

# **Environmental Assessment**

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

### **24 CFR Part 58**

#### **Project Information**

**Project ID:** PR-RGRW-01890

**Project Name:** Hiram Elias Rojas Reyes

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

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

**State/Local Identifier:** Puerto Rico / Municipio of Arecibo

**Preparer:** Cristie Reguera, Deputy Program Manager

#### **Certifying Officer Name and Title:**

Permit and Environmental Compliance Officers: Pedro A. De León Rodríguez, , MSEM/  
Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist.

**Consultant** (if applicable): SWCA Environmental Consultants

**Direct Comments to:** PR Department of Housing, [environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov)

#### **Project Location:**

The proposed project, which includes the construction of 10 greenhouse structures and a warehouse and the purchase of solar panels and agricultural equipment, is located on an approximate 12.38-acre parcel (Cadastral Number 032-000-003-32-998) located at Barrio Garrochales Carretera 682 KM 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612 (see **Appendix A, Figure 1**- Site Location and **Figure 2**- Site Vicinity). This property is in a rural area in the northeastern portion of Arecibo Municipio. Access to the project areas is provided via a road from the west at the central portion of the parcel.

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

- Greenhouse Option 1 Site (18.454497, -66.591973) is in the northern part of the parcel, directly northwest of the existing greenhouses.
- Greenhouse Option 2 Site (18.454079, -66.59165) is in the central part of the parcel, approximately 90 feet southeast of Greenhouse Option 1.
- Warehouse Site (18.453567, -66.591677) is in the central part of the parcel, approximately 90 feet south of Greenhouse Option 2.

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

The proposed project includes the construction of 10 greenhouse structures and a warehouse; the purchase and installation of an air conditioner, above-ground canal, freezer, and solar photovoltaic (PV) panels; and the purchase of greenhouse materials, rolling door, warehouse materials, and packing materials and equipment.

The greenhouse site will be comprised of 10 adjacent greenhouse structures. Each greenhouse structure is approximately 2,000 square feet (100 feet by 20 feet) with a height of approximately 10 to 12 feet. The posts of the greenhouse structures will be secured by 12-inch-wide concrete footers extending 1.5 feet deep into the ground. The greenhouse site will have a total of 32 exterior posts (lengthwise- 14 posts on each side and widthwise- 2 additional posts on each side). Existing greenhouses are located south of Greenhouse Option 1 site. The Greenhouse Option 1 site can accommodate eight structures to the north of the existing greenhouses, and the other two greenhouse structures will be in the southern portion of the Greenhouse Option 2 site (see **Figure 2**). The Greenhouse Option 2 site is vacant and can accommodate all 10 structures in one area.

Water to irrigate the greenhouse will be provided from an underground water well located northwest of the applicant's residence. The applicant already has an approved permit from the Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) for the water well (see **Appendix D**). An existing irrigation system is installed on the property. All irrigation piping and connections to the greenhouse will be aboveground. Electricity for the greenhouse will be provided by solar panels that will be mounted on top of the proposed greenhouse using aboveground connections.

The proposed warehouse will be approximately 1,800 square feet (30 feet by 60 feet) with a height of 18 feet. The columns of the warehouse will be welded to an 8-inch by 8-inch metal plate secured to 12-inch-wide concrete footers extending 1 foot deep into the ground. The warehouse will have a total of 18 columns (lengthwise- 7 columns on each side and widthwise- 2 additional columns on each side). The warehouse will be divided

into two main areas: a 30-foot by 30-foot packing/storage cooler and 30-foot by 30-foot warehouse/garage. Half of the warehouse will have a 3-inch-deep concrete base (30 feet by 30 feet), and the other half will be a gravel base with 12 feet by 10 feet rolling doors. The new air conditioner will be installed in the proposed warehouse, and electricity for the air conditioner will be provided by solar panels using aboveground connections.

The project will have some ground disturbance as well as vegetation clearing and pruning, but no tree clearing is required for construction. The applicant owns the property; therefore, no acquisition is required.

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

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

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

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

The applicant does not have the resources to construct new greenhouses and a warehouse or to purchase farming equipment and materials for their agricultural operation, nor has the applicant received any other outside source of funding for the project. The new greenhouses will help increase agricultural production on the farm and support continued local agricultural production during future disasters.

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

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

The general topography of the property is relatively flat with open pastures, grassland, and vegetated areas. The property is classified as Rural General (R-G) and Specially Protected Rustic Land – Agricultural (SREP-A). Land use immediately surrounding the parcel consists of low-density residential development to the west and undeveloped land to the north, west, and south.

An existing residence and an above-ground water tank are in the central-western portion of the property, and existing greenhouses and a warehouse are in the central-northern portion of the property. The remaining portions of the property are undeveloped. The proposed project locations are undeveloped and consist of grassland and vegetated areas.

**Funding Information**

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

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$77,805

**Estimated Total Project Cost** (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$77,805

## **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"/>	<p>The project sites are not within 2,500 feet of a civil primary or commercial service airport or within 15,000 feet of a military airport. The nearest civil primary or commercial service airport, Mercedita, is located 160,501 feet (30 miles) south of the project sites. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport, is located 199,627 feet (38 miles) east of the project sites. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with airport hazards requirements.</p> <p>The Airport Hazards Partner Worksheet and Airport Hazards Map (<b>Figure B 1-1</b>) are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 1</b>.</p>
<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"/>	<p>The project sites are not located in a Coastal Barrier Resource Systems Unit (CBRS) or Otherwise Protected Area (OPA). There are no CBRS units in Arecibo Municipio. The closest CBRS unit, Punta Manati, is located 24,672 feet (5 miles) east of the project sites. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.</p> <p>The Coastal Barrier Resources Act Partner Worksheet and Coastal Barrier</p>

		Resources Map ( <b>Figure B 2-1</b> ) are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 2.</b>
<p><b>Flood Insurance</b></p> <p>Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>A review of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Community Panel 72000C0255J (effective date 11/18/2009), shows the project sites are in Flood Zone X, which is not in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Flood insurance is not required. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Flood Disaster Protection Act and National Flood Insurance Reform Act.</p> <p>The Flood Insurance Partner Worksheet and FIRM (<b>Figure B 3-1</b>) are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 3.</b></p>
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5</b>		
<p><b>Clean Air</b></p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) &amp; (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Municipios in nonattainment or maintenance areas include Arecibo, Bayamon, Catano, Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan and Toa Baja. The proposed site is in Arecibo Municipio, which is an U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) designated non-attainment area. The proposed project will include new construction of 10 greenhouse structures and a warehouse and the purchase of solar panels and agricultural equipment, but the project is not anticipated to have negative impact on air quality and will not increase residential density. Emissions associated with the proposed actions are limited to the use of small construction equipment and are estimated to be well below the Federal General Conformity Rule de minimis thresholds. Temporary, local air quality impacts may occur during site grading and preparation resulting from dust emissions. Routine dust mitigation best management practices are recommended. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.</p>

		<p>The Air Quality Partner Worksheet, List of Non-Attainment/Maintenance Status Counties in Puerto Rico, and Clean Air Map (<b>Figure B 4-1</b>) are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 4</b>.</p>
<p><b>Coastal Zone Management</b></p> <p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) &amp; (d)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project sites are not located within the Puerto Rico Coastal Management Zone. The closest coastal zone area is located 4,058 feet (1 mile) north of the project sites. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.</p> <p>The Coastal Zone Management Partner Worksheet and Coastal Zone Map (<b>Figure B 5-1</b>) are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 5</b>.</p>
<p><b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b></p> <p>24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project sites were evaluated for potential contamination by conducting a field site inspection on August 18, 2023, to identify any onsite hazards including, but not limited to, soil staining, above ground storage tanks, signs of underground storage tanks, odors, hazardous debris etc. The site inspection did not identify any onsite hazards (see <b>Appendix C-</b> Environmental Site Inspection Report).</p> <p>In addition, a desktop review of USEPA databases, NEPAassist, and other sources was conducted to determine if the project sites were located near dump sites, junk yards, landfills, hazardous waste sites, or industrial sites, including USEPA National Priorities List Sites (Superfund sites), CERCLA or state-equivalent sites, RCRA Corrective Action sites with release(s) or suspected release(s) requiring clean-up action and/or further investigation.</p> <p>The desktop review identified one water discharger facility approximately 2,615 feet west of the project sites. The water discharger is a non-major general permit covered facility for construction</p>

		<p>stormwater discharge with a permit expiration date of February 16, 2027. This site has not received any violations in the past 12 quarters. The facility would not adversely affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements.</p> <p>The Contamination and Toxics Substances Partner Worksheet, Desktop Review Summary, and Contamination and Toxic Substances Map (<b>Figure B 6-1</b>) are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 6</b>.</p>
<p><b>Endangered Species</b></p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project involves activities that have the potential to affect protected species or habitats, including but not limited to activities such as ground disturbance and installation of various structures.</p> <p>Threatened, endangered, and migratory bird species were identified by reviewing data from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC) Tool. In addition, critical species habitat was reviewed through the USFWS IPaC_Critical Habitat Portal.</p> <p>The review identified seven federally listed species (Puerto Rican Boa [<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>], Puerto Rican Crested Toad [<i>Peltophryne lemur</i>], Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly [<i>Atlantea tulita</i>], <i>Daphnopsis helleriana</i>, Pale De Ramon [<i>Banara vanderbiltii</i>], Palo De Rosa [<i>Ottoschulzia rhodoxylon</i>], and <i>Schoepfia arenaria</i>) with the potential to occur within the project area. There is no designated or proposed critical habitat within the project area. The closest final designated critical habitat is located</p>

		<p>28,071 feet (5 miles) south of the project sites.</p> <p>The project activities will result in ground disturbing activities, construction of gravel pads for the greenhouses and storage area, and the construction of the greenhouses. A qualified biologist reviewed the proposed activity location and determined that there is no suitable habitat present for any federally listed species at the proposed project location. Therefore, as currently designed, the proposed project activities will have <i>No effect</i> on any federally listed species or designated critical habitat.</p> <p>If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project action site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off site on its own. If the Boa does not move off site, the Construction Manager shall contact the DNER and ask for them to relocate the Boa.</p> <p>The Endangered Species Act Partner Worksheet, Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Memorandum with IPaC, Critical Habitat Map (<b>Figure B 7-1</b>), and Essential Fish Habitat Map (<b>Figure B 7-2</b>) are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 7</b>.</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 includes the new construction of 10 greenhouse structures and a warehouse and the purchase of solar panels and agricultural equipment. The project itself is not the development of a hazardous facility nor will the project increase residential densities. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements.</p> <p>The Explosive and Flammable Hazards Partner Worksheet is provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 8</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>This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. Prime Farmland occurs within the project area. Although the project includes new construction, the project is exempt from review under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FFPA) as the project is limited to construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations. No further review is required. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.</p> <p>The Farmlands Protection Partner Worksheet and Prime Farmland Map (<b>Figure B 9-1</b>) are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 9</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 FEMA FIRM, Community Panel 72000C0255J (effective date 11/18/2009), shows the project sites are in Flood Zone X. An Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) map was developed by FEMA for this FIRM, which shows the project sites are in Flood Zone X.</p> <p>The project is not located in the 100-year floodplain or ABFE special flood hazard area; therefore, no further action is required. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988.</p> <p>The Floodplain Management Partner Worksheet and ABFE Floodplain Map (<b>Figure B 10-1</b>) are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 10</b>.</p>
<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 project will involve new construction of 10 greenhouse structures and a warehouse on an undeveloped site and ground disturbing activities on previously undisturbed soil. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consultation was performed.</p> <p>No National Historic Landmark (NHL) are within or near the project area.</p> <p>A site visit was conducted on August 18, 2023, by an SOI-qualified Archaeologist.</p>

		<p>Record reviews and research were conducted at the SHPO and the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture (ICP) to determine if any archaeologically sensitive resources could be present within a 0.5-mile radius.</p> <p>The results of the Record Search and the Site Inspection indicate that there are no historic properties or cultural resources within the 0.50-mile radius study area or within the project Area of Potential Effect (APE). Based on the results of the historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the APE.</p> <p>The determination was submitted to SHPO by PRDOH for concurrence on October 27, 2023, and SHPO concurred with the No Historic Properties Affected determination on November 10, 2023. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.</p> <p>The Historic Preservation Partner Worksheet and SHPO consultation are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 11.</b></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>The project activities are limited to the new construction of 10 greenhouse structures and a warehouse and the purchase of solar panels and agricultural equipment, and do not involve new residential construction or rehabilitation. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with HUD's noise regulation.</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>According to the USEPA's Source Water Protection, Sole Source Aquifer Protection Program, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.</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 project sites were reviewed for wetlands using the USFWS Wetland Inventory Mapper and a visual confirmation during the field site inspection. No wetlands were determined to be present on the sites. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990.</p> <p>The Wetlands Protection Partner Worksheet and Wetland Map (<b>Figure B 12-1</b>) are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 12.</b></p>
<p><b>Wild and Scenic Rivers</b></p> <p>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>A review of the USFWS National Wild and Scenic River mapper identified no Wild and Scenic Rivers or National Rivers Inventory (NRI) rivers present in Arecibo Municipio. The closest Wild and Scenic River segment is located 283,544 feet (54 miles) east of the project sites. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.</p> <p>The Wild and Scenic Rivers Partner Worksheet and Wild and Scenic Rivers Map (<b>Figure B 13-1</b>) are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 13.</b></p>
<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b></p>		
<p><b>Environmental Justice</b></p> <p>Executive Order 12898</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The ReGrow Program intends to alleviate negative economic impacts to, and strengthen, the agricultural industry in Puerto Rico. The project's direct and indirect impacts are limited to a small area on a single land parcel. The project will benefit the farm owner by improving agricultural use and production.</p> <p>The project will not facilitate development that would negatively affect human health or result in disproportionate adverse environmental impacts to low-income or minority populations. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898.</p>

		The Environmental Justice Partner Worksheet and EJScreen Report are provided in <b>Appendix B, Attachment 14.</b>
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**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 property is classified as Rural General (R-G) and Specially Protected Rustic Land – Agricultural (SREP-A). The proposed action is continued agricultural use of property, which is compatible with zoning and existing land use. This property is in a rural area in the northeastern portion of Arecibo Municipio, and project activities will not contribute to urban sprawl.  The applicant and/or construction manager is required to obtain any necessary local and territorial building and environmental permits prior to construction activities commencing.

Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	<p>Soil suitability will be assessed prior to construction and will be addressed during local permitting processes. Contractors will be required to use best management practices during construction to control erosion and prevent runoff. The soil is currently being used for agriculture purposes.</p> <p>Landslide data from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) indicates that no landslides have been mapped for the project area (see <b>Appendix A, Figure 3-</b> USGS Landslide Map).</p> <p>DNER authorization is required for any extraction, removal, excavation, and dredging of the components of the earth's crust.</p>
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	<p>Contractors will be required to provide health and safety plans and monitoring during construction. Noise levels will temporarily increase during construction; however, program activities are limited to the existing farm property and will not elevate ambient noise levels in the long-term. Contractors will be required to comply with the applicable local noise ordinances. Noise impacts will be mitigated by restricting construction activities to daylight hours and to the hours established in the Regulation for Noise Control and Pollution in Puerto Rico. Additionally, the project does not include housing to where inhabitants would be affected.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC</b>		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	<p>The project will result in short-term benefit to employment if contractors are hired for the construction of the greenhouses and warehouse. After construction, the project will support the continuation of operations and intended use of the farm, which supplies produce for Puerto Rico communities.</p> <p>The project is not anticipated to have a significant impact on employment and income patterns; however, the project may help restore employment opportunities and income patterns.</p>

Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The project is a rural area in Arecibo Municipio and will not alter the demographics or character of the surrounding community. Project activities will not result in any direct or indirect displacement of individuals or families.
Environmental Justice	2	The project's direct and indirect impacts are limited to a small area on a single land parcel. The project will not facilitate development that would negatively affect human health or result in disproportionate adverse environmental impacts to low-income or minority populations.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES</b>		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The proposed project activities will occur on private land and will not contribute to any change in educational or cultural facilities or affect access to or capacity of educational or cultural facilities.
Commercial Facilities	2	The proposed project will increase agricultural production, resulting in a net positive impact to the applicant's farm commercial output and a positive benefit to surrounding commercial enterprises who purchase and sell the produce; however, the project will not put undue pressure on commercial facilities.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The proposed project activities will occur on private land and will not affect access to or capacity of health care and social services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The proposed project may cause an increase in short-term generation of solid waste during construction. All construction debris will be disposed of at the proper facilities for the debris type (i.e., construction waste). The project will not contribute to long-term needs or changes to solid waste disposal and recycling.
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The construction of the 10 new greenhouses and warehouse and purchase of solar panels and agricultural equipment will not result in significant changes to the property's current wastewater or sanitary sewer use. No sewage utilities will be installed or connected to this project. Only potable water will be used to irrigate the greenhouse. Wastewater

		generated will be limited to minimal runoff in the area of the project sites. The use of fertilizer or pesticides is controlled by local and territorial regulations and are consistent with the current land use.
Water Supply	2	The proposed project activities are not expected to result in significant changes to the water supply. Water to irrigate the greenhouse will be provided from an underground water well located northwest of the applicant's residence. The applicant already has an approved permit from DNER for the water well (see <b>Appendix D</b> ). An existing irrigation system is installed on the property. All irrigation piping and connections to the greenhouse will be aboveground.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The proposed project activities will occur on private land and will not affect public safety concerns such as police, fire, and emergency medical services.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The proposed project activities will occur on private land and will not result in any changes to access or use of parks, open space, and recreation areas.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The project activities will occur on private land and have no relation to transportation services. The proposed activities will not result in any changes in transportation and accessibility.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>NATURAL FEATURES</b>		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The project is not located in proximity to unique natural features or water resources; therefore, construction activities will not affect quality or access to these resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The project area has already been previously disturbed for farm operations. Although there will be some pruning of trees, the project is not anticipated to negatively impact trees, vegetation, wildlife, or native plant communities. No tree clearing will occur.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>CLIMATE AND ENERGY</b>		
Climate Change Impacts	2	<p>The proposed ReGrow program project aims to increase resiliency in the agricultural industry to prepare for future climate related disasters, including drought. The Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation Assessment tool (<a href="https://resilience.climate.gov/#assessment-tool">https://resilience.climate.gov/#assessment-tool</a>) provides historical and future climate data for five common climate-related hazards (extreme heat, drought, wildfires, flooding, and coastal inundation). The data model for the census tract that includes application location does not indicate a significant increase in hazard risks from climate change for drought, wildfire, or flooding, when comparing historical data (1976-2005) to future projections. The model projects a greater number of days where temperatures will exceed 90 degrees Fahrenheit after 2015, which is a systemic trend in the model across the Island.</p> <p>The specific activities proposed for this economic development project are limited in scale and land impacts. The proposed greenhouses and warehouse construction activities are for individual farm use and will not result in a significant increase in electricity or water draw. The greenhouse and irrigation system used will allow the applicant to control the water to the crops and will reduce the amount needed compared to open air farming which often results in higher evapotranspiration. The equipment that will be used during construction and operation will also be limited to occasional use at this specific land parcel, and therefore will not generate a significant amount of greenhouse gas. Additionally, project activities will not result in tree clearing that would contribute to a loss in carbon capture.</p>
Energy Efficiency	2	<p>The project will not result in significant additional energy consumption. The applicant will use new solar panels to generate electricity to the greenhouse and will not require any expansion to existing power facilities.</p>

**Additional Studies Performed:**

No additional studies were performed.

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

Field inspection completed on August 18, 2023 – Delise Torres-Ortiz, M.A., SWCA Environmental Consultants.

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

Department of Economic Development and Commerce. 2023. Sole Incidental Operational Permit for Cutting, Pruning, Transplanting and Tree System Authorization. Permits Management Office. Accessed July 20, 2023. Available at: [Permits Management Office Department of Economic Development and Commerce \(pr.gov\)](#).

Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER). 2023. Puerto Rico DNER Species Ranges – under construction. Accessed September 22, 2023. Available at: <https://arcg.is/1S9aju0>.

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

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). 2023. FEMA Flood Map Service Center - Map Panel 72000C0255J (effective date 11/18/2009). Accessed September 22, 2023. Available at: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>.

Institute of Puerto Rican Culture (ICP). 2023. San Juan, Puerto Rico. Data collection conducted on August 18, 2023.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office for Coastal Management. 2023. Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Boundary. Accessed August 21, 2023. Available at: [Puerto Rico Coastal Vulnerability Viewer \(arcgis.com\)](#).

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). 2023. San Juan, Puerto Rico. Data collection conducted on August 18, 2023.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). 2022a. Envirofacts Mapper. Air pollution data (ICIS-AIR), Brownfields, Hazardous Waste (RCRAInfo), Superfund National Priorities List (NPL), Toxic Releases Inventory (TRI), and National Pollutants Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES). Accessed September 22, 2023. Available at: <https://geopub.epa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/EMEF/efpoints/MapServer>.

USEPA. 2022b. Sole Source Aquifer Map. Accessed March 1, 2023. Available at: <https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ada1877155fe31356b>.

USEPA. 2023a. Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for All Criteria Pollutants. USEPA Green Book. Accessed January 31, 2023. Available at: [https://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo\\_pr.html](https://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo_pr.html).

USEPA. 2023b. EJScreen: Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool. Accessed September 22, 2023. Available at: <https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/download-ejscreen-data>.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2019. Coastal Barrier Resources System. Accessed August 21, 2023. Available at: <https://www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Mapper.html>.

USFWS. 2023a. Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Accessed September 22, 2023. Available at: <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/location/index>.

USFWS. 2023b. Critical Habitat for Threatened & Endangered Species. Accessed August 21, 2023. Available at: <https://fws.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=9d8de5e265ad4fe09893cf75b8dbfb77>.

