

# **Environmental Assessment**

## **Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects**

### **24 CFR Part 58**

#### **Project Information**

**Project ID:** PR-RGRW-01357

**Project Name:** Granja Abraham

**Responsible Entity:** Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

**State/Local Identifier:** Puerto Rico/San Lorenzo, PR

**Preparer:** Andrew McCadden

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

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

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

#### **Project Location:**

The property is a 33.4-acre site located at Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez in the Municipality of San Lorenzo, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 302-000-005-22-000/302-000-005-21-000/302-039-381-03-000). The coordinates of the three project parcels are 18.144209, -65.948807; 18.142389, -65.947292; and 18.143733, -65.946779, respectively.

The land is currently in used for cattle and pig breeding. The past land use was for the growing of plantains, coffee, and vegetables.

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

The proposed use of grant funds is for the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck.

The applicant plans to repair an existing fence and to construct a new fence to create internal pasture divisions within the parcels. Fence repairs and construction will be done with 6' long wooden poles with metal fencing. The wooden poles will be buried at a depth of 2'. The purpose of the fence is to maintain the cattle secure. Fence will be 37.5 % newly installed and 62.5 % repaired on the outside perimeter of the 3 applicant parcels,

approximately 2,500 lineal feet, as well in the internal pasture division, approximately 1,500 lineal feet. No new water and power connection are needed for this project.

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

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

The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) will increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. The purpose of this project is to increase the productivity of the farm. This agricultural project associated with the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck is keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The land proposed for the installation of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck is used for agricultural purposes. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with the project. Some ground disturbance will be required.

**Structure of this Environmental Review Report (ERR).**

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

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

**Funding Information**

<b>Grant Number</b>	<b>HUD Program</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
B-17-DM-72-0001,	Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)	\$11,938,162,230

B-18-DP-72-0001, B-19-DP-78-0002, B-18-DE-72-0001	CDBG-DR, Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agricultural Program	
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**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$47,075.22

**Estimated Total Project Cost** (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$47,075.22

### **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.

<b>Compliance Factors:</b> Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6</b>		
<b>Airport Hazards</b>  24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. The nearest civil airport is approximately 106,800 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport is approximately 105,917 feet from the proposed site. The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements. Refer to Figure 2 in <b>Appendix B.</b>
<b>Coastal Barrier Resources</b>  Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Puerto Rico has various Coastal Barrier Resources Systems (CBRS). The project is in southeastern Puerto Rico. The distance to the nearest CBRS unit is 51,372 feet. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. Refer to Figure 3 in <b>Appendix B.</b>
<b>Flood Insurance</b>	Yes    No	The Project site is located in Zone X, area of minimal flood hazard, as per Floodplain

Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Insurance Map 72000C1240J, effective date November 18, 2009. This project is in compliance with Floodplain Insurance requirements. (See Figures 4, and 5 in <b>Appendix B.</b> )
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<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5</b>		
<b>Clean Air</b>  Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	Yes   No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Project site is not located in a county or air quality management district that is in non-attainment status for any criteria pollutants. The Municipio of San Lorenzo is not listed in the EPA Green Book “Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for all Criteria Pollutants”. The repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck would have no impact on air quality. The project is in compliance with Clean Air Act. Refer to EPA listing in <b>Appendix C.</b>
<b>Coastal Zone Management</b>  Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes   No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is located 39,693 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the PR Coastal Zone Management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See Figure 7 in <b>Appendix B.</b>
<b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b>  24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)	Yes   No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A site visit conducted on May 18, 2023, no debris or rubbish or visible signs vegetative stress, contamination, or toxic substances were noted at the project site.  Site contamination was evaluated through online data searches to determine if toxic sites are located within 3,000-feet of the proposed project.  There are no sites of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet of the project site.  The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. Refer to Figures 8 and 9 in <b>Appendix B.</b> The project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances.

**Endangered Species**

Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402

Yes No

The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck located in an area that has been previously used for agricultural purposes.

According to EPA NEPAassist Enviromapper, the nearest critical or proposed critical habitat is 7,587 feet to the east of the project location. Per the Official Species List from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website, the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon, Puerto Rican Boa, and Guajon can be found, but there are no critical habitat at this location.

A site-specific review of endangered species was conducted in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended: 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) and the Self-Certification guidelines in the 2014 USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office Blanket Clearance Letter (See **Appendix D**).

The project is Not Likely to Adversely Affect the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon, Puerto Rican Boa, and Guajon, provided the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020 (**Appendix D**) are implemented as part of the project.

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

If a pigeon is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #s: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124).

Prior to any construction activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movement, the

		<p>boundaries of the project area, the buffer zones, and areas to be excluded and protected should be clearly marked in the project plan and in the field. If a coquí guajón is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the coquí guajón moves off on its own. If the coquí guajón does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the coquí guajón.</p> <p>Refer to Figures 10 and 11 in <b>Appendix B</b> and IPaC report in <b>Appendix D</b>. This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.</p>
<p><b>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</b></p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project does not include development, construction, or rehabilitation that will increase residential density.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable Hazard requirements.</p> <p>Refer to site visit report in <b>Appendix A</b>.</p>
<p><b>Farmlands Protection</b></p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project site is not designated as farmland of statewide importance. The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. The project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to nonagricultural use. Although the project includes new construction, the project is exempt from review under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) as the project is limited to construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations. No further review is required.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with the FPPA. Refer to Figure 12 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Floodplain Management</b></p> <p>Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Project site is not located in a 100-year floodplain per Floodplain Insurance Map 72000C1240J, effective date November 18, 2009. The project site is not located in Preliminary Firm or an Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) special flood hazard area. See Figures 4, 5 and 6</p>

		in <b>Appendix B</b> . This project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988.
<p><b>Historic Preservation</b></p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site was evaluated on August 2, 2023, by an SOI Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian. Additionally, the site was evaluated on August 8, 2023, by an SOI Qualified Archaeologist. Documentation with maps was subsequently submitted to SHPO on August 14, 2023 (<b>Appendix E</b>). SHPO concurred with a finding of <b>No Historic Properties Affected</b> within the project's Area of Potential on Effects on August 18, 2023. Refer to Figure 13 in <b>Appendix B</b> and the report in <b>Appendix E</b>. This project is in compliance with Historic Preservation requirements.</p>
<p><b>Noise Abatement and Control</b></p> <p>Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>HUD's noise regulations protect residential properties from excessive noise exposure. The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck at a farm site. HUD noise regulations do not apply as the project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The proposed project is in compliance with Noise Abatement and Control.</p>
<p><b>Sole Source Aquifers</b></p> <p>Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.</p>
<p><b>Wetlands Protection</b></p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The southeast coast is 53,213 feet southeast of the property. The closest fresh-water bodies include Río Cayaguás 3,565 feet northwest of the property. There are several other unnamed creeks within 0.5 miles of the property.</p> <p>The NWI maps show no wetlands on the or adjacent to the project site. The site visit conducted on May 18, 2023 indicated some areas of standing water within low elevation areas of the parcel, however, the fencing will not block any flow of water. This project does not impact any on or off-site wetlands and includes</p>

		no activities that would require further evaluation under this section.  The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. Refer to Figure 14 in <b>Appendix B</b> .
<b>Wild and Scenic Rivers</b>  Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is not within proximity of a National Wild and Scenic River (WSR). The distance to the nearest WSR is approximately 70,265 feet. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Refer to Figure 15 in <b>Appendix B</b> .

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

**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
<b>LAND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The proposed project is located on a private farm. The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. The project site is zoned as "Suelo Rústico Común (SRC)". The proposed action is compliant with the current agricultural land use of the Project area.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	<p>The proposed project is located in rural mountainous terrain, previously used for agricultural purposes, and now used for raising and breeding cattle and pigs. Soils in the proposed project area are classified as Pandura sandy loam (PaF), 40 to 60 percent slopes, The project area is surrounded by mature vegetation within and surrounding all sides, with an elevation range of 200-300 meters above mean sea level.</p> <p>The project site will not require grading, however it will require some vegetation removal for the fence installation</p> <p>The project site area is rated as "moderate" to "very high" for landslide susceptibility (see Figure 16 in <b>Appendix B</b>). The repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck does not require grading. There will be no human habitation associated with the structure and therefore extensive mitigation measures will not be required, such as retaining walls or special engineering design. Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction.</p> <p>There will be little to no additional runoff associated with the project.</p>
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	<p>During implementation of the project, construction activities may result in temporary elevation of ambient noise levels in immediate areas around active construction areas. The only nearby receptors are the residents of the farm.</p> <p>There is no access to the project area by the public. Standard BMPs, such as construction fencing, would be applied to protect the farm residents and public from typical construction hazards.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC</b>		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	<p>Temporary employment of workers related to construction activities would result, but no new permanent jobs would be created as a result of this project. These workers are expected to come from the local region. However, since the project will include an economic component, it may aid in restoring some employment opportunities and increase income.</p> <p>The proposed project would not negatively impact employment or income patterns.</p>
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	<p>The proposed project would not result in demographic character changes or displacement. Given the nature of the project area, no relocations or demolition of residential structures or businesses would occur as part of this project.</p>
Environmental Justice	2	<p>In one mile radius in which project will occur.</p> <p>100% are people of color compared to PR average of 96%</p> <p>86% are low income compared to PR average of 70%</p> <p>7% are unemployed compared to PR average of 15%</p> <p>The proposed repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck will result in restoration and increase in income and potential employment opportunities in the local area. The impacts would be beneficial.</p> <p>See EJSscreen Report in <b>Appendix C</b></p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES</b>		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	<p>The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. The project would not result in any change to regional or local area educational and cultural facilities or increase demand for them.</p>
Commercial Facilities	2	<p>The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck.</p>

		The agricultural activity of the project property will improve. Other commercial facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. Health care and social services facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project. The project would not increase demand for health care and social services facilities.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The proposed SOWs include the repairs and construction of a wooden posts with metal net fence. No clearing or grading activities are needed. However, there might be some cutting of brushes and grass to have access to the property border and areas where the fence will be installed. Vegetation from clearing or access gaining activities will either be composted on site or at regional composting centers. Left over construction materials that could be reused on the farm would be stored for later use. The remaining construction solid waste materials would be collected for transport to the local landfill. The amount of impact of solid waste resulting from the construction of the proposed project would be minor. During operations, the products and by-products would be agricultural, which waste would be biodegradable.
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. The proposed project would not include any bathrooms, wastewater, or sewage facilities. Current farm conditions would remain unchanged.
Water Supply	2	The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. Applicant has access to a water supply from the local utility and water well with auxiliary water storage tanks for collection of rainwater. The proposed project will have minor impact on water usage.
Public Safety – Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. The proposed project would not create any new demand for emergency or health services.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. The proposed project would not create or destroy any new

		parks, open space, or recreational activities. It also would not increase use of those facilities.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The project consists of the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. The proposed project would not involve the creation of new roads nor any increase in long-term traffic on existing roads. There would be some minor use of the existing road during construction. All residents and businesses would retain access to their properties during and after the project.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>NATURAL FEATURES</b>		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The proposed project will be situated on land previously used for agriculture and will have no impact to unique natural features or water resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The proposed project will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity. Installation of the fence would involve removal and clearing of some vegetation. The proposed project will have minimal impact on vegetation and wildlife.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>CLIMATE AND ENERGY</b>		
Climate Change Impacts	2	This is a small agricultural project with no measurable impact on climate change factors.  The project area is rural and does not have urban heat island effects.  There would be no changes to the site configuration or structure that would specifically address the possibility and uncertainty of rising sea levels or the possibility of increases in rainfall intensity.  With respect to climate change impact on the project, agricultural activities could be affected by drought.
Energy Efficiency/Energy Consumption	2	The proposed project is an agricultural project that does not involve energy use.

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**Additional Studies Performed:** None required.

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

Site inspection was conducted on May 18, 2023 by Carlos Medina.

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

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems:

[www.faa.gov/airports/planning\\_capacity/npias/reports/NPIAS-Report-2017-2021-Appendix-B-Part6.pdf](http://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/npias/reports/NPIAS-Report-2017-2021-Appendix-B-Part6.pdf)

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, Puerto Rico [map](#).

[www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf)

National Wild and Scenic Rivers System: [www.rivers.gov/puerto-rico.php](http://www.rivers.gov/puerto-rico.php)

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

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

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

[www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo\\_pr.html](http://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo_pr.html)

US EPA, Environmental Topics, Air Topics: [www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/air-topics](http://www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/air-topics)

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Conservation Online System:

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

Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Mapping Service:

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetlands Inventory:

[www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html](http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html) (compilation of numerous maps)

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

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

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

[www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/59de6459e4b05fe04ccd39d8](http://www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/59de6459e4b05fe04ccd39d8)

**List of Permits Obtained:**

None.

**Public Outreach** [24 CFR 58.43]:

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

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

In accordance with 24 CFR 58.32 (Aggregation), there are no cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project. The growth of agricultural products at the farm would not increase. The project would allow the cattle herd to be secured with internal pasture divisions within the parcels.

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

The RGRW Program's goal is to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island-wide. This Program seeks to enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. The applicant submitted a proposal to enhance and expand agricultural production on their property. The proposed use of grant funds will allow the applicant to expand the cultivation, processing, and delivery of agricultural products through the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. Any alternative that would involve an off-property location would not enhance and expand agricultural production or allow for the economic development for this applicant. The actions are proposed in an area that was previously utilized for agriculture purposes. The proposed site has been previously cleared and grazed. Alternative locations on the property would be further from the residence.

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

Under the No Action Alternative, the applicant would not receive federal funding for the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck, which would inhibit the economic growth opportunity that the applicant would not otherwise have under the PRDOH Re-Grow Puerto Rico program. As a result, these owners may not be able to experience the growth needed to recover and expand their agriculture activities. A provision of the grant allows for economic development for businesses. The No-Action alternative would not allow for the economic development for this applicant.

### Summary of Findings and Conclusions:

The proposed activity has been found to not have any adverse effects on the environment nor is there the requirement for further consultation with federal agencies associated with the topics evaluated above. There are no environmental review topics addressed above that result in the need for additional formal compliance steps with federal agencies or the requirement for mitigations other than those listed below. There may be additional approvals or permits from local agencies. For example, permits may be required from PRDNER for any water or other utility connections and the Office of Permit Management (OGPe) is responsible for granting permits, licenses, certifications, consultations, construction, and any other procedure necessary for business development and land use in Puerto Rico. The appropriate and necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor, from the appropriate Department or concerned agency, prior to construction activities.

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Endangered Species	Implement Puerto Rican Boa, Plain Pigeon and Guajón conservation measures (included Appendix D) prior to and during construction to avoid or minimize impacts to this species. If a pigeon is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124). Prior to any construction activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movement, the boundaries of the project area, the buffer zones, and areas to be excluded and protected should be clearly marked in the project plan and in the field. If a coquí guajón is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the coquí guajón moves off on its own. If the coquí guajón does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto

	Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the coquí guajón.
Wetlands Protection	Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction.
<b>Permits or Agency Approvals Required</b>	
Permit or Approval	Permit Conditions
Ground disturbance	Projects whose earthworks are more than 40 m <sup>3</sup> must submit an Incidental Permit. The permit must be submitted via the Single Business Portal to the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by the Water Quality Division of the PRDNER. Any necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor prior to construction activities.

**Determination:**

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

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

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

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

Preparer Signature:  Date: 2/5/2024

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

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: February 28, 2024

Name/Title: Mónica M. Machuca Ríos / Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist

This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the

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

# **APPENDIX A**

## **Site Inspection and Photos**

## Environmental Field Observation - Puerto Rico Department of Housing

APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Application ID	PR-RGRW-01357		
Applicant Name	Granja Abraham		
Property Address	Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez		
Parcel ID	302-000-005-22		
Coordinates	18.144209, -65.948807; 18.142389, -65.947292; 18.143733, -65.946779		
Inspector Name	Carlos O. Medina		
Inspection Date	05/18/2023		
Building Type	vacant		
Number of Units	0		
Number of Stories	0		
Year Built; Data Source	C1975; Historian		
ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS (attach photos and notes, as necessary, for any YES answers)			
OBSERVATION ITEMS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
A. Is the structure in use?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pig corrals and cattle in use
B. Is structure a greenhouse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
C. Is Electricity connected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Farm with power connected
D. Is water connected? (Utilities or Well)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Farm with water connected from public services and water well.
1. Are there signs of <b>poor housekeeping</b> on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Are there any <b>55-gallon drums</b> visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Are there any (or signs of any) <b>underground storage tanks</b> on the property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Are there signs of <b>ASTs</b> on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	300 gallons Water
5. Is there any <b>stained soil or pavement</b> on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6. Is a water <b>drainage system</b> in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of <b>Fertilizer or Pesticides</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Are there any <b>groundwater monitoring wells</b> on the site or adjacent parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Is there evidence of a <b>faulty septic system</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Is there <b>distressed vegetation</b> on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11. Is there any visible indication of <b>MOLD</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
12. Is there any visible evidence of <b>asbestos, chipping, flaking or</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

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

Additional Notes:

Re Grow Additional Notes:

Case: PR-RGRW-01357

Project Name: Granja Abraham

Coordinates: 18.144209, -65.948807; 18.142389, -65.947292; 18.143733, -65.946779

Is the field graded? For what purpose the field was graded? Month, Year: field is not graded

Scope of Work: Fence repair and new fence construction and purchase of pickup truck.

Land current in use for: Pigs and cattle

Past Land use was: 40 years ago plantains, coffee and vegetables.

The applicant plans to do: fence repair and new fence.

