

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

451 Seventh Street, SW Washington, DC 20410 www.hud.gov espanol.hud.gov

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

# **Project Information**

Project Name: PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE

**HEROS Number:** 900000010367165

**Start Date:** 11/22/2023

State / Local Identifier:

**Project Location:** , Jayuya, PR 00664

#### **Additional Location Information:**

The project is located at latitude 18.183960, longitude -66.625039 at the address given above. Tax ID

Number: 268-000-001-39-000

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

This project (PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE) entails the award of a grant to Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado, an agricultural business, at Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores, Jayuya, PR 00664. Tax ID Number: 268-000-001-39-000. Coordinates (18.183960, -66.625039). This project had an original CENST review which included the purchase of farm equipment including an UTV for project cost of \$16,800.00. See attached CENST environmental review. This review includes a scope item previously considered as an EA level of review (coffee roaster and farm infrastructure) which is now evaluated as CEST level of review in accordance with FR-6492-N-01 with a project cost of \$27,716.28. The intent use of funds includes two Scopes of Work (SOW) within the parcel. The scope of work 1 (SOW-1) for this project consists of the construction of a new warehouse at coordinates 18.183960, -66.625039 to be used as storage for equipment storage. The proposed warehouse is a 40-foot (ft) x 30 ft purlin and galvalume structure to be supported by 4 metal posts with an approximate depth of 3 feet and 6 inches width on a gravel stone base. The scope of work 2 (SOW-2) for the project consists of the purchase and installation of a TKMX 15 kg gas coffee roaster in an existing concrete base in the back of the applicant residence with a construction date of circa 2000 at the coordinates 18.184018, -66.625018. The proposed coffee roasting machine does not require to be anchored to the ground or Sylvia floor. No soil disturbance will be required. Project site has the local power (LUMA/PREPA) and water (PRASA) utilities infrastructure. The proposed roasting machine uses propane gas as the main source of energy. The new warehouse will be connected from the existing utilities connection points. The water service connection point is located an approximate distance of 20 ft from the warehouse location. Connection to water service will be achieved via an underground PVC piping system at an estimated depth of 1ft. Electrical services will be provided via an underground electrical conduit. An electrical trench is approximately 30 linear ft and 3 ft depth. While the applicant plans to pay for this activity themselves and no HUD funds would be utilized for this portion of work, the potential impacts from this action are included in the analyses below and it is

contained within the delimited Area of Potential Effect (APE). This APE has been extended to the applicant residence connection point to allow for utility connections and is constrained to the northeast by the applicant residence structure. The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project. The total APE for the proposed project is approximately 0.19 acres. The project site will require clearing, grading, and vegetation removal. However, proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees. The project Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado, PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #7 - 7. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (iii): Construction of a new farm storage facility. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Construction of a new farm storage facility with ground disturbance has been classified as CEST under the waiver.

#### **Level of Environment Review Determination:**

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

#### **Funding Information**

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

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$27,716.28

**Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.2 (a) (5)]:** \$27,716.28

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

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

| Mitigation Measure or Condition  | Comments on Completed Measures  | Complete   |  |
|--|---|--|--|
|  |   |  |  |
| The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on January 13, 2025 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have May | N/A   |  |  |
|  | The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on January 13, 2025 concurred with the determination that the | The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on January 13, 2025 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have May | The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on January 13, 2025 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have May |

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(NLAA) the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Sharp-Shinned Hawk, Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly. The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4)if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the ConservationMeasures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin ButterflyConservation Measures and (5) if a Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk is encountered onthe site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately. Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.

#### **Determination:**

This categorically excluded activity/project converts to **EXEMPT** per Section 58.34(a)(12), because it does not require any mitigation for compliance with any listed statutes or authorities, nor requires any formal permit or license; **Funds may be committed and drawn down after certification of this part** for this (now) EXEMPT project; OR

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|        | This categorically excluded activity/project cannot convert to Exempt status because one or more statutes or authorities listed at Section 58.5 requires formal consultation or mitigation. Complete consultation/mitigation protocol requirements, <b>publish NOI/RROF and obtain "Authority to Use Grant Funds"</b> (HUD 7015.16) per Section 58.70 and 58.71 before committing or drawing down any funds; OR |
|--------|---|
|        | This project is not categorically excluded OR, if originally categorically excluded, is now subject to  |
|        | a full Environmental Assessment according to Part 58 Subpart E due to extraordinary   |
|        | circumstances (Section 58.35(c)).   |
|        | 00.11   |
| Prepai | rer Signature: Date: <u>June 6, 2025</u>  |
| •      |   |
|        | / Title/ Organization: Ricardo Espiet Lopez / / Department of Housing - Puerto Rico   |
|        | nsible Entity Agency Official Signature: A. lu lu Date: 6/6/2025  |
| Respo  | nsible Entity Agency Official Signature: Date: 0/0/2020 Date: 0/0/2020  |

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

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Washington, DC 20410 www.hud.gov espanol.hud.gov

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

| Pro | lect | Intorr | nation |
|-----|------|--------|--------|

Project Name: PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE

**HEROS Number:** 900000010367165

**Start Date:** 11/22/2023

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

Juan PR, 00928

State / Local Identifier:

**RE Preparer:** Ricardo Espiet Lopez

**Certifying Office** 

r:

**Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Ent** 

ity):

**Point of Contact:** 

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

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

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

Project Location: , Jayuya, PR 00664

#### **Additional Location Information:**

The project is located at latitude 18.183960, longitude -66.625039 at the address given above. Tax ID Number: 268-000-001-39-000

**Direct Comments to:** environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov

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

This project (PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE) entails the award of a grant to Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado, an agricultural business, at Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores, Jayuya, PR 00664. Tax ID Number: 268-000-001-39-000. Coordinates (18.183960, -66.625039). This project had an original CENST review which included the purchase of farm equipment including an UTV for project cost of \$16,800.00. See attached CENST environmental review. This review includes a scope item previously considered as an EA level of review (coffee roaster and farm infrastructure) which is now evaluated as CEST level of review in accordance with FR-6492-N-01 with a project cost of \$27,716.28. The intent use of funds includes two Scopes of Work (SOW) within the parcel. The scope of work 1 (SOW-1) for this project consists of the construction of a new warehouse at coordinates 18.183960, -66.625039 to be used as storage for equipment storage. The proposed warehouse is a 40-foot (ft) x 30 ft purlin and galvalume structure to be supported by 4 metal posts with an approximate depth of 3 feet and 6 inches width on a gravel stone base. The scope of work 2 (SOW-2) for the project consists of the purchase and installation of a TKMX 15 kg gas coffee roaster in an existing concrete base in the back of the applicant residence with a construction date of circa 2000 at the coordinates 18.184018, -66.625018. The proposed coffee roasting machine does not require to be anchored to the ground or Sylvia floor. No soil disturbance will be required. Project site has the local power (LUMA/PREPA) and water (PRASA) utilities infrastructure. The proposed roasting machine uses propane gas as the main source of energy. The new warehouse will be connected from the existing utilities connection points. The water service connection point is located an approximate distance of 20 ft from the warehouse location. Connection to water service will be achieved via an underground PVC piping system at an estimated depth of 1ft. Electrical services will be provided via an underground electrical conduit. An electrical trench is approximately 30 linear ft and 3 ft depth. While the applicant plans to pay for this activity themselves and no HUD funds would be utilized for this portion of work, the potential impacts from this action are included in the analyses below and it is contained within the delimited Area of Potential Effect (APE). This APE has been extended to the applicant residence connection point to allow for utility connections and is constrained to the northeast by the applicant residence structure. The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project. The total APE for the proposed project is approximately 0.19 acres. The project site will require clearing, grading, and vegetation removal. However, proposal does not contemplate cutting,

pruning or transplanting of trees. The project Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado, PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #7 - 7. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (iii): Construction of a new farm storage facility. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Construction of a new farm storage facility with ground disturbance has been classified as CEST under the waiver.

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

ReEvaluation Memo .docx

PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE Site Map.pdf

PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE IUGF CEST.pdf

PR-RGRW-00987 CENST ERR.pdf

PRDOH Regrow Puerto Rico Program - 5836 Waiver (002).pdf

Farm Service Agency Adopted Categorical Exclusions Identified in FR-6492-N-01.pdf

PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE EFOR.pdf

#### Level of Environmental Review Determination:

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

#### **Determination:**

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

#### **Approval Documents:**

00987-SIG-PAGE(1).pdf

7015.15 certified by Certifying Officer on:

# 7015.16 certified by Authorizing Officer on:

# **Reevaluation of a Completed Review**

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

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

It was determined that the original findings were still valid.

Statement or memo documenting determination:

The project Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado, PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #7 - 7. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (iii): Construction of a new farm storage facility. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Construction of a new farm storage facility with ground disturbance has been classified as CEST under the waiver.

ReEvaluation Memo (1).docx
PR-RGRW-00987 CENST ERR(1).pdf
PRDOH Regrow Puerto Rico Program - 5836 Waiver (002)(1).pdf
Farm Service Agency Adopted Categorical Exclusions Identified in FR-6492-N-01(1).pdf

# **Funding Information**

| Grant / Project<br>Identification<br>Number | HUD Program            | Program Name                       | Funding<br>Amount |
|---|------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| B-17-DM-72-0001                             | Community Planning and | Community Development Block Grants | \$0.00            |
|   | Development (CPD)      | (Disaster Recovery Assistance)     |                   |

| B-18-DE-72-0001 | Community Planning and | Community Development Block Grants                        | \$0.00 |
|-----------------|------------------------|---|--------|
|                 | Development (CPD)      | (Disaster Recovery Assistance)                            |        |
| B-18-DP-72-0001 | Community Planning and | Community Planning and Community Development Block Grants |        |
|                 | Development (CPD)      | (Disaster Recovery Assistance)                            |        |
| B-19-DP-78-0002 | Community Planning and | Community Development Block Grants                        | \$0.00 |
|                 | Development (CPD)      | (Disaster Recovery Assistance)                            |        |

Estimated Total HUD Funded,
Assisted or Insured Amount:

\$27,716.28

**Estimated Total Project Cost:** \$27,716.28

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

| Compliance Factors:<br>Statutes, Executive Orders, and<br>Regulations listed at 24 CFR §50.4,<br>§58.5, and §58.6                          | Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required? | Compliance determination<br>(See Appendix A for source<br>determinations)   |
|--|---|---|
| STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORD  | DERS, AND REGULATIO                                 | ONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 & § 58.6   |
| Airport Hazards Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D   | ☐ Yes ☑ No  | The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest civil airport, "Mercedita International Airport", is approximately 63,916 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport, "Aeropuerto Internacional Luis Munoz Marin", is approximately 230,725 feet from the proposed site. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements. |
| Coastal Barrier Resources Act Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]       | □ Yes ☑ No  | This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is at 75,487 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.   |
| Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001- 4128 and 42 USC 5154a] | □ Yes ☑ No  | Flood Map Number 72000C1095H, effective on 4/19/2005: The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable   |

|  |                      | structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.  |
|--|----------------------|---|
| STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORD  | DERS, AND REGULATION | ONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 & § 58.5   |
| Air Quality Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93 | □ Yes ☑ No           | Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under the Clean Air Act. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.   |
| Coastal Zone Management Act<br>Coastal Zone Management Act,<br>sections 307(c) & (d)             | □ Yes ☑ No           | This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 63,877 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.  |
| Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]                                  | ☐ Yes ☑ No           | Site contamination was evaluated as follows: None of the above. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements. At the time of this review, this section has not been updated in HEROS to include questions regarding radon. A review of science-based radon data offered a lack of data for the project site and radon testing was determined to be infeasible or impracticable. See attached radon documents. |
| Endangered Species Act Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402   | ☑ Yes □ No           | This project May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect, listed species, and informal consultation was conducted. With mitigation, identified in the mitigation section of this review, the project will be in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.   |
| Explosive and Flammable Hazards Above-Ground Tanks)[24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C                     | ☐ Yes ☑ No           | Based on the project description the project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this  |

|                                       |            | section. The project is in compliance     |
|---------------------------------------|------------|---|
|                                       |            | with explosive and flammable hazard       |
|                                       |            | requirements.                             |
| Farmlands Protection                  | ☐ Yes ☑ No | This project does not include any         |
| Farmland Protection Policy Act of     |            | activities that could potentially convert |
| 1981, particularly sections 1504(b)   |            | agricultural land to a non-agricultural   |
| and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658              |            | use. The project is in compliance with    |
|                                       |            | the Farmland Protection Policy Act.       |
| Floodplain Management                 | ☐ Yes ☑ No | Flood Map Number 72000C1095H,             |
| Executive Order 11988, particularly   |            | effective on 4/19/2005: This project      |
| section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55          |            | does not occur in a floodplain. The       |
| , ,,                                  |            | project is in compliance with Executive   |
|                                       |            | Order 11988. PFIRMs in Puerto Rico        |
|                                       |            | were only developed for certain           |
|                                       |            | sections of the municipalities of         |
|                                       |            | Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan      |
|                                       |            | and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project   |
|                                       |            | is located in the municipality of Jayuya; |
|                                       |            | therefore, PFIRM information was not      |
|                                       |            | available for the area and therefore not  |
|                                       |            | considered in the review. At the time of  |
|                                       |            | this review, this section has not been    |
|                                       |            | updated in HEROS to include questions     |
|                                       |            | regarding FFRMS. This project does not    |
|                                       |            | occur in the FFRMS floodplain. The        |
|                                       |            | project is in compliance with Executive   |
|                                       |            | Orders 11988 and 13690.                   |
| Historic Preservation                 | ☐ Yes ☑ No | (c. 2000) Based on Section 106            |
| National Historic Preservation Act of |            | consultation there are No Historic        |
| 1966, particularly sections 106 and   |            | Properties Affected because there are     |
| 110; 36 CFR Part 800                  |            | no historic properties present. The       |
|                                       |            | project is in compliance with Section     |
|                                       |            | 106.                                      |
| Noise Abatement and Control           | ☐ Yes ☑ No | Based on the project description, this    |
| Noise Control Act of 1972, as         |            | project includes no activities that would |
| amended by the Quiet Communities      |            | require further evaluation under HUD's    |
| Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart   |            | noise regulation. The project is in       |
| В                                     |            | compliance with HUD's Noise               |
|                                       |            | regulation.                               |
| Sole Source Aquifers                  | ☐ Yes ☑ No | The project is not located on a sole      |
| Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as   |            | source aquifer area. According to EPA,    |
| amended, particularly section         |            | there are no sole source aquifers in      |
| 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149              |            | Puerto Rico. The project is in            |
|                                       |            | compliance with Sole Source Aquifer       |
|                                       |            | requirements.                             |

|  | 1                 | 1  |  |
|--|-------------------|--|--|
| Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5                         | □ Yes ☑ No        | Based on the project description this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. This project does not involve new construction, so a visual wetlands survey was not conducted.   |  |
| Wild and Scenic Rivers Act Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c) | □ Yes ☑ No        | This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 291,096 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.   |  |
| HUD HO   | DUSING ENVIRONMEN | ITAL STANDARDS   |  |
|  | ENVIRONMENTAL J   | USTICE   |  |
| Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898  | ☐ Yes ☑ No        | No adverse environmental impacts were identified in the project's total environmental review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898. On January 21, 2025, President Donald Trump issued the Executive Order 14173 titled "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity", which revoked Executive Order 12898 and eliminated federal mandates requiring agencies to assess environmental justice impacts. Consequently, there is no longer a federal requirement to address environmental justice concerns in the environmental compliance review process. |  |