USFWS. 2023c. National Wetlands Inventory Surface Waters and Wetlands Mapper. Accessed September 22, 2023. Available at: <https://fwsprimary.wim.usgs.gov/wetlands/apps/wetlands-mapper/>.

U.S. Forest Service. 2022. National Wild and Scenic River Segments. Accessed September 22, 2023. Available at: <https://www.rivers.gov/mapping-gis.php>; [Wild & Scenic Rivers | US Forest Service \(usda.gov\)](#).

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). 2022. Concentration of Landslides caused by Hurricane Maria, Puerto Rico. Accessed September 22, 2023. Available at: [U.S. Landslide Inventory \(arcgis.com\)](#).

**List of Permits Obtained:**

No permits have been obtained.

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

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

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

The construction of a warehouse and 10 new greenhouses at either project site and the purchase of solar panels and agricultural equipment is not anticipated to have a negative impact on environmental resources. Overall, the project will have a net positive impact by helping a small business increase their capacity for agricultural production. No other planned or ongoing projects were identified in the project vicinity that could contribute to cumulative impacts of environmental resources.

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

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

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

Under the No Action Alternative, the applicant would not receive federal funding to construct 10 new greenhouse structures and a warehouse and purchase solar panels and equipment. Consequently, the applicant may not be able to recover and continue agricultural production. Given the degree of need for greater agricultural capacity in Puerto Rico following Hurricanes Irma and María, the costs of foregoing the project would exceed the benefits.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusions:**

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

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

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

<b>Law, Authority, or Factor</b>	<b>Mitigation Measure</b>
<p><b>Endangered Species</b></p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p><i>General Condition:</i></p> <p>The current project activities do not involve the removal of trees. If any tree clearing is to be proposed, the project will need to be re-evaluated for impacts to threatened and endangered species.</p> <p>If a Puerto Rican Boa (Boa) is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off site on its own. If the Boa does not move off site, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico DNER to relocate the Boa.</p>
<p><b>Historic Preservation</b></p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p><i>General Condition:</i></p> <p>If historic properties are discovered, unanticipated effects on historic properties are found, or cultural materials are encountered, work should cease in the immediate area; work can continue where no historic properties or cultural materials are present. Please contact PRDOH to consult on further actions that may be necessary to protect historic properties or cultural materials.</p>
<p><b>Clean Air</b></p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) &amp; (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Temporary, local air quality impacts may occur during site grading and preparation resulting from dust emissions. Routine dust mitigation best management practices are recommended.</p>
<p>Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design</p>	<p>The proposed action is continued agricultural use of property, which is compatible with the existing land use.</p> <p>The applicant and/or construction manager is required to obtain any necessary local and territorial building and environmental permits prior to construction activities commencing.</p>

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

**Determination:**

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

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

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

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

Preparer Signature: *Cristine Reguera*

Date: November 29, 2023

Name/Title/Organization: Cristine Reguera, SWCA Environmental Consultants

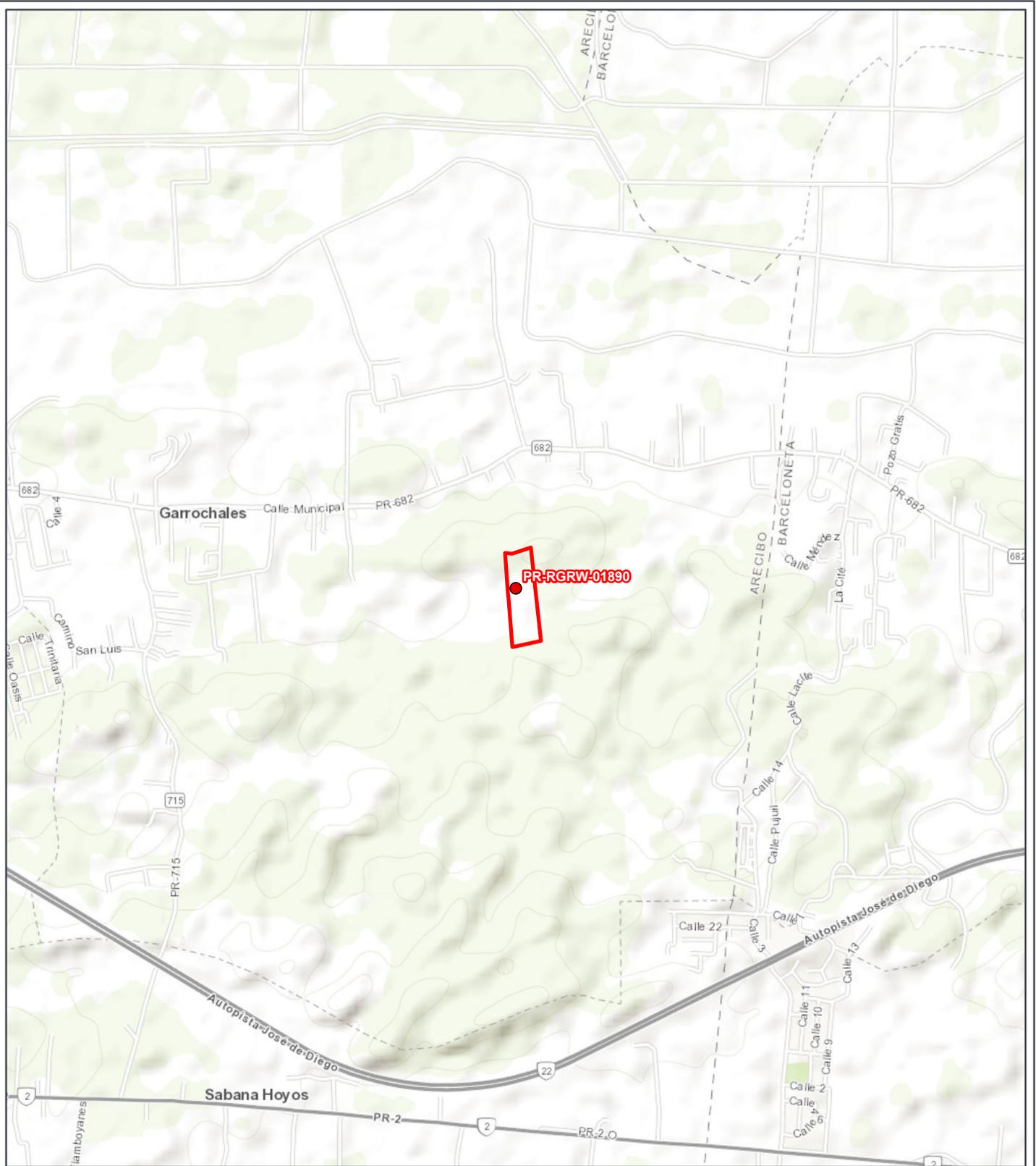
Certifying Officer Signature: *Pedro A. de León* Date: 3/14/2024

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

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

# **Appendix A**

## **Project Overview Figures**



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure A-1:  
Site Location**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890

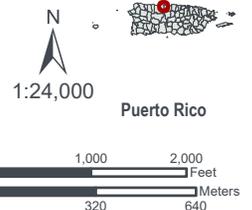


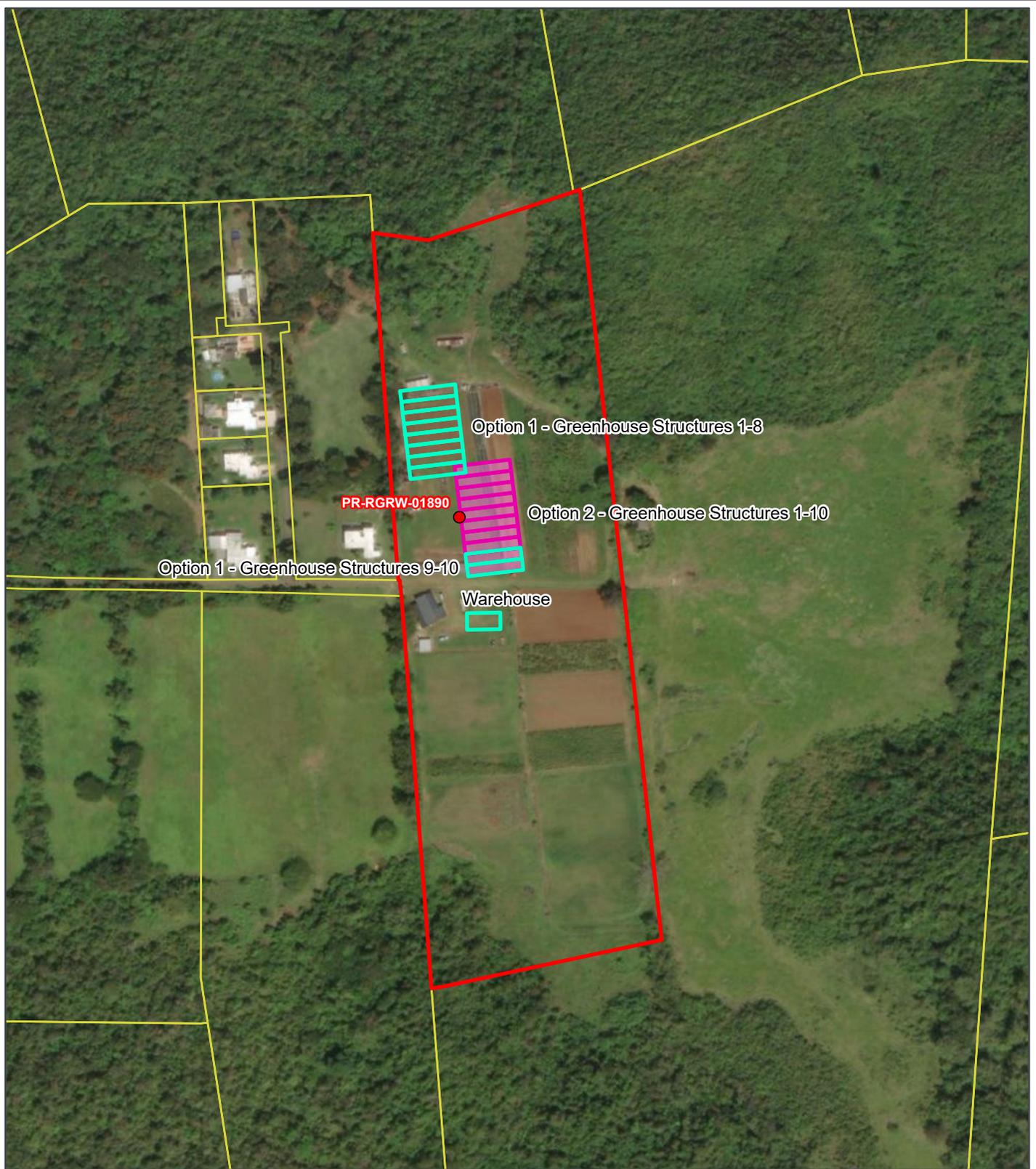
- Site
- Site Parcel

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.591804°W 18.454083°N

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed August 2023  
Updated: 8/21/2023  
Layout: Site Location  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure A-2:  
Site Vicinity**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890

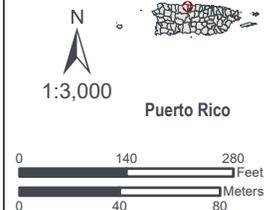
- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option 1)
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option 2)

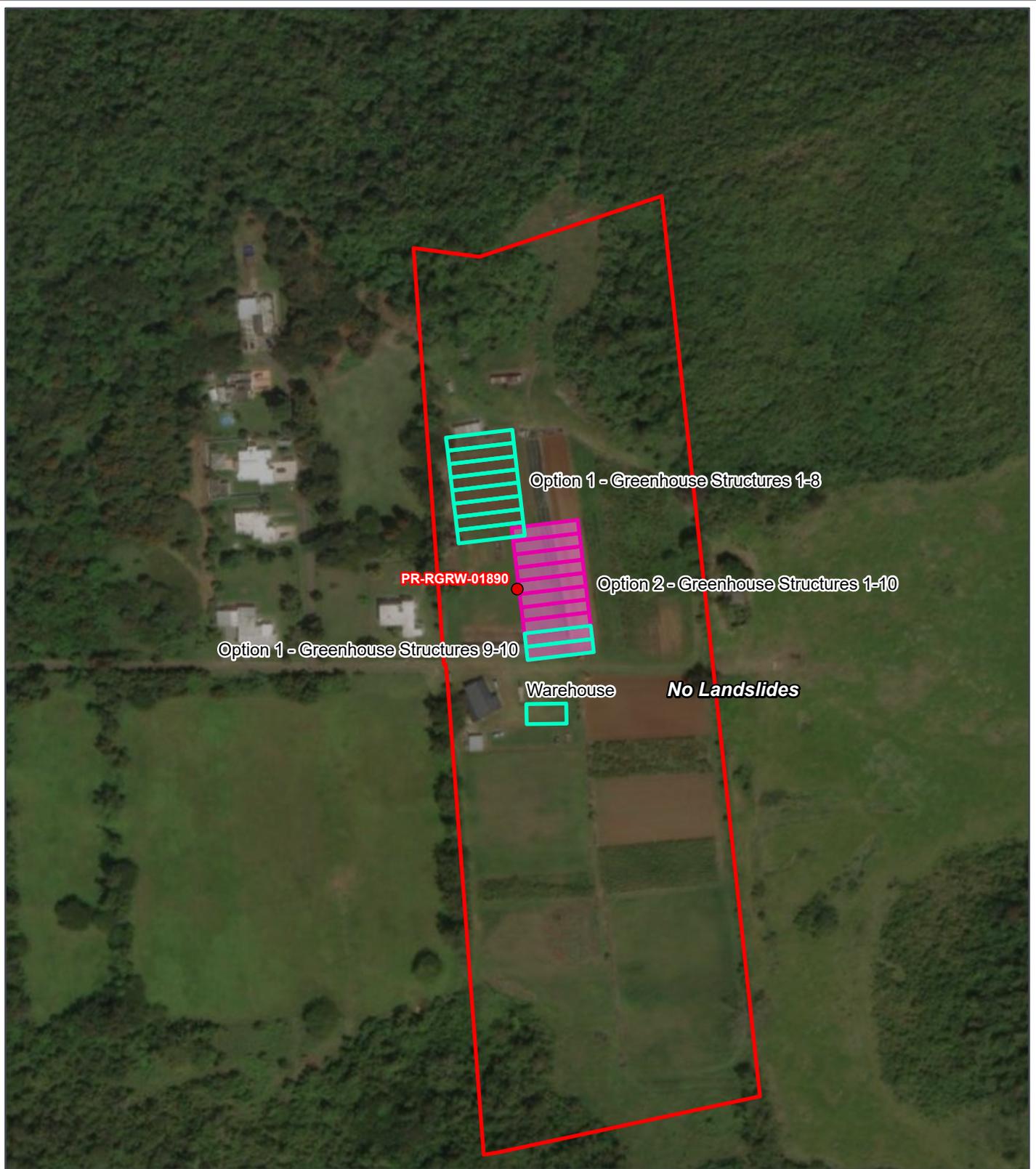


Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.591502°W 18.453726°N

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed September 2023  
Updated: 9/22/2023  
Layout: Site Vicinity  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure A-3:  
USGS Landslide Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890

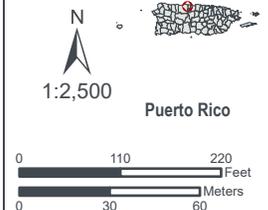


- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option 2)
- Project Footprint (Option 1)
- Potential Area of Disturbance
- Greater than 25 Landslides per sq km
- Less than 25 Landslides per sq km
- No Landslides
- Not Examined

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.591804°W 18.454083°N

Data Source: [https://arcgis.cuahsi.org/arcgis/rest/services/MariaRAPID/Hurricane\\_Maria\\_Landslides/MapServer](https://arcgis.cuahsi.org/arcgis/rest/services/MariaRAPID/Hurricane_Maria_Landslides/MapServer)  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed September 2023  
Updated: 9/22/2023  
Layout: Landslide



**Appendix B**  
**Attachments and Supporting**  
**Documentation**

**Attachment 1**

**Airport Hazards Partner Worksheet and**

**Airport Hazards Map**



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

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

## **Airport Hazards (CEST and EA) – PARTNER**

<https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/airport-hazards>

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

No → *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map showing that the site is not within the applicable distances to a military or civilian airport.*

Yes → *Continue to Question 2.*

**2. Is your project located within a Runway Potential Zone/Clear Zone (RPZ/CZ) or Accident Potential Zone (APZ)?**

Yes, project is in an APZ → *Continue to Question 3.*

Yes, project is an RPZ/CZ → *Project cannot proceed at this location.*

No, project is not within an APZ or RPZ/CZ

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

**3. Is the project in conformance with DOD guidelines for APZ?**

Yes, project is consistent with DOD guidelines without further action.

→ *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documentation supporting this determination.*

No, the project cannot be brought into conformance with DOD guidelines and has not been approved. → *Project cannot proceed at this location.*

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

Click here to enter text.

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

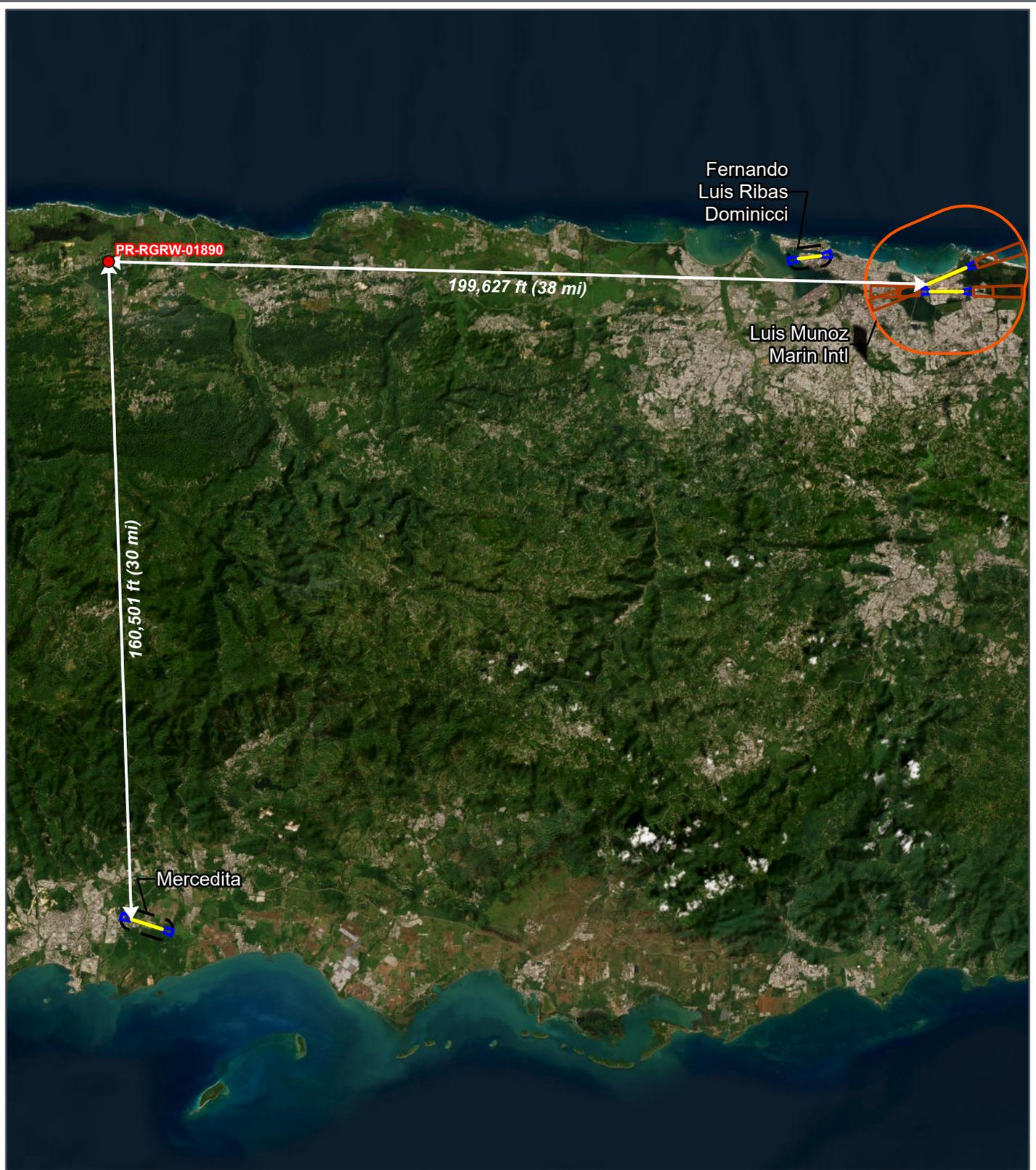
### **Worksheet Summary**

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

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

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

The project sites are not within 2,500 feet of a civil primary or commercial service airport or within 15,000 feet of a military airport. The nearest civil primary or commercial service airport, Mercedita, is located 160,501 feet (30 miles) south of the project sites. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport, is located 199,627 feet (38 miles) east of the project sites. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with airport hazards requirements.



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure B 1-1:  
Airport Hazards Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890



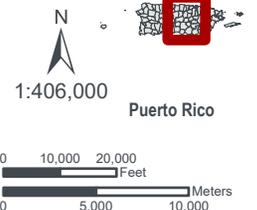
- Site
- Airport Runway
- Accident Potential Zones (APZ)
- Runway Protection Zones (RPZ)
- 2,500-FT Civil Airport Buffer
- 15,000-FT Military Airport Buffer

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.304061°W 18.233244°N

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

Updated: 8/21/2023  
Layout: Airport Hazards  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps



## **Attachment 2**

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



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

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

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

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

Projects located in the following states must complete this form.

