

Environmental Assessment

Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects

24 CFR Part 58

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-01721

Project Name: José Ángel Feliciano Rivera

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico / Yauco, PR

Preparer: Patricia Carmenatty

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Permit and Environmental Compliance Officers: Sally Acevedo Cosme, Pedro de León Rodríguez, Ivelisse Lorenzo, Janette Cambrelen, Santa Ramirez, Limary Vélez Marrero, Mónica M. Machuca Ríos, Javier Mercado-Barrera, Abdul Feliciano Plaza and Priscilla Toro Rivera. María T. Torres Bregón - Environmental Manager, Angel G. Lopez Guzman - Deputy Director, Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez – Director for Program Management, and Juan Carlos Perez Bofill - Director for Disaster Recovery CDBG Program.

Consultant: Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

Direct Comments to: Puerto Rico Department of Housing:
(environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov)

Project Location:

Bo. Rio Prieto, Carr. 374 Km. Hm. 5.4, Yauco, PR 00698

Storage to be repair location: latitude 18.130559 longitude -66.812289

Parcel cadastral #: 289-000-006-22-000

Comm. Jacanas, Calle 1 Solar 8, Yauco PR, 00698

Coffee toaster and Coffee grinder location: latitude 18.034084 longitude -66.836463

Parcel cadastral #: 361-087-327-05-000

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

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-01721 include the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence. The storage repair materials include 2" x 4" and 2" x 2" steel posts, galvalume steel panels, 2' x 4' galvalume windows, and a steel door. The storage repair involves the replacement of walls and the roof. No new connections for water or electricity will be necessary for the storage, as its function will be for the storage of agricultural equipment. The fencing materials include: 5' x 50' cyclone fence galvalume, 2" x 20' galvalume fence posts, 1" x 20' galvalume fence posts, aluminum gate corner and aluminum loop cap. The fence will be built with 1" and 2" wide galvalume posts anchored two feet deep. The new fence will be approx. 600 linear feet, and the fence to be repaired will be approx. 575 linear feet.

The proposed project also includes the purchase of a 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine. The cistern will be used for transporting water, which will be used for irrigation of the farm. The applicant will supply water from his house and transport it in the cistern on his personal pickup truck. The water to fill the cistern will come from an existing PRASA connection in the applicant's home at the coordinates lat 18.034084, long -66.836463 (parcel: 361-087-327-05-000). The coffee toaster machine and coffee grinder machine will be used in the applicant's residence at coordinates 18.034084, -66.836463 (parcel: 361-087-327-05-000). These machines will not be fixed to the ground, and the power needed will be from an existing PREPA outlet at the applicant's residence. The ground disturbance required by the proposed project will only be for the repair of the storage and the installation and repair of the fence. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area for the proposed activities has been used for agricultural purposes for over 20 years.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) has been defined as the area potentially impacted by ground disturbing activities related to the repair of an existing storage and the installation of a fence. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the location of the storage and fence plus a 15-meter buffer and the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

A site Map is included in Figure 1.1 and 1.2, illustrating the location of the storage, fence, coffee grinder and coffee toaster on the property. Photos of the location are included in Section 106 documentation, Appendix 1. Refer to Appendix 3 for Site Inspection Report.

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

In 2017, Hurricanes Irma and María devastated Puerto Rico's agriculture, destroying 80% of crop value and causing \$780 million in damages. The storms severely impacted food security and agricultural businesses. In response, the Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural

Agriculture Program was launched, funded by Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR).

The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) will increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. This agricultural project associated with the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine are in keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The project area is in a rural and mountainous area of Yauco with mature vegetation. The area directly around the existing building consists of grass, bushes and some plantain trees. It is located on a slight slope. The existing structure to be repaired measures 12 ft x 8 ft and is made of wood panels and a zinc roof and is in a very poor condition. The building appears in a 2021 aerial image but is absent from a 2020 aerial image. It is a previously impacted area, therefore, there is little to no change in land use associated with this reparation. For the installation of the fence, vegetation removal (grass and small bushes) will be expected, however tree cutting will not be required.

The designated area in the applicant's urban home where the toaster and coffee grinder will be placed. The appliances are portable and will not be fixed to a countertop or floor.

Funding Information

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
B-18-DP-72-0001 B-17-DM-72-0001 B-19-DP-78-0002 B-18-DE-72-0001	Community Planning and Development (CPD) / Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)	\$11,938,162,230.00

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$20,710.32

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$20,710.32

Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities

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

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required	Compliance determinations
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6		
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine will have no impact on any Airports. The site where the installation of the fence and the repair of the storage will take place is located 92,805 feet from the nearest major civil airport (Mercedita Airport in Ponce) and 298,008 feet from the nearest military airport (Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in San Juan). The site where the coffee toaster and grinder machine will be, is located 91,000 feet from the nearest major civil airport (Mercedita Airport in Ponce) and 320,327 feet from the nearest military airport (Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in San Juan). This topic is in compliance with the HUD's Airport Hazard regulations without further evaluation. See the attached

		Airport maps Runway Protection Zone, Figures 2.1 and 2.2.
<p>Coastal Barrier Resources</p> <p>Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. The site where the installation of the fence and the repair of the storage will take place is located 57,177 feet northwest of the nearest Coastal Barrier Resource System, PR-58P. The site where the coffee toaster and grinder machine will be is located 28,986 feet northeast of the nearest Coastal Barrier Resource System, PR-59.</p> <p>Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. See the attached CBRS maps, Figures 3.1 and 3.2.</p>
<p>Flood Insurance</p> <p>Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located in Zone X. For the location of the fence and storage the Panel is 72000C1070H, 4/19/2005 on the FEMA FIRM and for the location of the coffee grinder and toaster the Panel is 72000C1615H, 4/19/2005 on the FEMA FIRM. The project does not require flood insurance or is excepted from flood insurance. See attached Flood Maps, Figures 4.1 and 4.2. The project is in compliance with the Flood Insurance without further evaluation.</p>
<p>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5</p>		
<p>Clean Air</p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine for an agricultural site located in the Municipio of Yauco. The project is not located in a nonattainment municipality of Puerto Rico (Arecibo, Bayamón, Cataño,</p>

		<p>Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan, Toa Baja). The installation and operation of this project will have no impact and is in compliance with the Clean Air Act without further evaluation. See attached published list of Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for each country by year for all criteria pollutants in Appendix 2.</p>
<p>Coastal Zone Management</p> <p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site where the fence and storage will be is located 43,496 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management Area. The site where the coffee toaster and grinder will be is 16,233 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management Area. The project does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See the attached CZMA maps, Figures 5.1 and 5.2.</p>
<p>Contamination and Toxic Substances</p> <p>24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine for an agricultural project. A visual site inspection of the project area and property (both locations) was conducted and 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. According to what was observed in the site inspection and what was searched on the NEPASSIT page, there are no sites of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet near the storage and fence location.</p>

For the location where the coffee toaster and grinder will be, there is one site of environmental concern according to NEPASSIT page.

- Facility of Interests: NPDES (Water Discharges) IMPROVEMENTS TO ROAD PR-359 FROM KM. 0.0 TO KM. 2.3. Address: PR-359, KM. 0.0 TO 2.3, YAUCO, PR 00698. Coordinates: 18.0311, -66.8419. Distance: 2,295 ft.

According to the ECHO Report the site is inactive with the CWA permit terminated on 02/15/2022. No violations were identified. See Appendix 3 for the Detailed Facility Report.

HUD's environmental regulations at 24 CFR 58.5(i)(2)(i) and (ii)4 state that, [i]t is HUD's policy that all properties that are being proposed for use in HUD programs be free of hazardous materials, contamination, toxic chemicals and gases, and radioactive substances, where a hazard could affect the health and safety of occupants or conflict with the intended utilization of the property. For the proposed project, which involves the repair of a storage facility and fence, radon analysis will not be required. This is because the facility qualifies for an exemption, as it is a non-residential building that will not be occupied for more than 4 hours per day.

For the proposed project also involves the purchase of a coffee grinder and coffee toaster. The project site was cleared using the radon memo attached. The memo outlines the infeasibility and impracticability of radon testing in Puerto Rico due to the lack of data, lack of licensed professional services, and high costs associated. See Appendix 3 for Justification for the

		<p>Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing Memorandum.</p> <p>After conducting an aerial review history of the project site over the past 20 years, the use of the area where the storage and fence will have always been agricultural. It continues to be rural, with no significant changes during this period that raise any contamination concerns. The use of the area where the coffee grinder and coffee toaster is residential for over 20 years and it continues to be residential with no significant changes during this period that raise any contamination concerns.</p> <p>According to the available information, the project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances requirements. See attached Toxics Maps, Figures 6.1 and 6.2. See Appendix 3 for Site Inspection Report.</p>
<p>Endangered Species</p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>According to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC) system and the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) database, the Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>) and Bariaco (<i>Trichilia triacantha</i>) could be found in the area designated for using and storing the coffee toaster and grinder. As this location is intended for residential use with no planned ground disturbance, and the equipment is mobile and unfixed, an informal consultation with the USFWS is not required. Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa which determined that the proposed actions for this part of the project would have a <i>No Effect</i> for this species. In the case of the Bariaco, since the work to be carried out will be done inside the</p>

residence and will not require any ground disturbance or the removal of vegetation, it was determined that it will also have a No Effect on this species.