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

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

| Law,<br>Authority, | Mitigation Measure or Condition   | Comments on Completed | Mitigation<br>Plan | Complete |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------|
| or Factor          |                                   | Measures              |                    |          |
| Endangered         | The United States Fish and        | N/A                   |                    |          |
| Species Act        | Wildlife Service (USFWS)          |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Caribbean Ecological Services     |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Field Office reviewed the         |                       |                    |          |
|                    | information provided and their    |                       |                    |          |
|                    | files, and on January 13, 2025    |                       |                    |          |
|                    | concurred with the                |                       |                    |          |
|                    | determination that the proposed   |                       |                    |          |
|                    | project actions will have May     |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Affect, but is Not Likely to      |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Adversely Affect (NLAA) the       |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican    |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Broad-Winged Hawk, Puerto         |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Sharp- |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Shinned Hawk, Puerto Rican        |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Harlequin Butterfly.The USFWS     |                       |                    |          |
|                    | NLAA concurrence is conditioned   |                       |                    |          |
|                    | to the following: (1) if a Boa is |                       |                    |          |
|                    | encountered, the Conservation     |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Measures will be in accordance    |                       |                    |          |
|                    | with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa   |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Conservation Measures 2024, (2)   |                       |                    |          |
|                    | if a Puerto Rican Parrot is       |                       |                    |          |
|                    | encountered on the site, the      |                       |                    |          |
|                    | USFWS Caribbean Office will be    |                       |                    |          |
|                    | notified immediately, (3) if a    |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk    |                       |                    |          |
|                    | is encountered on the site, the   |                       |                    |          |
|                    | USFWS Caribbean Office will be    |                       |                    |          |
|                    | notified immediately, (4)if a     |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly  |                       |                    |          |
|                    | is encountered in the site, the   |                       |                    |          |
|                    | ConservationMeasures will be in   |                       |                    |          |
|                    | accordance with the USFWS         |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Puerto Rican Harlequin            |                       |                    |          |
|                    | ButterflyConservation Measures    |                       |                    |          |
|                    | and (5) if a Puerto Rican Sharp-  |                       |                    |          |
|                    | shinned Hawk is encountered       |                       |                    |          |
|                    | onthe site, the USFWS Caribbean   |                       |                    |          |
|                    | Office will be notified           |                       |                    |          |
|                    | immediately.Obligations under     |                       |                    |          |
|                    | section 7 of the Act must be      |                       |                    |          |
|                    | reconsidered if: (1) new          |                       |                    |          |

| information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described. |                                    |  |  |
|--|------------------------------------|--|--|
| affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as   | information reveals impacts of     |  |  |
| habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as   | this identified action that may    |  |  |
| previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as  | affect listed species or critical  |  |  |
| action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as  | habitat in a manner that was not   |  |  |
| in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as  | previously considered; (2) this    |  |  |
| considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as   | action is subsequently modified    |  |  |
| (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as  | in a manner not previously         |  |  |
| critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as  | considered in this assessment; or, |  |  |
| may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as   | (3) a new species is listed, or    |  |  |
| action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as   | critical habitat determined that   |  |  |
| concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as  | may be affected by the identified  |  |  |
| Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as   | action. In conclusion, the USFWS   |  |  |
| Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as   | concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT     |  |  |
| determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as  | Permits and Environmental          |  |  |
| applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as  | Compliance Division NLAA           |  |  |
| about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as   | determination. However, the        |  |  |
| determination of concurrence and implement them as   | applicant must be informed         |  |  |
| and implement them as  | about the conditions of the        |  |  |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·  | determination of concurrence       |  |  |
| described.   | and implement them as              |  |  |
|  | described.                         |  |  |

#### **Project Mitigation Plan**

Should new ground disturbance occur the Karst zone must be evaluated and when necessary DNER must be consulted prior to construction activities. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on January 13, 2025 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Sharp-Shinned Hawk, Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly. The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4) if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the ConservationMeasures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin ButterflyConservation Measures and (5) if a Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk is encountered on he site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately. Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.

Supporting documentation on completed measures

#### **APPENDIX A: Related Federal Laws and Authorities**

# **Airport Hazards**

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

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

√ No

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

Yes

#### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest civil airport, "Mercedita International Airport", is approximately 63,916 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport, "Aeropuerto Internacional Luis Munoz Marin", is approximately 230,725 feet from the proposed site. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.

#### **Supporting documentation**

PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE Airports.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

# **Coastal Barrier Resources**

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

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

✓ No

Document and upload map and documentation below.

Yes

# **Screen Summary**

# **Compliance Determination**

This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is at 75,487 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.

#### **Supporting documentation**

# PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE CBRS.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

#### **Flood Insurance**

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

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

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

✓ Yes

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

PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE FIRM 2.pdf PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE FIRM 1.pdf

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

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

Yes

✓ No

# **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

Flood Map Number 72000C1095H, effective on 4/19/2005: The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.

# **Supporting documentation**

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

# **Air Quality**

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

Jayuya, PR

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

Yes

✓ No

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

# **Screen Summary**

# **Compliance Determination**

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

# **Supporting documentation**

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

# **Coastal Zone Management Act**

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

# **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 63,877 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

# Supporting documentation

# PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE CZM.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

√ No

#### **Contamination and Toxic Substances**

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

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

**ASTM Phase I ESA** 

ASTM Phase II ESA

Remediation or clean-up plan

ASTM Vapor Encroachment Screening.

✓ None of the above

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:

<sup>\*</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.

There are no toxic sites within 3,000 feet of the applicant location. The environmental field observation did not note any items of concern. See the attached environmental field observation report. A google earth review of the area shows no visible hazards. The past land use for the last 10-15 year is agricultural.

Yes

#### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

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

#### **Supporting documentation**

Radon Attachments.pdf
PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE Toxics 2.pdf
PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE Toxics 1.pdf
PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE Radon Memo.docx
PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE EFOR(1).pdf

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

Yes

# **Endangered Species**

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

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

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

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

- Yes, the activities involved in the project have the potential to affect species and/or habitats.
- 2. Are federally listed species or designated critical habitats present in the action area?

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

- ✓ Yes, there are federally listed species or designated critical habitats present in the action area.
- 3. What effects, if any, will your project have on federally listed species or designated critical habitat?

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

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

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

#### 4. Informal Consultation is required

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on January 13, 2025 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Sharp-Shinned Hawk, Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly. The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4)if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the ConservationMeasures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin ButterflyConservation Measures and (5) if a Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately. Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.

No mitigation is necessary.

# **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

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

#### **Supporting documentation**

PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE USFWS Consultation Package.pdf
PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE USFWS Conservation Measures.pdf
PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE USFWS Concurrence Letter.pdf

# Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

✓ Yes

No

**Explosive and Flammable Hazards** 

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

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

| ✓ | No  |
|---|-----|
|   | Vac |

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

| ✓ | No |
|---|----|
|   |    |

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

Yes

### **Screen Summary**

# **Compliance Determination**

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

# **Supporting documentation**

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

# **Farmlands Protection**

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

Jayuya, PR

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

Yes

✓ No

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

The project site is not designated as farmland of statewide importance or prime farmland. The project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to nonagricultural use.

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

#### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

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

# **Supporting documentation**

PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE Farmlands.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

√ No

# Floodplain Management

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

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

55.12(c)(3)

55.12(c)(4)

55.12(c)(5)

55.12(c)(6)

55.12(c)(7)

55.12(c)(8)

55.12(c)(9)

55.12(c)(10)

55.12(c)(11)

✓ None of the above

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

PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE FIRM 2.pdf PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE FIRM 1.pdf

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

#### Does your project occur in a floodplain?

√ No

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

Yes

#### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

Flood Map Number 72000C1095H, effective on 4/19/2005: This project does not occur in a floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Jayuya; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review. At the time of this review, this section has not been updated in HEROS to include questions regarding FFRMS. This project does not occur in the FFRMS floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690.

#### **Supporting documentation**

### PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE ABFE.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No.

#### **Historic Preservation**

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

#### Threshold

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

No, because the project consists solely of activities listed as exempt in a Programmatic Agreement (PA). (See the PA Database to find applicable PAs.) No, because the project consists solely of activities included in a No Potential to Cause Effects memo or other determination [36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)].

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

# Step 1 – Initiate Consultation Select all consulting parties below (check all that apply):

✓ State Historic Preservation Offer (SHPO) Completed

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

**Other Consulting Parties** 

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

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

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

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

Yes

No

#### Step 2 – Identify and Evaluate Historic Properties

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

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

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

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

#### **Additional Notes:**

No Historic Properties present within the APE

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

Yes

✓ No

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

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

per guidance on direct and indirect effects.

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

✓ No Historic Properties Affected

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

# **Document reason for finding:**

✓ No historic properties present.

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

No Adverse Effect

Adverse Effect

#### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

(c. 2000) Based on Section 106 consultation there are No Historic Properties Affected because there are no historic properties present. The project is in compliance with Section 106.

# **Supporting documentation**

PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE SHPO Consultation Package.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

#### **Noise Abatement and Control**

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

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

New construction for residential use

Rehabilitation of an existing residential property

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

An interstate land sales registration

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

✓ None of the above

#### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

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

#### **Supporting documentation**

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

∕ No

## **Sole Source Aquifers**

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

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

< No

**√** 

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

Yes

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

Yes

No

## **Screen Summary**

## **Compliance Determination**

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

## **Supporting documentation**

PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE Sole Source Aquifers.pdf

## Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

## **Wetlands Protection**

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

#### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

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

#### **Supporting documentation**

#### PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE Wetlands.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

√ No

## Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

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

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

✓ No

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

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

#### **Screen Summary**

## **Compliance Determination**

This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 291,096 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

#### **Supporting documentation**

## PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE Wild and Scenic.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

√ No

#### **Environmental Justice**

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

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

#### Screen Summary

## **Compliance Determination**

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

## Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

√ No





# **Environmental Field Observation - Puerto Rico Department of Housing**

| APPLICANT INFORMATION   |                         |  |                              |
|---|-------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Application ID  | PR-RGRW-00987           |  |                              |
| Applicant Name  | Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado |  |                              |
| Property Address  | Carr. 140 kr            | Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores, Sector Alturas Piza |                              |
| Parcel ID   | 268-000-00              | 1-39   |                              |
| Coordinates   | 18.183960,              | -66.625039   |                              |
| Inspector Name  | Carlos O. M             | edina  |                              |
| Inspection Date   |                         |  |                              |
| Building Type   |                         |  |                              |
| Number of Units   | 0                       |  |                              |
| Number of Stories   | 0                       |  |                              |
| Year Built; Data Source   | ; Historia              | ın   |                              |
| ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS (attach  |                         |  | essary, for any YES answers) |
| OBSERVATION ITEMS   | YES                     | NO   | COMMENTS                     |
| A. Is the structure in use?   |                         | $\overline{\mathbf{V}}$  |                              |
| B. is structure a greenhouse?   |                         | Ø  |                              |
| C. Is Electricity connected?  | Ø                       |  | Power connected              |
| D. Is water connected? (Utilities or Well)  | Ø                       |  | Water connected              |
| 1. Are there signs of <b>poor housekeeping</b> on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.) |                         | Ø  |                              |
| 2. Are there any 55-gallon drums visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?   |                         | Ø  |                              |
| <b>3</b> . Are there any (or signs of any) <b>underground storage tanks</b> on the property?  |                         | Ø  |                              |
| <b>4</b> . Are there signs of <b>ASTs</b> on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.   |                         | Ø  |                              |
| 5. Is there any stained soil or pavement on the parcel?   |                         | V  |                              |
| 6. Is a water <b>drainage system</b> in use?  |                         | Ø  |                              |
| 7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of Fertilizer or Pesticides?   |                         | <b>4</b>   |                              |
| 8. Are there any groundwater monitoring wells on the site or adjacent parcel?   |                         | Ø  |                              |
| 9. Is there evidence of a faulty septic system?   |                         | Ø  |                              |
| 10. Is there distressed vegetation on the parcel?   |                         | Ø  |                              |
| 11. Is there any visible indication of MOLD?  |                         | $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$  |                              |







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

#### **Additional Notes:**

Case: PR-RGRW-00987

Project Name: Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado Coordinates: 18.183960, -66.625039

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

Scope of Work: The proposed project includes the purchase of a UTV, coffee roaster, and construction of a new warehouse.

Land current in use for: coffee plantation

Past Land use was: coffee plantation 20 years ago

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

Scope of work 1: Construction of a new warehouse in the coordinates 18.183960, -66.625039.

The dimensions of the warehouse will be 40 x 30 in metal and galvalume. The base will be made in gravel stones. This warehouse will be use for storage of farm equipment and coffee.

Scope of work 2: Coffee roaster in the coordinates 18.184018, -66.625018

The coffee roaster fixes itself, without having to fix it to the existing concrete base in the back of the applicant house. No soil disturbance will be required. The roaster will not required any electrical connections, because it would be working with propane gas.

Any new water connection or power connection?

The warehouse will require a water connection from an existing adjacent connection approximately 20 linear feet in PVC tube, underground at 1 feet approximately.

The electrical power will be from an existing adjacent connection, approximately 30 linear feet in plastic conduit, underground at 3 feet approximately.