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

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

- No → *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map showing that the site is not within a CBRS Unit.*
- Yes → *Continue to 2.*

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

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

- Consultation with the FWS
- Cancel the project

### **Worksheet Summary**

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

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

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

The project sites are not located in a Coastal Barrier Resource Systems Unit (CBRS) or Otherwise Protected Area (OPA). There are no CBRS units in Arecibo Municipio. The closest CBRS unit, Punta Manati, is located 24,672 feet (5 miles) east the project sites. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.



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

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REGROW PROGRAM

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

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890



- Site
- Otherwise Protected Area
- System Unit

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.559625°W 18.468608°N

Data Source: <https://cbrsgis.wim.usgs.gov/arcgis/rest/services/CoastalBarrierResourcesSystem/MapServer>  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed August 2023  
Updated: 8/21/2023  
Layout: Coastal Barrier Resources System



1:45,000

Puerto Rico



## **Attachment 3**

# **Flood Insurance Partner Worksheet and Flood Insurance Rate Map**



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

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

## Flood Insurance (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

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

**1. Does this project involve mortgage insurance, refinance, acquisition, repairs, rehabilitation, or construction of a structure, mobile home, or insurable personal property?**

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

→ Continue to the Worksheet Summary.

Yes → Continue to Question 2.

**2. Provide a FEMA/FIRM map showing the site.**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The [FEMA Map Service Center](#) provides this information in the form of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).

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

No → Continue to the Worksheet Summary.

Yes → Continue to Question 3.

**3. Is the community participating in the National Flood Insurance Program or has less than one year passed since FEMA notification of Special Flood Hazards?**

Yes, the community is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Flood insurance is required. Provide a copy of the flood insurance policy declaration or a paid receipt for the current annual flood insurance premium and a copy of the application for flood insurance.

→ Continue to the Worksheet Summary.

Yes, less than one year has passed since FEMA notification of Special Flood Hazards.

If less than one year has passed since notification of Special Flood Hazards, no flood insurance is required.

→ Continue to the Worksheet Summary.

No. The community is not participating, or its participation has been suspended.

Federal assistance may not be used at this location. Cancel the project at this location.

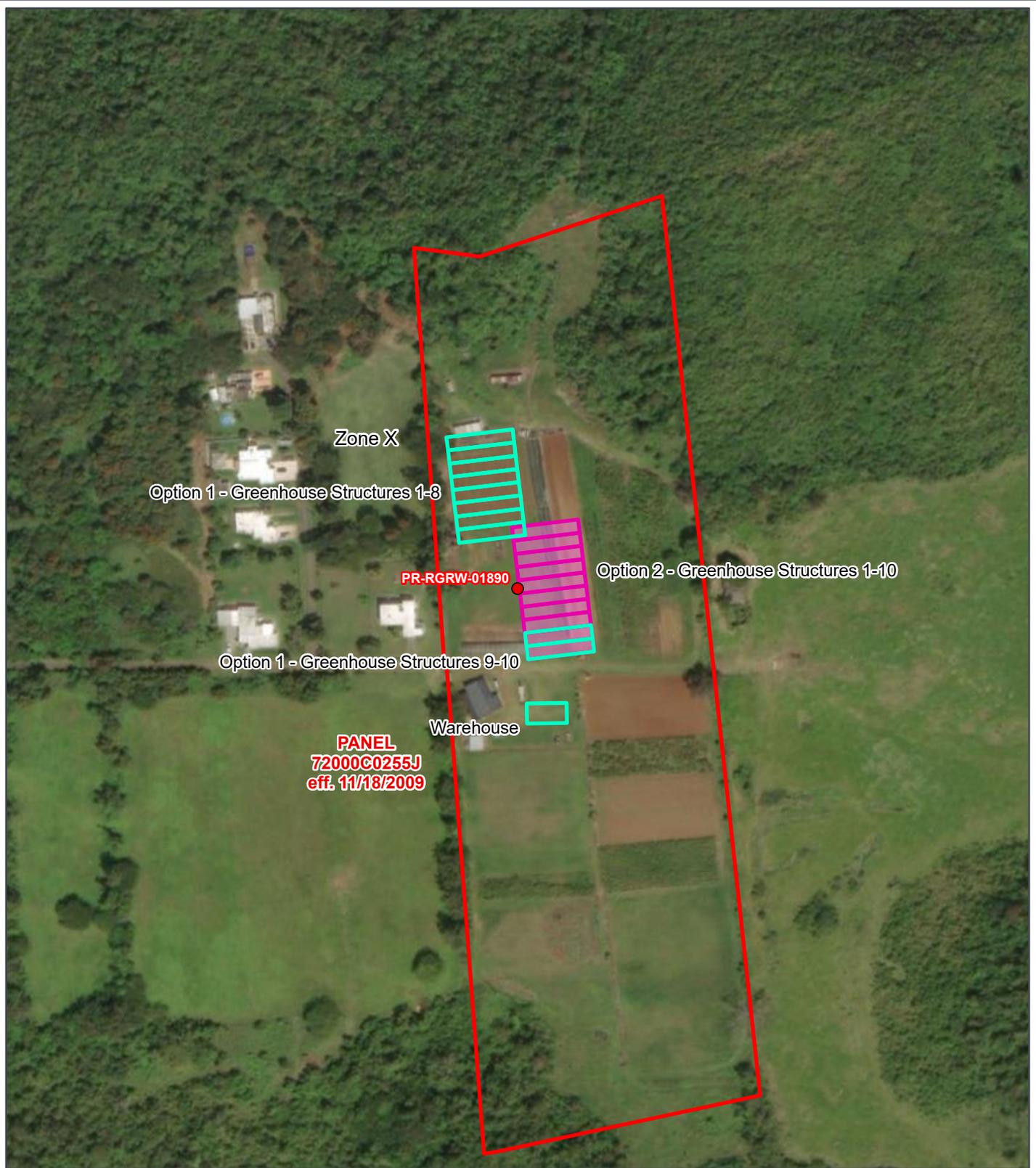
### **Worksheet Summary**

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

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

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

A review of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Community Panel 72000C0255J (effective date 11/18/2009), shows the project sites are in Flood Zone X, which is not in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Flood insurance is not required. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Flood Disaster Protection Act and National Flood Insurance Reform Act.



REGROW PROGRAM

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

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890

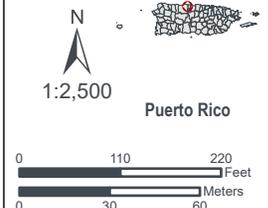


- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option 2)
- Project Footprint (Option 1)
- Base Flood Elevations
- Zone A
- Zone AE
- Zone AH
- Zone AO
- Zone VE
- Floodway
- Zone X - Shaded (500-year floodplain)
- Zone X - Unshaded
- Area Not Included
- Open Water

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.591804°W 18.454083°N

Data Source: <https://hazards.fema.gov/gis/nfhl/rest/services/public/NFHL/MapServer>  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed September 2023  
Updated: 9/22/2023  
Layout: Effective Floodplain  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps



## **Attachment 4**

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



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

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

## **Air Quality (CEST and EA) – PARTNER**

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

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

Yes → Continue to Question 2.

No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Provide any documents used to make your determination.

- 2. Is your project’s air quality management district or county in non-attainment or maintenance status for any criteria pollutants?**

Follow the link below to determine compliance status of project county or air quality management district:

<http://www.epa.gov/oaqps001/greenbk/>

No, project’s county or air quality management district is in attainment status for all criteria pollutants

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination.

Yes, project’s management district or county is in non-attainment or maintenance status for one or more criteria pollutants. → Continue to Question 3.

- 3. Determine the estimated emissions levels of your project for each of those criteria pollutants that are in non-attainment or maintenance status on your project area. Will your project exceed any of the *de minimis* or *threshold* emissions levels of non-attainment and maintenance level pollutants or exceed the screening levels established by the state or air quality management district?**

No, the project will not exceed *de minimis* or threshold emissions levels or screening levels

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Explain how you determined that the project would not exceed *de minimis* or threshold emissions.

Yes, the project exceeds *de minimis* emissions levels or screening levels.

→ *Continue to Question 4. Explain how you determined that the project would not exceed de minimis or threshold emissions in the Worksheet Summary.*

- 4. For the project to be brought into compliance with this section, all adverse impacts must be mitigated. Explain in detail the exact measures that must be implemented to mitigate for the impact or effect, including the timeline for implementation.**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

### **Worksheet Summary**

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

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

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

Municipios in Nonattainment nonattainment or Maintenance maintenance areas include Arecibo, Bayamon, Catano, Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan and Toa Baja. The proposed site is in Arecibo Municipio, which is an U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) designated non-attainment area. The proposed project will include new construction of 10 greenhouse structures and a warehouse and the purchase of solar panels and agricultural equipment but is not anticipated to have negative impact on air quality and will not increase residential density. Emissions associated with the proposed actions are limited to the use of small construction equipment and are estimated to be well below the Federal General Conformity Rule *de minimis* thresholds. Temporary, local air quality impacts may occur during site grading and preparation resulting from dust emissions. Routine dust mitigation best management practices are recommended.



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

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

Data is current as of February 28, 2023

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

\* The 1997 Primary Annual PM-2.5 NAAQS (level of 15 µg/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	11121314151617181920212223	//		Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	22,921	72/021
Catano Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Whole	28,140	72/033
Guaynabo Municipio	PM-10 (1987)	Mun. of Guaynabo, PR	929394959697989900010203040506070809	02/11/2010	Moderate	Part	90,470	72/061
Guaynabo Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	23,802	72/061
Salinas Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Guayama-Salinas, PR	181920212223	//		Part	23,401	72/123
San Juan Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	147,963	72/127
Toa Baja Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	52,441	72/137

Important Notes

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2023-02-28



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure B 4-1:  
Clean Air Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890



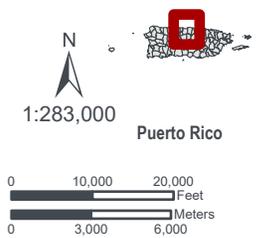
- Site
- 8-Hour Ozone (2015 Standard)\*
- Lead (2008 Standard)
- PM-2.5 (2012 Standard)\*
- Sulfur Dioxide (2010 Standard)

\*No Data in Puerto Rico

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.455816°W 18.453426°N

Data Source: [https://geopub.epa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/NEPAAssist/NEPAVELayersPublic\\_fgdb/MapServer](https://geopub.epa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/NEPAAssist/NEPAVELayersPublic_fgdb/MapServer)  
Base Map: *ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed August 2023*  
Updated: 8/21/2023  
Layout: Clean Air  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps



## **Attachment 5**

# **Coastal Zone Management Partner Worksheet and Coastal Zone Map**



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

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

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

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

Projects located in the following states must complete this form.

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

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

Yes → Continue to Question 2.

No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map showing that the site is not within a Coastal Zone.

**2. Does this project include activities that are subject to state review?**

Yes → Continue to Question 3.

No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide documentation used to make your determination.

**3. Has this project been determined to be consistent with the State Coastal Management Program?**

Yes, with mitigation. → The RE/HUD must work with the State Coastal Management Program to develop mitigation measures to mitigate the impact or effect of the project.

Yes, without mitigation. → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide documentation used to make your determination.

No → Project cannot proceed at this location.

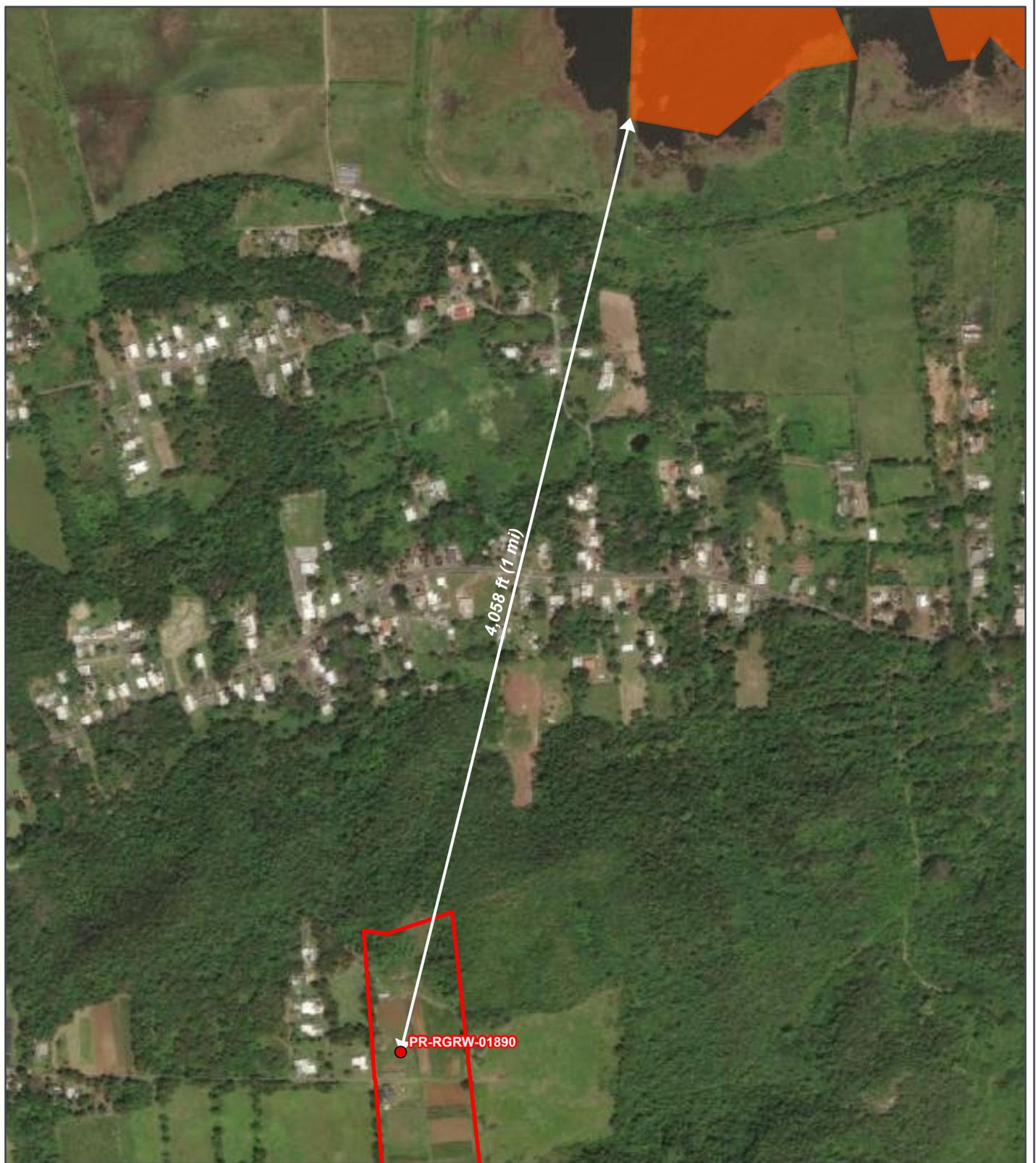
### **Worksheet Summary**

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

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

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

The project sites are not located within the Puerto Rico Coastal Management Zone. The closest coastal zone area is located 4,058 feet (1 mile) north of the project sites. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure B 5-1: Coastal Zone Management Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890

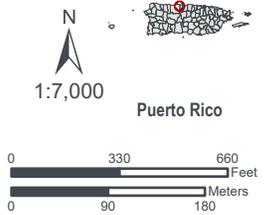


- Site
- Coastal Management Zone

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.590411°W 18.45951°N

Data Source: <https://coast.noaa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/Hosted/CoastalZoneManagementAct/BaseMap:ESRI/ArcGIS/Online>  
accessed August 2023  
Updated: 8/21/2023  
Layout: Coastal Zone Management  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps



**Attachment 6**

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



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

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

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

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

**1. How was site contamination evaluated? <sup>1</sup> Select all that apply.**

- ASTM Phase I ESA
- ASTM Phase II ESA
- Remediation or clean-up plan
- ASTM Vapor Encroachment Screening
- None of the above

→ Provide documentation and reports and include an explanation of how site contamination was evaluated in the Worksheet Summary.

Continue to Question 2.

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

- No → Explain below.

The project site was evaluated for potential contamination by conducting a field site inspection on August 18, 2023 to identify any onsite hazards including, but not limited to, soil staining, above ground storage tanks, signs of underground storage tanks, odors, hazardous debris etc. The site inspection did not identify any onsite hazards.

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

- Yes → Describe the findings, including any recognized environmental conditions (RECs), in Worksheet Summary below. Continue to Question 3.

---

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

**3. Can adverse environmental impacts be mitigated?**

- Adverse environmental impacts cannot feasibly be mitigated → HUD assistance may not be used for the project at this site. Project cannot proceed at this location.
- Yes, adverse environmental impacts can be eliminated through mitigation.  
→ *Provide all mitigation requirements<sup>2</sup> and documents. Continue to Question 4.*

**4. Describe how compliance was achieved. Include any of the following that apply: State Voluntary Clean-up Program, a No Further Action letter, use of engineering controls<sup>3</sup>, or use of institutional controls<sup>4</sup>.**

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**If a remediation plan or clean-up program was necessary, which standard does it follow?**

- Complete removal
- Risk-based corrective action (RBCA)
- *Continue to the Worksheet Summary.*

**Worksheet Summary**

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

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

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

The project sites were evaluated for potential contamination by conducting a field site inspection on August 18, 2023, to identify any onsite hazards including, but not limited to, soil staining, above ground storage tanks, signs of underground storage tanks, odors, hazardous debris etc. The site inspection did not identify any onsite hazards.

In addition, a desktop review of USEPA databases, NEPAassist, and other sources was conducted to determine if the project sites were located near dump sites, junk yards, landfills, hazardous waste sites, or

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

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

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

industrial sites, including USEPA National Priorities List Sites (Superfund sites), CERCLA or state-equivalent sites, RCRA Corrective Action sites with release(s) or suspected release(s) requiring clean-up action and/or further investigation.

The desktop review found one water discharger facility approximately 2,615 feet west of the project sites. The water discharger is a non-major general permit covered facility for construction stormwater discharge with a permit expiration date of 2/16/2027. This site has not received any violations in the past 12 quarters. Therefore, the facility would not adversely affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements.



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# Detailed Facility Report



# Detailed Facility Report

## Facility Summary

DESIGN/BUILD CENTER REDEVELOPMENT ARECIBO JOB CORPS CENTER

PR-682 KM 6.6, ARECIBO, PR 00652 

FRS (Facility Registry Service) ID: 110071359521

EPA Region: 02

Latitude: 18.453

Longitude: -66.5989

Locational Data Source: NPDES

Industries: --

Indian Country: N

## Enforcement and Compliance Summary

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

## Regulatory Information

**Clean Air Act (CAA):** No Information

**Clean Water Act (CWA):** Non-Major, Permit Effective (PRR1000GA)

**Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA):** No Information

**Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA):** No Information

Go To Enforcement/Compliance Details

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

## Other Regulatory Reports

**Air Emissions Inventory (EIS):** No Information

**Greenhouse Gas Emissions (eGGRT):** No Information

**Toxic Releases (TRI):** No Information

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

## Facility/System Characteristics

### Facility/System Characteristics

System	Statute	Identifier	Universe	Statute	Areas	Permit Expiration Date	Indian Country	Latitude	Longitude
FRS		110071359521					N	18.453	-66.5989
ICIS-NPDES	CWA	PRR1000GA	Non-Major: General Permit Covered Facility	Effective	Construction Stormwater	02/16/2027	N	18.453	-66.5989

## Facility Address

System	Statute	Identifier	Facility Name	Facility Address	Facility County
FRS		110071359521	DESIGN/BUILD CENTER REDEVELOPMENT ARECIBO JOB CORPS CENTER	PR-682 KM 6.6, ARECIBO, PR 00652	Arecibo Municipio
ICIS-NPDES	CWA	PRR1000GA	DESIGN/BUILD CENTER REDEVELOPMENT ARECIBO JOB CORPS CENTER	PR-682 KM 6.6, ARECIBO, PR 00652	

## Facility SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) Codes

System	Identifier	SIC Code	SIC Description
No data records returned			

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

System	Identifier	NAICS Code	NAICS Description
No data records returned			

## Facility Industrial Effluent Guidelines

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

## Facility Tribe Information

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

## Enforcement and Compliance

### Compliance Monitoring History

Last 5 Years

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

Entries in italics are not counted as compliance monitoring strategy activities. For programs without compliance monitoring strategies, entries in italics are not counted as on-site activities within EPA's Annual Results.