After reviewing data from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC) and the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) database, the Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*), Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus venator*), Puerto Rican parrot (*Amazona vittata*), Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*) and the plants, nogal (*Juglans jamaicensis*), elfin tree fern (*Cyathea dryopteroides*) and *Polystichum calderonense* (no common name) could be found in the project area where the storage and fence will be repaired. The scope of work includes continued agricultural use of the property. The area where the fence will be installed and repaired is an irregular topography. Vegetation removal (grass and small bushes) will be expected, however tree cutting will not be required.

The nature of the project for the location of the fence and storage, the scope of work, information available, a careful analysis of the IpaC, the Puerto Rico Boa conservation measures, the Caribbean Dkey in the US Fish and Wildlife Service's online IPaC application, and the observations during the field visit on March 15, 2024, were used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species from this project. Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and

Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk, which determined that the proposed actions for this project would have " May affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" (NLAA) for these species.

An Informal Consultation was submitted to USFWS on 7/24/2024 and Concurrence Letter was received on 8/21/2024. The Service acknowledges receipt of the NLAA DKey consistency letter for the Puerto Rican boa Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk.

Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available and existing habitat, the Service concur with PRDOH's determinations that the proposed project No Effect (NE) the Puerto Rican parrot, Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly and the plant species due to the lack of suitable habitat.

The project where the fence and storage will be is 30,247 feet from the nearest final endangered species critical habitat and the project where the coffee toaster and grinder will be is 5,661 feet from the nearest final endangered species critical habitat.

If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa. As established by the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures Guideline.

<https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/guideline/design/population/156/office/41430.pdf>

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has established the following conservation measures for bird species in the event of an encounter:

1. Personnel Awareness: All personnel will be informed that civil and criminal penalties exist for harming, harassing, or killing species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. During the breeding seasons (detailed below), nest surveys must be conducted if the project occurs within the range of any listed species and if the habitat for those species will be affected by the proposed actions. Qualified personnel, with the appropriate permits from the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER), must conduct nest searches before any work begins. If nesting activity is detected, all construction or human disturbance must be avoided within a 50-meter buffer around any nest(s) located within the project area. This buffer must remain in place until fledglings permanently leave the nest.

o Breeding Seasons:

- Puerto Rican parrot: February–June
- Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk: December–June

2. Outside Breeding Season: Nest surveys are not required outside the breeding season. However, if a nest is encountered, a 50-meter buffer must be maintained, and construction or human disturbance avoided until fledglings have left the nest. Additionally, if any of the listed species is observed within the project area (e.g., foraging or resting), disturbances to the individual(s) must be

		<p>avoided, and birds must not be flushed until they leave on their own.</p> <p>3. Recording Sightings: For any nest sightings, the applicant must record the time, date, and specific location of the sighting.</p> <p>All sightings and reports of incidental lethal take must be sent to the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office at Caribbean_es@fws.gov.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. See attached USWFS Informal Consultation Package and supporting documents in Appendix 4. See attached Endangered Species maps, Figures 7.1 and 7.2. Conservation Measures for the listed species and the No Effect Memo for the location for the coffee grinder and coffee toaster are in Appendix 4.</p>
<p>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine and does not include development, construction or rehabilitation that will increase residential density or the construction of a hazardous facility. This project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable hazards without further evaluation.</p>
<p>Farmlands Protection</p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. The project activities will occur in an area designated as Not Prime farmland (in both locations). The scope of work includes the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage,</p>

		<p>the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine, and this is a construction limited to on-farm structures needed for farm operations.</p> <p>The project is exempt from review under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FFPA) as the project is limited to construction of an on-site fence and the repair of a storage structure needed for farm operations.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. See the attached Farmlands maps, Figures 8.1 and 8.2.</p>
<p>Floodplain Management</p> <p>Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) introduced new floodplain regulations under 89 FR 30850, effective June 24, 2024, establishing the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS).</p> <p>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 Yauco; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review.</p> <p>This project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine and was evaluated using the 0.2 Percent-Annual-Chance Floodplain Approach (0.2 PFA) to determine the extent of the FFRMS. The</p>

		<p>current project involves non-critical actions that are located outside the 0.2-percent-annual-chance floodplain (500-year flood elevation). This approach ensures compliance with the FFRMS, meaning no mitigation is required, and the project adheres to the regulations set forth in 24 CFR Part 55. The project is not located in the 100-year floodplain or ABFE special flood hazard area. The project locations are located in FIRM and ABFE zone X.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690. See attached ABFE Maps (Figures 9.1 and 9.2).</p>
<p>Historic Preservation</p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site was visited on March 26, 2024, by SOI-qualified archaeologist. Based on the nature and scope of the undertaking, the APE has been defined as the area potentially affected by ground-disturbing activities related to the repair of the storage and the installation and repair of a fence. Documentation with photographs and maps was subsequently submitted to SHPO (attached Appendix 1). In a response from PR SHPO dated June 26, 2024, SHPO concurred with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected within the project's Area of Potential Effects (see attached Appendix 1).</p> <p>Given that the coffee toaster and coffee grinder will be kept in a residence and will not be attached to any surface, SOI-qualified Architectural Historian, Jorge L. Lizardi Pollok, PhD, has determined that the project "Clears Under Programmatic Agreement; Tier II, Allowance B.2.a. for Historic Buildings and Structures", that stipulates "Repairs or replacement of building contents including furniture, movable partitions, computers,</p>

		<p>cabinetry, supplies, and equipment and any other movable items that are not character-defining features of a historic property”.</p> <p>The property is not considered historic or contributing to an historic district (See attached Historic maps, Figures 10.1 and 10.2). Therefore, this activity is in compliance with National Historic Preservation Act.</p>
<p>Noise Abatement and Control</p> <p>Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine for an agricultural site. The project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The site of the fence and storage is rural in nature and the site of the coffee toaster and coffee grinder is residential and there will be no impact to or from the surrounding area from a noise perspective. This topic is in compliance with Noise abatement and Control without further evaluation.</p>
<p>Sole Source Aquifers</p> <p>Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>There are no EPA Sole Source Aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source aquifers without further evaluation. See attached Sole Source Aquifers maps, Figures 11.1 and 11.2.</p>
<p>Wetlands Protection</p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site for the fence and storage the map shows an unnamed creek on the north of the parcel at 520 ft and for the site for the coffee grinder and toaster the map shows a fresh emergent wetland at 950 feet. However, no wetland will be affected by the project undertaking because the plans do not involve direct</p>

		interaction with the waterway or significant alterations to its surroundings. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. See the attached Wetlands maps, Figures 12.1 and 12.2.
Wild and Scenic Rivers Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is not within proximity of the NWSRS river. The site for the fence and storage is located 358,594 and the site for the coffee grinder and toaster is located 373,310 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. See Wild and Scenic Rivers Maps, Figures 13.1 and 13.2.
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Based on the scope of work for this project, there will be no additional impact on low-income or minority residents. This proposed activity will not have a negative impact on Environmental Justice. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section. Refer to Appendix 3 for EJ Screen Report.

