### **Environmental Assessment**

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

## **Project Information**

Project ID: PR-RGRW-01350

Project Name: Finca Agroecologica Bohiti

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

**State/Local Identifier:** Puerto Rico / Municipio of Las Marias

Preparer: Angel Peltola, Deputy Program Manager

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### **Project Location:**

The proposed project, which includes the installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system and purchase of equipment, is located on a 150-acre property (Cadastral Numbers 210-003-200-03-000, 210-000-002-43-000, and 210-003-200-04-000) at Carretera 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista, Las Marias, Puerto Rico 00670 (see **Appendix A**, **Figure 1**- Site Location and **Figure 2**- Site Vicinity). This property is in a rural area in the central portion of Las Marias Municipio. Access to the project areas is provided via an existing paved road that runs north/south through the central portion of the property.

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

• Storage unit (two shipping containers) and solar panel system (18.246956, -66.981519) are in the western portion of the parcel.

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

The proposed project includes the purchase and installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system and the purchase of various farming equipment including a cocoa winnower, chocovision, merchandise transportation, coffee business equipment, delivery route (production supply), galvanized Chorrera, Tek screws, 3x3 inch (in) tubes, 4x4 in tubes, 16-gauge purlin, welding rod, and zinc galvalume.

The objective is to allow the applicant, who is currently harvesting coffee, to expand the operation into processing the beans. This will be achieved by placing the two shipping containers side-by-side opening the interior walls creating one large unit to house and utilize the processing equipment. Each shipping container is 170 square feet (sq ft) (20 feet [ft] by 8.5 ft) with a height of approximately 9.5 ft. The shipping containers will be placed on the ground, and eight concrete beams (each beam is 8-ft by 1-ft by 1-ft) will be installed under the containers to aid in leveling and stabilizing. Using the above listed materials, the applicant will construct a 20 ft by 80 ft roof structure over the containers where the solar panels will be installed. The roof structure will be constructed with metal posts extending 6 in into the ground and spaced 10 ft apart and is not included in the Intended Use of Grant Funds application.

Electricity to the shipping containers will be provided by solar panels using above ground cables. The water supply is from an underground water meter at the side of the main road that is managed by the Autoridad de Acueductos y Alcantarillados (AAA). The applicant will connect the containers to the water meter using a faucet and either a hose or PVC pipes at the side of the applicant's residence, which is approximately 37 ft north of the containers. All piping and connections to the containers will be aboveground surface lines.

The project will have minimal ground disturbance and no vegetation or tree clearing is required for construction. The applicant owns the property; therefore, no acquisition is required.

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

In September of 2017, Hurricanes Irma and María produced sustained winds and intense rainfall that decimated agricultural production across the island of Puerto Rico. These hurricanes caused the loss of eighty percent of crop value island wide, exacerbating challenges to food security and agricultural business development. The Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture (PRDA) estimated seven hundred and eighty million dollars (\$780 million) worth of damages from the hurricanes to the agricultural sector of the economy.

Many properties were damaged in Hurricane Maria, resulting in struggling businesses. The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (Re-Grow Program) will develop greater agricultural capacity and address the needs created by Hurricanes Irma and María with a substantial investment of CDBG-DR funds for a wide variety of viable and sustainable agricultural activities.

Agricultural capacity and strong food systems are fundamental to resiliency of economies and, as Puerto Rico's entire agriculture sector was devastated by the Hurricanes, this Program is designed to revitalize this industry. The Re-Grow Program is an integral part of the long-term expansion of jobs in the sector, food security and contributing to overall economic recovery of disaster impacted populations.

The applicant does not have the resources to purchase farming equipment and materials for their agricultural operation nor has the applicant received any other outside source of funding for the project. The installation of the shipping containers will help increase agricultural production on the farm and expand operations beyond raw material to include processing the harvested beans. The proposed project will generate more income for the farm and support continued local agricultural production during future disasters.

Agencies consulted for the proposed project are provided in the *List of Sources, Agencies* and *Persons Consulted* section of this EA. Further discussion of the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives is provided in the *Cumulative Impact Analysis, Alternatives/No Action Alternative*, and *Summary of Findings and Conclusions* sections of this EA.

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

The general topography of the property is gentle slopes with open pastures and vegetated areas. The property land use is classified as classified as Rural Land Specially Protected – Agricultural (SREP-A). The property is currently used for agricultural purposes, which is consistent with current land use. All project components are in the western portion of the property. The applicant's residence is located north of the project site, and a creek runs along the west side of the project site. The property is surrounded by low density development. The project site is currently undeveloped.

# **Funding Information**

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
B-17-DM-72-0001		
B-18-DP-72-0001	Community Development Block Grant –	¢11 020 142 220
B-19-DP-78-0002	Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)	\$11,938,162,230
B-18-DE-72-0001	-	

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$79,800

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$79,800

# 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, A	AND REGULATIO	NS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6
Airport Hazards	Yes No	The project site is not within 2,500 ft of a
24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D		civil primary or commercial service airport or within 15,000 ft of a military airport. The nearest civil primary or commercial service airport, Eugenio Mario De Hostos, is located 55,608 ft (11 miles [mi]) west of the project site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport, is located 341,963 ft (65 mi) northwest of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with airport hazards requirements.
		The Airport Hazards Partner Worksheet and Airport Hazards Map (Figure B 1-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 1.

Coastal Barrier Resources  Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes No	The project site is not located in a Coastal Barrier Resource Systems Unit (CBRS) or Otherwise Protected Area (OPA). There are no CBRS units in Las Marias. The closest CBRS unit, Rio Guayanjibo, is located 71,531 ft (14 mi) west of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.  The Coastal Barrier Resources Act Partner Worksheet and Coastal Barrier Resources Map (Figure B 2-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 2.
Flood Insurance  Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes No	A review of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Community Panel 72000C1030H (effective date 04/19/2005), shows the project site is in Flood Zone X, which is not in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Flood insurance is not required. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Flood Disaster Protection Act and National Flood Insurance Reform Act.  The Flood Insurance Partner Worksheet and FIRM (Figure B 3-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 3.
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, A	AND REGULATIO	ONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5
Clean Air  Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	Yes No	The project site is in Las Marias Municipio, which is within a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) designated attainment area. Municipios in nonattainment or maintenance areas include Arecibo, Bayamon, Catano, Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan, and Toa Baja. Project activities include the installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system and purchase of equipment. The project is not anticipated to have a negative impact on air quality and will not increase residential density. Emissions associated with the proposed

		actions are temporary and limited to the use of small construction equipment and will be well below the Federal General Conformity Rule de minimis thresholds. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.  The Air Quality Partner Worksheet, List of Non-Attainment/Maintenance Status Counties in Puerto Rico, and Clean Air Map (Figure B 4-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 4.
Coastal Zone Management Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes No	The project site is not located within the Puerto Rico Coastal Management Zone. The closest coastal zone area is located 58,194 ft (11 mi) west of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.  The Coastal Zone Management Partner Worksheet and Coastal Zone Map (Figure B 5-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 5.
Contamination and Toxic Substances  24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)	Yes No	The project site was evaluated for potential contamination by conducting a field site inspection on August 17, 2023, to identify any onsite hazards including, but not limited to, soil staining, above ground storage tanks, signs of underground storage tanks, odors, and hazardous debris. The site inspection did not identify any onsite hazards (see Appendix C- Environmental Site Inspection Report).  In addition, a desktop review of USEPA databases, NEPAssist, and other sources was conducted to determine if the project sites were located near dump sites, junk yards, landfills, hazardous waste sites, or industrial sites, including USEPA National Priorities List Sites (Superfund sites), CERCLA or state-equivalent sites, RCRA Corrective Action sites with release(s) or suspected

		release(s) requiring clean-up action and/or further investigation.  The Contamination and Toxic Substances Map shows one water discharger site approximately 2,920 ft northwest of the project site. The water discharger had a non-major general permit covered facility for urban stormwater discharge with a permit expiration date of June 30, 2021. No violations have been identified. The facility would not adversely affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements.  The Contamination and Toxics Substances Partner Worksheet, Contamination and Toxics Sites Summary, and Contamination and Toxic Substances Map (Figure B 6-1) are
Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	Yes No	The project involves activities that have the potential to affect protected species or habitats including but not limited to activities such as ground disturbance.  Threatened, endangered, and migratory bird species were identified by reviewing data from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC) Tool. In addition, critical species habitat was reviewed through the USFWS IPaC Critical Habitat Portal.  The review identified four federally listed species (Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk [Buteo platypterus brunnescens], Puerto Rican parrot [Amazona vittata], Puerto Rican boa [Chilabothrus inornatus], and the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly [Atlantea tulita]) with the potential to occur within the project area. There is no designated or

proposed critical habitat within the project area. The closest final designated critical habitat is located 24,066 ft (5 mi) south of the project site.

The project activities will result in ground disturbing activities, including constructing concrete pillars for stabilization and concrete entrances for the shipping containers, as well as the installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system. A qualified biologist reviewed the proposed activity location and determined the review area does contain trees that could provide suitable habitat to multiple federally listed species; however, no tree or vegetation removal is planned to occur, and inspectors did not observe any suitable ground or vegetative habitat, individuals, or nests for any listed species at the proposed project location. There is no critical habitat for any species found within the subject property based on the USFWS database.

Therefore, as currently designed, the proposed project activities will have No effect on any federally listed species or designated critical habitat.

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

The Endangered Species Act Partner Worksheet, Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Memorandum with IPaC, and Critical Habitat Map (Figure B 7-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 7.

Explosive and Flammable Hazards  24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	Yes No	The project includes the new installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system and purchase of equipment. The project itself is not the development of a hazardous facility nor will the project increase residential densities. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements.  The Explosive and Flammable Hazards Partner Worksheet is provided in Appendix B, Attachment 8.
Farmlands Protection  Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	Yes No	This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. Farmland of statewide importance is within the project area. Although the project includes new construction, the project is exempt from review under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FFPA) as the project is limited to construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations. No further review is required. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.  The Farmlands Protection Partner Worksheet and Prime Farmland Map (Figure B 9-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 9.
Floodplain Management  Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24  CFR Part 55	Yes No	The FEMA FIRM, Community Panel 72000C1030H (effective date 04/19/2005), shows the project site is in Flood Zone X. An Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) map was developed by FEMA for this FIRM, which shows the project site is in Flood Zone X. The project is not located in the 100-year floodplain or ABFE special flood hazard area; therefore, no further action is required. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988.  The Floodplain Management Partner Worksheet and ABFE Floodplain Map

			(Figure B 10-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 10.
Historic Preservation  National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	Yes	No	The project will involve new installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system on a previously disturbed property. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consultation was performed.
			No National Historic Landmark (NHL) are within or near the project area.
			A site visit was conducted on August 17, 2023, by an SOI-qualified Archaeologist. Record reviews and research were conducted at the SHPO and the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture (ICP) to determine if any archaeologically sensitive resources could be present within a 0.5-mi radius. The results of the record search and the site inspection indicate that there are no historic properties or cultural resources within the 0.50-mi radius study area or within the project Area of Potential Effect (APE). Based on the results of the historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the APE.
			The determination was submitted to SHPO by PRDOH for concurrence on October 27, 2023, and SHPO concurred with the No Historic Properties Affected determination on November 10, 2023. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.
			The Historic Preservation Partner Worksheet and SHPO consultation are provided in <b>Appendix B</b> , <b>Attachment 11</b> .
Noise Abatement and Control  Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet	Yes	No	The project activities are limited to the installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system and purchase of equipment and do not involve residential new construction or rehabilitation. No further evaluation is

Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B		required. The project is in compliance with HUD's noise regulation.	
Sole Source Aquifers  Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes No	According to the USEPA's Source Water Protection, Sole Source Aquifer Protection Program, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.	
Wetlands Protection  Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes No	The project site was reviewed for wetlands using the USFWS Wetland Inventory Mapper and a visual confirmation during the field site inspection.  A riverine wetland is located approximately 111 ft west and 98 ft north of the project site at its closest point, however, the wetland will not be impacted by project activities if best management practices (BMPs), such as silt fencing and erosion control, are implemented during any ground-disturbing activities. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. The Wetlands Protection Partner Worksheet and Wetland Map (Figure B 12-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 12.	
Wild and Scenic Rivers  Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes No	A review of the USFWS National Wild and Scenic River mapper identified no Wild and Scenic Rivers or National Rivers Inventory (NRI) rivers present in Las Marias Municipio. The closest Wild and Scenic River segment is located 413,737 ft (78 mi) east of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.  The Wild and Scenic Rivers Partner Worksheet and Wild and Scenic Rivers Map (Figure B 13-1) are provided in Appendix B, Attachment 13.	
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE			

Environmental Justice  Executive Order 12898	Yes No	The ReGrow Program intends to alleviate negative economic impacts to, and strengthen, the agricultural industry in Puerto Rico. The project's direct and indirect impacts are limited to a small area on a single land parcel. The project will benefit the farm owner by improving agricultural use and production. The project will not facilitate development that would negatively affect human health or result in disproportionate adverse environmental impacts to low-income or minority
		impacts to low-income or minority populations. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898.
		The Environmental Justice Partner Worksheet and EJScreen Report are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 14</b> .

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
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LAND DEVELOPMENT				
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The property land use is classified as classified as Rural Land Specially Protected – Agricultural (SREP-A). The proposed action is continued agricultural use of property, which is compatible with zoning and existing land use. The property is in a rural area of Las Marias Municipio, and project activities will not contribute to urban sprawl.		
		The applicant and/or construction manager is required to obtain any necessary local and territorial building and environmental permits prior to construction activities commencing.		
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	Soil suitability will be assessed prior to construction and will be addressed during local permitting processes. Contractors will be required to use best management practices during construction to control erosion and prevent runoff. The soil is currently being used for agriculture purposes.		
		Landslide data from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) indicates less than 25 landslides per square kilometer (sq km) for the project area (see <b>Appendix A</b> , <b>Figure 3</b> - USGS Landslide Map).		
		DNER authorization is required for any extraction, removal, excavation, and dredging of the components of the earth's crust.		
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	Contractors will be required to provide health and safety plans and monitoring during construction. Noise levels will temporarily increase during construction; however, program activities are limited to the existing farm property and will not elevate ambient noise levels in the long-term. Contractors will be required to comply with the applicable local noise ordinances. Noise impacts will be mitigated by restricting construction activities to daylight hours and at the times established in the Regulation for Noise Control and Pollution in Puerto Rico. Additionally, the project does not include housing to where inhabitants would be affected.		

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		

Employment and Income Patterns	2	The project will result in short-term benefit to employment if contractors are hired for the installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system. After construction, the project will support the continuation of operations and intended use of the farm, which produces produce for Puerto Rico communities.  The project is not anticipated to have a significant impact on employment and income patterns; however, the project may help restore employment opportunities and income patterns.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The project is a rural area in Las Marias Municipio and will not alter the demographics or character of the surrounding community. Project activities will not result in any direct or indirect displacement of individuals or families.
Environmental Justice	2	The project's direct and indirect impacts are limited to a small area on a single land parcel. The project will not facilitate development that would negatively affect human health or result in disproportionate adverse environmental impacts to low-income or minority populations.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation		
COMMUNITY FACILIT	COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES			
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The proposed project activities will occur on private land and will not contribute to any change in educational or cultural facilities or affect access to or capacity of educational or cultural facilities.		
Commercial Facilities	2	The proposed project will increase agricultural production, resulting in a net positive impact to the applicant's farm commercial output and a positive benefit to surrounding commercial enterprises who purchase and sell the produce.		
Health Care and Social Services	2	The proposed project activities will occur on private land and will not affect access to or capacity of health care and social services.		
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The proposed project may cause an increase in short- term generation of solid waste during construction. All construction debris will be disposed of at the proper		

		facilities for the debris type (i.e., construction waste). The project will not contribute to long-term needs or changes to solid waste disposal and recycling.	
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system and purchase of equipment will not result in significant changes to the property's current wastewater or sanitary sewer use. No sewage utilities will be installed or connected to this project. Only potable water will be used for irrigation. Wastewater generated will be limited to minimal runoff in the area of the project site. The use of fertilizer or pesticides are controlled by local and territorial regulations and are consistent with the current land use.	
Water Supply	2	The proposed project activities are not expected to result in significant changes to the water supply. The water supply is from an underground water meter at the side of the main road that is managed by AAA. The applicant will connect the containers to the water meter using a faucet and either a hose or PVC pipes at the side of the applicant's residence. All piping and connections to the containers will be aboveground surface lines.	
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The proposed project activities will occur on private land and will not affect public safety concerns such as police, fire, and emergency medical services.	
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The proposed project activities will occur on private land and will not result in any changes to access or use of parks, open space, and recreation areas.	
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The project activities will occur on private land and have no relation to transportation services. The proposed activities will not result in any changes in transportation and accessibility.	

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation	
NATURAL FEATURES			
Unique Natural 2 Features, Water Resources		A riverine wetland runs north and west of the project site. No construction or project activities will occur within the waterbody or affect quality or access to the stream/wetland.	

Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The project area has already been previously disturbed for farm operations, and the proposed project is not anticipated to result in any new impacts to trees, vegetation, wildlife, or native plant communities. No tree clearing or pruning is anticipated prior to construction.
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Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
CLIMATE AND ENERG	SY	
Climate Change Impacts	2	The proposed ReGrow program project aims to increase resiliency in the agricultural industry to prepare for future climate related disasters, including drought. The Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation Assessment tool (https://resilience.climate.gov/#assessment-tool) provides historical and future climate data for five common climate-related hazards (extreme heat, drought, wildfires, flooding, and coastal inundation). The data model for the census tract that includes application location does not indicate a significant increase in hazard risks from climate change for drought, wildfire, or flooding, when comparing historical data (1976-2005) to future projections. The model projects a greater number of days where temperatures will exceed 90 degrees Fahrenheit after 2015, which is a systemic trend in the model across the Island.  The specific activities proposed for this economic development project are limited in scale and land impacts. The proposed storage unit (two shipping containers) and solar panel system installation activities are for individual farm use and will not result in a significant increase in electricity or water draw. The equipment that will be used during construction and operation will also be limited to occasional use at this specific land parcel, and therefore will not generate a significant amount of greenhouse gas. Additionally, project activities will not result in tree clearing that would contribute to a loss in carbon capture.
Energy Efficiency	2	The project will not result in significant additional energy consumption. The applicant will use solar panels to generate electricity to the greenhouse and

the project will not require any expansion to existing power facilities.	
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### Additional Studies Performed:

No additional studies were performed.

### **Field Inspection** (Date and completed by):

Field inspection completed on August 17, 2023 – Delise Torres-Ortiz, SWCA Environmental Consultants.

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

Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER). 2023. Puerto Rico DNER Species Ranges – under construction. Accessed August 18, 2023. Available at: <a href="https://arcq.is/1S9aju0">https://arcq.is/1S9aju0</a>.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). 2022. National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems 2023-2027. Accessed January 31, 2023. Available at: <u>National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) 2023-2027</u>, <u>Appendix B: National and State Maps (faa.gov)</u>.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). 2023. FEMA Flood Map Service Center - Map Panel 72000C0H545H (effective 4/19/2005). Accessed August 18, 2023. Available at: <a href="https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home">https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home</a>.

Institute of Puerto Rican Culture (ICP). 2023. San Juan, Puerto Rico. Data collection conducted on September 29, 2023.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office for Coastal Management. 2023. Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Boundary. Accessed August 18, 2023. Available at: Puerto Rico Coastal Vulnerability Viewer (arcgis.com).

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). 2023. San Juan, Puerto Rico. Data collection conducted on August 31,2023.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). 2022a. Envirofacts Mapper. Air pollution data (ICIS-AIR), Brownfields, Hazardous Waste (RCRAInfo), Superfund National Priorities List (NPL), Toxic Releases Inventory (TRI), and National Pollutants Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES). Accessed August 18, 2023. Available at: https://geopub.epa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/EMEF/efpoints/MapServer.

USEPA. 2022b. Sole Source Aquifer Map. Accessed March 1, 2023. Available at: <a href="https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ad">https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ad</a> <a href="https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ad">https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ad</a> <a href="https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ad">https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ad</a> <a href="https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ad">https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ad</a> <a href="https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html">https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html</a>?

USEPA. 2023a. Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for All Criteria Pollutants. USEPA Green Book. Accessed January 31, 2023. Available at: <a href="https://www3.epa.gov/airguality/greenbook/anayo-pr.html">https://www3.epa.gov/airguality/greenbook/anayo-pr.html</a>.

USEPA. 2023b. EJScreen: Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool. Accessed October 13, 2023. Available at: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/download-ejscreen-data">https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/download-ejscreen-data</a>.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2019. Coastal Barrier Resources System. Accessed August 18, 2023. Available at: <a href="https://www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Mapper.html">https://www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Mapper.html</a>.

USFWS. 2023a. Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Accessed October 1, 2023. Available at: <a href="https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/location/index">https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/location/index</a>.

USFWS. 2023b. Critical Habitat for Threatened & Endangered Species. Accessed October 1, 2023. Available at:

https://fws.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=9d8de5e265ad4fe 09893cf75b8dbfb77.

USFWS. 2023c. National Wetlands Inventory Surface Waters and Wetlands Mapper. Accessed August 18, 2023. Available at: https://fwsprimary.wim.usgs.gov/wetlands/apps/wetlands-mapper/.

U.S. Forest Service. 2022. National Wild and Scenic River Segments. Accessed August 18, 2023. Available at: <a href="https://www.rivers.gov/mapping-gis.php">https://www.rivers.gov/mapping-gis.php</a>; <a href="https://www.rivers.gov/mapping-gis.php">Wild & Scenic Rivers | US Forest Service (usda.gov)</a>.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). 2022. Concentration of Landslides caused by Hurricane Maria, Puerto Rico. Accessed August 18, 2023. Available at: <u>U.S. Landslide Inventory</u> (arcqis.com).

### List of Permits Obtained:

No permits have been obtained.

### Public Outreach [24 CFR 58.43]:

Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture has worked closely with the agricultural community. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations for HUD, the public will be notified of the project through publication of the combined Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) – Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI-RROF) notice with a 15-day public comment period.

### Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]:

The installation of a storage unit (two shipping containers) and solar panel system at the project site is not anticipated to have a negative impact on environmental resources. None of the environmental assessment factors nor the regulations reviewed in the above checklist resulted in negative environmental impacts or the need for mitigation. Overall, the project will have a net positive impact by helping a small business increase their

capacity for agricultural production. No other planned or ongoing projects were identified in the project vicinity that could contribute to cumulative impacts of environmental resources.

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

Within the boundaries of the property, other locations could be considered for the new greenhouse structures and warehouse; however, other locations may result in greater environmental impacts such as additional ground disturbance or tree clearing or may increase costs to the applicant.

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

Under the No Action Alternative, the applicant would not receive federal funding to install two shipping containers and a solar panel system and purchase equipment. Consequently, the applicant may not be able to recover and continue agricultural production. Given the degree of need for greater agricultural capacity in Puerto Rico following Hurricanes Irma and María, the costs of foregoing the project would exceed the benefits.

### **Summary of Findings and Conclusions:**

The proposed project would not result in any adverse impacts to the surrounding natural, historical, and water resources; generate significant air or noise pollution; or promote environmental or socioeconomic injustices. The proposed project is not located within a coastal zone or near a major water resource.

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

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

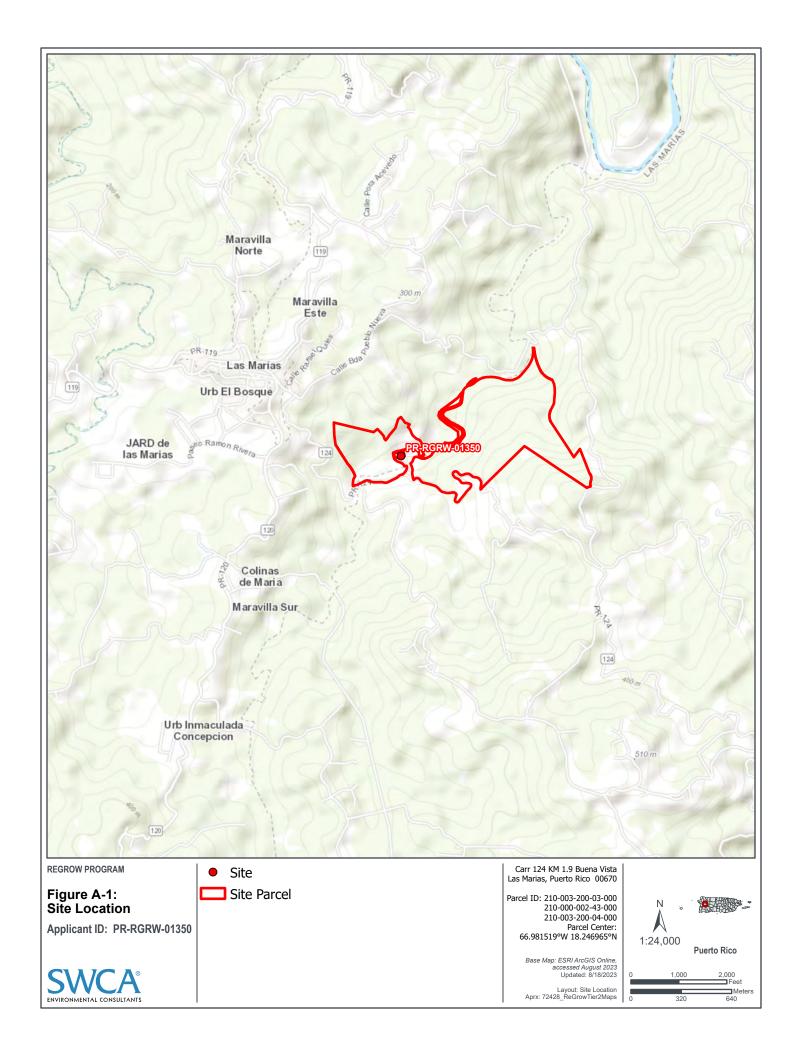
Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure		
Endangered Species	General Condition:		
Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	The current project activities do not involve the removal of trees. If any tree clearing is to be proposed, the project will need to be re-evaluated for impacts to threatened and endangered species.		
	If a Puerto Rican Boa (Boa) is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off site on its own. If the Boa does not move off site, the construction manager shall contact the Puerto Rico DNER to relocate the Boa.		
Historic Preservation	General Condition:		
National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	If historic properties are discovered, unanticipated effects on historic properties are found, or cultural materials are encountered, work should cease in the immediate area; work can continue where no historic properties or cultural materials are present. Please contact PRDOH to consult on further actions that may be necessary to protect historic properties or cultural materials.		
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Best management practices, such as silt fencing and erosion control, must be implemented during any ground-disturbing activities.		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	The proposed action is continued agricultural use of property, which is compatible with the existing land use.		
	The applicant and/or construction manager is required to obtain any necessary local and territorial building and environmental permits prior to construction activities commencing.		

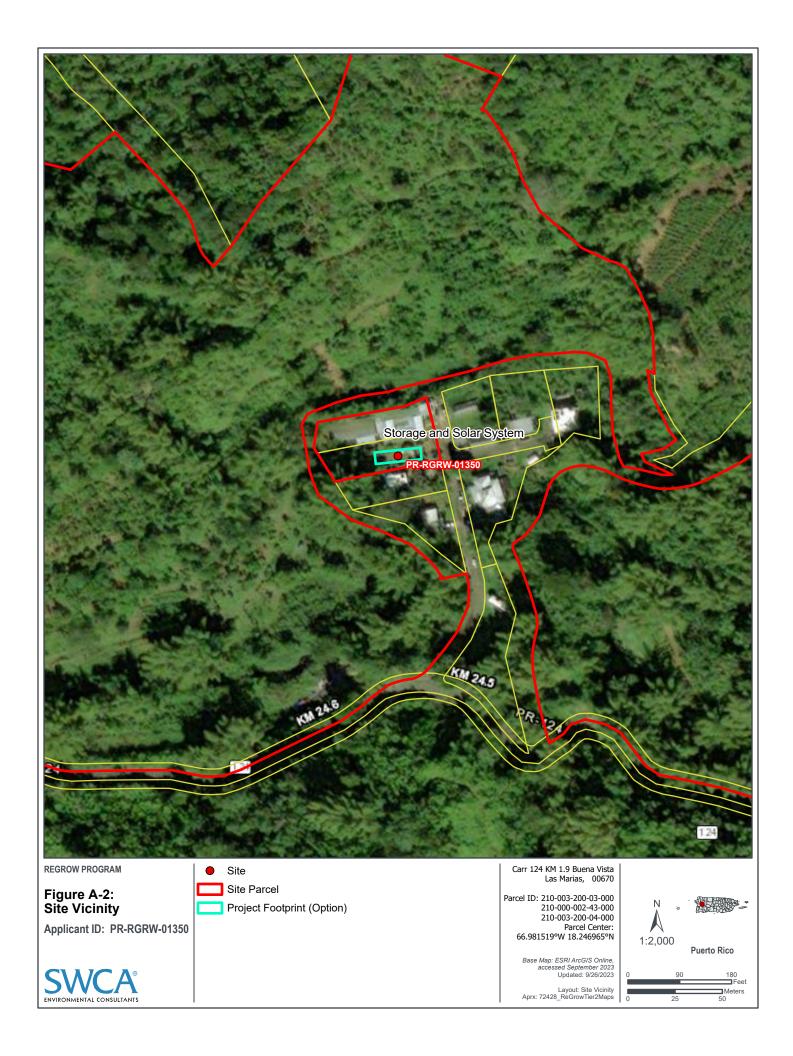
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	Soil suitability will be assessed prior to construction and will be addressed during local permitting processes. Contractors will be required to use best management practices during construction.  DNER authorization is required for any extraction, removal, excavation, and dredging of the components of the earth's crust.	
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	Contractors will be required to provide health and safety plans and monitoring during construction.  Contractors will be required to comply with the applicable local noise ordinances.	
	Noise impacts will be mitigated by restricting construction activities to daylight hours and to the hours established in the Regulation for Noise Control and Pollution in Puerto Rico.	
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	All construction debris will be disposed of at the proper facilities for the debris type (i.e., construction waste).	

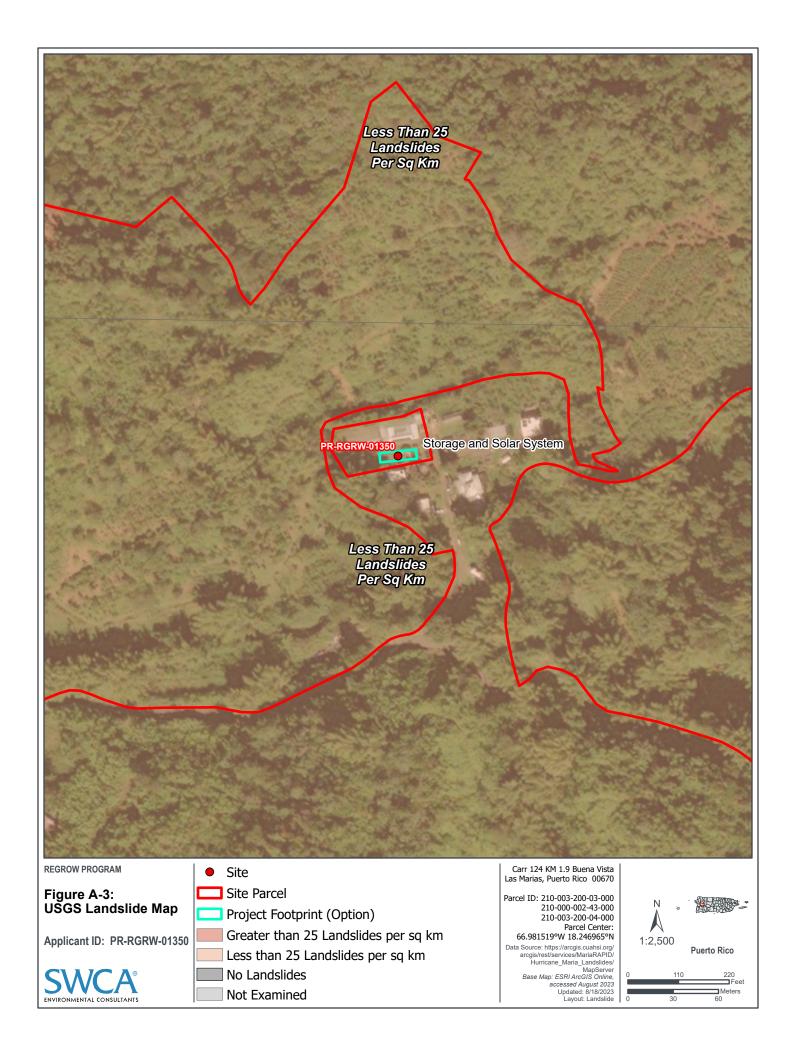
Determination:
Finding of No Significant Impact [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1); 40 CFR 1508.27] The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.
Finding of Significant Impact [24 CFR 58.40(g)(2); 40 CFR 1508.27] The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.
Preparer Signature: Angel M. Peltola Date: <u>January 24, 2024</u>
Name/Title/Organization: <u>Angel Peltola, Deputy Program Manager, SWCA</u> Environmental Consultants
Certifying Officer Signature: Janta Officer Signature:
Name/Title: Santa D. Ramírez Lebrón / 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 Project Overview Figures







# Appendix B Attachments and Supporting Documentation

# Attachment 1 Airport Hazards Partner Worksheet and Airport Hazards Map



# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally

	not take full sion of the V	responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD Worksheet.				
Ai	rport Haz	zards (CEST and EA) – PARTNER				
htt	:ps://www	hudexchange.info/environmental-review/airport-hazards				
1.	<ol> <li>To ensure compatible land use development, you must determine your site's proximity to civil military airports. Is your project within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civil airport?</li> </ol>					
	⊠No →	If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map showing that the site is not within the applicable distances to a military or civilian airport.				
	□Yes →	Continue to Question 2.				
<ul> <li>Is your project located within a Runway Potential Zone/Clear Zone (RPZ/CZ) or Accident Potence Zone (APZ)?</li> <li>□Yes, project is in an APZ → Continue to Question 3.</li> </ul>						
□No, project is not within an APZ or RPZ/CZ						
→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this se						
		ntinue to the Worksheet Summary below. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Ovide a map showing that the site is not within either zone.				
3.	Is the proj	ect in conformance with DOD guidelines for APZ?				
	• •	ject is consistent with DOD guidelines without further action.				
	Сог	the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. In the matter than the worksheet Summary below. Provide any documentation supporting this termination.				

# 3.

□No, the project cannot be brought into conformance with DOD guidelines and has not been approved.  $\rightarrow$  Project cannot proceed at this location.