## Compliance Summary Data

Statute	Source ID	Current SNC (Significant Noncompliance)/HPV (High Priority Violation)	Current As Of	Qtrs with NC (Noncompliance) (of 12)	Data Last Refreshed
CWA	PRR1000GA	No	06/30/2023	0	11/11/2023

## Three-Year Compliance History by Quarter

Statute	Program/Pollutant/Violation Type	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10	QTR 11	QTR 12	QTR 13+
	CWA (Source ID: PRR1000GA)	07/01-09/30/20	10/01-12/31/20	01/01-03/31/21	04/01-06/30/21	07/01-09/30/21	10/01-12/31/21	01/01-03/31/22	04/01-06/30/22	07/01-09/30/22	10/01-12/31/22	01/01-03/31/23	04/01-06/30/23	07/01-11/11/23
	Facility-Level Status	No Violation Identified	Undetermined											
	Quarterly Noncompliance Report History													

## Informal Enforcement Actions

Last 5 Years

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

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

## Formal Enforcement Actions Last 5 Years

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

## Environmental Conditions

### Watersheds ▲

12-Digit WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) HUC (RAD (Reach Address Database))	WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) Subwatershed Name (RAD (Reach Address Database))	State Water Body Name (ICIS (Integrated Compliance Information System))	Beach Closures Within Last Year	Beach Closures Within Last Two Years	Pollutants Potentially Related to Impairment	Watershed with ESA (Endangered Species Act)-listed Aquatic Species?
210100020302	Cano Tiburones	CAÑO TIBURONES	No	No	--	Yes

## Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)

State	Report Cycle	Assessment Unit ID	Assessment Unit Name	Water Condition	Cause Groups Impaired	Drinking Water Use	Ecological Use	Fish Consumption Use	Recreation Use	Other Use
PR	2020	PRNE7.1	CAÑO TIBURONES ESTUARY	Impaired - With Restoration Plan	PATHOGENS	--	Insufficient Information	--	Not Supporting	--

## Air Quality Nonattainment Areas

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

## Pollutants

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

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

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

Chemical Name
No data records returned

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

DMR and TRI Multi-Year Loading Report

NPDES ID	Description
No data records returned	

## Community

### Environmental Justice

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

#### EJScreen Indexes Shown

Compare to  US  State

Index Type  Environmental Justice  Supplemental

#### Related Reports

EJScreen Community Report

Census Block Group ID: 720133001021	US (Percentile)	
Supplemental Indexes	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Max
Count of Indexes At or Above 80th Percentile	6	6
Particulate Matter 2.5	--	--
Ozone	--	--

Facility 1-mile Radius  Facility Census Block Group



Census Block Group ID: 720133001021	US (Percentile)	
Supplemental Indexes	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Max
Diesel Particulate Matter	0	--
Air Toxics Cancer Risk	53	54
Air Toxics Respiratory Hazard Index	35	37
Toxic Releases to Air	77	77
Traffic Proximity	88	98
Lead Paint	93	93
Risk Management Plan (RMP) Facility Proximity	98	99
Hazardous Waste Proximity	98	98
Superfund Proximity	99	99
Underground Storage Tanks (UST)	0	--
Wastewater Discharge	89	96

200 mi



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## Demographic Profile of Surrounding Area (1-Mile Radius)

This section provides demographic information regarding the community surrounding the facility. ECHO compliance data alone are not sufficient to determine whether violations at a particular facility had negative impacts on public health or the environment. Statistics are based upon the 2010 U.S. Census and 2017 - 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year Summary and are accurate to the extent that the facility latitude and longitude listed below are correct. EPA's spatial processing methodology considers the overlap between the selected radii and the census blocks (for U.S. Census demographics) and census block groups (for ACS demographics) in determining the demographics surrounding the facility. For more detail about this methodology, see the DFR Data Dictionary <<https://epa.gov/help/reports/dfr-data-dictionary#demographic>>.

General Statistics (U.S. Census)	
Total Persons	2,360
Population Density	761/sq.mi.
Housing Units in Area	1,002

Age Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)	
Children 5 years and younger	158 (7%)
Minors 17 years and younger	606 (26%)
Adults 18 years and older	1,755 (74%)
Seniors 65 years and older	323 (14%)

General Statistics (ACS (American Community Survey))	
Total Persons	1,407
Percent People of Color	99%
Households in Area	565
Households on Public Assistance	6
Persons With Low Income	1,025
Percent With Low Income	73%

Race Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)	
White	2,016 (85%)
African-American	120 (5%)
Hispanic-Origin	2,332 (99%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	2 (0%)
American Indian	12 (1%)
Other/Multiracial	210 (9%)

Geography	
Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.
Center Latitude	18.453
Center Longitude	-66.5989
Land Area	100%
Water Area	0%

Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Less than 9th Grade	187 (16.83%)
9th through 12th Grade	133 (11.97%)
High School Diploma	166 (14.94%)
Some College/2-year	211 (18.99%)
B.S./B.A. (Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts) or More	283 (25.47%)

Income Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Households (%)	
Less than \$15,000	248 (43.82%)
\$15,000 - \$25,000	134 (23.67%)
\$25,000 - \$50,000	119 (21.02%)
\$50,000 - \$75,000	44 (7.77%)
Greater than \$75,000	21 (3.71%)

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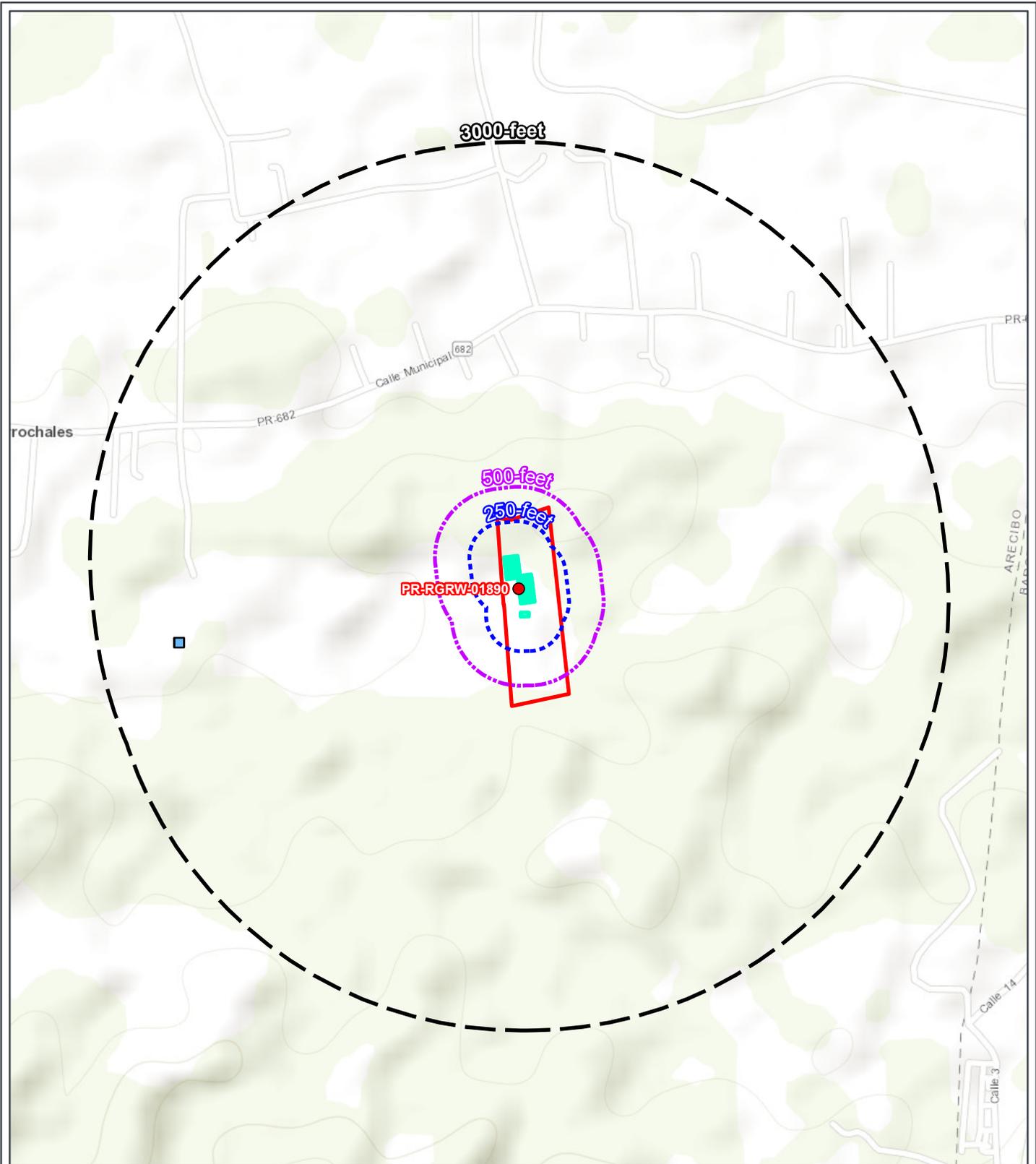
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## Follow.



Last updated on September 21, 2022

Data Refresh Information <<https://epa.gov/resources/echo-data/about-the-data#sources>>



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure B 6-1:  
Contamination and  
Toxic Substances Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890



- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- Buffer (250-feet)
- Buffer (500-feet)
- Buffer (3000-feet)
- Water dischargers

- Toxic Substances Control Act
- Toxic releases
- Superfund
- Hazardous waste
- Brownfields
- Air pollution

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612  
Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.591804°W 18.454083°N

Data Source: <https://geopub.epa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/EMEF/elpoints/MapServer>  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed September 2023  
Updated: 9/27/2023  
Layout: Contamination and Toxic Substances

N

1:12,000

Puerto Rico

0 560 1,120

0 160 320

Feet

Meters

## **Attachment 7**

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination.

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

**Explain your determination:**

Click here to enter text.

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination.

Yes, the activities involved in the project have the potential to affect species and/or habitats. → Continue to Question 2.

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

Obtain a list of protected species from the Services. This information is available on the [FWS Website](#).

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

→ If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination. Documentation may include letters from the Services, species lists from the Services’ websites, surveys or other documents and analysis showing that there are no species in the action area.

Yes, there are federally listed species or designated critical habitats present in the action area. → Continue to Question 3.

**3. Recommend one of the following effects that the project will have on federally listed species or designated critical habitat:**

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

→ *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination. Documentation should include a species list and explanation of your conclusion, and may require maps, photographs, and surveys as appropriate.*

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

→ Partner entities should not contact the Services directly. *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, they will have to complete Informal Consultation. Provide the RE/HUD with a biological evaluation or equivalent document. They may request additional information, including surveys and professional analysis, to complete their consultation.*

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

→ Partner entities should not contact the Services directly. *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, they will have to complete Formal Consultation. Provide the RE/HUD with a biological evaluation or equivalent document. They may request additional information, including surveys and professional analysis, to complete their consultation.*

**Worksheet Summary**

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

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

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

No suitable habitat for any federal listed species is present within the proposed project location and no tree clearing or vegetation removal is proposed as a part of construction activities; therefore, project activities will have *no effect* to any federal listed species or critical habitat. The closest final designated critical habitat is located 28,071 feet (5 miles) south of the project sites.

---

## TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

**For:** Puerto Rico Department of Housing  
CDBG-DR & CDBG-MIT Program  
ReGrow Environmental Assessment

**From:** Susan Fischer, Wildlife Ecologist

**Date:** November 1, 2023

**Re:** **Threatened and Endangered Species Review Barrio Garrochales Carretera 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612**

---

**Applicant Name:** Hiram E. Rojas Reyes

**Site Address:** Barrio Garrochales Carretera 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612

**GPS Coordinates:** 18.453526, -66.591609

This Threatened and Endangered Species Review evaluates the installation of 10 greenhouse structures and a warehouse. This parcel is located at Barrio Garrochales Carretera 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, Puerto Rico. To complete this review, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system was consulted, then a site inspection performed to evaluate on-site nest and habitat potential. For the purposes of this review, the evaluation encompasses a maximum 100-foot buffer around the proposed project location.

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

- Puerto Rican Boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*)
- Puerto Rican Crested Toad (*Peltophryne lemur*)
- Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*)
- *Daphnopsis helleriana*
- Palo De Ramon (*Banara vanderbiltii*)
- Palo De Rosa (*Ottoschulzia rhodoxylon*)
- *Schoepfia arenaria*

A site inspection on August 18, 2023 found the parcel is situated in a rural area. The property is used for agricultural production and the lot consists of a mix of cleared, agricultural, and forested areas. The proposed

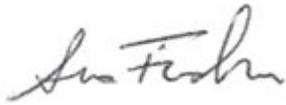
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project area consists of open pasture lawn. Representative photographs of the subject property are included in the Environmental Field Assessment Photographic Log. The review area does not contain trees that could provide suitable habitat to multiple federally listed species; no tree or vegetation removal is planned to occur, and inspectors did not observe any suitable ground or vegetative habitat, individuals, or nests for any listed species at the proposed project location. There is no critical habitat for any species found within the subject property based on the USFWS database.

Based on agency data and site observations, this review concludes that the installation of greenhouse structures and a warehouse on the parcel will result in *no effect* to all federally protected species with the potential to occur in the area.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Susan Fischer".

Susan Fischer  
Wildlife Ecologist  
SWCA Environmental Consultants

# 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

Arecibo 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

# 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:

## Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
<p>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></p>	Endangered

## Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
<p>Puerto Rican Crested Toad <i>Peltophryne lemur</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3958">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3958</a></p>	Threatened

## Insects

NAME	STATUS
<p>Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly <i>Atlantea tulita</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/9005">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9005</a></p>	Threatened

## Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
------	--------

Daphnopsis helleriana Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6802">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6802</a>	Endangered
Palo De Ramon Banara vanderbiltii Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8113">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8113</a>	Endangered
Palo De Rosa Ottoschulzia rhodoxylon Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5741">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5741</a>	Threatened
Schoepfia arenaria Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5250">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5250</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.

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>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

### 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:

- 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>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

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.

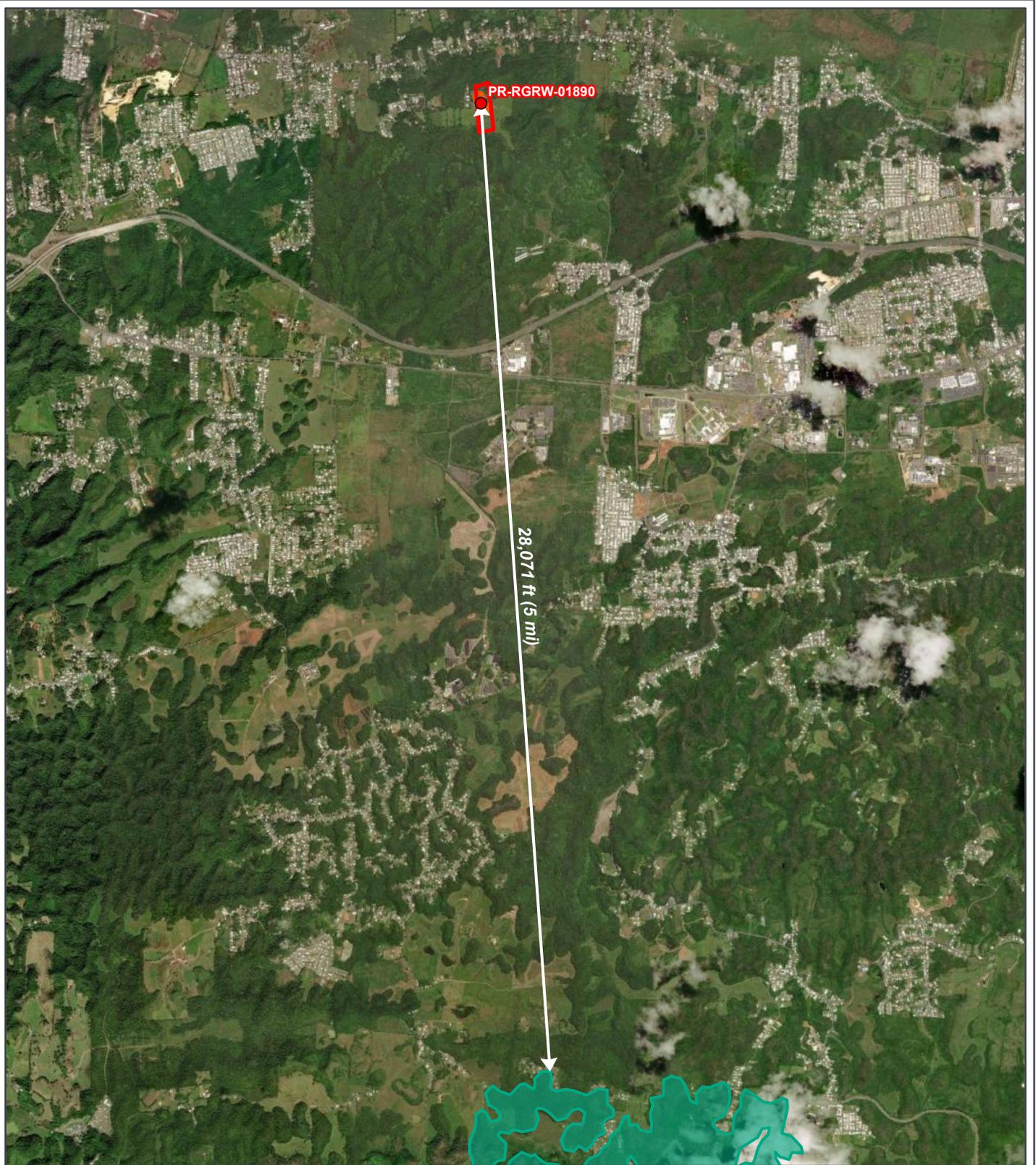
Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

#### **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.



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure B 7-1:  
Critical Habitat Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890

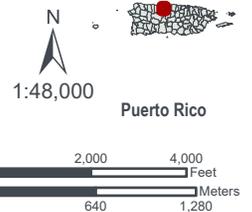


- Site
- Site Parcel
- Buffer (100-ft)
- Critical Habitat - Final
- National Wildlife Refuges

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.58889°W 18.41553°N

Data Source: [https://services.arcgis.com/QVENGdaPbd4LUkLV/arcgis/rest/services/USFWS\\_Critical\\_Habitat/](https://services.arcgis.com/QVENGdaPbd4LUkLV/arcgis/rest/services/USFWS_Critical_Habitat/)  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed August 2023  
Updated: 8/21/2023  
Layout: Critical Habitat  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps



**Attachment 8**  
**Explosive and Flammable Hazards Partner**  
**Worksheet**



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

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

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

<https://www.hudexchange.info/environmental-review/explosive-and-flammable-facilities>

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

No

→ Continue to Question 2.

Yes

**Explain:**

Click here to enter text.

→ Continue to Question 5.

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

No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.

Yes → Continue to Question 3.

- 3. Within 1 mile of the project site, are there any current *or planned* stationary aboveground storage containers:**

- Of more than 100-gallon capacity, containing common liquid industrial fuels OR
- Of any capacity, containing hazardous liquids or gases that are not common liquid industrial fuels?

No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide all documents used to make your determination.

Yes → Continue to Question 4.

- 4. Is the Separation Distance from the project acceptable based on standards in the Regulation?**

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

Yes

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

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

No

*→ Continue to Question 6.*

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

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

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

Yes

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

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

No

*→ Continue to Question 6.*

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

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

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Worksheet Summary**

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

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

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

The project includes the new construction of 10 greenhouse structures and a warehouse and the purchase of agricultural equipment. The project itself is not the development of a hazardous facility nor

will the project increase residential densities. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements.

**Attachment 9**  
**Farmlands Protection Partner Worksheet**  
**and Prime Farmland Map**



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

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

## Farmlands Protection (CEST and EA) - PARTNER

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

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

Yes → Continue to Question 2.

No

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

**2. Does “important farmland,” including prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide or local importance regulated under the Farmland Protection Policy Act, occur on the project site?**

You may use the links below to determine important farmland occurs on the project site:

- Utilize USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service’s (NRCS) Web Soil Survey <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm>
- Check with your city or county’s planning department and ask them to document if the project is on land regulated by the FPPA (zoning important farmland as non-agricultural does not exempt it from FPPA requirements)
- Contact NRCS at the local USDA service center <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?agency=nrcs> or your NRCS state soil scientist [http://soils.usda.gov/contact/state\\_offices/](http://soils.usda.gov/contact/state_offices/) for assistance

No → If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide any documents used to make your determination.

Yes → Continue to Question 3.

**3. Consider alternatives to completing the project on important farmland and means of avoiding impacts to important farmland.**

- Complete form [AD-1006, “Farmland Conversion Impact Rating”](#) and contact the state soil scientist before sending it to the local NRCS District Conservationist.
- Work with NRCS to minimize the impact of the project on the protected farmland. When you have finished with your analysis, return a copy of form AD-1006 to the USDA-NRCS State Soil Scientist or his/her designee informing them of your determination.

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

Project will proceed with mitigation.

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

Click here to enter text.

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

Project will proceed without mitigation.

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

Click here to enter text.