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

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

- (1) Minor beneficial impact
- (2) No impact anticipated

(3) Minor Adverse Impact – May require mitigation

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

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
LAND DEVELOPMENT		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	<p>This project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern and is continued agricultural use of property which is compatible with a zoning code of A-P (Agricultural Productive) and existing land use of SREP-A (Rustic Specially Protected Agricultural Land). There is no urban design associated with this rural, agricultural site.</p> <p>The site where the coffee toaster machine and a coffee grinder machine will be stored is compatible with a zoning code of R-1 (Residential Intermediate) and existing land use of SU (Urban Land).</p>
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	<p>This project consists of the repair of an existing 30 feet x 20 feet storage and the land conditioning of approximately 5 acres. The soil is currently being used for agriculture purposes. There is no change in land use since the land will continue to be used to agriculture purposes. The soil in the area where the fence and storage will be has been classified as Maricao clay, 20 to 60 percent slopes (MoF). This is a steep to very steep, well-drained soil on side slopes and narrow hilltops of the strongly dissected uplands. The soil in the residence where the coffee grinder and coffee toaster will be has been classified as Descalabrado clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes (DeF). The descabrado series consists of shallow, well drained soils on uplands.</p> <p>The landslide data indicates moderate to high landslide susceptibility for the location of the fence and storage and low landslide susceptibility for the location for the coffee grinder and toaster; however, no erosion is expected to occur from this project. The project will not affect the drainage in the area. Soil suitability will</p>

		be assessed prior to construction. Contractors will be required to use BMPs during construction if erosion impacts occur. The construction manager should investigate if a DNER authorization is required for any land alteration associated with the proposed project activities. There will be no additional runoff associated with the project. See Landslide Susceptibility Maps, Figures 14.1 and 14.2.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine. There are no specific environmental hazards that have been identified for both locations. The site is not in a high Noise Level area. The project does not include housing or such to where inhabitants would be affected.
Energy Consumption	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine on an existing agricultural farm. No new connections for water or electricity will be necessary for the storage, as its function will be for the storage of agricultural equipment. The coffee toaster machine and coffee grinder machine will be used in the applicant's residence at coordinates 18.034084, -66.836463 (parcel: 361-087-327-05-000). The power needed will be from an existing PREPA outlet at the applicant's residence. There will be an increase in energy consumption, so the applicant should notify LUMA/PREPA if any authorization is required.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the

		<p>fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine and will result in short-term benefit to employment when contractors are hired for the repair of the storage and the installation of the fence. After construction, there may be a net positive benefit for the farm, a small business receiving this funding for economic development recovery purposes, which will aid in the continued operations of the intended use of the farm which products will be used by Puerto Rico population. The project is not anticipated to have a significant impact on Employment and Income Patterns, however, the project may help restore employment opportunities and income patterns.</p>
<p>Demographic Character Changes, Displacement</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine and will not alter the demographic characteristics of Yauco, PR. The applicant is already located at this location and the project will provide opportunities for the continuous agricultural growth of the business.</p>
<p>Environmental Justice</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>In the project area (fence and storage) within a one-mile radius:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people of color are 100% compared to PR average of 97%. • 90 % of the people are low income compared to PR average of 70%. • 12 % of the people are unemployed compared to PR average of 14%. <p>In the project area (coffee grinder and coffee toaster) within a one-mile radius:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people of color are 99% compared to PR average of 97%. • 80 % of the people are low income compared to PR average of 70%. • 13% of the people are unemployed compared to PR average of 14%. <p>The proposed activities of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of</p>

		a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine will have a positive impact on creating jobs for local people. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section. See EJ Screen Report in Appendix 3.
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Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine for an agricultural site and will have no impact on educational and cultural facilities.
Commercial Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine and will not have any negative impact on commercial facilities since the purpose of the storage is for storage of agricultural equipment.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine for an agricultural site and will have no impact on Health Care and Social Services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine and will have no impact on Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling services. The products and by-products are agricultural,

		and any waste would be biodegradable. The remaining construction solid waste materials would be collected for transport to the local landfill.
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine and this activity will not produce any wastewater. Based on the scope of work is not expected to result in any changes in wastewater or sanitary sewer generation. The proposed project will have no impact on Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers.
Water Supply	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine. No water connection will be necessary since the purpose of the storage will be to store agricultural equipment. The cistern will be used for transporting water, which will be used for irrigation of the farm. The applicant will supply water from his house and transport it in the cistern on his personal pickup truck. The water to fill the cistern will come from an existing PRASA connection in the applicant's home at the coordinates lat 18.034084, long -66.836463 (parcel: 361-087-327-05-000). There will be an increase in water consumption, so the applicant should notify PRASA if any authorization is required.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine for an agricultural site and will have no impact on Public Safety.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine

		warehouse and will have no impact on Parks, Open Space and Recreation. The property being used is agricultural and it will continue as agricultural use.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine for an agricultural site and will have no impact on transportation and accessibility.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine and will be situated on previous agriculture property and will have no impact on unique natural features or water resources. The project does not involve extracting water from any existing water sources such as rivers, lakes, or groundwater. Therefore, the project will have no impact on water resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine and will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity. There may be wildlife attracted to the storage and fence but no negative impact on wildlife. For the fence installation the removal of vegetation (grass and small bushes) will be necessary. The contractor must have Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize environmental impacts, particularly

		to prevent erosion, sedimentation, and habitat disruption.
Climate Change	2	The project consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine. The Re-Grow Program proposed project aims to increase resiliency in the agricultural industry to prepare for future climate related disasters. The project will not contribute to climate change and will provide a minor net benefit by allowing for increased food production. In terms of the project's susceptibility to climate change, the agricultural components may encounter challenges due to the potential impact of drought conditions. This is a small agricultural project with no measurable impact on climate change factors.

Additional Studies Performed: Not applicable.

Field Inspection (Date and completed by): March 26, 2024, Jaqueline Lopez, SOI-Qualified Archaeologist. Field Site Inspection performed by Egon Gonzalez on March 15, 2024.

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

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems:

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

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, Puerto Rico map.

www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf

National Park Service, National Registry of Natural Landmarks.

www.nature.nps.gov/nnl/docs/NNLRegistry.pdf

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Wild and Scenic Rivers – correspondence to Agency on October 16, 2018

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

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

Programmatic Agreement among the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office and the Central Office for Recovery,

Reconstruction and Resilience – amended to include the Puerto Rico Department of Housing.

Sierra Research for Office of Mobile Sources. US Environmental Protection Agency. Report No. SR93-03-02, Evaluation of Methodologies to Estimate Nonroad Mobile Source Usage, March 19, 1993: <http://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPURL.cgi?Dockey=9100UR51.txt>

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

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Conservation Online System: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp0/reports/species-listed-by-state-report?state=PR&status=listed>

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

Puerto Rico Planning Board, Communication regarding Floodplain Management, November 29, 2018.

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

US Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, Antilles Section, Communication regarding Wetlands Management, November 13, 2018.

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

Puerto Rico Planning Board, Communication regarding Coastal Zone Management, November 16, 2018 (No response).

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office. E-mail communication regarding October 23, 2018 letter on Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habitats.

NOAA Fisheries / National Marine Fisheries Service, NEPA Coordinator Southeast Regional Office. Communication on October 16, 2018 regarding designated critical habitat. (No response).

US Geological Survey, Data Release of May Showing Concentration of Landslides Caused by Hurricane Maria, <https://doi:10.5066/F7JD4VRF>

List of Permits Obtained: None.

Public Outreach [24 CFR 58.43]: The recovery process has seen significant proactive involvement from the local community. Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture has worked closely with the agricultural community. This project will include a FONSI/NOI-RROF in compliance with NEPA regulations for HUD.

Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]: In accordance with 24 CFR 58.32 (Aggregation), there are no cumulative impacts associated with the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine for an agricultural site. The activities involved, such as storage restoration, the installation of a fence and the purchase of the coffee grinder and coffee toaster, are discrete and confined to the immediate project areas. They do not extend beyond the boundaries of the sites, minimizing the potential for cumulative effects on surrounding environments. The project's location on an existing agricultural site suggests that the area may have already undergone land use changes and modifications. In the case of the site for the coffee grinder and coffee toaster, it is an urban/residential area, so it is already a previously perturbed area.

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

The Regrow Program purpose is to enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities while promoting and increasing food security island wide. The "Alternative" action would mean that the applicant would consider other locations for a new storage. However, other locations may result in tree clearing prior to construction and/or need to fill in some steep area and an added cost to the applicant. Any option that requires going off-site would not contribute to the improvement and growth of agricultural production or enable economic development for this applicant.

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

The 'No-Action' alternative would mean that the applicant would not receive federal funding to provide the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence and the purchase of 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine for an agricultural site which would inhibit the economic growth opportunity that the applicant would not otherwise have under the PRDOH Re-Grow Puerto Rico program. As a result, these owners may not be able to experience the growth needed to recover and expand their agriculture activities. A provision of the grant allows for economic development for businesses. The No-Action alternative would not allow for economic development for this applicant.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions: The proposed activity has been found to not have any adverse effects on the environmental nor is there the requirement for further

consultation with any agency. There are no environmental review topics addressed that result in the need for formal compliance steps or the requirement for mitigation.

