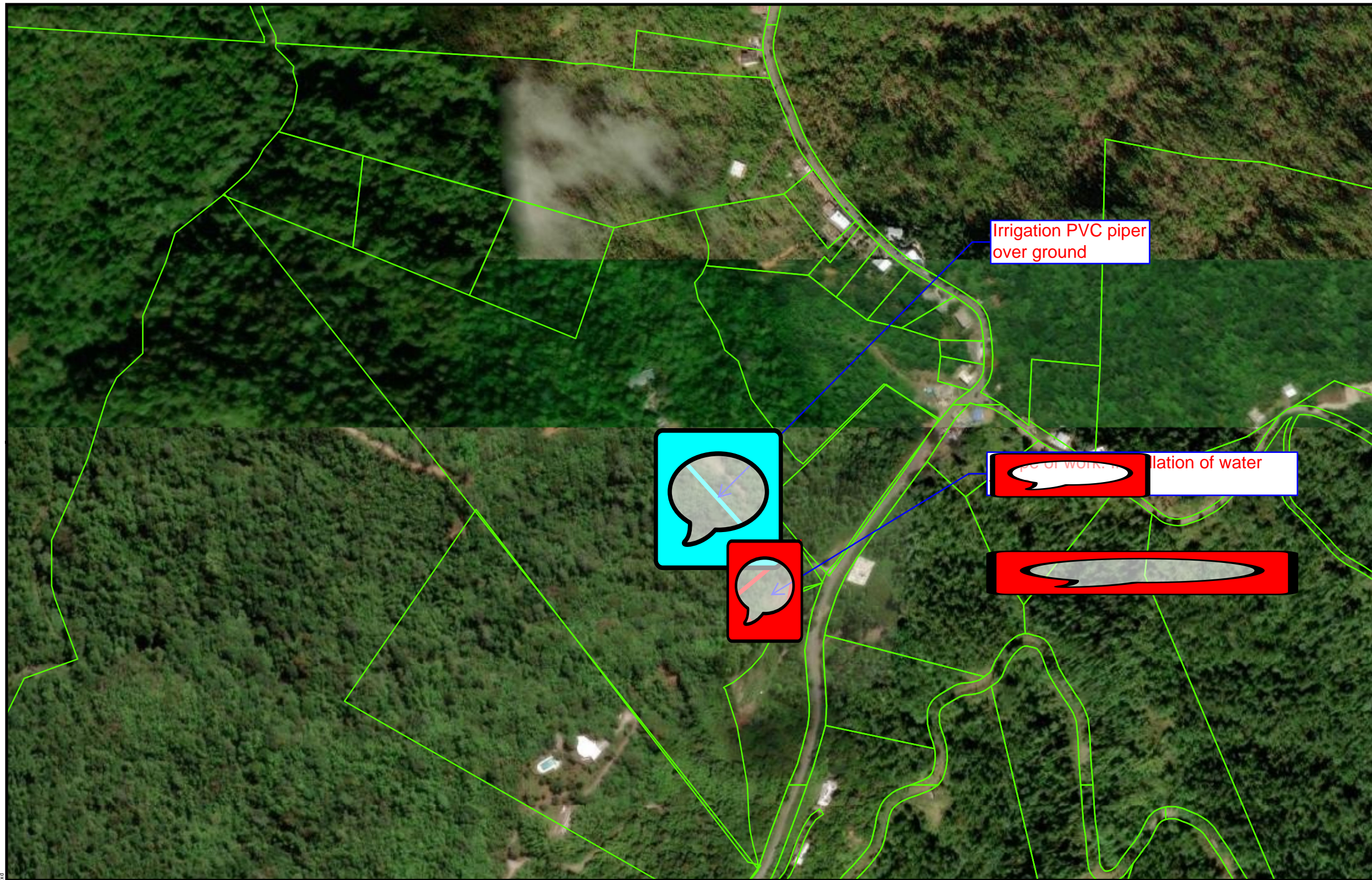


Source: FEMA
<https://www.msc.fema.gov>

Author: TG Date: 5/31/2023



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- Legend**
- Project Parcel
 - Parcels
 - ABFE Flood Zone**
 - A
 - AE
 - AO
 - VE
 - X
 - Area of Potential Effect
 - Water connection



Figure 6: ADVISORY BASE FLOOD ELEVATION

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731

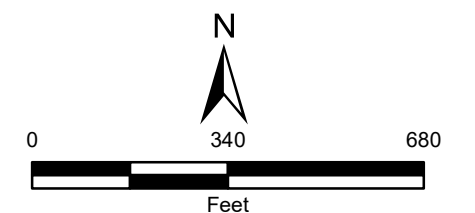
Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Parcel Coordinates : 18.103958 , -66.616201

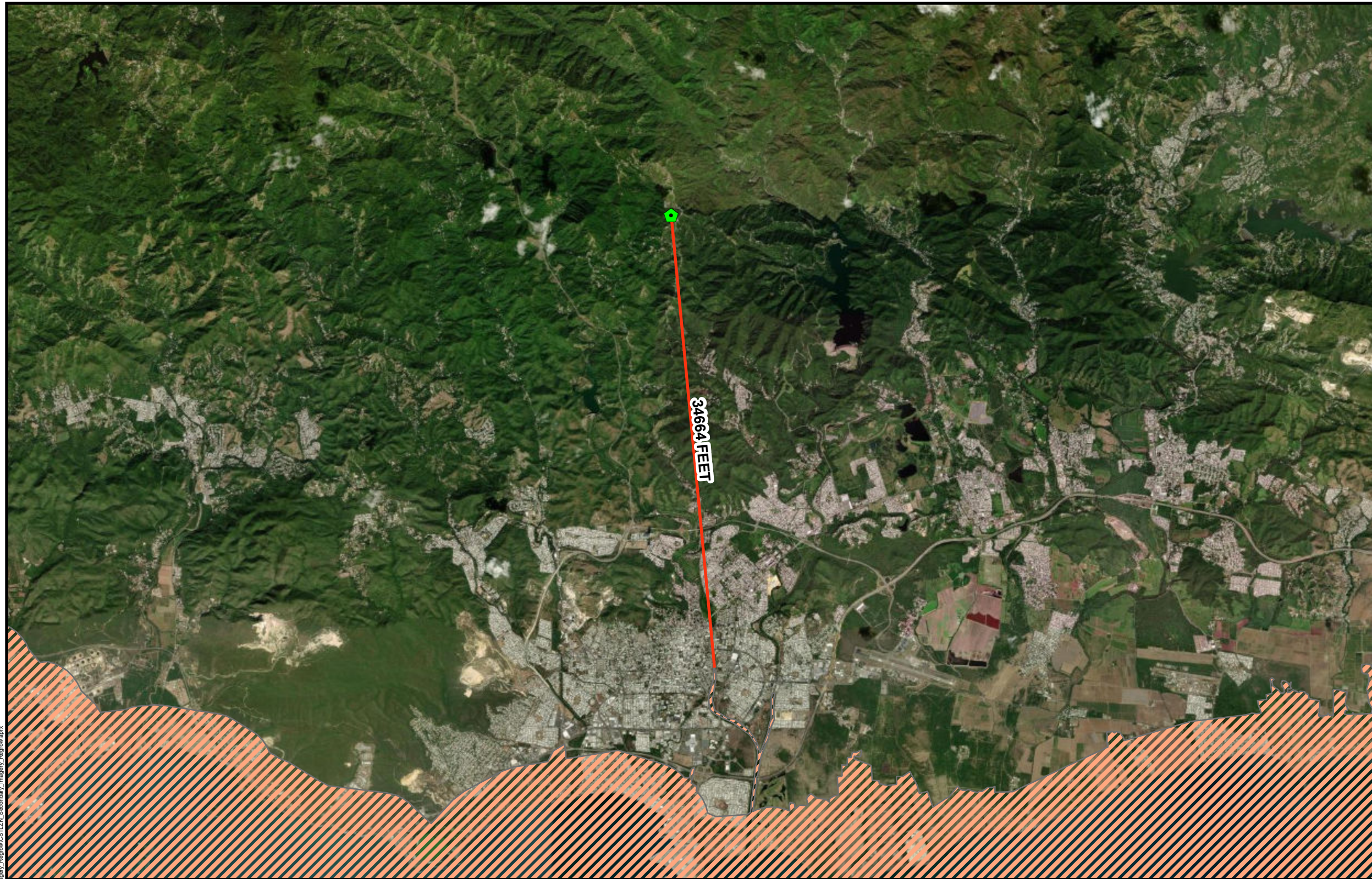


Source: FEMA
<https://gis.fema.gov>



Author: TG Date: 3/22/2024



File Path: Z:\data\USPRT\Tier2\ABFE_Secundary_Imagery_Register.mxd



Legend

-  Project Parcel
-  Coastal Zone Management Boundary

Distance to Nearest Coastal Zone:
34664 Feet

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Figure 7: COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731

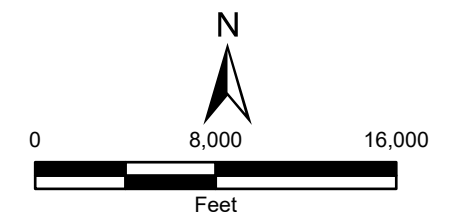
Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

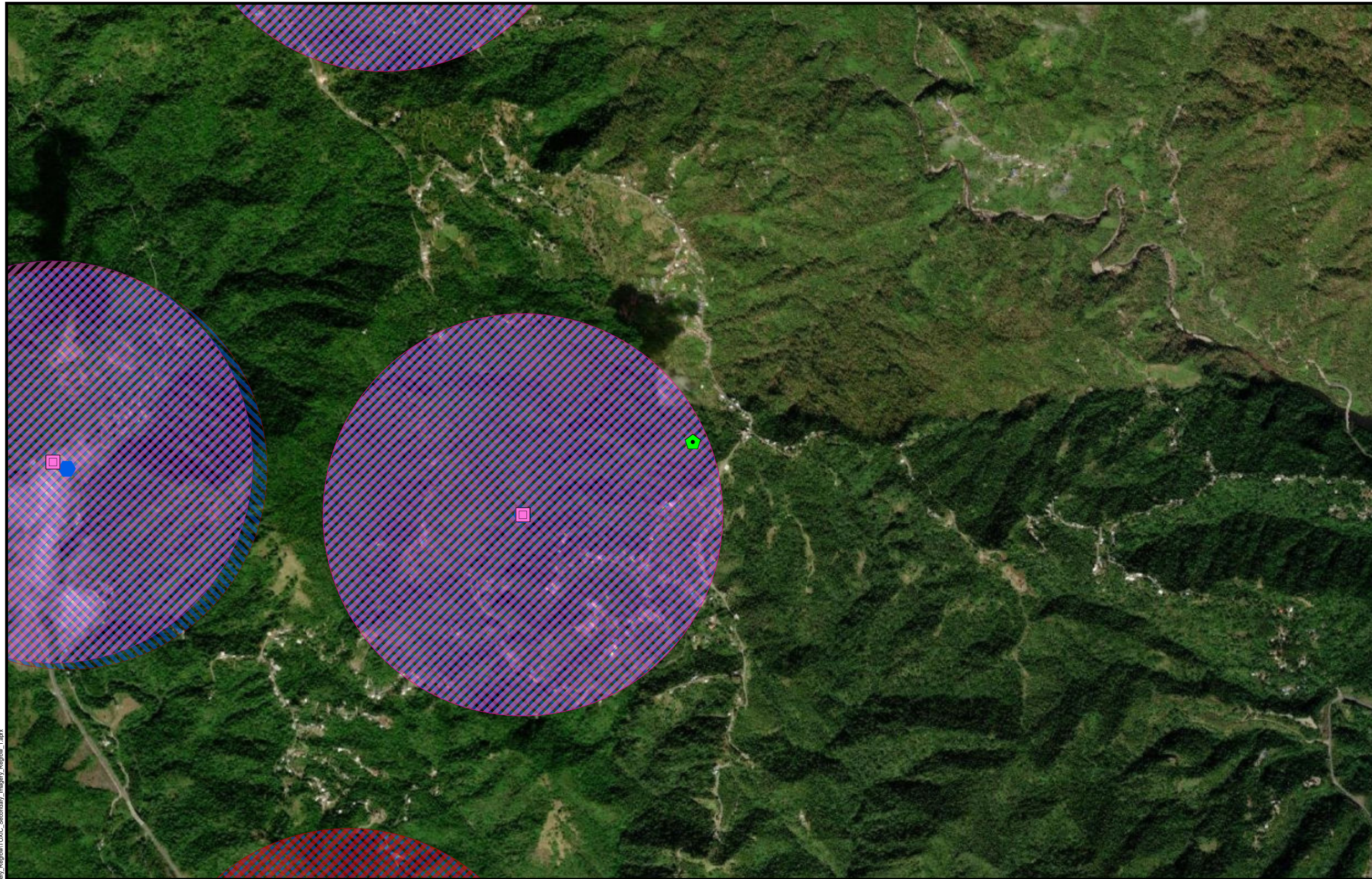
Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201



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

Author: TG Date: 10/17/2023





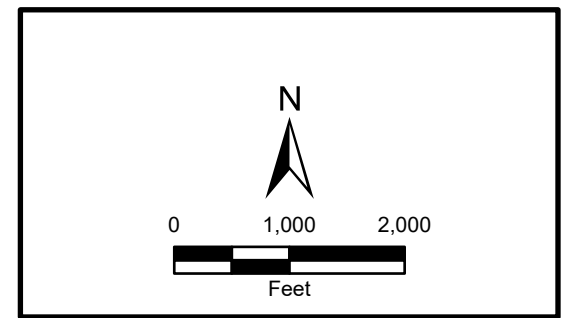
- Legend**
- Project Parcel
 - AIR
 - NPDES
 - RCRA
 - Toxic Release Inventory Site
 - Superfund Site
 - Brownfield Sites
 - 3000 Ft Buffer AIR
 - 3000 Ft Buffer NPDES
 - 3000 Ft Buffer TRI
 - 3000 Ft Buffer Superfund
 - 3000 Ft Buffer RCRA
 - 3000 Ft Buffer Brownfield

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Figure 8: TOXIC CHEMICALS AND GASES, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, CONTAMINATION, AND RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731
 Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201

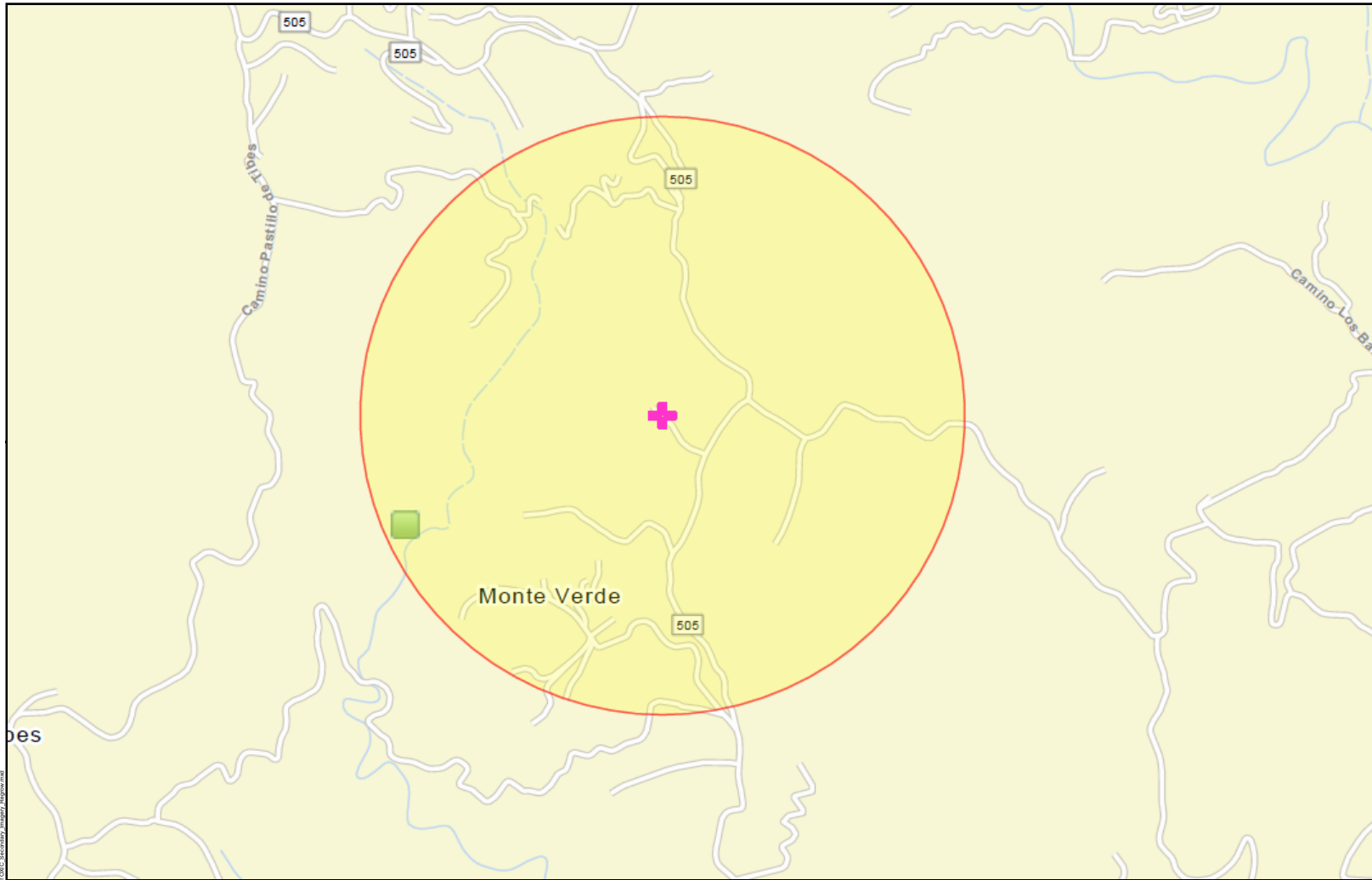


Source: E.P.A.