If the scope of work included tools, machinery or farms products, Where the applicant will be storing them? UTV will be storage in the carport of the applicant house in the coordinates: 18.184111, -66.625015







# Site Sketch

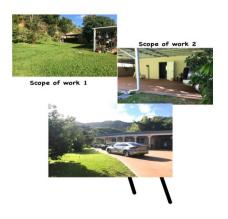




Photo Direction: South

## Front of Structure



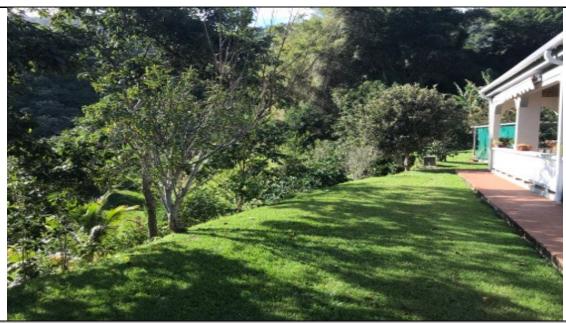
Facing Away From Front





Photo Direction: South

Side #1 of Structure



Facing Away From Side #1





Photo Direction: South



Facing Away From Back





Photo Direction: Northwest



Facing Away From Side #2

Photo Direction: Southeast





Photo Direction: North

Streetscape #1



Streetscape #2









Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East





Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast

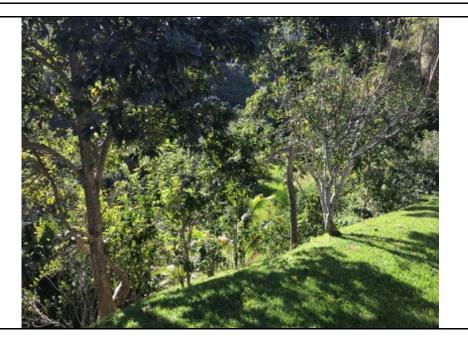




Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details





Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details





Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details





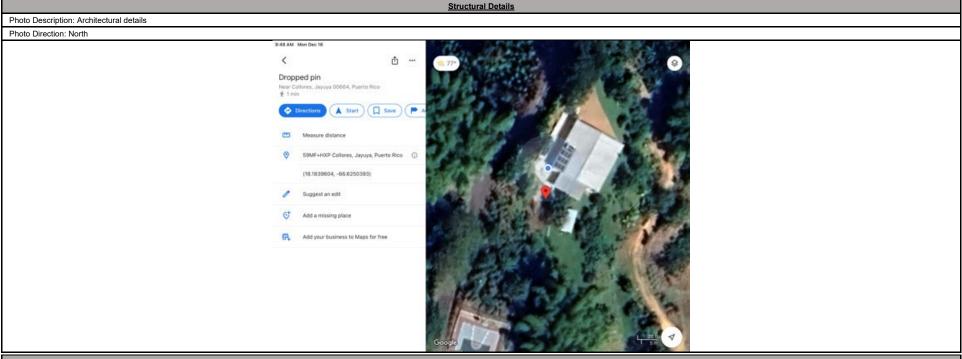


Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast





Photo Description: Architectural details

Structural Details





Electricity Connected

Photo Description: Power connection

Photo Direction: East





Water Connected

Photo Description: Water connected

Photo Direction: West





Photo Description: River to the Southeast of the property appr. 365'
Photo Direction: Southeast



Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Construction of a warehouse

Photo Direction: South



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Construction of a warehouse

Photo Direction: Southeast





Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Construction of a warehouse

Photo Direction: West



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Construction of a warehouse





Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Installation of a coffee roaster

Photo Direction: Southeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Installation of a coffee roaster





Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Installation of a coffee roaster

Photo Direction: Northeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Installation of a coffee roaster

Photo Direction: West





# **GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO**

## STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

Monday, March 25, 2024

# Lauren B Poche

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

SHPO-CF-03-18-24-03 PR-RGRW-00987 (Jayuya), Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado

Ms. Poche,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer

my afartir

CARC/GMO/OJR





oech.pr.gov



March 18, 2024

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

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

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-00987 – Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado – Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores, Sector Alturas Piza, Jayuya, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected* 

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

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

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, HORNE is submitting documentation for activities proposed by Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado located at Carr 140 km 8.1 Interior, Barrio Collores, Sector Alturas Piza, in the municipality of Jayuya. The undertaking for this project includes the proposed project includes the purchase and installation of a 15Kg coffee roaster and the construction of a new warehouse which will be used as storage equipment storage. The proposed warehouse is a 40-foot (ft) x 30 ft purlin and galvalume structure to be set on a gravel stone base and supported by 4 metal posts set an approximate depth of 3 feet and 6 inches width. The new warehouse will be connected from the existing utilities connection points. The water service connection point is located an approximate distance of 20 ft from the warehouse location. Connection to water service will be achieved via an underground PVC piping system at an estimated depth of 1 ft.



Electrical services will be provided via an underground electrical conduit; the electrical trench will be approximately 30 linear ft and 3 ft depth.

The coffee roaster will be located on an existing concrete base to the south (rear) of the applicant's ca. 2000 residence. The proposed coffee roaster will not be anchored to the ground or floor. The proposed location has existing power and water utilities infrastructure. No soil disturbance will be required.

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

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

Kindest regards,

James B. Pocke

Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.

Architectural Historian, EHP Senior Manager

LBP/JLE

**Attachments** 

| PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination | GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING |
|--|---|
| Subrecipient: Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado  | ·   |
| Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987   | City: Jayuya                                    |

Project Location: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior, Sector Alturas Piza, Barrio Collores, Jayuya, PR 00664

Project Coordinates: 18.183960, -66.625039

TPID (Número de Catastro): 268-000-001-39-000

Type of Undertaking:

☐ Substantial Repair

☐ New Construction

Construction Date (AH est.): c2000

Property Size (acres): 22.88

| SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian: Maria F. Lopez Schmid |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Date Reviewed: 1/16/2024   |  |  |
| SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Steven J. Sarich, MS, RPA                 |  |  |
| Date Reviewed: 1/18/2024   |  |  |

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

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

The proposed project includes the purchase of a 15Kg coffee roaster, and the construction of a new warehouse. The potential impacts associated with the purchase and installation of the coffee roasting machine and the construction of the warehouse are included in the analyses below. This land has been used for agricultural purposes for more than 20 years with the production of coffee. Field has not been graded.

The scope of work 1 (SOW-1) for this project consists of the construction of a new warehouse at coordinates 18.183960, -66.625039 to be used as storage for equipment storage. The proposed warehouse is a 40-foot (ft) x 30 ft purlin and galvalume structure to be supported by 4 metal posts with an approximate depth of 3 feet and 6 inches width on a gravel stone base.

The scope of work 2 (SOW-2) for the project consists of the purchase and installation of a TKMX 15 kg gas coffee roaster in an existing concrete base in the back of the applicant residence with a construction date of circa 2000 at the coordinates 18.184018, -66.625018. The proposed coffee roasting machine does not require to be anchored to the ground or floor. No soil disturbance will be required.

| PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination | GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO<br>DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING |
|--|--|
| Subrecipient: Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado  | ,  |
| Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987   | City: Jayuya                                       |

Project site has the local power and water utilities infrastructure. The proposed roasting machine uses propane gas as the main source of energy. The new warehouse will be connected from the existing utilities connection points. The water service connection point is located an approximate distance of 20 ft from the warehouse location. Connection to water service will be achieved via an underground PVC piping system at an estimated depth of 1 ft. Electrical services will be provided via an underground electrical conduit. An electrical trench is approximately 30 linear ft and 3 ft depth. While the applicant plans to pay for this activity themselves and no HUD funds would be utilized for this portion of work, the potential impacts from this action are included in the analyses below and it is contained within the delimited Area of Potential Effect (APE). This APE has been extended to the applicant residence connection point to allow for utility connections and is constrained to the northeast by the applicant residence structure. The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

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

As defined in 36 CFR §800.16(d), the area of potential effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the location of the metal warehouse and the installation of a coffee roaster. This APE includes a 15-meter buffer to allow for variation in final project placement and for this case has been extended to the applicant residence connection point to allow for utility connections and is constrained to the northeast by the applicant residence structure. The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

#### Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) shows that the project area has no previously identified archaeological sites within a 0.25-mile radius of the APE. No previously reported archaeological studies have been conducted within a 0.25-mile radius of the project area. The landscape topography and soils are important when determining the probability of an archaeological site being found and the potential for site preservation in a given location. Two types of soils are mapped within the 0.25-mile radius of the APE, all with steep to very steep (40 percent to 60 percent) slopes. The soil units include

| PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination | GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING |
|--|---|
| Subrecipient: Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado  |   |
| Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987   | City: Jayuya                                    |

Lirios clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded (LcF2), and Pellejas clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes (PeF) [see soils map]. These are shallow soils formed in residuum eroded from plutonic rock. Given the shallow nature of the soils, the potential for erosion, and the steep slopes, the potential for *in situ* archaeological sites is considered low. The closest freshwater body is a tributary of Río Jauca at approximately 0.07 mi (0.12km) northwest of the project area.

## Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that the project area is **not** within the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. Additionally, there are **no** NRHP-listed historic properties within the quarter mile buffer zone from the APE.

The proposed project is in a rural, mountainous terrain with dense vegetation and residences along both sides of PR-527 in Jayuya. A circa 2000 building that is the applicant's house, is located north of the APE geocoordinates. A 15Kg coffee roaster machine, the coffee roaster will be installed at coordinates 18.184018, -66.625018 an existing concrete base on the south (rear) elevation of the applicant's house (see Area of Potential Effects Map, SOW-2).

The building, shown below, appears in a 2004 aerial image, but not on a 1994 aerial image. The house is a one-story reinforced concrete house with a low-profile corrugated metal roof over metal beams and rafters. The house has a slab on grade foundation, concrete walls and front columns supporting the full front L-shaped porch and right -side carport. The front door is metal and glass, and the windows are metal and glass jalousie type. A recessed rear porch supported by metal columns and has a metal door for access to the interior.

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

Subrecipient: Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987

City: Jayuya





**Figures 1 & 2.** Detail of 2004 aerial image indicating the location of the building on the property and the house façade, view to the south.

The house in the APE for this project is modern, and it **does not** meet the requirements to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

#### **Determination**

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

Based on our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect the historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect. The SOI-qualified environmental professionals found no previously identified historic properties or previous archaeological surveys within a 0.25-mile radius of the APE. Given the shallow nature of the soils, the potential for erosion, and the steep slopes, the potential for *in situ* archaeological sites is considered low. There are no NRHP-listed historic properties within the quarter mile buffer zone from the APE. The house adjacent to the APE is modern, and it does not meet the requirements to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project activities.

| PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination | GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING |
|--|---|
| Subrecipient: Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado  |   |
| Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987   | City: Jayuya                                    |

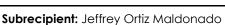
#### Recommendation

| The Puerto Rico Department of Housing requests that the Puerto Rico SHPO concur that | t 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 applic    | able) |

| This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only                   |                         |  |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed and: | d the above information |  |
| □ <b>Concurs</b> with the information provided.                      |                         |  |
| □ <b>Does not concur</b> with the information provided.              |                         |  |
| Comments:  |                         |  |
|  |                         |  |
|  |                         |  |
|  |                         |  |
|  |                         |  |
|  |                         |  |
|  |                         |  |
|  |                         |  |
|  |                         |  |
|  |                         |  |
| Carlos Rubio-Cancela   | Date:                   |  |
| State Historic Preservation Officer                                  | _ 33                    |  |

#### **Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination**





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

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING





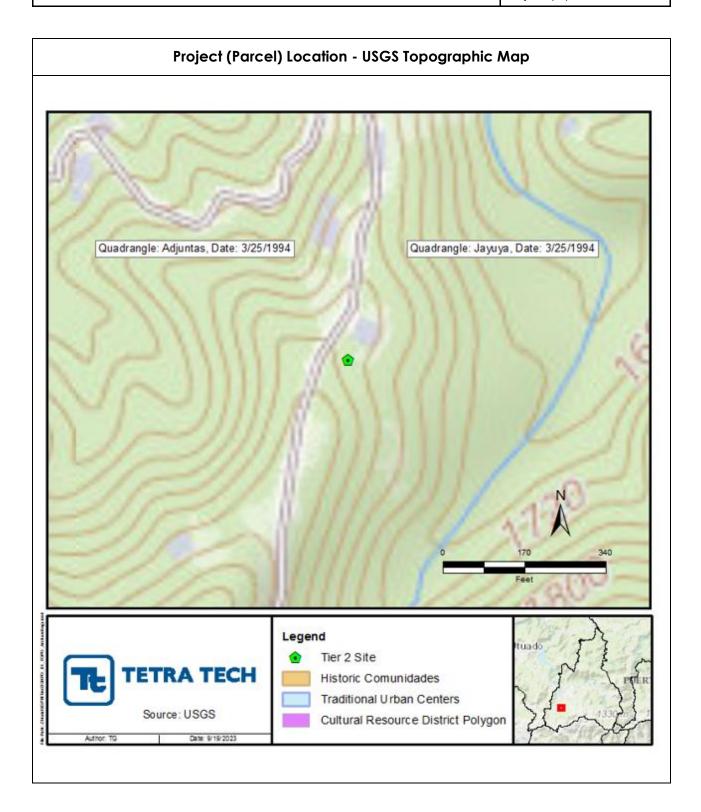
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987 City: Jayuya

# Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map





Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987 City: Jayuya





Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987 City: Jayuya

# Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map LcF2 Boll Type **TETRA TECH** LcF2;Lirios clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded PeF;Pellejas clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes Source:USDA

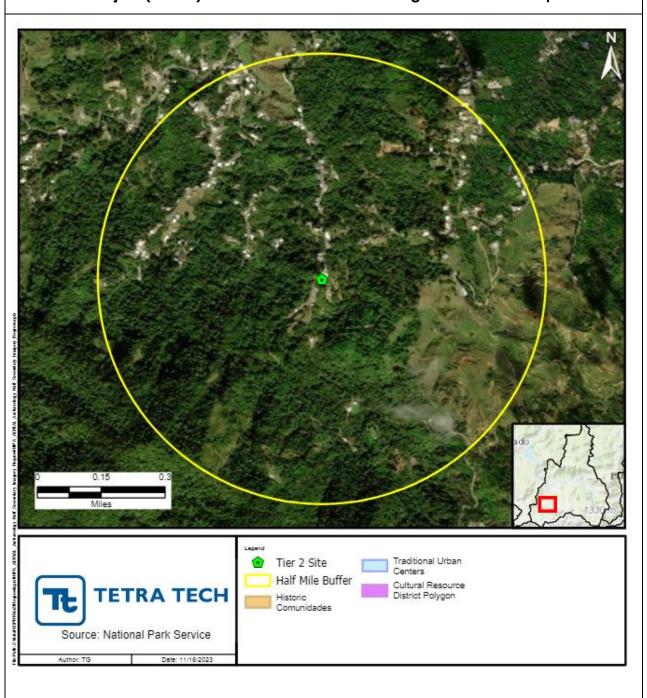
#### **Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination**



Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987 City: Jayuya



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





Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987 City: Jayuya

# Project (Parcel) Location with Previously Recorded Cultural Resources **USGS** Topographic Map Collores Quadrangle: Adjuntas, Date: 3/25/1994 Quadrangle: Jayuya, Date: 3/25/1994 JAYUYA Collores-MUNICIPIO 0.2 Tier 2 Site Half Mile Buffer **TETRA TECH** Historic Comunidades Traditional Ulban Centers Source: National Park Service Cultural Resource District Polygon

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



**Subrecipient:** Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987 City: Jayuya

#### Photograph Key



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

**Subrecipient:** Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987 City: Jayuya



Photo #: 1

**Date:** Jan. 12, 2024.

**Description (include direction):** Scope of work 1: Construction of a warehouse, view to the south.

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO



Photo #: 2

**Date:** Jan. 12, 2024.

**Description (include direction):** Scope of work 1: Construction of a warehouse, view to the north.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM

**Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination** 

**Subrecipient:** Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987 City: Jayuya



Photo #: 3

**Date:** Jan. 12, 2024.

**Description (include direction):** Scope of work 1: Construction of a warehouse, view to the northwest.

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING



Photo #: 4

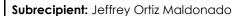
**Date:** Jan. 12, 2024.