If mitigation measures have been or will be taken, explain in detail the proposed measures that must be implemented to mitigate for the impact or effect, including the timeline for implementation.

Click here to enter text.

→ Work with the RE/HUD to develop mitigation measures. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documentation supporting this determination.

### **Worksheet Summary**

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

### Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The project site is not within 2,500 feet of a civil primary or commercial service airport or within 15,000 feet of a military airport. The nearest civil primary or commercial service airport, Eugenio Mario De Hostos, is located 55,608 feet (11 miles) west of the project site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport, is located 341,963 feet (65 miles) northwest of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with airport hazards requirements.

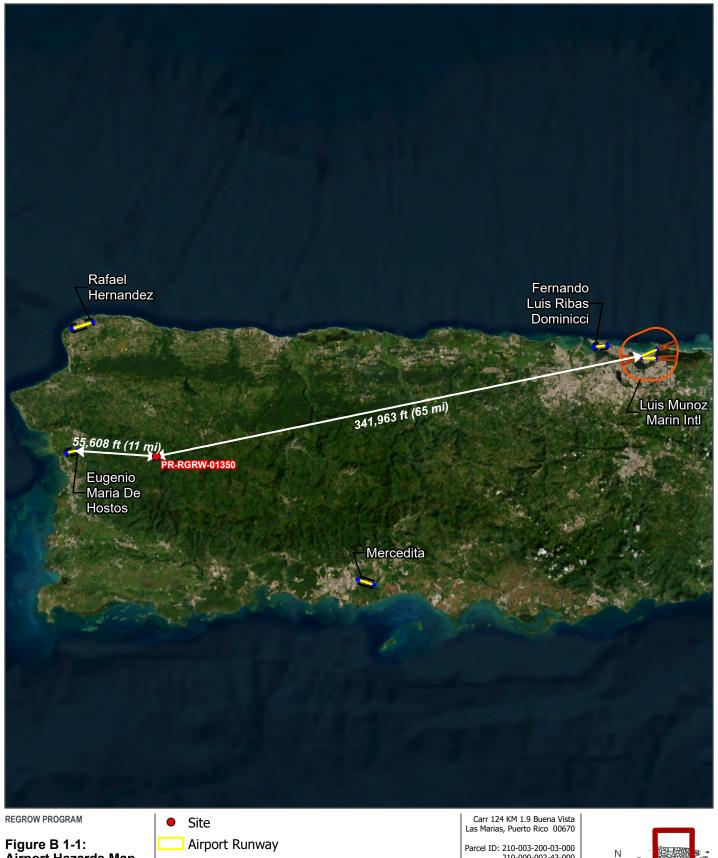


Figure B 1-1: Airport Hazards Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01350



Accident Potential Zones (APZ)

Runway Protection Zones (RPZ)

**」**2,500-FT Civil Airport Buffer

15,000-FT Military Airport Buffer

Parcel ID: 210-003-200-03-000 210-000-002-43-000 210-003-200-04-000 Parcel Center: 66.579021°W 18.343331°N

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

Updated: 8/18/2023 Layout: Airport Hazards Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps



Puerto Rico

Meters 20,000

# Attachment 2

# Coastal Barrier Resources Act Partner Worksheet and Coastal Barrier Resources Map



### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

## Coastal Barrier Resources (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/coastal-barrier-resources

Projects located in the following states must complete this form.

Alabama	Georgia	Massachusetts	New Jersey	Puerto Rico	Virgin Islands
Connecticut	Louisiana	Michigan	New York	Rhode Island	Virginia
Delaware	Maine	Minnesota	North Carolina	South Carolina	Wisconsin
Florida	Maryland	Mississippi	Ohio	Texas	

### 1. Is the project located in a CBRS Unit?

If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map showing that the site is not within a CBRS Unit.

 $\square$ Yes  $\rightarrow$  Continue to 2.

<u>Federal assistance for most activities may not be used at this location. You must either choose an alternate site or cancel the project.</u> In very rare cases, federal monies can be spent within CBRS units for certain exempted activities (e.g., a nature trail), after consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) (see <u>16 USC 3505</u> for exceptions to limitations on expenditures).

### 2. Indicate your recommended course of action for the RE/HUD

Consu	ltation	with	the	FWS
Cance	l the pi	roiect	t	

### **Worksheet Summary**

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.



## $\ \, \textbf{U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT} \\$

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

The project site is not located in a Coastal Barrier Resource Systems Unit (CBRS) or Otherwise Protected Area (OPA). There are no CBRS units in Las Marias. The closest CBRS unit, Rio Guayanjibo, is located 71,531 feet (14 miles) west of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.

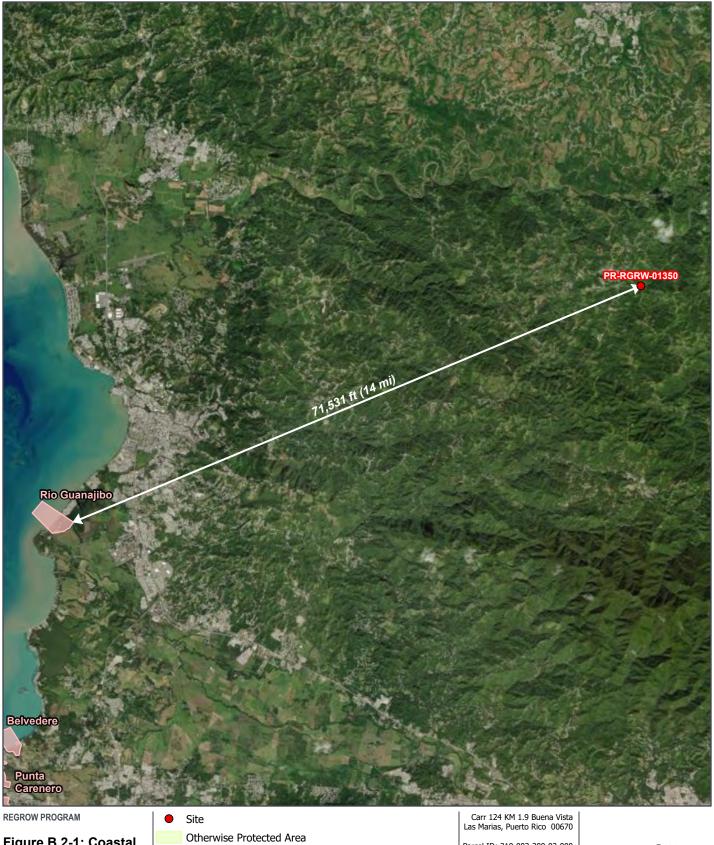


Figure B 2-1: Coastal **Barrier Resources Map** 

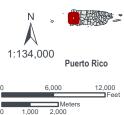
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01350



System Unit

Parcel ID: 210-003-200-03-000 210-000-002-43-000 210-003-200-04-000 Parcel Center: 67.076544°W 18.20882°N

67.076544°W 18.20882°N
Data Source: https://cbrsgis.wim.
usgs.gov/arcqis/rest/services/Coastal
BarrierResourcesSystem/MapServer
Base Map: ESRI Arc6IS Online,
accessed August 2023
Updated: 8/18/2023
Layout: Coastal Barrier Resources
System



# Attachment 3 Flood Insurance Partner Worksheet and Flood Insurance Rate Map



#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

#### Flood Insurance (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/flood-insurance

1.	Does this project involve mortgage insurance, refinance, acquisition, repairs, rehabilitation, or construction of a structure, mobile home, or insurable personal property?  □No. This project does not require flood insurance or is excepted from flood insurance.  → Continue to the Worksheet Summary.
	$\boxtimes$ Yes $\rightarrow$ Continue to Question 2.
2.	Provide a FEMA/FIRM map showing the site.  The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The FEMA Map Service Center provides this information in the form of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).
	Is the structure, part of the structure, or insurable property located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area?  ☑ No → Continue to the Worksheet Summary.
	☐ Yes → Continue to Question 3.
3.	Is the community participating in the National Flood Insurance Program <i>or</i> has less than one year passed since FEMA notification of Special Flood Hazards?
	<ul> <li>Yes, the community is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program.</li> <li>Flood insurance is required. Provide a copy of the flood insurance policy declaration or a paid receipt for the current annual flood insurance premium and a copy of the application for flood insurance.</li> <li>→ Continue to the Worksheet Summary.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Yes, less than one year has passed since FEMA notification of Special Flood Hazards.</li> <li>If less than one year has passed since notification of Special Flood Hazards, no flood Insurance is required.</li> <li>→ Continue to the Worksheet Summary.</li> </ul>
	□ No. The community is not participating, or its participation has been suspended.  Federal assistance may not be used at this location. Cancel the project at this location.

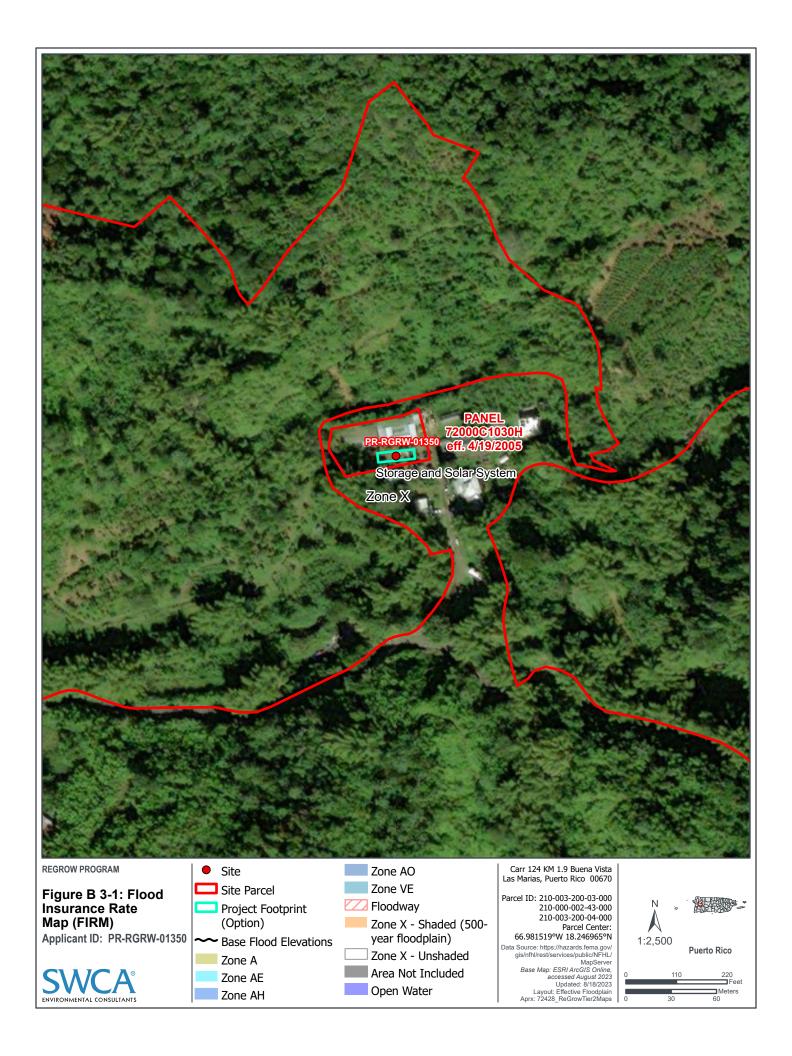
#### **Worksheet Summary**

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

#### Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

A review of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Community Panel 72000C1030H (effective date 04/19/2005), shows the project site is in Flood Zone X, which is not in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Flood insurance is not required. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Flood Disaster Protection Act and National Flood Insurance Reform Act.



#### Attachment 4

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



#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

#### Air Quality (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/air-quality

1.	Does your project include new construction or conversion of land use facilitating the development of public, commercial, or industrial facilities OR five or more dwelling units?
	$\square$ Yes $\rightarrow$ Continue to Question 2.
	$oxed{\boxtimes}$ No $oldsymbol{ o}$ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Provide any documents used to make your determination.
2.	Is your project's air quality management district or county in non-attainment or maintenance status for any criteria pollutants?
	Follow the link below to determine compliance status of project county or air quality management district:
	http://www.epa.gov/oaqps001/greenbk/
	<ul> <li>No, project's county or air quality management district is in attainment status for all criteria pollutants</li> <li>→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this</li> </ul>
	section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination.
	☐ Yes, project's management district or county is in non-attainment or maintenance status for one or more criteria pollutants. → Continue to Question 3.
3.	Determine the <u>estimated emissions levels of your project for each of those criteria pollutants</u> that are in non-attainment or maintenance status on your project area. Will your project exceed any of the <i>de minimis or threshold</i> emissions levels of non-attainment and maintenance level pollutants or exceed the screening levels established by the state or air quality management district?
	☐ No, the project will not exceed <i>de minimis</i> or threshold emissions levels or screening levels
	→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Explain how you determined that the project would not exceed de minimis or threshold emissions.

П	Ves	the	arniect	exceeds de	e minimis	emissions	levels	or screening l	levels
ш	165,	uie	טו טופננ	exceeds at	2 111111111113	611112210112	ieveis	or screening	ieveis

- → Continue to Question 4. Explain how you determined that the project would not exceed de minimis or threshold emissions in the Worksheet Summary.
- 4. For the project to be brought into compliance with this section, all adverse impacts must be mitigated. Explain in detail the exact measures that must be implemented to mitigate for the impact or effect, including the timeline for implementation.

Click here to enter text.

#### **Worksheet Summary**

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

#### Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The project site is in Las Marias Municipio, which is within a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) designated attainment area. Municipios in nonattainment or maintenance areas include Arecibo, Bayamon, Catano, Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan and Toa Baja. Project activities include the installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system and purchase of equipment. The project is not anticipated to have a negative impact on air quality and will not increase residential density. Emissions associated with the proposed actions are temporary and limited to the use of small construction equipment and will be well below the Federal General Conformity Rule de minimis thresholds. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.



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

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

Data is current as of February 28, 2023

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

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

Change the State:		
PUERTO RICO	~	GO

Important Note	es		Di	ownload Nationa	al Dataset: dbf	xls	Data diction	nary (PDF)
County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or/ Part County	Population (2010)	State/ County FIPS Codes
PUERTO RI	CO							
Arecibo Municipio	Lead (2008)	Arecibo, PR	11 12 13 14 15 1617 18 192021 2223	//		Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	22,921	72/021
Catano Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Whole	28,140	72/033
Guaynabo Municipio	PM-10 (1987)	Mun. of Guaynabo, PR	929394959697989900010203040506070809	02/11/2010	Moderate	Part	90,470	72/061
Guaynabo Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)		181920212223	//		Part	23,802	72/061
Salinas Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Salinas PR	181920212223	//		Part	23,401	72/123
San Juan Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	147,963	72/127
Toa Baja Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	52,441	72/137
Important Not	es							-

Discover. Connect. Ask.
Follow.

2023-02-28

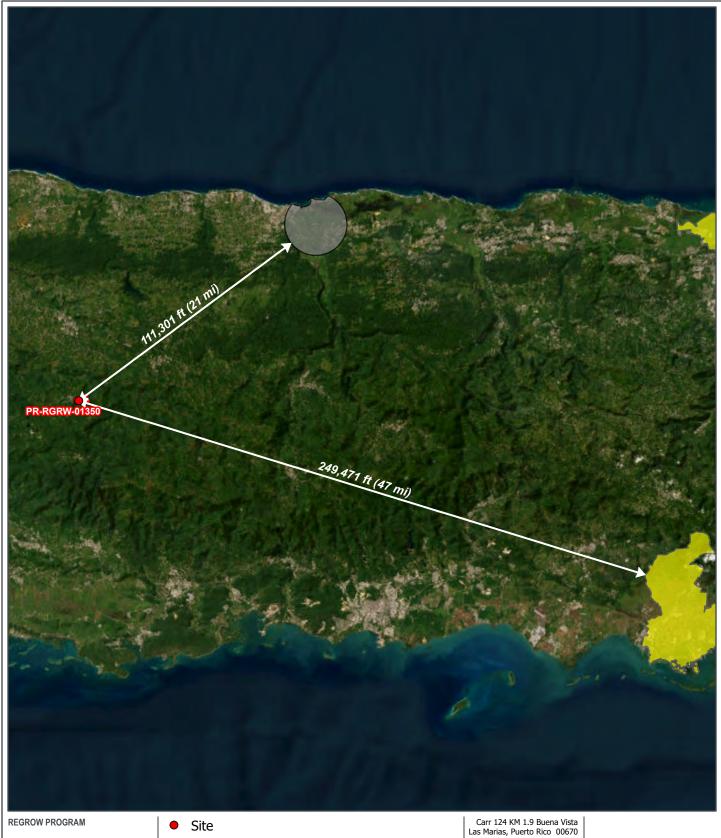


Figure B 4-1: Clean Air Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01350

SWCA<sup>®</sup>
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

8-Hour Ozone (2015 Standard)\*

Lead (2008 Standard)

PM-2.5 (2012 Standard)\*

Sulfur Dioxide (2010 Standard)

\*No Data in Puerto Rico

Parcel ID: 210-003-200-03-000 210-000-002-43-000 210-003-200-04-000 Parcel Center: 66.637857°W 18.238048°N

66.63/85/°W 18.238048°N
Data Source: https://geopub.epa.gov/ arcgis/rest/services/NEPAssist/ NEPAVELayersPublic. fgdb/MapServer Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed August 2023 Updated: 8/18/2023 Layout Clean Air Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps





Puerto Rico

0	20,000	40,000
		Feet Meters
)	6,000	12,000

# Attachment 5 Coastal Zone Management Partner Worksheet and Coastal Zone Map



#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

#### Coastal Zone Management Act (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

https://www.onecpd.info/environmental-review/coastal-zone-management

Projects located in the following states must complete this form.