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

Author: JB/AK Date: 1/3/2024

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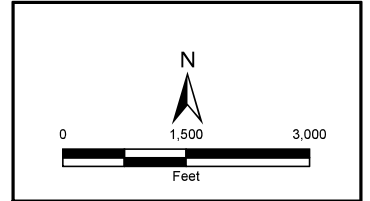


- Legend**
- Superfund (NPL)
 - Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
 - Toxic Releases (TRI)
 - Brownfields (ACRES)
 - Hazardous Waste (RCRAInfo)
 - Water Dischargers (NPDES)
 - Air Pollution (ICIS-AIR)
 - 3000 Ft Buffer
 - + Project Parcel

PUERTO RICO



Figure 9: NEPA Assist Map



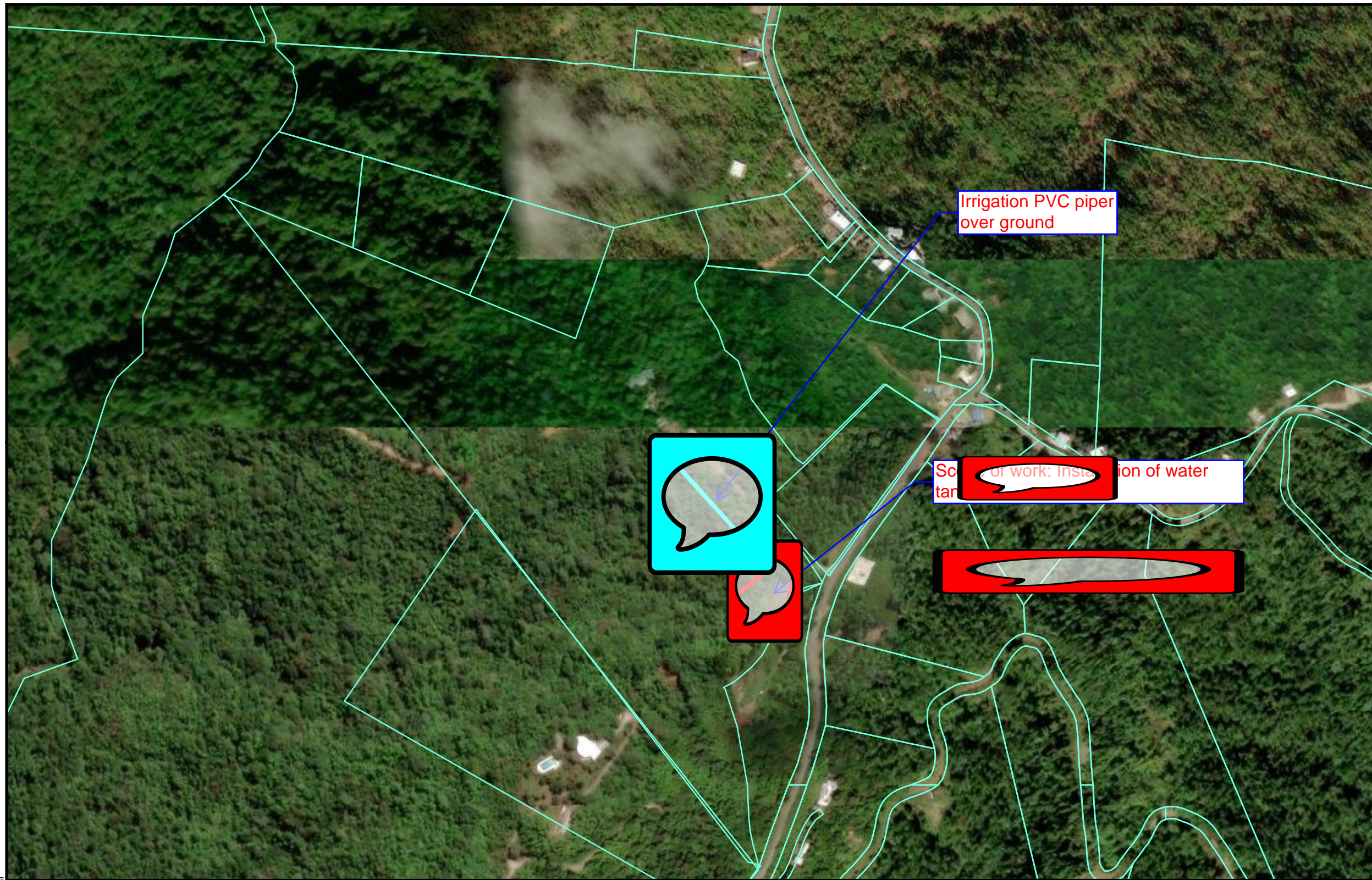
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<https://www.epa.gov/frs/geospatial-data-download-service>

Author: JB/AK

Date: 5/18/2023

File Path: \\us01pr01a001\TetraTech\GIS\Projects\NEPA\Map\Map_05_18_2023.aprx



- Legend**
- Project Parcel
 - Parcels
 - Area of Potential Effect
 - Area of Critical Habitat
 - Water connection

PUERTO RICO



Figure 10: ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731

Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

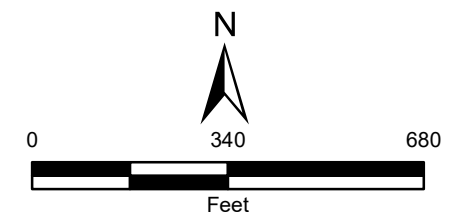
Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201



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

Author: TG

Date: 3/22/2024





- Legend**
- ⬠ Project Parcel
 - Common Name**
 - No common name

Distance to Nearest Critical Habitat:
39523 Feet

PUERTO RICO



Figure 11: CRITICAL HABITATS
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731

Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

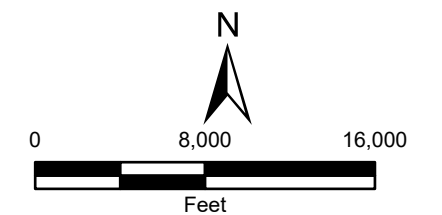
Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201



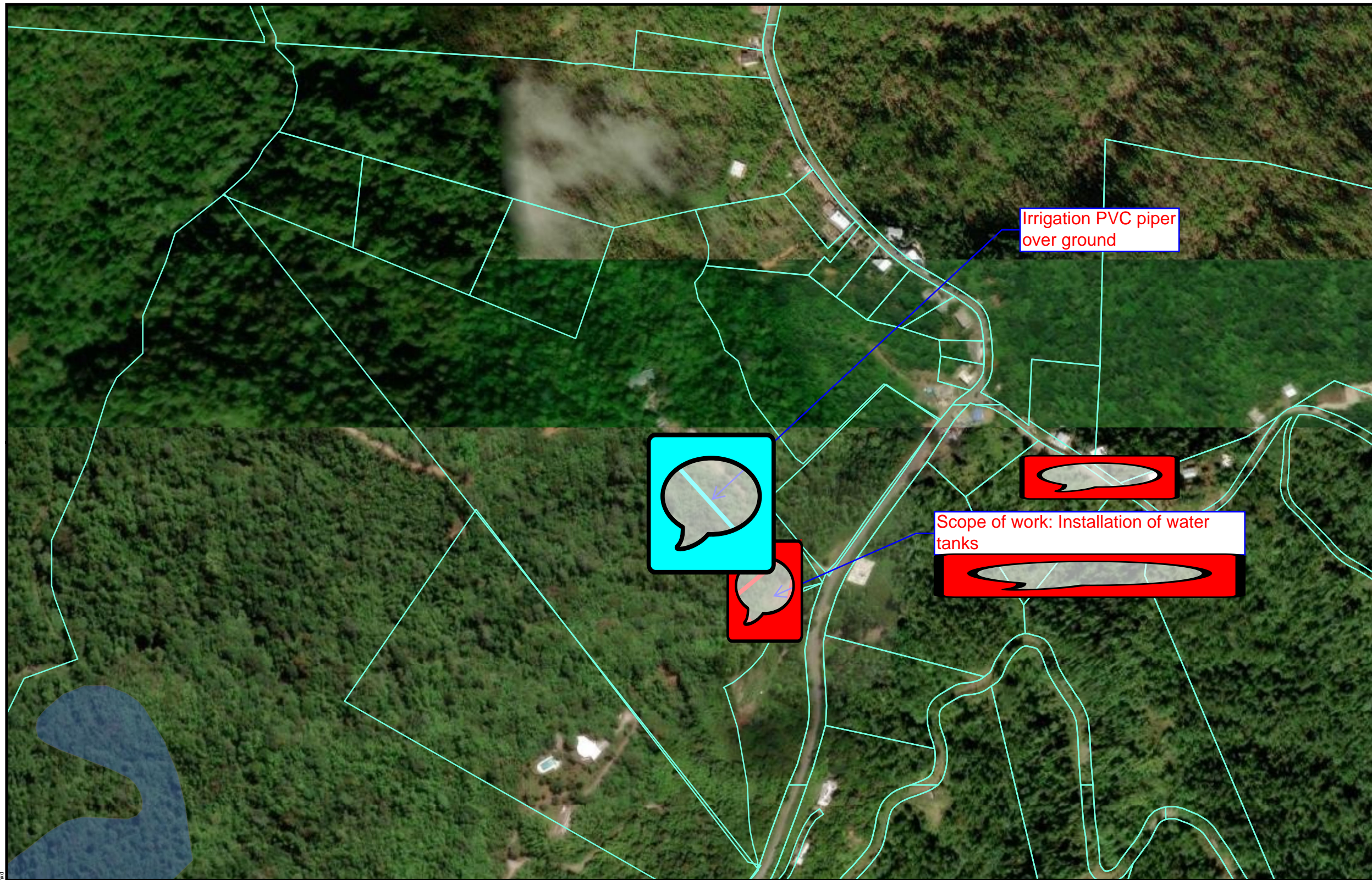
Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
<https://ecos.fws.gov>

Author: TG

Date: 11/3/2023



File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\Tier2\Regrow\pr\CRITICAL_HABITATS_Secondary_Imagery_Regrow\CRITICAL_HABITATS_Secondary_Imagery_Regrow.aprx



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

PUERTO RICO



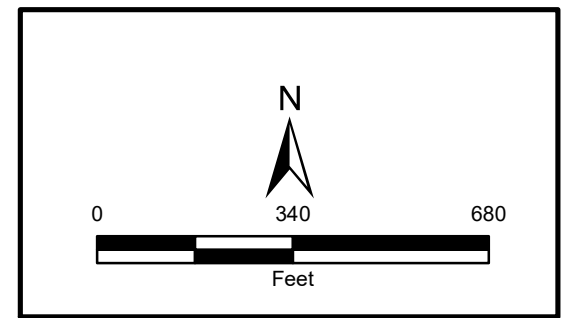
Figure 12: FARMLAND PROTECTION

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731

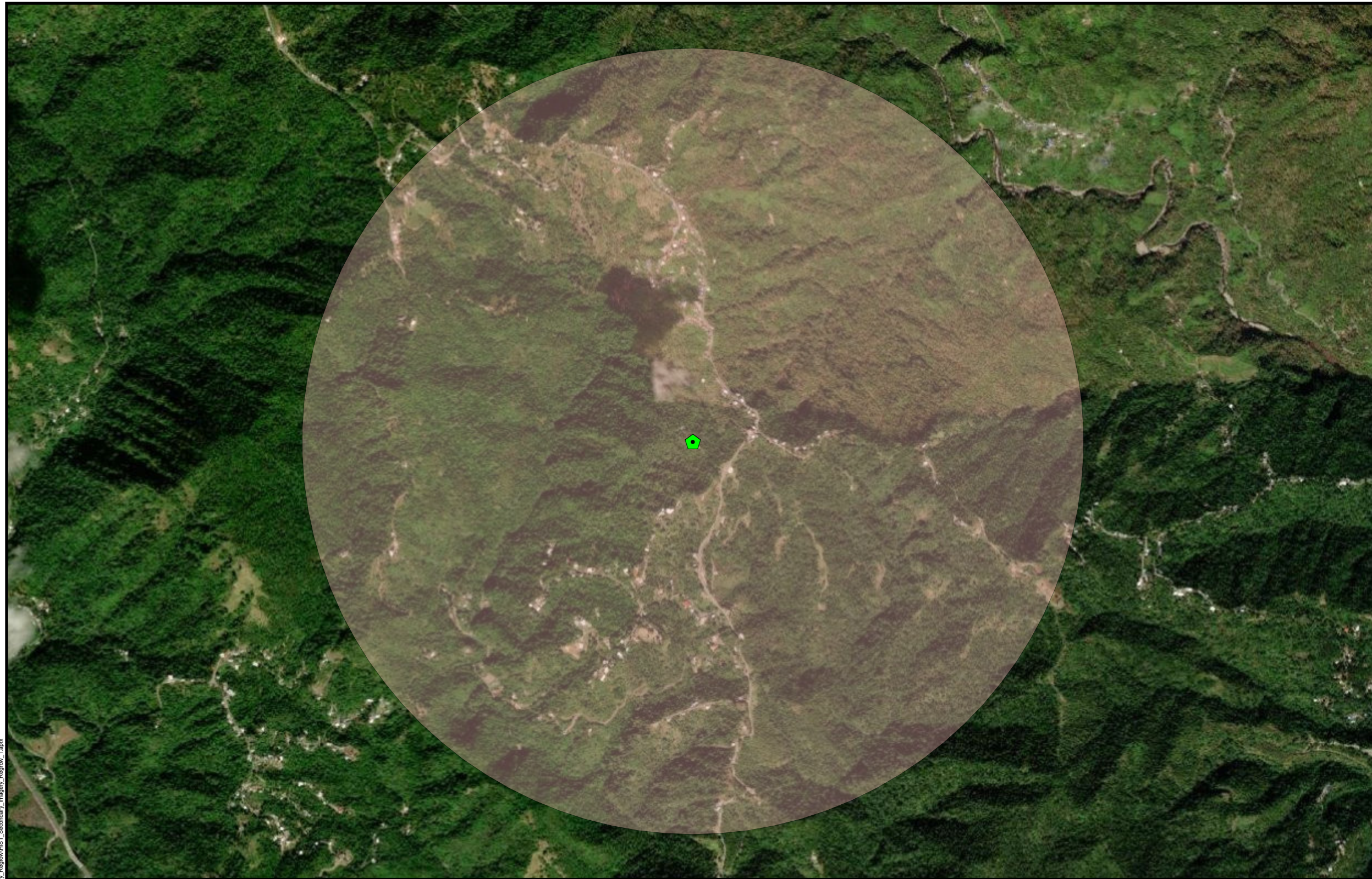
Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201



Source: USDA
<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>
 Author: TG Date: 3/22/2024

File Path: Z:\data\USPRT\Farmland Protection\Regrow.mxd



- Legend**
- ▬ Project Parcel
 - ▲ Historic ICP Sites
 - Cultural Resource Building Point
 - Cultural Resource District Point
 - Cultural Resource Site Point
 - Cultural Resource Structure Point
 - Historic Comunidades
 - Traditional Urban Centers
 - Cultural Resource Building Polygon
 - Cultural Resource District Polygon
 - Cultural Resource Site Polygon
 - Cultural Resource Structure Polygon
 - 1 Mile Property Buffer

PUERTO RICO



**Figure 13: HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118**

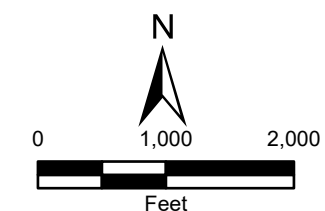
ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731

Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201

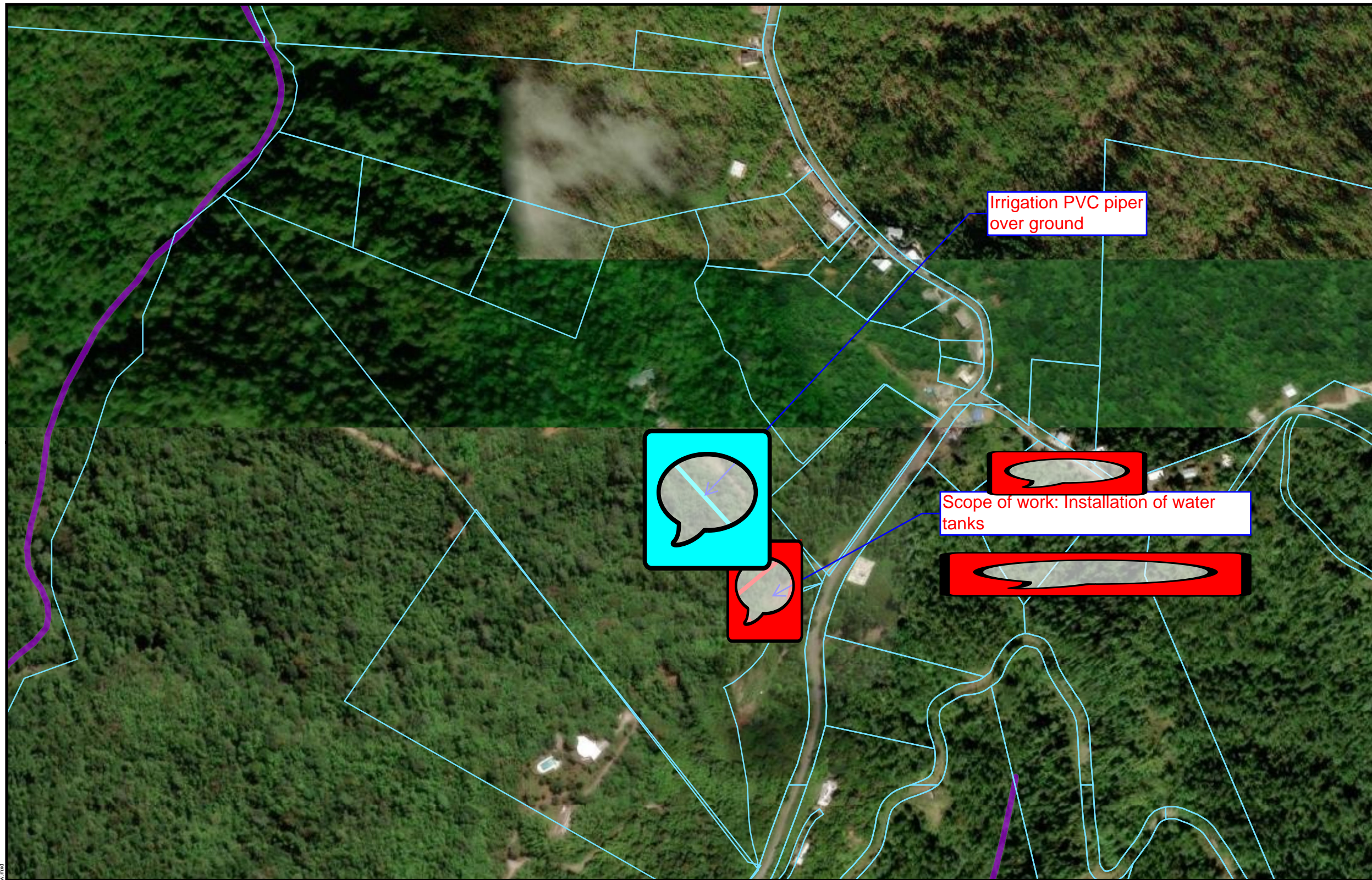


Source: National Park Service
<https://www.nps.gov/>












Author: TG Date: 11/3/2023



File Path: Z:\data\USPRTier2\Region\aparc\IST_Secundary_Imagery_Regrow_1.aprx



Legend

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

PUERTO RICO



Figure 14: WETLANDS
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731

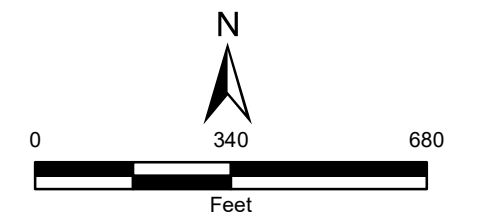
Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201





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

Author: TG Date: 3/22/2024





Legend

-  Project Parcel
-  Wild and Scenic Rivers

Distance to Nearest Wild and Scenic River: 293069 Feet

PUERTO RICO



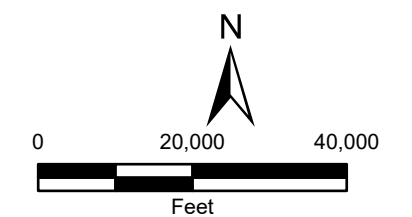
Figure 15: WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

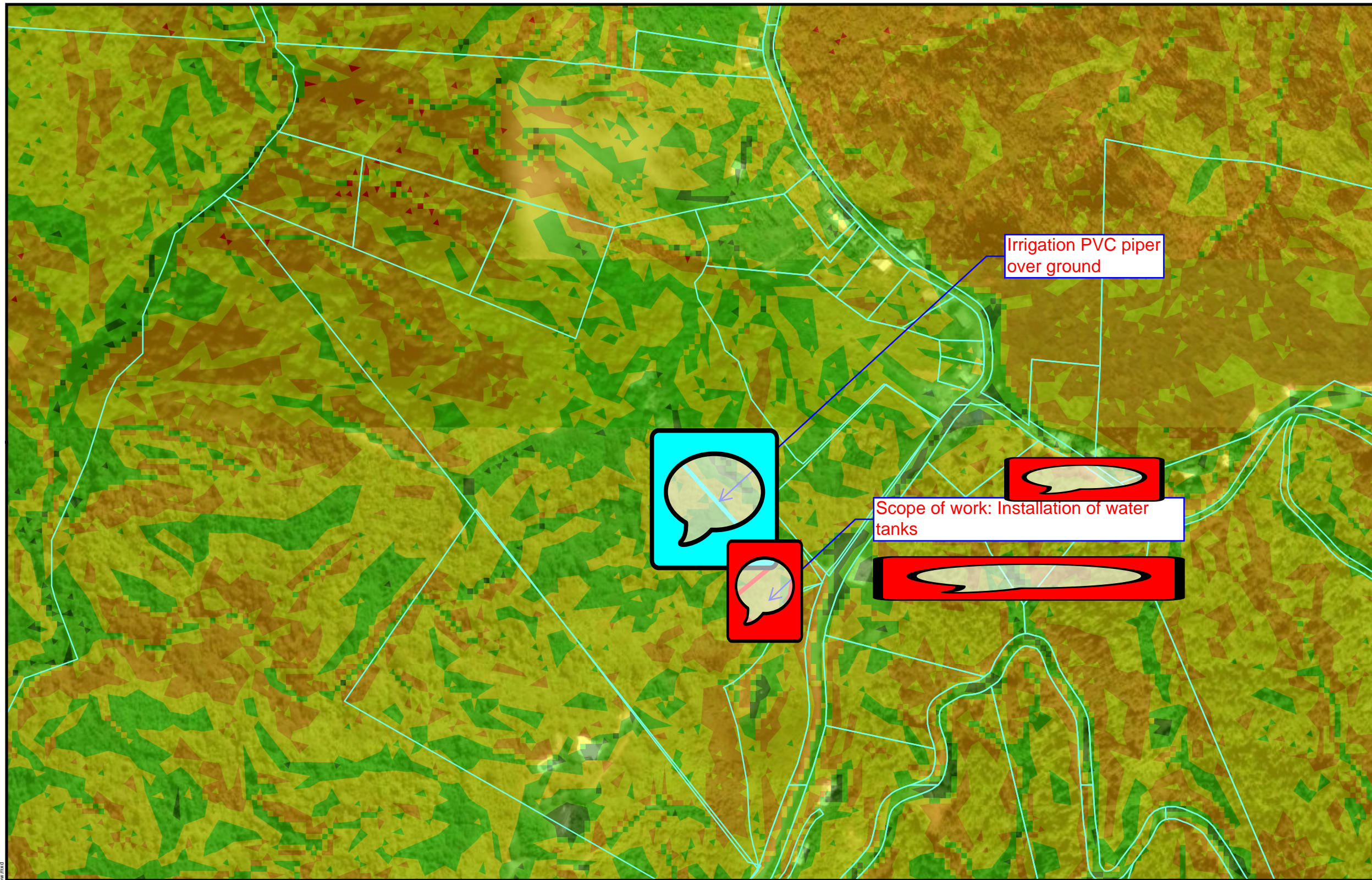
ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731
 Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201



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

Author: TG Date: 10/23/2023





- Legend**
- ◆ Project Parcel
 - Parcels
- Landslide Susceptibility**
- Extremely High
 - Very High
 - High
 - Moderate
 - Low
 - Area of Potential Effect
 - Water connection

PUERTO RICO

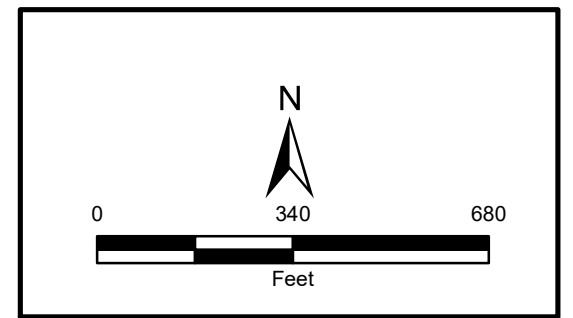


Figure 16: SLOPE AND EROSION
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731

Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201



Source: PRDOH
<https://usgs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=10506ecc7f15491daee17647f19248ee>
 Author: TG Date: 3/22/2024

File Path: Z:\del_sur\PR\TetraTech\SLIDE_Secundary_Images\16_RGRW.mxd



- Legend**
- ◆ Project Parcel
 - Streamflow and Recharge Source Zones
 - Sole Source Aquifer**
 - Biscayne Aquifer SSA

Distance to Nearest Aquifer:
5,337,760 FT

PUERTO RICO



Figure 17: SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731

Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

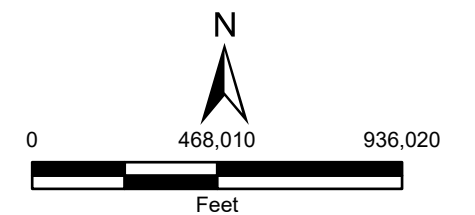
Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201



Source: USGS
<https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/epa-sole-source-aquifers>

Author: TG

Date: 2/21/2024



File Path: Z:\data\USRTier2\Regrow\SSA\QUIFER_Secundary_Imagery_Regrow\SSAQUIFER_Secundary_Imagery_Regrow_1.aprx

APPENDIX C

Additional Information



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

Data is current as of February 29, 2024

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

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

Change the State:

PUERTO RICO

Important Notes

Download National Dataset: dbf | xls | Data dictionary (PDF)

County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or/Part County	Population (2010)	State/County FIPS Codes
PUERTO RICO								
Arecibo Municipio	Lead (2008)	Arecibo, PR	1112131415161718192021222324	//		Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	22,921	72/021
Catano Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Whole	28,140	72/033
Guaynabo Municipio	PM-10 (1987)	Mun. of Guaynabo, PR	929394959697989900010203040506070809	02/11/2010	Moderate	Part	90,470	72/061
Guaynabo Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	23,802	72/061
Salinas Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Guayama-Salinas, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	23,401	72/123
San Juan Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	147,963	72/127
Toa Baja Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	52,441	72/137

Important Notes

Informal Enforcement Actions Last 5 Years

State	System	Source ID	Type of Action	Lead Agency	Date
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

State	System	Law/Section	Source ID	Type of Action	Case No.	Lead Agency	Case Name	Issued/Filed Date	Settlement/Action	Settlement/Action Date	Federal Penalty Assessed	State/Local Penalty Assessed	Penalty Amount Collected	SDP Value	Comp Action Cost
CWA	ICS-WPDES	303	WPDES-PR002363	Judicial	02-2013-0007	EPA	PRISA - Puerto Nuevo Regional WWTP et al.	09/15/2013	2	03/20/2024 05/23/2016	50 50	-- --	-- --	-- --	5530,000,000 5700,000,000

Environmental Conditions

Watersheds

12-Digit WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset), HUC (HADD (Reach Address Database))	WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset), Subwatershed Name (HADD (Reach Address Database))	State Water Body Name (ICS (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?
No data records returned						

Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)

State	Report Cycle	Assessment Unit ID	Assessment Unit Name	Water Condition	Case Groups Impaired	Drinking Water Use	Ecological Use	Fish Consumption Use	Recreation Use	Other Use
PR	2020	PRSC30C	Puerto Caimero to Punta Cochera	Impaired - 303E Listed	MERCURY (METALS OTHER THAN MERCURY) (OL AND GREASE) (ORGANIC ENRICHMENT/OXYGEN DEFLECTION) (PATHOGENS) (TURBIDITY)	--	Not Supporting	--	Not Supporting	--

Air Quality Nonattainment Areas

Pollutant	Within Nonattainment Status Area?	Nonattainment Status (Applicable Standard)	Within Maintenance Status Area?	Maintenance Status (Applicable Standard)
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 Injection	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	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
No data records returned					

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

WQSC ID	Description	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
PR0021503	DMR Pollutant Loadings (By year)	5,023,094	4,932,232	10,290,110	11,621,094	6,330,473
PR0021503	DMR Pollutant Loadings - Load Over Limit (By year)	15.38	0	400	5,543	2,433
PR0021503	DMR Conventional Loadings (By year)	--	--	--	7,785,135	--
PR0021503	DMR Conventional Loadings - Load Over Limit (By year)	--	--	--	0	--
PR0021503	DMR Toxic Weighted Loadings (By year)	5,847	4,330	6,252	6,540	2,340
PR0021503	DMR Toxic Weighted Loadings - Load Over Limit (By year)	68.24	0	133	2,732	1,287

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
- Located in an area having 1 or more Census Block Supplemental State or US Percentiles >= 90%
- Located in an area having 1 or more 1-Mile Average Supplemental State or US Percentiles >= 90%

EJScreen Indexes Shown

Related Reports

EJScreen Community Report

Index Type:

Download Data

Supplemental Indexes	US (Percentile)			State (Percentile)		
	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 50th Percentile	4	4	6	5	3	5
Particulate Matter 2.5	--	N/A	--	--	N/A	--
Ozone	--	N/A	--	--	N/A	--
Deerl Particulate Matter	6	4	6	45	33	45
Air Toxics Cancer Risk	56	54	56	50	31	52
Air Toxics Respiratory Hazard Index	40	33	40	52	30	32
Toxic Releases to Air	50	50	50	55	33	35
Traffic Proximity	57	54	57	67	35	67
Lead Paint	76	73	74	33	30	70
Risk Management Plan (RMP) Facility Proximity	50	50	50	54	30	54
Hazardous Waste Proximity	51	51	51	49	33	49
Superfund Proximity	50	50	50	52	30	52
Underground Storage Tanks (UST)	0	0	--	0	0	--
Wastewater Discharge	59	59	59	56	31	56

Map Display Based on: US State

Display Map Layer:

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 2010 U.S. Census and 2011 - 2021 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 the census blocks (for U.S. Census demographics) and census block groups (for ACS demographics) in determining the demographics surrounding the facility. For more detail about this methodology, see the DFR Data Dictionary <https://epa.gov/help/reports/efr-data-dictionary#demographic>.