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

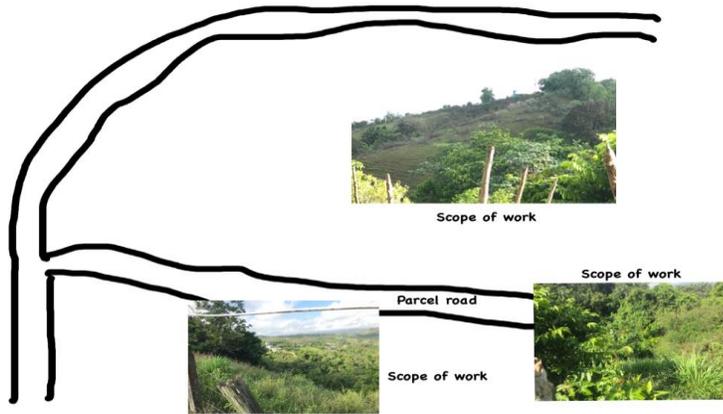
Scope of work: 18.144209, -65.948807; 18.142389, -65.947292; 18.143733, -65.946779

Fence repair and new, with wood posts of 6' long and metal wired. The wood posts will be 2' underground. The purpose of the fence is to maintain the cattle secure. Fence will be installed/repair on the outside perimeter of the 3 applicant parcel, approximately 2,500 lineal feet, as well in the internal pasture division, 1,500 approximately lineal feet.

Any new water connection or power connection?

No new water and power connection needed.

## Site Sketch



**Front of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Facing Away From Front**

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Side #1 of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Facing Away From Side #1**

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Back of Structure**

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Facing Away From Back**

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Side #2 of Structure**

Photo Direction: West



**Facing Away From Side #2**

Photo Direction: East



**Streetscape #1**

Photo Direction: South



**Streetscape #2**

Photo Direction: North



**Address**

Photo Direction: South



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Pigs corral

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

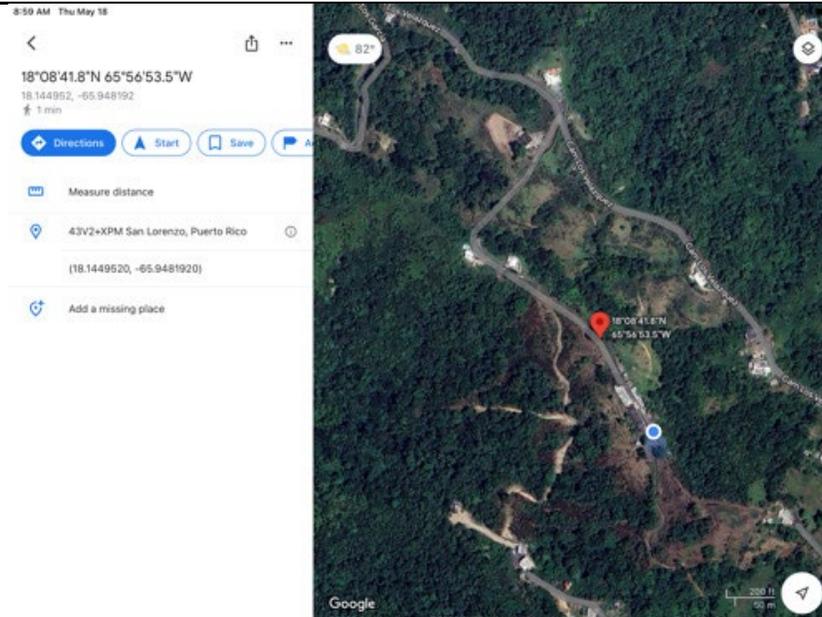
Photo Direction: North



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Pig corral

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Cattle corals in use

Photo Direction: Southeast



Electricity Connected

Photo Description: Power connected

Photo Direction: South



Water Connected

Photo Description: Water connected

Photo Direction: South



Aboveground Storage Tanks

Photo Description: Water cistern

Photo Direction: Southwest



Standing Water

Photo Description: Water stream

Photo Direction: Northeast



Wetlands

Photo Description: Wetland

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: West



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope or work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: Northwest



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 1 map reference

Photo Direction: Northwest



# APPENDIX B

## Maps



**Legend**

-  Project Parcel
-  Parcels
-  Area of Potential Effect

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 1: PROJECT LOCATION**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**

**ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, PR 00754**

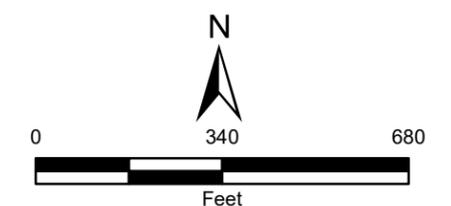
Name of Development: Granja Abraham

Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209 , -65.948807



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

Author: TG Date: 12/27/2023





**Legend**

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

**Distance to Nearest Airport  
in Feet: 105917 FEET**

**PUERTO RICO**



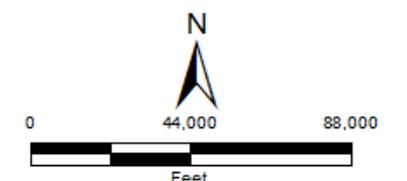
**Figure 2: AIRPORT ZONES  
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**

ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, San Lorenzo, PR 00754  
 Name of Development: Granja Abraham  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209, -65.948807

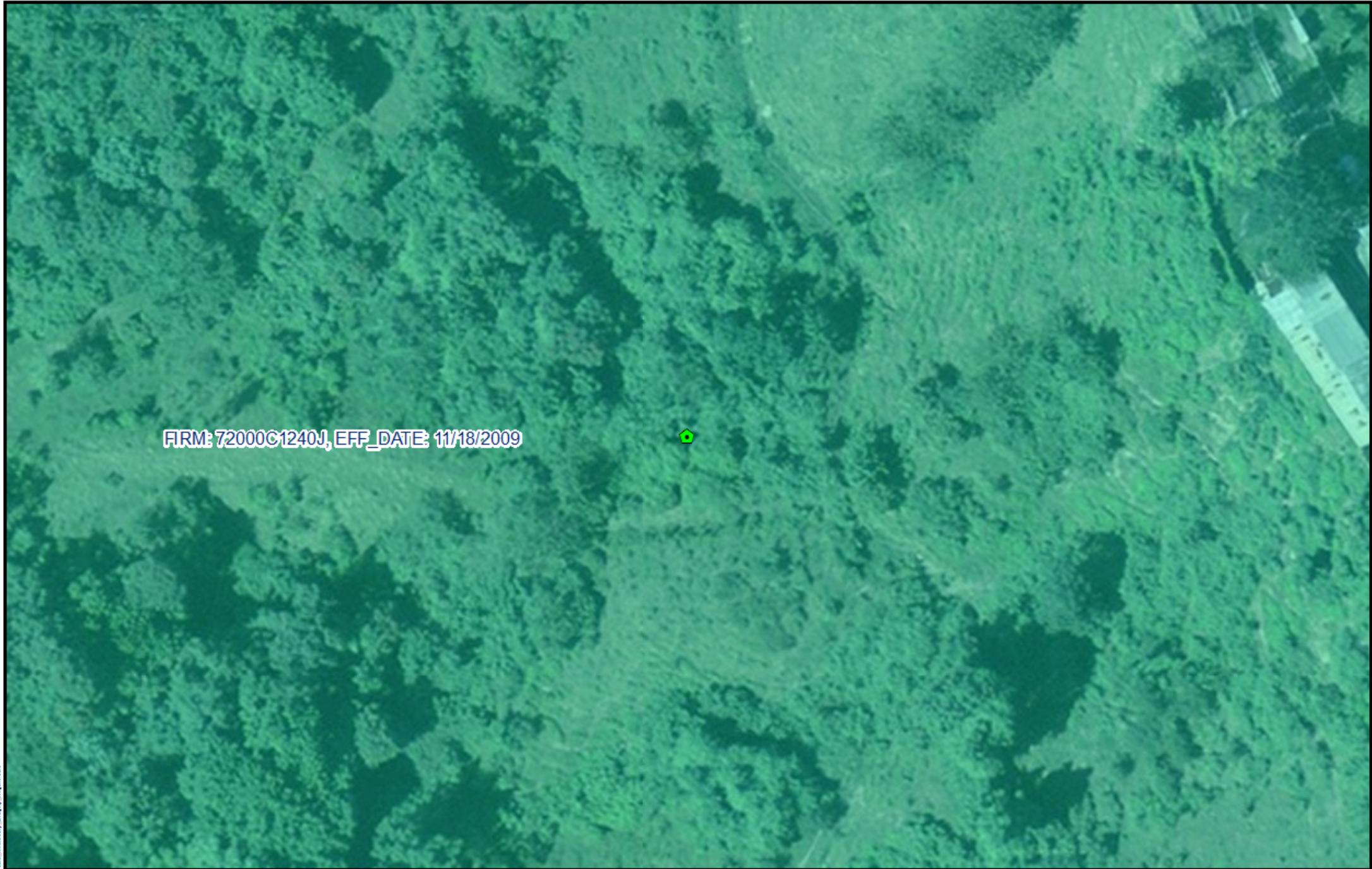


Source: USDOT  
<https://www.faa.gov>

Author: TG Date: 6/2/2023







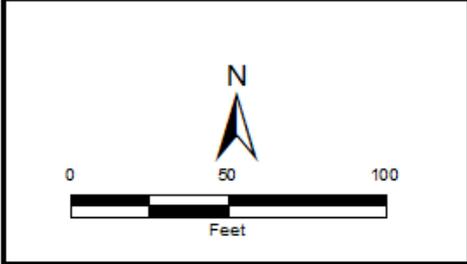
- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - FIRM Panels
  - Floodway
  - 100 Yr Floodzone
  - 500 Yr Floodzone
  - Area Of Minimal Flood Hazard
  - Unmapped for Floodplain

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 4: FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT  
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**

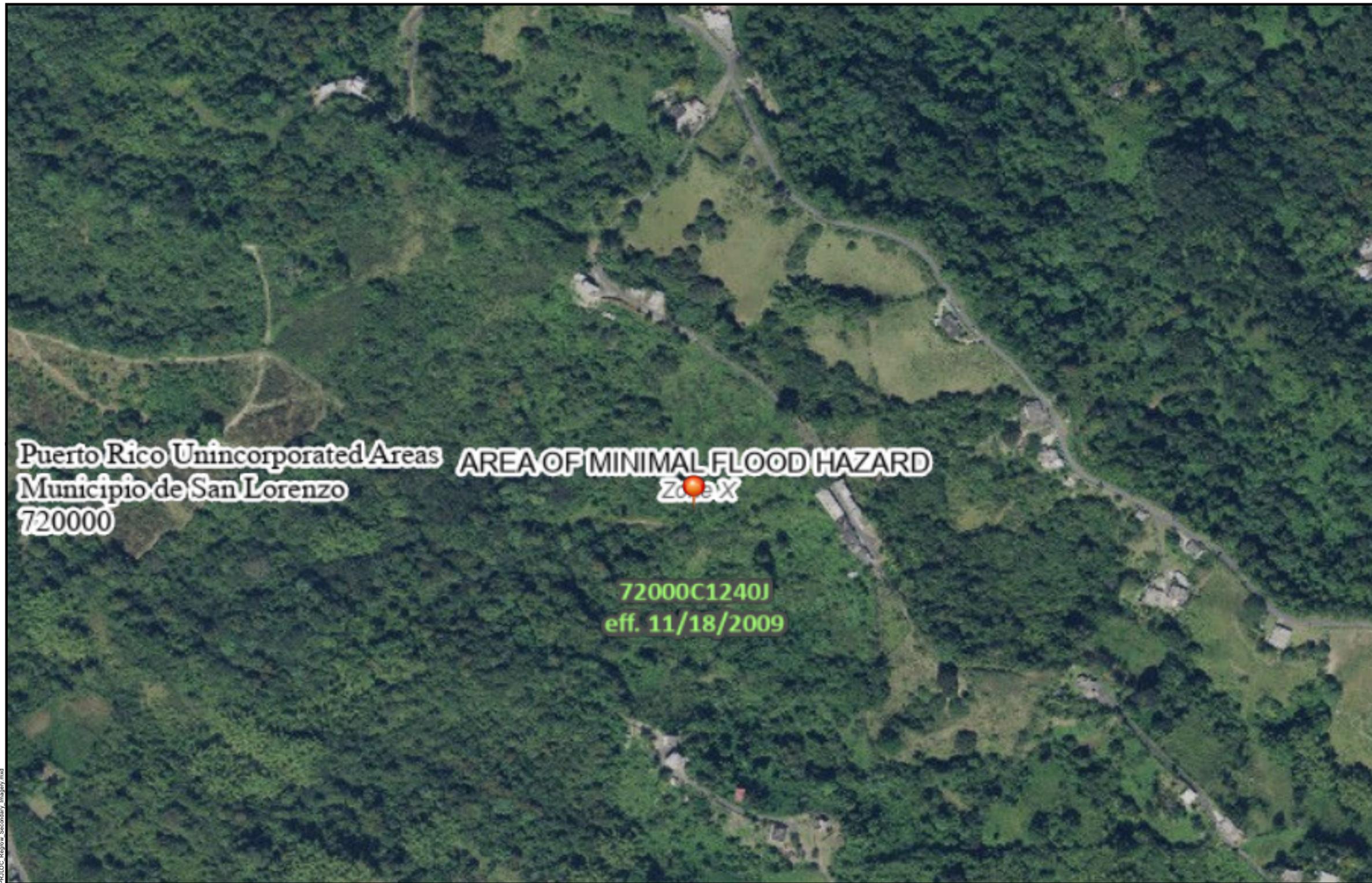
ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, San Lorenzo, PR 00754  
 Name of Development: Granja Abraham  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209, -65.948807



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

Author: TG Date: 6/1/2023

\\Fs-Pub-1\GIS\Projects\GIS\Projects\18144209\18144209\_0001\Figure\_4\_Summary\_Map.mxd



Puerto Rico Unincorporated Areas  
 Municipio de San Lorenzo  
 720000

AREA OF MINIMAL FLOOD HAZARD  
 Zone X

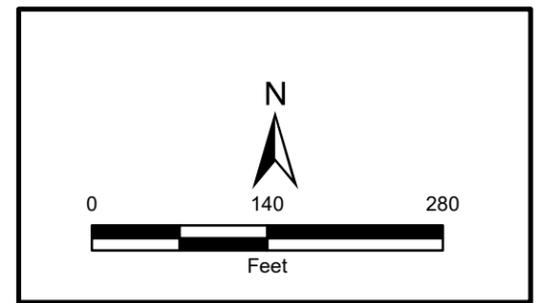
72000C1240J  
 eff. 11/18/2009

**Legend**

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

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A, V, A99
		With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR
		Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D
OTHER AREAS		NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X
		Effective LOMRs
		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
OTHER FEATURES		Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
		Coastal Transect
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
		Jurisdiction Boundary
		Coastal Transect Baseline
		Profile Baseline
	Hydrographic Feature	
MAP PANELS		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped

The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.



**FIGURE 5: NATIONAL FLOOD HAZARD LAYER FIRMETTE**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**

ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, San Lorenzo, PR 00754

Name of Development: Granja Abraham

Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209 , -65.948807

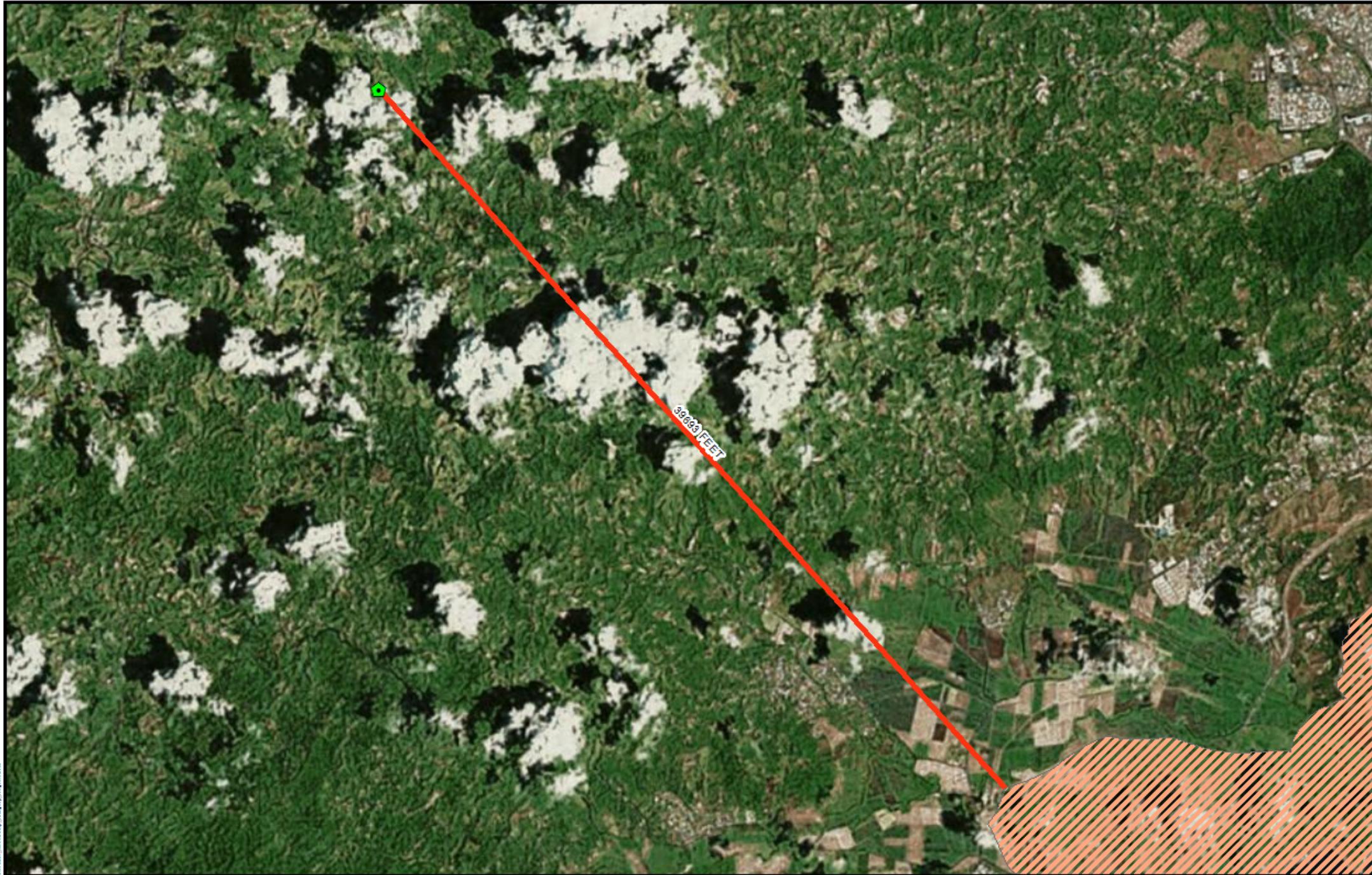


Source: FEMA  
<https://www.msc.fema.gov>

Author: TG Date: 5/31/2023

File Path: \\sala20\gis\GIS\CDR\PR\Acc\GIS\SanLorenzo\USFIRM\Fig5\Figure 5 - Secondary - Imagery.mxd