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	Soil suitability will be assessed prior to construction. Contractors will be required to use BMPs during construction if erosion impacts occur. The construction manager should investigate if a DNER authorization is required for any land alteration associated with the proposed project activities.
<p>Endangered Species Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>The USFWS has developed the following conservation measures for the Boa:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inform all project personnel about the potential presence of the PR boa in areas where the proposed work will be conducted. A pre-construction meeting should be conducted to inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming the species as well as penalties for harassing or harming PR boas. An educational poster or sign with photo or illustration of the species should be displayed at the project site. 2. Prior to any construction activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movements, the boundaries of the project and areas to be excluded and protected should be clearly marked in the project plan and in the field in order to avoid further habitat degradation into forested and conservation areas. 3. Once areas are clearly marked, and prior to the use of heavy machinery and any construction activity (including removal of vegetation and earth movement), a biologist or project personnel with experience on this species should survey the

areas to be cleared to verify the presence of any PR boa within the work area.

4. If a PR boa is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded (see #5). Do not capture the boa. If boas need to be moved out of harm's way, designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (PRDNER phone #: (787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124). If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities at that area must stop until the boa moves out of harm's way on its own. Activities at other work sites, where no boas have been found after surveying the area, may continue.

5. For all boa sightings (dead or alive), record the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where it was found. PR boa data should also include a photo of the animal (dead or alive), site GPS coordinates, the time and date, and comments on how the animal was detected and its behavior. 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 are 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.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has established the following conservation measures for bird species in the event of an encounter:

1. Personnel Awareness: All personnel will be informed that civil and criminal penalties exist for harming, harassing, or killing species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. During the breeding seasons (detailed below), nest surveys must be conducted if the project occurs within the range of any listed species and if the habitat for those species will be affected by the proposed actions. Qualified personnel, with the appropriate permits from the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER), must conduct nest searches before any work begins. If nesting activity is detected, all construction or human disturbance must be avoided within a 50-meter buffer around any nest(s) located within the project area. This buffer must remain in place until fledglings permanently leave the nest.

- o Breeding Seasons:

- Puerto Rican parrot: February–June
- Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk: December–June

2. Outside Breeding Season: Nest surveys are not required outside the breeding season. However, if a nest is encountered, a 50-meter buffer must be maintained, and construction or human disturbance avoided until fledglings have left the nest. Additionally, if any of the listed species is observed within the project area (e.g., foraging or resting), disturbances to the individual(s) must be avoided, and birds must not be flushed until they leave on their own.
3. Recording Sightings: For any nest sightings, the applicant must record the time, date, and specific location of the sighting.

All sightings and reports of incidental lethal take must be sent to the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office at Caribbean_es@fws.gov.

The USFWS has developed the following conservation measures for the harlequin butterfly:

1. All project construction personnel must be informed about the potential presence of the PR harlequin butterfly or its occupied host plant, prickly bush (*Oplonia spinosa*), in the project areas and the need to avoid harming the species and its occupied host plant. All personnel will be advised that there are civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing, or killing species protected under the Endangered Species Act. Educational material (e.g., posters, flyers, or signs with photos or illustrations of all the life stages of the PR harlequin butterfly (i.e., eggs, caterpillar, chrysalis, and adult) as well as 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

boundaries of the work area in the field clearly delineate 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 PR 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 PR 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 chrysalis are present.

4. If there is no prickly bush within the project area, and the butterfly is observed flying within the project area, do not harass, harm, pursue, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct, the species.

5. Adult butterflies are often observed flying near the host plant as part of their mating behavior and laying eggs. Project-related activities must stop if the prickly bush is found in the project area and the PR harlequin butterfly is observed flying in that same area where the plan is located. 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 PR 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 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 PR harlequin butterfly

	<p>is found in the prickly bush, take the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly mark the host plant with flagging tape • Establish a 10-meter (32-foot) buffer zone around the bush to protect it. • Eggs are typically found on the prickly bush's newly grown, tender branches. Once an egg hatches, the caterpillar moves and feeds throughout the plant. 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. <p>8. For all PR 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 PR harlequin butterfly sighting reports should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Caribbean Ecological Service Field Office at caribbean_es@fws.gov.</p> <p>9. For questions regarding the PR harlequin butterfly, the Point of Contact is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • José Cruz-Burgos, Threatened and Endangered Species Program Coordinator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile: 305-304-1386 • Office phone: 786-244-0081 • Office Direct Line: 939-320-3120 <p>Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov</p> <p>Conservation Measures for the listed species are in Appendix 4.</p>
Wetlands Protection	Standard BMPs should be applied to mitigate impact on wetlands, like installing erosion controls

Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	or diverting runoff (if any) around the areas of ground disturbance to minimize any potential environmental impact on the creek and preserves its natural state.
Vegetation, Wildlife	The contractor must have Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize environmental impacts, particularly to prevent erosion, sedimentation, and habitat disruption.
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	The proposed action is continued agricultural use of property, which is compatible with the existing land use. The applicant and/or construction manager is required to obtain any necessary local and territorial building and environmental permits prior to construction activities commencing.

Permits or Agency Approvals Required Section

Permit or Approval	Permit Conditions
Ground disturbance	Projects whose earthworks are more than 40 m ³ must submit an Incidental Permit. The permit must be submitted via the Single Business Portal to the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by the Water Quality Division of the PRDNER. Any necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor prior to construction activities.
Clearing activities	Activities involving the excavation or movement of any component of the terrestrial cortex material that exceeds five hundred (500) cubic meters and up to a maximum of five thousand (5,000) cubic meters require the submittal and approval of a Simple Terrestrial Cortex Removal Permit. Applications are submitted via the Single Business Portal of the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by terrestrial Cortex Extraction Permit Division of the PRDNER.
Utility Connections- Water Supply- PRASA	The project does not involve new connections to the local utility services provided by PRASA. The applicant will use water from an existing PRASA intake on his property. However, the applicant is responsible for any permits or actions to ensure legalization of utility connections (if needed) prior to construction activities,

	since it will be an increase on water consumption on the applicant residence.
Utility Connections- PREPA/LUMA	The project does not involve new utility connections provided by PREPA/LUMA. However, the applicant is responsible for any permits or actions to ensure legalization of utility connections (if needed) prior to construction activities, since it will be an increase on energy consumption on the applicant residence.

Determination:

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

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

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

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

Preparer Signature: _____  _____ Date: 12/4/2024

Name/Title/Organization: Patricia Carmenatty / Environmental Specialist/ Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

Certifying Officer Signature: _____  _____ Date: 12/06/2024

Name/Title: _____

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

Figures

José Ángel Feliciano Rivera
 Carr. 374 Km.Hm 5.4,
 Yauco, PR 00698
 Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000
 Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

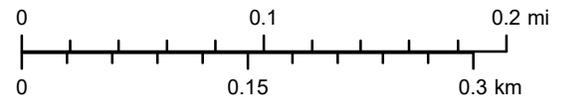
Figure 1.1: Location Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Storage to be Repair
- New Fence
- Fence to be Repair
- Parcel-01721
- CRIM_PARCELS



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



1:5,000

Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>

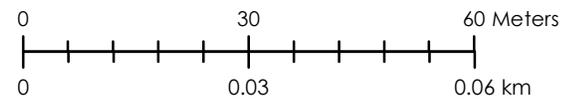
Figure 1.2

Location: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Lat: 18.034084
Long: -66.836463