General Statistics (U.S. Census)	
Total Persons	254
Population Density	263/sq mi.
Housing Units in Area	337
General Statistics (ACS (American Community Survey))	
Total Persons	529
Percent People of Color	100%
Households in Area	305
Households with Public Assistance	43
Persons With Low Income	792
Percent With Low Income	85%
Geography	
Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.
Center Latitude	18.10094
Center Longitude	-68.022549
Land Area	100%
Water Area	0%
Income Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Households (%)	
Less than \$15,000	207 (58.47%)
\$15,000 - \$25,000	58 (16.38%)
\$25,000 - \$50,000	50 (14.12%)
\$50,000 - \$75,000	21 (5.87%)
Greater than \$75,000	9 (2.36%)

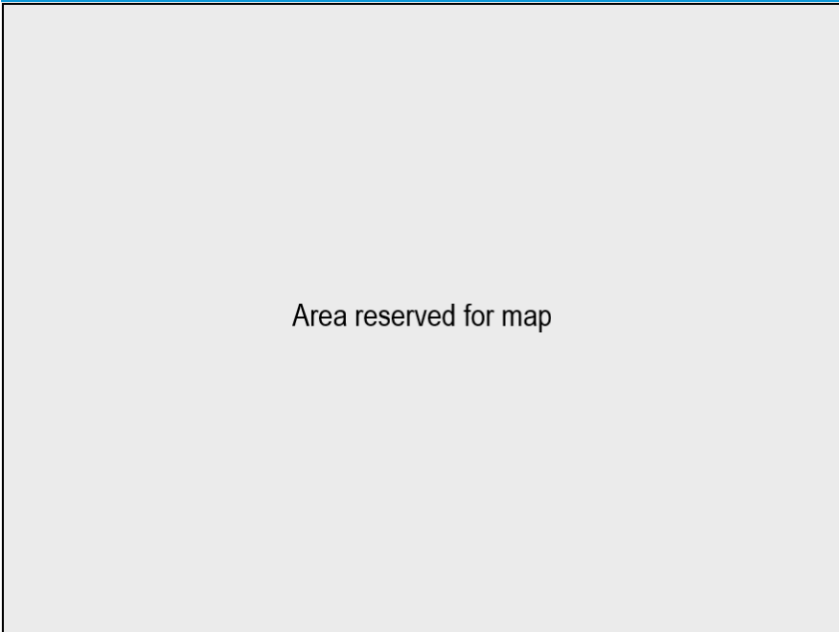
Age Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)	
Children 5 years and younger	33 (13%)
Teens 12 years and younger	20 (7%)
Adults 18 years and older	646 (79%)
Seniors 65 years and older	114 (14%)
Race Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)	
White	689 (81%)
African American	59 (7%)
Hispanic Origin	644 (80%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	4 (0%)
American Indian	4 (0%)
Other/Multiracial	58 (11%)
Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Less than 9th Grade	200 (27.80%)
9th-Through 12th Grade	72 (10.04%)
High School Graduate	180 (25.00%)
Some College/2-year	55 (7.67%)
B.S./B.A. (Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts) or More	140 (20.44%)

EJScreen Community Report

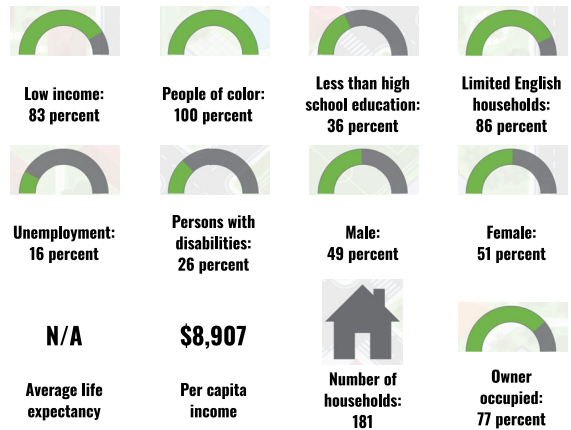
This report provides environmental and socioeconomic information for user-defined areas, and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

Ponce Municipio, PR

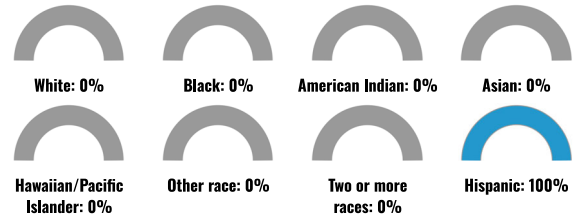
1 mile Ring around the Area
Population: 460
Area in square miles: 3.58



COMMUNITY INFORMATION



BREAKDOWN BY RACE



BREAKDOWN BY AGE



LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
No language data available.	

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

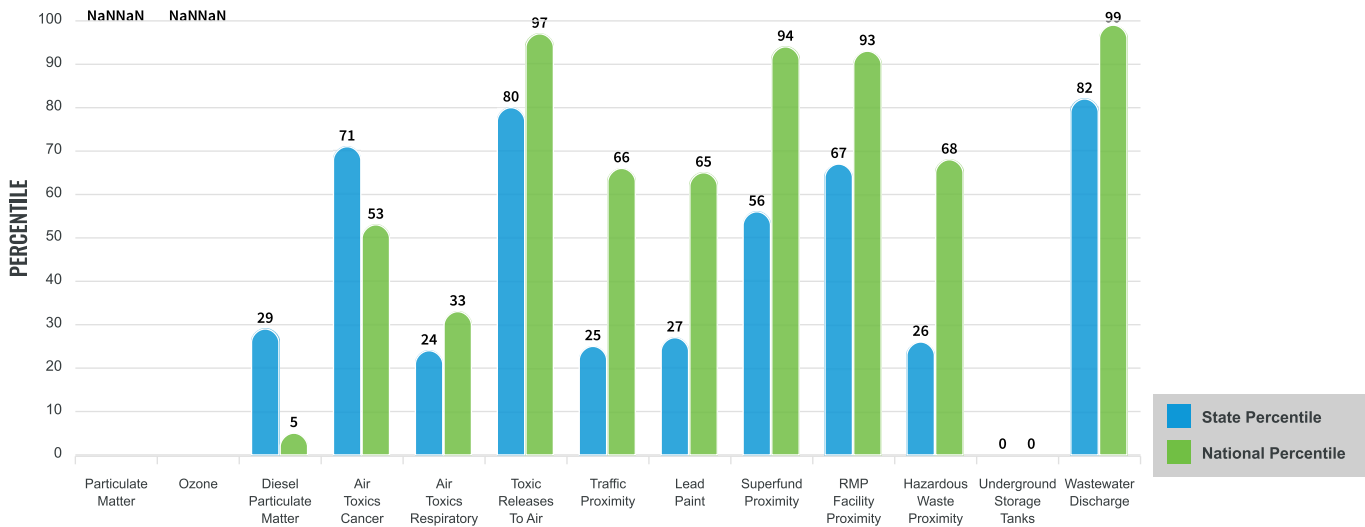
Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

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

EJ INDEXES

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

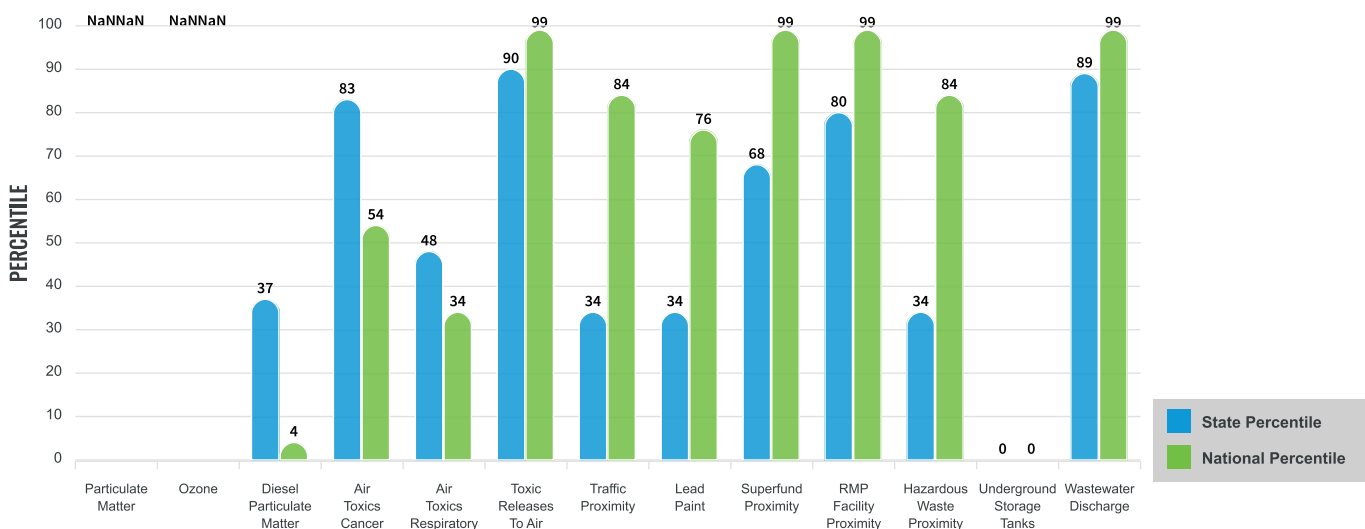
EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

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

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



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

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES					
Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.08	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.6	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.0221	0.0667	29	0.261	1
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	20	15	25	5
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.18	0.19	0	0.31	1
Toxic Releases to Air	1,700	4,300	76	4,600	70
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	27	180	29	210	28
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.029	0.16	25	0.3	21
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.088	0.15	55	0.13	62
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.33	0.47	66	0.43	69
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.13	0.76	24	1.9	25
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	0	1.7	0	3.9	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.38	2.3	79	22	88
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index	91%	83%	67	35%	99
Supplemental Demographic Index	55%	43%	82	14%	99
People of Color	100%	96%	31	39%	98
Low Income	83%	70%	65	31%	97
Unemployment Rate	16%	15%	60	6%	92
Limited English Speaking Households	86%	67%	86	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	36%	21%	85	12%	94
Under Age 5	3%	4%	53	6%	32
Over Age 64	23%	22%	58	17%	77
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A%	N/A	20%	N/A

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

Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

Superfund	0
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	0
Water Dischargers	1
Air Pollution	0
Brownfields	0
Toxic Release Inventory	0

Other community features within defined area:

Schools	0
Hospitals	0
Places of Worship	0

Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	No
Impaired Waters	Yes

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

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

HEALTH INDICATORS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A	N/A	20%	N/A
Heart Disease	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Asthma	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	N/A
Cancer	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Persons with Disabilities	24.9%	21.6%	68	13.4%	95

CLIMATE INDICATORS

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

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	32%	32%	54	14%	90
Lack of Health Insurance	4%	7%	27	9%	32
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area

APPENDIX D
Endangered Species



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/72113-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-04118 Del Sur Farms
Inc., Ponce, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated March 11, 2024, requesting informal consultation on the above referenced project. Our comments are provided under the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is proposing the purchase and installation of five water tanks, 1,000 gallons each on a 6.69 acres property located on State Road PR-505, Km 9.75, Montellano Ward (18°06'09.6"N 66°36'55.5"W) in the municipality of Ponce, Puerto Rico. Project activities may involve removal or clearing of some vegetation.

Using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system (Project code: 2024-0058552), the PRDOH has determined that the proposed project site is located within the range of Puerto Rican boa (*Epicrates inornatus* now known as *Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus venator*), Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*), Puerto Rican parrot (*Amazona vittata*) and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*).

For the Puerto Rican parrot, Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk, PRDOH made a no effect (NE) determination due to the lack of suitable habitat for these species within the project area. We acknowledge receipt of PRDOH's NE determination for the Puerto Rican parrot, Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk and Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk. Currently, we do not have any information to refute that determination. Because 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.

As for the Puerto Rican boa and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, based on the scope of work and project location, PRDOH has determined that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect these species with the implementation of conservation measures previously provided by the Service prior to and during the project activities to avoid and minimize impacts to these species.

We have reviewed the information provided and our files and concur with PRDOH's determination that the proposed actions may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican boa and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly with the implementation of the conservation measures. As per the Puerto Rican boa conservation recommendations, please note that if a boa is encountered during the project activities, it should not be captured. If a boa needs to be moved out of harm's way, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) should be contacted for safe capture and relocation of the animal. If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities in the area where the boa is found must stop until it moves out of harm's way on its own.

Also, please be aware that the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly measures were amended to clarify how they are appropriately applied. Therefore, the Service recommends the applicant implement the updated conservation measures below for the proposed actions.

1. The contractor must inform all personnel about the potential presence of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly or its occupied host plant "prickly bush" (*Oplonia spinosa*) in the project areas. A pre-work meeting should inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming this butterfly and its occupied host plant. Educational material (e.g., posters, flyers or signs with photos or illustrations of all the life stages of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (i.e., eggs, caterpillar, chrysalids and adult, and its host plant) should be prepared and available to all personnel for reference.
2. Before starting any project activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movement, the contractor must clearly delineate the boundaries of the working area in the field to avoid unnecessary habitat impacts. Once the project areas are clearly marked, and before any work activity, including site preparation, personnel with knowledge and ability to identify the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (all life stages) and the "prickly bush" must survey the areas where the work will be performed for the presence of the species and its host plant. It is important to note that the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly can be observed year-round in all its life stages; thus, oviposition (egg-laying) may occur at any time during the year.
3. If the "prickly bush" is present on the project site, try to avoid cutting it off, even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
4. If there is no prickly bush within the project area, and the butterfly is observed flying within the project area, do not harass, harm, pursue, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct, the species.

5. Adult butterflies are often observed flying near the host plant as part of their mating behavior and laying eggs. Project-related activities must stop if the prickly bush is found in the project area and the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly is observed flying in that same area. A temporary 50-meter (164 feet) buffer zone of no activity or human disturbance should be established and clearly marked around that prickly bush until the butterfly moves out on its own.
6. Once the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly has moved away, within a period of 24 to 36 hours, a search of the prickly bush that has been buffered should be conducted to determine the presence of any eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids of the butterfly on the plant. The contractor or the Applicant should send a report of the observation and its findings to caribbean_es@fws.gov after the 36-hour search is concluded.
7. If, after the initial search or after the 24 to 36-hour search, any life stage of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly is found in the prickly bush, take the following actions:
 - Clearly mark the host plant with flagging tape.
 - Establish a 10-meter (32-foot) buffer zone around the bush to protect it.
 - Eggs are typically found on the prickly bush's newly grown, tender branches. Once an egg hatches, the caterpillar moves and feeds throughout the bush. Therefore, avoid cutting off the prickly bush within the project site even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
 - Work within the 10-meter buffered area may resume when no signs of any live life stage of the butterfly are detected, which usually takes approximately 60 to 120 days.
8. For all Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly sightings (all life stages), the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where the butterfly was found must be recorded. Data should also include a photo of the butterfly (if possible) and the habitat where it was observed, site GPS coordinates, and comments on how the butterfly was detected and its behavior. All Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly sighting reports should be sent to the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Service Field Office at caribbean_es@fws.gov.
9. For questions regarding the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, the Point of Contacts are:
José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator:
 - Mobile: 305-304-1386
 - Office phone: 786-244-0081
 - Office Direct Line: 939-320-3120
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov

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

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

Sincerely,

Robert Tawes
Acting Field Supervisor

drr



March 11, 2024

Robert Tawes
Division Supervisor, Environmental Review
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Southeast Regional Office
1875 Century Boulevard
Atlanta, GA 30345
Email: Caribbean_es@fws.gov; robert_tawes@fws.gov

**RE: Puerto Rico Department of Housing / Re-Grow Program
PR-RGRW-04118 – Del Sur Farms Inc.
Endangered Species Concurrence for NLAA Determination**

Dear Mr. Tawes:

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is requesting 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 PR-RGRW-04118, located at PR-505 Road Km 9.75, Montellano Ward, Ponce, PR 00731 (Parcel ID# 317-000-006-05. A map of the project site location can be found in Appendix A: Figure 1.

The proposed project is part of the Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) that aims to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island-wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities.

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-04118 consist in the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks, 1,000 gallons each, at coordinates 18.102674, -66.615404. The tanks will be installed on a gravel bed to be constructed on an elevated area of the farm. The tanks will be used for rain harvesting and irrigation of the ornamentals cropping area located at coordinates 18.103760, -66.616163. The irrigation system consists of approximately 480 linear feet of an above ground PVC piping system that will convey water from the tanks to the ornamentals area. No water or power connections are needed for the proposed SOW. Irrigation system will work by gravity due to the difference in elevations between the tanks and the ornamentals area, and will be used for storage of rainwater. The field is not graded. Project activities may involve removal or clearing of some vegetation that appears suitable to the Puerto Rican Boa and possibly the Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly.

The farm has been used for agricultural purposes in the past with the growing of coffee and currently is used for the growing of ornamental plants, tomatoes, pineapple and cucumber. The parcel is located in a rural, mountainous terrain with mature vegetation surrounding the property. The residence is downhill from the entrance to the property with a paved access road. The proposed project area is located on a maintained vegetated plot that is frequently disturbed (see Appendix C). No trees will be removed within the proposed project area. The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) indicated that no wetlands are located within the parcel.

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

Name of the species	Threatened/Endangered/Candidate
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (<i>Atlantea tulita</i>)	Threatened
Critical Habitat	
There are no critical habitats within the project area.	

Upon review of iNaturalist.org, no sightings of the Puerto Rican Boa nor the Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly have been recorded within at least 3 miles of the proposed project area in the last 3 years. Based on the nature of the project, previous site disturbance, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, it was determined that the proposed action will have “No Effect” determination on the Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk and Puerto Rican Parrot, see Appendix B. Given the current land use, previous ground disturbance, and lack of sightings of the Puerto Rican Boa and Harlequin Butterfly within the vicinity, it was determined that the proposed action will have a “Not Likely to Adversely Affect” the Puerto Rican Boa and Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly.

Name of the species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures that will be implemented
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>)	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Not Likely to Adversely Affect	USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (<i>Atlantea tulita</i>)	Not Likely to Adversely Affect	If a worker believes they have spotted a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly, work should cease within the area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #s: [(787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124]).