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

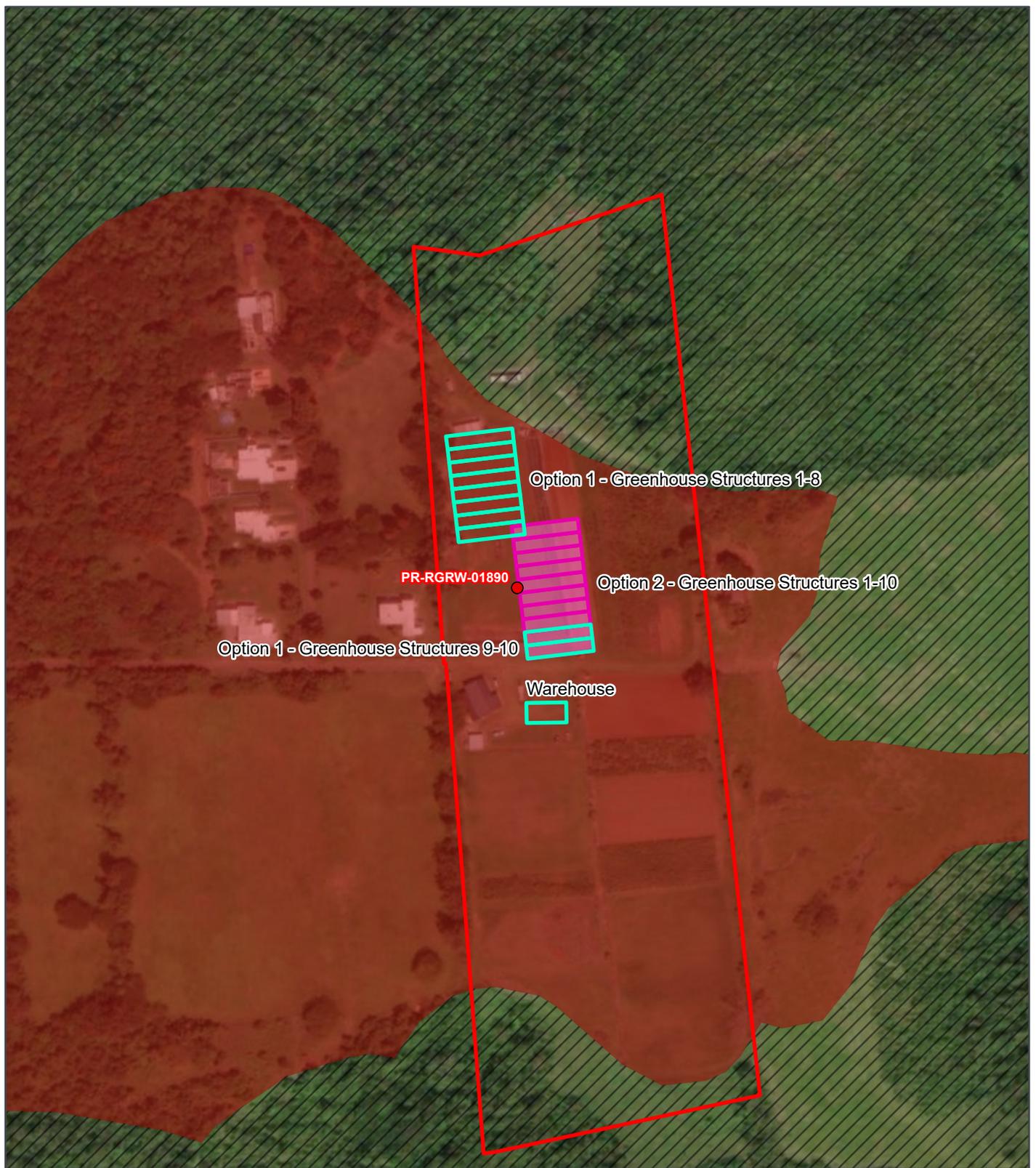
### **Worksheet Summary**

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

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

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

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



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure B 9-1:  
Prime Farmland Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890



- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option 1)
- Project Footprint (Option 2)
- All areas are prime farmland
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated
- Prime farmland if drained
- Prime farmland if irrigated
- Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
- Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
- Not prime farmland
- Not Public Information

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.591804°W 18.454083°N

Data Source: <https://weboilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed September 2023  
Updated: 9/22/2023  
Layout: Prime Farmland  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps

N

1:2,500

Puerto Rico

0 110 220

Feet

0 30 60

Meters

## **Attachment 10**

# **Floodplain Management Partner Worksheet and Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map**



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

## Floodplain Management (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

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

1. Does [24 CFR 55.12\(c\)](#) exempt this project from compliance with HUD’s floodplain management regulations in Part 55?

Yes

Provide the applicable citation at 24 CFR 55.12(c) here. If project is exempt under 55.12(c)(6) or (8), provide supporting documentation.

Click here to enter text.

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

No → Continue to Question 2.

2. Provide a FEMA/FIRM map showing the site.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The [FEMA Map Service Center](#) provides this information in the form of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).

Does your project occur in a floodplain?

No → Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.

Yes

Select the applicable floodplain using the FEMA map or the best available information:

Floodway → Continue to Question 3, Floodways

Coastal High Hazard Area (V Zone) → Continue to Question 4, Coastal High Hazard Areas

500-year floodplain (B Zone or shaded X Zone) → Continue to Question 5, 500-year Floodplains

100-year floodplain (A Zone) → The 8-Step Process is required. Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process

3. **Floodways**

Is this a functionally dependent use?

Yes

The 8-Step Process is required. Work with HUD or the RE to assist with the 8-Step Process.  
→ *Continue to Worksheet Summary.*

- No → *Federal assistance may not be used at this location unless an exception in 55.12(c) applies. You must either choose an alternate site or cancel the project.*

**4. Coastal High Hazard Area**

**Is this a critical action such as a hospital, nursing home, fire station, or police station?**

- Yes → *Critical actions are prohibited in coastal high hazard areas unless an exception in 55.12(c) applies. You must either choose an alternate site or cancel the project.*

- No

**Does this action include new construction that is not a functionally dependent use, existing construction (including improvements), or reconstruction following destruction caused by a disaster?**

- Yes, there is new construction of something that is not a functionally dependent use.  
New construction must be designed to FEMA standards for V Zones at 44 CFR 60.3(e) (24 CFR 55.1(c)(3)(i)).

→ *Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process*

- No, this action concerns only existing construction.

Existing construction must have met FEMA elevation and construction standards for a coastal high hazard area or other standards applicable at the time of construction.

→ *Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process*

**5. 500-year Floodplain**

**Is this a critical action?**

- No → *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.*

- Yes → *Continue to Question 6, 8-Step Process*

**6. 8-Step Process.**

**Is this 8-Step Process required? Select one of the following options:**

- 8-Step Process applies.

This project will require mitigation and may require elevating structure or structures. See the link to the HUD Exchange above for information on HUD's elevation requirements.

→ *Work with the RE/HUD to assist with the 8-Step Process. Continue to Worksheet Summary.*

- 5-Step Process is applicable per 55.12(a)(1-3).

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

→ *Work with the RE/HUD to assist with the 5-Step Process. Continue to Worksheet Summary.*

- 8-Step Process is inapplicable per 55.12(b)(1-4).

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

Click here to enter text.

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

### **Worksheet Summary**

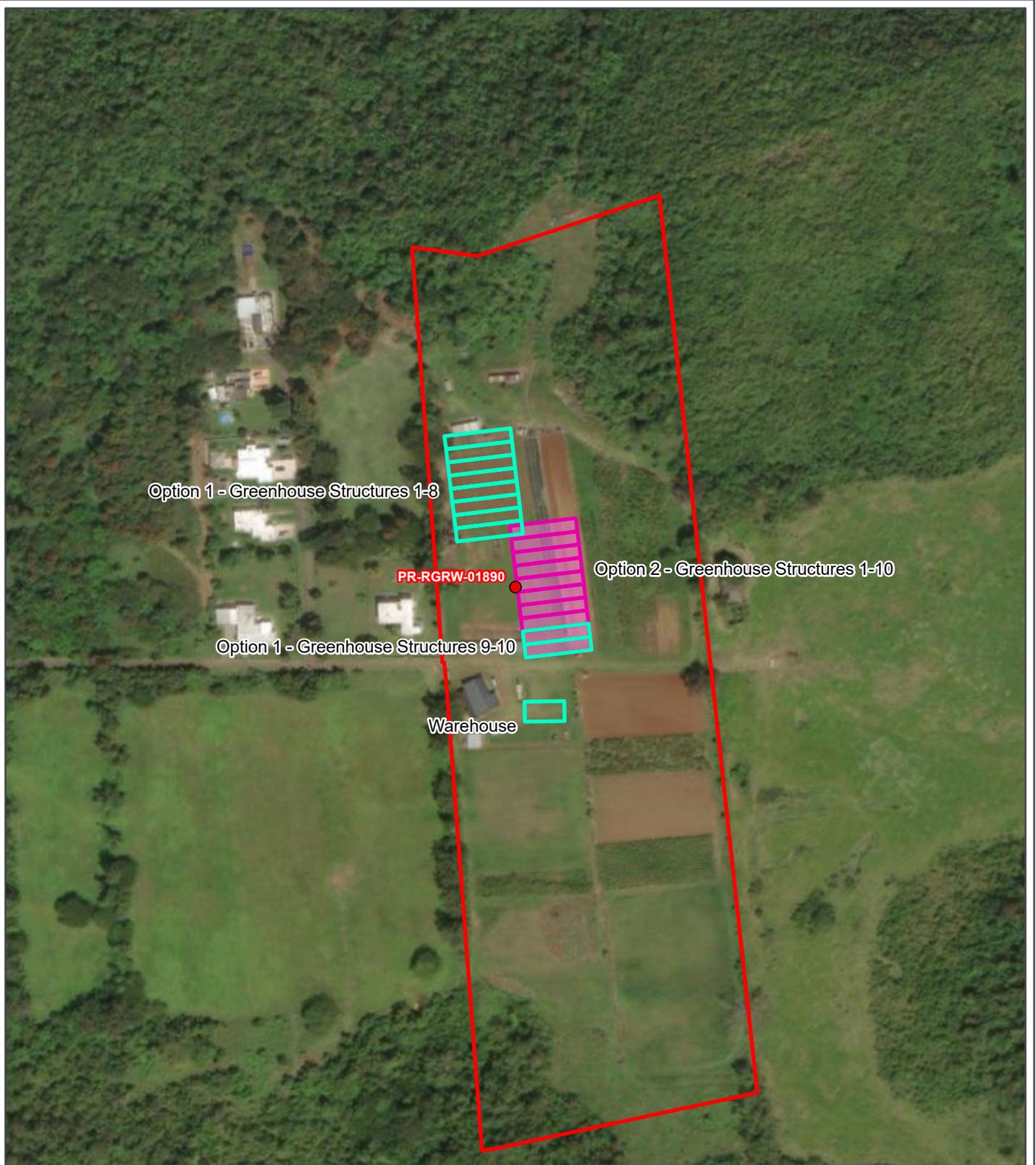
Provide a full description of your determination and a synopsis of the information that it was based on, such as:

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

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

The FEMA FIRM, Community Panel 72000C0255J (effective date 11/18/2009), shows the project sites are in Flood Zone X. An Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) map was developed by FEMA for this FIRM, which shows the project sites are in Flood Zone X.

The project is not located in the 100-year floodplain or ABFE special flood hazard area; therefore, no further action is required. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988.



REGROW PROGRAM

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

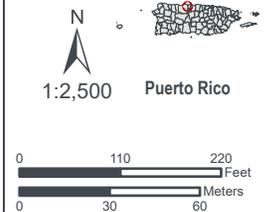
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890



- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option 1)
- Project Footprint (Option 2)
- Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE)
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood
- 1% Annual Chance Flood
- Zone A
- Zone A-Floodway
- Zone AE
- Coastal A Zone
- Coastal A Zone and Floodway
- Zone AE-Floodway
- Zone AO
- Zone VE
- Zone X (500-year floodplain)
- Zone/BFE Boundary

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5  
Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612  
Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.591804°W 18.454083°N

Data Source: [https://gis.fema.gov/arcgis/rest/services/DR/PuertoRico\\_ABFE\\_1PCT/MapServer](https://gis.fema.gov/arcgis/rest/services/DR/PuertoRico_ABFE_1PCT/MapServer)  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed September 2023  
Updated: 9/22/2023  
Layout: ABFE 1Pct  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps



**Attachment 11**  
**Historic Preservation Partner Worksheet**  
**and SHPO Consultation**



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

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

## Historic Preservation (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

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

### Threshold

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

- No, because a Programmatic Agreement states that all activities included in this project are exempt. (See the [PA Database](#) to find applicable PAs.)

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

Click here to enter text.

→ *Continue to the Worksheet Summary.*

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

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

Click here to enter text.

→ *Continue to the Worksheet Summary.*

- Yes, because the project includes activities with potential to cause effects (direct or indirect). → *Continue to Step 1.*

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

After determining the need to do a Section 106 review, HUD or the RE will initiate consultation with regulatory and other interested parties, identify and evaluate historic properties, assess effects of the project on properties listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and resolve any adverse effects through project design modifications or mitigation.

Step 1: Initiate consultation

Step 2: Identify and evaluate historic properties

Step 3: Assess effects of the project on historic properties

Step 4: Resolve any adverse effects

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

## Step 1 - Initiate Consultation

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

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

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

→ *Continue to Step 2.*

## Step 2 - Identify and Evaluate Historic Properties

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

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

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

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

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

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

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

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

Yes → Provide survey(s) and report(s) and continue to Step 3.

Additional notes:

A site visit was conducted on August 18, 2023 by an SOI-qualified Archaeologist. Record reviews and research were conducted at the SHPO and the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña (ICP) to determine if any archaeologically sensitive resources could be present within a 0.5-mile radius. The results of the Record Search and the Site Inspection indicate that there are no historic properties or cultural resources within the 0.50-mile radius study area or within the project Area of Potential Effect (APE). Based on the results of the historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the APE.

No → Continue to Step 3.

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

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

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

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

No Historic Properties Affected

**Document reason for finding:**

No historic properties present.

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

No Adverse Effect

**Document reason for finding and provide any comments below.**

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Adverse Effect

**Document reason for finding:**

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

Criteria of Adverse Effect: [36 CFR 800.5](#)

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Provide any comments below:**

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

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



# GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

November 10, 2023

**Lauren Bair Poche**

HORNE

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

**SHPO 10-27-23-04 SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION SUBMITTAL:  
PR-RGRW-01890 – HIRAM E. ROJAS REYES – BARRIO GARROCHALES,  
CARRETERA 682 KM 6.5 INTERIOR, ARECIBO, PUERTO RICO**

Dear Ms. Bair,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/MB



October 27, 2023

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

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

**Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-01890 – Hiram E Rojas Reyes – Barrio Garrochales Carretera 682 KM 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, 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 Hiram E Rojas Reyes located at Barrio Garrochales Carretera 682 KM 6.5 Interior, in the municipality of Arecibo. The undertaking for this project includes the construction of 10 greenhouse structures and a warehouse; the purchase and installation of an air conditioner, above-ground canal, freezer, and solar photovoltaic (PV) panels; and the purchase of a 4x4 vehicle, tractor, greenhouse materials, rolling door, warehouse materials, and packing materials and equipment.

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> Hiram E Rojas Reyes		
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01890		<b>City:</b> Arecibo

<b>Project Location:</b> Barrio Garrochales Carretera 682 KM 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612 <b>Project Coordinates:</b> (as provided by applicant during field visit) <b>Greenhouse: Option 1:</b> Building 1: 18.454698, -66.591966 Building 2: 18.454643, -66.591959 Building 3: 18.454589, -66.591952 Building 4: 18.454534, -66.591945 Building 5: 18.454479, -66.591938 Building 6: 18.454425, -66.591932 Building 7: 18.45437, -66.591925 Building 8: 18.454315, -66.591918 Building 9: 18.453888, -66.591625 Building 10: 18.453833, -66.591618 <b>Greenhouse: Option 2:</b> Building 1: 18.454325, -66.591681 Building 2: 18.45427, -66.591674 Building 3: 18.454215, -66.591667 Building 4: 18.454161, -66.59166 Building 5: 18.454106, -66.591653 Building 6: 18.454051, -66.591646 Building 7: 18.453997, -66.591639 Building 8: 18.453942, -66.591632 Building 9: 18.453887, -66.591625 Building 10: 18.453833, -66.591618 <b>Warehouse:</b> 18.453567, -66.591677	
<b>TPID (Número de Catastro):</b> 032-000-003-32-998	
<b>Type of Undertaking:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair/Improvements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
<b>Construction Date (AH est.):</b> <b>Storage shed: ca. 2018</b> <b>Neighbor's house: ca. 1990</b>	<b>Property Size (acres): 12.38 acres total</b> <b>Greenhouses Option 1 Numbers 1-10:</b> 0.045914 acres, 2000 sq. ft each <b>Greenhouses Option 2 Numbers 1-10:</b> 0.045914 acres, 2000 sq. ft each <b>Warehouse:</b> 0.041322 acres (1800 sq. ft.)

<b>SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian:</b> Erin Edwards, M.P.S.
<b>Date Reviewed:</b> September 28, 2023
<b>SOI-Qualified Archaeologist:</b> Delise Torres-Ortiz, M.A.
<b>Date Reviewed:</b> September 29, 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

<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> Hiram E Rojas Reyes	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01890	<b>City:</b> Arecibo

area of potential effects (APE) of the proposed project and assessing the potential effects of its undertakings on these historic properties.

**Project Description (Undertaking)**

The proposed project includes the construction of 10 greenhouse structures and a warehouse; the purchase and installation of an air conditioner, above-ground canal, freezer, and solar photovoltaic (PV) panels; and the purchase of a 4x4 vehicle, tractor, greenhouse materials, rolling door, warehouse materials, and packing materials and equipment. The greenhouse site will be comprised of 10 adjacent greenhouse structures. Each greenhouse structure is approximately 2,000 square feet (100 feet by 20 feet) with a height of approximately 10 to 12 feet. The posts of the greenhouse structures will be secured by 12-inch-wide concrete footers extending 1.5 feet deep into the ground. The greenhouse site will have a total of 32 exterior posts (lengthwise- 14 posts on each side and widthwise- 2 additional posts on each side). Existing greenhouses are located south of Greenhouse Option 1 site. The Greenhouse Option 1 site can accommodate eight structures to the north of the existing greenhouses, and the other two greenhouse structures will be in the southern portion of the Greenhouse Option 2 site (see **Figures**). The Greenhouse Option 2 site is vacant and can accommodate all 10 structures in one area.

Water to irrigate the greenhouses will be provided from an existing underground water tank located northwest of the applicant's residence. The applicant already has an approved permit from the Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) for the water tank. An existing irrigation system is installed on the property. All irrigation piping and connections to the greenhouse will be above ground. Electricity for the greenhouse will be provided by solar panels that will be mounted on top of the proposed greenhouse using above ground connections.

The proposed warehouse will be approximately 1,800 square feet (30 feet by 60 feet) with a height of 18 feet. The columns of the warehouse will be welded to an 8-inch by 8-inch metal plate secured to 12-inch-wide concrete footers extending 1 foot deep into ground. The warehouse will have a total of 18 columns (lengthwise- 7 columns on each side and widthwise- 2 additional columns on each side). The warehouse will be divided into two main areas: a 30-foot by 30-foot packing/storage cooler and 30-foot by 30-foot warehouse/garage. Half of the warehouse will have a 3-inch-deep concrete base (30 feet by 30 feet), and the other half will be a gravel base with 12 feet by 10 feet rolling doors. The new air conditioner will be installed in the proposed warehouse, and electricity for the air conditioner will be provided by solar panels using above ground connections.

<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> Hiram E Rojas Reyes	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01890	<b>City:</b> Arecibo

The project will have some ground disturbance as well as vegetation clearing and pruning, but no tree clearing is required for construction. The applicant owns the property; therefore, no acquisition is required.

### **Area of Potential Effects**

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

### **Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology**

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) who searched the records at the SHPO and the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña, which shows that there are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile (mi) radius of the project location. Three studies of cultural resources have been conducted within the 0.5 mi review radius, which are discussed in the following section. None of the studies reported archaeological sites within the 0.5-mile review area.

The proposed project is located in a rural area of relatively flat terrain that has been cleared of the dense forest vegetation that predominates in the hilly surrounding area, at an elevation of 15 feet (ft; 4.6 meters [m]) above mean sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses two mapped soil series: AIC (Almirante sandy loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes) and AnC (Almirante clay, 5 to 12 percent slopes). The project area APE is in the north-central portion of the island in Municipio Arecibo. The general project area is located in a locally flat, basin-like depression surrounded by steeply sloped, upland topography of higher elevation. The closest freshwater source is a small, unnamed, intermittent stream that empties into an extensive network of drainage ditches and canals, located 0.49 mile (mi; 0.78 kilometer [km]) north of the project area. The north coast is approximately 2.2 mi (3.5 km) from the project area.

<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> Hiram E Rojas Reyes	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01890	<b>City:</b> Arecibo

### 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. Three Section 106 surveys have occurred in the area. Código SHPO 04-29-13-02 was a survey in 2013 for the rehabilitation of forty-six (46) houses, however, only one house was within the 0.50-mile review area. The house in the review area is 0.34-miles to the north of the project area, and a finding of No Historic Properties was returned. The next survey in the area, Código SHPO 05-07-15-01, was for the rehabilitation of houses in different barrios in 2015 using CDBG funds. The surveyed houses are approximately 0.40-miles to the northwest of the project site, and a finding of No Historic Properties was returned. Código SHPO 05-24-10-05 was the final survey to occur within the 0.50 review area. The survey was for the construction and rehabilitation of several roads in 2010. The project boundary for the investigation was 0.27 miles to the northwest of the project site, and a finding of No Historic Properties was returned.

The project area is in a suburban area of Arecibo, directly east of Villa de Garrochales. The area is hilly with dense tropical vegetation and some areas of cleared land. The project sites sit in a cleared area of land, directly south of forested hills. The storage shed on the property was constructed ca. 2017, and this was confirmed with Google Earth imagery (<https://www.googleearth.com>). Earth Explorer ([EarthExplorer \(usgs.gov\)](http://EarthExplorer.usgs.gov)) and Historic Aerials (<https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer>) confirm that the neighbor's house was not built until ca. 1990. The house does not show up on the 1967 historic aerials map nor does it appear on the 1977 and 1983 Earth Explorer aerials. However, it does show up on Google Earth in the 1994 aerial. Housing and buildings to the east did not begin to show on historic aerials until the 1990s. As the project site sits in an area that was not developed until the 1990s, no historic properties will be affected by the project.

### Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

- Direct Effect:
  - None

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Applicant:</b> Hiram E Rojas Reyes	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01890	<b>City:</b> Arecibo

- Indirect Effect:
  - None

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect. The project area is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed historic district or Traditional Urban Center. There are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project location. No known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the Area of Potential Effect of case PR-RGRW-01890 is located. The closest freshwater body is approximately 0.49 mi (0.78 km) north of the project area. Historic aerials (EarthExplorer, 1977 and 1983) show that the area was mostly undeveloped until the 1980s, when plots of land become defined. The size of the proposed project activities is larger than most, but forest clearing and agricultural use throughout the 1990s has impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project.