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

Distance to Nearest Coastal Zone: 39693 FEET

**PUERTO RICO**



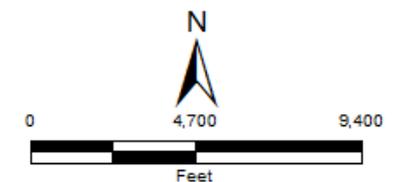
**Figure 7: COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT**  
**APPLICANT ID:PR-RGRW-01357**

ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, San Lorenzo, PR 00754  
 Name of Development: Granja Abraham  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209, -65.948807

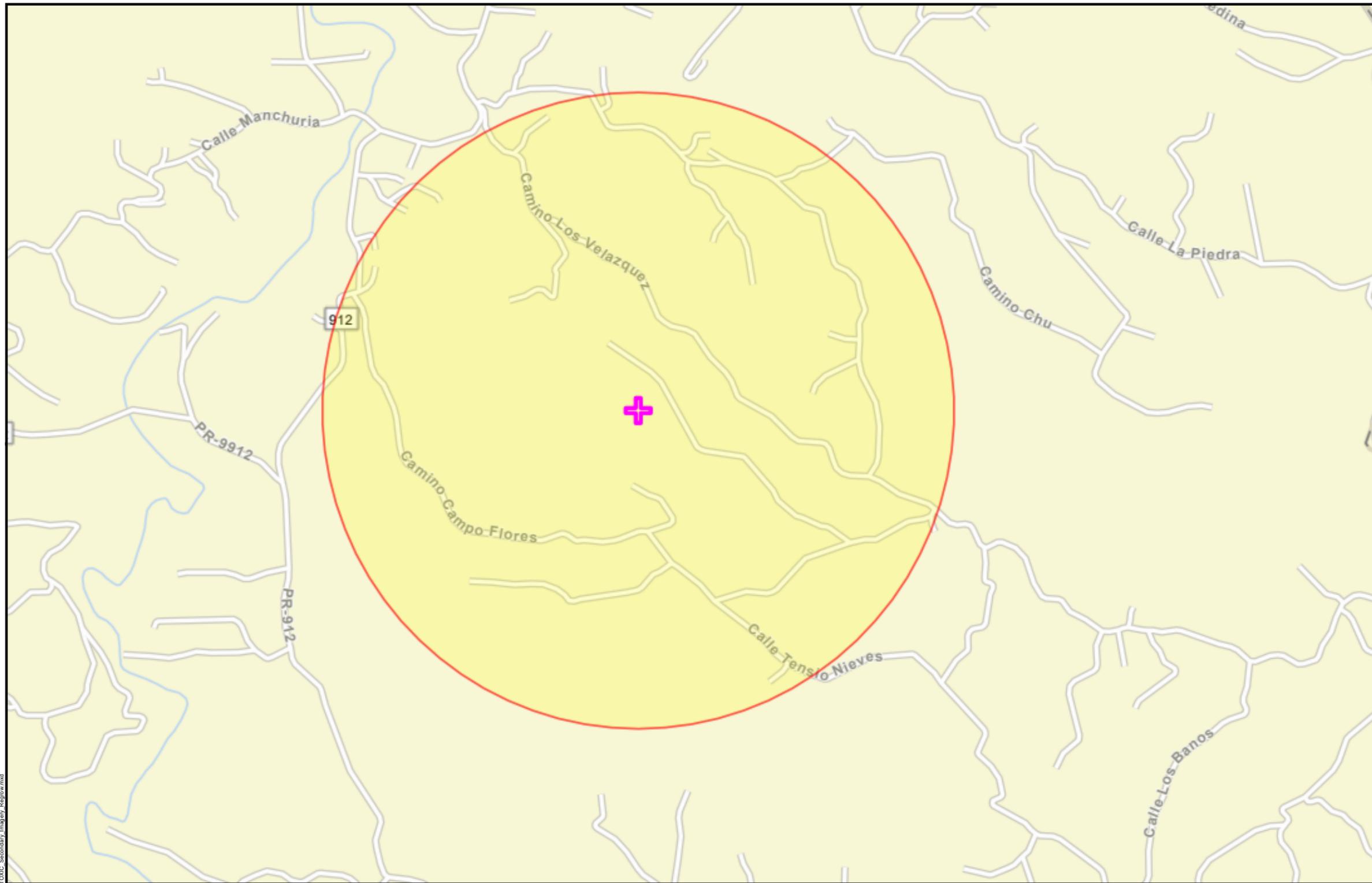


Source: NOAA's Ocean Service  
<https://data.noaa.gov>

Author: TG Date: 6/5/2023







**Legend**

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

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 9: NEPA Assist Map**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**

**ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, San Lorenzo, PR 00754**

Name of Development: Granja Abraham

Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209 , -65.948807

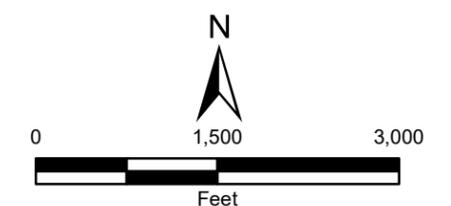


Source: E.P.A.

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

Author: JB/AK

Date: 5/18/2023



File Path: \\slas20\gis\GIS\CDR\PR\Acad\Shane\TDR\Visual\USPR\Fig9\TOXIC\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Register.mxd



- Legend
-  Project Parcel
  -  Area of Cirtical Hábitat

**PUERTO RICO**



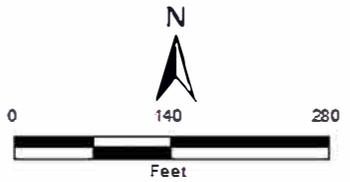
**Figure 10: ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT  
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**

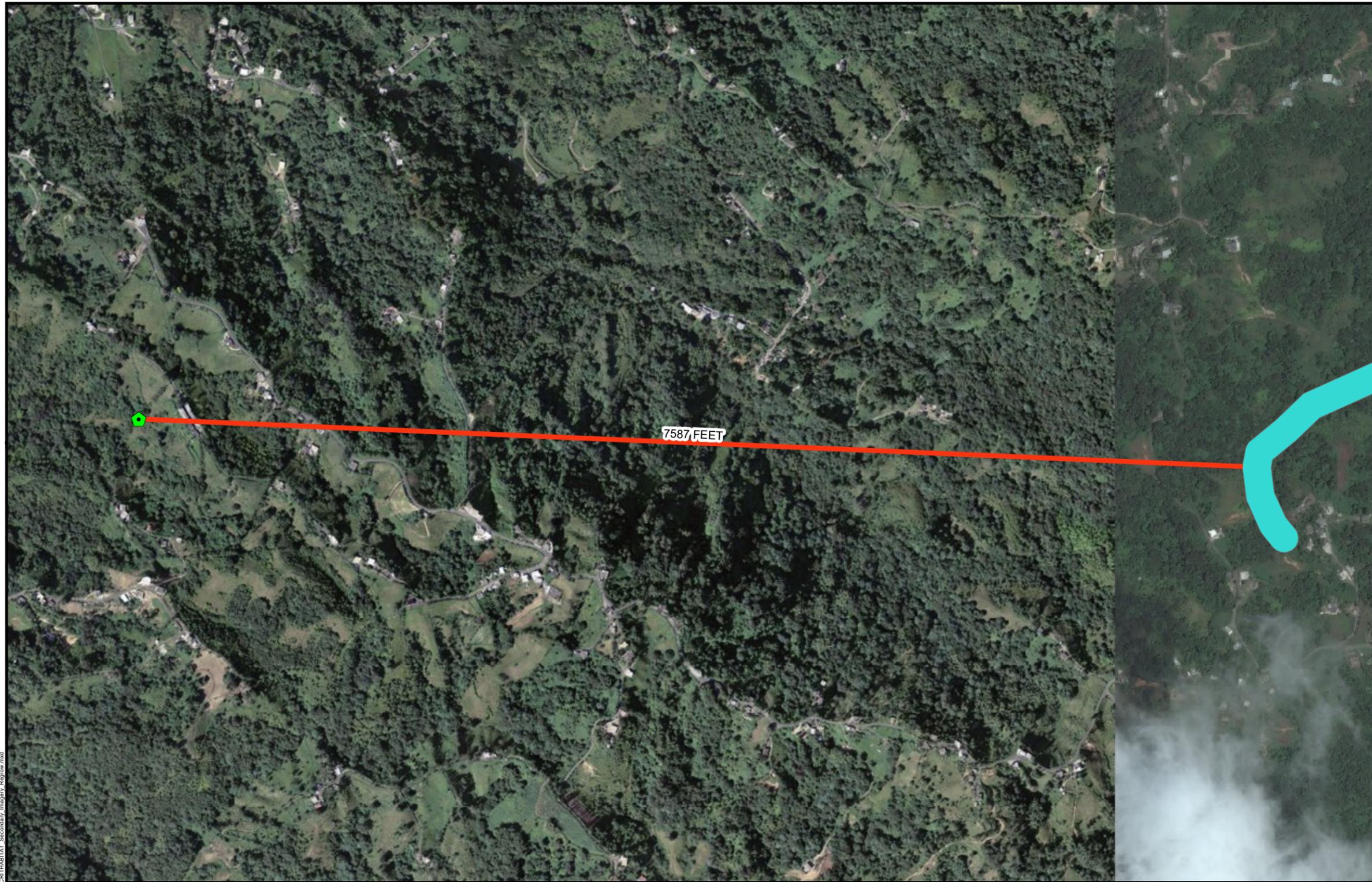
ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, San Lorenzo, PR 00754  
 Name of Development: Granja Abraham  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209, -65.948807



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

Author: TG Date: 6/1/2023





**Legend**

-  Project Parcel
- comname**
-  Guajon

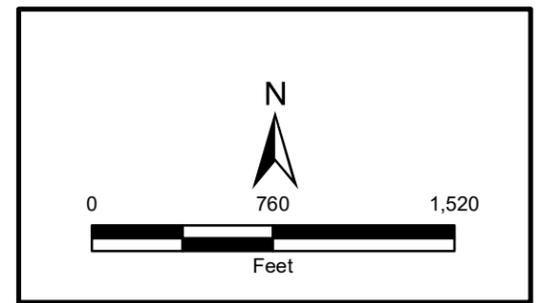
Distance to Nearest Critical Habitat in Feet: 7587 FEET

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 11: CRITICAL HABITATS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, San Lorenzo, PR 00754  
 Name of Development: Granja Abraham  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209, -65.948807



Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
<https://ecos.fws.gov>  
 Author: TG Date: 6/1/2023

File Path: \\nas202\gis\GIS\CRP\Access\Shane\DR\Kata\USPR\Fig\CRITICALHABITAT\_Secordary\_Imagery\_Export.mxd



**Legend**

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

**PUERTO RICO**

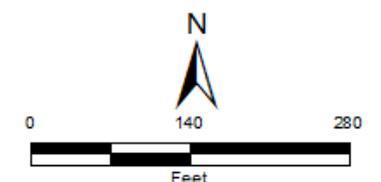


**Figure 12: FARMLAND PROTECTION**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**

ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, San Lorenzo, PR 00754  
 Name of Development: Granja Abraham  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209, -65.948807

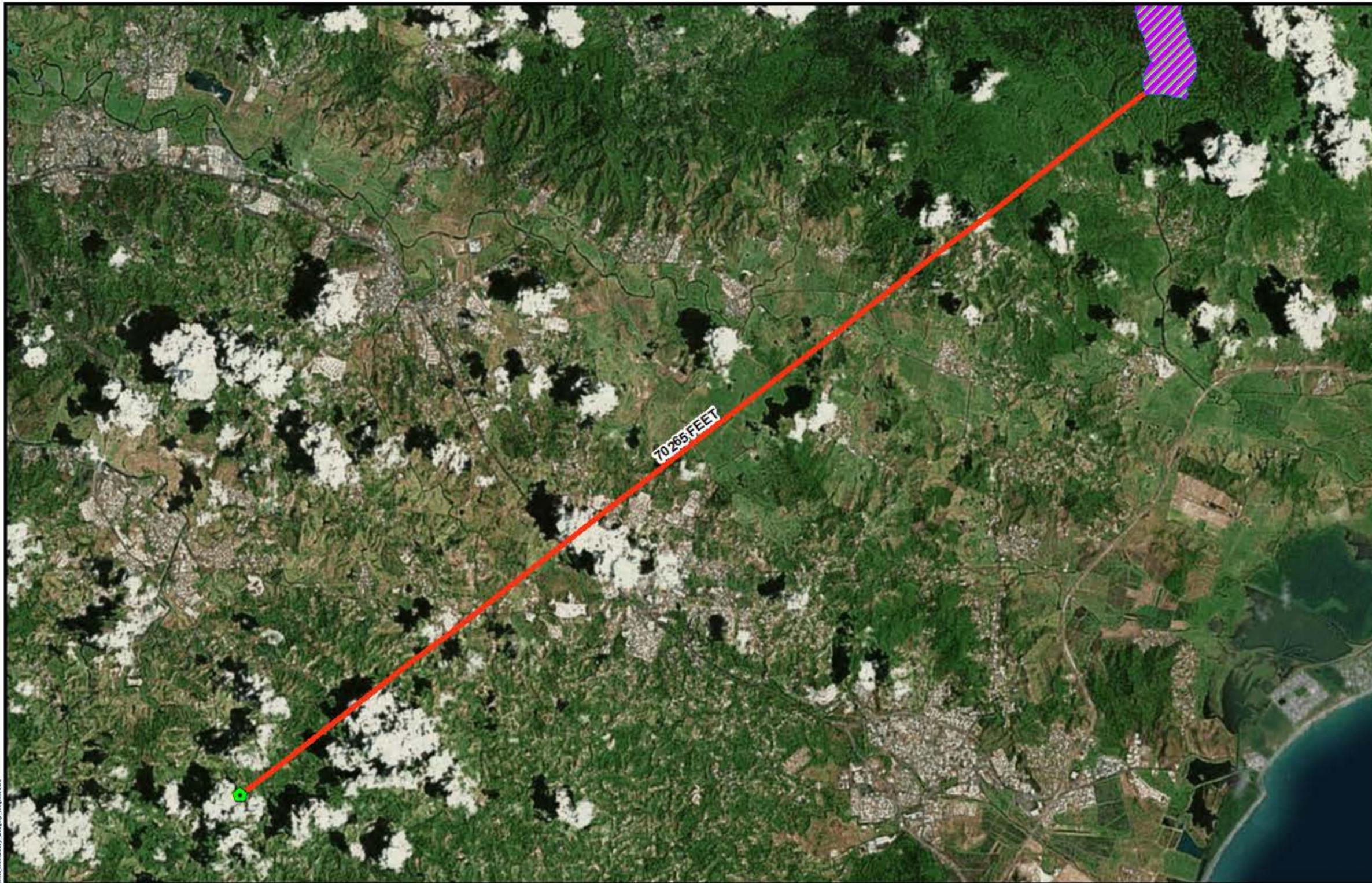


Source: USDA  
<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>  
 Author: TG Date: 6/1/2023









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

Distance to Nearest Wild and Scenic River in Feet: 70265 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**



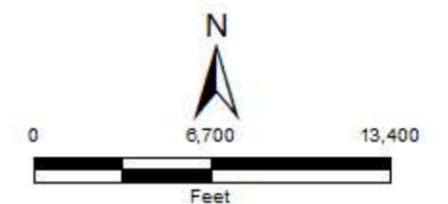
**Figure 15: WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT  
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**

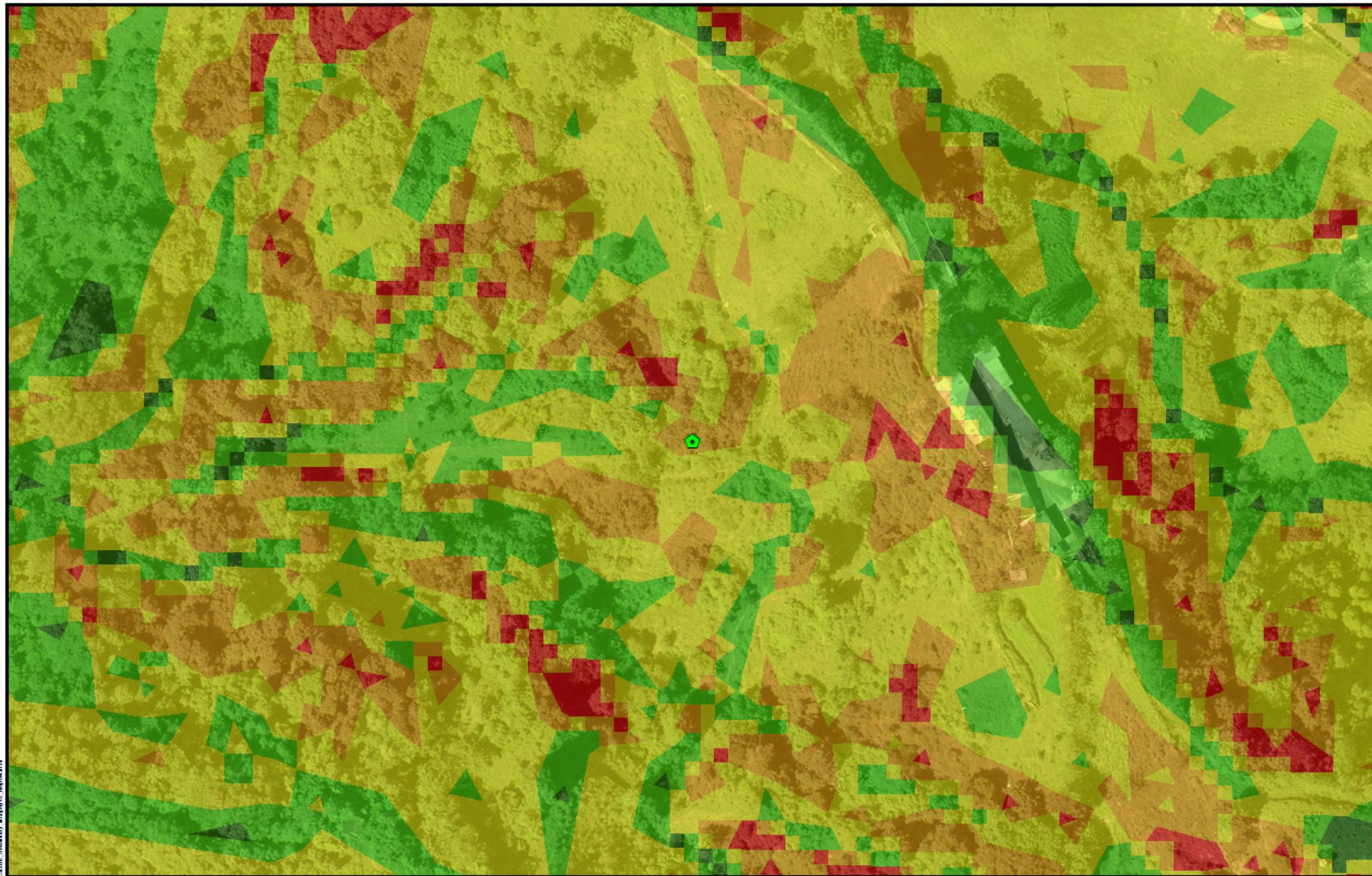
ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, San Lorenzo, PR 00754  
 Name of Development: Granja Abraham  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209, -65.948807