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NE and 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. For any questions or clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact us at the information below.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Juan Carlos Pérez Bofill, PE, MEng.
 Director – Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR Program
environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov | 787.274.2527 ext. 4320

Attachments:

- Appendix A:
 - Figure 1 – Location Map
 - Figure 2 – Area of Potential Effect Map
 - Figure 4 – Farmland Protection Map
 - Figure 5 – Critical Habitats Map
 - Figure 6 – Wetlands Map
- Appendix B: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)
- Appendix C: Site Photos
- Appendix D: USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020

C: Angel G. López-Guzmán, MSEM
 Deputy Director
 Permits and Environmental Compliance Division

Appendix A: Figures



Legend
 Project Parcel
 Parcels

PUERTO RICO



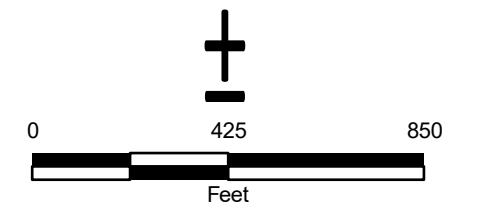
PROJECT LOCATION

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, PR 00731

Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958 , -66.616201



Source: ESRI
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>

Author: TG Date: 2/13/2024

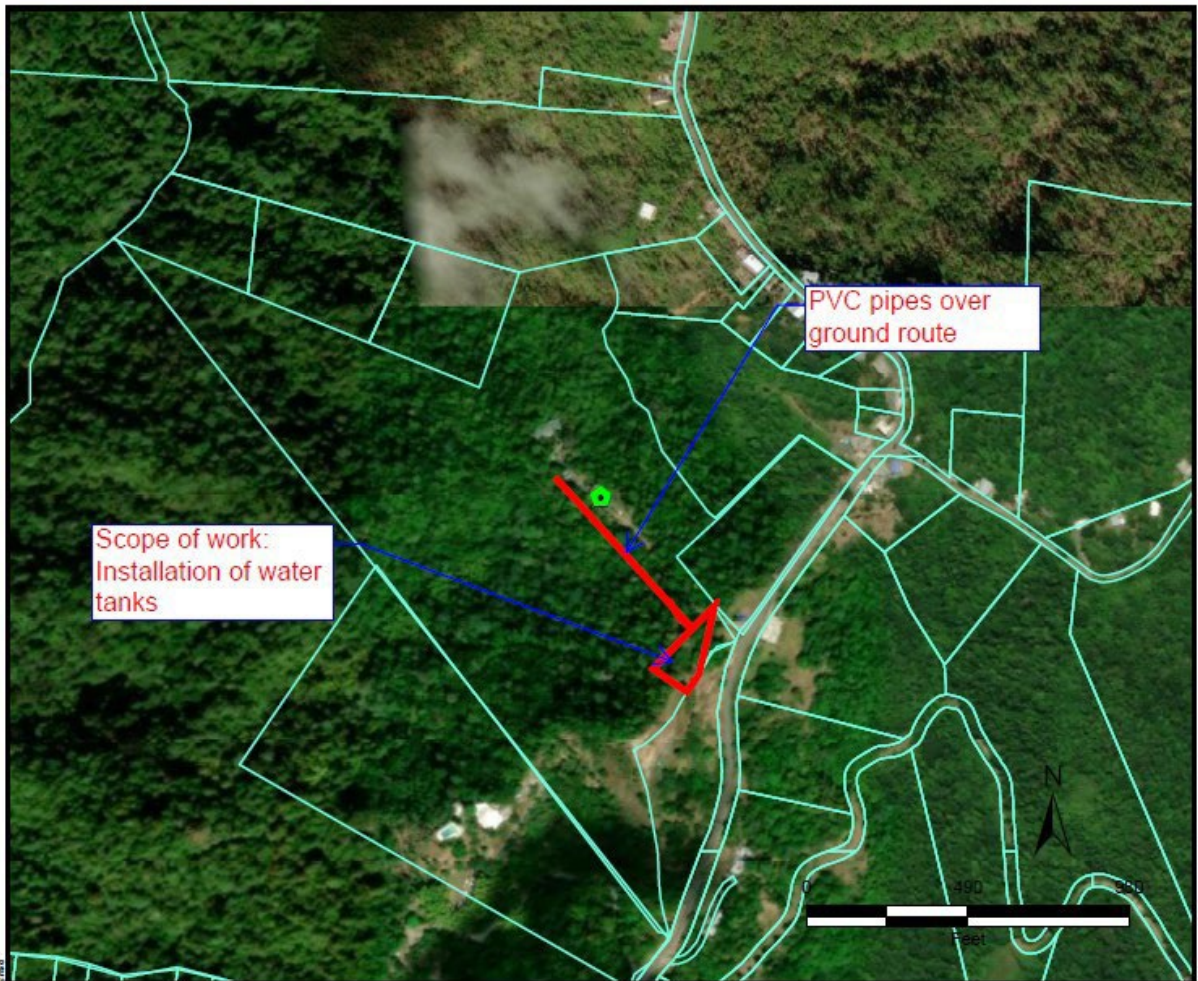
File Path: Z:\data\USC\GIS\Projects\PR-RGRW-04118\Map_Series\Map_Series.aprx
 Project: PR-RGRW-04118
 Source: ESRI
 Author: TG
 Date: 2/13/2024

Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118

City: Ponce

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






TETRA TECH

Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 1/5/2024

Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Area of Potential Effect
-  Parcelario





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

PUERTO RICO



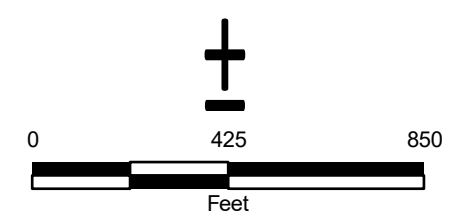
**FARMLAND PROTECTION
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118**

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, PR 00731
 Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201



Source: USDA
<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>

Author: TG Date: 11/3/2023





Legend
1 Project Parcel
Common Name
No common name

Distance to Nearest Critical Habitat:
39523 Feet

PUERTO RICO



CRITICAL HABITATS
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, PR 00731

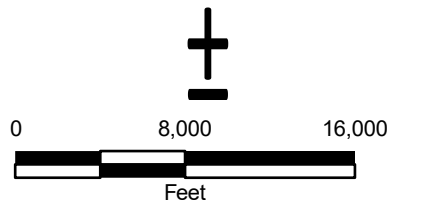
Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201



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

Author: TG Date: 11/3/2023



File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\PR\418\enr\maps\CRITICAL_HABITAT_Separators_Mapary_RenovCRITICAL_HABITAT_Separators_Mapary_Renov.aprx



Legend

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

PUERTO RICO



WETLANDS
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-04118

ADDRESS: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, PR 00731

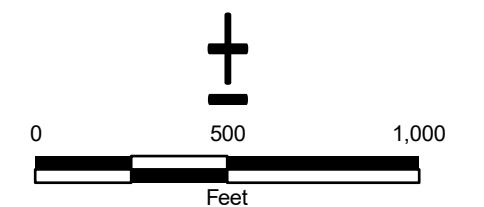
Name of Development: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201



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

Author: TG Date: 11/3/2023



File Path: Z:\Data\USFWS\PR\PR-RGRW\WETLANDS\WETLANDS_Schematic.mxd

Appendix B: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2024-0058552
Project Name: PR-RGRW-04118

March 06, 2024

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: 2024-0058552

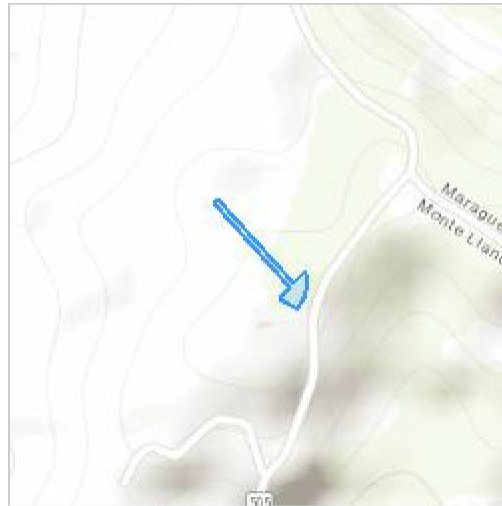
Project Name: PR-RGRW-04118

Project Type: Restoration / Enhancement - Agricultural

Project Description: The Scope of Work (SOW) is the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks, 1,000 gallons each, at coordinates 18.102674, -66.615404. The tanks will be installed on a gravel bed to be constructed on an elevated area of the farm. The tanks will be used for rain harvesting and irrigation of the ornamentals cropping area located at coordinates 18.103760, -66.616163. The irrigation system consists of approximately 480 linear feet (ft) of an above ground PVC piping system that will convey water from the tanks to the ornamentals area. No water or power connections are needed for the proposed SOW. Irrigation system will work by gravity due to the difference in elevations between the tanks and the ornamentals area and will be used for storage of rainwater. Field is not graded.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.10328905,-66.61587384635963,14z>



Counties: Ponce County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 5 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

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

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

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

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot <i>Amazona vittata</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk <i>Accipiter striatus venator</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/604	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/AEESCY53K5DMNGM373U7GKJKIU/documents/generated/7159.pdf	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly <i>Atlantea tulita</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/9005 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/AEESCY53K5DMNGM373U7GKJKIU/documents/generated/7168.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: Tetra Tech
Name: Shelby McDowell
Address: 2301 Lucien Way #120
City: Maitland
State: FL
Zip: 32751
Email: shelby.mcdowell@tetrattech.com
Phone: 4096591563

Appendix C: Site Photos

Front of Structure

Photo Direction: Northwest



Facing Away From Front

Photo Direction: Southeast



Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction: West



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction: East



Back of Structure

Photo Direction: Northwest



Facing Away From Back

Photo Direction: Southeast



Side #2 of Structure

Photo Direction: Southeast



Facing Away From Side #2

Photo Direction: Northwest



Streetscape #1

Photo Direction: Northeast



Streetscape #2

Photo Direction: Southwest



Address

Photo Direction: Northwest



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Applicant house

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: West



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

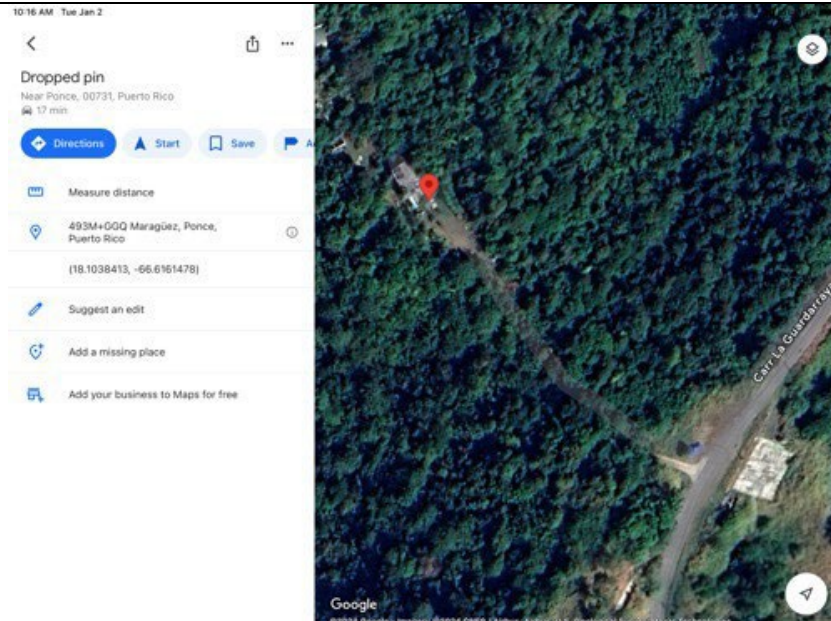
Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Applicant house

Photo Direction: West



Greenhouse Photos

Photo Description: Green house

Photo Direction: Northwest



Electricity Connected

Photo Description: Solar system

Photo Direction: Southwest



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Water tank

Photo Direction: Northeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Water tank

Photo Direction: Southeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Water tank

Photo Direction: West



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Water tank

Photo Direction: Southeast

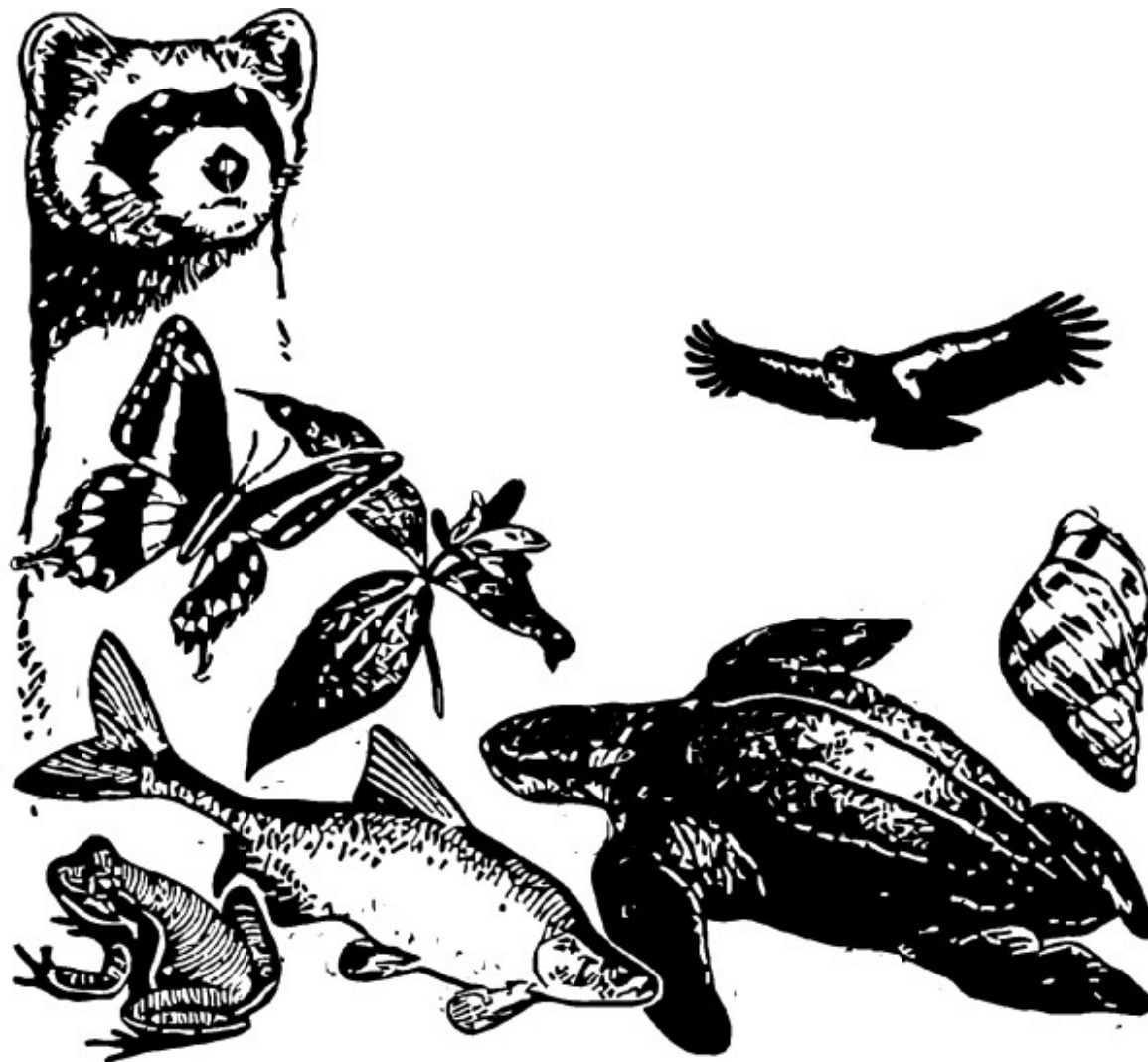


Appendix D:
USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020

Caribbean ES Puerto Rican Boa

Puerto Rican Boa

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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 #: (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

first discovered in the municipality of Quebradillas. For the purpose of this SSA, we refer to the common name as the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (hereafter, PRHB).