**Description (include direction):** Scope of work 2: Installation of a coffee roaster, view to the southeast.

#### Puerto Rico 2017 Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR Program

REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM

#### Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Case ID: PR-RGRW-00987 City: Jayuya



Photo #: 5

**Date:** Jan. 12, 2024.

**Description (include direction):** Scope of work 2: Installation of a coffee roaster, view to the north.

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING



Photo #: 6

**Date:** Jan. 12, 2024.

**Description (include direction):** Connections area for the water and electricity for the warehouse, view to the north.



October 20, 2022

#### Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

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

Re: Authorization to Submit Documents

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela:

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

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

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

Cordially,

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





#### **Memorandum to File**

**Date:** 4/14/2025

From: Justin Neely

**Environmental Manager** 

SKNeely

CDBG-DR Program

Regrow Puerto Rico Program

Puerto Rico Department of Housing

**Application Number:** PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE

**Project:** Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado

#### Re: Justification for the Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing

After reviewing Application Number PR-RGRW-00987-W-RE under the Regrow Puerto Rico Program, administered by the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (**PRDOH**), to complete the property's contamination analysis in accordance with 24 C.F.R. § 50.3(i) and 24 C.F.R. § 58.5(i), we have determined that testing the property's radon levels is infeasible and impracticable.

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

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

CDBG-DR Program
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Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing
Page 2 of 3

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

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

CDBG-DR Program
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Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing
Page 3 of 3

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

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

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





February 25, 2025

TO: José M. Olmo Terrasa, Esq.

Deputy Director for Economic Recovery Grant Management Re-Grow PR Urban Rural Agriculture Program

RE: Endangered Species Concurrence - Conservation Measures Implementation

Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado (PR-RGRW-00987)

Dear Mr. Olmo:

This memorandum is to notify the CDBG-DR Re-Grow PR Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (Re-Grow Program) that on November 1, 2024, for the case **PR-RGRW-00987**, the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division submitted an informal consultation under Section 7 (a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) for the proposed project of construction of a new purlin and galvalume warehouse and the purchase and installation of a gas coffee roaster on an existing concrete base, for Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado, an agricultural business, located at PR-140 Km 8.1, Collores Ward, Alturas Piza Sector, Jayuya, PR 00664; latitude 18.183963, longitude -66.624962.

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

| Name of Species  | Status     |  |
|--|------------|--|
| Puerto Rican Boa   | Endangered |  |
| Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk                                 | Endangered |  |
| Puerto Rican Parrot  | Endangered |  |
| Puerto Rican Sharp-Shinned Hawk                                | Endangered |  |
| Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly                               | Threaten   |  |
| Critical Habitat   |            |  |
| There were no Critical Habitats noted within the project area. |            |  |

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on January 13, 2025 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have **May Affect**, **but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)** the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Sharp-Shinned Hawk, Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly.

The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4) if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Conservation Measures and (5) if a Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately.

Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action.

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

In order to facilitate the species identification, please, find attached the Caribbean Endangered and Threatened Animals Fact Sheets for: the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Sharp-Shinned Hawk, Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly.

USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office key contact information:

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

Sincerely,

Permits and Environmental Compliance Division Disaster Recovery Office

# Caribbean ES Puerto Rican Boa

#### Puerto Rican Boa

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



IPaC - Information for Planning and Consultation (https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/): A project planning tool to help streamline the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service environmental review process.

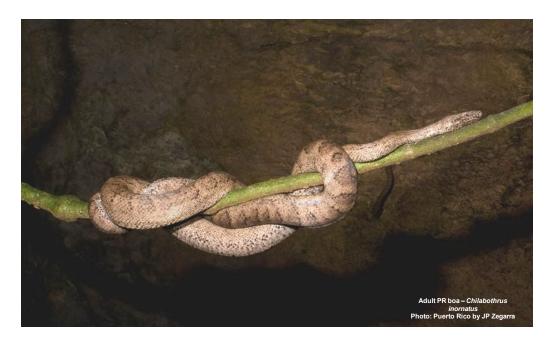


### U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

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

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

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



Last Revised: January 2024

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

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

#### **Conservation Measures:**

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

Last Revised: January 2024

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

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

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



#### **Puerto Rican Harlequin Conservation Measures**

- 1. The contractor must inform all personnel about the potential presence of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly or its occupied host plant "prickly bush" (Oplonia spinosa) in the project areas. A pre-work meeting should inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming this butterfly and its occupied host plant. Educational material (e.g., posters, flyers or signs with photos or illustrations of all the life stages of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (i.e., eggs, caterpillar, chrysalids and adult, and its host plant) should be prepared and available to all personnel for reference.
- 2. Before starting any project activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movement, the contractor must clearly delineate the boundaries of the working area in the field to avoid unnecessary habitat impacts. Once the project areas are clearly marked, and before any work activity, including site preparation, personnel with knowledge and ability to identify the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (all life stages) and the "prickly bush" must survey the areas where the work will be performed for the presence of the species and its host plant. It is important to note that the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly can be observed year-round in all its life stages; thus, oviposition (egg-laying) may occur at any time during the year.
- 3. If the "prickly bush" is present on the project site, try to avoid cutting it off, even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
- 4. If there is no prickly bush within the project area, and the butterfly is observed flying within the project area, do not harass, harm, pursue, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct, the species.
- 5. Adult butterflies are often observed flying near the host plant as part of their mating behavior and laying eggs. Project-related activities must stop if the prickle bush is found in the project area and the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly is observed flying in that same area. A temporary 50-meter (164 feet) buffer zone of no activity or human disturbance should be established and clearly marked around that prickly bush until the butterfly moves out on its own.
- 6. Once the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly has moved away, within a period of 24 to 36 hours, a search of the prickly bush that has been buffered should be conducted to determine the presence of any eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids of the butterfly on the plant. The contractor or the Applicant should send a report of the observation and its findings to caribbean\_es@fws.gov after the 36-hour search is concluded.
- 7. If, after the initial search or after the 24 to 36-hour search, any life stage of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly is found in the prickly bush, take the following actions:
  - Clearly mark the host plant with flagging tape.
  - o Establish a 10-meter (32-foot) buffer zone around the bush to protect it.

- Eggs are typically found on the prickly bush's newly grown, tender branches. Once an egg hatches, the caterpillar moves and feeds throughout the bush. Therefore, avoid cutting off the prickly bush within the project site even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
- Work within the 10-meter buffered area may resume when no signs of any live life stage of the butterfly are detected, which usually takes approximately 60 to 120 days.
- 8. For all Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly sightings (all life stages), the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where the butterfly was found must be recorded. Data should also include a photo of the butterfly (if possible) and the habitat where it was observed, site GPS coordinates, and comments on how the butterfly was detected and its behavior. All Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly sighting reports should be sent to the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Service Field Office at caribbean\_es@fws.gov.
- 9. For questions regarding the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, the Point of Contacts are: José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator:

Mobile: 305-304-1386
Office phone: 786-244-0081
Office Direct Line: 939-320-3120
Email: jose\_cruz-burgos@fws.gov

## Guaraguao de bosque Buteo platypterus brunnescens



Distribución



Familia: Accipitridae Orden: Falconiformes

#### <u>Descripción</u>

El guaraguao de bosque de Puerto Rico o guaraguaito es de color marrón oscuro con barras blancas y rojizas en la parte ventral. Es una subespecie endémica de Puerto Rico de tamaño mediano, que mide aproximadamente 39 centímetros (15.5 pulgadas). Es más pequeño que el Buteo platypterus platypterus pero más grande que la subespecie que ocurre en las Antillas Menores. El guaraguao de bosque es la subespecie de halcón de ala ancha más oscuro. En los adultos, la cola es de un color negro claro con bandas blancas horizontales en la base, medio y extremo de la cola, y esto, junto con el pecho rojizo, caracteriza a la especie. Los machos y las hembras son muy similares en apariencia, pero las hembras son un poco más grandes. Las aves juveniles tienen barras oscuras en el pecho y no tienen las bandas distintivas en la cola. La población del guaraguao de bosque de Puerto Rico oscila cerca de los 125 individuos.

#### Información biológica

#### Reproducción

Esta especie anida en bosques secundarios maduros y plantaciones antiguas. En el Bosque Estatal de Río Abajo (RACF, por sus siglas en inglés), los sitios de anidación están caracterizados por la presencia de árboles tales como el palo María (Calophyllum antillanum), la teca (Tectona grandis), la caoba hondureña (Swietenia macrophylla) y la majagua (Hibiscus elatus). Los guaraguaos de bosque colocan sus nidos en la parte superior de árboles grandes que sobrepasan la cubierta forestal. Información recientemente recopilada sobre la abundancia y características demográficas del guaraguao de bosque en RACF indica un alto nivel de fidelidad entre parejas; una tasa de sobrevivencia en nidos de 0.67 a través de la temporada de reproducción; y una productividad de 1.1 crías por nido. Entre los años 2001 a 2003, se marcaron con radio transmisores y se colocaron bandas en las patas a varias crías de guaraguaos en el RACF. En 2013, al visitar el área donde se marcaron, se documentó que seguían vivas (Llerandi-Román and Ríos-Cruz pers. comm.). Por ejemplo, una hembra joven que fue marcada entre el 2001 al 2003 en el RACF fue documentada anidando exitosamente entre los años 2007 al 2009. (Ríos-Cruz pers. comm.)

#### Hábitat

Esta especie habita en bosques enanos, bosques de palmas de sierra, de caimitillo-granadillo y de tabonuco. Estos bosques se encuentran en las reservas forestales del Bosque Estatal de Carite, Bosque Estatal Toro Negro, Bosque Los Tres Picachos y el Bosque Nacional El Yunque. También habita en

**AMENAZADA** 

plantaciones madereros maduros, en cafetales bajo sombra y en bosques secundarios maduros del área de carso al norte-central de Puerto Rico dentro y cerca del Bosque Estatal de Río Abajo y el área de Río Encantado entre los pueblos de Florida y Ciales. La topografía húmeda de los bosques del carso le provee al guaraguao de bosque otra alternativa como área para anidar. En estudios recientes, se han documentado miembros de una especie similar de guaraguao (guaraguao de cola roja; *Buteo jamaicensis jamaicensis*) anidando en las laderas del carso adyacentes al RACF.

#### Distribución

El guaraguao de bosque es un ave de rapiña poco común y extremadamente localizado, que se encuentra en los bosques montañosos de tierra alta de Puerto Rico. Las poblaciones existentes se hallan primariamente dentro de cinco bosques: el RACF, el Bosque Estatal Carite, el Bosque Estatal Toro Negro, el Bosque Los Tres Picachos y el Bosque Nacional El Yunque. Llerandi-Román (2006) halló trece territorios de guaraguao de bosque justo fuera de los límites de RACF, en seis sitios diferentes con hábitat apropiado para los guaraguaos de bosque. Los territorios se encuentran a lo largo del valle del Río Tanamá, al noroeste del RACF

#### **Amenazas**

La abundancia y la distribución del guaraguao de bosque es limitada. Cualquier amenaza que atente contra su población y su hábitat puede resultar en detrimento para esta especie. De forma natural, los huracanes constituyen una amenaza ya que destruyen su hábitat debido a las intensas lluvias y a los fuertes vientos. No obstante, existe una gran variedad de actividades humanas que también amenazan las poblaciones de esta especie. La construcción de instalaciones recreativas, de estructuras para energía y comunicaciones y de carreteras contribuye a la destrucción y fragmentación de su hábitat. De igual manera, la caza ilegal, las malas prácticas de manejo y la carencia de planes de manejo para los bosques públicos también afectan las poblaciones del guaraguao de bosque. Los bajos números poblacionales de esta especie pueden, por sí mismos, estar afectando la población ya que se pierde la variación genética de esta.

#### Medidas de conservación

El guaraguao de bosque está incluido en la lista de especies amenazadas desde el 1994. La Ley Federal de Especies en Peligro de Extinción de 1973, según enmendada, prohíbe matar, dañar, molestar, atrapar, comprar o vender una especie, así como partes o productos derivados de ellas. El tener la especie en la lista federal fomenta y ayuda a crear acciones de conservación por las agencias federales, estatales, privadas, y por grupos e individuos particulares. La Ley de Especies En Peligro fomenta la compra de terrenos y la cooperación con el Estado, y requiere que se ejecuten acciones de recuperación en relación a todas las especies listadas. Entre las medidas esenciales para proteger el hábitat y fomentar el crecimiento de las poblaciones existentes están: la protección de los sitios de anidamiento y alimento en las áreas públicas y privadas, el mejoramiento de los hábitats, la reforestación en áreas abiertas, la actualización de la información acerca de la distribución y la identificación o creación de corredores biológicos entre poblaciones cercanas (tales como RACF, Los Tres Picachos y Toro Negro) con tal de facilitar el movimiento de los guaraguaos de bosque entre los bosques.

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#### Información adicional

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Cotorra puertorriqueña Amazona vittata vittata



Familia: Psittacidae Orden: Psittaciformes

#### Descripción

La cotorra puertorriqueña o Iguaca, como la llamaban los indios taínos, es un ave verde brillante con una mancha roja en la frente, un anillo blanco alrededor del ojo y plumas primarias azules. Su pico es color marfil y el borde de su cola es redondo. Los juveniles son bastante parecidos a los adultos. Tanto hembras como machos son parecidos y miden cerca de doce pulgadas (aprox. 30 centímetros). A veces, la franja roja en la frente es más ancha en los machos que en las hembras. Mientras vuela emite un fuerte y ruidoso "kar...kar." Este sonido se escucha a gran distancia. Emite otros sonidos para comunicarse con otras cotorras y para defender su territorio.

#### <u>Información biológica</u>

#### Reproducción

La cotorra puertorriqueña alcanza su edad reproductiva entre los 3 a 5 años. Las cotorras usualmente forman

parejas que perduran por mucho tiempo, normalmente de por vida. Las parejas permanecen juntas casi todo el año, excepto cuando la hembra está incubando y el macho asume la responsabilidad de proveer alimento. La cotorra usa como nido las cavidades que se encuentran en árboles de gran tamaño como el palo colorado (Cyrilla racemiflora), entre otros. De ser necesario, también podría anidar en las cavidades de roca caliza. El anidamiento comienza en los meses de febrero y marzo, hasta junio. Tradicionalmente, la anidación coincide con el período más seco del año y durante el período de fructificación (producir frutos) de plantas cuyas semillas, frutas y hojas le sirven de alimento.

Distribución

#### Dieta

La cotorra come plantas tales como: palma de sierra, palma real, maricao, maria, guaba, cupey, guaraguao y yagrumo, entre otros árboles.