Service Layer Credits: Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>



1:1,000

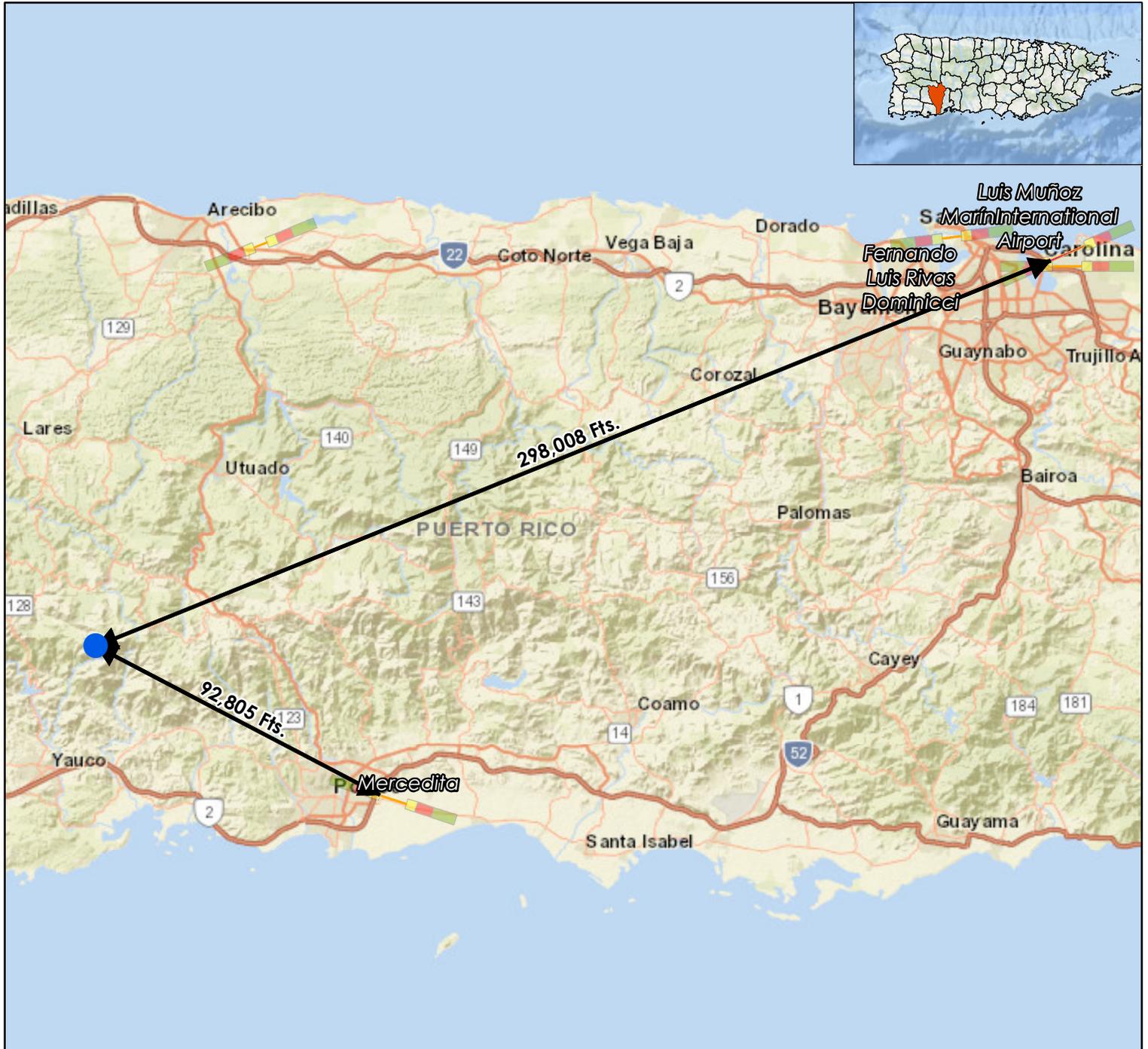
Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-01721 (Applicant's House)
-  Parcel 01721
-  CRIM PARCELAS

José Ángel Feliciano Rivera
Carr. 374 Km.Hm 5.4,
Yauco, PR 00698
Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000
Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

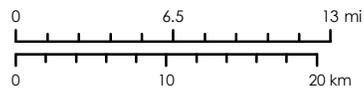
Figure 2.1: Airports

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- SJU Military Runaway
- Civil Runaway
- Accident Potential Zone**
- APZ 1
- APZ 2
- Clear Zone



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
<https://adds-faa.opendata.arcgis.com/>



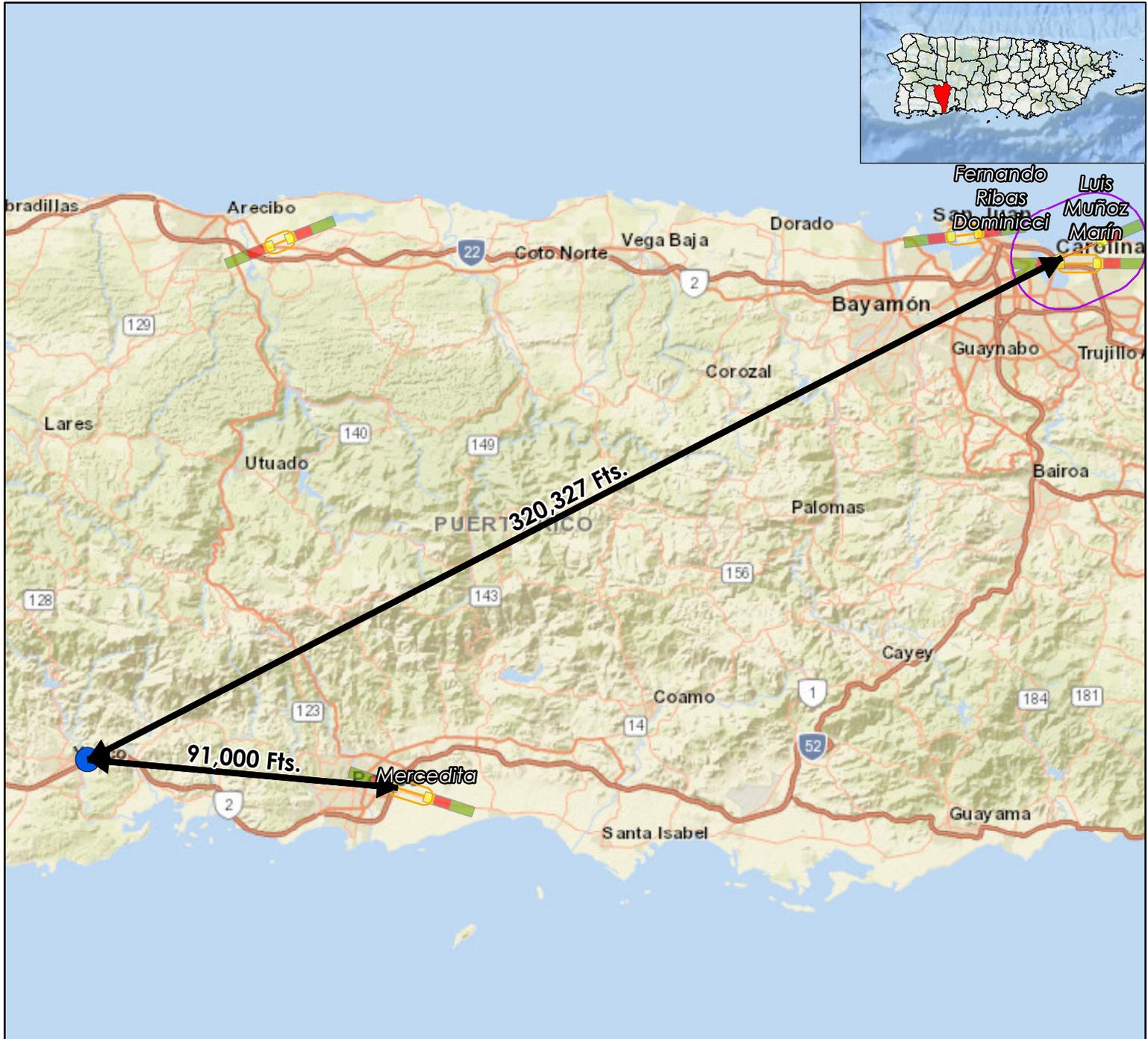
1:500,000

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Lat: 18.034084, Lon: -66.836463

Figure 2.2

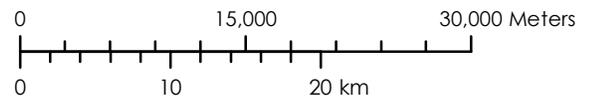
Airports

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721 (Applicant's House)
 - SJU Military Runway
 - Civil Runway
- Accident Potential Zone**
- APZ 1
 - APZ 2
 - Clear Zone