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

Author: TG Date: 6/9/2023





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

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 16: SLOPE AND EROSION  
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**

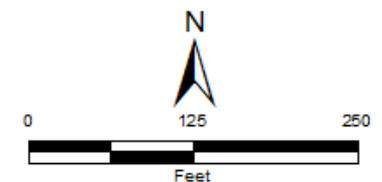
ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, San Lorenzo, PR 00754

Name of Development: Granja Abraham

Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209, -65.948807



Source: PRDOH  
<http://s://uegs.ma.psa.rogis.com/app/s/w/e/bap/p/v/e/w/n/index.html?k=-10506ec07f15491daee17647f19248ee>  
 Author: TG Date: 6/1/2023



# APPENDIX C

## Additional Information

# Green Book [Contact Us](#)

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 May 31, 2023

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

\* The 1997 Primary Annual PM-2.5 NAAQS (level of 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) 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:

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

County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or/Part County	Population (2010)	State/County FIPS Codes
<b>PUERTO RICO</b>								
Arecibo Municipio	Lead (2008)	Arecibo, PR	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	//		Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18 19 20 21 22 23	//		Part	22,921	72/021
Catano Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18 19 20 21 22 23	//		Whole	28,140	72/033
Guaynabo Municipio	PM-10 (1987)	Mun. of Guaynabo, PR	92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09	02/11/2010	Moderate	Part	90,470	72/061
Guaynabo Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18 19 20 21 22 23	//		Part	23,802	72/061
Salinas Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Guayama-Salinas, PR	18 19 20 21 22 23	//		Part	23,401	72/123
San Juan Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18 19 20 21 22 23	//		Part	147,963	72/127
Toa Baja Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18 19 20 21 22 23	//		Part	52,441	72/137

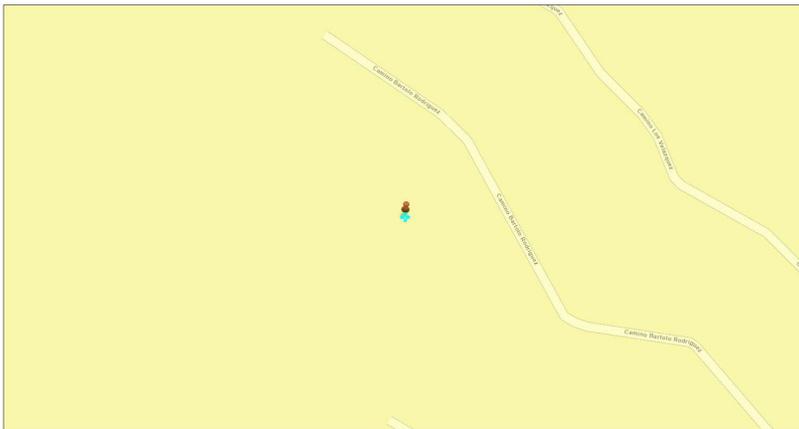
# EJScreen Community Report

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

## San Lorenzo Municipio, PR

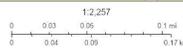
1 mile Ring Centered at 18.144210,-65.948807  
 Population: 1,508  
 Area in square miles: 3.14

A3 Landscape



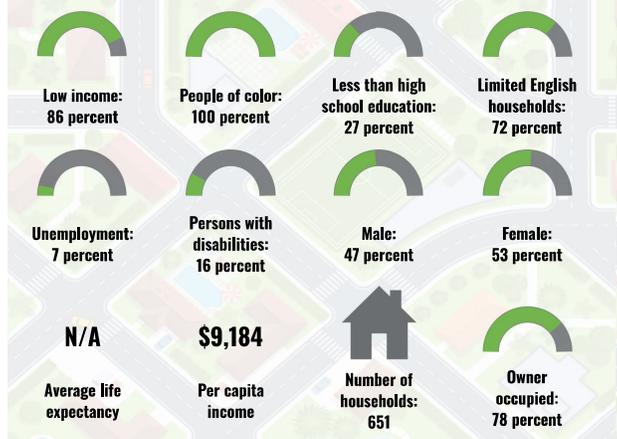
December 27, 2023

PR-RGRW-01357  
 Search Result (point)

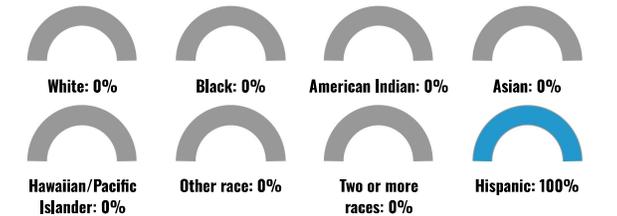


EPA Community Map Contributors: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Mapbox, Swatch, Garmin, Bing, Microsoft, NASA, USGS, NPS, US Census Bureau.

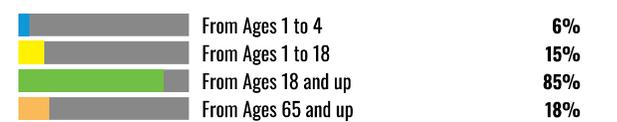
### COMMUNITY INFORMATION



### BREAKDOWN BY RACE



### BREAKDOWN BY AGE



### LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



### LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	4%
Spanish	96%
Total Non-English	96%

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

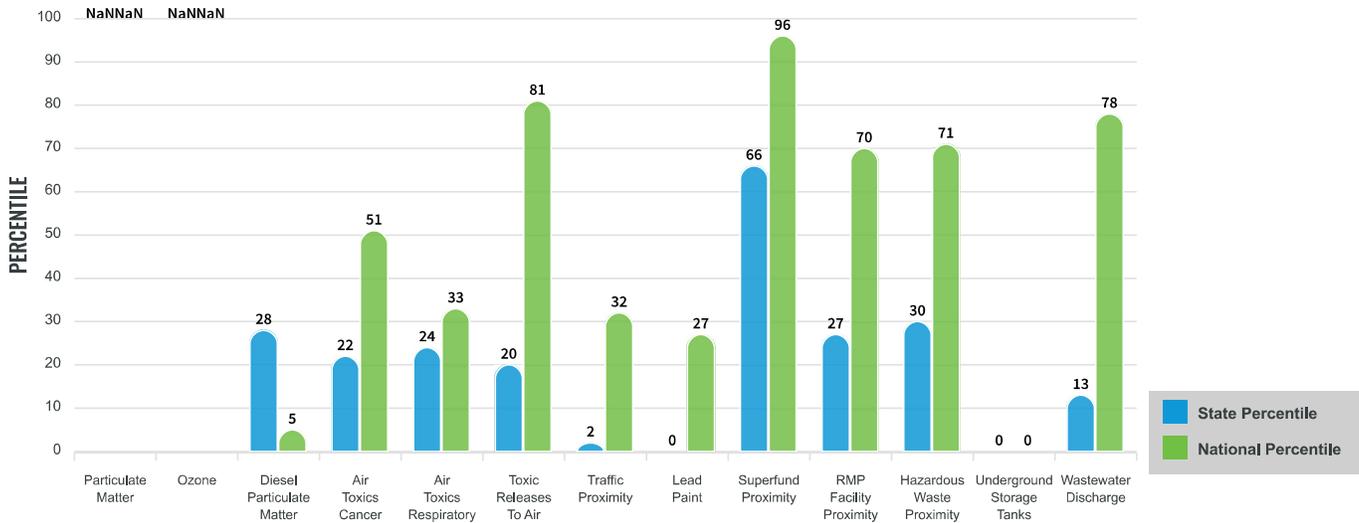
# Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

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

## EJ INDEXES

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

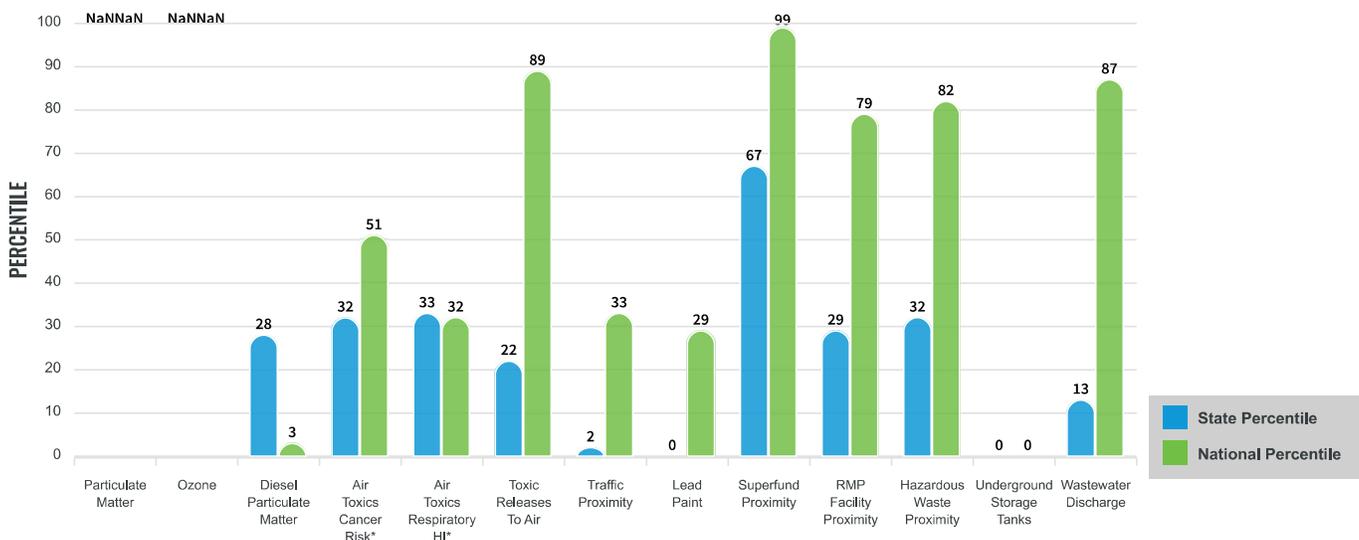
### EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



## SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

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

### SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



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

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.144210,-65.948807

# EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
<b>POLLUTION AND SOURCES</b>					
Particulate Matter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.08	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.6	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	0.0211	0.0667	27	0.261	1
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	18	20	0	25	1
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.18	0.19	0	0.31	1
Toxic Releases to Air	230	4,300	17	4,600	33
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	2.3	180	2	210	7
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.011	0.16	0	0.3	16
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.1	0.15	62	0.13	67
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.09	0.47	25	0.43	25
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.15	0.76	27	1.9	28
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km <sup>2</sup> )	0	1.7	0	3.9	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.00012	2.3	12	22	32
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS</b>					
Demographic Index	93%	83%	74	35%	99
Supplemental Demographic Index	48%	43%	59	14%	99
People of Color	100%	96%	31	39%	98
Low Income	86%	70%	73	31%	98
Unemployment Rate	7%	15%	33	6%	70
Limited English Speaking Households	72%	67%	54	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	27%	21%	66	12%	89
Under Age 5	6%	4%	80	6%	62
Over Age 64	18%	22%	32	17%	58
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A%	N/A	20%	N/A

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

## Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

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

## Other community features within defined area:

Schools .....	1
Hospitals .....	0
Places of Worship .....	0

## Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment .....	No
Impaired Waters .....	Yes

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

# EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

## HEALTH INDICATORS

INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A	N/A	20%	N/A
Heart Disease	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Asthma	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	N/A
Cancer	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Persons with Disabilities	14.2%	21.6%	15	13.4%	60

## CLIMATE INDICATORS

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

## CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS

INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	29%	32%	50	14%	88
Lack of Health Insurance	8%	7%	70	9%	58
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 18.144210,-65.948807

**APPENDIX D**  
Endangered Species



## United States Department of the Interior

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



In Reply Refer to:  
FWS/R4/CESFO/72129-Gen

Submitted Via Electronic Mail: [jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov)

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

Re: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-01357 Granja  
Abraham, San Lorenzo, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

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

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) on behalf of Granja Abraham (the Applicant) is proposing the repair of existing fence around the parcels and the construction of new fencing within the parcels to maintain cattle herds. The project will be located at PR-916 Km 4.3, Los Velázquez Sector in the municipality of San Lorenzo, Puerto Rico.

Using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system the proponent has determined that the proposed project lies within the range of Puerto Rican boa (*Epicrates inornatus* now known as *Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican plain pigeon (*Columba inornate wetmorei*) and guajón (*Eleutherodactylus cooki*).

Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and analysis of the IPaC lists together with field direct observations of the area where the project will be developed (land is currently used for raising and breeding cattle and pigs). No sightings of the Puerto Rican plain pigeon nor Puerto Rican Boa have been recorded within 4 miles of the project area and the nearest sighting of the guajón was recorded approximately 4 miles south of the project area in June 2023. The proponent has determined that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican plain pigeon, guajón and Puerto Rican boa. Conservation measures for the

guajón and Puerto Rican boa will be implemented. Also, guidelines for the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon will be implemented.

We have reviewed the information provided in your letter and our files, and concur with your determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the guajón, Puerto Rican plain pigeon and Puerto Rican boa. As per the conservation recommendations, please note that if a Puerto Rican boa is encountered during the project activities, it should not be captured. If a boa needs to be moved out of harm's way, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) should be contacted for safe capture and relocation of the animal. If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities in the area where the boa is found must stop until it moves out of harm's way on its own. Also, the Service will recommend that the Applicant informs the presence or absence of the guajón on the project site.

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Edwin E. Muñiz  
Field Supervisor

drr



November 7, 2023

Edwin E Muñiz  
Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
PO Box 491  
Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622  
Email: [caribbean\\_es@fws.gov](mailto:caribbean_es@fws.gov); [edwin\\_muniz@fws.gov](mailto:edwin_muniz@fws.gov)

**RE: Puerto Rico Department of Housing Re-Grow PR-RGRW-01357 Project – Granja Abraham – Endangered Species Concurrence for NLAA Determination**

Dear Mr. Muñiz:

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is requesting an informal consultation under Section 7 (a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) for the proposed project PR-RGRW-01357, located at PR-916 Road Km. 4.3, Los Velázquez Sector, San Lorenzo, PR 00754; coordinates 18.144209, -65.948807; 18.142389, -65.947292; and 18.143733, -65.946779 (Parcel ID#s 302-000-005-22-000, 302-000-005-21-000, and 302-039-381-03-000 respectively).

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

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-01357 consist in the repair of existing fence around the parcels and the construction of new fencing within the parcels to maintain cattle herds. Fence repairs and construction will be done with 6-foot-long wooden poles and metal fencing. The wooden poles will be buried at an approximate depth of 2 feet. The fencing will be repaired on the outside perimeter of the 3 applicant parcels, approximately 2,500 linear feet, and new fencing construction will occur within the parcels for internal pasture division, approximately 1,500 linear feet. No new water nor power connections are needed for the proposed project. The parcel is located in a rural, mountainous terrain with mature vegetation within the parcel and surrounding all sides. The land was previously used for agricultural purposes such as growing plantains, coffee, and vegetables. Currently, the land is used for raising and breeding cattle and pigs. According to aerial imagery from Google Earth, the parcel has been at various stages of

**CDBG-DR FUNDS**

use since the early 1990's. Some vegetation may need to be trimmed and/or cleared for the new fencing.

The National Wetlands Inventory indicated that no wetlands are present within the parcels. Site photos indicate some areas of standing water within low elevation areas within the parcel however, the fencing will not block any flow of water.

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

Name of Species	Threatened/Endangered/Candidate
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon ( <i>Columbia inornate wetmorei</i> )	Endangered
Puerto Rican Boa ( <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> )	Endangered
Guajon ( <i>Eleutherodactylus cooki</i> )	Threatened
Critical Habitat	
No Critical Habitats were noted within the project area.	

Upon review of iNaturalist.org, no sightings of the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon nor Puerto Rican Boa have been recorded within 4 miles of the project area. Subsequently, the nearest sighting of the Guajon was recorded approximately 4 miles south of the project area in June 2023. Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, we have made the following effects determinations:

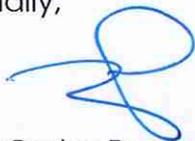
Species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures to be implemented (if needed)
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon ( <i>Columbia inornate wetmorei</i> )	Not Likely To Adversely Affect (NLAA)	No Conservation measures listed – see attachments
Puerto Rican Boa ( <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> )	Not Likely To Adversely Affect (NLAA)	USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020
Coqui Guajon ( <i>Eleutherodactylus cooki</i> )	Not Likely To Adversely Affect (NLAA)	USFWS Coquí Guajón Conservation Measures 2020

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

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NLAA determination included in this letter. Attached to this letter, we are including the documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species. Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the information below.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this issue.