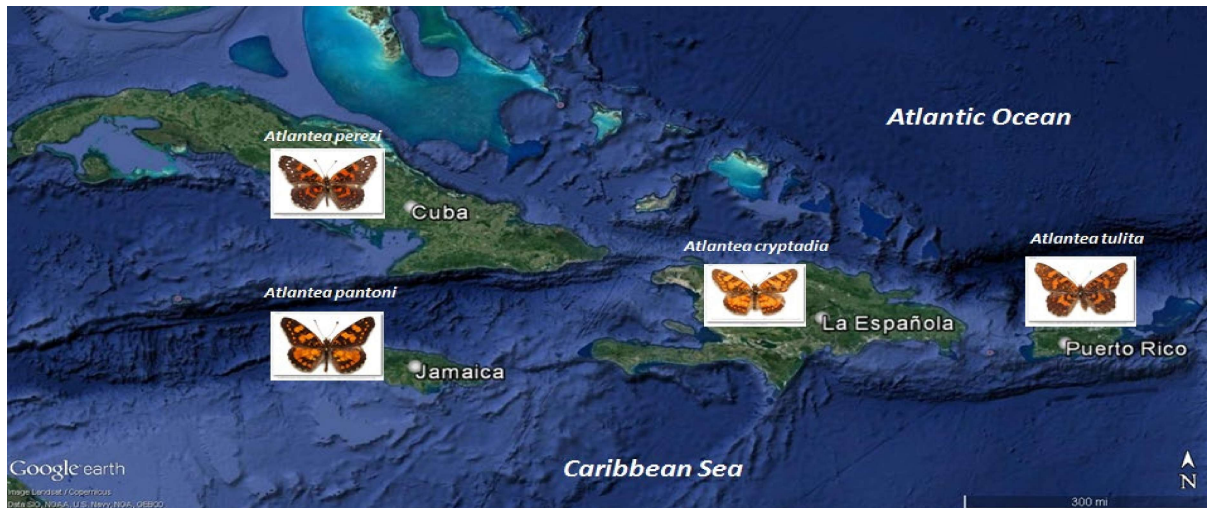


Figure 2-1. Map showing the distribution of the genus *Atlantea* through the Caribbean Region.

2.2 Species Description

The PRHB is a medium size butterfly. The species has a wingspan of about 5.1 to 6 centimeters (cm) (2 to 2.5 inches (in)) wide and is characterized by its orange, brownish-black and beige coloration patterns (Figures 2-2 and 2-3). The butterfly is brownish-black at the thorax area with deep orange markings. The male's abdomen is brownish-black on the dorsal side and has orange and brown bands on the ventral side. The female's abdomen is brownish-black with white bands. Wings are largely brownish-black with sub-marginal rows of deep orange spots and beige cells. The dorsal view of the forewings and the hind-wings, the outer margins are brownish-black. The coastal margin is deep orange with brownish-black markings. The inner margin is brownish-black with some deep orange markings at the half basal wing. The hind wing has a wide black border enclosing a set of reddish-bronze sub-marginal points. As a member of the checker-spot butterfly group, rows of deep orange dots (or cells) is a typical pattern on the species' brownish-black wings. The ventral sides of the forewings are similar to the dorsal sides of the forewings, and ventrally the hindwings are brownish-black with orange basal spots, a complete postdiscal beige band with a band of reddish spots distally, and sub-marginal white half-moons.

The chrysalis (pupa from which the butterfly (adult, or imago) emerges) of the PRHB is black, with orange and white dashes, and yellow pimples (Biaggi-Caballero 2009, p. 4) (Figure 2-4). Chrysalis size is around 3 cm (1.2 in).

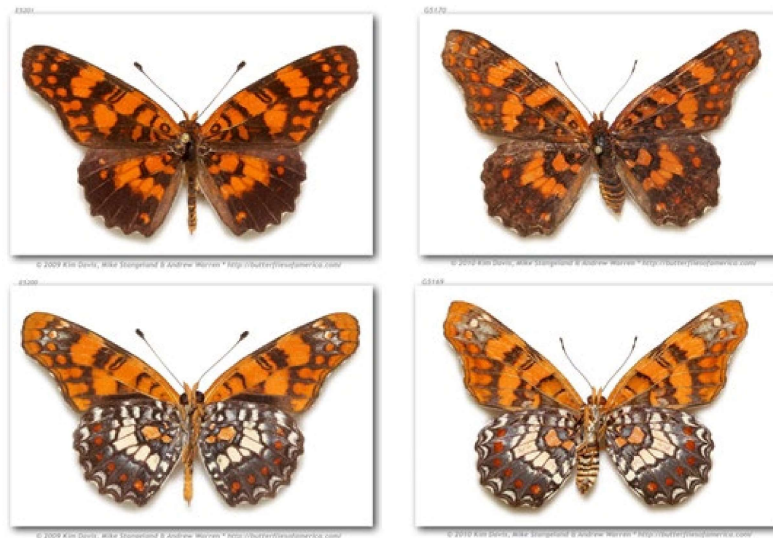


Figure 2-2. Photos showing the dorsal (top) and ventral (bottom) coloration patterns observed in *Atlantea tulita* (Dewitz 1877). Male (left) and female (right). Photo downloaded from <https://www.butterfliesofamerica.com>.

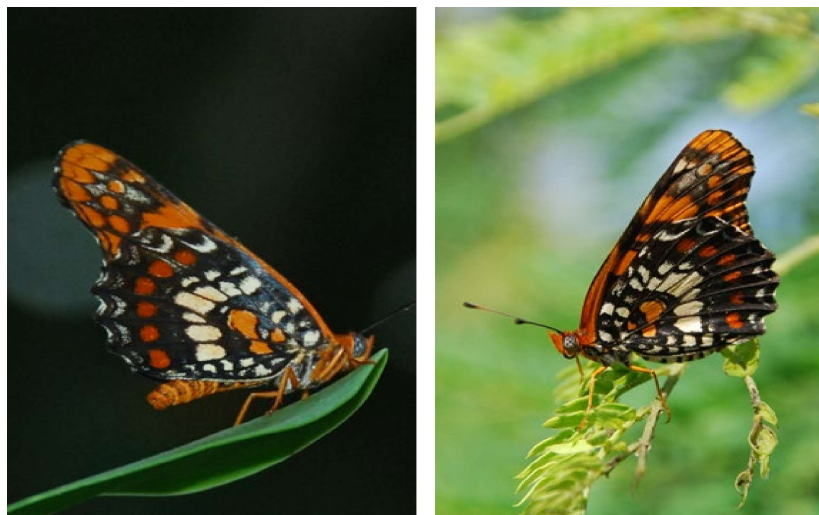


Figure 2-3. Male (left) and female (right) *A. tulita*. The abdomen of the male is a deep orange color with bands, and the abdomen of the female is white with black bands. Source: Carlos Pacheco, Service.

The PRHB caterpillar (larva) is dark orange with a brownish-black to black, thin sub-lateral line, over a thin line of white intermittent dots crossing the body from the head to anal plate (Figure 2-5). The larva is less than 4.76 millimeter (mm)(0.19 in) in first instar (growth stage

between molts) and about 55.8 mm (2 in) in the fifth instar (C. Pacheco, Service, 2018, personal observation). The body of the larva has spines with hairs in each body segment (Figure 2-5).



Figure 2-4. Chrysalis of *Atlantea tulita*. Photos by C. Pacheco, Service.

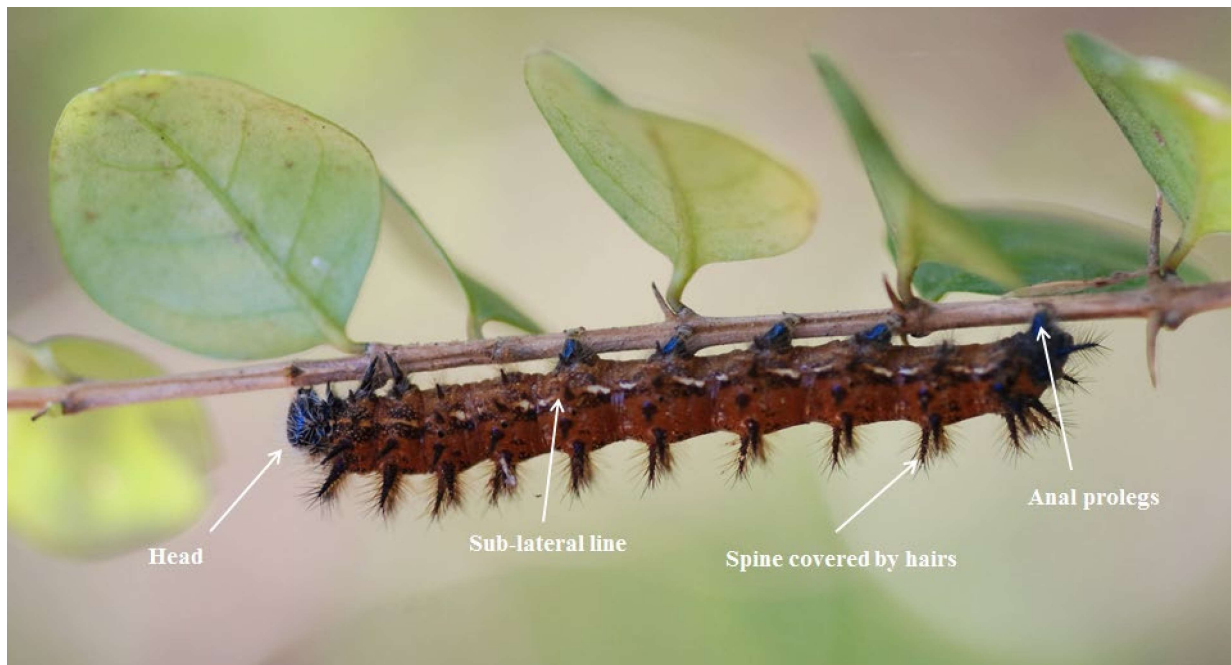


Figure 2-5. *Atlantea tulita* caterpillar. Photo by C. Pacheco, Service.

The eggs of the PRHB are greenish oily spheres, with a yellowish incipient crown (Figure 2-6).



Figure 2-6. Photo (left) showing the yellowish crown on the eggs laid by *Atlantea tulita* on *Oplonia spinosa*. Photo (right) showing the first instars of the *Atlantea tulita*. Photo by C. Pacheco, Service, 2011.

2.3. Life History

Most of what is known about PRHB life history, demography and behavior comes from field observations, information gathered from other species from the same family, and expert opinions.

2.3.1 Life Cycle

The life cycle of the PRHB includes four distinct anatomical stages: egg, larva (caterpillar, with several size phases called instars), chrysalis, and imago (adult). It is a general consensus among the species' experts (A. Morales and E. Estremera, Liga Ecológica Quebradillana; H. Torres, former Assistant Professor from the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus; and C. Asencio, former professor Universidad Católica de Ponce) that the life cycle of the PRHB (Figure 2-7) from egg to imago in the wild may take around 125 days (Second Technical Meeting Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Working Group, November 3, 2018). These experts also agree that the length of the life cycle can be affected by factors such as temperature and humidity, particularly at the caterpillar stage.

2.3.2 Dispersal, Mating, and Food Sources

PRHB dispersal and mating behavior has not been thoroughly studied. The butterfly flies slowly and is weak and fragile; thus, the species is considered a poor disperser (Carrión-Cabrera 2003, p. 51). However, Monzón (2007, p. 42) found that the butterfly can disperse up to 1,026 meters (m) (3366.1 feet (ft)), approximately 1 kilometer (km) (0.6 mile (mi)) from one breeding site to another. Additionally, the species has specific ecological requirements for reproduction and its dispersion is apparently limited by the monophagous habit of the first instar of the larvae, which feeds only on prickly bush (*Oplonia spinosa*) (Carrión-Cabrera 2003, p. 40; Biaggi-Caballero 2009, p. 4). Mating behavior has been rarely documented. For other species in the family Nymphalidae, the male grasps the female in flight and brings her to a surface, such as a leaf (Figure 2-8) or the ground, where mating occurs. Carrion-Cabrera (2003, p. 60) estimated the sex ratio of the PRHB as 2.67 males per female. It is not well known if the PRHB mates during a

particular month of the year or year-round. However, all life stages of the PRHB are observed year-round, suggesting that mating and oviposition may occur at any time during the year (Figure2-9).

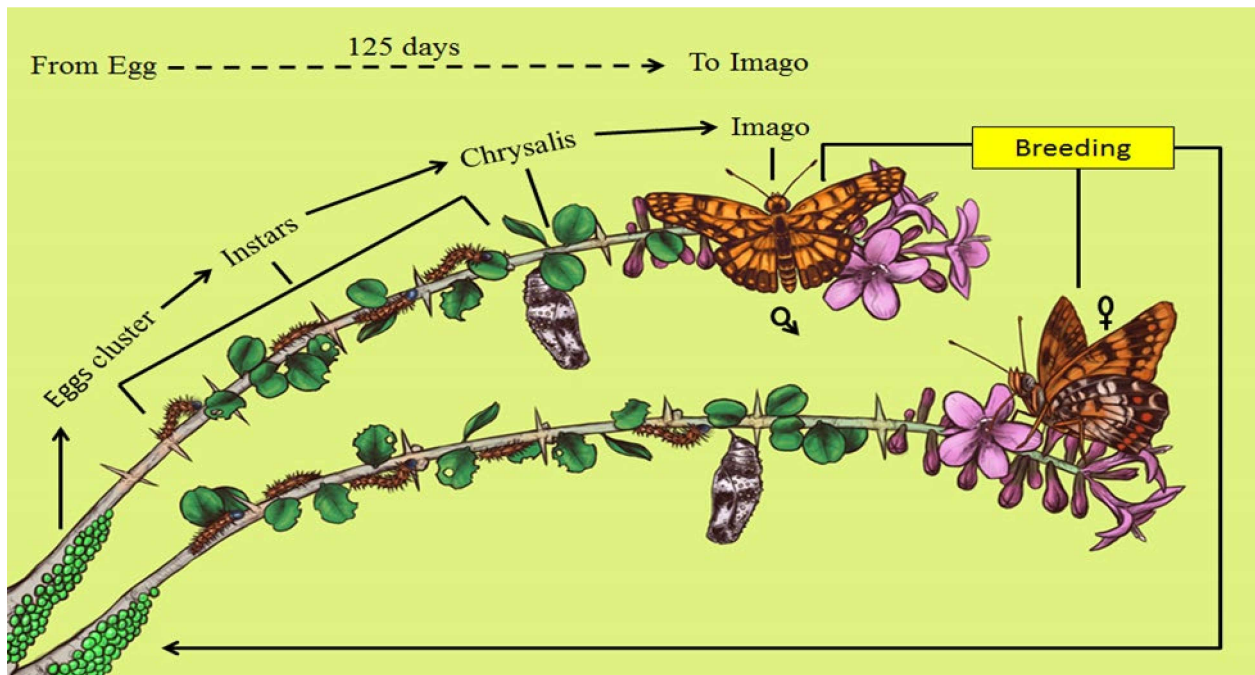


Figure 2-7. Conceptual diagram of the Puerto Rican harlequin life cycle.

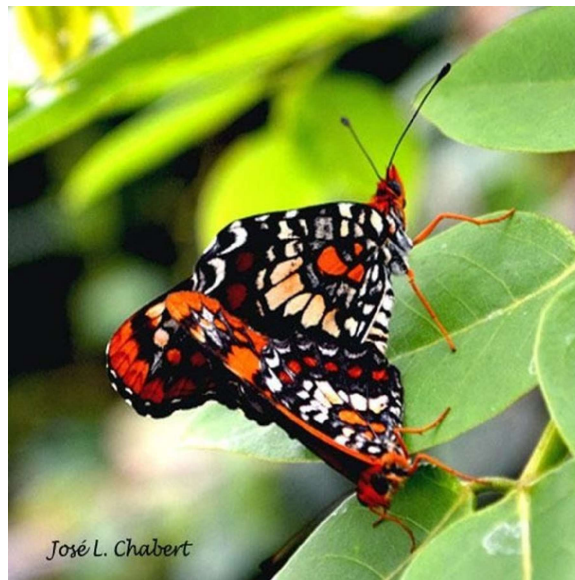


Figure 2-8. Photo of Puerto Rican Harlequin butterfly mating. Photo by José Chabert (President of “Fundación EL Pastillo”) at El Pastillo in the municipality Isabela.

Females are multivoltine ovipositors (they produce several broods in a single season) (Biaggi-Caballero 2009, p. 2; 76 FR 31282, May 31, 2011, p. 31283). Eggs and larvae have been found

almost exclusively on prickly bush (*Oplonia spinosa*) (Figures 2-10 and 2-11). The female lays the eggs in rows singly or in pairs, on the underside of tender twigs of the host plant. The species uses the tender vegetative branches of new growth of the host plant for bearing its eggs and feeding during the larval stages (Carrion-Cabrera 2003, p. 40; Biaggi-Caballero and Lopez 2010, p. 2). New growth of *O. spinosa* is observed a few days after rain events, being more abundant during the wet season (from April to November). The female of the PRHB can lay between 50 to 140 eggs in about 45 minutes (Carrion-Cabrera 2003, p.38; Biaggi-Caballero 2009, p. 4). During this process the female appears to be undisturbed by the presence of humans or any other threats (Barber 2018, p. 2).