Alabama	Florida	Louisiana	iisiana Mississippi		Texas
Alaska	Georgia	Maine New Ha		Oregon	Virgin Islands
American	Guam	Maryland	New Jersey	Pennsylvania	Virginia
Samona					
California	Hawaii	Massachusetts	New York	Puerto Rico	Washington
Connecticut	Illinois	Michigan	North Carolina	Rhode Island	Wisconsin
Delaware	Indiana	Minnesota	Northern	South Carolina	
			Mariana Islands		

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

 $\square$ Yes  $\rightarrow$ 

- ⋈ No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map showing that the site is not within a Coastal Zone.
- 2. Does this project include activities that are subject to state review?
  - □No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide documentation used to make your determination.
- 3. Has this project been determined to be consistent with the State Coastal Management Program?

  ☐Yes, with mitigation. → The RE/HUD must work with the State Coastal Management

Program to develop mitigation measures to mitigate the impact or effect of the project.

$\square$ Yes, without mitigation. $\rightarrow$ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is	
in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide documentat	ior
used to make vour determination.	

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

Continue to Question 3.

#### **Worksheet Summary**

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

#### Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The project site is not located within the Puerto Rico Coastal Management Zone. The closest coastal zone area is located 58,194 feet (11 miles) west of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

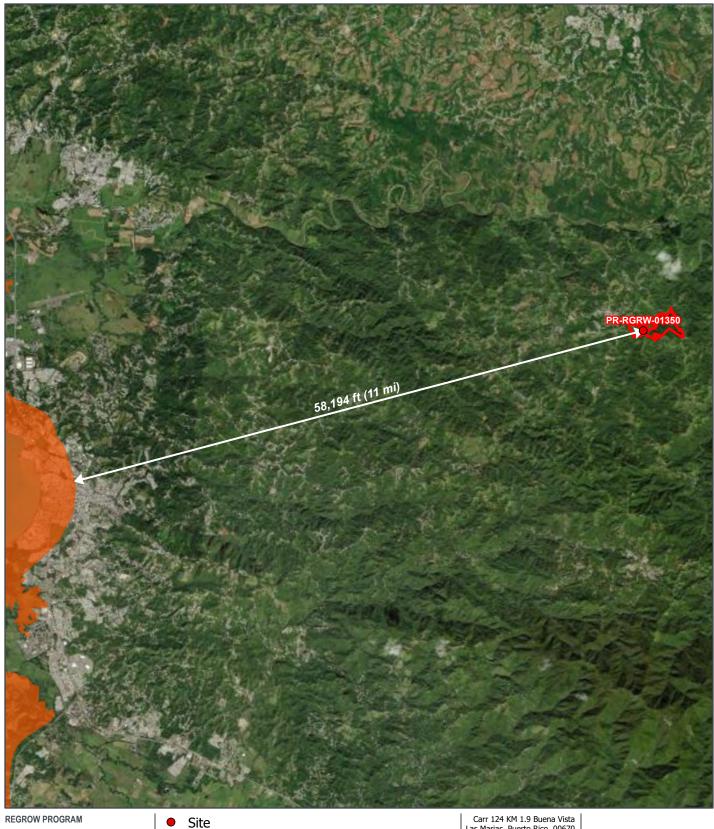


Figure B 5-1: Coastal Zone Management

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01350

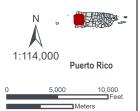


Coastal Management Zone

Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista Las Marias, Puerto Rico 00670

Parcel ID: 210-003-200-03-000 210-000-002-43-000 210-003-200-04-000 Parcel Center: 67.062503°W 18.226173°N

67.062503°W 18.226173°N
Data Source: https://coast.noaa.gov/
arcgis/rest/services/Hosted/
Coastal/ZoneManagementAd/
Base Map: ESRI Arc6IS Online,
accessed August 2023
Updated: 8/18/2023
Layout: Coastal Zone Management
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps



#### Attachment 6

# Contamination and Toxics Substances Partner Worksheet, **Desktop Review Summary**, and Toxics and Contamination Map



#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

## Contamination and Toxic Substances (Multifamily and Non-Residential Properties) – PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/site-contamination

1.	How was site contamination evaluated? $^{\mathrm{1}}$ Select all that apply.
	☐ ASTM Phase I ESA
	☐ ASTM Phase II ESA
	☐ Remediation or clean-up plan
	☐ ASTM Vapor Encroachment Screening
	☑ None of the above
	→ Provide documentation and reports and include an explanation of how site contamination was evaluated in the Worksheet Summary.
	Continue to Question 2.
2.	Were any on-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances found that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property? (Were any recognized environmental conditions or RECs identified in a Phase I ESA and confirmed in a Phase II ESA?)  ⊠ No → Explain below.
the 3,0 have	ontamination and Toxic Substances Map shows one water discharger site within 000 feet. The site is approximately 2920 feet from the project sites. No violations been identified from this site and the permit is currently listed as expired; the y may not have to report their discharges going forward. No hazard to the project sent.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> HUD regulations at 24 CFR § 58.5(i)(2)(ii) require that the environmental review for multifamily housing with five or more dwelling units or non-residential property include the evaluation of previous uses of the site or other evidence of contamination on or near the site. For acquisition and new construction of multifamily and nonresidential properties HUD strongly advises the review include an ASTM Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) to meet real estate transaction standards of due diligence and to help ensure compliance with HUD's toxic policy at 24 CFR §58.5(i) and 24 CFR §50.3(i). Also note that some HUD programs require an ASTM Phase I ESA.

	$\sqcup$ Yes $ o$ Describe the findings, including any recognized environmental conditions
	(RECs), in Worksheet Summary below. Continue to Question 3.
3.	Can adverse environmental impacts be mitigated?
	☐ Adverse environmental impacts cannot feasibly be mitigated → <u>HUD assistance may not be</u> used for the project at this site. Project cannot proceed at this location.
	<ul> <li>☐ Yes, adverse environmental impacts can be eliminated through mitigation.</li> <li>→ Provide all mitigation requirements<sup>2</sup> and documents. Continue to Question 4.</li> </ul>
4.	Describe how compliance was achieved. Include any of the following that apply: State Voluntary Clean-up Program, a No Further Action letter, use of engineering controls <sup>3</sup> , or use of institutional controls <sup>4</sup> .
	If a remediation plan or clean-up program was necessary, which standard does it follow?
	☐ Complete removal
	☐ Risk-based corrective action (RBCA)
	→ Continue to the Worksheet Summary.

#### **Worksheet Summary**

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

#### Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The project site was evaluated for potential contamination by conducting a field site inspection on August 17, 2023, to identify any onsite hazards including, but not limited to, soil staining, above ground storage tanks, signs of underground storage tanks, odors,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Mitigation requirements include all clean-up actions required by applicable federal, state, tribal, or local law. Additionally, provide, as applicable, the long-term operations and maintenance plan, Remedial Action Work Plan, and other equivalent documents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Engineering controls are any physical mechanism used to contain or stabilize contamination or ensure the effectiveness of a remedial action. Engineering controls may include, without limitation, caps, covers, dikes, trenches, leachate collection systems, signs, fences, physical access controls, ground water monitoring systems and ground water containment systems including, without limitation, slurry walls and ground water pumping systems.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Institutional controls are mechanisms used to limit human activities at or near a contaminated site, or to ensure the effectiveness of the remedial action over time, when contaminants remain at a site at levels above the applicable remediation standard which would allow for unrestricted use of the property. Institutional controls may include structure, land, and natural resource use restrictions, well restriction areas, classification exception areas, deed notices, and declarations of environmental restrictions.

hazardous debris etc. The site inspection did not identify any onsite hazards.

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

A water discharger site is located approximately 2,920 feet northwest of the project site. The water discharger had a non-major general permit covered facility for urban stormwater discharge with a permit expiration date of June 30, 2021. No violations have been identified. The facility would not adversely affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements.

#### **Contamination and Toxics Sites Summary**

#### Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista, Las Marias, PR 00670

Database	Primary ID	IFacility Name	Facility Address	Secondary ID	Latitude	Longitude	Distance (ft)	Status
Water Discharger	110054107818	LAS MARIAS	MATIAS BRUCKMAN STREET, LAS MARIAS, PR 00670	PRR040083	18.249660	-66.989460	2,920	The water discharger had a non-major general permit covered facility for urban stormwater discharge with a permit expiration date of June 30, 2021. No violations have been identified.

Search EPA.gov



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## **Detailed Facility Report**



## **Detailed Facility Report**

## Facility Summary LAS MARIAS

MATIAS BRUCKMAN STREET, LAS MARIAS, PR 00670 **●** 

FRS (Facility Registry Service) ID: 110054107818

EPA Region: 02 Latitude: 18.24966 Longitude: -66.98946

**Locational Data Source: FRS** 

Industries: -Indian Country: N

#### **Enforcement and Compliance Summary**

Statute	CWA
Compliance Monitoring Activities (5 years)	<del>,,</del>
Date of Last Compliance Monitoring Activity	08/16/2012
Compliance Status	No Violation Identified
Qtrs in Noncompliance (of 12)	0
Qtrs with Significant Violation	Ö
Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	
Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	<u>.</u>
Penalties from Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	监
EPA Cases (5 years)	<u></u>
Penalties from EPA Cases (5 years)	-

#### **Regulatory Information**

Clean Air Act (CAA): No Information

Clean Water Act (CWA): Non-Major, Permit Expired (PRR040083)

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): No

Information

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA): No Information

Go To Enforcement/Compliance Details

**Other Regulatory Reports** 

Air Emissions Inventory (EIS): No Information

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (eGGRT): No Information

Toxic Releases (TRI): No Information

Compliance and Emissions Data Reporting Interface (CEDRI):

No Information

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

#### **Facility/System Characteristics**

#### **Facility/System Characteristics**

System	Statue	Identifie	Universe ‡	States	Areas ‡	Permit Expiration Date	Indian Country	Latitu	Longitude	
FRS		110054107818					N	18.24966	-66.98946	
ICIS- NPDES	CWA	PRR040083	Non-Major: General Permit Covered Facility	Expired	Urban Stormwater (Small MS4)	06/30/2021	N	18.24966	-66.98946	

#### **Facility Address**

System 🚺

System ‡	Statut	Identifier 🕻	Facility Name 🕽	Facility Address ‡	Facility County 🗘	
FRS		110054107818	LAS MARIAS	MATIAS BRUCKMAN STREET, LAS MARIAS, PR 00670		
ICIS-NPDES	CWA	PRR040083	LAS MARIAS	MATIAS BRUCKMAN STREET, LAS MARIAS, PR 00670	Las Marías Municipio	1

#### **Facility SIC (Standard Industrial Classification**) Codes

No data records returned

Identifier 1

**Facility NAICS (North American Industry Classification System)** Codes

Identifier 1

SIC Code 1 SIC Description System 1

**NAICS Description** 

NAICSCode 1 No data records returned

## **Facility Industrial Effluent**

#### **Facility Tribe Information**

**Guidelines** Reservation Name Tribe Nam EPA Tribal I Distance to Tribe (miles) Identifi**d**r Effluent Guideline (40 CFR Part) Effluent Guideline Description No data records returned No data records returned **Enforcement and Compliance Compliance Monitoring History** Last 5 Years Statute**1** Source ID System**1** Activity Type 1 1 **Compliance Monitoring Type** Lead Agency **1** Finding (if applicable) No data records returned Entries in italics are not counted as compliance monitoring strategy activities. For programs without compliance monitoring strategies, entries in italics are not counted as on-site activities within EPA's Annual Results. **Compliance Summary Data** Statute Source Current SNC (Significant Noncompliance)/HPV (High Priority Violation Current As Qtrs with NC (Noncompliance) (of 12) Data Last Refreshald CWA PRR040083 No 06/30/2023 11/11/2023 Three-Year Compliance History by Quarter Statute Program/Pollutant/Violation QTR 1 QTR 2 QTR 3 QTR 5 QTR 6 QTR 7 QTR 8 QTR 9 QTR 10 QTR 11 QTR 12 OTR 13+ 07/01-10/01-01/01-04/01-07/01-10/01-01/01-04/01-07/01-10/01-01/01-04/01-07/01-CWA (Source ID: PRR040083) 09/30/20 12/31/20 03/31/21 06/30/21 09/30/21 12/31/21 03/31/22 06/30/22 09/30/22 12/31/22 03/31/23 06/30/23 11/11/23 Facility-Level Status Violation Undetermined Identified **Quarterly Noncompliance** Report History **Informal Enforcement Actions** 1 1 Statute System 1 Source ID Type of Action **Lead Agency** 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** Federal State/Local Penal Penalty 1 Amoun Assessed Assessed Collected No data records returned **Environmental Conditions** 

#### Watersheds A

12-Digit WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) HUC (RA (Reach Address Database))	WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) Subwatershed Nama (RAD (Reach Address Database))	(ICIS (Integrated Compliance Information System))	Beach Closures Within Last Year	Beach Closures Within Last Two Years	Pollutants Potentially Related to Impairment	Watershed with ESA (Endangered Species Acti- listed Aquatic Species?
210100030208	Rio Arenas		No	No		No

#### **Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)**

State	Report Cycle	Assessment Unit ID	Assessment Unit Name	Water Condition ‡	Cause Groups Impaired	Drinking Water Use	Ecological Us	Fish Consumption Use	Recreation Use	Other	
PR	2020	PRWR83E	RIO ARENAS	Impaired - With Restoration Plan	PATHOGENS	Not Assessed	Insufficient Information		Not Supporting		

#### **Air Quality Nonattainment Areas**

Polluta t Within Nonattainment Status Are Nonattainment Status Applicable Standard Within Maintenance Status Are Maintenance Status Applicable Standard

#### **Pollutants**

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



No data records returned

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



#### **Community**

#### **Environmental Justice**

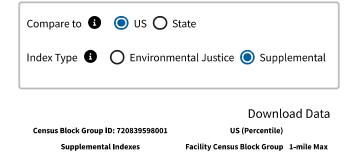
This section shows indexes from EJScreen, EPA's screening tool for environmental justice (EJ) concerns. EPA uses these indexes to identify geographic areas that may warrant further consideration or analysis for potential EJ concerns. Use of these indexes does not designate an area as an "EJ community" 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.

#### **EJScreen Indexes Shown**

Count of Indexes At or Above 80th Percentile

Particulate Matter 2.5

Diesel Particulate Matter



#### **Related Reports**

**EJScreen Community Report** 

Census Block Group ID: 720839598001	US (Percentile)	
Supplemental Indexes	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Max
Air Toxics Cancer Risk	53	57
Air Toxics Respiratory Hazard Index	36	42
Toxic Releases to Air	<b>9</b> 94	<b>9</b> 6
Traffic Proximity	78	78
Lead Paint	<b>9</b> 5	<b>9</b> 9
Risk Management Plan (RMP) Facility Proximity	<b>9</b> 0	<b>9</b> 9
Hazardous Waste Proximity	54	65
Superfund Proximity	<b>9</b> 94	<b>9</b> 9
Underground Storage Tanks (UST)	0	<b>9</b> 5
Wastewater Discharge	<b>9</b> 6	<b>9</b> 7

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Anones

#### 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 2017 - 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year Summary and are accurate to the extent that the facility latitude and longitude listed below are correct. 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 <a href="https://epa.gov/help/reports/dfr-data-dictionary#demographic">https://epa.gov/help/reports/dfr-data-dictionary#demographic></a>.