Cordially,



Juan Carlos Perez Bofill, PE, MEng.  
Director for Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR Program  
[environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov) | 787.274.2527 ext. 4320

**Attachments:**

Appendix A:

- Figure 1 – Location Site Map
- Figure 2 – Area of Potential Effect Map
- Figure 3 – Wetland Map

Appendix B: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)

Appendix C: Guidelines for Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon

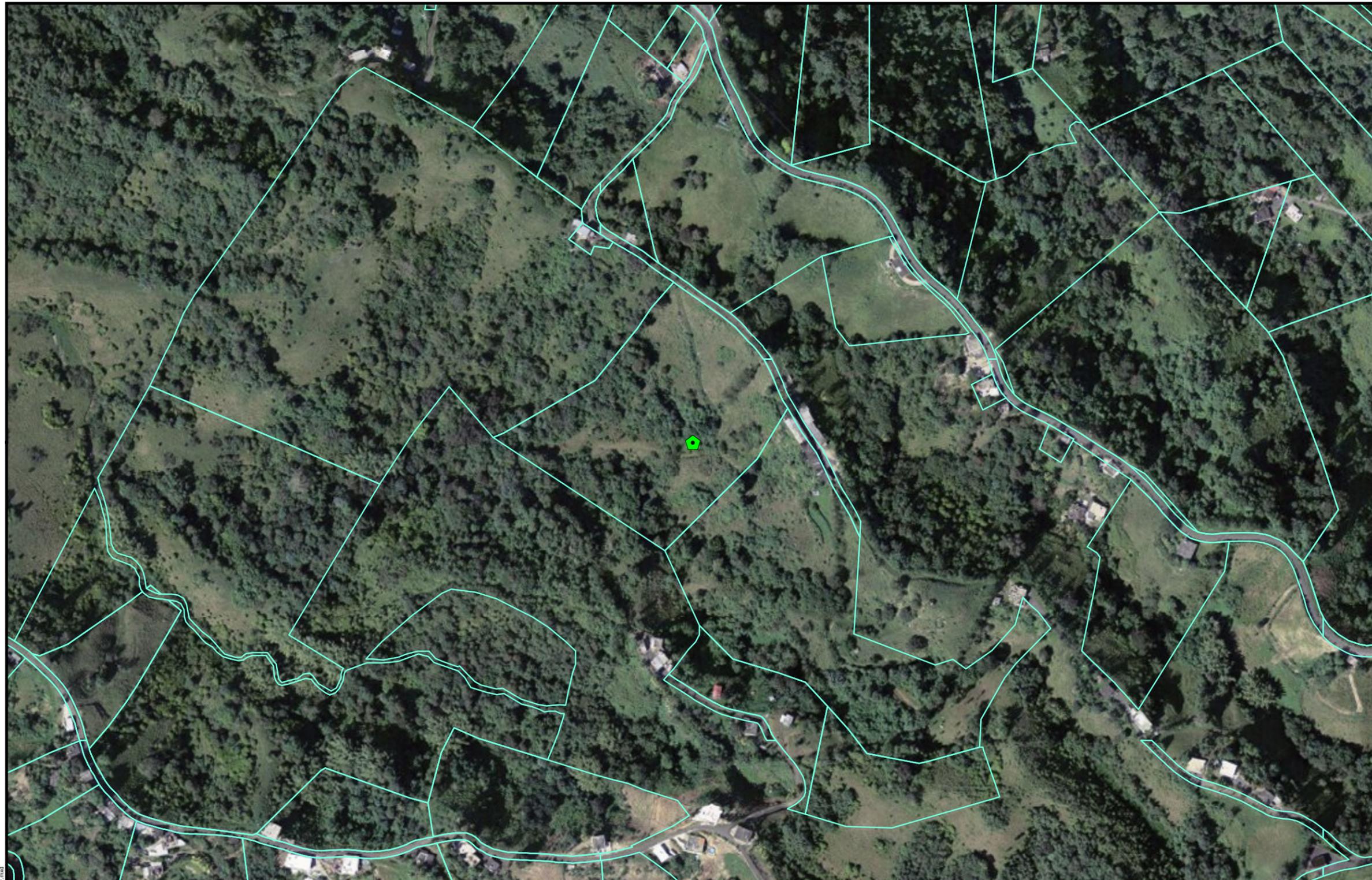
Appendix D: Site Photos

Appendix E: USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020

Appendix F: USFWS Coquí Guajón Conservation Measures 2020

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

## **Appendix A: Figures**



- Legend**
- ⬠ Project Parcel
  - Parcels

**PUERTO RICO**



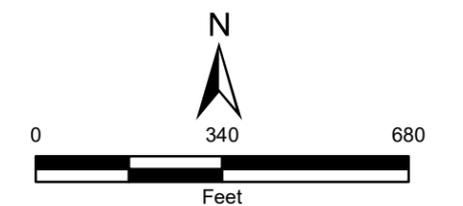
**PROJECT LOCATION**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**

**ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, PR 00754**  
 Name of Development: Granja Abraham  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209 , -65.948807

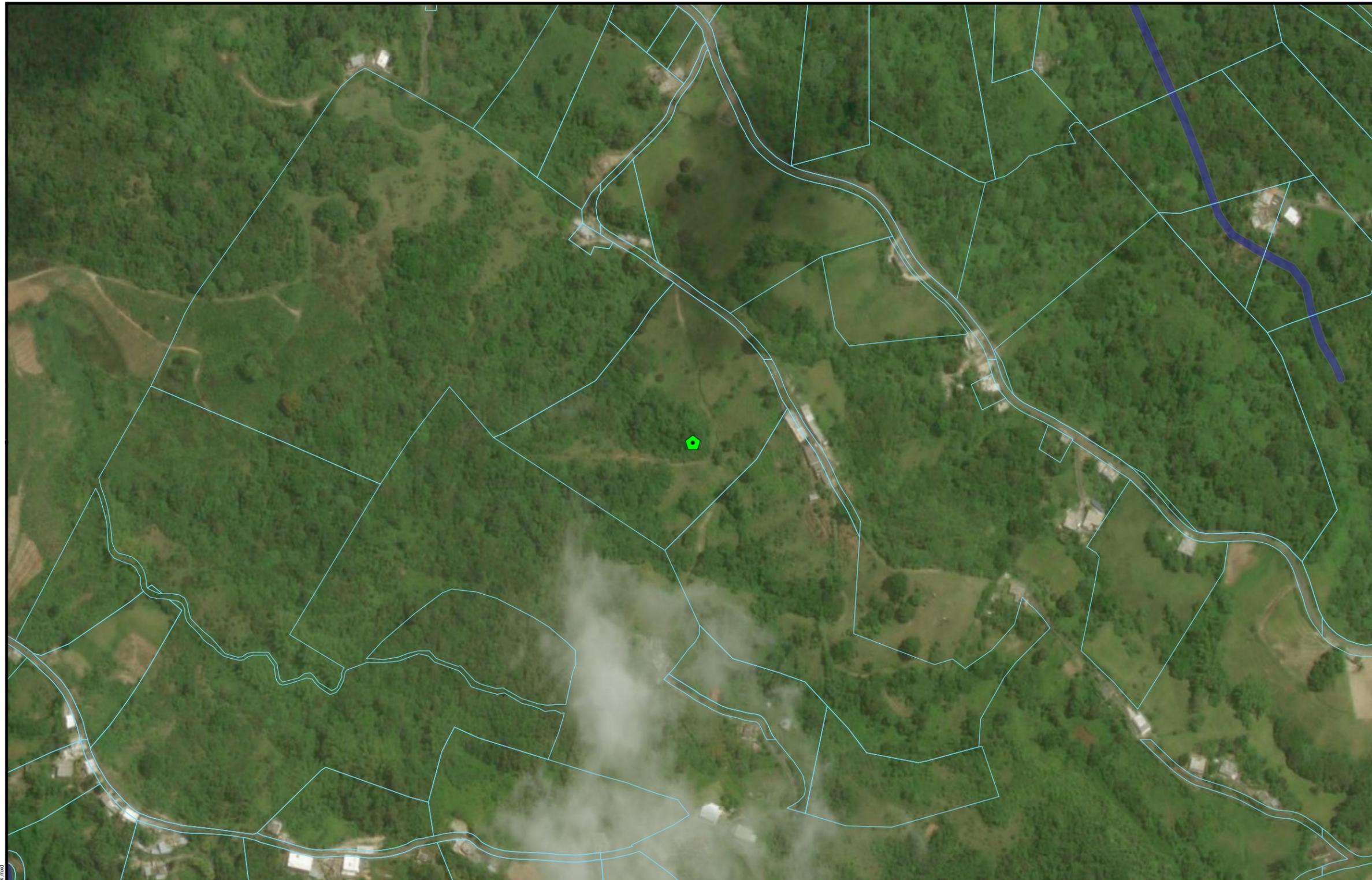


Source: ESRI  
<https://www.fws.gov>

Author: TG      Date: 8/30/2023







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

**PUERTO RICO**



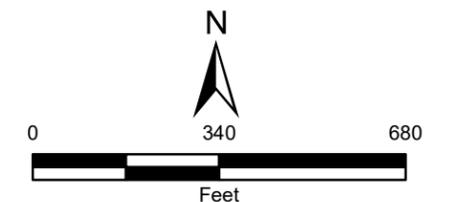
File Path: Z:\data\USPRT\FacWETLAND\_Secordary\_Imagery\_Regrow.mxd



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

Author: TG Date: 8/30/2023

**WETLANDS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**  
**ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, PR 00754**  
 Name of Development:  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209, -65.948807



**Appendix B:**  
**Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)**



## United States Department of the Interior

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



In Reply Refer to:  
FWS/R4/CESFO/72129-Gen

Submitted Via Electronic Mail: [jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov)

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

Re: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-01357 Granja  
Abraham, San Lorenzo, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

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Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and analysis of the IPaC lists together with field direct observations of the area where the project will be developed (land is currently used for raising and breeding cattle and pigs). No sightings of the Puerto Rican plain pigeon nor Puerto Rican Boa have been recorded within 4 miles of the project area and the nearest sighting of the guajón was recorded approximately 4 miles south of the project area in June 2023. The proponent has determined that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican plain pigeon, guajón and Puerto Rican boa. Conservation measures for the

guajón and Puerto Rican boa will be implemented. Also, guidelines for the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon will be implemented.

We have reviewed the information provided in your letter and our files, and concur with your determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the guajón, Puerto Rican plain pigeon and Puerto Rican boa. As per the conservation recommendations, please note that if a Puerto Rican boa is encountered during the project activities, it should not be captured. If a boa needs to be moved out of harm's way, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) should be contacted for safe capture and relocation of the animal. If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities in the area where the boa is found must stop until it moves out of harm's way on its own. Also, the Service will recommend that the Applicant informs the presence or absence of the guajón on the project site.

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Edwin E. Muñiz  
Field Supervisor

drr



November 7, 2023

Edwin E Muñiz  
Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
PO Box 491  
Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622  
Email: [caribbean\\_es@fws.gov](mailto:caribbean_es@fws.gov); [edwin\\_muniz@fws.gov](mailto:edwin_muniz@fws.gov)

**RE: Puerto Rico Department of Housing Re-Grow PR-RGRW-01357 Project – Granja Abraham – Endangered Species Concurrence for NLAA Determination**

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No Critical Habitats were noted within the project area.	

Upon review of iNaturalist.org, no sightings of the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon nor Puerto Rican Boa have been recorded within 4 miles of the project area. Subsequently, the nearest sighting of the Guajon was recorded approximately 4 miles south of the project area in June 2023. Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, we have made the following effects determinations:

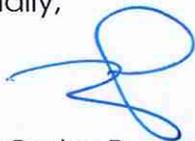
Species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures to be implemented (if needed)
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon ( <i>Columbia inornate wetmorei</i> )	Not Likely To Adversely Affect (NLAA)	No Conservation measures listed – see attachments
Puerto Rican Boa ( <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> )	Not Likely To Adversely Affect (NLAA)	USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020
Coqui Guajon ( <i>Eleutherodactylus cooki</i> )	Not Likely To Adversely Affect (NLAA)	USFWS Coquí Guajón Conservation Measures 2020

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

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NLAA determination included in this letter. Attached to this letter, we are including the documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species. Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the information below.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this issue.

Cordially,



Juan Carlos Perez Bofill, PE, MEng.  
Director for Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR Program  
[environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov) | 787.274.2527 ext. 4320

**Attachments:**

Appendix A:

- Figure 1 – Location Site Map
- Figure 2 – Area of Potential Effect Map
- Figure 3 – Wetland Map

Appendix B: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)

Appendix C: Guidelines for Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon

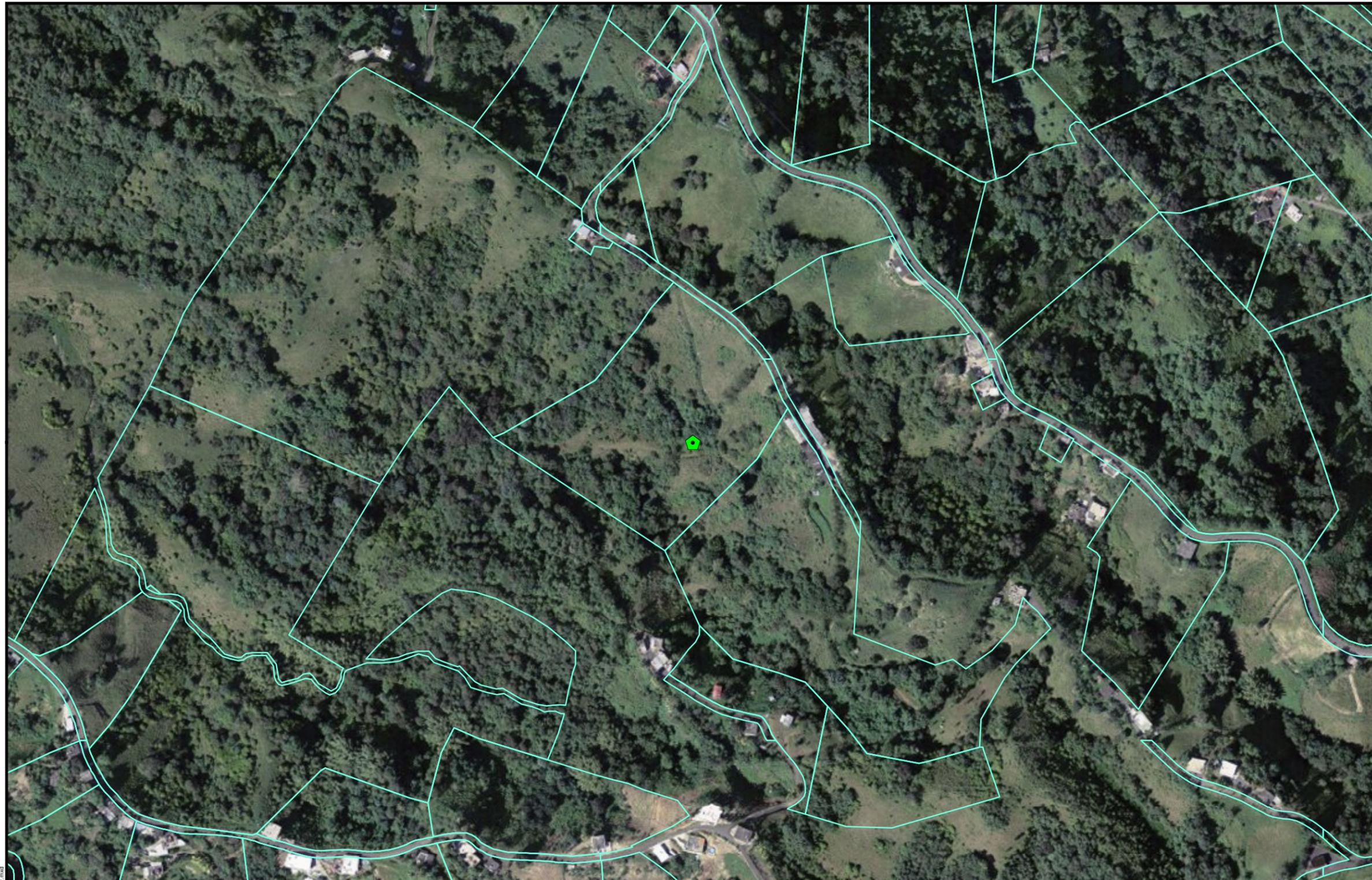
Appendix D: Site Photos

Appendix E: USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020

Appendix F: USFWS Coquí Guajón Conservation Measures 2020

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

## **Appendix A: Figures**



- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
  -  Parcels

**PUERTO RICO**



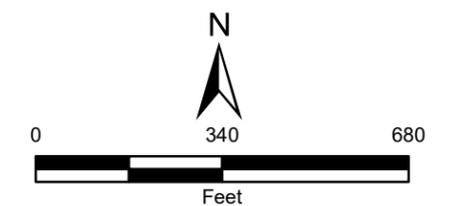
**PROJECT LOCATION**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, PR 00754  
 Name of Development: Granja Abraham  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209 , -65.948807