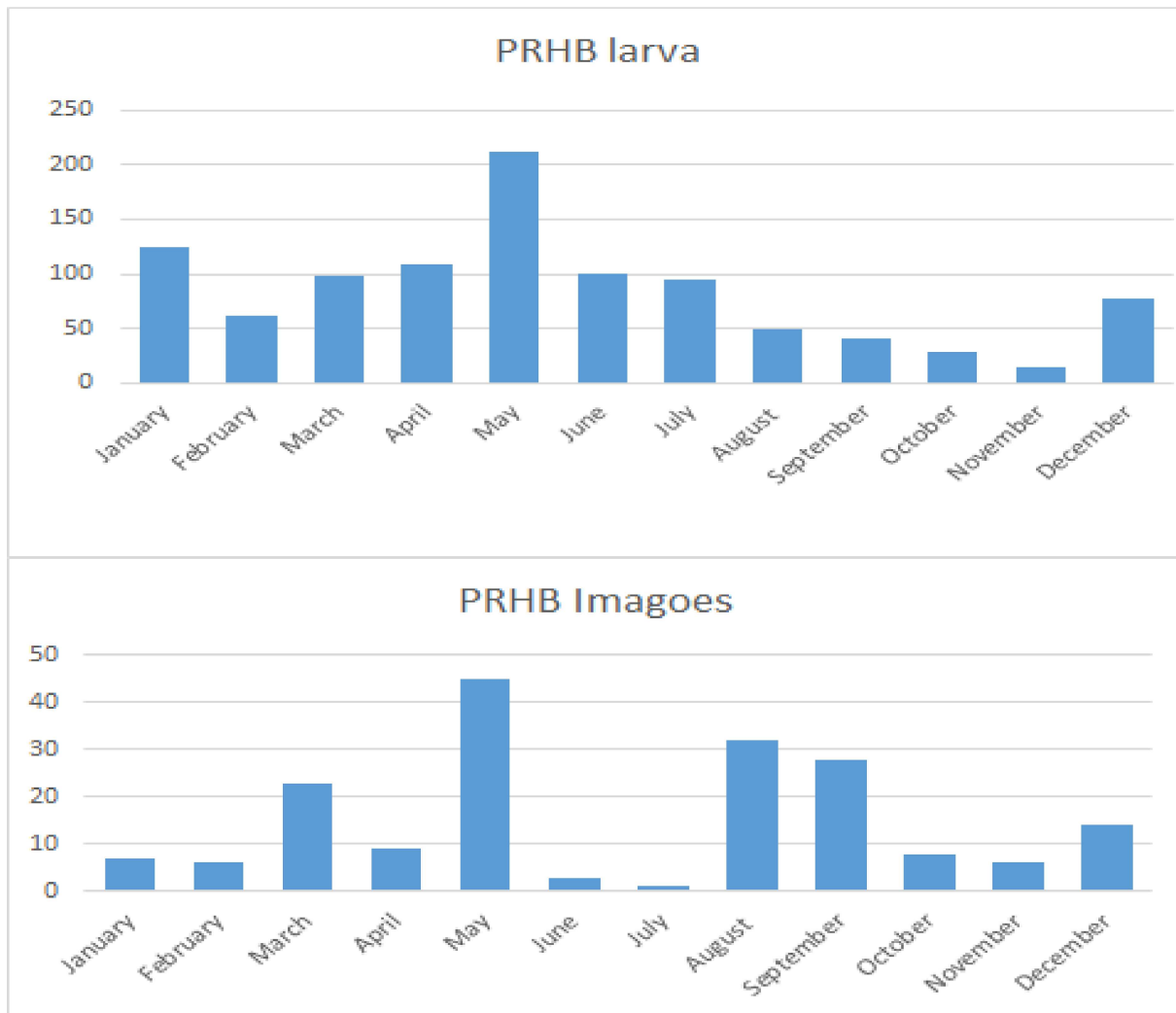


Figure 2-9. Number of observed PRHB larvae (top) and imagoes (bottom) per month throughout the year. Based on information provided by Carrion-Cabreear 2003, Monzon 2007, Biaggi-Caballero 2010, and Barber 2018.

Broods of the PRHB generally contain 50 to 150 eggs, with an average of 102 eggs per brood (Carrion-Cabrera 2003, p.38). The time to egg eclosion and viability (hatching success) rate have not been determined. After egg eclosion, the first instars devour the egg shells and then begin feeding from the most tender parts of the host plant (Biaggi-Caballero and López 2010, p.2). As

the first instar matures, PRHB larvae crawl to the older and woody part of the host plant eating any new growth, including leaves and stems.

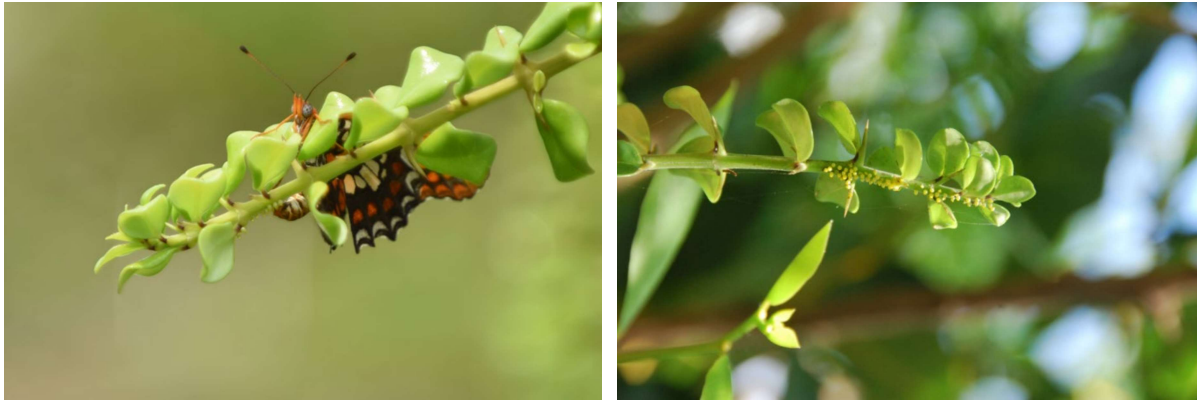


Figure 2-10. Left: female *Atlantea tulita* laying eggs on the host plant, prickly bush (*Oplonia spinosa*). Right: eggs of *Atlantea tulita* laid on the new growth (tender part) of *O. spinosa* branches. Photo by José Vargas, 2018.



Figure 2-11. Prickly bush (*Oplonia spinosa*) (left), Family Acanthaceae; endemic to several Caribbean islands and widely distributed in Puerto Rico. Eggs (right) found on prickly bush. Source: Willie Hernandez, Liga Ecológica Quebradillana, 2009.

Although the PRHB is believed to be a specialist because of its monophagous habit of feeding only on *O. spinosa*, recently Barber (2016, p. 9) documented a PRHB larva feeding on *Odontonema cuspidatum* (commonly known in Puerto Rico as “coral de jardín”) in Quebradillas (Figure 2-12). Like *O. spinosa*, *O. cuspidatum* is in the family Acanthaceae, but it is native to Mexico and has been introduced to the West Indies as an ornamental shrub (Axelrod 2011, p. 50). In addition, Morales and Estremera (2018, unpublished data) found that the PRHB caterpillar also feeds on *Justicia mirabiloides* (commonly known as West Indian water-willow; or in Spanish as papayo montuno). *Justicia mirabiloides*, which is also in the family Acanthaceae, is a perennial herb native to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. These rare observations of the PRHB caterpillar feeding on plants other than *O. spinosa* were of later instars (possibly 4th or 5th instar). Therefore, it is not known whether the first instar can use other plant species as a food source. Regardless, given the paucity of observations of feeding on other plant species, *O. spinosa* is an essential PRHB food source.

APPENDIX E

Section 106 Consultation



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

February 29, 2024

Lauren Bair Poche

HORNE

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

SHPO: CF-02-27-24-11 PR-RGRW-04118 – PONCE DEL SUR FARMS, INC., PR 505 Km. 9.75
BARRIO MONTELLANO, PONCE, PUERTO RICO 00731

Dear Ms. Poche,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela
State Historic Preservation Officer
CARC/GMO/OEDJR



February 28, 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-04118 – Del Sur Farms, Inc. – PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected*

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

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

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, HORNE is submitting documentation for activities proposed by Del Sur Farms, Inc. located at PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, in the municipality of Ponce. The undertaking for this project includes the purchase and installation of an irrigation system and water tanks. The Scope of Work (SOW) is the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks, 1,000 gallons each. The tanks will be installed on a gravel bed to be constructed on an elevated area of the farm. The tanks will be used for rain harvesting and irrigation of the ornamentals cropping area. The irrigation system consists of approximately 480 linear feet (ft) of an above ground PVC piping system that will convey water from the tanks to the ornamentals area. No water or power connections are needed for the proposed SOW. Irrigation system will work by gravity due to the difference in elevations between the tanks and the ornamentals area and will be used for storage of rainwater.

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		
Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118	City: Ponce	

Project Location: PR 505 Km 9.75 Bo. Montellano, Ponce, PR 00731	
Project Coordinates: 18.103958, -66.616201	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 317-000-006-05-901	
Type of Undertaking: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): c1985	Property Size (acres): 36.78


SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian: Maria F. Lopez Schmid
Date Reviewed: 02/08/2024
SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Steven J. Sarich, M.S., RPA
Date Reviewed: January 30, 2024

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

Project Description (Undertaking)

The proposed project includes the purchase and installation of an irrigation system and water tanks. The potential impacts associated to the purchase and installation of the irrigation system and the water tanks are included in the analyses below.

The farm has been used for agricultural purposes in the past with the growing of coffee and currently is used for the growing of ornamentals, tomatoes, pineapple, and cucumber. The Scope of Work (SOW) is the purchase and installation of five (5) water tanks, 1,000 gallons each, at coordinates 18.102674, -66.615404. The tanks will be installed on a gravel bed to be constructed on an elevated area of the farm. The tanks will be used for rain harvesting and irrigation of the ornamentals cropping area located at coordinates 18.103760, -66.616163. The irrigation system consists of approximately 480 linear feet (ft) of an above ground PVC piping system that will convey water from the tanks to the ornamentals area. No water or power connections are needed for the proposed SOW. Irrigation system will work by gravity due to the difference in elevations between the tanks and the ornamentals area and will be used for storage of rainwater. Field is not graded.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM RE-grow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118	City: Ponce

Area of Potential Effects


As defined in 36 CFR §800.16(d), the area of potential effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the area for the installation of an irrigation system and water tanks, 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 Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) shows that the project area has no previously identified archaeological sites within a 0.25-mile radius of the APE. No previously reported cultural resource studies have been conducted within a 0.25-mile radius of the project area. The landscape topography and soils are important when determining the probability of an archaeological site being found and the potential for site preservation in a given location. Three soil units are mapped within the 0.25-mile radius of the APE, including one soil unit that directly intersects the APE. These soil units include Caguabo gravelly clay loam, 20 to 60 percent slopes (CbF2); Consumo clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes (CuF2); and Mucara silty clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded (MuF2). The soil unit intersecting the APE is Mucara silty clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded (MuF2). Rio Piedras soils are formed in residuum eroded from basalt lava with a moderate typical pedon depth. These soils are described as slightly acidic to neutral, which will have minimal impact on the preservation of most classes of artifacts and archaeological features. The overall topography of the 0.25-mile buffer area is very steeply sloped. The Mucara soils in the area have also been impacted by natural erosion with C horizon parent material as shallow as 48 centimeters below the ground surface. The closest fresh water source is Río Chiquito 0.36 mi (0.58 KM) from the APE. Given the natural soil erosion and minimal depositional activity, steeply sloped terrain, and shallow and surficial ground disturbances from prior landscape modification and current commercial land use, the potential for *in situ* archaeological sites is considered low.

Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture

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

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGrow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118	City: Ponce


eligible or listed Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. Additionally, there are **no** NRHP-listed historic properties within the quarter mile buffer zone from the APE.

The proposed project is located in a rural, mountainous terrain surrounded by dense vegetation. The property lies east of Route PR-505 in the north of Ponce. A circa 1985 building is located south of the APE geocoordinates. The building is present on a 1993 aerial image, shown below left, but not on a 1977 aerial image. The building is the applicant's house (shown below right) that is a one-story reinforced concrete house with a flat concrete roof and a metal roof structure addition on the left side.



Figure 1 & 2. Detail of 1993 aerial view showing the house on the property, and house façade, view to the west.

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

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118	City: Ponce


Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that **no** previously identified historic properties are located within or adjacent to the proposed project 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 quarter-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-04118 is located. The closest freshwater body is approximately 0.36 mi (0.58 km) of the project area. The construction of public roads residential and agricultural structure has minimally impacted the surrounding terrain. Given the natural soil erosion and minimal depositional activity, steeply sloped terrain, and shallow and surficial ground disturbances from prior landscape modification and current commercial land use, the potential for *in situ* archaeological sites is considered low. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project activities.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM RE-grow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118	City: Ponce

Recommendation

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

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

This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

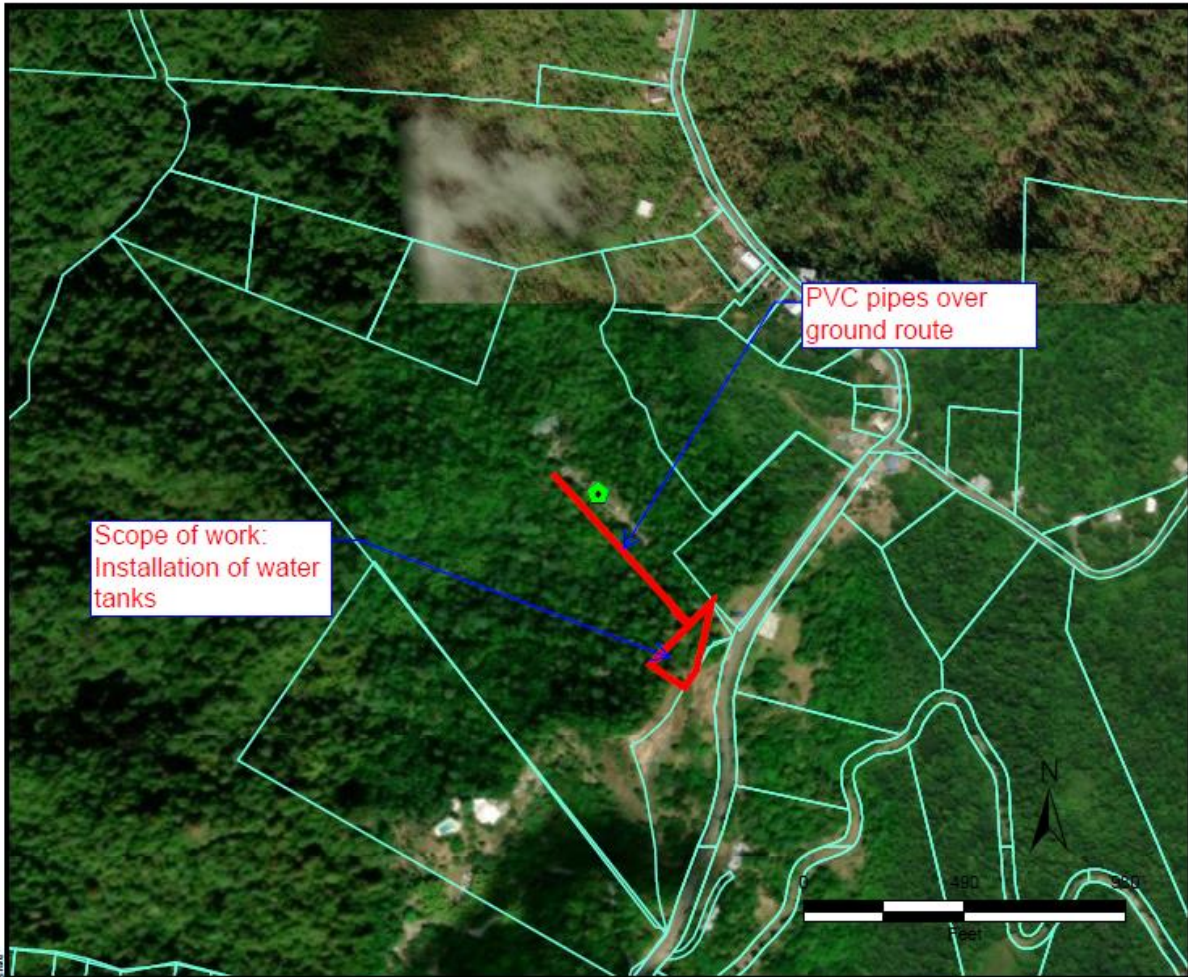
The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the above information and: <input type="checkbox"/> Concurs with the information provided. <input type="checkbox"/> Does not concur with the information provided.	
Comments: 	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation Officer	Date:

Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118

City: Ponce

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






Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 1/5/2024

Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Area of Potential Effect
-  Parcelario