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



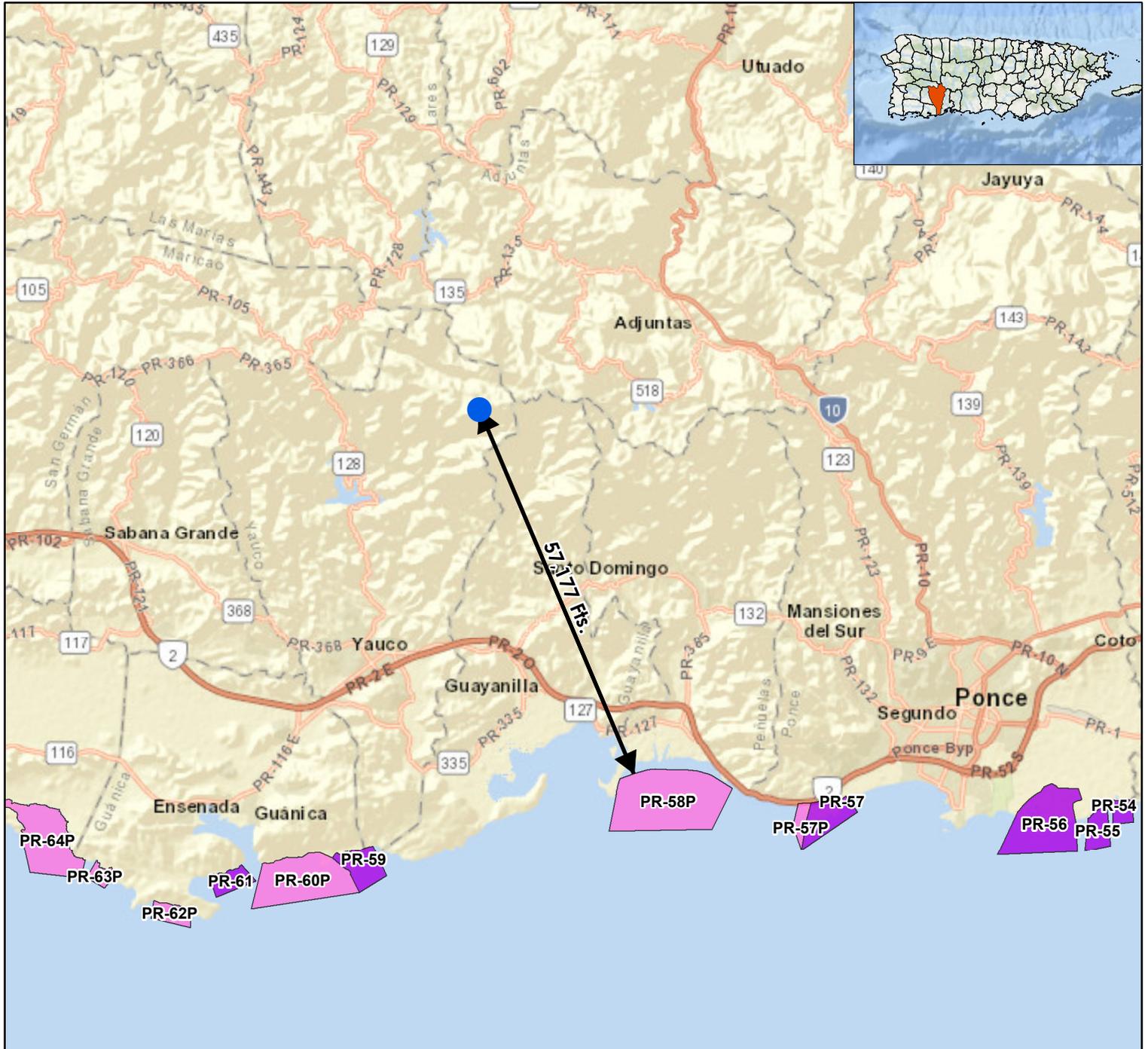
Source:

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
<https://ads-faa.opendata.arcgis.com/>

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Figure 3.1: Coastal Barrier Resources System

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

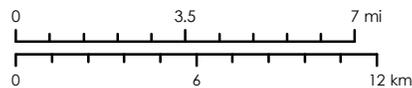


Legend:

● PR-RGRW-01721

Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS)

- Otherwise Protected Area
- System Unit



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
<https://www.fws.gov/program/coastal-barrier-resources-act>

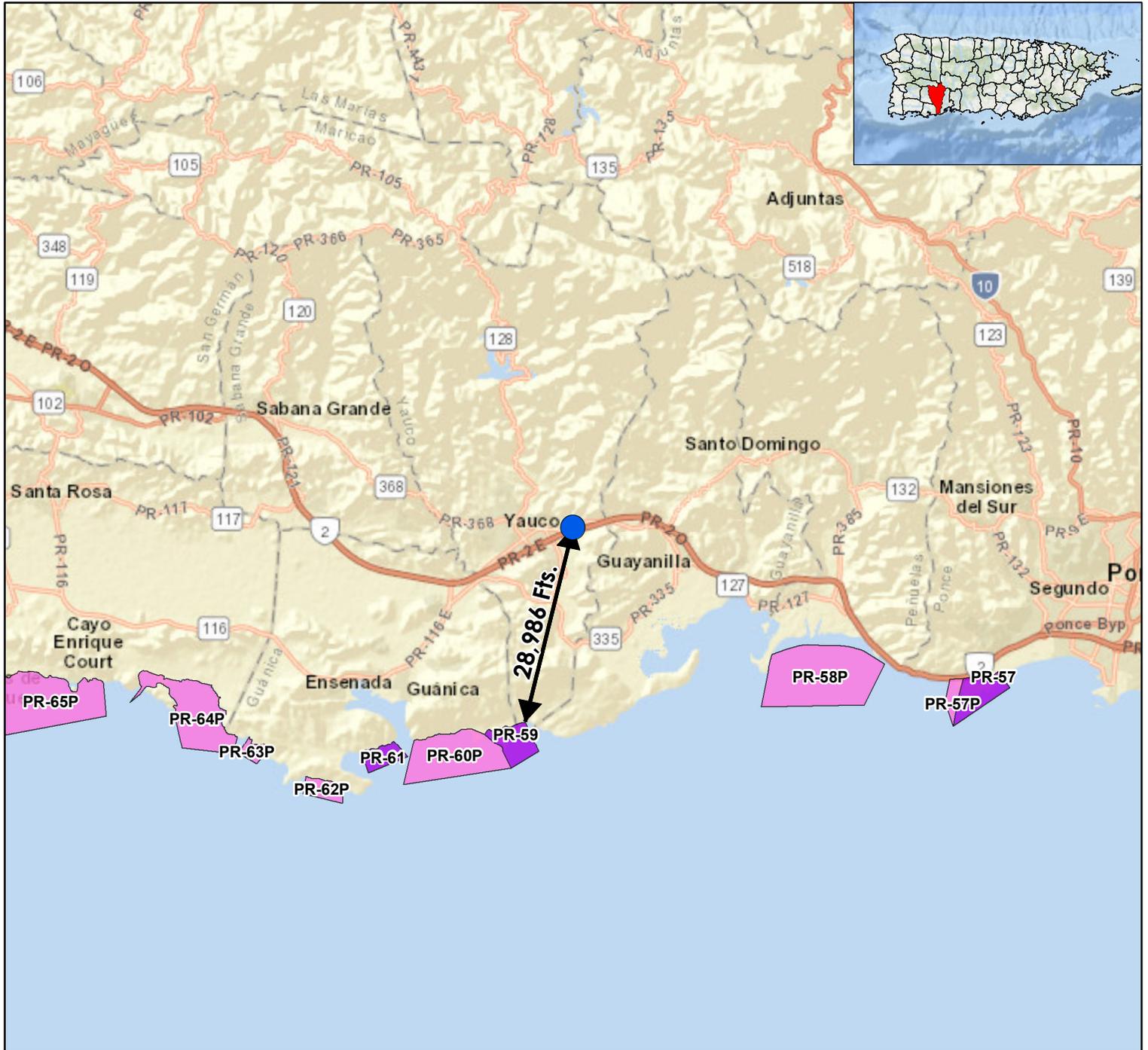


1:250,000

Figure 3.2

Coastal Barrier Resources System

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



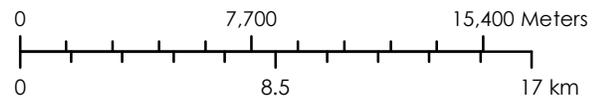
Legend:

● PR-RGRW-01721

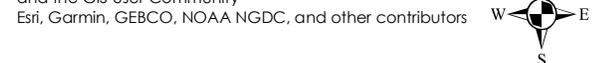
Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS)