General Statistics (U.S. Census)	
Total Persons	2,357
Population Density	743/sq.mi.
Housing Units in Area	984

Age Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)	
Children 5 years and younger	158 (7%)
Minors 17 years and younger	594 (25%)
Adults 18 years and older	1,763 (75%)
Seniors 65 years and older	328 (14%)

General Statistics (ACS (American Community Survey))	
Total Persons	1,037
Percent People of Color	100%
Households in Area	341
Households on Public Assistance	2
Persons With Low Income	851
Percent With Low Income	83%

Geography	
Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.
Center Latitude	18.24966
Center Longitude	-66.98946
Land Area	100%
Water Area	0%

Income Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Households (%)		
Less than \$15,000	163 (47.52%)	
\$15,000 - \$25,000	48 (13.99%)	
\$25,000 - \$50,000	100 (29.15%)	
\$50,000 - \$75,000	32 (9.33%)	
Greater than \$75,000	0 (0%)	

Race Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)	
White	2,113 (90%)
African-American	80 (3%)
Hispanic-Origin	2,348 (100%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	0 (0%)
American Indian	5 (0%)
Other/Multiracial	160 (7%)

Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)			
Less than 9th Grade	147 (20.28%)		
9th through 12th Grade	75 (10.34%)		
High School Diploma	222 (30.62%)		
Some College/2-year	36 (4.97%)		
B.S./B.A. (Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts) or More	180 (24.83%)		

▲ Top of Page



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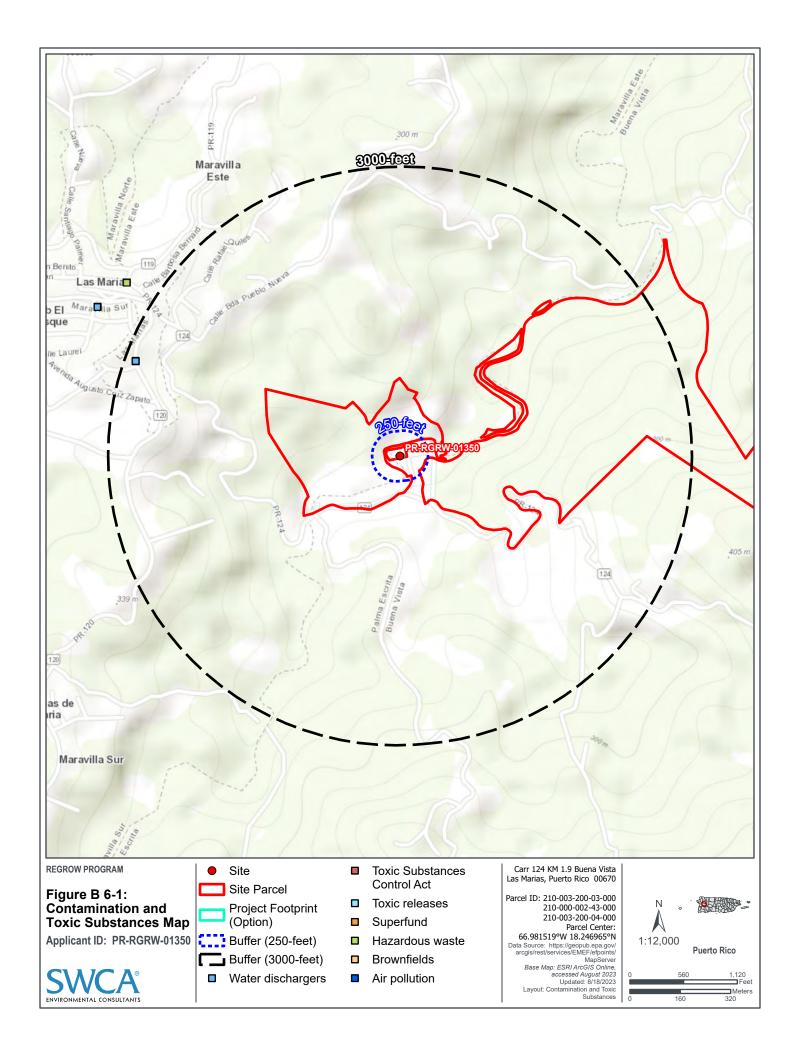
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#### Attachment 7

Endangered Species Act Partner
Worksheet, Threatened and Endangered
Species Technical Memorandum,
USFWS IPaC Species List, and Critical
Habitat Map



#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

#### **Endangered Species Act (CEST and EA) – PARTNER**

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/endangered-species

1. Does	he project	: involve any	activities that	have the	potential to	affect sp	ecies or l	habitats?
---------	------------	---------------	-----------------	----------	--------------	-----------	------------	-----------

- □No, the project will have No Effect due to the nature of the activities involved in the project.
  - → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section.

    Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination.
- □No, the project will have No Effect based on a letter of understanding, memorandum of agreement, programmatic agreement, or checklist provided by local HUD office.

#### **Explain your determination:**

Click here to enter text.

- → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section.

  Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination.
- $\boxtimes$ Yes, the activities involved in the project have the potential to affect species and/or habitats.  $\Rightarrow$  Continue to Question 2.

## 2. Are federally listed species or designated critical habitats present in the action area? Obtain a list of protected species from the Services. This information is available on the <u>FWS Website</u>.

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

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

Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination. Documentation may include letters from the Services, species lists from the Services' websites, surveys or other documents and analysis showing that there are no species in the action area.

- 3. Recommend one of the following effects that the project will have on federally listed species or designated critical habitat:
  - ⊠No Effect: Based on the specifics of both the project and any federally listed species in the action area, you have determined that the project will have absolutely no effect on listed species or critical habitat.
    - → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section.

      Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination. Documentation should include a species list and explanation of your conclusion, and may require maps, photographs, and surveys as appropriate.
  - ☐ May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect: Any effects that the project may have on federally listed species or critical habitats would be beneficial, discountable, or insignificant.
    - → Partner entities should not contact the Services directly. If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, they will have to complete Informal Consultation. Provide the RE/HUD with a biological evaluation or equivalent document. They may request additional information, including surveys and professional analysis, to complete their consultation.
  - □Likely to Adversely Affect: The project may have negative effects on one or more listed species or critical habitat.
    - → Partner entities should not contact the Services directly. If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, they will have to complete Formal Consultation. Provide the RE/HUD with a biological evaluation or equivalent document. They may request additional information, including surveys and professional analysis, to complete their consultation.

#### Worksheet Summary

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

#### Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The project involves activities that have the potential to affect protected species or habitats including but not limited to activities such as ground disturbance.

Threatened, endangered, and migratory bird species were identified by reviewing data from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC) Tool. In addition, critical species habitat was reviewed through the USFWS IPaC Critical Habitat Portal.

The review identified four federally listed species (Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk [Buteo platypterus brunnescens], Puerto Rican parrot [Amazona vittata], Puerto Rican boa [Chilabothrus inornatus], and the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly [Atlantea tulita]) with the potential to occur within the project area. There is no designated or proposed

critical habitat within the project area. The closest final designated critical habitat is located 24,066 ft (5 mi) south of the project site.

The project activities will result in ground disturbing activities, including constructing concrete pillars for stabilization and concrete entrances for the shipping containers, as well as the installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system. A qualified biologist reviewed the proposed activity location and determined the review area does contain trees that could provide suitable habitat to multiple federally listed species; however, no tree or vegetation removal is planned to occur, and inspectors did not observe any suitable ground or vegetative habitat, individuals, or nests for any listed species at the proposed project location. There is no critical habitat for any species found within the subject property based on the USFWS database.

Therefore, as currently designed, the proposed project activities will have *No* effect on any federally listed species or designated critical habitat.

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

#### **TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM**

For: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

CDBG-DR & CDBG-MIT Program
ReGrow Environmental Assessment

From: Susan Fischer, Wildlife Ecologist

Date: November 2, 2023

Re: Threatened and Endangered Species Review Carretera 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista, Las

Marias, PR 00670

Applicant Name: Finca Agroecologica Bohiti

Site Address: Carretera 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista, Las Marias, PR 00670

**GPS Coordinates:** 18.246982, -66.981425

This Threatened and Endangered Species Review evaluates the installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system. This parcel is located at Carretera 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista, Las Marias, Puerto Rico. To complete this review, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system was consulted, then a site inspection performed to evaluate on-site nest and habitat potential. For the purposes of this review, the evaluation encompasses a maximum 100-foot buffer around the proposed project location.

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

- Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (Buteo platypterus brunnescens)
- Puerto Rican Parrot (*Amazona vittata*)
- Puerto Rican Boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)
- Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*)

A site inspection on August 17, 2023 found the parcel is situated in a rural area. The property is used for residential and agricultural use and the lot consists of a mix of cleared, agricultural, and forested areas. The proposed project area consists of open pasture lawn. Representative photographs of the subject property are included in the Environmental Field Assessment Photographic Log. The review area does contain trees that could provide suitable habitat to multiple federally listed species; however, no tree or vegetation removal is planned to occur, and inspectors did not observe any suitable ground or vegetative habitat, individuals, or nests for any listed species at the proposed project location. There is no critical habitat for any species found within the subject property based on the USFWS database.

Based on agency data and site observations, this review concludes that the installation of the new two shipping containers and a solar panel system on the parcel will result in *no effect* to all federally protected species with the potential to occur in the area.

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

Sincerely,

Susan Fischer Wildlife Ecologist

**SWCA** Environmental Consultants

**IPaC** U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

#### IPaC resource list

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

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

#### Location

Las Marías County, Puerto Rico



#### Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

**\( (787) 834-1600** 

(787) 851-7440

MAILING ADDRESS

Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

Office Park I

State Road #2 Km 156.5, Suite 303}

Mayaguez, PR 00680

#### **Endangered species**

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

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

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

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

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

Listed species and their critical habitats are managed by the <u>Ecological Services Program</u> of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

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

- 1. Species listed under the <u>Endangered Species Act</u> are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the <u>listing status page</u> for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
- 2. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

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

#### Birds

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk Buteo platypterus brunnescens Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512</a>	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot Amazona vittata Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067	Endangered
Reptiles	
NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa Chilabothrus inornatus  Wherever found  No critical habitat has been designated for this species.  https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628	Endangered
Incocts	

#### Insects

NAME STATUS

#### Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Atlantea tulita

Wherever found

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9005">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9005</a>

#### Critical habitats

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

There are no critical habitats at this location.

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

#### Bald & Golden Eagles

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

**Threatened** 

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Managment https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <a href="https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds">https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds</a>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <a href="https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf">https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf</a>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <a href="https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action">https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action</a>

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### What if I have eagles on my list?

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

#### Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

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

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

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <a href="https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management">https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management</a>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <a href="https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds">https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds</a>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <a href="https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf">https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf</a>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <a href="https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action">https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action</a>

The <u>data</u> in this location indicates there are no migratory <u>birds of conservation concern</u> expected to occur in this area.

There may be migratory birds in your project area, but we don �� �t have any survey data available to provide further direction. For additional information, please refer to the links above for recommendations to minimize impacts to migratory birds or contact your local FWS office.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

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

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

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

#### Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

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

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

#### What if I have eagles on my list?

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

#### Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

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

#### **Facilities**

#### National Wildlife Refuge lands

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

There are no refuge lands at this location.

#### Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

#### Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

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

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

#### Wetland information is not available at this time

This can happen when the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map service is unavailable, or for very large projects that intersect many wetland areas. Try again, or visit the NWI map to view wetlands at this location.

#### Data limitations

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

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

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

#### Data exclusions

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

#### Data precautions

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

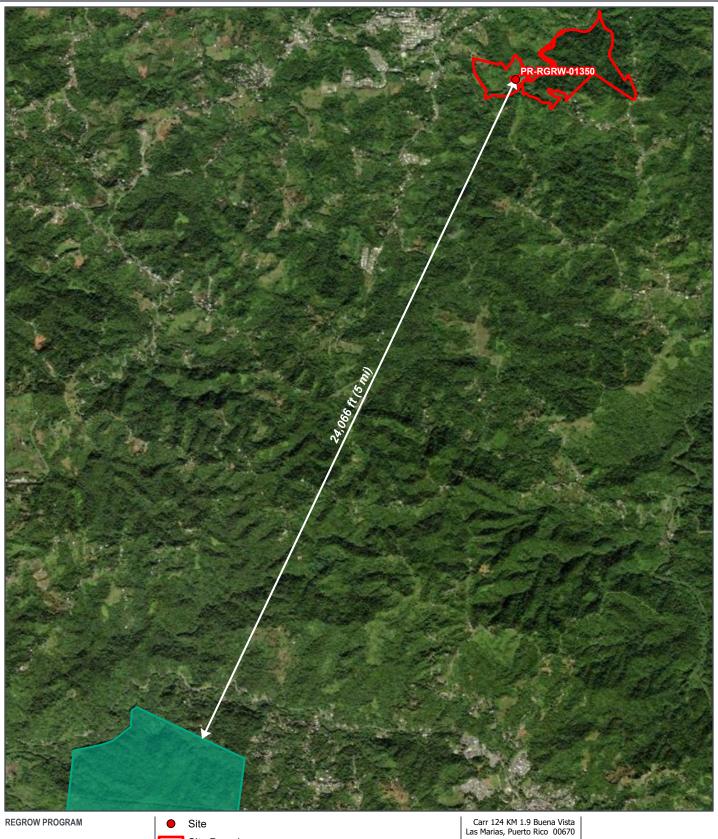


Figure B 7-1: Critical Habitat Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01350

GRW-01350

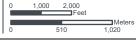
Site
Site Parcel
Buffer (100-ft)
Critical Habitat - Final

National Wildlife Refuges

Parcel ID: 210-003-200-03-000 210-000-002-43-000 210-003-200-04-000 Parcel Center: 66.996311°W 18.216994°N

66.996311°W 18.216994°N
Data Source: https://services.arcgis.
com/QVENGdaPbd4LUkLV/arcgis/
rest/services/USFWS\_Critical\_Habitat/
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
accessed August 2023
Updated: 8/18/2023
Layout: Critical Habitat
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps







# Attachment 8 Explosive and Flammable Hazards Partner Worksheet



#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

#### Explosive and Flammable Hazards (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

ttp	s://www.nudexchange.info/environmental-review/explosive-and-flammable-facilities
1.	Does the proposed HUD-assisted project include a hazardous facility (a facility that mainly stores, handles or processes flammable or combustible chemicals such as bulk fuel storage facilities and refineries)?
	⊠ No
	→ Continue to Question 2.
	□ Yes
	Explain:
	Click here to enter text.
	→ Continue to Question 5.
2.	Does this project include any of the following activities: development, construction, rehabilitation that will increase residential densities, or conversion?
	oxtimes No $ o$ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.
	$\square$ Yes $\rightarrow$ Continue to Question 3.
3.	Within 1 mile of the project site, are there any current <i>or planned</i> stationary aboveground storage containers:
	<ul> <li>Of more than 100-gallon capacity, containing common liquid industrial fuels OR</li> <li>Of any capacity, containing hazardous liquids or gases that are not common liquid industrial fuels?</li> </ul>
	$\square$ No $\Rightarrow$ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide all documents used to make your determination.
	$\square$ Yes $\rightarrow$ Continue to Question 4.
	4. Is the Separation Distance from the project acceptable based on standards in the Regulation?  Please visit HUD's website for information on calculating Acceptable Separation Distance.  □ Yes
	→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.

Provide map(s) showing the location of the project site relative to any tanks and your separation distance calculations. If the map identifies more than one tank, please identify the tank you have chosen as the "assessed tank."

□ No

→ Continue to Question 6.

Provide map(s) showing the location of the project site relative to any tanks and your separation distance calculations. If the map identifies more than one tank, please identify the tank you have chosen as the "assessed tank."

5. Is the hazardous facility located at an acceptable separation distance from residences and any other facility or area where people may congregate or be present?

Please visit HUD's website for information on calculating Acceptable Separation Distance.

☐ Yes

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

Provide map(s) showing the location of the project site relative to residences and any other facility or area where people congregate or are present and your separation distance calculations.

□ No

→ Continue to Question 6.

Provide map(s) showing the location of the project site relative to residences and any other facility or area where people congregate or are present and your separation distance calculations.

6. For the project to be brought into compliance with this section, all adverse impacts must be mitigated. Explain in detail the exact measures that must be implemented to make the Separation Distance acceptable, including the timeline for implementation. If negative effects cannot be mitigated, cancel the project at this location.

Note that only licensed professional engineers should design and implement blast barriers. If a barrier will be used or the project will be modified to compensate for an unacceptable separation distance, provide approval from a licensed professional engineer.

Click here to enter text.

#### **Worksheet Summary**

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

#### Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The project includes the new installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system and purchase of equipment. The project itself is not the development of a hazardous facility nor will the project increase residential densities. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements.

# Attachment 9 Farmlands Protection Partner Worksheet and Prime Farmland Map



#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

#### Farmlands Protection (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

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

1.	land or conversion, that could convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural use?  ☐ Yes → Continue to Question 2.			
	No			
	→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.			
2.	Does "important farmland," including prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide or local importance regulated under the Farmland Protection Policy Act, occur on the project site? You may use the links below to determine important farmland occurs on the project site:			
	<ul> <li>Utilize USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Web Soil Survey <a href="http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm">http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm</a></li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Check with your city or county's planning department and ask them to document if the project is on land regulated by the FPPA (zoning important farmland as non-agricultural does not exempt it from FPPA requirements)</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Contact NRCS at the local USDA service center         <a href="http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?agency=nrcs">http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?agency=nrcs</a> or your NRCS state soil scientist         <a href="http://soils.usda.gov/contact/state_offices/">http://soils.usda.gov/contact/state_offices/</a> for assistance</li> </ul>			
	□ No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination.			
	☐ Yes → Continue to Question 3.			
3.	Consider alternatives to completing the project on important farmland and means of avoiding			

- Consider alternatives to completing the project on important farmland and means of avoiding impacts to important farmland.
  - Complete form <u>AD-1006</u>, "Farmland Conversion Impact Rating" and contact the state soil scientist before sending it to the local NRCS District Conservationist.
  - Work with NRCS to minimize the impact of the project on the protected farmland. When you have finished with your analysis, return a copy of form AD-1006 to the USDA-NRCS State Soil Scientist or his/her designee informing them of your determination.

#### Work with the RE/HUD to determine how the project will proceed. Document the conclusion:

□ Project will proceed with mitigation.

Explain in detail the proposed measures that must be implemented to mitigate for the impact or effect, including the timeline for implementation.

Click here to enter text.

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide form AD-1006 and all other documents used to make your determination.

□ Project will proceed without mitigation.

#### Explain why mitigation will not be made here:

Click here to enter text.

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide form AD-1006 and all other documents used to make your determination.