#### Distribución

La cotorra puertorriqueña, ave endémica a Puerto Rico fue abundante en Puerto Rico, incluyendo las islas de Culebra, Vieques y Mona. Esta cotorra es la última especie de psitácidos existentes y originaria en territorio de los Estados Unidos. Los psitácidos son la familia de aves, en su mayoría tropicales, con plumas de colores vivos y pico corto, alto y muy encorvado (ej. guacamayo y cotorra). La población silvestre de cotorras puertorriqueñas se limita actualmente a la Sierra de Luquillo, mayormente en el Bosque Nacional El Yunque, al este de Puerto Rico y en el Bosque Estatal de Río Abajo, en el norte central de Puerto Rico, entre Arecibo y Utuado. Al menos tres de las cotorras liberadas en Río Abajo se han dispersado y en 2012 fueron vistas entre Morovis, Vega Baja y Manatí.

#### **Amenazas**

Además de tener una población pequeña y una distribución limitada, la especie también se ve afectada por el zorzal pardo (Margarops fuscatus) quien mata los huevos y pichones de la cotorra para usar el nido. El guaraguao colirojo (Buteo jamaicensis), el guaraguaito de bosque (Buteo platypterus brunnescens) y las ratas (Rattus rattus y R. norvegicus) son depredadores mortales de cotorras juveniles y adultas. Las moscas parasíticas (Philornis pici) depositan sus larvas en los pichones de aves para completar su ciclo de desarrollo. Estas moscas enferman y matan a los pichones. Las abejas europeas y africanas (Apis mellifera) invaden los nidos de la cotorra para formar adentro sus colmenas. También pueden matar a los pichones. Los huracanes y otros eventos climatológicos pueden afectar la estabilidad de la especie en su estado natural. La pérdida de hábitat por la deforestación es una amenaza que siempre está presente y limita las opciones de lugares aptos para reintroducir la cotorra a la vida silvestre.

#### Medidas de conservación

La cotorra puertorriqueña fue designada como especie en peligro de extinción en el año 1967, antes de que la Ley de Especies en Peligro de Extinción de 1973 entrara en vigor. Existe un Acuerdo Cooperativo entre el Servicio Federal de Pesca y Vida Silvestre, el Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales y el Servicio Forestal de los Estados Unidos para manejar de forma conjunta la recuperación de la cotorra puertorriqueña. Las tres agencias constituyen el Comité de Recuperación de la Cotorra Puertorriqueña. Inicialmente, se estableció un programa de propagación en cautiverio que, con el tiempo, ha crecido para incluir liberaciones de cotorras al estado silvestre, monitoreo de las poblaciones silvestres, manejo del hábitat e investigación. Otras entidades privadas y académicas se han unido a los esfuerzos para realizar investigaciones y educar.

El Comité realiza censos de cotorras periódicamente y estima que existen ente 18 a 22 cotorras en El Yunque y cerca de 60 a 70 en Río Abajo. Los biólogos de campo utilizan múltiples estrategias para manejar el hábitat. La escasez de árboles maduros con cavidades

requiere que se construyan e instalen nidos artificiales para que la cotorra puertorriqueña anide. También, los expertos controlan las poblaciones de las especies depredadoras, cuando es necesario, para asegurar el desarrollo normal de los huevos y de los pichones.

La población en cautiverio se mantiene para varios propósitos: reproducir cotorras y aumentar su número, asegurar poblaciones adicionales, particularmente en el caso de una catástrofe natural tal como un huracán, y para, eventualmente, poder proveer aves para reintroducirlas a los bosques donde habitaban. En los aviarios, se utilizan técnicas avanzadas para diagnosticar enfermedades y proveer tratamiento. Actualmente, hay cerca de 350 cotorras entre el Aviario Iguaca, manejado por el Servicio Federal de Pesca y Vida Silvestre en El Yunque, y en el Aviario José L. Vivaldi, manejado por el Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales de Puerto Rico, en el Bosque Estatal Río Abajo.

La Ley Federal de Especies en Peligro de Extinción de 1973, según enmendada, prohíbe matar, dañar, molestar, atrapar, comprar o vender una especie, así como partes o productos derivados de ellas

#### Referencias

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#### Información adicional

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## Falc6n de sierra striatuf J tc 1 6



Distribución



Familia: Accipitridae
Orden: Falconiformes

#### Descripci6n

El falcon de sierra de Puerto Rico es un ave de rapifia que tiene un tamafio de aproximadamente 11 a 13 pulgadas (28 a 33 centimetros). Los adultos tienen la region dorsal del cuerpo de color gris pizarra y la region ventral con barras densas de color rubio-rojizo. Los juveniles son de color marron claro por encima y densamente listados por debajo. Al vuelo, esta ave muestra las alas cortas, de forma redondeada y la cola estrecha. El falcon de sierra vuela alternando el batir de las alas con el planeo.

#### Informaci6n biol6gica

#### Reproducci6n

Esta ave construye sus nidos de varitas en lo alto de los arboles y pone en ellos tres huevos blancos con manchas pequefias. La temporada de anidamiento del falcon de sierra comienza en marzo y continua hasta julio.

#### Habitat

El falcon de sierra es una subespecie endemica en Puerto Rico que se encuentra en areas boscosas asociadas a las zonas de vida conocidas como bosque humedo subtropical montano bajo y bosque humedo subtropical (ej. bosque enano, palma de sierra, caimitillo-granadillo y tabonuco).

#### Dieta

Se alimenta primordialmente de aves pequefias tales como: el comefiame (Loxigilla portoricensis), la reinita comun (Coerebafiaveola) y la llorosa (Nesospingus speculiferus).

#### Distribuci6n

Las unicas cinco poblaciones existentes de falcon de sierra se encuentran en los bosques montafiosos del Bosque Nacional El Yunque y los Bosques Estatales de: Maricao, Toro Negro, Guilarte y Carite. En el afio 1992, se estimo una poblacion general de 150 individuos para estos bosques. En censos hechos entre 2012 y 2013 se nota una disminucion significativa de individuos en varios de los bosques.

#### Amenazas

La destruccion y la modificacion del habitat en Puerto Rico es uno de los factores mas importantes que ha afectado el numero y la distribucion del falcon de sierra. La distribucion tan limitada de esta especie puede haber sido resultado de la fragmentacion de areas forestadas que ha ocurrido durante este siglo. Esta ave ha experimentado una merma poblacional de un 60% en el Bosque de Carite y de un 93% en el Bosque Nacional El Yunque. La causa de esta merma es desconocida para los investigadores.

Entre las amenazas que se han identificado para esta especie se encuentran: practicas de manejo y cultivo de madera en los bosques, construccion de veredas y carreteras en los bosques, construcción de facilidades recreativas, aumento en el uso de los bosques para fines recreativos y la posibilidad de cacerfa furtiva. Se ha identificado el parasitismo por la mosca parasftica del genero Philornis como un factor de mortandad para pichones del falcon de sierra en Maricao. El falcon de sierra tambien es susceptible a disturbios naturales tales como las tormentas tropicales fuertes y los huracanes ya que le modifican su habitat. Sin embargo, el problema principal del falcon de sierra es su baja densidad y lo limitado de su distribucion. Esto hace a esta subespecie extremadamente vulnerable a la perdida de un individuo.

#### Medidas de conservaci6n

El falcon de sierra fue incluido en la lista federal de especies en peligro de extincion en 1994 y el plan de recuperacion se escribio en 1997. La medida principal que se debe tomar para la conservacion del falcon de sierra es la proteccion de los individuos restantes y de su habitaculo. Debido a que se encuentra en areas publicas, es imprescindible la implementacion de planes de manejo adecuados para asegurar la supervivencia de esta subespecie en los bosques.

La Ley Federal de Especies en Peligro de Extincion de 1973, segun enmendada, prohfbe matar, dafiar, molestar, atrapar, comprar o vender una especie, asf como partes o productos derivados de ellas.

#### **Referencias**

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#### Informaci6n adicional

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#### United States Department of the Interior

#### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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



In Reply Refer to: FWS/R4/CESFO/72073-Gen

Submitted Via Electronic Mail: jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov

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

> Re: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-00987 Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado, Jayuya, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated November 01, 2024, requesting informal consultation on the above referenced project. As per your request, our comments are provided under the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is proposing the construction of a new 40-foot x 30-foot purlin and galvalume warehouse (18°11'02.3"N 66°37'30.1"W) and the purchase and installation of a TKMX 15 kg gas coffee roaster on an existing concrete base (18°11'02.5"N 66°37'30.1"W). The proposed project will be located on State Road PR-140, Km 8.1 Int., Collores Ward, Alturas Pizza Sector (18°11'44.3"N 66°35'46.9"W) in the municipality of Jayuya. Construction site for the warehouse will require clearing, grading, and vegetation removal. However, proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees.

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

PRDOH used the Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project on federally listed species (Project code: 2024-0148960). Based on the answers provided, a concurrence letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto

Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Rican sharp-shinned hawk and Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk, which determined the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) these species.

Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and analysis of the existing habitat (previously disturbed), PRDOH has also determined that the proposed project is NLAA the Puerto Rican parrot and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly. Conservation measures for all species will be implemented in case an encounter occurs.

We have reviewed the information provided and in our files, and concur with PRDOH's determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican parrot and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly with the implementation of the conservation measures. Also, the Service acknowledges receipt the NLAA DKey concurrence letter for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk and Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk.

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

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

Sincerely,

LOURDES MENA Digitally signed by LOURDES MENA
Date: 2025.01.13 20:42:51

Lourdes Mena Field Supervisor

drr

cc: HUD

# Radon Attachments



August 20, 2024

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

Vía email: guerrero.carmen@epa.gov

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

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

Community Planning and Development (CPD) Notice CDP-23-103. This Notice emphasizes the importance of radon testing and milligation in ensuring safe living environments, particularly in HUD-assited properties. PRDOH, as the grantee of the Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery and Miligation (CDBG-DR/MII), is responsible for ensuring compliance with environmental requirements under CDBG-DR/MII programs. To fulfill our obligations under this Notice, we must compile comprehensive and up-to-date information on radon levels, testing practices, and any miltigation efforts within the Islands of Puerto Rico. Rico.

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

 $\underline{Radon\ testing\ data} - Results\ from\ radon\ testing\ conducted\ within\ your\ agency's\ purview,\ including\ details\ on\ location,\ testing\ methods,\ and\ recorded\ radon\ levels.$ 

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Davila, Rio Piedras, PR 00918 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365 Tel. (787) 274-2527 | www.nivenda.pr.gov



August 20, 2024

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

Vía email: silvina.cancelos@upr.edu

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CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Rico
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Reports and assessments – Any reports, studies, or assessments your agency has produced or commissioned that address radon testing or miligation.

<u>Policies and quidelines</u> – Information or any policy, guideline, or protocol your agency follows concerning radon testing, exposure limits, or mitigation.

<u>Historical data</u> – if available, historical data or trends in radon levels within the regions you monitor that may impact HUD-assisted housing.

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

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

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

llmn ( rez Rodfiguez, Esq.

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Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Rico
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Please let us know if you require additional details or have any questions regarding this request. We would greatly appreciate your response by September 15, 2024, so we can incorporate this data into our ongoing compliance efforts.

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

Sincerely.

My Rodríguez, Esq.

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



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: OIA@cdc.gov

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

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

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

Specifically, we are seeking for possible availability of the following

 $\frac{Radon\ testing\ data}{Results} - Results\ from\ radon\ testing\ conducted\ within\ your\ agency's\ purview,\ including\ details\ on\ location,\ testing\ methods,\ and\ recorded\ radon\ levels.$ 

Barbosa Ave. #606 , Building Juan C. Cordero Dávila, Río Piedras, PR 00918 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365 Tel. (787) 274-2527 | www.vijenda.pr.gov



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: anais.rodriquez@drna.pr.gov

#### RE: Request for Information regarding available data on radon testing

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

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Specifically, we are seeking for possible availability of the following

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

Reports and assessments – Any reports, studies, or assessments your agency has produced or commissioned that address radon testing or mitigation.

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CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Ric
Page 2 /

agency has produced or commissioned that address radon testing or mitigation.

<u>Policies and guidelines</u> – Information or any policy, guideline, or protocol your agency follows concerning radon testing, exposure limits, or mitigation.

<u>Historical data</u> – if available, historical data or trends in radon levels within the regions you monitor that may impact HUD-assisted housing.

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

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

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

D. Rodríguez, Esq

CD8G-DR/MIT Pro Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerli

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

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.

Secretary

Mr. Luis Márquez, <u>secretariaaire@drna.pr.gov</u> Eng. Amarilys Rosario, <u>aire@drna.pr.gov</u> Mrs. Elid Ortega, <u>eortega@drna.pr.gov</u>



August 20, 2024

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

Vía email: drcarlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov

#### RE: Request for Information regarding available data on radon testing nd levels within Puerto Rico

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

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Reports and assessments – Any reports, studies, or assessments your agency has produced or commissioned that address radon testing or

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Dávila, Río Piedras, PR 00918 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365 Tel. (787) 274-2527 | <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/j.com/noses/21365">https://doi.org/10.1007/j.com/noses/21365</a> San Juan, PR 00928-1365



August 20, 2024

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

Vía email: hsweyers@usgs.gov

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

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

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

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

Sincerely.

Ladriguez Rodriguez, Esq.

Mr. Raúl Hernández Doble, rhernandez2@salud.pr.gov

CDBG-DR/MIT Program
Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Rico
Page 2 / 2

Policies and guidelines – Information or any policy, guideline, or protocol your agency follows concerning radon testing, exposure limits, or mitigation.

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

Sincerely

Ariauez Rodriguez, Esq.

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

From: Charp, Paul (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP) <pac4@cdc.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 6:36 AM

To: Miranda, Sandra (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Irizarry, Jessica (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Rzeszotarski, Peter

(CDC/NCEH/DEHSP); Vinson, D. Aaron (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP)

Cc: Kostak, Liana (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Vazquez, Germaine (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP)

Subject: RE; REHi: Puerto Rico Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

#### Good morning, Sandra and others,

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

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

If you have any additional questions, please contact me.

Thank you and best regards,

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



From: Schumann, R. Randall <rschumann@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 4:39 PM

To: Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>; Weyers, Holly S <hsweyers@usgs.gov> Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A.

Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>

Subject: RE: Request for Information- Radon testing and levels

Dear Ms. Medina Smaine,

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

Best regards,

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

----

From: Raul Hernandez Doble <rhernandez2@salud.pr.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 2:13:31 PM

To: Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>; Dr. Carlos Mellado <drcarlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov> Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Mayra Toro Tirado <mtoro@salud.pr.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Good afternoon, Ms. Medina

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

Raul Hernandez Doble
Director, Seccion Salud Radiologica
Division de Salud Ambiental
Secretaria Auxiliar para la Vigilancia y la Proteccion de la Salud Publica
rhernandez2@salud.gov.pr

Phone: (787)765-2929 ext. 3210

From: Reyes, Brenda < Reyes. Brenda@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 11:48 AM

To: Cesar O Rodriguez Santos <cesarrodriguez@drna.pr.gov>; Maritza Rosa Olivares <maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov>;

Silvina Cancelos Mancini <silvina.cancelos@upr.edu>; Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>

Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez

<aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Povetko, Oleg (he/him/his) <Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

#### Saludos.

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

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

\_\_\_

From: Silvina Cancelos Mancini <silvina.cancelos@upr.edu>

Sent: Friday, September 6, 2024 15:04

To: Melanie Medina Smaine < mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov >

Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia < Edume@vivienda.pr.gov >; Luz S Colon Ortiz < Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov >; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez

<a href="mailto:aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov"><a href="mailto:aarivera@vivie

<<u>Reyes.Brenda@epa.gov</u>>; Povetko, Oleg <<u>Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: Re: Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

#### Estimada Melanie Medina

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

#### Atentamente

Silvina Cancelos Professor Associate Director Mechanical Engineering Department University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez Call BOX 9000 Mayaguez PR 00680 Tel: 787-832-4040 ext 5956

email: silvina.cancelos@upr.edu





September 23, 2024

#### VIA EMAIL

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

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

Dear Honorable Secretary Rodríguez Rodríguez

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

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

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

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

Typical radon testing technology used in mainland United States (charcoal canisters or electric-powered devices) are impractical in Puerto Rico because of high humidity and power outages. The recovery and rebuilding of communities following the aftermath of 2017 Hurricanes Irms and Maria presented an opportunity to develop radon prevention and mitigation strategies in 2019. Initially, EPA sampled indoor radon air in over 170 single-family residences in the municipalities of San Sebastian, Lares, Ciales, Arecibo, Morovis, Camuy, and Hatillo and later expanded the project to other municipalities such as Rincon, Aguada, Aguadalli, stabela, Questradillas, Barecloneta and Vega Baja. The quality assurance protocols were anchored in American National Standards institute/American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (ANSI/AARS) standards of practice (ANSI/AARS) 1939. The sampling was designed in two stages: scoping and confirmatory sampling. The scoping sampling was conducted using Corentium Home (CH) electronic monitors and E-Perm ystems. Locations measuring above the EPA Action Level of 4 pCI/L with CH were measured at the second stage of the sampling using RAD7 and Corentium Pro Continuous Radon Monitors (CRMs). Nationally certified and on sampling professionals led by one such professional form the UPRM conducted confirmatory sampling in the second stage. Also, during the study, the nationally certified radon mitigation professionals inspected several homes with elevated indoor radon levels. Typical radon testing technology used in mainland United States (charcoal canisters or electric-powered levels.

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

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

CITY VIEW PLAZA II BUILDING, 7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR ROUTE 165 GUAYNABO, PR 00968

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

Sincerely,

CARMEN **GUERRERO** PEREZ

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

Carmen R. Guerrero Pérez Director

Roberto Mendez, Esq (Acting Secretary, PR Department of Natural and Env. Resources)

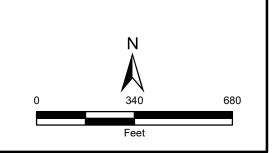
Melany Medina: mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov Elaine Dume Mejia: Edume@vivienda.pr.gov Luz S Colon Ortiz: Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov
Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez: aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov Cesar O. Rodriguez: cesarrodriguez@drna.pr.gov Marita Rosa Olivares: maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov

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



## Figure 6: ADVISORY BASE FLOOD ELEVATION **APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00987**

ADDRESS: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores Sector Alturas Piza Jayuya, PR 00664 Name of Development: Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado Parcel Coordinates: 18.183960, -66.625039



**PUERTO RICO** 

PUERTO RICO

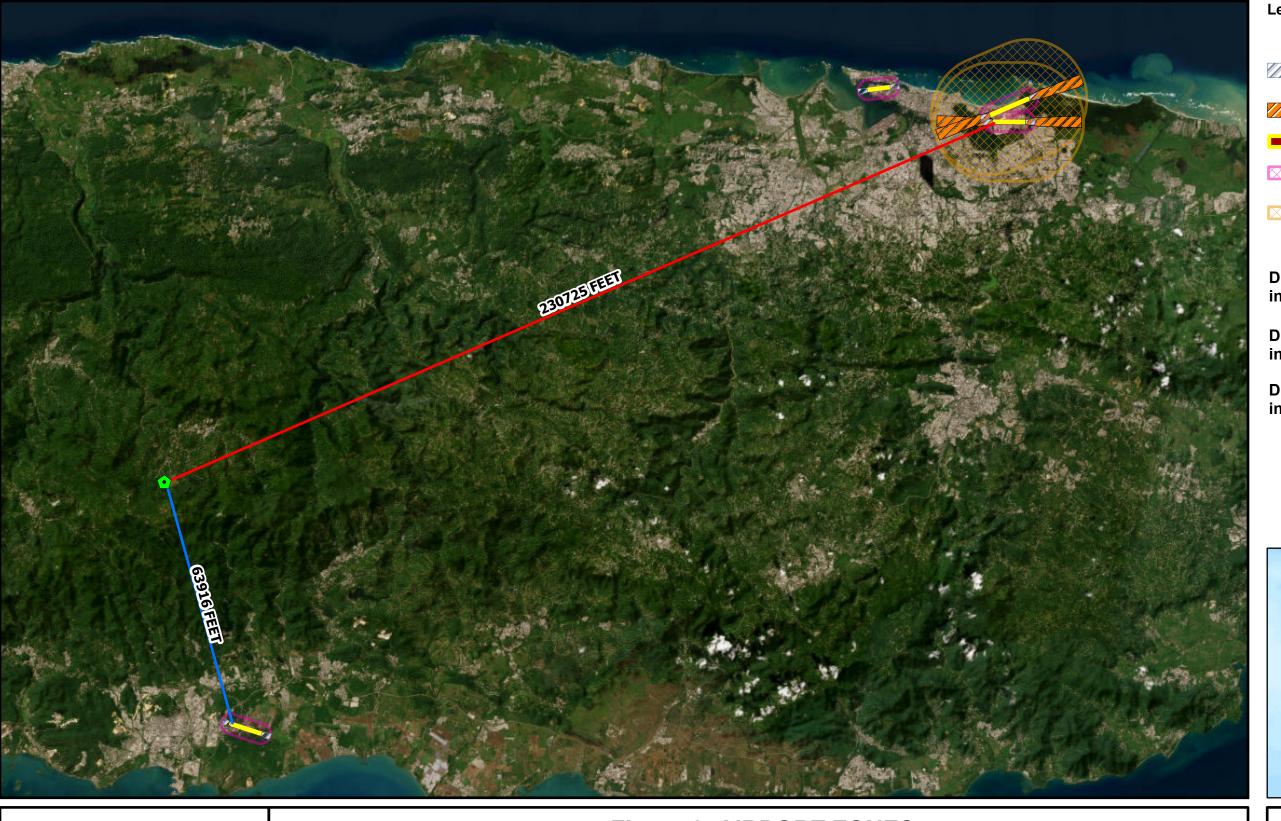
Ponce 324 m 517 m Guayama

ABFE Flood Zone

ΑE ΑO VE

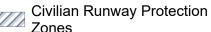
**TETRA TECH** Source: FEMA https://gis.fema.gov

Date: 3/22/2024



### Legend

Project Parcel



Military Accident Potential Zones

Airport Runways

Civilian Airport 2,500 Feet Buffer

Military Airport 15,000 Feet Buffer

Distance to Nearest Airport in Feet: 63,916

Distance to Nearest Civilian Airport

in Feet: 63,916

Distance to Nearest Military Airport

in Feet: 230,725

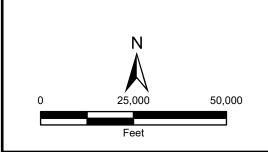
## **PUERTO RICO**

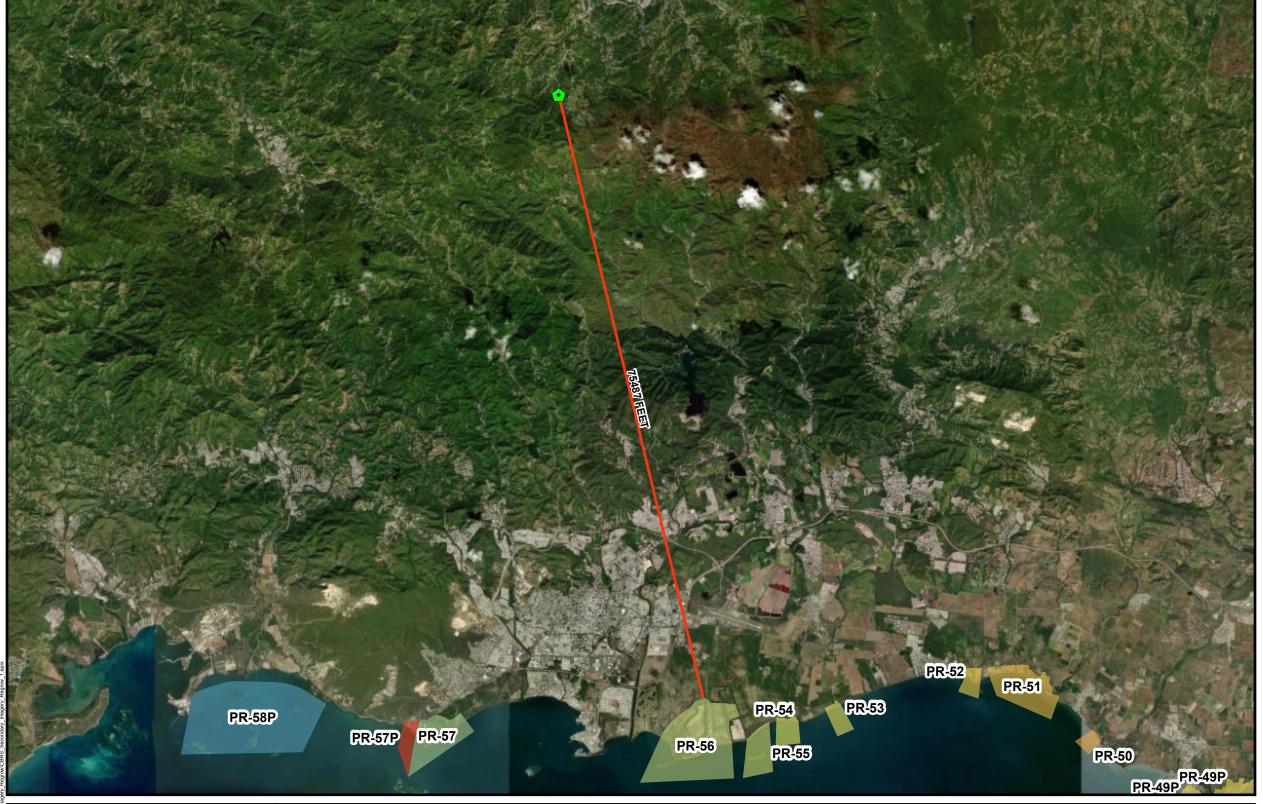


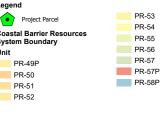
# Figure 2: AIRPORT ZONES APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00987

ADDRESS: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores Sector Alturas Piza Jayuya, PR 00664









Distance to Nearest Coastal Barrier Resources System: 75487 Feet

## **PUERTO RICO**





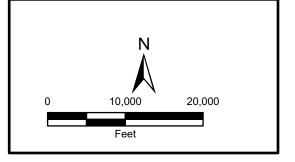
Source: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service https://www.fws.gov

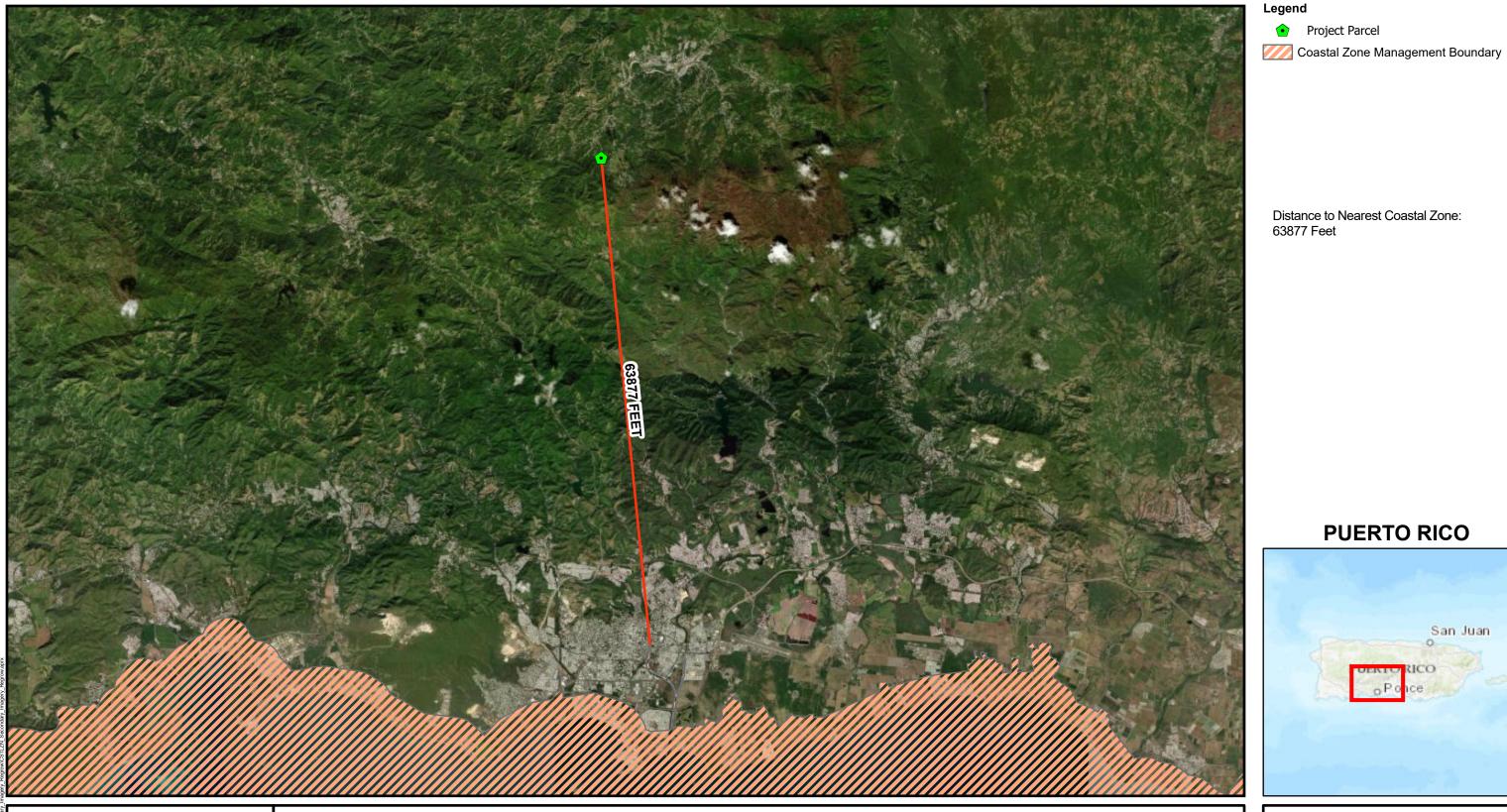
s://www.fws.gov

Date: 10/17/2023

Figure 3: COASTAL BARRIERS IMPROVEMENT ACT APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00987