█ Otherwise Protected Area

█ System Unit



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



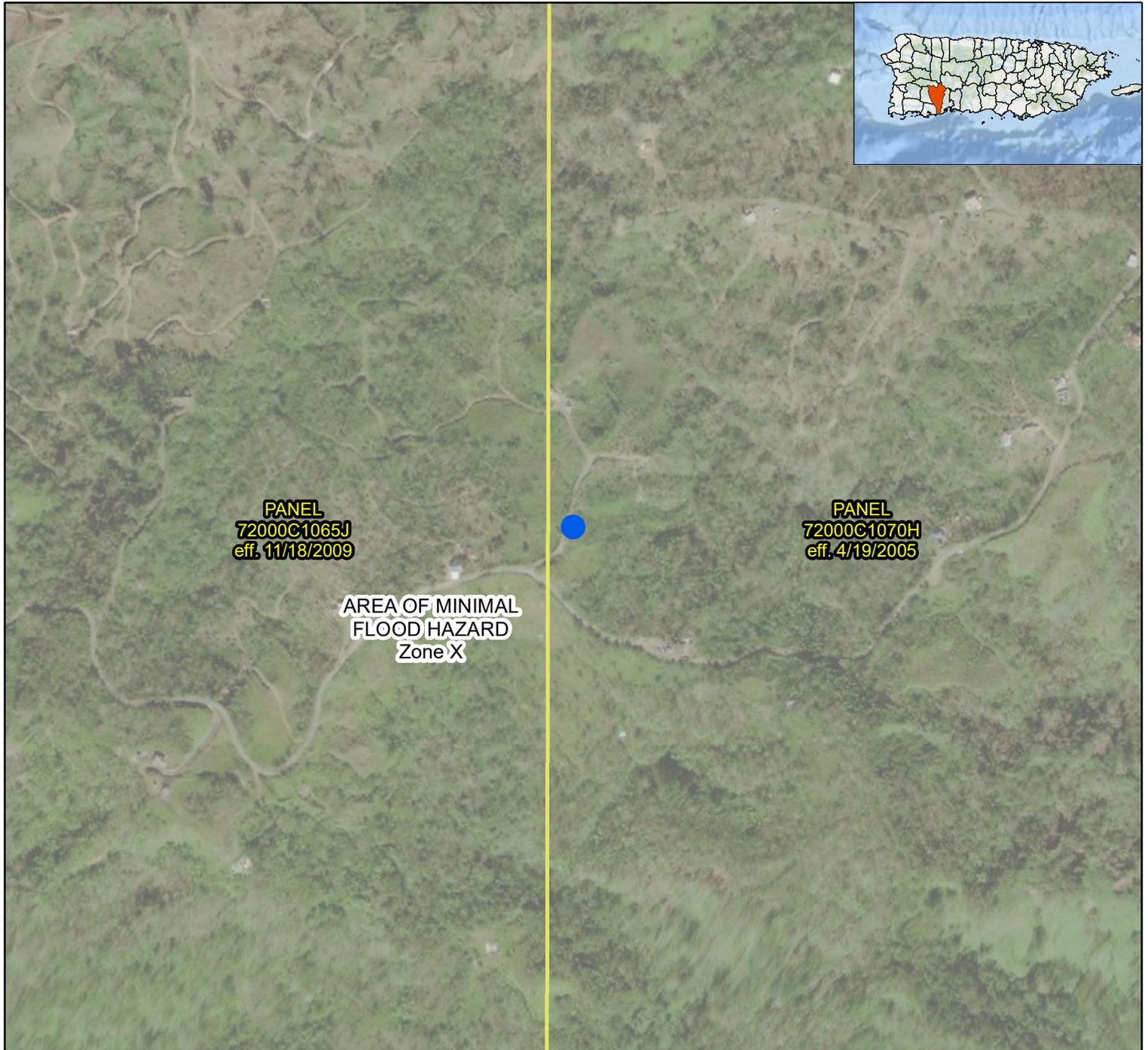
Source:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
<https://www.fws.gov/program/coastal-barrier-resources-act>

1:250,000

Figure 4.1: Flood Insurance Rate Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- Area of Minimal Flood Hazard *Zone X*
- FIRM Panel



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



1:5,000

Source

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

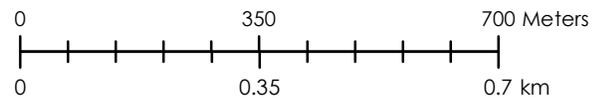
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 Yauco PR, 00698
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 Lat: 18.034084, Lon: -66.836463

Figure 4.2
Flood Insurance Rate Map
 Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- Zone AE
- Zone X - Area of Minimal Flood Hazard *Zone X*
- Zone A *Zone A, V, A99*
- FIRM Panel



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
 Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

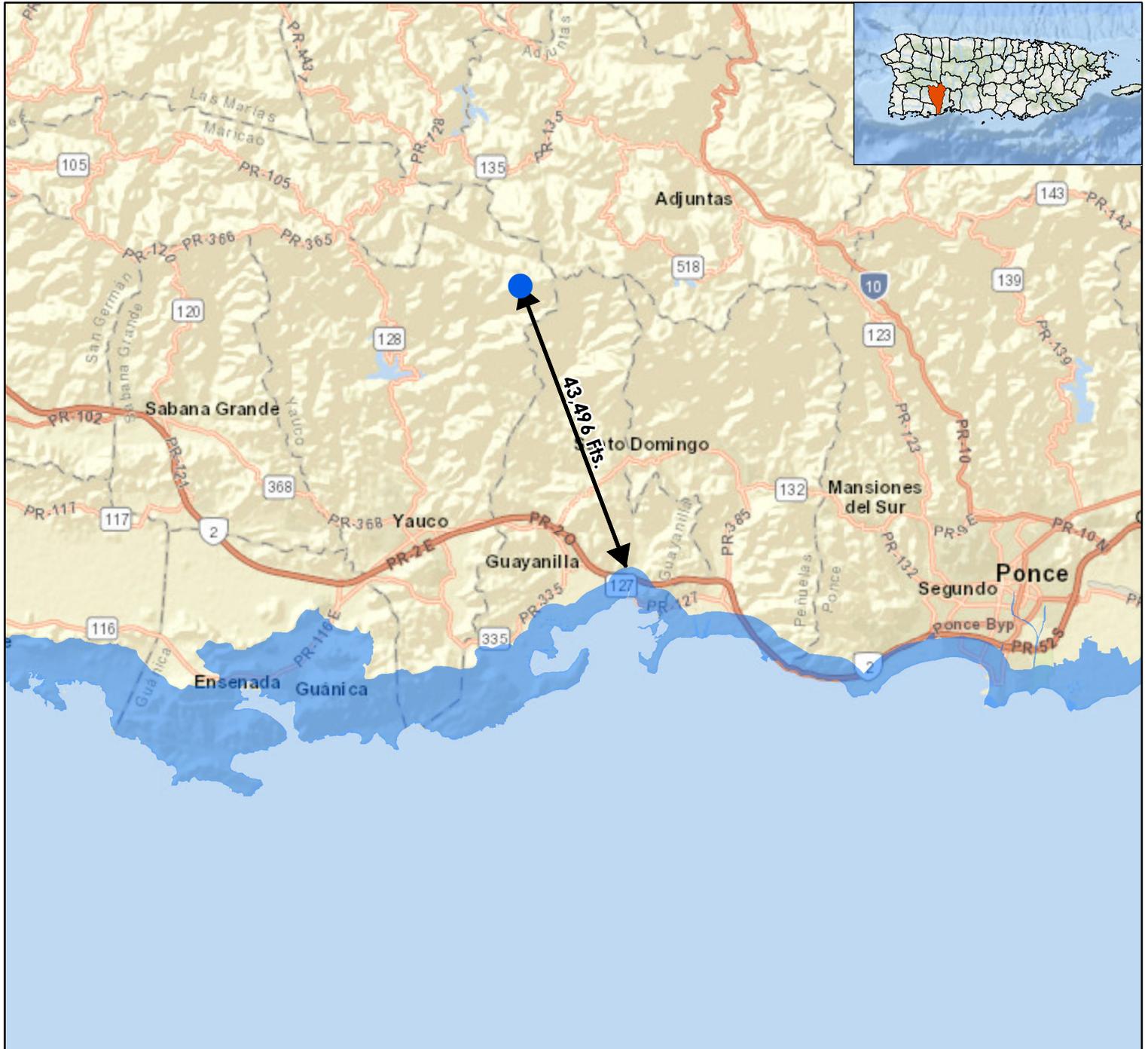
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>



1:11,000

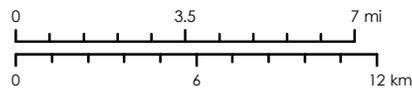
Figure 5.1: Coastal Zone Management

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- Coastal Zone Management Act Boundary



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

NOAA Office for Coastal Management (NOAA/OCM)
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/inport/item/53132>