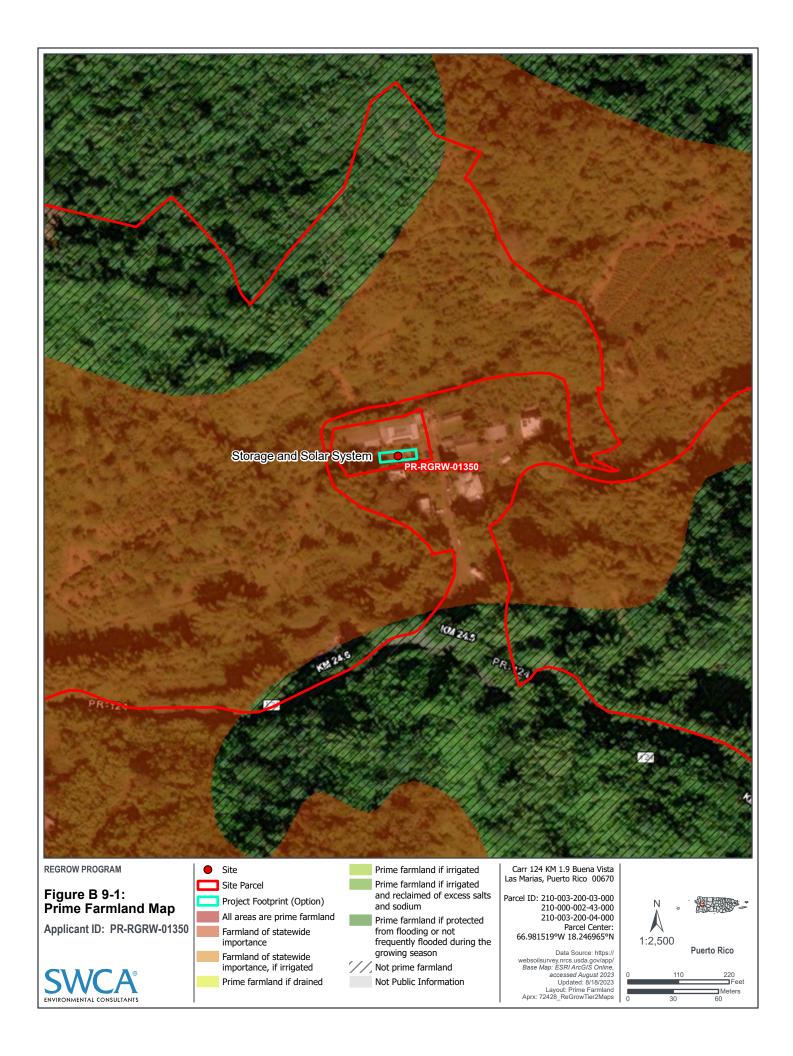
#### **Worksheet Summary**

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

#### Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. Farmland of statewide importance is within the project area. Although the project includes new construction, the project is exempt from review under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FFPA) as the project is limited to construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations. No further review is required. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.



# Attachment 10 Floodplain Management Partner Worksheet and Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map



### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

#### Floodplain Management (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

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

1.	<ol> <li>Does 24 CFR 55.12(c) exempt this project from compliance with HUD's floodplain management regulations in Part 55?</li> <li>☐ Yes</li> </ol>		
	Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(c) here. If project is exempt under 55.12(c)(6) or (8), provide supporting documentation.  Click here to enter text.		
	→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Continue to the Worksheet Summary.		
	$\boxtimes$ No $\rightarrow$ Continue to Question 2.		
2.	Provide a FEMA/FIRM map showing the site.  The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The FEMA Map Service Center provides this information in the form of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).		
	Does your project occur in a floodplain?  ⊠ No → Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.		
	<ul> <li>☐ Yes</li> <li>Select the applicable floodplain using the FEMA map or the best available information:</li> <li>☐ Floodway → Continue to Question 3, Floodways</li> </ul>		
	☐ Coastal High Hazard Area (V Zone) → Continue to Question 4, Coastal High Hazard Areas		
	☐ 500-year floodplain (B Zone or shaded X Zone) → Continue to Question 5, 500-year Floodplains		
	☐ 100-year floodplain (A Zone) → The 8-Step Process is required. Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process		
3.	Floodways Is this a functionally dependent use?  ☐ Yes		

	The 8-Step Process is required. Work with HUD or the RE to assist with the 8-Step Process.  → Continue to Worksheet Summary.
	□ No → Federal assistance may not be used at this location unless an exception in 55.12(c) applies. You must either choose an alternate site or cancel the project.
4.	Coastal High Hazard Area Is this a critical action such as a hospital, nursing home, fire station, or police station?  ☐ Yes → Critical actions are prohibited in coastal high hazard areas unless an exception in 55.12(c) applies. You must either choose an alternate site or cancel the project.
	□ No Does this action include new construction that is not a functionally dependent use, existing construction (including improvements), or reconstruction following destruction caused by a disaster?
	<ul> <li>Yes, there is new construction of something that is not a functionally dependent use.</li> <li>New construction must be designed to FEMA standards for V Zones at 44 CFR 60.3(e) (24 CFR 55.1(c)(3)(i)).</li> <li>→ Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>□ No, this action concerns only existing construction.</li> <li>Existing construction must have met FEMA elevation and construction standards for a coastal high hazard area or other standards applicable at the time of construction.</li> <li>→ Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process</li> </ul>
5.	500-year Floodplain  Is this a critical action?  □ No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.
	□Yes → Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process
6.	8-Step Process.  Is this 8-Step Process required? Select one of the following options:  □ 8-Step Process applies.  This project will require mitigation and may require elevating structure or structures. See the link to the HUD Exchange above for information on HUD's elevation requirements.  → Work with the RE/HUD to assist with the 8-Step Process. Continue to Worksheet Summary.
	<ul> <li>□ 5-Step Process is applicable per 55.12(a)(1-3).</li> <li>Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(a) here.</li> <li>Click here to enter text.</li> <li>→ Work with the RE/HUD to assist with the 5-Step Process. Continue to Worksheet Summary.</li> </ul>
	☐ 8-Step Process is inapplicable per 55.12(b)(1-4).  Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(b) here.

Click here to enter text.

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

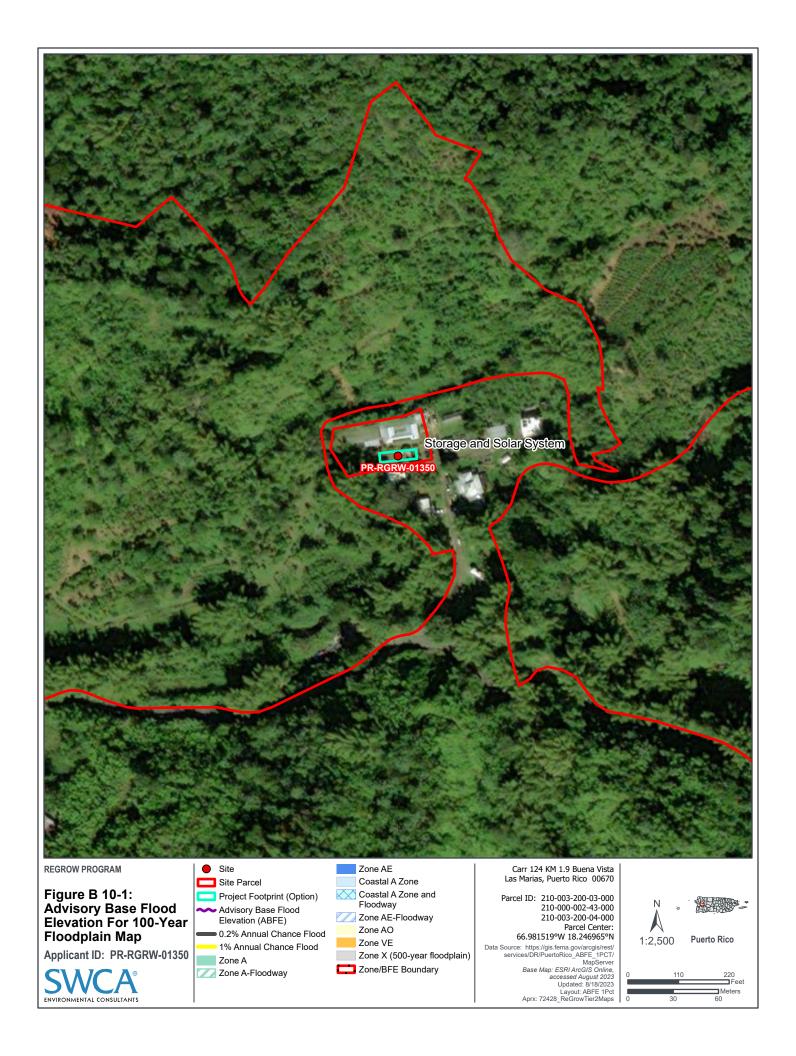
#### **Worksheet Summary**

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

#### Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The FEMA FIRM, Community Panel 72000C1030H (effective date 04/19/2005), shows the project site is in Flood Zone X. An Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) map was developed by FEMA for this FIRM, which shows the project site is in Flood Zone X. The project is not located in the 100-year floodplain or ABFE special flood hazard area; therefore, no further action is required. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988.



# Attachment 11 Historic Preservation Partner Worksheet and SHPO Consultation



#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

#### Historic Preservation (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/historic-preservation

#### **Threshold**

#### Is Section 106 review required for your project?

□ No, because a Programmatic Agreement states that all activities included in this project are exempt. (See the <u>PA Database</u> to find applicable PAs.)

Either provide the PA itself or a link to it here. Mark the applicable exemptions or include the text here:

Click here to enter text.

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

Either provide the memo itself or a link to it here. Explain and justify the other determination here:

The project will involve new installation of two shipping containers and a solar panel system on a previously disturbed property. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consultation was performed. No National Historic Landmark (NHL) are within or near the project area.

A site visit was conducted on August 17, 2023, by an SOI-qualified Archaeologist. Record reviews and research were conducted at the SHPO and the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña (ICP) to determine if any archaeologically sensitive resources could be present within a 0.5-mile radius. The results of the Record Search and the Site Inspection indicate that there are no historic properties or cultural resources within the 0.50-mile radius study area or within the project Area of Potential Effect (APE). Based on the results of the historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the APE.

→ Continue to the Worksheet Summ	<b>→</b>	Continue t	to the Worl	ksheet Summai	ν.
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$\square$ Yes, because the project includes activities with	potential to cause effects (direct or indirect)>
Continue to Step 1.	

#### **The Section 106 Process**

After determining the need to do a Section 106 review, HUD or the RE will initiate consultation with regulatory and other interested parties, identify and evaluate historic properties, assess effects of the

project on properties listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and resolve any adverse effects through project design modifications or mitigation.

Step 1: Initiate consultation

Step 2: Identify and evaluate historic properties

Step 3: Assess effects of the project on historic properties

Step 4: Resolve any adverse effects

Only RE or HUD staff may initiate the Section 106 consultation process. Partner entities may gather information, including from SHPO records, identify and evaluate historic properties, and make initial assessments of effects of the project on properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Place. Partners should then provide their RE or HUD with all of their analysis and documentation so that they may initiate consultation.

#### **Step 1 - Initiate Consultation**

The following parties are entitled to participate in Section 106 reviews: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs); federally recognized Indian tribes/Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs); Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs); local governments; and project grantees. The general public and individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in a project may participate as consulting parties at the discretion of the RE or HUD official. Participation varies with the nature and scope of a project. Refer to HUD's website for guidance on consultation, including the required timeframes for response. Consultation should begin early to enable full consideration of preservation options.

Use the When To Consult With Tribes checklist within Notice CPD-12-006: Process for Tribal Consultation to determine if the RE or HUD should invite tribes to consult on a particular project. Use the <u>Tribal Directory Assessment Tool (TDAT)</u> to identify tribes that may have an interest in the area where the project is located. Note that only HUD or the RE may initiate consultation with Tribes. Partner entities may prepare a draft letter for the RE or HUD to use to initiate consultation with tribes, but may not send the letter themselves.

List all organizations and individuals that you believe may have an interest in the project here:

 $\rightarrow$  Continue to Step 2.

#### **Step 2 - Identify and Evaluate Historic Properties**

Provide a preliminary definition of the Area of Potential Effect (APE), either by entering the address(es) or providing a map depicting the APE. Attach an additional page if necessary.

Gather information about known historic properties in the APE. Historic buildings, districts and archeological sites may have been identified in local, state, and national surveys and registers, local historic districts, municipal plans, town and county histories, and local history websites. If not already listed on the National Register of Historic Places, identified properties are then evaluated to see if they are eligible for

the National Register. Refer to HUD's website for guidance on identifying and evaluating historic properties.

#### In the space below, list historic properties identified and evaluated in the APE.

Every historic property that may be affected by the project should be listed. For each historic property or district, include the National Register status, whether the SHPO has concurred with the finding, and whether information on the site is sensitive. Attach an additional page if necessary.

Click here to enter text.

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

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

If the APE contains previously unsurveyed buildings or structures over 50 years old, or there is a likely presence of previously unsurveyed archeological sites, a survey may be necessary. For Archeological surveys, refer to HP Fact Sheet #6, <u>Guidance on Archeological Investigations in HUD Projects</u>.

$\sqsupset$ Yes $ o$ Provide survey(s) and report(s) and continue to S	itep 3.
Additional notes:	

#### Step 3 - Assess Effects of the Project on Historic Properties

 $\square$  No  $\rightarrow$  Continue to Step 3.

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

#### Choose one of the findings below to recommend to the RE or HUD.

Please note: this is a recommendation only. It is **not** the official finding, which will be made by the RE or HUD, but only your suggestion as a Partner entity.

# No Historic Properties Affected Document reason for finding: No historic properties present. Historic properties present, but project will have no effect upon them. No Adverse Effect Document reason for finding and provide any comments below.

Comments may include recommendations for mitigation, monitoring, a plan for unanticipated discoveries, etc.

#### ☐ Adverse Effect

#### **Document reason for finding:**

Copy and paste applicable Criteria into text box with summary and justification.

Criteria of Adverse Effect: 36 CFR 800.5

#### Provide any comments below:

Comments may include recommendations for avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation.

The project will involve new construction of a storage unit and solar panels on a previously disturbed property. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consultation was performed.

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

A site visit was conducted on August 17, 2023 by an SOI-qualified Archaeologist. Record reviews and research were conducted at the SHPO and the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña (ICP) to determine if any archaeologically sensitive resources could be present within a 0.5-mile radius. The results of the Record Search and the Site Inspection indicate that there are no historic properties or cultural resources within the 0.50-mile radius study area or within the project Area of Potential Effect (APE). Based on the results of the historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the APE.

The determination was submitted to SHPO by PRDOH for concurrence on October 27, 2023, and SHPO concurred with the No Historic Properties Affected determination on November 10, 2023. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.

Remember to provide all documentation that justifies your National Register Status determination and recommendations along with this worksheet.



#### GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

November 10, 2023

#### Lauren Bair Poche

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

SHPO 10-27-23-02 SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION SUBMITTAL: PR-RGRW-01350 – FINCA AGROECOLÓGICA BOHITI – CARRETERA 124 KM 1.9 BUENA VISTA, LAS MARÍAS, PUERTO RICO

Dear Ms. Bair,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer

only affirm

CARC/GMO/MB





October 27, 2023

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

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

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-01350 – Finca Agroecologica Bohiti – Carretera 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista, Las Marias, 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 Finca Agroecologica Bohiti located at Carretera 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista, in the municipality of Las Marias. The undertaking for this project includes the purchase and installation of two shipping containers for storage and a solar panel system and the purchase of various farming equipment including a cocoa winnower, chocovision tempering machine, merchandise transportation, coffee business equipment, and utility task vehicle (UTV). Additionally, the applicant will construct a 20-foot by 80-foot roof structure over the containers. The roof structure will be constructed with metal posts extending six inches into the ground and spaced 10 feet apart. Approximately 11 posts will be required. Although the construction of the roof structure is not included in the Intended Use of Grant Funds application, this activity has been included for review because



the requested solar panels will be installed on this structure. Lastly, new above-ground waterlines will be installed from the applicant's residence to the storage containers.

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 <a href="mailto:lauren.poche@horne.com">lauren.poche@horne.com</a> or phone at 225-405-7676 with any questions or concerns.

Kindest regards,

Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.

Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Senior Manager

Attachments

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM	<b>A</b>
ReGrow Puerto Rico Program	GOVERNMENT OF PUBLICO RICOS
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350	City: Las Marías

<b>Project Location:</b> Carretera 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista, Las Marias, Puerto Rico 00670		
Project Coordinates: (as provided by applicant during field visit)		
Storage container and solar panel system: 18.246965, -66.981519		
<b>TPID</b> (Número de Catastro): 210-003-200-03-000, 210-000-002-43-000, and 210-003-200-04-000		
Type of Undertaking:		
☐ Substantial Repair/Improvements		
New Construction     ∴		
Construction Date (AH est.):	Property Size (acres):150 acres total	
Neighbors House ca. 2020	Storage containers and solar panel system:	
Owner's house: ca. 2013	0.036731 acres (1600 sq. ft.)	

SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian: Erin Edwards, M.P.S.	
Date Reviewed: September 28, 2023	
SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Delise Torres-Ortiz, M.A.	
Date Reviewed: October 4, 2023	

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

#### **Project Description (Undertaking)**

The proposed project includes the purchase and installation of two shipping containers for storage and a solar panel system and the purchase of various farming equipment including a cocoa winnower, chocovision tempering machine, merchandise transportation, coffee business equipment, and utility task vehicle (UTV).

The two shipping containers will be placed side-by-side, with the applicant opening the adjacent walls of each container to create one large linear storage unit. Each shipping container is 170 square feet (20 feet by 8.5 feet) with a height of approximately 9.5 feet. The shipping containers will be placed on the ground, and eight concrete beams (each beam is 8-foot by 1-foot by 1-foot) will be installed under the storage containers to aid in leveling and stabilizing. Additionally, the applicant will construct a 20-foot by 80-foot roof structure over the containers. The roof structure will be constructed with metal posts extending six inches into the ground and spaced 10 feet apart. Approximately 11 posts will be required. The construction of the roof structure is not included in the Intended Use of Grant Funds application.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM	GOVERNMENT OF PUBLICO RICCO
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	OSEARTMENT OF HOUSING
Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350	City: Las Marías

Electricity to the storage containers will be provided by solar panels installed on the roof of the containers. Any electrical connections for the solar panels will use aboveground cables. The water supply is from an underground water meter at the side of the main road that is managed by the Autoridad de Acueductos y Alcantarillados. The applicant will connect the storage containers to the water meter using a faucet and either a hose or PVC pipes at the side of the applicant's residence, which is approximately 37 feet north of the containers. All piping and connections to the storage containers will be aboveground surface lines.