ADDRESS: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores Sector Alturas Piza Jayuya, PR 00664





**TETRA TECH** 

Date: 10/17/2023

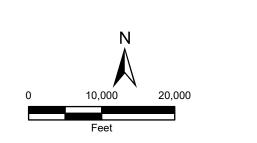
Source: NOAA's Ocean Service

https://data.noaa.gov

Figure 7: COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT **APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00987** 

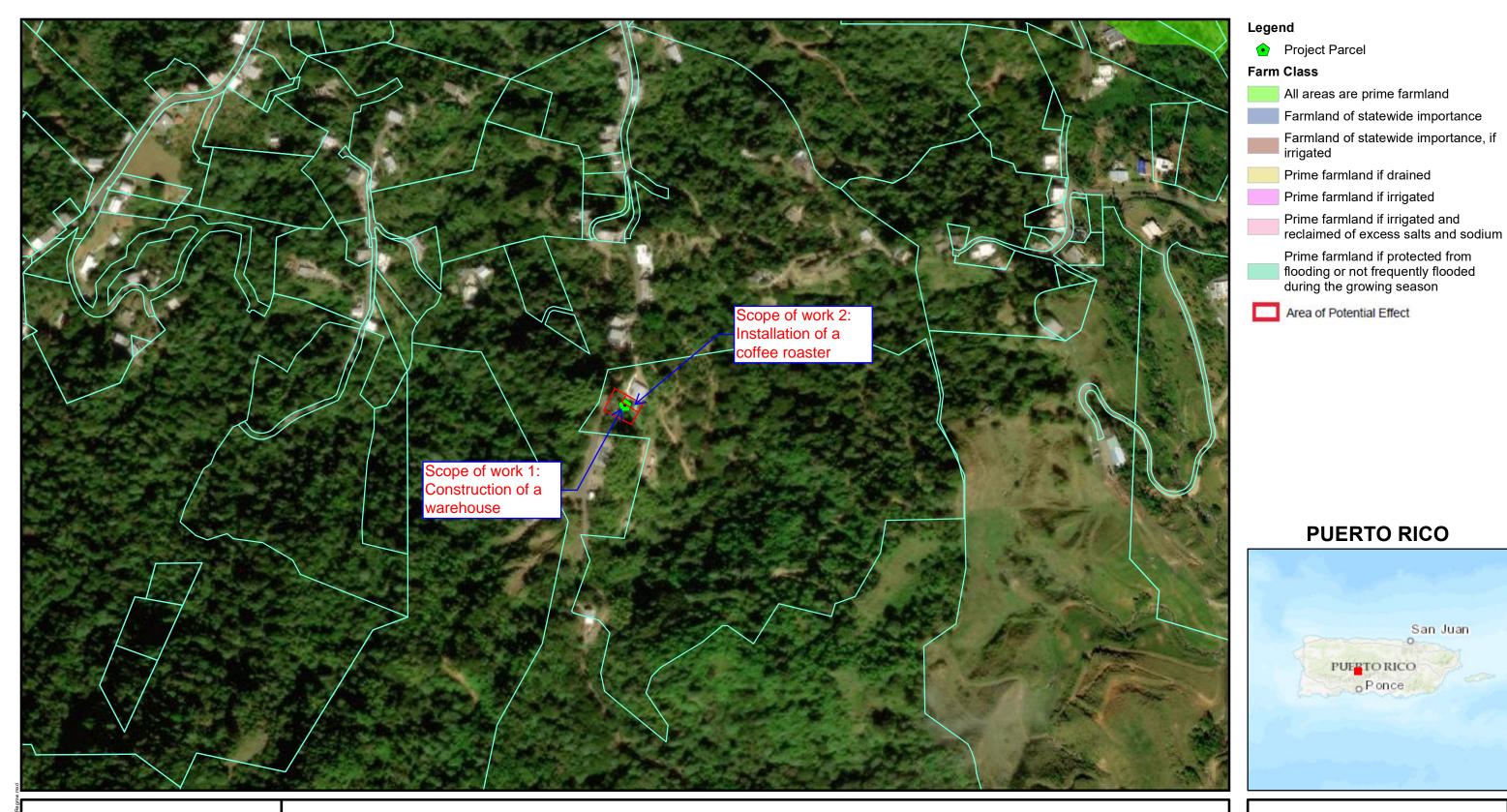
ADDRESS: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores Sector Alturas Piza Jayuya, PR 00664

Name of Development: Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado Parcel Coordinates: 18.183960, -66.625039



**PUERTO RICO** 

San Juan



## Figure 12: FARMLAND PROTECTION **APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00987**

ADDRESS: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores Sector Alturas Piza Jayuya, PR 00664

Name of Development: Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado Parcel Coordinates: 18.183960, -66.625039

**PUERTO RICO** 

PUEPTO RICO

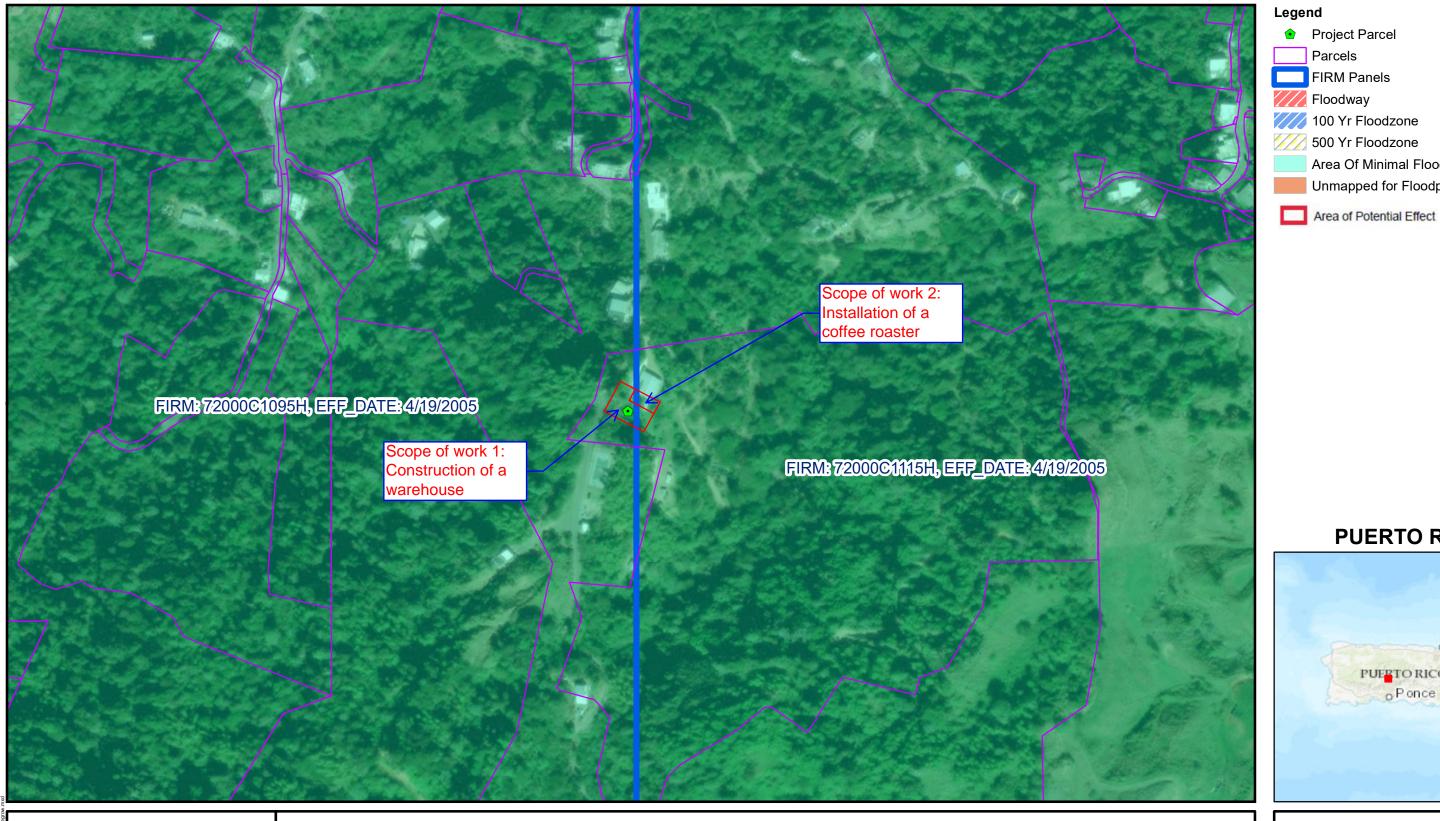
o Ponce

San Juan

https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov

Date: 3/22/2024

**TETRA TECH** 



## **PUERTO RICO**

Parcels

500 Yr Floodzone

Area Of Minimal Flood Hazard

Unmapped for Floodplain



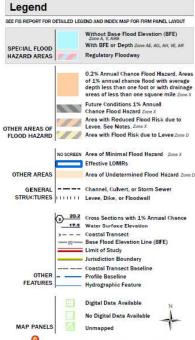
500



ADDRESS: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores Sector Alturas Piza Jayuya, PR 00664 Name of Development: Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado Parcel Coordinates: 18.183960, -66.625039







#### **PUERTO RICO**

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

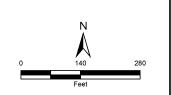


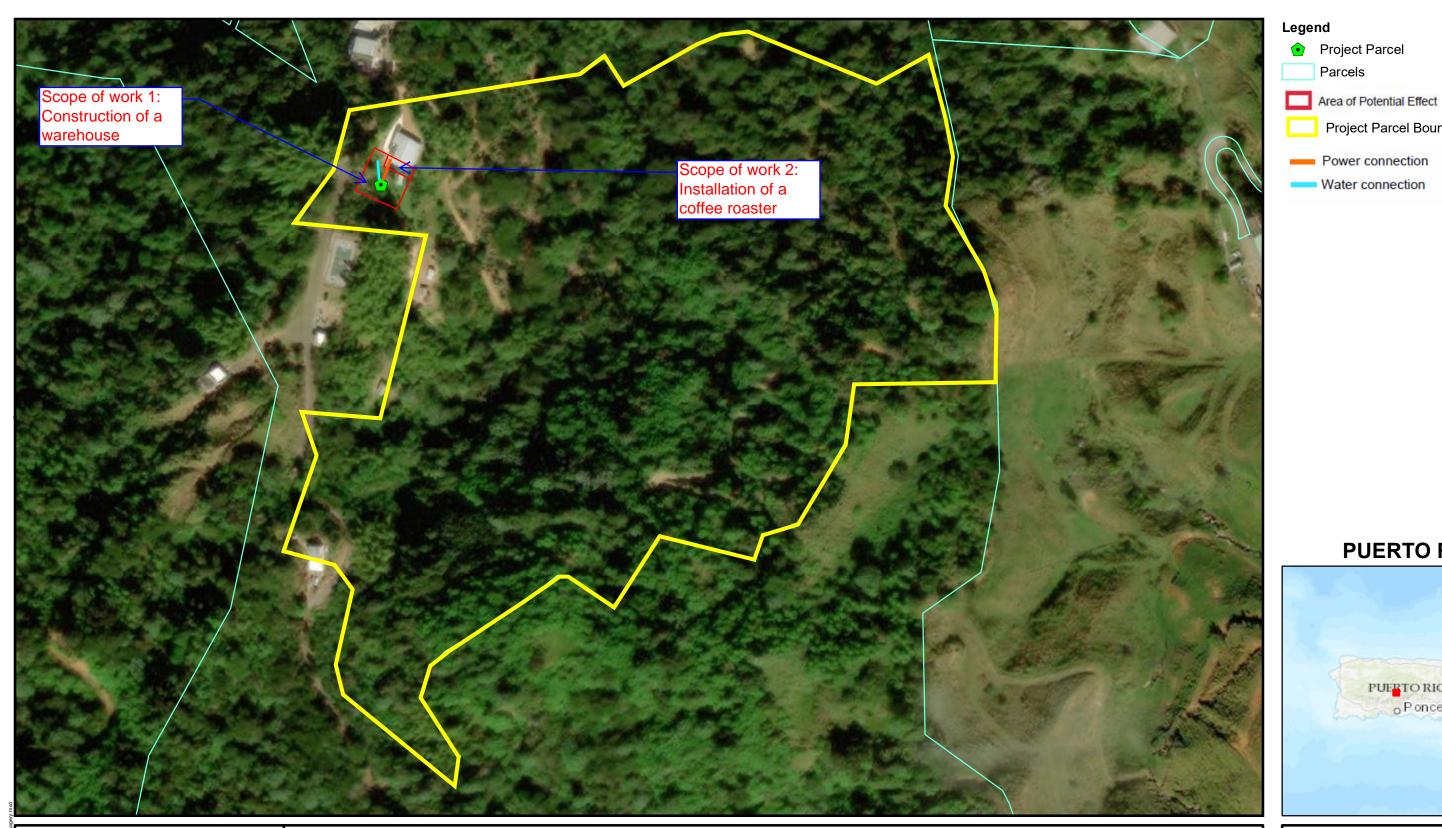


Date: 5/31/2023

## FIGURE 5: NATIONAL FLOOD HAZARD LAYER FIRMETTE APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00987

ADDRESS: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores Sector Alturas Piza Jayuya, PR 00664



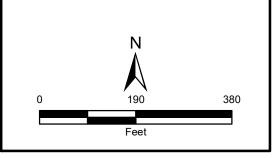


## Figure 1: PROJECT LOCATION **APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00987**

ADDRESS: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores Sector Alturas Piza Jayuya, PR 00664

Name of Development: Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado Parcel Coordinates: 18.183960, -66.625039