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Applicant:</b> Hiram E Rojas Reyes	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01890	<b>City:</b> Arecibo

**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**

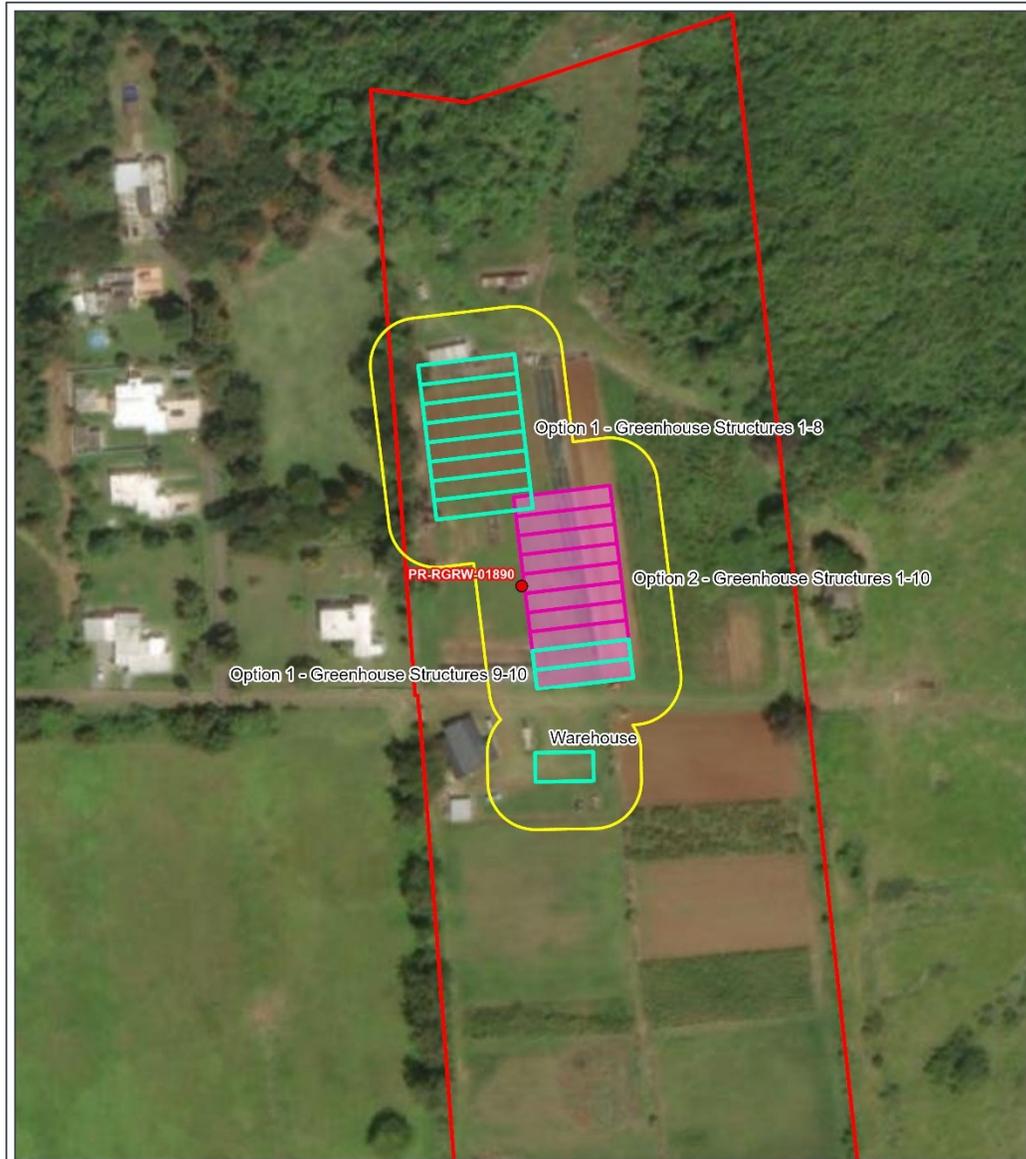
The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the above information and:  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Concurs</b> with the information provided. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Does not concur</b> with the information provided.	
<b>Comments:</b>    	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic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

Applicant: Hiram E Rojas Reyes

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01890

City: Arecibo

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



REGROW PROGRAM

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

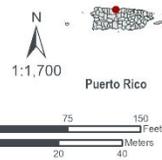
Applicant ID:



- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option 2)
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option 1)
- ▭ APE (Buffer (15-meters))

Parcel ID:  
Parcel Center:  
66.591804°W 18.454083°N

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed September 2023  
Updated: 9/22/2023  
Layout: APE  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2/Maps

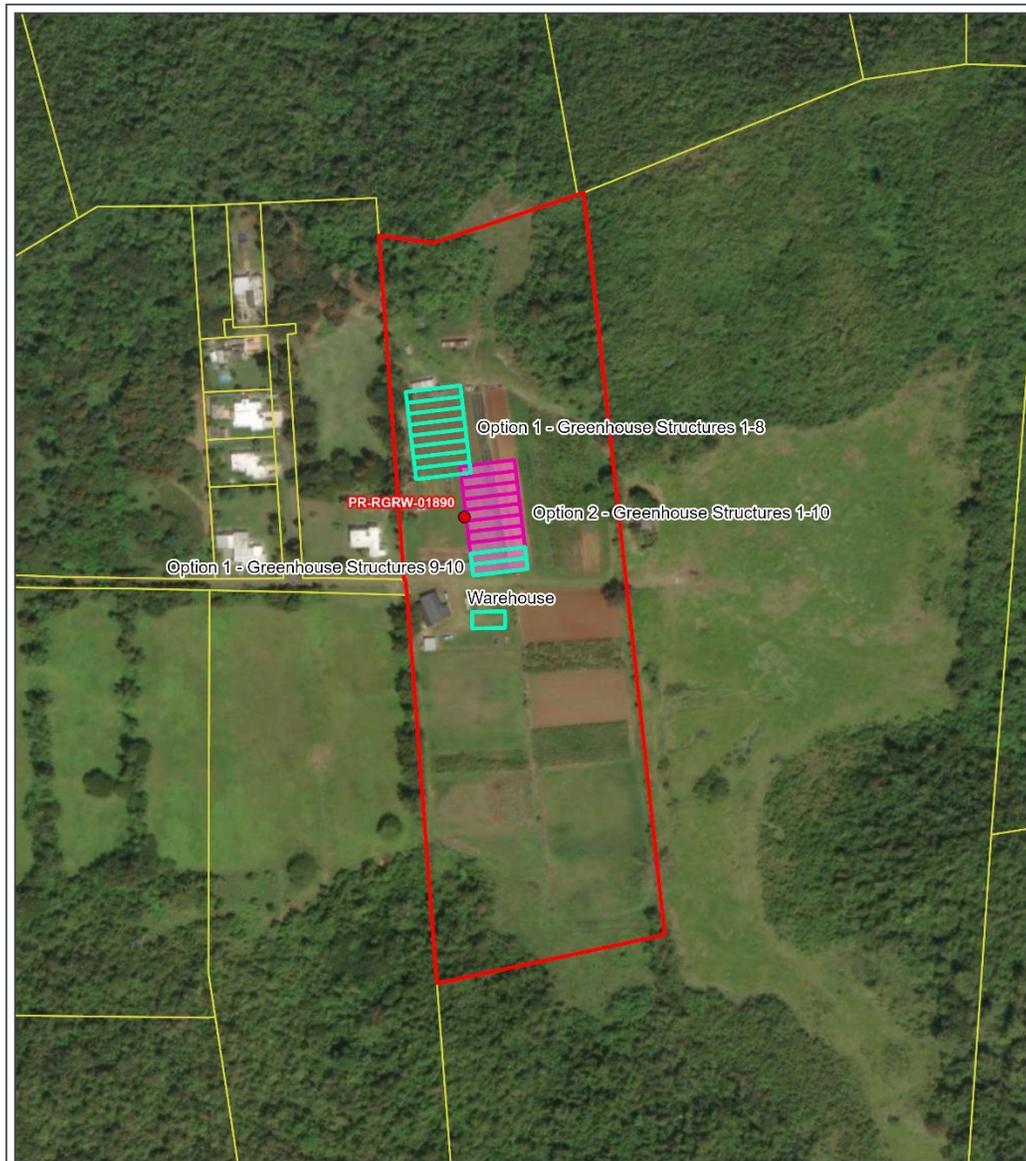


Applicant: Hiram E Rojas Reyes

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01890

City: Arecibo

### Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure A-2:  
Site Vicinity**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890



- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option 1)
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option 2)

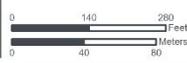
Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.591502°W 18.453726°N

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed September 2023  
Updated: 9/22/2023  
Layout: Site Vicinity  
Aprx: 72426\_RegrowTier2Maps



1:3,000



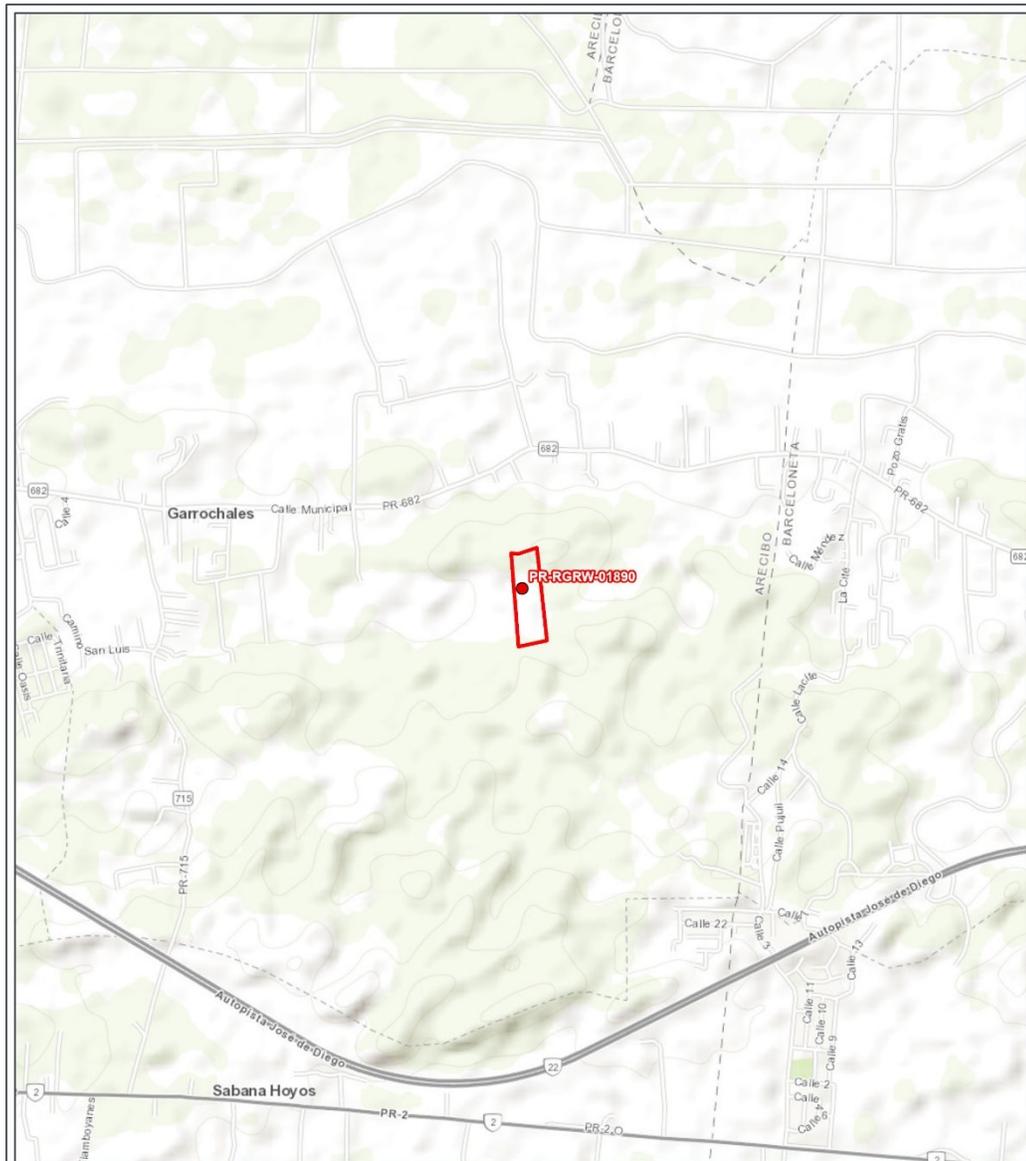


Applicant: Hiram E Rojas Reyes

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01890

City: Arecibo

Project (Parcel) Location - USGS Topographic Map



REGROW PROGRAM

Figure A-1:  
Site Location

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890



- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel

Bo, Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.591804°W 18.454083°N



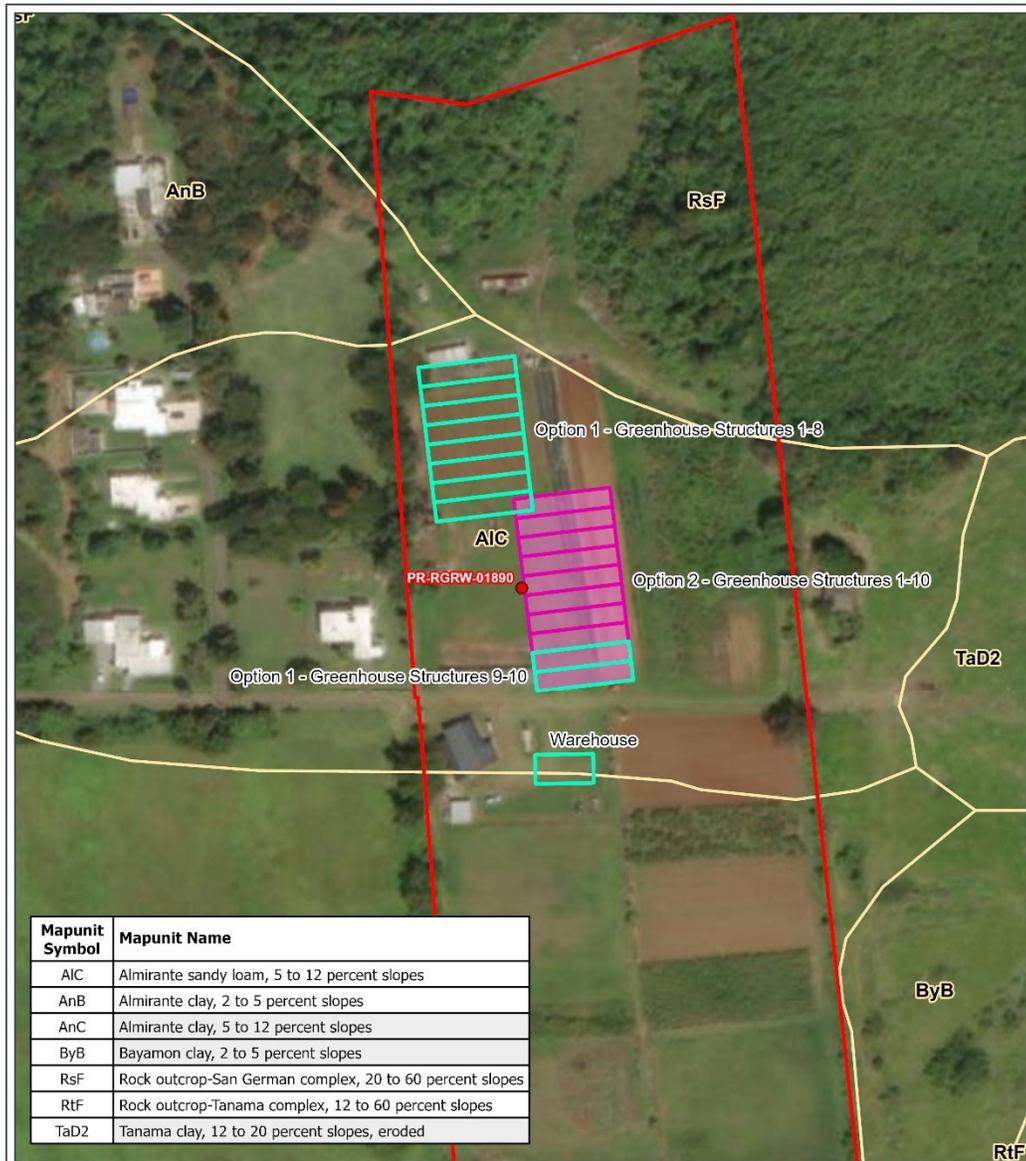
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed August 2023  
Updated: 8/21/2023  
Layout: Site Location  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps

**Applicant:** Hiram E Rojas Reyes

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01890

**City:** Arecibo

**Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map**



Mapunit Symbol	Mapunit Name
AIC	Almirante sandy loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes
AnB	Almirante clay, 2 to 5 percent slopes
AnC	Almirante clay, 5 to 12 percent slopes
ByB	Bayamon clay, 2 to 5 percent slopes
RsF	Rock outcrop-San German complex, 20 to 60 percent slopes
RtF	Rock outcrop-Tanama complex, 12 to 60 percent slopes
TaD2	Tanama clay, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded

REGROW PROGRAM

**USDA Soils Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890



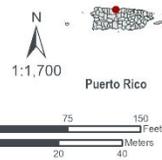
- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option 2)
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option 1)
- ▭ Soil Mapunit

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998

Parcel Center:  
66.591804°W 18.454083°N

Data Source: <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed September 2023  
Updated: 9/22/2023  
Layout: Soils  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps

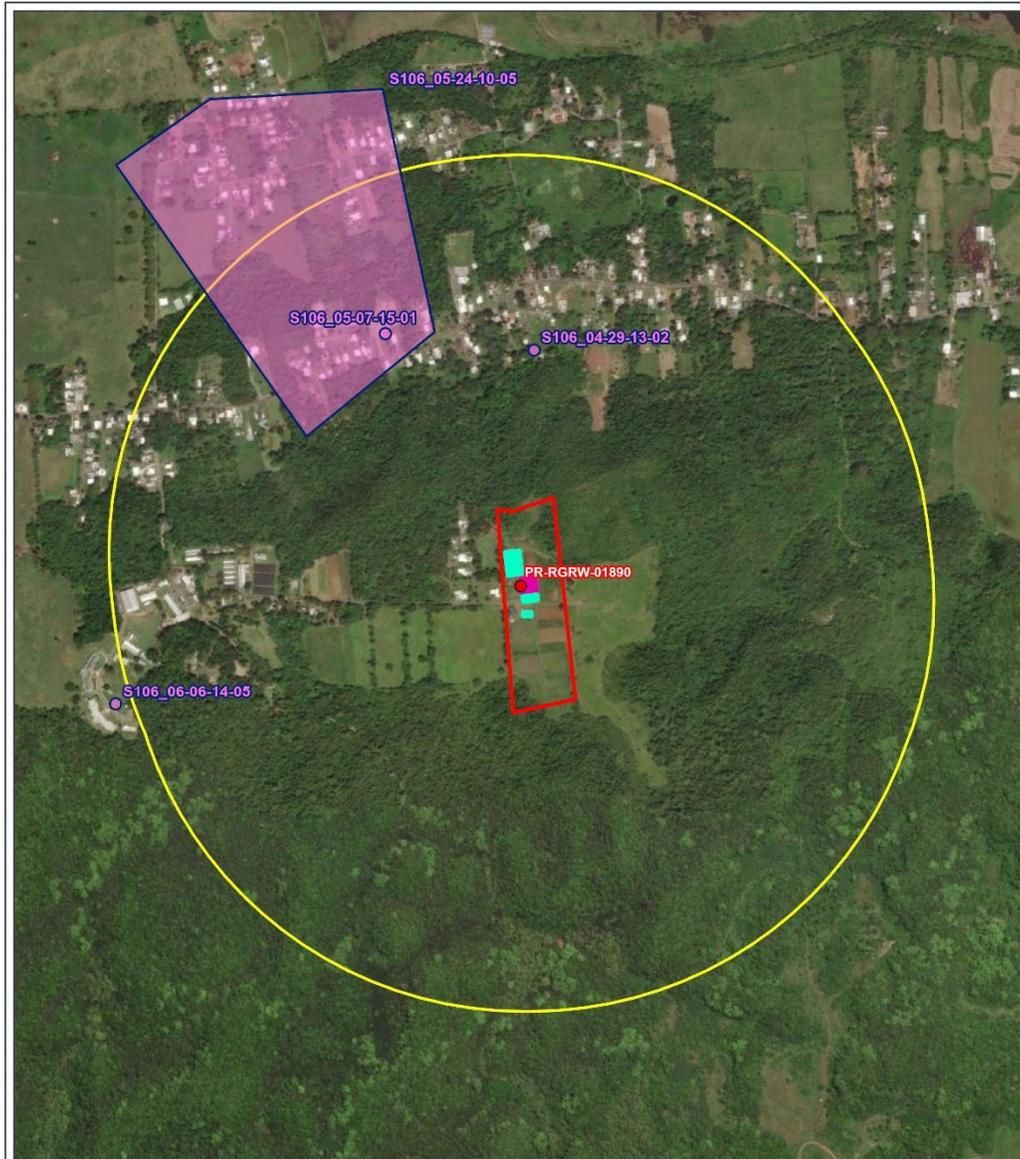


Applicant: Hiram E Rojas Reyes

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01890

City: Arecibo

Project (Parcel) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map



REGROW PROGRAM

Previous Investigation Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890



- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option 1)
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option 2)
- Buffer (0.5-mile)
- ▭ Previously Recorded Survey
- ▭ MIPR Arqueologia
- ▭ Traditional Urban Centers

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

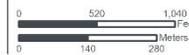
Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.591804°W 18.454083°N

Data Source: State Historic  
Preservation Office and Puerto Rico  
Institute of Culture

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed September 2023  
Updated: 5/22/2023  
Layout: Previous Investigation  
Aprx: 72428, ReGrow Their Maps