The project will have minimal ground disturbance and no vegetation or tree clearing is required for construction. The applicant owns the property; therefore, no acquisition is required.

#### **Area of Potential Effects**

As defined in 36 CFR §800.16(d), the area of potential effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the location of the storage containers and base plus a 15-meter horizontal buffer to allow for some variation in final placement during construction and the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

#### Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) who searched the records at the SHPO and the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña which shows that there are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile (mi) radius of the project location. No archaeological evaluations and three studies of cultural resources have been conducted within the 0.5-mi review radius with no archaeological sites found. The three studies of cultural resources are discussed in the following section. The proposed project is in a heavily forested, mountainous region in the west portion of the island at an elevation of 180 feet (ft; 55 meters [m]) above mean sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses one mapped soil series: HmE2 (Humatas clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes). The project area APE is in the central-north portion

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM	0
ReGrow Puerto Rico Program	GOVERNMENT OF PUBLICO RICO
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350	City: Las Marías

of Municipio Las Marías in a small area of sylviculture and land cleared for very low-density residential construction. The general project area is located on a floodplain surrounded by upland topography of pronounced relief and steep slopes. This landscape is covered with thick forest vegetation occasionally interrupted by small areas of land that has been cleared for sparse residential construction and small-scale agriculture and sylviculture. The closest freshwater source isthe Río Mayaguecillo, whose course runs parallel to a large portion of the borders of the extensive property in which the project area is situated. The nearest portion of the river to the project APE is located 92 ft (28 m) northwest of the project APE. The west coast is approximately 12.7 miles (mi; 20.4 kilometers [km]) from the project area.

#### Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) shows that the project area is not within the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. The nearest historic place to the project site is the Eugenio Maria de Hostos School building (NRHP#12001077). The Las Marias Traditional Urban Center is near the de Hostos school, and both properties are to the northwest of the project site and outside the 0.50 review area. Section 106 surveys that have occurred in the area include Código SHPO 12-08-10-02 for the repaving of multiple streets that have deteriorated in 2010. The project site is 0.26 mi to the northeast of the survey point, and a finding of No Historic Properties was returned. Código SHPO 06-26-13-01 was completed in 2013 for the rehabilitation of low-to-moderate income houses. Two sites were reviewed. The first one was 0.45-mi to the northwest, and the second was 0.54-mi to the northwest. A finding of No Historic Properties was returned. Polygons showing these three studies were not available digitally and therefore they are not shown in the Previous Investigation figure, below.

The project area is in a rural area of Las Marias, southeast of Las Marias city. The land is mountainous and heavily vegetated, and the project site sits at the bottom of two mountains, in a valley that is encircled with vegetation. Historic aerials from 1959 show one building in the area of the project site (<a href="https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer">https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer</a>) but aerials from 1975 show no buildings in the area. Earth Explorer (<a href="https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov">https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov</a>) aerials from 1977 also show no buildings in the area. The owner informed the inspector that

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	GOVERNMENT OF PUBLICO PICO
Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350	City: Las Marías

his house was built in 2015, and historic aerials on Google Earth confirm that the building began construction in 2013. The neighbor's house was built ca. 2020 and historic aerials from Google Earth confirmed that as well. The rest of the buildings on the property were built between 1993 and the present. Historic aerials from Google Earth also confirm that houses that line the project site driveway were not in place until 2002. As the project site sits in a heavily vegetated valley, no historic properties will be effected.

#### Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect. The project area is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed historic district or Traditional Urban Center. There are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project location. No known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the Area of Potential Effect of case PR-RGRW-01350 is located. The closest freshwater body is approximately 92 ft (28 m) from the project area. Although in near proximity, the activity will connect to existing municipal water supply and no clearing near the river will be required. The size of the proposed project activity is very small (0.036731 acres (1600 sq. ft.)) and construction of public roads such as PR124 to the south and other residential buildings in the area, in addition to forest clearing for sylviculture, have somewhat impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM	
ReGrow Puerto Rico Program	GOVERNMENT OF PUPERTO RICO
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350	City: Las Marías

#### Recommendation

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

□ No Adverse Effect
Condition (if applicable):
□ Adverse Effect
Proposed Resolution (if appliable)

#### This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

	· J
The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed and:	d the above information
☐ Concurs with the information provided.	
□ <b>Does not concur</b> with the information provided.	
Comments:	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation Officer	Date:



Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350 City: Las Marías

### Project (Parcel) Location - Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial) REGROW PROGRAM Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista Las Marias, Puerto Rico 00670 Site Project Location Area of Potential Effects (APE) Map Site Parcel Parcel ID: 210-003-200-03-000 210-000-002-43-000 210-003-200-04-000 Project Footprint (Option) Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01350 APE (Buffer (15-meters)) Parcel Center: 66.981519°W 18.246965°N



Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350 City: Las Marías

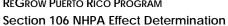
## Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista Las Marias, 00670 REGROW PROGRAM Site Site Parcel Figure A-2: Site Vicinity Parcel ID: 210-003-200-03-000 210-000-002-43-000 210-003-200-04-000 Parcel Center: 66.981519°W 18.246965°N Project Footprint (Option) Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01350 SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS



**Applicant:** FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350 City: Las Marías

### Project (Parcel) Location - USGS Topographic Map Maravilla Norte 119 Maravilla Este Las Marías Urb El Bosque JARD de Colinas de Maria Maravilla Sur Urb Inmaculada Concepcion REGROW PROGRAM Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista Las Marias, Puerto Rico 00670 Figure A-1: Site Location Parcel ID: 210-003-200-03-000 210-000-002-43-000 210-003-200-04-000 Parcel Center: 66.981519°W 18.246965°N Site Parcel Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01350 1:24,000





Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350 City: Las Marías

### Project (Parcel) Location - Soils Map HmF2 Mapunit Symbol **Mapunit Name** Humatas clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes Humatas clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes HmF2 REGROW PROGRAM Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista Las Marias, Puerto Rico 00670 Site **USDA Soils Map** Site Parcel Parcel ID: 210-003-200-03-000 210-000-002-43-000 210-003-200-04-000 Project Footprint (Option) Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01350 Parcel Center: 66.981519°W 18.246965°N Data Source: https:// Soil Mapunit SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

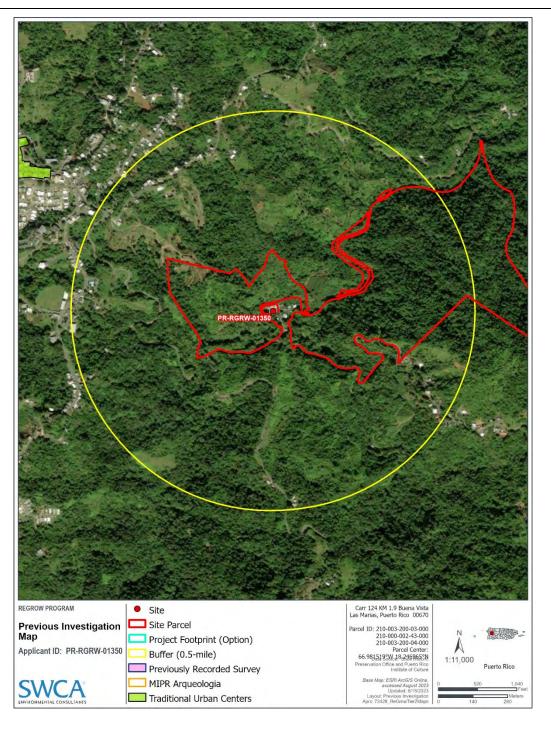
REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350 City: Las Marías

#### Project (Parcel) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map



Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350 City: Las Marías

### Project (Parcel) Location with Previously Recorded Cultural Resources **USGS Topographic Map** Muñoz Porruellas Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista Las Marias, Puerto Rico 00670 Parcel ID: 210-003-200-03-000 210-000-002-43-000 210-003-200-04-000 Parcel Center: 66.981519°W 18.246965°N National Historic Landmark Site Manati Historic Zone Miramar Historic Zone Historic Places Historic Places Poppe United States and Historic Zone Historic Places Site Parcel Site Parcel Buffer (0.5-mile) Archaeological Site Historical Place Figure B 11-1: Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Ponce Historic Zone Historic Community San German Historic Zone Historic District Historic Area Point JP Historical Sites Arroyo Historic Zone San Juan Historic Zone Puerto Rico Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01350 Caguas Historic Zone Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online accessed August 202: Updated: 8/18/202: Layout: Cultural Resource: Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Map: Guayama Historic Zone Traditional Urban Centers

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



Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350 City: Las Marías

#### Photograph Key



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

ReGrow Puerto Rico Program

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350 City: Las Marías



Photo #:01

Date:08/17/2023

**Description (include direction):** Overview of the site for the storage containers which will have solar panels on the roof. View is west.



Photo #:02

Date:08/17/2023

**Description (include direction):** The owner's house, built ca. 2015 per applicant. Historic imagery indicates 2013 was the year construction began. View is west.

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

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Applicant: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01350 City: Las Marías



Photo #:03

Date: 08/17/2023

**Description (include direction):** Neighbor's house ca. 2020 per applicant, and confirmed with historic aerials. View is south.



October 20, 2022

#### Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

Executive Director State Historic Preservation Officer Cuartel de Ballajá Bldg. San Juan, Puerto Rico

Re: Authorization to Submit Documents

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela:

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

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

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

Cordially,

Juan C Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng Director of Disaster Recovery CDBG DR-MIT

# Attachment 12 Wetlands Protection Partner Worksheet and Map



#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

#### Wetlands (CEST and EA) - Partner

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

1.	Does this project involve new construction as defined in Executive Order 11990, expansion of a building's footprint, or ground disturbance?
	The term "new construction" includes draining, dredging, channelizing, filling, diking, impounding, and related activities and construction of any structures or facilities.
	$\square$ No $\Rightarrow$ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.
	$\boxtimes$ Yes $\rightarrow$ Continue to Question 2.
2.	Will the new construction or other ground disturbance impact a wetland as defined in E.O. 11990?
	$\boxtimes$ No $\Rightarrow$ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map or any other relevant documentation to explain your determination.
	$\square$ Yes $\rightarrow$ Work with HUD or the RE to assist with the 8-Step Process. Continue to Question 3.
3.	Does Section 55.12 state that the 8-Step Process is not required?
	<ul> <li>□ No, the 8-Step Process applies.</li> <li>This project will require mitigation and may require elevating structure or structures. See the link to the HUD Exchange above for information on HUD's elevation requirements.</li> <li>→ Work with the RE/HUD to assist with the 8-Step Process. Continue to Worksheet Summary.</li> </ul>
	☐ 5-Step Process is applicable per 55.12(a).  Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(a) here.  Click here to enter text.
	→ Work with the RE/HUD to assist with the 5-Step Process. This project may require mitigation or alternations. Continue to Worksheet Summary.
	□ 8-Step Process is inapplicable per 55.12(b).  Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(b) here.  Click here to enter text.

- → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to Worksheet Summary.
- ☐ 8-Step Process is inapplicable per 55.12(c).

Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(c) here.

Click here to enter text.

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

#### **Worksheet Summary**

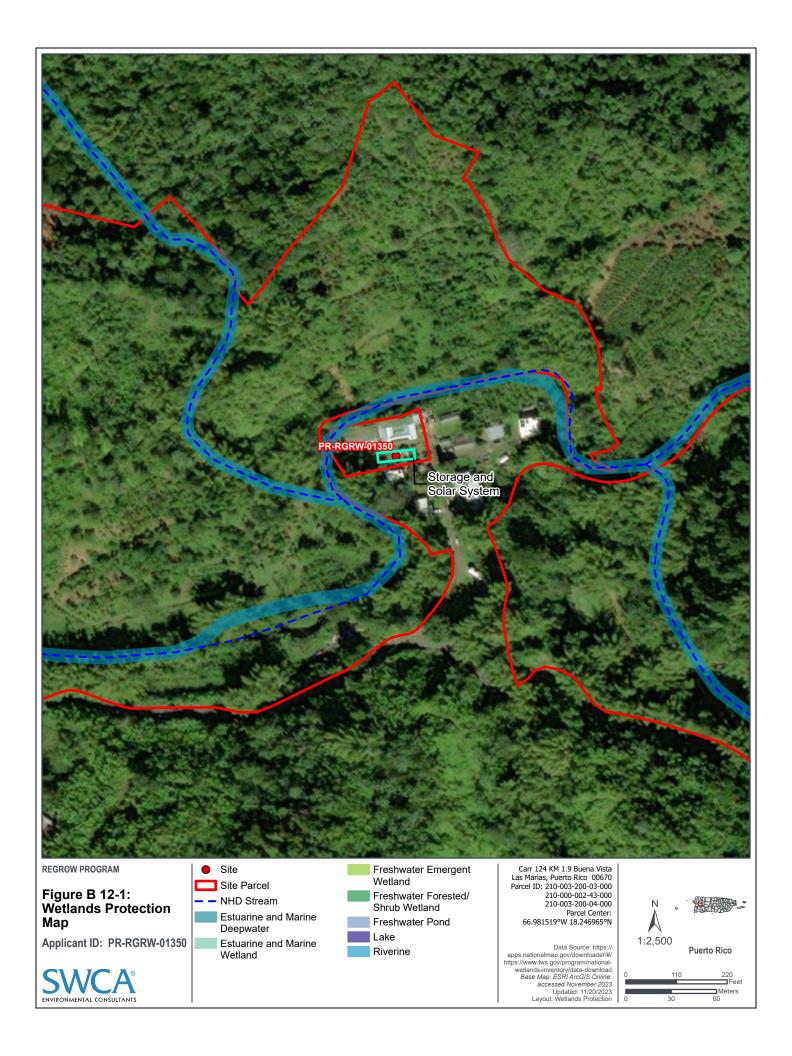
Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

#### Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

A review of the National Wetland Inventory identified a stream wetland on the west of the property.

The project site was reviewed for wetlands using the USFWS Wetland Inventory Mapper and a visual confirmation during the field site inspection, and a potential wetland area was identified approximately 50 ft from the project site. A wetland delineation was performed to verify the presence of wetlands.



# Attachment 13 Wild and Scenic Rivers Partner Worksheet and Wild and Scenic Rivers Map

#### Wild and Scenic Rivers (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

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

#### 1. Is your project within proximity of a NWSRS river as defined below?

**Wild & Scenic Rivers:** These rivers or river segments have been designated by Congress or by states (with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Interior) as wild, scenic, or recreational

<u>Study Rivers:</u> These rivers or river segments are being studied as a potential component of the Wild & Scenic River system.

<u>Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI):</u> The National Park Service has compiled and maintains the NRI, a register of river segments that potentially qualify as national wild, scenic, or recreational river areas

#### $\boxtimes$ No

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Provide documentation used to make your determination, such as a map identifying the project site and its surrounding area or a list of rivers in your region in the Screen Summary at the conclusion of this screen.

	Yes, t	the projec	t is ir	proximity	of a	Nationwide	Rivers	Inventory	(NRI)	River
--	--------	------------	---------	-----------	------	------------	--------	-----------	-------	-------

→ Continue to Question 2.

#### 2. Could the project do any of the following?

- Have a direct and adverse effect within Wild and Scenic River Boundaries,
- Invade the area or unreasonably diminish the river outside Wild and Scenic River Boundaries, or
- Have an adverse effect on the natural, cultural, and/or recreational values of a NRI segment.

Consultation with the appropriate federal/state/local/tribal Managing Agency(s) is required, pursuant to Section 7 of the Act, to determine if the proposed project may have an adverse effect on a Wild & Scenic River or a Study River and, if so, to determine the appropriate avoidance or mitigation measures.

<u>Note</u>: Concurrence may be assumed if the Managing Agency does not respond within 30 days; however, you are still obligated to avoid or mitigate adverse effects on the rivers identified in the NWSRS

- ☐ No, the Managing Agency has concurred that the proposed project will not alter, directly, or indirectly, any of the characteristics that qualifies or potentially qualifies the river for inclusion in the NWSRS.
- → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Provide documentation of the consultation (including the Managing Agency's concurrence) and any other documentation used to make your determination.
- ☐ Yes, the Managing Agency was consulted and the proposed project may alter, directly, or indirectly, any of the characteristics that qualifies or potentially qualifies the river for inclusion in the NWSRS.
- → The RE/HUD must work with the Managing Agency to identify mitigation measures to mitigate the impact or effect of the project on the river.