**PUERTO RICO** 

PUEPTO RICO

o Ponce

San Juan

Parcels

Project Parcel Boundaries



Project Parcel

Sole Source Aquifer

Biscayne Aquifer SSA

Biscayne Aquifer SSA
Streamflow and Recharge
Source Zones

Distance to Nearest Aquifer: 5,320,097 FT

## **PUERTO RICO**



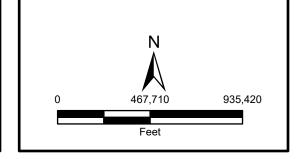


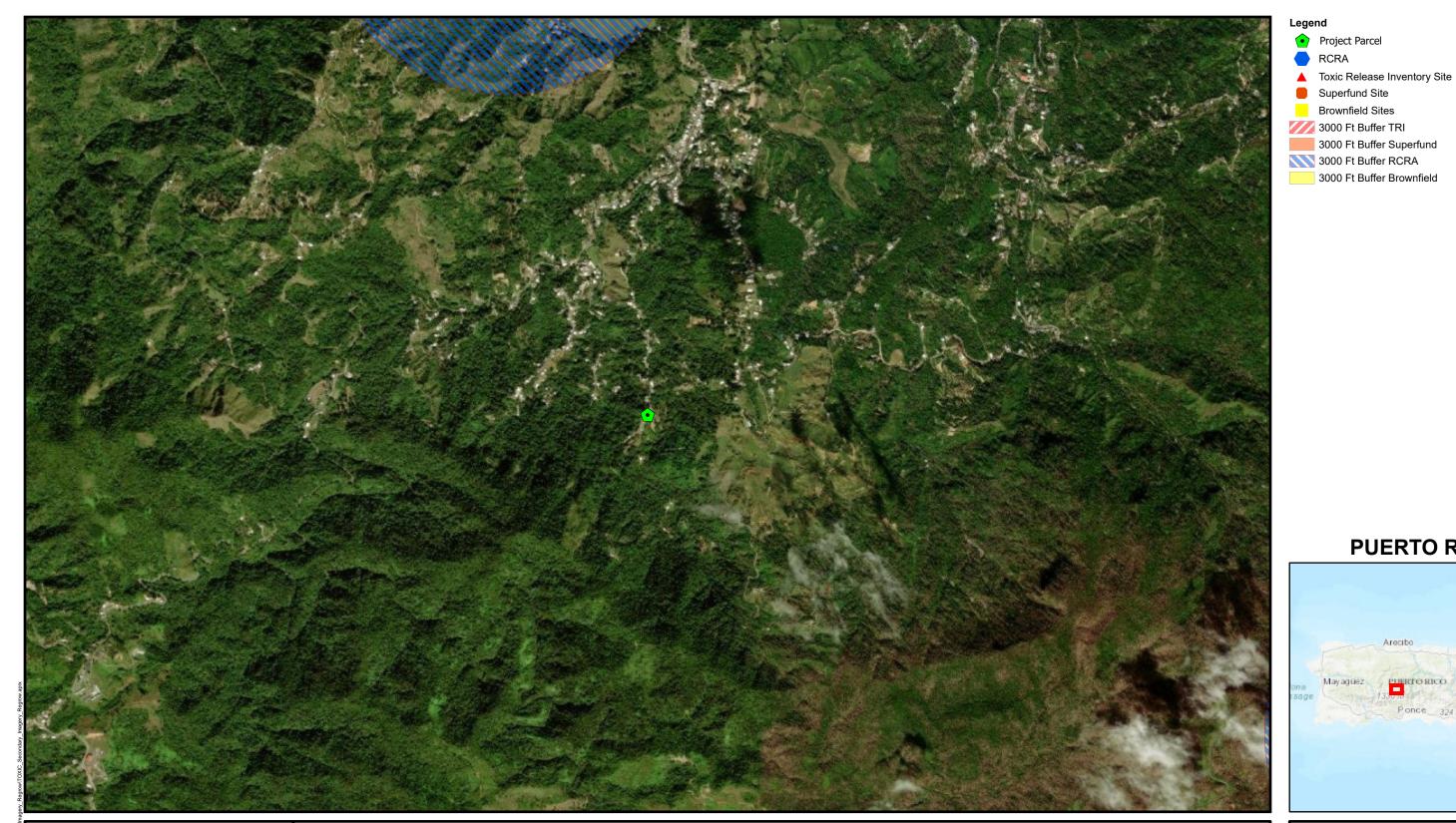
Date: 2/21/2024

epa-sole-source-aquifers

Figure 17: SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00987

ADDRESS: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores Sector Alturas Piza Jayuya, PR 00664





**TETRA TECH** 

Date: 11/27/2023

Source: E.P.A. https://www.epa.gov/frs/geospatial-data-download-service

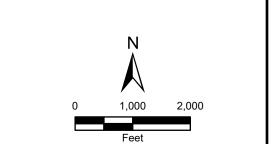
Author: JB/AK

## Figure 8: TOXIC CHEMICALS AND GASES, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, **CONTAMINATION, AND RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES**

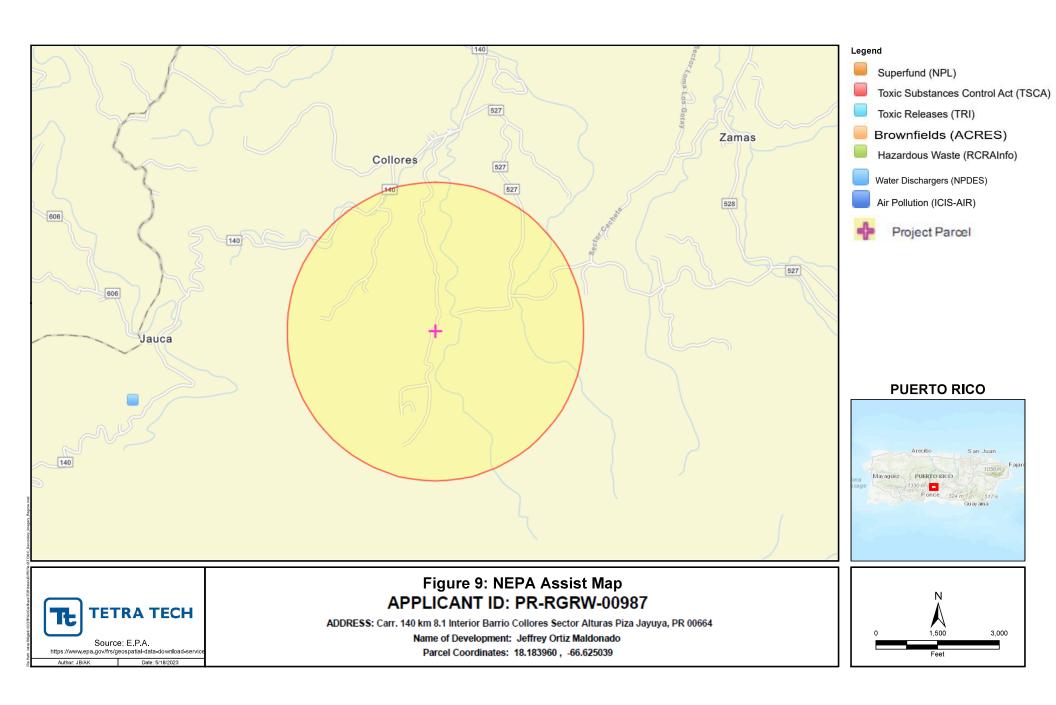
ADDRESS: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores Sector Alturas Piza Jayuya, PR 00664

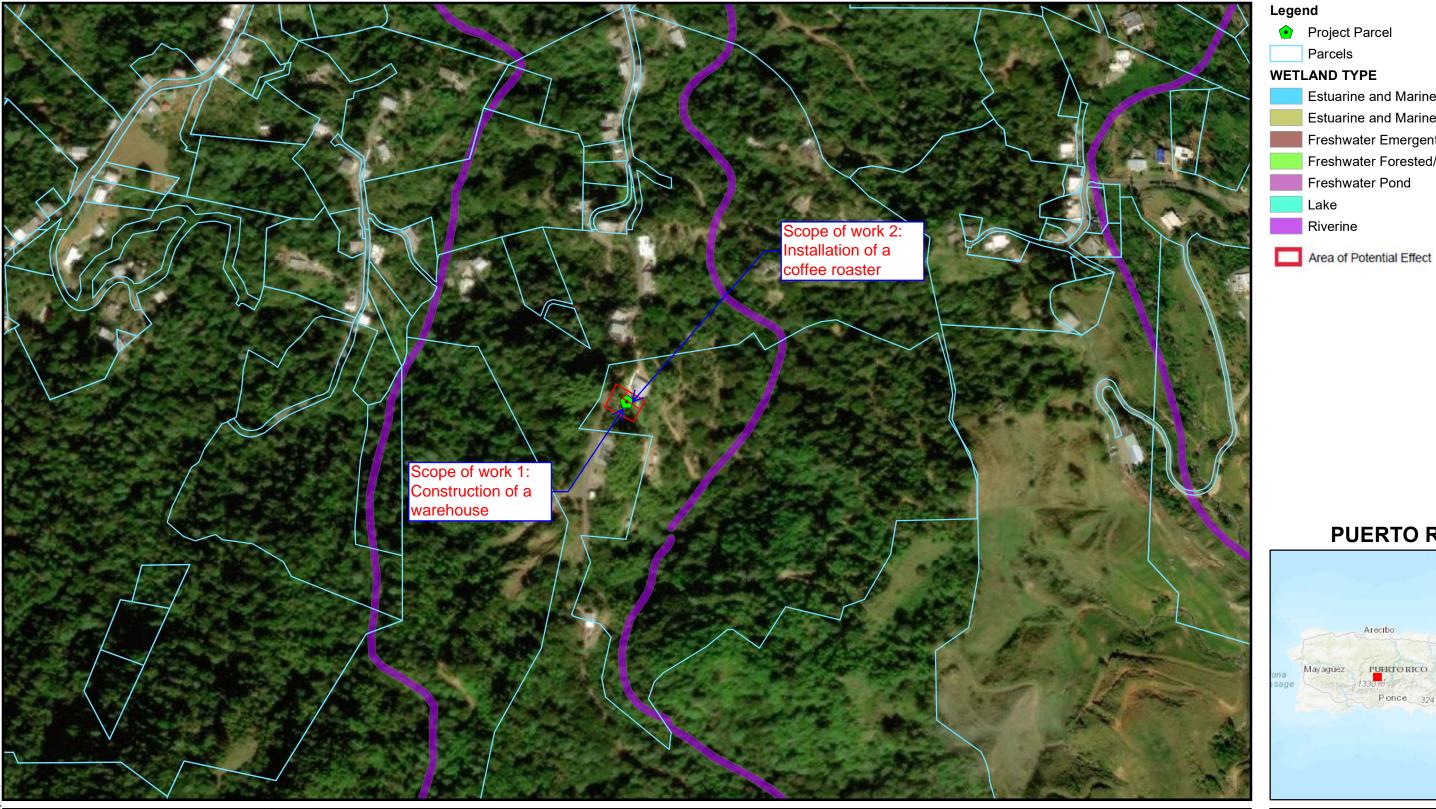
Name of Development: Jeffrey Ortiz Maldonado Parcel Coordinates: 18.183960, -66.625039

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00987** 



**PUERTO RICO** 





## **PUERTO RICO**

Parcels

Lake Riverine

Freshwater Pond

Estuarine and Marine Deepwater Estuarine and Marine Wetland Freshwater Emergent Wetland

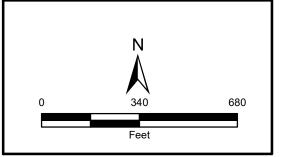
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland

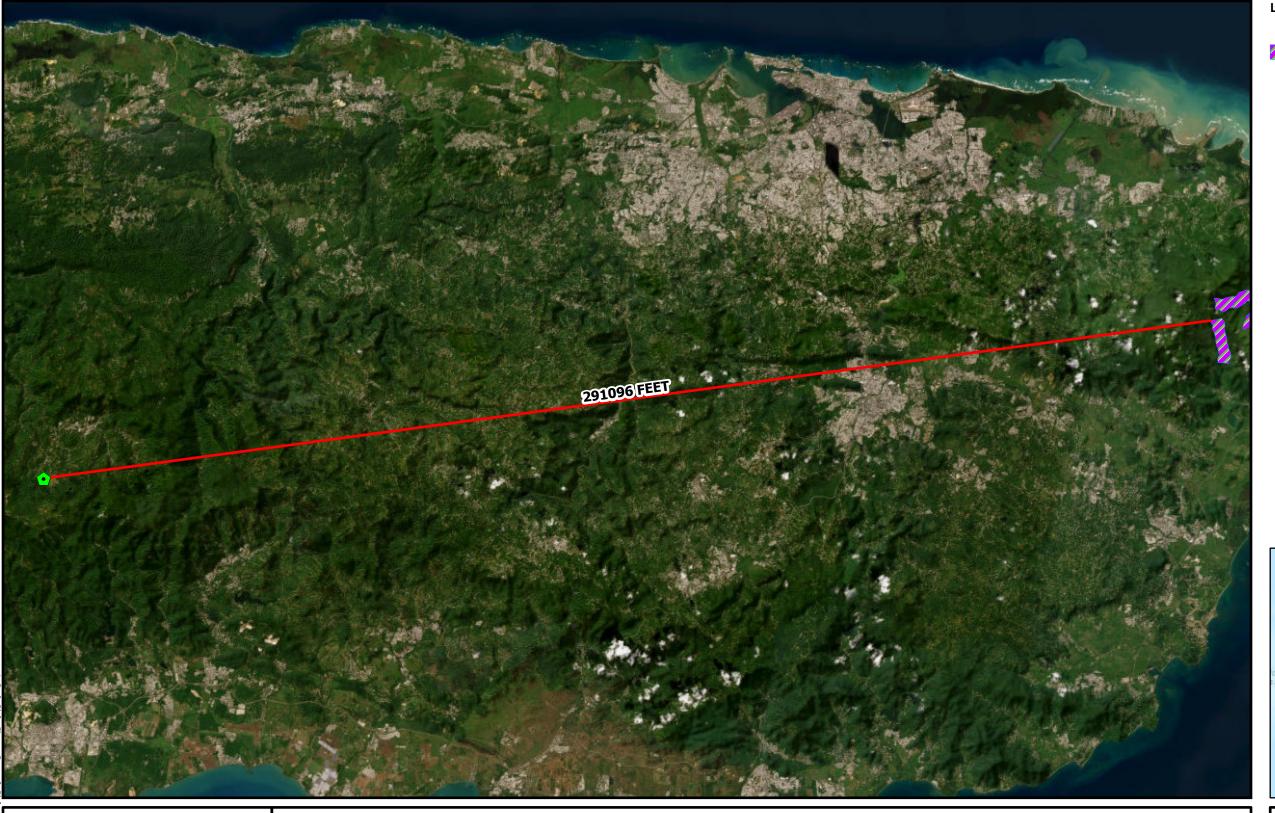


Figure 14: WETLANDS **APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00987** 

ADDRESS: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores Sector Alturas Piza Jayuya, PR 00664







Legend • Project Parcel Wild and Scenic Rivers

Distance to Nearest Wild and Scenic River: 291096 Feet

## **PUERTO RICO**





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

Date: 10/23/2023

Figure 15: WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT **APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00987** 

ADDRESS: Carr. 140 km 8.1 Interior Barrio Collores Sector Alturas Piza Jayuya, PR 00664