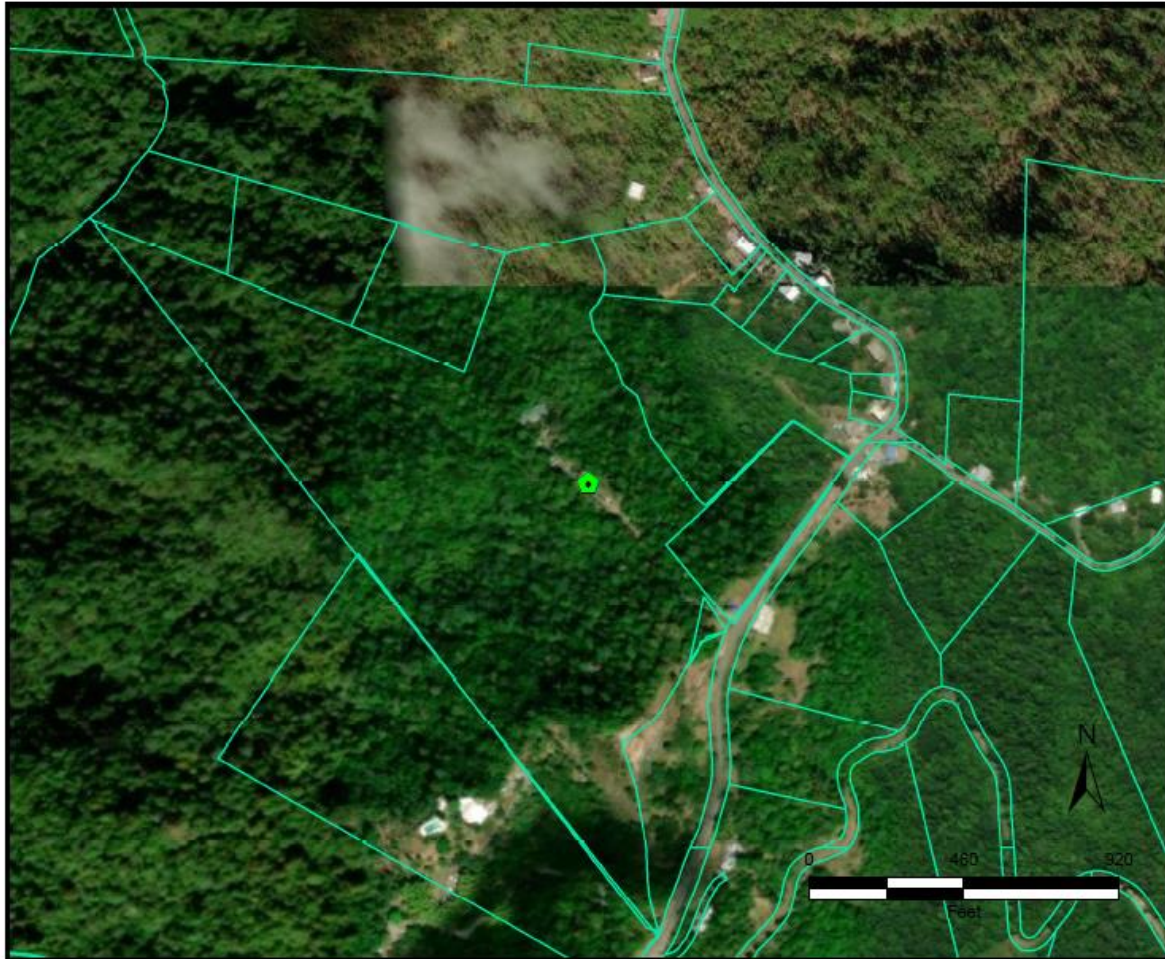


Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118

City: Ponce

Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map



 <p>TETRA TECH</p> <p>Source: CRIM</p> <p>Author: TG Date: 11/16/2023</p>	<p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tier 2 Site Historic Comunidades Traditional Urban Centers Cultural Resource District Polygon Parcelario	
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Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118

City: Ponce

Project (Parcel) Location - USGS Topographic Map







TETRA TECH

Source: USGS

Author: TG

Date: 9/19/2023

Legend

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

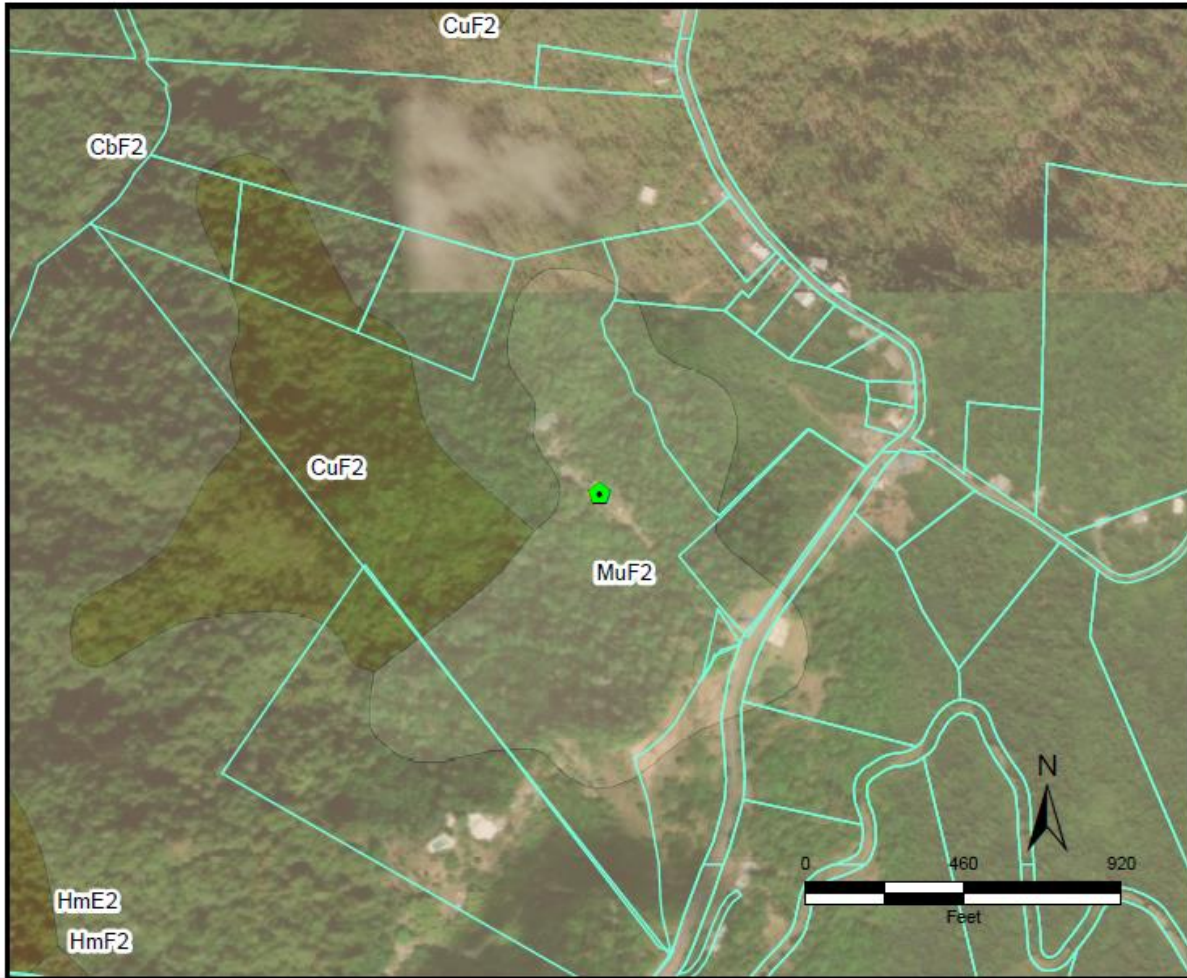


Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118

City: Ponce

Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map



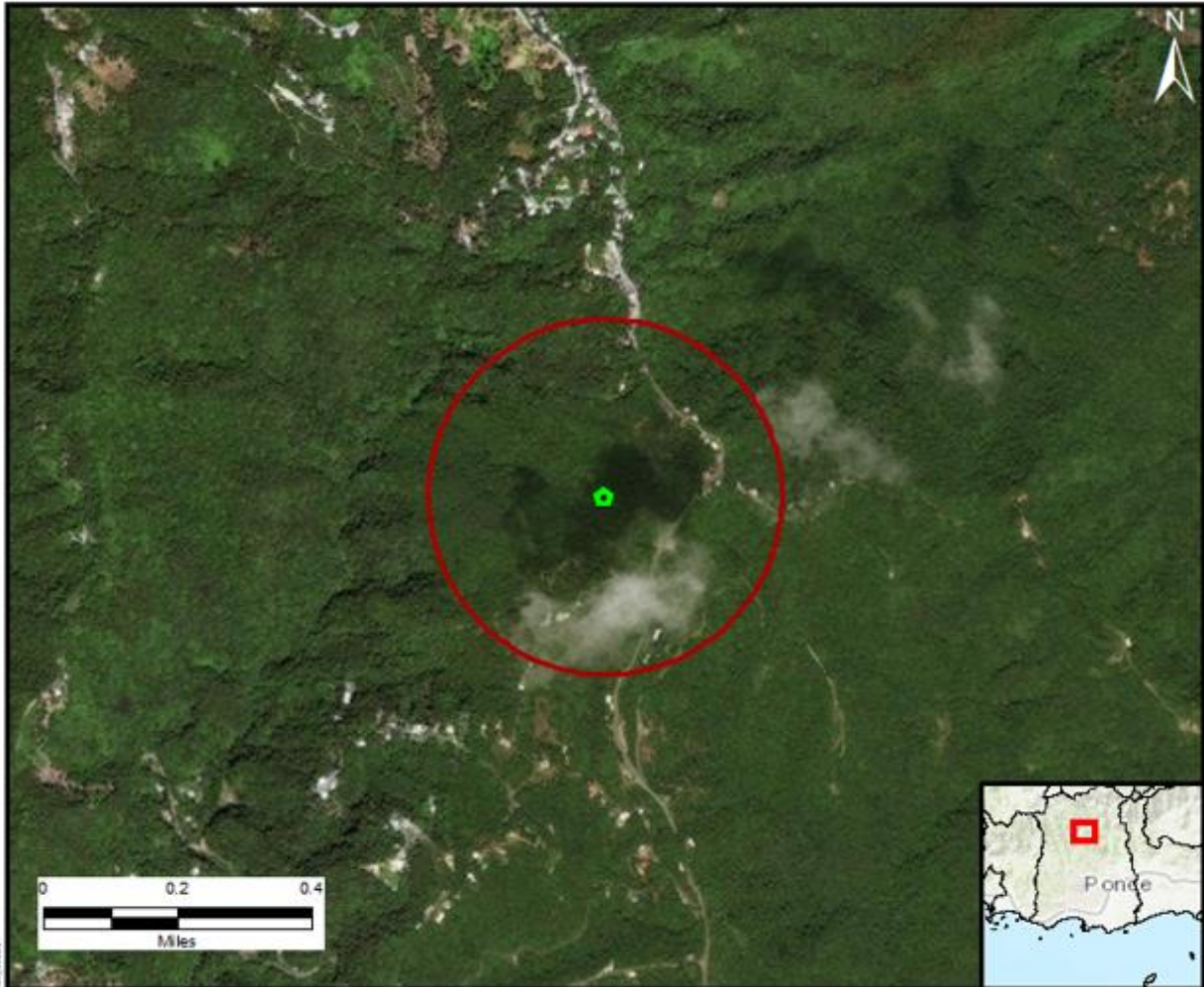
 TETRA TECH Source:USDA	Legend	
	Tier 2 Site Parcelario Soil Type CbF2;Caguabo gravelly clay loam, 20 to 60 percent slopes, eroded CuF2;Consumo clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes HmE2;Humatas clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes HmF2;Humatas clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes MuF2;Mucara silty clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded	
Author: TG	Date: 11/16/2023	

Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118

City: Ponce

Project (Parcel) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map



Source: National Park Service

Author: TG

Date: 10/17/2023

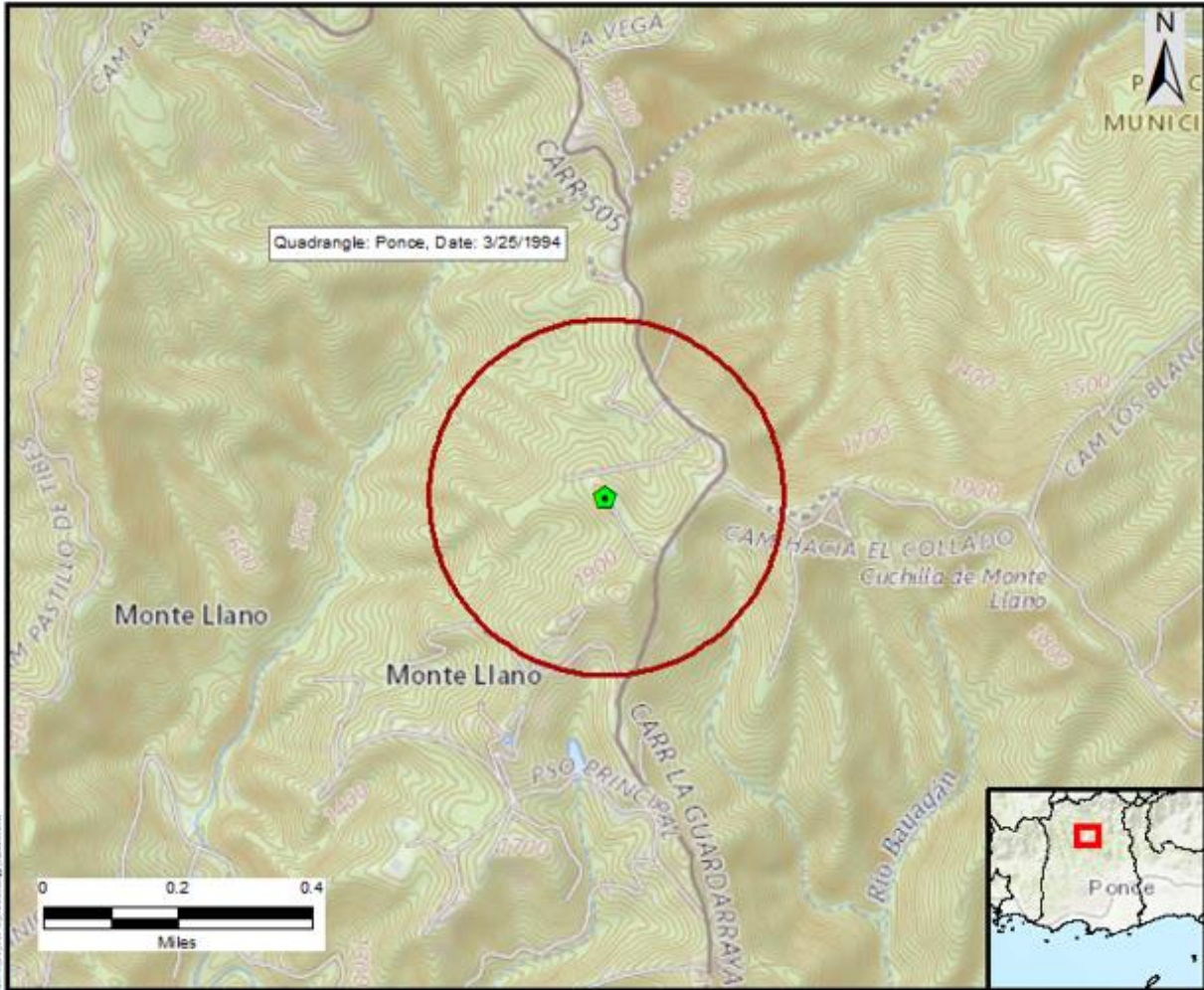
- Legend
-  Tier 2 Site
 -  Quarter Mile Buffer
 -  Historic Comunidades
 -  Traditional Urban Centers
 -  Cultural Resource District Polygon

Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118

City: Ponce

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



<p>TETRA TECH</p> <p>Source: National Park Service</p> <p>Author: TG</p> <p>Date: 7/21/2023</p>	<p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tier 2 Site Quarter Mile Buffer Historic Comunidades Traditional Urban Centers Cultural Resource District Polygon
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Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118

City: Ponce

Photograph Key



Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118

City: Ponce



Photo #: 1

Description (include direction): Scope of work 1: Installation of water tanks system, view to the northeast.

Date: 1/2/2024



Photo #: 2

Description (include direction): Scope of work 1: Installation of water tanks system, view to the southeast.

Date: 1/2/2024

Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118

City: Ponce



Photo #: 3

Description (include direction): Scope of work 1: Installation of water tanks system, view to the west.

Date: 1/2/2024



Photo #: 4

Description (include direction): Scope of work 1: Installation of water tanks system, view to the southeast.

Date: 1/2/2024

Subrecipient: Del Sur Farms, Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04118

City: Ponce



Photo #: 5

Date: 1/2/2024

Description (include direction): Scope of work 1: Installation of water tanks system (route of the over ground PVC pipes system), view to the southeast.



Photo #: 6

Date: 1/2/2024

Description (include direction): Scope of work 1: Installation of water tanks system (end of the over ground PVC system), view to the southeast.



October 20, 2022

Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

Cuartel de Ballajá Bldg.

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Re: Authorization to Submit Documents

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela:

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

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

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

Cordially,

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

Juan C. Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng

Director of Disaster Recovery

CDBG DR-MIT