#### **Worksheet Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

Provide a clear description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your region

A review of the USFWS National Wild and Scenic River mapper identified no Wild and Scenic Rivers or National Rivers Inventory (NRI) rivers present in Las Marias Municipio. The closest Wild and Scenic River segment is located 413,737 feet (78 miles) east of the project site. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Are formal com	pliance steps or mitigation required?
☐ Yes	
⊠ No	

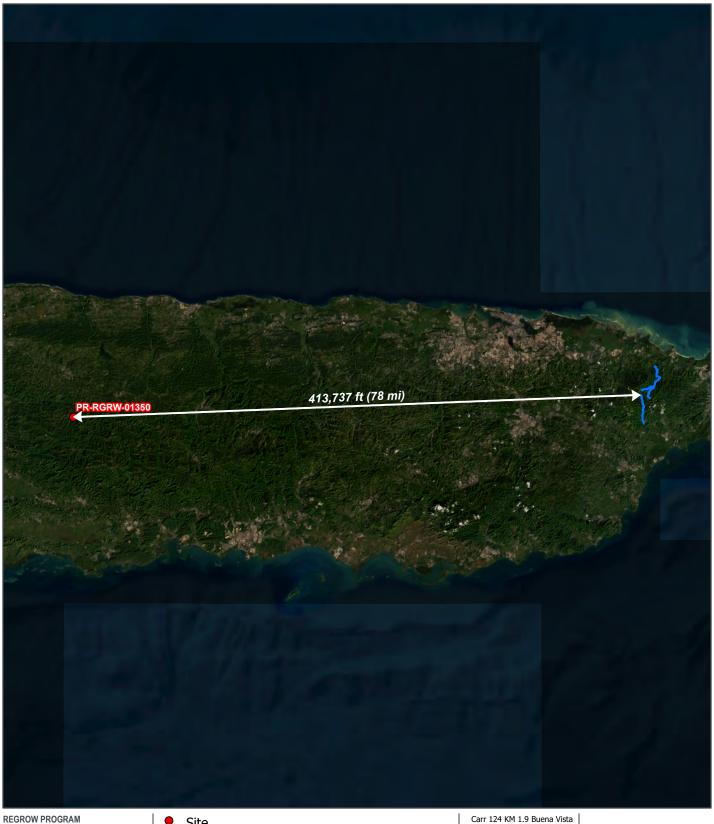


Figure B 13-1: National Wild and Scenic River Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01350



National Wild and Scenic River

Las Marias, Puerto Rico 00670

Parcel ID: 210-003-200-03-000 210-000-002-43-000 210-003-200-04-000 Parcel Center: 66.385751°W 18.27005°N

66.385751°W 18.27005°N
Data Source: https://apps.fs.usda.gov/
arcx/rest/services/EDW/
EDW\_WildScenicRiverSegments, 01/
MapServer
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
accessed August 2023
Updated: 8/18/2023
Layout: Wild and Scenic Rivers





Puerto Rico

Meters 20,000

# Attachment 14 Environmental Justice Partner Worksheet and EJScreen Report



#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-1000

This Worksheet was designed to be used by those "Partners" (including Public Housing Authorities, consultants, contractors, and nonprofits) who assist Responsible Entities and HUD in preparing environmental reviews, but legally cannot take full responsibilities for these reviews themselves. Responsible Entities and HUD should use the RE/HUD version of the Worksheet.

#### **Environmental Justice (CEST and EA) – PARTNER**

https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/environmental-justice

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

- 1. Were any adverse environmental impacts identified in any other compliance review portion of this project's total environmental review?
  - $\square$ Yes  $\rightarrow$  Continue to Question 2.
  - No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.
- 2. Were these adverse environmental impacts disproportionately high for low-income and/or minority communities?

□Yes

#### **Explain:**

Click here to enter text.

→ The RE/HUD must work with the affected low-income or minority community to decide what mitigation actions, if any, will be taken. Provide any supporting documentation.

□No

#### **Explain:**

Click here to enter text.

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

#### **Worksheet Summary**

Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

- Map panel numbers and dates
- Names of all consulted parties and relevant consultation dates
- Names of plans or reports and relevant page numbers
- Any additional requirements specific to your program or region

Include all documentation supporting your findings in your submission to HUD.

The ReGrow Program intends to alleviate negative economic impacts to, and strengthen, the agricultural industry in Puerto Rico. The project's direct and indirect impacts are limited to a small area on a single land parcel. The project will benefit the farm owner by improving agricultural use and production. The project would not facilitate development that would negatively affect human health or result in disproportionate adverse environmental impacts to low-income or minority populations. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898.



## **EJScreen Community Report**

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

## Las Marías Municipio, PR

1 mile Ring Centered at 18.237014,-66.983299
Population: 1,030
Area in square miles: 3.14

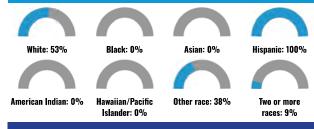
#### **COMMUNITY INFORMATION**



#### LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
No language data availabl	e.

#### **BREAKDOWN BY RACE**



#### **BREAKDOWN BY AGE**

From Ages 1 to 4	5%
From Ages 1 to 18	22%
From Ages 18 and up	78%
From Ages 65 and up	19%

#### LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



Notes: Numbers may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic popultion 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.

ist 22, 2023

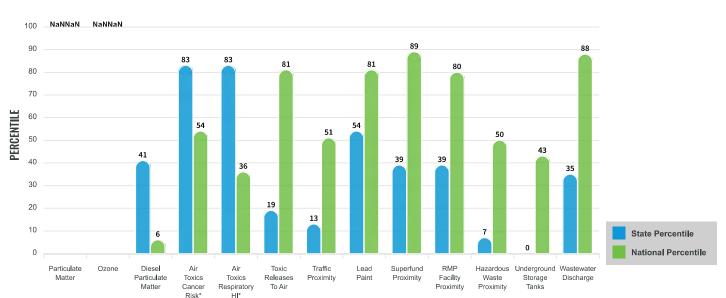
#### **Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes**

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,

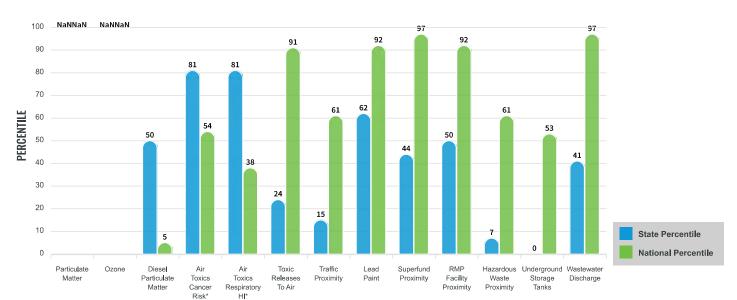
#### **EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION**



#### **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.





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

 $\equiv$ 

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.237014,-66.983299

### **EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data**

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA	
POLLUTION AND SOURCES						
Particulate Matter (µg/m³)	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 (µg/m³)	0.0269	0.0667	36	0.261	1	
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	20	15	25	5	
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.2	0.19	17	0.31	4	
Toxic Releases to Air	210	4,300	17	4,600	33	
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	9.5	180	12	210	16	
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.1	0.16	52	0.3	35	
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.059	0.15	33	0.13	49	
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.12	0.47	35	0.43	37	
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.069	0.76	6	1.9	13	
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km²)	0.074	1.7	0	3.9	27	
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)		2.3	33	22	48	
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS						
Demographic Index	95%	83%	83	35%	99	
Supplemental Demographic Index	55%	43%	80	14%	99	
People of Color	100%	96%	30	39%	97	
Low Income	90%	70%	82	31%	99	
Unemployment Rate	10%	15%	44	6%	82	
Limited English Speaking Households	86%	67%	86	5%	99	
Less Than High School Education	31%	21%	76	12%	92	
Under Age 5	5%	4%	69	6%	48	
Over Age 64	19%	22%	40	17%	64	
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 figures here are due to rounding. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update">https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update</a>.

#### Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

Superfund	0
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	0
Water Dischargers	2
Air Pollution	0
Brownfields	0
Toxic Release Inventory	0

## Other environmental data:

\ir Non-attainment	No
mnaired Waters	Vac

Other community features within defined area:

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

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.237014,-66.983299

### **EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data**

HEALTH INDICATORS								
INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE			
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	-99999900%	N/A	20%	N/A			
Heart Disease	N/A	-999999	N/A	6.1	N/A			
Asthma	N/A	-999999	N/A	10	N/A			
Cancer	N/A	-999999	N/A	6.1	N/A			
Persons with Disabilities	12.3%	21.6%	9	13.4%	48			

CLIMATE INDICATORS								
INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE			
Flood Risk	N/A	-99999900%	N/A	12%	N/A			
Wildfire Risk	N/A	-99999900%	N/A	14%	N/A			

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS					
INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	55%	32%	87	14%	98
Lack of Health Insurance	3%	7%	10	9%	19
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

Footnotes

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.237014,-66.983299

# Appendix C Environmental Site Inspection Report



# ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD ASSESSMENT FORM ReGrow



Applicant Name: FINCA AGROECOLOGICA BOHITI	Program ID: PR-RGRW-01350
Project Coordinates: 18.246982, -66.981425 and 18.248067, -66.977317 and 18.247106, -66981640	Parcel ID: 210-003-200-03-000 and 210-000- 002-43-000 and 210-003-200-04-000
Parcel Address: Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena Vista	Municipio: Las Marias, PR
Zip Code: 00670	

Inspector Name: Delise Torres-Ortiz	Inspection Date: August 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2023
-------------------------------------	---

#### **General Site Conditions**

Was property accessible by vehicle?	Yes	Comment:
Access issues?	No	Comment: None
Are water wells present?	No	Comment:
Are creeks or ponds present?	Yes	Comment: Quebrada Mayagüecino (west)
Are any potential wetlands onsite or visible on adjacent parcel?	No	Comment:

#### **Parcel Conditions**

#### Note – for Any Yes answers specify type, contents and location

Do any of the proposed project work areas show evidence of site preparation?	No	Comment: If yes, ask applicant when the preparation work was completed.
Are commercial or industrial hazardous facilities at parcel or within visual sight?	No	Comment:
Are there signs of underground storage tanks?	No	Comment:
Are above-ground tanks >10 gallons present? If Yes, also state condition.	Yes	Comment: 100-pound and a 50-pound propane gas tank.
Are 55-gallon drums present? If Yes, also state condition.	No	Comment:



# ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD ASSESSMENT FORM ReGrow



Are abandoned vehicles or electrical equipment present?	No	Comment:
Is other potential environmentally hazardous debris on the parcel?	No	Comment:
Is there non-environmentally hazardous debris on the parcel?	No	Comment:
Are any leaks, soil stains, or stressed vegetation present associated with any of the above or separately?	No	Comment:
Are there any pungent, foul or noxious odors?	No	Comment:
Are there any potentially hazardous trees that could fall?	No	Comment:
Are any bird nests visible?	Yes	Comment: Possibly a "Reinita" or "Spindalis".
Are there any animal burrows visible?	No	Comment:
Are there any buildings in direct visual sight of the project locations?	Yes	Comment: Applicant's residence – nine (9) years ago; Neighbor's residence three (3) years ago.

#### **Additional Needs Analysis**

Based on the above findings, does additional information need to be obtained from the applicant to determine whether an environmental hazard is present?	No	Comment:
--	----	----------

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

Delise Torres Ortiz {Delise Torres-Ortiz} {August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023}

Project #: PR-RGRW-01350	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena	Coordinates: P1: 18.246982, -66.981425;
Vista, Las Marias, PR 00670	P2: 18.248067, -66.977317; P3: 18.247106, -66981640

Frame #	View	Description
01	SW	Overview of the site location for a storage unit 80x8x9.5 feet with a galvanized roof
		80x20ft, and a solar system installed on the roof. The applicant plans to connect
		two (2) freight containers 40x8x9.5 feet over multiple beams (8) 8x1x1ft spaced
		every 10ft and 11 metal posts every 10ft, .5ft deep. The roof will cover 10ft towards
		the container and the other 10ft as an open area.
02	SE	Overview of the site location from the northwest corner for a storage unit
		80x8x9.5ft with a galvanized roof 80x20x9 to 10ft, and a solar system. The picture
		shows the area's vegetation, the landform, and the neighbor's residence.
03	SW	Overview of the site location from the northeast corner for a storage unit
		80x8x9.5ft with a galvanized roof 80x20x9 to 10ft, and a solar system. The picture
		shows the area's vegetation, the landform, and the neighbor's residence.
04	NW	Overview of the site location from the southeast corner for a storage unit
		80x8x9.5ft with a galvanized roof 80x20x9 to 10ft, and a solar system. The picture
		shows the area's vegetation, the landform, a chicken shed, and a food truck.
05	NE	Overview of the site location from the southwest corner for a storage unit
		80x8x9.5ft with a galvanized roof 80x20x9 to 10ft, and a solar system. The picture
		shows the area's vegetation, the landform, a chicken shed, another property, a
		truck, and a kid's playhouse.
06	SW	This picture is an overview of the creek that flows behind their property west and
		southwest, called Quebrada Mayagüecino.
07	CLOSE-	Close-up of a bird's nest in front of the site location, possibly a "Reinita" or
	UP, W	"Spindalis".
80	CLOSE-	Overview of the location where the applicant plans to take potable water provided
	UP, NE	by PRASA (AAA), and it will be above-ground.
09	N	This is an example of the solar system installed and it shows a 100-pound and a 50-
		pound propane gas tank which is usually used for cooking on the south side of the
		applicant's residence.
10	W	This is an overview of the applicant's residence built nine (9) years ago.
11	SW	This is an overview of the neighbor's residence built three (3) years ago, but it is
		being renovated.

Project #: PR-RGRW-01350 Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz Location Address: Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena Coordinates: P1: 18.246982, -66.981425; P2: 18.248067, -66.977317; P3: 18.247106, -66981640 Vista, Las Marias, PR 00670

Photo #: Date: 01 08/17/2023 **Photo Direction:** 

Southwest **Description:** 

Overview of the site location for a storage unit 80x8x9.5 feet with a galvanized roof 80x20ft, and a solar system installed on the roof. The applicant plans to connect two (2) freight containers 40x8x9.5 feet over multiple beams (8) 8x1x1ft spaced every 10ft and 11 metal posts every 10ft, .5ft deep. The roof will cover 10ft towards the container and the other 10ft as an open area.



Date: Photo #: 02

08/17/ 2023

**Photo Direction:** Southeast

**Description:** 

Overview of the site location from the northwest corner for a storage unit 80x8x9.5ft with a galvanized roof 80x20x9 to 10ft, and a solar system. The picture shows the area's vegetation, the landform, and the neighbor's residence.



Project #: PR-RGRW-01350 Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz Location Address: Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena Coordinates: P1: 18.246982, -66.981425;

Photo #: 03

Date:

2023

**Photo Direction:** Southwest

#### **Description:**

Overview of the site location from the northeast corner for a storage unit 80x8x9.5ft with a galvanized roof 80x20x9 to 10ft, and a solar system. The picture shows the area's vegetation, the landform, and the neighbor's residence.



Photo #: 04

Date: 08/17/ 2023

#### **Photo Direction:** Northwest

#### **Description:**

Overview of the site location from the southeast corner for a storage unit 80x8x9.5ft with a galvanized roof 80x20x9 to 10ft, and a solar system. The picture shows the area's vegetation, the landform, a chicken shed, and a food truck.



 Project #: PR-RGRW-01350
 Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz

 Location Address: Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena
 Coordinates: P1: 18.246982, -66.981425;

 Vista, Las Marias, PR 00670
 P2: 18.248067, -66.977317; P3: 18.247106, -66981640

**Photo #:** 05

**Date:** 08/17/ 2023

### **Photo Direction:**Northeast

#### **Description:**

Overview of the site location from the southwest corner for a storage unit 80x8x9.5ft with a galvanized roof 80x20x9 to 10ft, and a solar system. The picture shows the area's vegetation, the landform, a chicken shed, another property, a truck, and a kid's playhouse.



**Photo #:** 06

**Date:** 08/17/ 2023

#### **Photo Direction:**

Southwest

#### **Description:**

This picture is an overview of the creek that flows behind their property west and southwest, called Quebrada Mayagüecino.



 Project #: PR-RGRW-01350
 Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz

 Location Address: Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena
 Coordinates: P1: 18.246982, -66.981425;

 Vista, Las Marias, PR 00670
 P2: 18.248067, -66.977317; P3: 18.247106, -66981640

**Photo #:** 07

**Date:** 08/17/ 2023

#### **Photo Direction:**

Close-up, west

#### **Description:**

Close-up of a bird's nest in front of the site location, possibly a "Reinita" or "Spindalis".



**Photo #:** 08

**Date:** 08/17/ 2023

#### **Photo Direction:**

Close-up, northeast

#### **Description:**

Overview of the location where the applicant plans to take potable water provided by PRASA (AAA), and it will be above-ground.



 Project #: PR-RGRW-01350
 Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz

 Location Address: Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena
 Coordinates: P1: 18.246982, -66.981425;

 Vista, Las Marias, PR 00670
 P2: 18.248067, -66.977317; P3: 18.247106, -66981640

**Photo #:** 09

**Date:** 08/17/ 2023

## **Photo Direction:**North

#### **Description:**

This is an example of the solar system installed and it shows a 100-pound and a 50-pound propane gas tank which is usually used for cooking on the south side of the applicant's residence.



**Photo #:** 10

**Date:** 08/17/ 2023

#### **Photo Direction:**

West

#### **Description:**

This is an overview of the applicant's residence built nine (9) years ago.



Project #: PR-RGRW-01350	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Carr 124 KM 1.9 Buena	Coordinates: P1: 18.246982, -66.981425;
Vista, Las Marias, PR 00670	P2: 18.248067, -66.977317; P3: 18.247106, -66981640

Photo #: 11 **Date:** 08/17/ 2023

#### **Photo Direction:**

Southwest

#### Description:

This is an overview of the neighbor's residence built three (3) years ago, but it is being renovated.