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

Author: TG Date: 8/30/2023



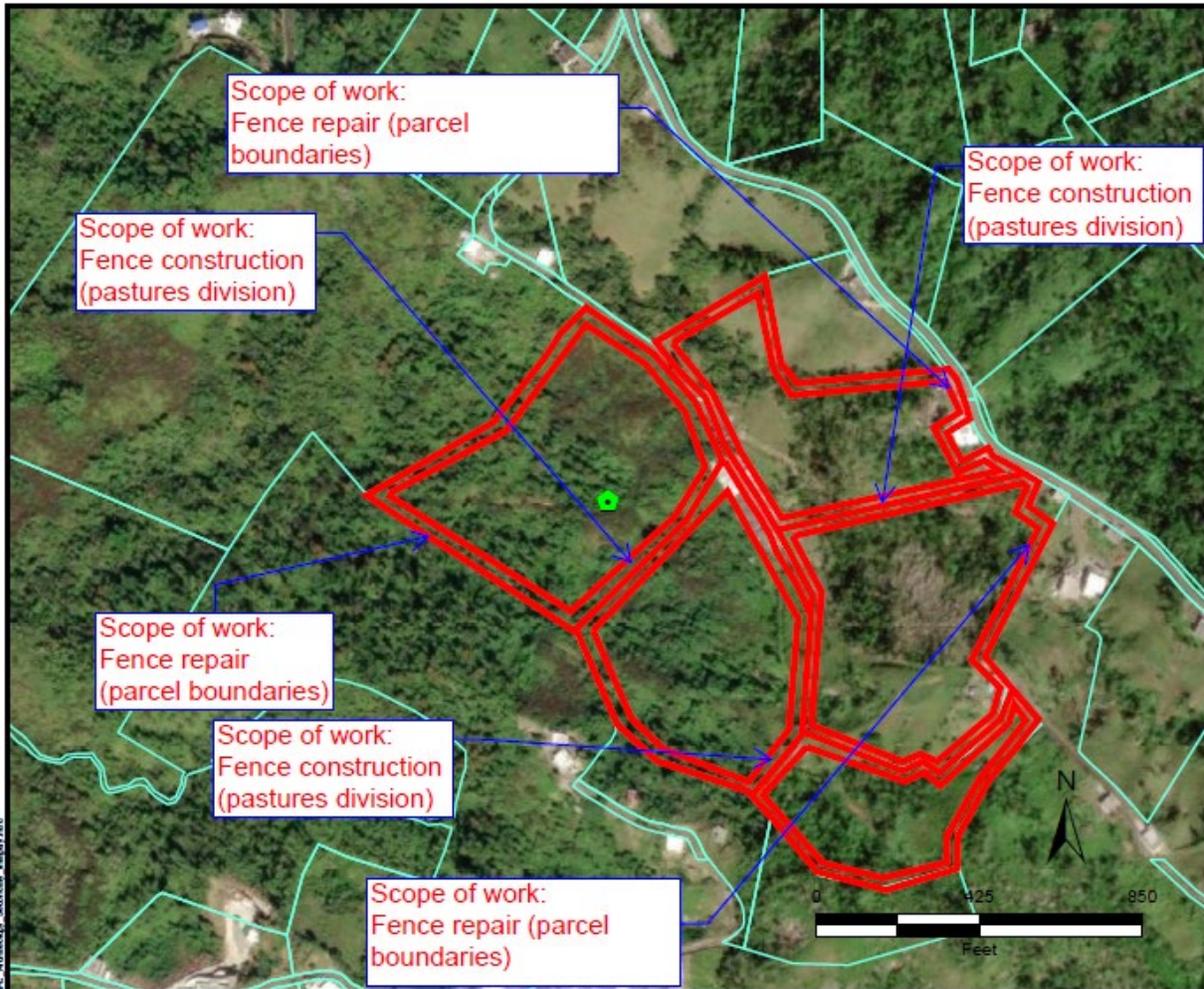
File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\Tetra\PR\LOD\_Regrow\_Secundary\_Images.mxd

Subrecipient: Granja Abraham

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01357

City: San Lorenzo

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



File Path: I:\ms\TIG\GIS\CDR\NHPA\01357\106\106\_01357\_Tier2\_APE\_AerialMap\_ScopeWork\_ScopeWork.aprx



Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 10/7/2022

#### Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Area of Potential Effect
-  Parcelario





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

**PUERTO RICO**



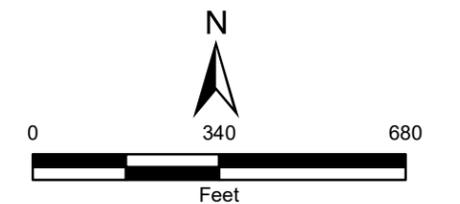
File Path: Z:\data\USPRT\FacWETLAND\_Secordary\_Imagery\_Regrow.mxd



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

Author: TG Date: 8/30/2023

**WETLANDS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01357**  
**ADDRESS: Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, PR 00754**  
 Name of Development:  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.144209, -65.948807



**Appendix B:**  
**Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)**

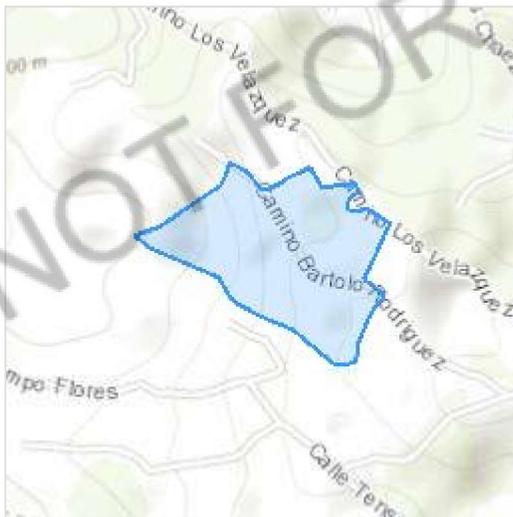
# IPaC resource list

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

San Lorenzo County, Puerto Rico



## Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

☎ (787) 834-1600

📠 (787) 851-7440

✉ [CARIBBEAN\\_ES@FWS.GOV](mailto:CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV)

MAILING ADDRESS

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

Office Park I

State Road #2 Km 156.5, Suite 303}

Mayaguez, PR 00680

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

# Endangered species

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

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

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

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

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

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

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

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

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

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

## Birds

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon <i>Columba inornata wetmorei</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7955">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7955</a>	Endangered

## Reptiles

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

## Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
Guajon <i>Eleutherodactylus cooki</i> Wherever found There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6963">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6963</a>	Threatened

## 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.

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Additional information can be found using the following links:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## What if I have eagles on my list?

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

## Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty 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 [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

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

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

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

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

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure.

To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Facilities

## National Wildlife Refuge lands

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

There are no refuge lands at this location.

## Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

## Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

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

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

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

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

### Data limitations

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

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

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

### **Data exclusions**

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

### **Data precautions**

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

## **Appendix C: Guidelines for Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon**

## Guidelines for Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon

The Puerto Rican plain pigeon is a large pigeon about the size and shape of a domestic pigeon. At a distance the species appears pale blue-gray. The head, hindneck, breast, and the top central part of the folded wing are washed with a wine color. The wing coverts are margined with white. Legs and feet are dark red. A variety of fruits and seeds, and livestock feed provide nourishment for this species. Approximately 70 percent of the foods come from tree branches, and 30 percent from the ground. Principal foods at Cidra are royal palm (*Roystonea borinquena*); mountain immortelle (*Erythrina poeppigiana*); West Indies trema (*Trema lamarckiana*); and white prickly (*Zanthoxylum martinicense*). Water is usually taken from the axils of bromeliads or from water-retaining blossoms of the African tulip-tree. Nesting occurs primarily in bamboo groves and the hardwood canyons of Cidra.

1. For any project activity that involves construction or tree-disturbing activities, all construction workers will be required to participate in environmental awareness training. The training will educate workers on: (a) special-status species that may occur in the work area, (b) procedures to follow in the event a species is observed, and (c) other environmental BMPs and emergency spill response protocols.
2. All non-emergency work activities will be confined to daylight hours (i.e., sunrise to sunset), unless necessary for assessing or protecting biological resources.
3. Whenever possible, impacts to native nesting birds will be avoided by not conducting Project activities that involve clearing of vegetation, generation of mechanical noise, or tree disturbance during the typical breeding season for this pigeon (late January to early July), if the pigeon is determined to be present.
4. If Project activities must be conducted during the nesting bird season, the Contractor will conduct surveys for nesting birds within a 1,000-ft radius of the construction area. If nests are detected, the Contractor will notify the DNER and establish buffers around nests that are sufficient to ensure that breeding is not likely to be disrupted or adversely impacted by construction. Buffers around active nests will be a minimum of 250 feet, unless a qualified biologist determines that smaller buffers would be sufficient to avoid impacts to nesting birds. Factors to be considered for determining buffer size will include: the presence of natural buffers provided by vegetation or topography; nest height; locations of foraging territory; and baseline levels of noise and human activity. Buffers will be maintained until young have fledged or the nests become inactive.
5. If a pigeon is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124).

6. Designated critical habitat within the vicinity of project activities will be identified. All Proposed Project actions will be designed to avoid direct and indirect adverse modifications to these areas. Minimization measures, such as establishing and maintaining buffers around areas of designated critical habitat will be implemented in the event that avoidance is not feasible.
7. If critical habitat may be adversely modified by the implementation of Proposed Project actions, the area to be modified will be evaluated by a qualified biologist to determine the potential magnitude of the project effects (e.g., description of primary constituent elements present and quantification of those affected) at a level of detail necessary to satisfy applicable environmental compliance and permitting requirements. This information shall be submitted to the PRDNER as shown in Number 5 above.
8. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact PRDNER for further guidance.

## **Appendix D: Site Photos**

**Front of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Facing Away From Front**

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Side #1 of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Facing Away From Side #1**

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Back of Structure**

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Facing Away From Back**

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Side #2 of Structure**

Photo Direction: West



**Facing Away From Side #2**

Photo Direction: East



**Streetscape #1**

Photo Direction: South



**Streetscape #2**

Photo Direction: North



**Address**

Photo Direction: South



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Pigs corral

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

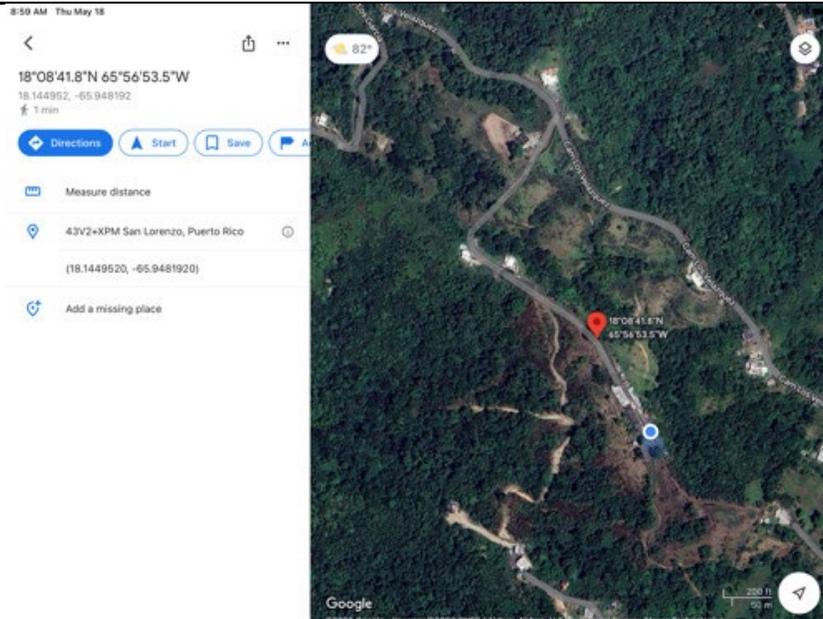
Photo Direction: North



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Pig corral

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Cattle corals in use

Photo Direction: Southeast



Electricity Connected

Photo Description: Power connected

Photo Direction: South



Water Connected

Photo Description: Water connected

Photo Direction: South



Aboveground Storage Tanks

Photo Description: Water cistern

Photo Direction: Southwest



Standing Water

Photo Description: Water stream

Photo Direction: Northeast



Wetlands

Photo Description: Wetland

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: West



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope or work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: fence construction and repair

Photo Direction: Northwest



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 1 map reference

Photo Direction: Northwest



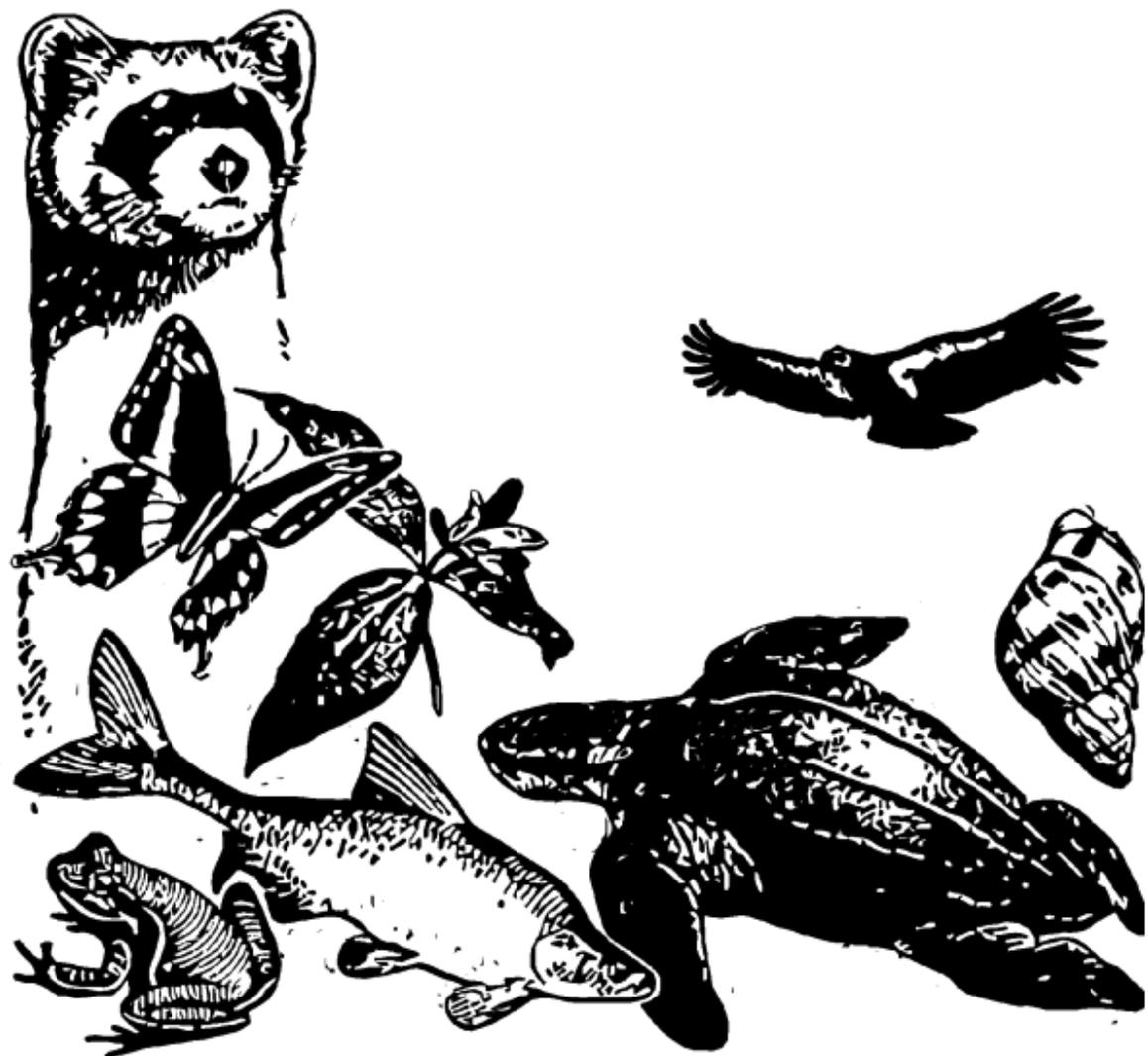
**Appendix E:**  
**USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2020**

# USFWS Puerto Rican boa Conservation Measures

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## *Puerto Rican Boa*

Generated September 11, 2023 01:39 PM UTC, IPaC v6.97.0-rc3





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

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

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

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



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

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

#### Conservation Measures:

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

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

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

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

**Appendix F:**  
**USFWS Coquí Guajón Conservation Measures 2020**

# Conservation Measures for the Coqui Guajón (*Eleutherodactylus cooki*)

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## *Guajón*

Generated September 07, 2023 08:36 PM UTC, IPaC v6.97.0-rc3



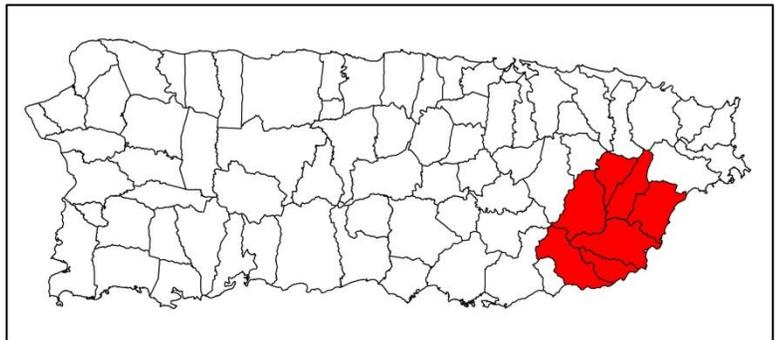


## U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

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

Section 7 (a)(1) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) charges Federal agencies to aid in the conservation of listed species, and section 7 (a)(2) requires the agencies, through consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), to ensure their activities are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitats. Section 7 applies to the management of Federal lands as well as Federal actions that may affect listed species, such as Federal approval of private activities through the issuance of Federal funding, permits, licenses, or other actions. Any person that injures, captures, or kills a Coquí guajón destroy its eggs, and/or modify its critical habitat is subject to penalties under Federal law. If federal funds or permits are needed, the funding or permitting agency shall initiate Section 7 consultation with the Service. To initiate a consultation under the Section 7 of the ESA, you must submit a project package with the established minimum requirements. These conservation measures should be incorporated into the project plans to minimize possible impacts to the species. Download the [project evaluations fact sheet](#) to learn more about the requirements or visit our [project evaluations webpage](#).

The coquí guajón is a relatively large species within the coqui frog family, reaching approximately 3 inches in length with females being larger than males. The species is considered mostly nocturnal, but can also be heard calling during daylight hours and late afternoon. This coquí was federally listed as threatened in 1997 and is only known to occur in southeastern Puerto Rico in the Municipalities of Yabucoa, San Lorenzo, Patillas, Humacao, Las Piedras, Juncos, and Maunabo (shaded area in map below). You may find more information on this species including a recording of its call here: <http://www.proyectocoqui.com/portfolio/coqui-guajon/#.XHginlW6PIV>, and educational materials including a printable poster here: <https://www.coquiguajon.org/materiales-educativos>.