1:11,000

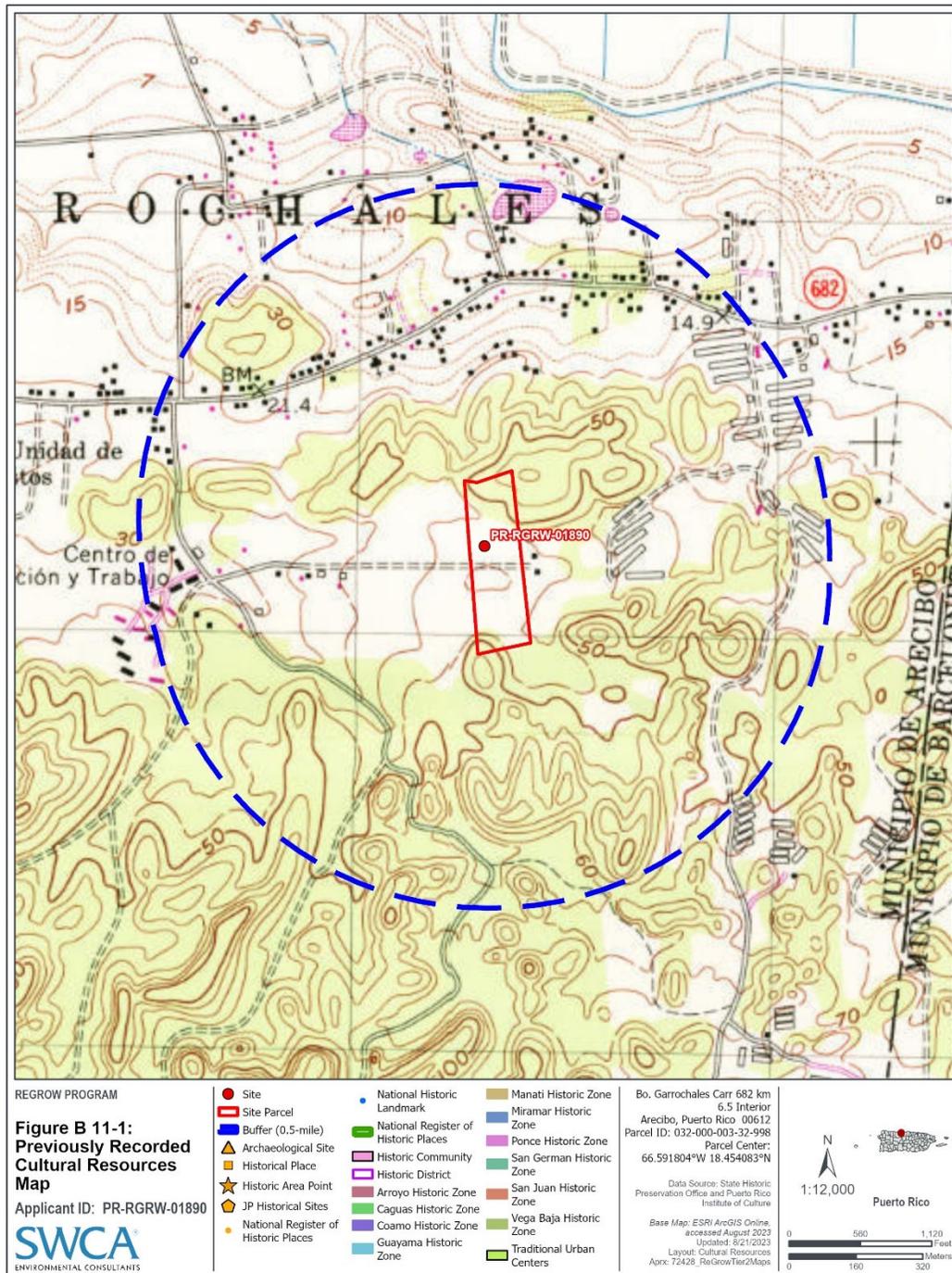


Applicant: Hiram E Rojas Reyes

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01890

City: Arecibo

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



Applicant: Hiram E Rojas Reyes

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01890

City: Arecibo

### Photograph Key



**Applicant:** Hiram E Rojas Reyes

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01890

**City:** Arecibo



**Photo #:**01

**Description (include direction):** Overview of project area. Photo taken at the northwest corner of Option 1. View is south.

**Date:** 08/18/2023



**Photo #:**02

**Description (include direction):** Photo taken from southwest corner of Option 1. View is north.

**Date:** 08/18/2023

**Applicant:** Hiram E Rojas Reyes

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01890

**City:** Arecibo



**Photo #:**03

**Description (include direction):** Photo taken from southwest corner of Option 2. View is north.

**Date:**08/18/2023



**Photo #04:**

**Description (include direction):** Overview for the location of the warehouse. View is south.

**Date:**08/18/2023

**Applicant:** Hiram E Rojas Reyes

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01890

**City:** Arecibo



**Photo #05:**

**Description (include direction):** Storage shed on property. View is west.

**Date:**08/18/2023



**Photo #06:**

**Description (include direction):** Neighbor's house ca. 1994. View is southwest.

**Date:**08/18/2023



October 20, 2022

**Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela**

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

Cuartel de Ballajá Bldg.

San Juan, Puerto Rico

**Re: Authorization to Submit Documents**

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela:

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

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

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

Cordially,

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

Juan C. Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng

Director of Disaster Recovery

CDBG DR-MIT

**Attachment 12**  
**Wetlands Protection Partner Worksheet**  
**and Map**



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

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

## Wetlands (CEST and EA) – Partner

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

**1. Does this project involve new construction as defined in Executive Order 11990, expansion of a building’s footprint, or ground disturbance?**

The term "new construction" includes draining, dredging, channelizing, filling, diking, impounding, and related activities and construction of any any structures or facilities.

No → *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.*

Yes → *Continue to Question 2.*

**2. Will the new construction or other ground disturbance impact a wetland as defined in E.O. 11990?**

No → *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below. Provide a map or any other relevant documentation to explain your determination.*

Yes → *Work with HUD or the RE to assist with the 8-Step Process.* *Continue to Question 3.*

**3. Does Section 55.12 state that the 8-Step Process is not required?**

No, the 8-Step Process applies.

This project will require mitigation and may require elevating structure or structures. See the link to the HUD Exchange above for information on HUD’s elevation requirements.

→ *Work with the RE/HUD to assist with the 8-Step Process. Continue to Worksheet Summary.*

5-Step Process is applicable per 55.12(a).

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

→ *Work with the RE/HUD to assist with the 5-Step Process. This project may require mitigation or alternations. Continue to Worksheet Summary.*

8-Step Process is inapplicable per 55.12(b).

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

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

8-Step Process is inapplicable per 55.12(c).

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

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

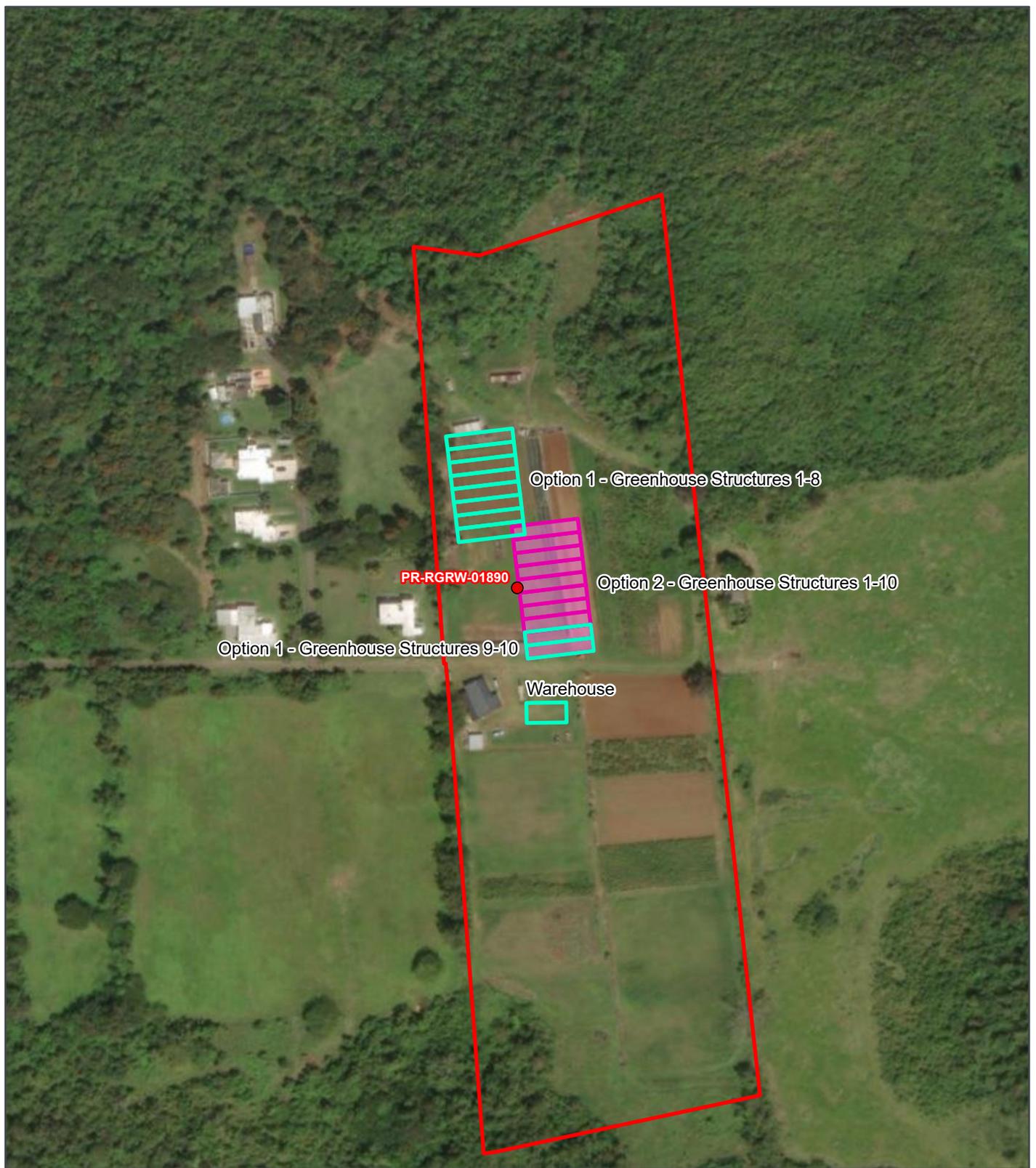
### **Worksheet Summary**

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

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

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

The project sites were reviewed for wetlands using the USFWS Wetland Inventory Mapper and a visual confirmation during the field site inspection. No wetlands were determined to be present on sites. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990.



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure B 12-1:  
Wetlands Protection  
Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890



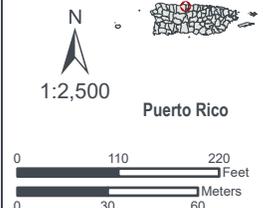
- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option 1)
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option 2)
- - - NHD Stream
- ▭ Estuarine and Marine Deepwater

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

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.591804°W 18.454083°N

Data Source: <https://apps.nationalmap.gov/downloader/#/>  
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory/data-download>  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed September 2023  
Updated: 9/22/2023  
Layout: Wetlands Protection



## **Attachment 13**

# **Wild and Scenic Rivers Partner Worksheet and Wild and Scenic Rivers Map**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

No

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

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

→ Continue to Question 2.

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

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

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

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

- No, the Managing Agency has concurred that the proposed project will not alter, directly, or indirectly, any of the characteristics that qualifies or potentially qualifies the river for inclusion in the NWSRS.

→ *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Provide documentation of the consultation (including the Managing Agency's concurrence) and any other documentation used to make your determination.*

- Yes, the Managing Agency was consulted and the proposed project may alter, directly, or indirectly, any of the characteristics that qualifies or potentially qualifies the river for inclusion in the NWSRS.

→ *The RE/HUD must work with the Managing Agency to identify mitigation measures to mitigate the impact or effect of the project on the river.*

## **Worksheet Summary**

### **Compliance Determination**

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

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

A review of the USFWS National Wild and Scenic River mapper identified no Wild and Scenic Rivers or National Rivers Inventory (NRI) rivers present in Arecibo Municipio. The closest Wild and Scenic River segment is located 283,544 feet (54 miles) east of the project sites. No further evaluation is required. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

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

Yes

No



REGROW PROGRAM

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

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01890



- Site
- National Wild and Scenic River

Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km  
6.5 Interior  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612

Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998  
Parcel Center:  
66.190519°W 18.378613°N

Data Source: [https://apps.fs.usda.gov/arcx/rest/services/EDW/EDW\\_WildScenicRiverSegments\\_01/MapServer](https://apps.fs.usda.gov/arcx/rest/services/EDW/EDW_WildScenicRiverSegments_01/MapServer)

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed August 2023  
Updated: 8/21/2023

Layout: Wild and Scenic Rivers

1:565,000

Puerto Rico

0 25,000 50,000 Feet  
0 7,500 15,000 Meters

**Attachment 14**  
**Environmental Justice Partner Worksheet**  
**and EJScreen Report**



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

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

## Environmental Justice (CEST and EA) – PARTNER

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

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

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

Yes → *Continue to Question 2.*

No → *If the RE/HUD agrees with this recommendation, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Worksheet Summary below.*

2. **Were these adverse environmental impacts disproportionately high for low-income and/or minority communities?**

Yes

**Explain:**

Click here to enter text.

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

No

**Explain:**

Click here to enter text.

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

### **Worksheet Summary**

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

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

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

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

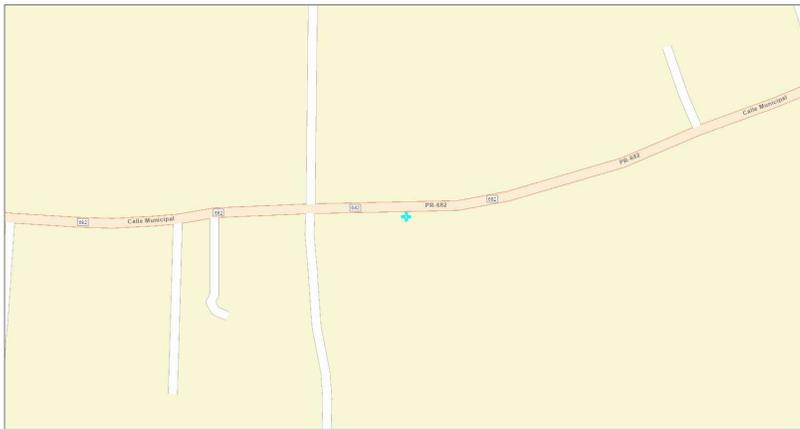
# EJScreen Community Report

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

## Arecibo Municipio, PR

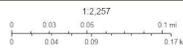
1 mile Ring Centered at 18.457262,-66.597914  
 Population: 1,685  
 Area in square miles: 3.14

A3 Landscape



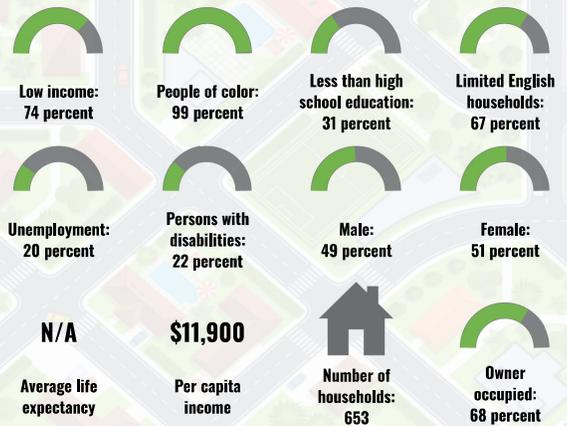
November 16, 2023

Search Result (point)

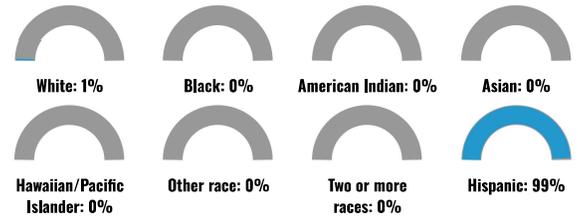


1:2,257  
 Air Community Map Contributors: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Mapbox, Swatch, GeoTechnique, Inc., METI, NASA, USGS, IPS, US Census Bureau

### COMMUNITY INFORMATION



### BREAKDOWN BY RACE



### BREAKDOWN BY AGE



### LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



### LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

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

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.

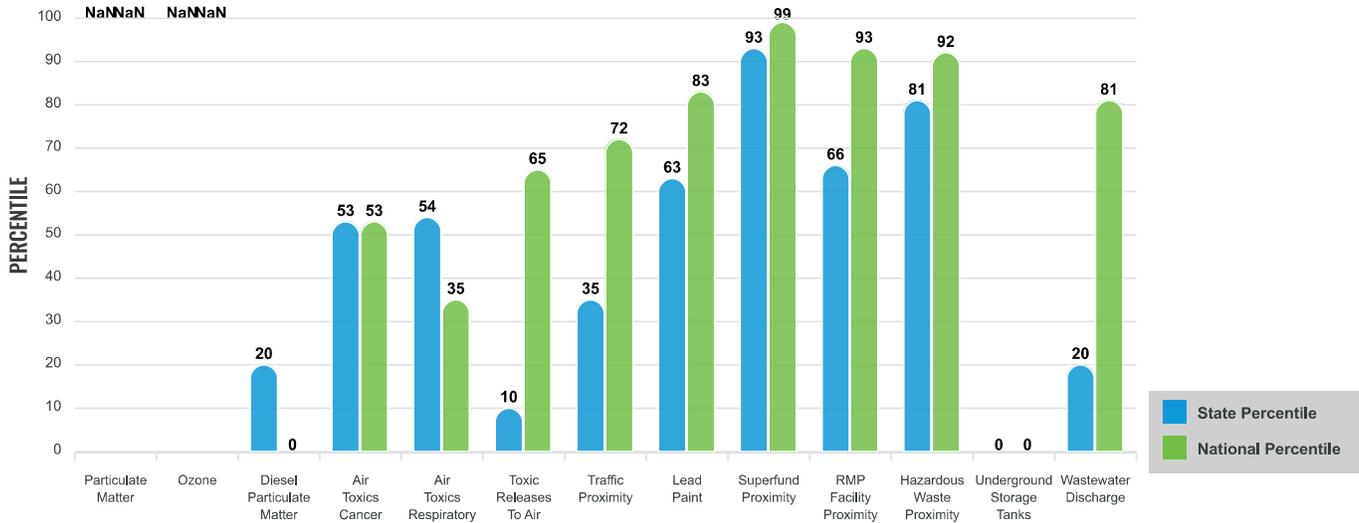
# Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

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.

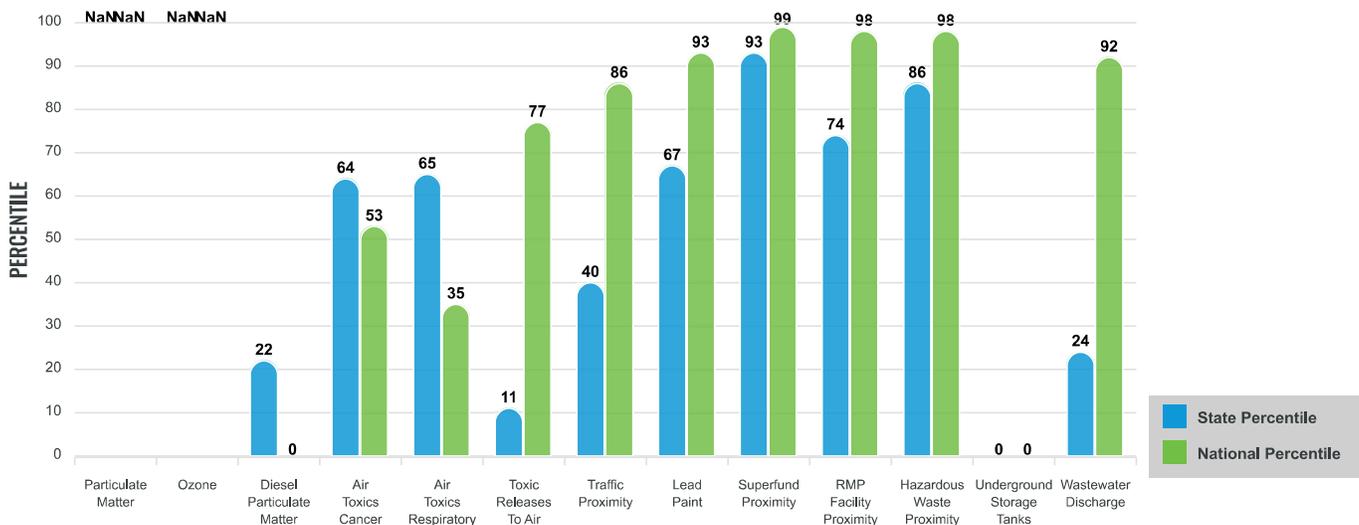
### EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



## 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 18.457262,-66.597914

# 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 ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	0.0187	0.0667	20	0.261	0
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	20	15	25	5
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.2	0.19	17	0.31	4
Toxic Releases to Air	88	4,300	9	4,600	22
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	35	180	34	210	33
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.14	0.16	63	0.3	41
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.78	0.15	97	0.13	97
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.27	0.47	62	0.43	65
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	1.1	0.76	77	1.9	62
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km <sup>2</sup> )	0	1.7	0	3.9	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.00036	2.3	20	22	40
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS</b>					
Demographic Index	86%	83%	45	35%	97
Supplemental Demographic Index	48%	43%	59	14%	99
People of Color	99%	96%	20	39%	95
Low Income	74%	70%	46	31%	95
Unemployment Rate	20%	15%	70	6%	95
Limited English Speaking Households	67%	67%	43	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	31%	21%	76	12%	92
Under Age 5	3%	4%	52	6%	31
Over Age 64	24%	22%	61	17%	79
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 .....	2
Air Pollution .....	0
Brownfields .....	0
Toxic Release Inventory .....	0

## Other community features within defined area:

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

## Other environmental data:

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

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

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.457262,-66.597914

# 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	19.3%	21.6%	36	13.4%	84

## 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	30%	32%	51	14%	89
Lack of Health Insurance	5%	7%	40	9%	40
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 18.457262,-66.597914

**Appendix C**  
**Environmental Site Inspection Report**



**ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD ASSESSMENT FORM**  
**ReGrow**

Applicant Name: Hiram E Rojas Reyes	Program ID: PR-RGRW-01890
Project Coordinates:	Parcel ID: 032-000-003-32-998
Parcel Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior	Municipio: Arecibo
Zip Code: 00612	

Inspector Name: Delise Torres-Ortiz	Inspection Date: August 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2023
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**General Site Conditions**

Was property accessible by vehicle?	Yes	Comment:
Access issues?	No	Comment: None
Are water wells present?	Yes	Comment: The applicant has a deep water well with the required DNRA permits.
Are creeks or ponds present?	No	Comment:
Are any potential wetlands on-site or visible on adjacent parcel?	No	Comment:

**Parcel Conditions**

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

Do any of the proposed project work areas show evidence of site preparation?	Yes	Comment: The applicant is building other greenhouses at the side of the proposed site location.
Are commercial or industrial hazardous facilities at parcel or within visual sight?	No	Comment:
Are there signs of underground storage tanks?	Yes	Comment: The applicant does have multiple hydroponic - greenhouses that require cisterns to make the water flow in the harvest, and these cisterns are partially underground and partially above-ground. The applicant has sixteen (16) cisterns of 250-gallon being in use and connected to the irrigation system; five (5) of them were half underground and above ground There is a high probability the other ones are going to be placed the same way eventually because it is a common practice for this type of greenhouses.
Are above-ground tanks >10 gallons present? If Yes, also state condition.	Yes	Comment: Please see comment above. There is an abandoned cooler north.



**ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD ASSESSMENT FORM**  
**ReGrow**

Are 55-gallon drums present? If Yes, also state condition.	Yes	Comment: There is an empty and deteriorated metal 55-gallon drum north of the property.
Are abandoned vehicles or electrical equipment present?	Yes	Comment: There are three (3) abandoned vehicles on the property that the applicant plans to restore or use for extra parts. He plans to move them away from the greenhouses and site location for the other ones to be built.
Is other potential environmentally hazardous debris on the parcel?	No	Comment:
Is there non-environmentally hazardous debris on the parcel?	No	Comment:
Are any leaks, soil stains, or stressed vegetation present associated with any of the above or separately?	Yes	Comment: There are parts of the property that have some stress vegetation due to the constant traffic of vehicles or the dry conditions.
Are there any pungent, foul or noxious odors?	Yes	Comment: There was a chemical odor close to the existing greenhouses that the applicant explained were insecticides to control the pests and protect the crops.
Are there any potentially hazardous trees that could fall?	Yes	Comment:
Are any bird nests visible?	No	Comment:
Are there any animal burrows visible?	No	Comment:
Are there any buildings in direct visual sight of the project locations?	Yes	Comment: The neighbor's residence was built more than 40 years ago, and the applicant's residence was built or installed in 2017.

**Additional Needs Analysis**

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

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



# ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD ASSESSMENT FORM

## ReGrow

*Delise Torres Ortiz*  
{Delise Torres-Ortiz}  
{August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023}

Following pages are used for:

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

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

Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

Photo #: 01	Date: 08/18/2023
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**Photo Direction:** South

**Description:**

This picture is a general overview of the site location for a structure which would include a warehouse, a packing area, and a garage 60x30x10 to 18ft. The structure is going to be divided into two main areas - 30x30ft for packing/storage/cooler and a 30x30ft warehouse/garage. The gable roof will be secured using screws and built with 42 beams on each side, 84 total, covered with 8x4ft wood panels and zinc panels. The structure would have seven (7) metal columns on both sides (14 total), two (2) metal columns on the front and back (4 total), two (2) feet deep and placed every 10ft. The walls will be covered with 8x4ft wood panels. The applicant will also build a concrete base of 30x30ft 3 inches thick for the packing, storage, and cooler area. The other side will have gravel or "tosca" 30x30ft with a rolling door 12x10ft for the warehouse and garage. The picture presents an upland plain open field manicured lawn with two abandoned vehicles and a heavy-duty car hauler trailer.



Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 02	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Southwest		
<b>Description:</b> Northeast corner overview of site location for a structure that would include a warehouse, a packing area, and a garage 60x30x10 to 18ft. The picture shows a tractor, the area's vegetation, the landform, a shed, and an abandoned vehicle.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 03	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Northwest		
<b>Description:</b> The picture was taken from the southeast corner of the site location for a structure that would include a warehouse, a packing area, and a garage 60x30x10 to 18ft; it also shows the applicant's residence, the parking area, a heavy-duty car hauler trailer, and the greenhouses.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 04	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Northeast		
<b>Description:</b> The picture was taken from the southwest corner of the site location for a structure that would include a warehouse, a packing area, and a garage 60x30x10 to 18ft; it also shows the upland plain manicured lawn.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 05	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Southeast		
<b>Description:</b> The picture was taken from the northwest corner of the site location for a structure that would include a warehouse, a packing area, and a garage 60x30x10 to 18ft; it also shows the manicured lawn with the area's vegetation, the landform, an abandoned vehicle, and a tractor.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 06	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Southwest		
<b>Description:</b> The picture was taken from the side of option 1 and this is the second option the applicant has to build a structure that would include a warehouse, a packing area, and a garage 60x30x10 to 18ftft; it shows an open field with tall vegetation at the back of the field.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 07	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Northwest		
<b>Description:</b> The applicant requested part of the funds for materials to continue the construction of multiple greenhouses, ten (10) total, measuring 100x20x10 (sides) to 18 feet (middle); it shows a partial view of the corner of a greenhouse being built, the open area where eight (8) greenhouses would be installed moving north, an abandoned vehicle used for extra parts, a corral or warehouse, and the area's vegetation and the landform.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 08	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Southwest		
<b>Description:</b> The applicant is building greenhouses with the same measurements as the one he is requesting, 100x20x10 to 18 feet, especially for the plastic that will cover the roof, as shown in this overview picture.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 09	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Northwest		
<b>Description:</b> The applicant plans to build multiple greenhouses, ten (10) total, measuring 100x20x10 (sides) to 18 feet (middle); the area presented in this picture will be the location for (a) two greenhouses as a continuation with the ones on the northwest side of the property or (b) the area where the ten (10) greenhouses will be located side by side. The picture also shows the area's vegetation, the landform, and the existing greenhouses.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 10	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Southwest		
<b>Description:</b> This picture is from the northeast corner of the site location for eight (8) greenhouses 100x20x10 to 18 feet; it shows the area's vegetation, the landform, a partial view of the existing greenhouses, a partial view of the abandoned car, and the deteriorated 55-gallon drum.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 11	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Northwest		
<b>Description:</b> This picture is from the southeast corner of the site location for eight (8) greenhouses 100x20x10 to 18 feet; it shows the area's vegetation, the landform, a partial view of the existing greenhouses being built, the abandoned car, and the corral/warehouse.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 12	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Northeast		
<b>Description:</b> This picture is from the southwest corner of the site location for eight (8) greenhouses 100x20x10 to 18 feet; it shows the area's vegetation, the landform, a partial view of the existing greenhouses being built with construction materials, the abandoned car, and a freight container at the end of the picture.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 13	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Southeast		
<b>Description:</b> This picture is from the northwest corner of the site location for eight (8) greenhouses 100x20x10 to 18 feet; it shows the area's vegetation, the landform, the cultivated area, a partial view of the existing greenhouses being built, and the abandoned car. This area is part of a dirt access road which makes the ground look in distress or different from the rest of the field.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 14	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/2023
<b>Photo Direction:</b> North	
<b>Description:</b> This picture shows the area for option 2 taken from the center of the site location for ten (10) greenhouses 100x20x10 to 18 feet; it shows the area's vegetation, the landform, a partial view of the existing greenhouses being built, the cultivated area, and a freight container and an abandoned cooler at the end of the image.	



<b>Photo #:</b> 15	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/2023
<b>Photo Direction:</b> East	
<b>Description:</b> This picture shows the area for option 2 taken from the center of the site location for ten (10) greenhouses 100x20x10 to 18 feet; it shows the area's vegetation, the landform, a cultivated area, and the existing irrigation system.	



Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 16	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> South		
<b>Description:</b> This picture shows the area for option 2 taken from the center of the site location for ten (10) greenhouses 100x20x10 to 18 feet; it shows the area's vegetation, the landform, the existing irrigation system, and a small partial view of the cultivated areas on both sides of the picture. This picture also presents the area that the applicant would use to build the other 2 greenhouses of the eight (8) northwest.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 17	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> West		
<b>Description:</b> This picture shows the area for option 2 taken from the center of the site location for ten (10) greenhouses 100x20x10 to 18 feet; it shows the area's vegetation, the landform, and the existing greenhouses with the irrigation system. This is the same irrigation system the applicants will use for the proposed greenhouses; it is already installed.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 18	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> West		
<b>Description:</b> This tree in the picture where the applicant is under needs to be pruned for the greenhouses to be built in this area.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 19	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Close-Up		
<b>Description:</b> The applicant will connect the potable water from this specific location southwest of the applicant's residence. The water comes from a deep water well in the property.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 20	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023
<b>Photo Direction:</b> West	
<p>This picture shows the area where the deep water well is located; the applicant mentioned he got a permit from the DNRA to do the well on his property.</p>	



<b>Photo #:</b> 21	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Northwest	
<p><b>Description:</b> Overview of the existing greenhouses 100x20x10 to 18 feet which contain 16 cisterns distributed around and inside them; the proposed ten (10) greenhouses will be a replicate of the existing ones.</p>	



Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 22	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Northwest		
<b>Description:</b> Overview of the existing greenhouses 100x20x10 to 18 feet which contain 16 cisterns distributed around and inside them; the proposed ten (10) greenhouses will be a replicate of the existing ones; it also shows a partial view of the neighbor's residence.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 23	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Close-up		
<b>Description:</b> This picture shows an example of how the post will be installed: 1 to 1.5 ft deep using a mix of dirt and calcium or "cal agrícola" (used to prepare the ground for the harvest). This picture is an example to answer one of the questions the team had.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 24	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/	
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Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

	2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Northeast		
<b>Description:</b> The picture shows a warehouse/corral the property has at the northern area of the property; the picture also shows a partial view of an abandoned vehicle, a freight container, the area's vegetation, and the landform.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 25	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Southwest		
<b>Description:</b> The picture shows a partial view of a freight container, an abandoned cooler, the area's vegetation, and the landform.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 26	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Southwest		
<b>Description:</b> The applicant has multiple vehicles in the property abandoned or to get extra parts, behind the vehicle there is a shed and the area's vegetation.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 27	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Southeast		
<b>Description:</b> The picture shows two abandoned vehicles between options 1 and 2 of the structure that is going to be divided into two main areas - 30x30ft for packing/storage/ cooler and a 30x30ft warehouse/garage, total footprint of 60x30x10 to 18 feet.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-01890	Photographer: Delise Torres Ortiz
Location Address: Bo. Garrochales Carr 682 km 6.5 Interior, Arecibo, PR 00612	Coordinates: 18.453526, -66.591609

<b>Photo #:</b> 28	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> West		
<b>Description:</b> The picture presents the applicant's residence built or installed in 2017.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 29	<b>Date:</b> 08/18/ 2023	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Northwest		
<b>Description:</b> The picture shows the neighbor's residence built around 40 years ago; it also presents the electric pole and a partial view of an existing greenhouse.		

**Appendix D**  
**Water Well Permit**



# GOBIERNO DE PUERTO RICO

Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales

## SECRETARÍA AUXILIAR DE PERMISOS, ENDOSOS Y SERVICIOS ESPECIALIDADES FRANQUICIA PARA EL USO Y APROVECHAMIENTO DE LAS AGUAS DE PUERTO RICO

Hiram Rojas Reyes  
HC 52 Box 3572  
Garrochales Puerto Rico 00652

30 AUG 2021

Franquicia Núm. O-FA-FAAG1-AR-00207-12112019

El Solicitante de epígrafe radicó en este Departamento una Solicitud de Franquicia, para aprovechar las aguas públicas de **un (1) pozo**, ubicado en terrenos propiedad del Sr. Elías Rojas Morales, localizado en la PR-682, Interior, Barrio Garrochales, Sector Cambalache, en el municipio de Arecibo

El agua extraída será utilizada para uso **AGRÍCOLA**.

Vista la solicitud, los estudios realizados por el personal de este Departamento y en virtud de las facultades y deberes que nos confiere la Ley Núm. 23 de 20 de junio de 1972 y la Ley Núm. 136 de 3 de junio de 1976, según enmendadas, por la presente resolvemos Conceder esta Franquicia de Agua al Solicitante (en adelante Concesionario) por la cantidad de **10,000 galones diarios, los 365 días al año, para un total de 3,650,000 galones anuales** para los fines y propósitos antes mencionados y sujeto a las siguientes condiciones:

### CONDICIONES GENERALES

- 1) Esta Franquicia para el uso de aguas constituye una autorización para aprovechar o extraer ciertas y determinadas cantidades de agua y no un derecho sobre una fuente en particular. El Secretario no garantiza la calidad o cantidad de las aguas cuyo aprovechamiento permite.
- 2) Esta Franquicia no podrá ser transferida sin la autorización previa del Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales y estará sujeta a las normas y reglamentos que apliquen a la misma.
- 3) Esta Franquicia o copia de ésta con el sello del Departamento al relieve, estará disponible para ser inspeccionada en el lugar del aprovechamiento de las aguas durante todo el tiempo, mientras la misma esté vigente.
- 4) La descarga de las aguas usadas, si alguna, no debe contribuir a la degradación de la calidad de los recursos de agua y su disposición debe estar en conformidad con las leyes, reglamentos y estatutos locales y federales aplicables.
- 5) El Concesionario permitirá al personal del Departamento tomar muestras o medir flujo u otro parámetro con el propósito de asegurar el cumplimiento con las disposiciones de esta Franquicia. Someterá, además, cualquier información que el Secretario solicite con relación a la extracción y uso de agua.
- 6) El Concesionario vendrá obligado a responder por los daños que pueda irrogarle a terceras personas o a la propiedad pública o privada en el goce y disfrute del privilegio que mediante esta Franquicia se le concede.
- 7) El Concesionario vendrá obligado a notificar al Departamento de cualquier situación anormal que esté afectando el aprovechamiento de agua que autoriza esta Franquicia.
- 8) El Concesionario podrá **solicitar la renovación** de esta Franquicia con, por lo menos, **noventa (90) días** de antelación a su vencimiento. La renovación estará sujeta a una evaluación de la condición actual de las aguas cuyo aprovechamiento solicita y a que no exista deuda por concepto de uso de las aguas autorizadas en la franquicia. En el caso de que exista deuda, la franquicia no será renovada. Cuando la renovación, incluyendo la duración de las franquicias anteriores, excedan el término de diez (10) años se seguirá el



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trámite correspondiente a una franquicia nueva y el Secretario no estará obligado a renovar la misma.

- 9) El Concesionario vendrá obligado a clausurar o cerrar a satisfacción del Departamento toda facilidad de aprovechamiento de agua autorizado bajo esta Franquicia cuando la misma no esté en uso o al expirar su vigencia.
- 10) El caudal de agua aquí autorizado podrá ser reducido o prohibido de encontrarse que el mismo está afectando adversamente algún sistema hidrológico o usuario.
- 11) El Concesionario deberá utilizar los recursos de agua eficientemente y en armonía con las circunstancias y condiciones hidrológicas particulares del área donde se llevará a cabo la actividad.
- 12) El Secretario podrá requerir o imponer cualesquiera otras condiciones y requisitos que entienda pertinente durante la vigencia de esta Franquicia a los fines de garantizar la protección del recurso y el interés público, y en conformidad con la ley y la reglamentación vigente.
- 13) El Secretario podrá modificar, suspender o revocar una franquicia por las causas establecidas en el Artículo 13 de la Ley de Aguas, o por mora que exceda de seis (6) meses o más de los pagos dispuestos en la sección 8.13 del Reglamento de Agua.

#### CONDICIONES ESPECIALES

- 1) Se autoriza al Concesionario a extraer un caudal diario, promediado anualmente de **10,000 galones diarios** de agua del pozo.
- 2) Esta Franquicia se concede por un término de **Cinco (5) años** el cual comenzará a partir de la fecha de aprobación. El desuso del caudal de agua aquí autorizado durante un término de doce (12) meses consecutivos, sin causa que lo justifique, extinguirá la vigencia de esta franquicia.
- 3) El aprovechamiento de aguas públicas para uso **AGRÍCOLA** está exento de pago conforme a las disposiciones de la Ley de Aguas. Esta tarifa está sujeta a cambio mediante legislación, reglamento u orden administrativa, en cuyo caso la nueva tarifa aplicará de inmediato a esta Franquicia.
- 4) El Concesionario mantendrá instalado en un lugar accesible y antes de cualquier desviación del agua extraída de o los pozo (s), **metro (s) de flujo instantáneo y caudal acumulativo**. A este metro se le dará un mantenimiento adecuado, según las recomendaciones del fabricante. Cualquier rotura, falla y/o cese de funcionamiento del metro se anotará en los archivos requeridos. **Se someterá un informe escrito al Secretario**, dentro de un término no mayor de **7 días contados a partir de la fecha del cese de funcionamiento del metro**, en el cual se detallará las fallas ocurridas y las acciones remediativas tomadas. En el caso de que el **metro sea reemplazado, deberá someter fotos del mismo instalado**, del número de serie y lectura legible e indicará la fecha en que fueron tomadas. También **someterá el formulario Certificación de Instalación de Metro** debidamente cumplimentado. El o los metros a instalarse deberán tener la capacidad de registrar un caudal no menor que el caudal anual autorizado bajo esta Franquicia. Este caudal debe ser medido en galones o metros cúbicos.
- 5) El Concesionario instalará una llave o un grifo de agua, justo después del metro de flujo, que permita tomar muestras de agua y verificar el funcionamiento correcto del sistema.
- 6) El Concesionario someterá un informe **anual, Informe Mensual de Extracción de Agua (documento adjunto)** al Secretario en donde detallará la extracción de agua **mensual**, medida con metros. Estos informes consistirán de las **lecturas mensuales del metro**, del volumen total extraído en galones, la razón promedio de extracción en galones por minuto y el promedio de horas de operación (mensual) del sistema de extracción. Estos informes

se prepararán basado en los informes diarios de las lecturas del metro que llevará el Concesionario según el formulario DRNA-Fa-Inf. 01-95 (anejo).

**El mismo se presentará de manera digital a través de la dirección de correo electrónico [franquicias@drna.pr.gov](mailto:franquicias@drna.pr.gov), de no poderse presentar de esta forma, se continuará enviando el mismo de la manera tradicional.**

- 7) El Concesionario someterá un análisis **Anual** de la calidad de las aguas extraídas del(los) pozo(s), **certificado por un químico licenciado de Puerto Rico** con el resultado de los siguientes parámetros:

pH en unidades estándar	Alcalinidad en mg/l de $\text{CaCO}_3$
Cloruro en mg/l de Cl	Dureza Total en mg/l de $\text{CaCO}_3$
Calcio en mg/l de $\text{Ca}^{+2}$	Sólidos totales disueltos en mg/l
Magnesio en mg/l de $\text{Mg}^{+2}$	Conductividad en $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$
Sodio en mg/l de $\text{Na}^+$	Nitrato en mg/l de N
Potasio en mg/l de $\text{K}^+$	Carbonato en mg/l de $\text{CO}_3^{-2}$
Bicarbonato en mg/l de $\text{HCO}_3$	Hierro en mg/l de $\text{Fe}^{+2}$
Manganeso en mg/l de $\text{Mn}^{+2}$	Sílice en mg/l de $\text{SiO}_2$
Sulfato en mg/l de $\text{SO}_4^{-2}$	Compuestos Orgánicos Totales (TOC)
Bromuro en mg/l de Br	Razón de Cloruro/Bromuro en milimoles/l

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

El Concesionario tendrá derecho a solicitar una reconsideración a la determinación del Departamento o una vista administrativa de acuerdo con las disposiciones del Artículo 13 del Reglamento para el Aprovechamiento, Uso, Conservación y Administración de las Aguas de Puerto Rico, de no estar de acuerdo con algunas de las Condiciones de la presente. La Solicitud deberá ser radicada por escrito dentro de un término de treinta (30) días a partir de la fecha de aprobación de esta franquicia en la Oficina de Secretaría del Departamento. De no recibirse dentro del término aquí establecido una solicitud de vista administrativa u objeción, se entenderá que el Concesionario aceptó la franquicia con todos sus términos y condiciones.

CUALQUIER VIOLACION A LA LEY NUM. 23 DE 20 DE JUNIO DE 1972, A LA LEY NUM. 136 DE 3 DE JUNIO DE 1976, A LA LEY NUM. 416 DEL 22 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2004, SEGUN ENMENDADAS, O EL INCUMPLIMIENTO DE CUALESQUIERA DE LAS CONDICIONES EN LA PRESENTE PODRA CONLLEVAR LA REVOCACION DE ESTA FRANQUICIA.

NOTIFIQUESE:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ing. Luis R Sierra Torres  
Secretario Auxiliar

Aprobada hoy día 30 de agosto de 2021.