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

Last Revised: January 2020

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

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

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

#### Conservation Measures:

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

**Last Revised: January 2020**

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

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

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

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

## Guidelines for Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon

The Puerto Rican plain pigeon is a large pigeon about the size and shape of a domestic pigeon. At a distance the species appears pale blue-gray. The head, hindneck, breast, and the top central part of the folded wing are washed with a wine color. The wing coverts are margined with white. Legs and feet are dark red. A variety of fruits and seeds, and livestock feed provide nourishment for this species. Approximately 70 percent of the foods come from tree branches, and 30 percent from the ground. Principal foods at Cidra are royal palm (*Roystonea borinquena*); mountain immortelle (*Erythrina poeppigiana*); West Indies trema (*Trema lamarckiana*); and white prickly (*Zanthoxylum martinicense*). Water is usually taken from the axils of bromeliads or from water-retaining blossoms of the African tulip-tree. Nesting occurs primarily in bamboo groves and the hardwood canyons of Cidra.

1. For any project activity that involves construction or tree-disturbing activities, all construction workers will be required to participate in environmental awareness training. The training will educate workers on: (a) special-status species that may occur in the work area, (b) procedures to follow in the event a species is observed, and (c) other environmental BMPs and emergency spill response protocols.
2. All non-emergency work activities will be confined to daylight hours (i.e., sunrise to sunset), unless necessary for assessing or protecting biological resources.
3. Whenever possible, impacts to native nesting birds will be avoided by not conducting Project activities that involve clearing of vegetation, generation of mechanical noise, or tree disturbance during the typical breeding season for this pigeon (late January to early July), if the pigeon is determined to be present.
4. If Project activities must be conducted during the nesting bird season, the Contractor will conduct surveys for nesting birds within a 1,000-ft radius of the construction area. If nests are detected, the Contractor will notify the DNER and establish buffers around nests that are sufficient to ensure that breeding is not likely to be disrupted or adversely impacted by construction. Buffers around active nests will be a minimum of 250 feet, unless a qualified biologist determines that smaller buffers would be sufficient to avoid impacts to nesting birds. Factors to be considered for determining buffer size will include: the presence of natural buffers provided by vegetation or topography; nest height; locations of foraging territory; and baseline levels of noise and human activity. Buffers will be maintained until young have fledged or the nests become inactive.
5. If a pigeon is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124).

6. Designated critical habitat within the vicinity of project activities will be identified. All Proposed Project actions will be designed to avoid direct and indirect adverse modifications to these areas. Minimization measures, such as establishing and maintaining buffers around areas of designated critical habitat will be implemented in the event that avoidance is not feasible.
7. If critical habitat may be adversely modified by the implementation of Proposed Project actions, the area to be modified will be evaluated by a qualified biologist to determine the potential magnitude of the project effects (e.g., description of primary constituent elements present and quantification of those affected) at a level of detail necessary to satisfy applicable environmental compliance and permitting requirements. This information shall be submitted to the PRDNER as shown in Number 5 above.
8. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact PRDNER for further guidance.



## United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:  
Project Code: 2024-0043948  
Project Name: PR-RGRW-01342

February 01, 2024

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

To Whom It May Concern:

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

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

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

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

to [caribbean\\_es@fws.gov](mailto:caribbean_es@fws.gov). To obtain guidance for completing this process and the minimum requirements for project packages, please visit:

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

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

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

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

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

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

[caribbean\\_es@fws.gov](mailto:caribbean_es@fws.gov)

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

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

## OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

**Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office**

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(787) 834-1600

## PROJECT SUMMARY

**Project Code:** 2024-0043948  
**Project Name:** PR-RGRW-01342  
**Project Type:** Restoration / Enhancement - Agricultural  
**Project Description:** The proposed project site located at 173 KM 10.0 Barrio Rabanal Alturas de Cidra 44, Cidra, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 275-000-001-64), will be funded under the ReGrow PR Urban-Rural Agricultural Program. The Scope of Work (SOW) for his project includes farm conditioning activities, the installation of two greenhouses and a metal wire fence, and the purchase of UTV, a tractor, fencing materials, tools, and equipment. The land is currently a vacant parcel. The applicant plans to install two greenhouses for the growing of lettuce, a fence, and to do activities of farm conditioning. Farm conditioning activities will include clearing and removal of terrestrial cortex material to have access to the spring area and to ensure vehicular access to the green houses. No water or power connections are included in the SOW. Applicant future plans includes the connection of water supply from the spring to the greenhouses using PVC pipes and the installation of a solar power system. The field was graded in April 2023 to have access to the different areas of the farm.

### Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.1706984,-66.1785664987701,14z>



**Counties:** Cidra County, Puerto Rico

## ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 2 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

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

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

### BIRDS

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

### REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628</a> General project design guidelines: <a href="https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/GGJ5ZG3Z5BDERFZ6ZHF65RTRYU/documents/generated/7159.pdf">https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/GGJ5ZG3Z5BDERFZ6ZHF65RTRYU/documents/generated/7159.pdf</a>	Endangered

### CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

# USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

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

## BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

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

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats<sup>3</sup>, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)".

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

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

## MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty 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<sup>3</sup> should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)".

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

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

## WETLANDS

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

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

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

WETLAND INFORMATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE WHEN THIS SPECIES LIST WAS GENERATED.  
PLEASE VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.FWS.GOV/WETLANDS/DATA/MAPPER.HTML](https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html) OR CONTACT THE FIELD OFFICE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Tetra Tech  
Name: Shelby McDowell  
Address: 2301 Lucien Way #120  
City: Maitland  
State: FL  
Zip: 32751  
Email: shelby.mcdowell@tetrattech.com  
Phone: 4096591563

# **APPENDIX E**

## **Section 106 Consultation**



## GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

### STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Executive Director | Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela | [carubio@prshpo.pr.gov](mailto:carubio@prshpo.pr.gov)

August 18, 2023

## Lauren Bair Poche

HORNE- Architectural Historian Manager  
10000 Perkins Rowe, Suite 610 Bldg G  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810

SHPO: 08-14-23-08 PUERTO RICO DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR RE-GROW  
PR URBAN-RURAL AGRICULTURAL RE-GROW PROGRAM, PR-RGRW-01357,  
GRANJA ABRAHAM, CARR. 916 KM 4.3, SECTOR LOS VELÁZQUEZ, SAN LORENZO,  
PUERTO RICO

Dear Ms. Poche,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

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



August 14, 2023

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

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

**Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-01357 – Granja Abraham – Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez, San Lorenzo, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected***

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

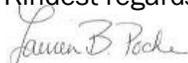
In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800, HORNE is providing information for your review and requesting your concurrence regarding the above-referenced projects on behalf of the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH). 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 Granja Abraham at the property located at Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez in the municipality of San Lorenzo. The proposed activities for this project consist in the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. Ground disturbance is anticipated during the repair of the existing fence and construction of new fencing.

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

Please contact me by email at [lauren.poche@horne.com](mailto:lauren.poche@horne.com) or phone at 225-405-7676 with any questions or concerns.

Kindest regards,



**Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.**

Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Senior Manager  
Attachments

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b>		
<b>REgROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b>		
<b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>		
<b>Applicant:</b> Granja Abraham		
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01357	<b>City:</b> San Lorenzo	

<b>Project Location:</b> Carr 916 km 4.3 Sector Los Velazquez	
<b>Project Coordinates:</b> 18.144209, -65.948807	
<b>TPID (Número de Catastro):</b> 302-000-005-22-000/302-000-005-21-000/302-039-381-03-000	
<b>Type of Undertaking:</b>	
X Substantial Repair/Improvements	
X New Construction	
<b>Construction Date (AH est.):</b> c1985	<b>Property Size (acres):</b> 33.4

<b>SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian:</b> Maria F. Lopez Schmid
<b>Date Reviewed:</b> 8/2/2023
<b>SOI-Qualified Archaeologist:</b> Roberto G. Muñoz-Pando, PhD
<b>Date Reviewed:</b> August 8, 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 Scope of Work (SOW) for this project consists in the repair of an existing fence, the construction of a new fence, and the purchase of a pickup truck. Ground disturbance is anticipated during the repair of the existing fence and construction of new fencing.

The land was used in the past with agricultural purposes with the growing of plantains, coffee, and vegetables. Currently, this land is used for cattle and pig breeding. The applicant plans to repair an existing fence and to construct a new fence to create internal pasture divisions within the parcels. Fence repairs and construction will be done with 6' long wooden poles with metal fencing. The wooden poles will be buried at a depth of 2'. The purpose of the fence is to maintain the cattle secure. Fence will be installed/repair on the outside perimeter of the 3 applicant parcels, approximately 2,500 lineal feet, as well in the internal pasture division, approximately 1,500 lineal feet. No new water and power connection are needed for this project.

### 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

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>REGRW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
<b>Applicant:</b> Granja Abraham	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01357	<b>City:</b> San Lorenzo

and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the area where the existing fence is going to be repaired and the locations where new fence will be constructed, with a 5-meter buffer to allow for variation in planned fence location. The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

### Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that the project area. There are no known archaeological sites within a 0.5-mile radius of the APE. No Cultural Resources Studies have been performed in an area of at least 0.5-mile radius of the APE. The soils of the APE are Pandura sandy loam (PaF) with 40 to 60 percent slopes, making the probability of finding *in situ*, intact, and significant archaeological sites in the area low to moderate because of the slope as well as the acidity of the soil.

### 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. Additionally, there are **no** NRHP-listed historic properties within the quarter mile buffer zone from the APE.

The proposed project is located in a rural, mountainous terrain with mature vegetation in the town of San Lorenzo and lies south on road Camino Los Velázquez. A circa 1985 house, is located east of the APE geocoordinates. The building, shown below, appears on a 1994 aerial photograph but not on a 1977 aerial photograph.

Applicant: Granja Abraham

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01357

City: San Lorenzo



**Figures 1 & 2.** Detail of 1994 aerial image and of 2023 Google Maps aerial image showing the building on the property.

This building (shown below) is a one-story reinforced concrete house with a flat concrete roof. The house has concrete walls and five concrete columns supporting the full width front porch enclosed by concrete knee walls. This building is modern, and it **does not** meet the requirements to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.



**Figures 3 & 4.** Images of the house on the property, view to the northwest and to the southwest.

### Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

The project area is not located within the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that no previously

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>REGrow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	
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identified historic properties are located within or adjacent to the parcel that contains the proposed Area of Potential Effect. In addition, there are no known archaeological sites within a 0.5-mile radius of the APE and no Cultural Resources Studies have been performed in an area of at least 0.5 mile radius of the APE. The soils of the APE are Pandura sandy loam (PaF) with 40 to 60 percent slopes, making the probability of finding *in situ*, intact, and significant archaeological sites in the area low to moderate because of the slope as well as the acidity of the soil. Therefore, no impact to historic properties is anticipated for this project.

**Recommendation**

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

No Historic Properties Affected

No Adverse Effect

Condition (if applicable):

Adverse Effect

Proposed Resolution (if applicable)

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

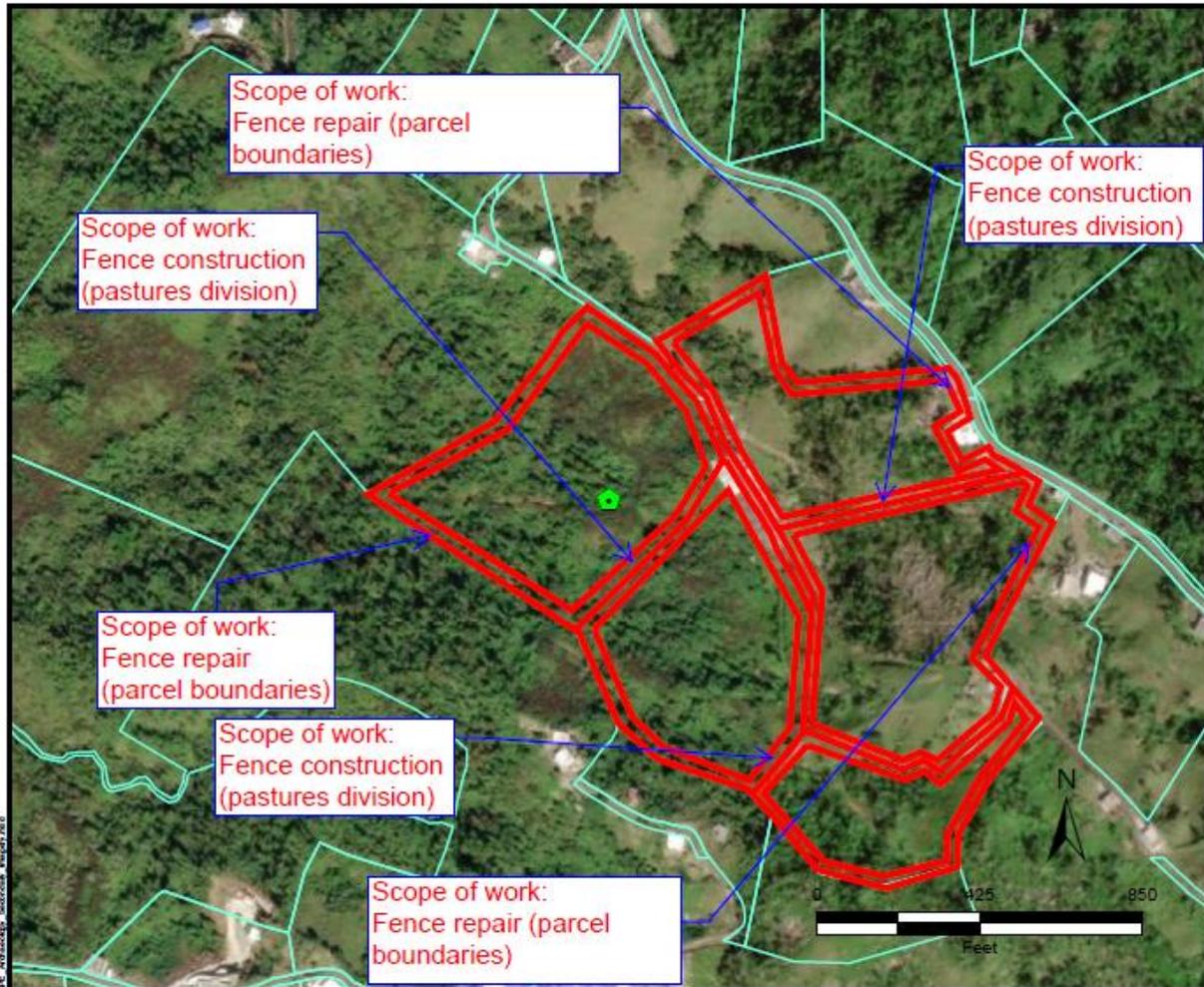
The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the above information and:  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Concurs</b> with the information provided. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Does not concur</b> with the information provided.	
<b>Comments:</b>  	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation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

Applicant: Granja Abraham

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01357

City: San Lorenzo

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



Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 10/7/2022

#### Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Area of Potential Effect
-  Parcelario

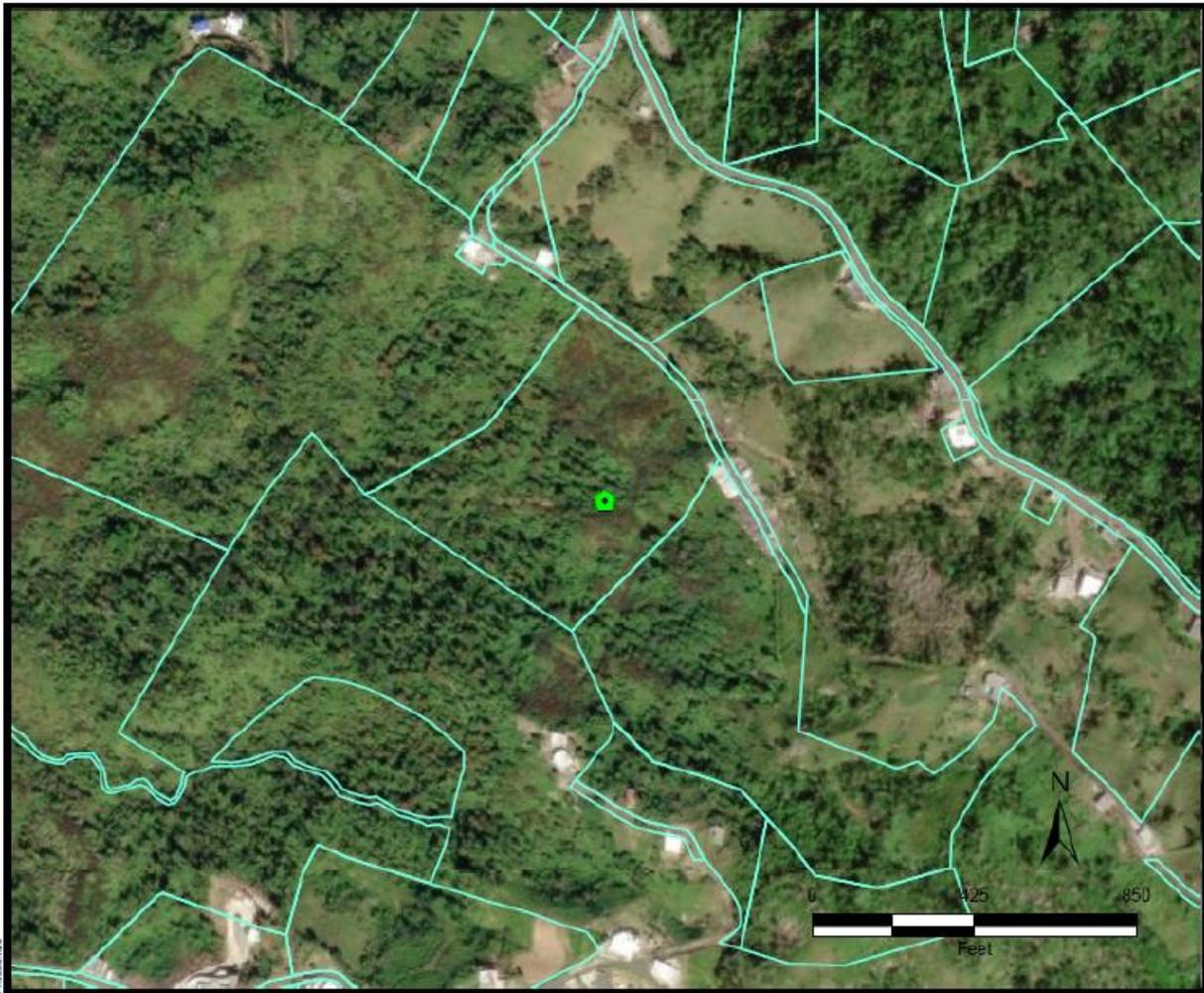


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### Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map



Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 9/22/2022

**Legend**

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



Applicant: Granja Abraham

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### Project (Parcel) Location - USGS Topographic Map



**TETRA TECH**

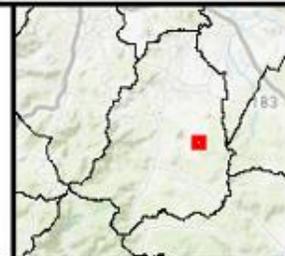
Source: USGS

Author: TG

Date: 9/29/2022

#### Legend

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

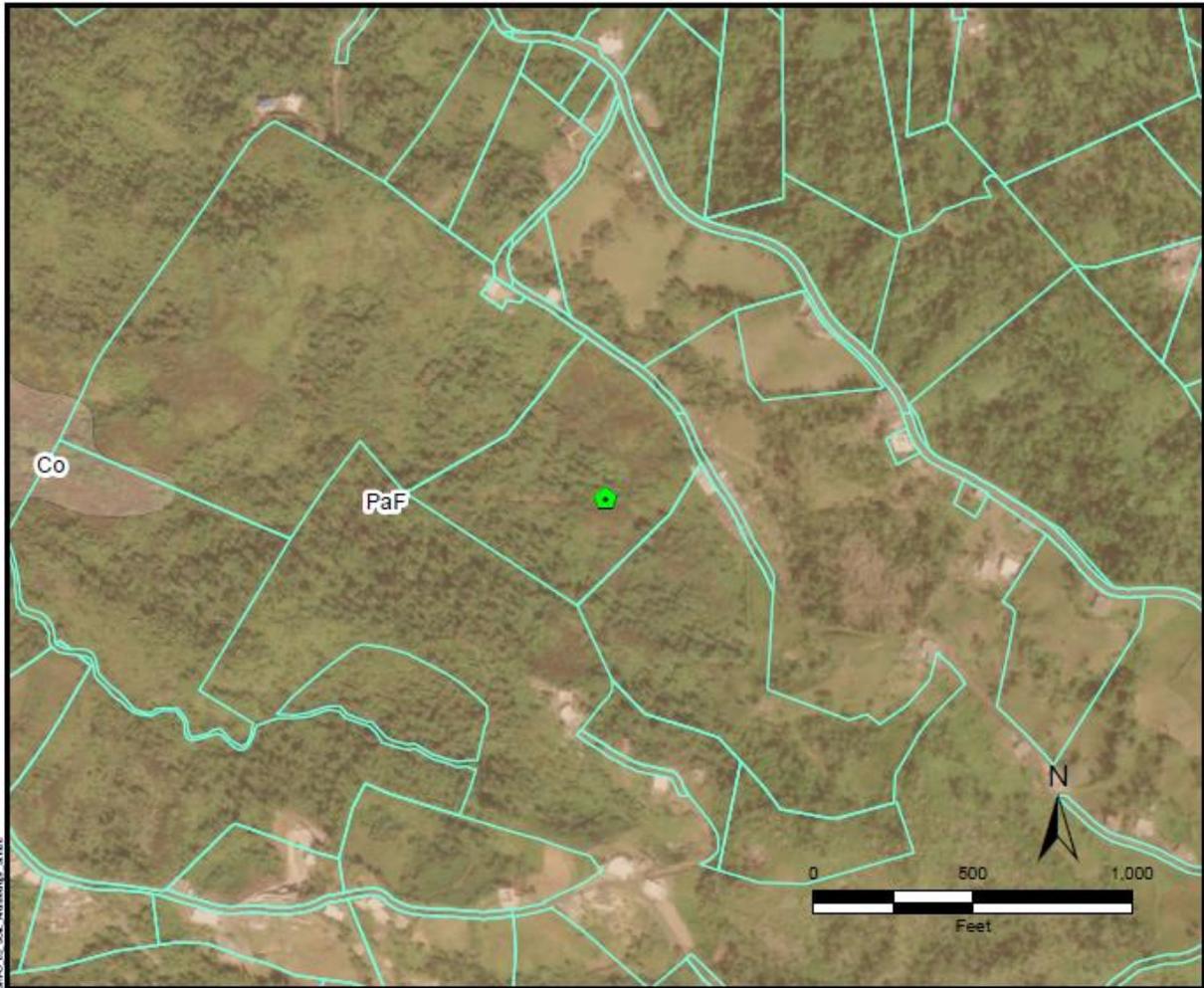


Applicant: Granja Abraham

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### Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map



TETRA TECH

Source: USDA

Author: TG

Date: 9/30/2022

**Legend**

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Parcelario
- Soil Type**
-  Co; Cayagua sandy loam
-  PaF; Pandura sandy loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes

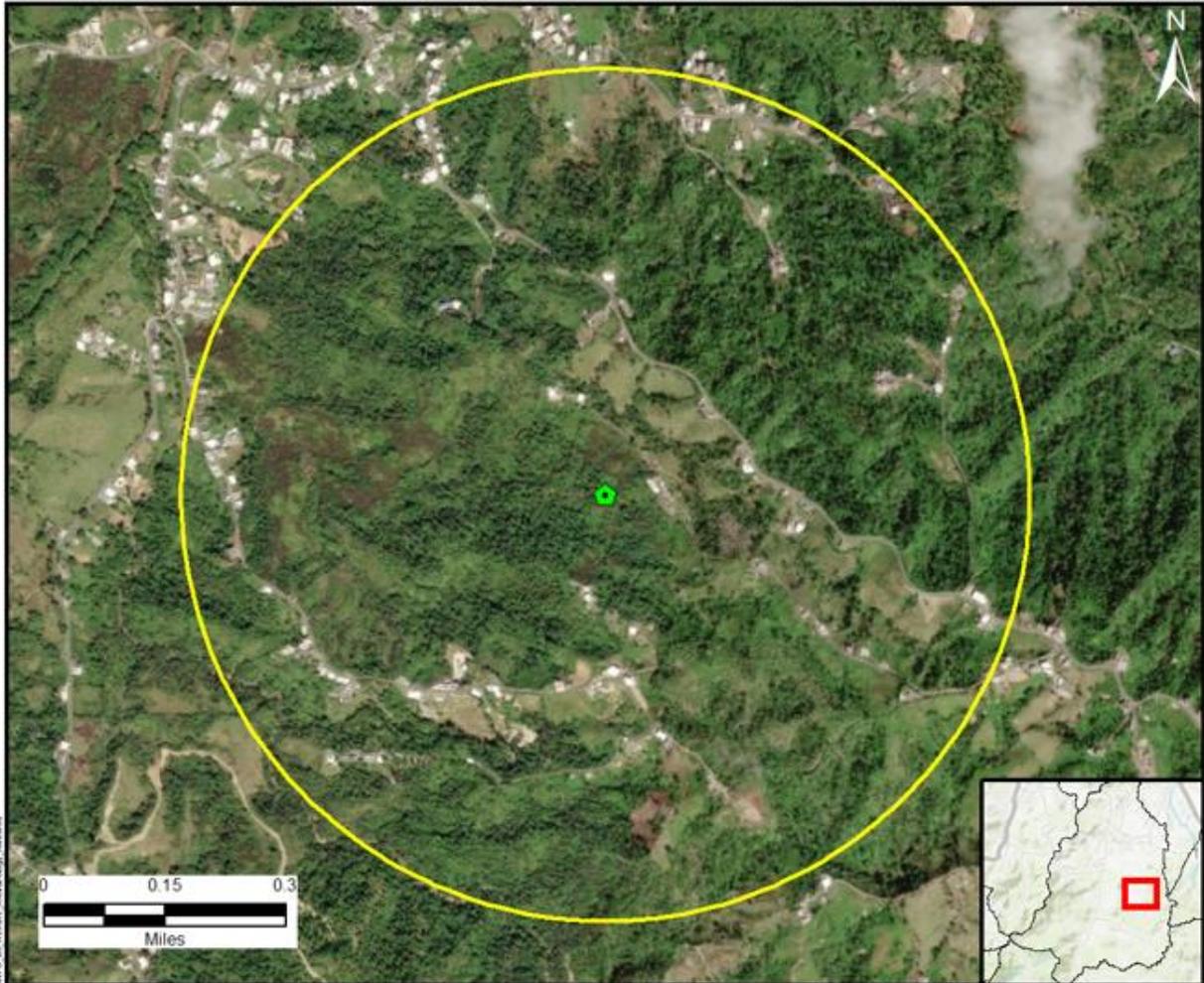


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### Project (Parcel) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map



Source: National Park Service

Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Half Mile Buffer
-  Historic Comunidades
-  Traditional Urban Centers

 Cultural Resource District Polygon

18 Feb 2022 10:53 AM EST

Author: TG

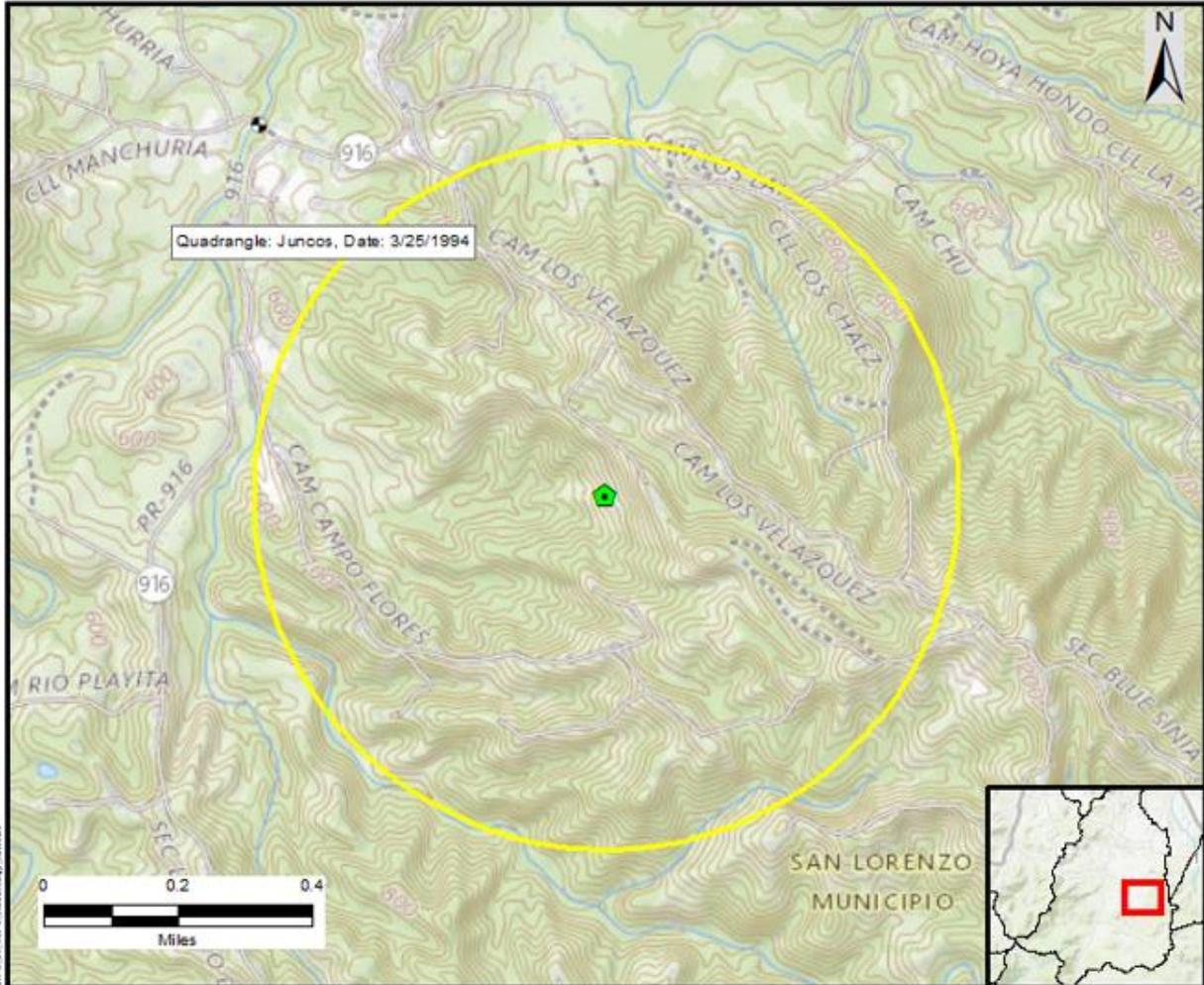
Date: 9/29/2022

Applicant: Granja Abraham

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01357

City: San Lorenzo

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



Source: National Park Service

Author: TG

Date: 9/29/2022

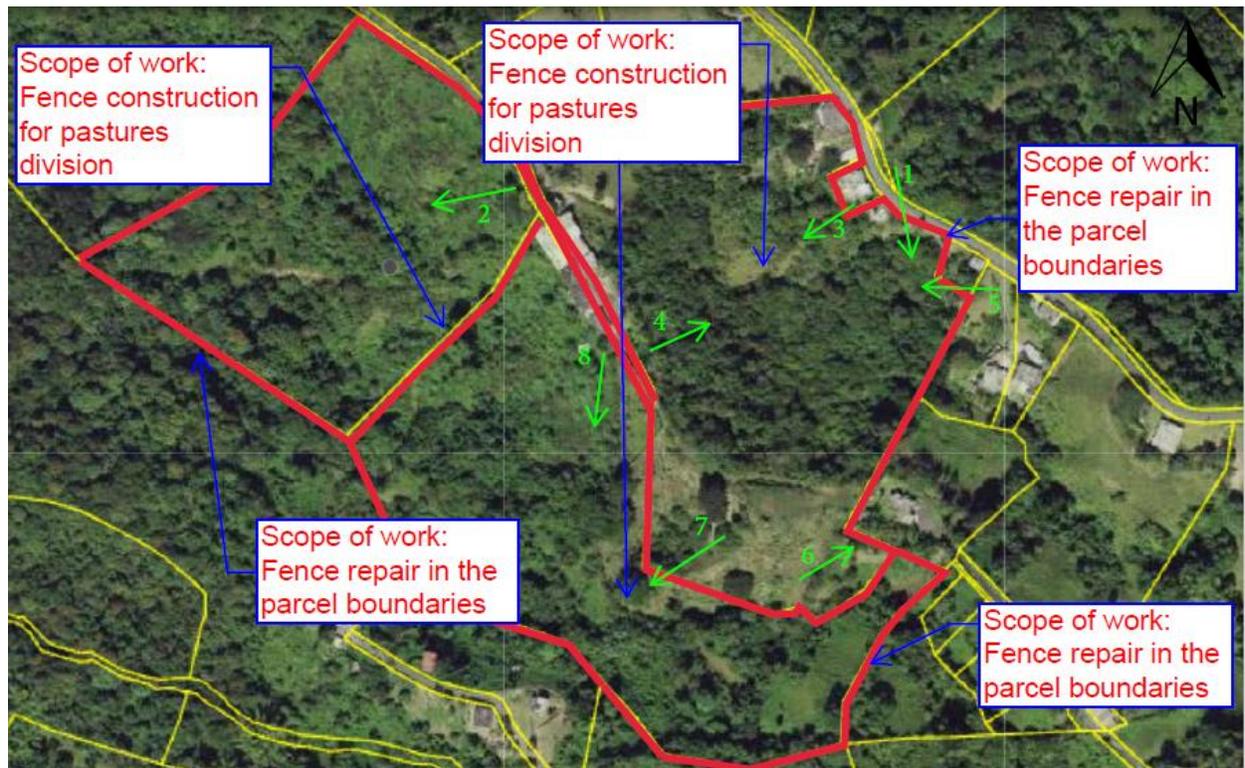
- Legend
-  Tier 2 Site
  -  Half Mile Buffer
  -  Historic Comunidades
  -  Traditional Urban Centers
  -  Cultural Resource District Polygon

Applicant: Granja Abraham

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### Photograph Key



**Applicant:** Granja Abraham

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01357

**City:** San Lorenzo



**Photo #:** 1

**Description (include direction):** View to the Southeast

**Date:** 5/18/2023

Scope Of Work: Fence repair (parcel boundaries)



**Photo #:** 2

**Description (include direction):** View to the Southwest

**Date:** 5/18/2023

Scope Of Work: Fence repair (parcel boundaries)

**Applicant:** Granja Abraham

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01357

**City:** San Lorenzo



**Photo #:** 3

**Description (include direction):** View to the Southwest

**Date:** 5/18/2023

Scope Of Work: Fence repair (parcel boundaries)



**Photo #:** 4

**Description (include direction):** View to the Northeast

**Date:** 5/18/2023

Scope Of Work: Fence repair (parcel boundaries)

**Applicant:** Granja Abraham

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01357

**City:** San Lorenzo



**Photo #:** 5

**Description (include direction):** View to the West

**Date:** 5/18/2023

Scope Of Work: Fence construction (pastures division)



**Photo #:** 6

**Description (include direction):** View to the Northeast

**Date:** 5/18/2023

Scope Of Work: Fence construction (pastures division)

**Applicant:** Granja Abraham

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01357

**City:** San Lorenzo



**Photo #:** 7

**Description (include direction):** View to the Southwest

**Date:** 5/18/2023

Scope Of Work: Fence construction (pastures division)



**Photo #:** 8

**Description (include direction):** View to the South

**Date:** 5/18/2023

Scope Of Work: Fence construction (pastures division)



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