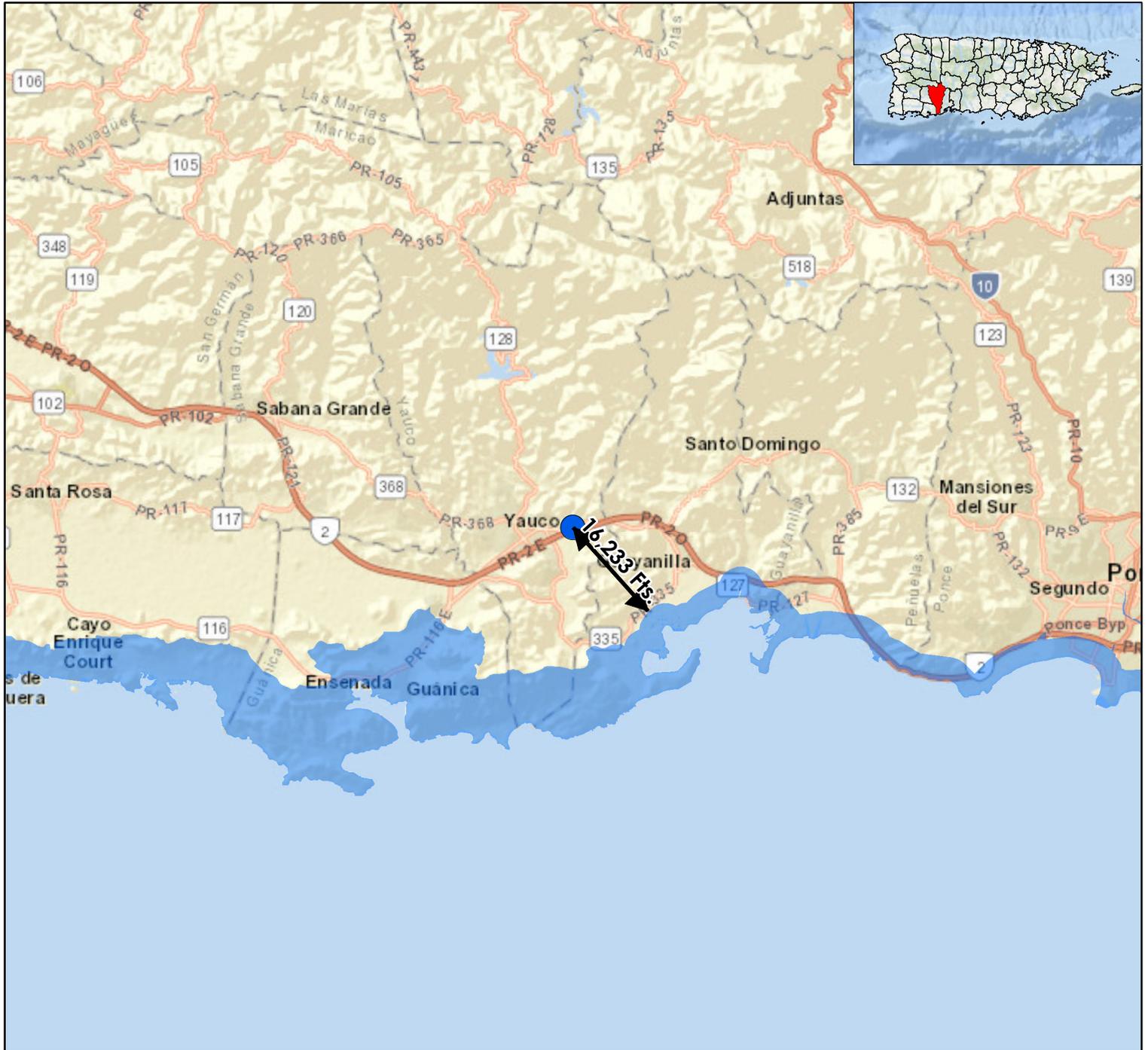


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Figure 5.2

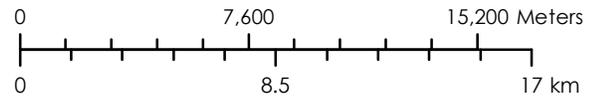
Coastal Zone Management

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- Coastal Zone Management Act Boundary



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
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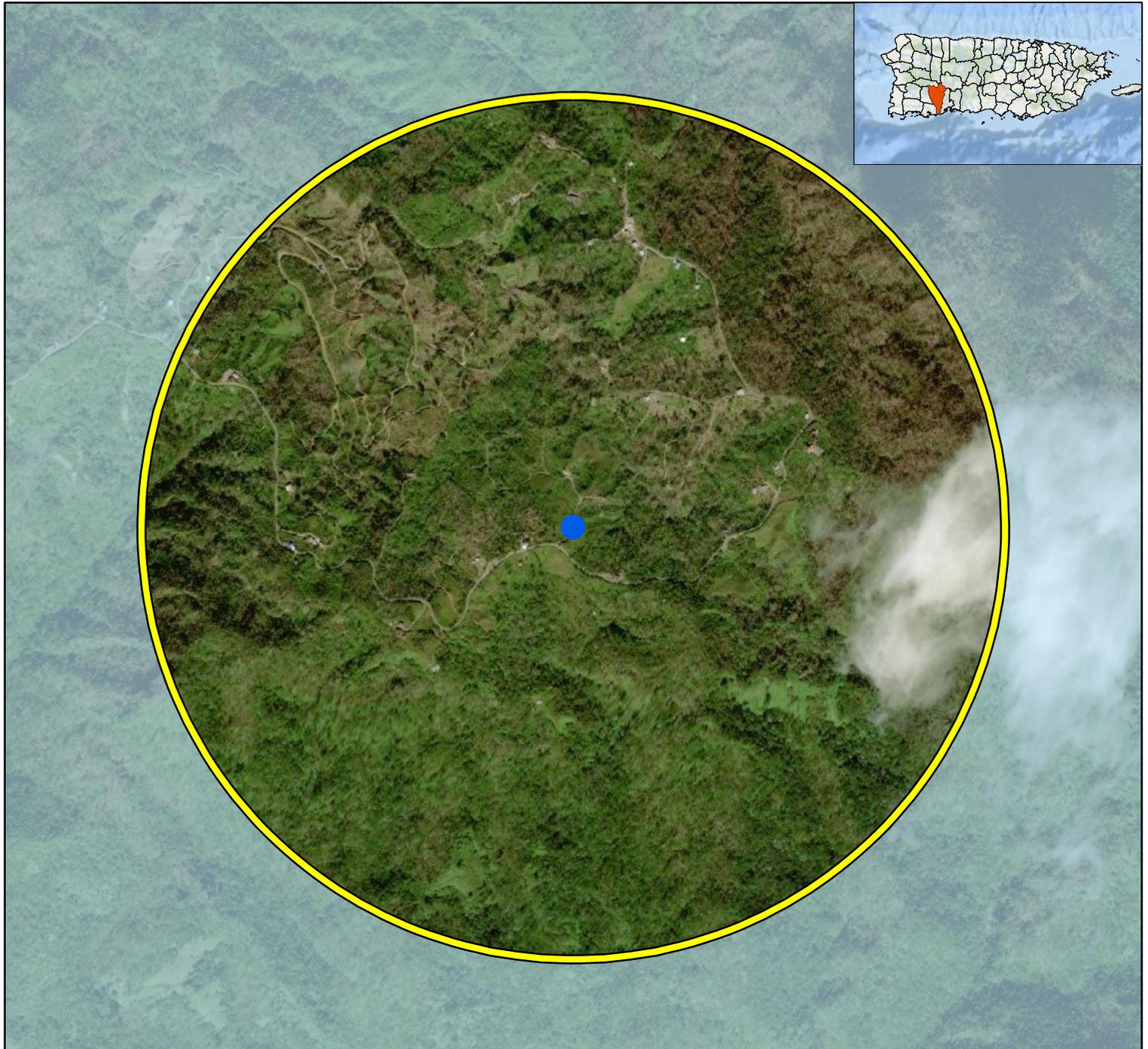
NOAA Office for Coastal Management (NOAA/OCM)
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/inport/item/53132>

1:250,000

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 Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

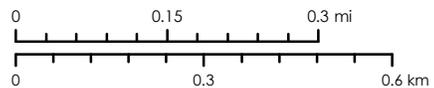
Figure 6.1: Toxic and Hazardous Facilities

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- 3,000 Fts. Buffer
- FACILITY INTERESTS
- ICIS
- NCDB
- NPDES
- NPDES MAJOR
- ▲ RCRA
- ▲ RCRA ACTIVE
- ▲ RCRA INACTIVE
- ▲ RCRA LQG



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

EPA Facility Registry Service (FRS)
<https://www.epa.gov/frs>



1:12,000

Figure 6.2

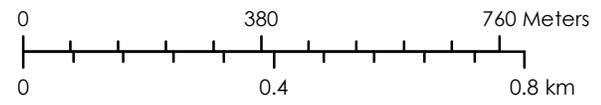
Toxic and Hazardous Facilities

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- ⬠ NPDES
- 3,000 Ft. Buffer
- ▲ RCRA
- ACRES
- ▲ RCRA_INACTIVE
- ⬠ AIR
- ⬠ SEMS



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Source:
EPA Facility Registry Service (FRS)
<https://www.epa.gov/frs>



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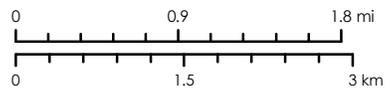
Figure 7.1:Threatened & Endangered Species

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- Critical Habitat



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Source

NOAA Office of Response and Restoration
<https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/>



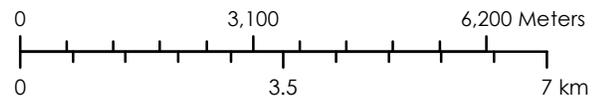
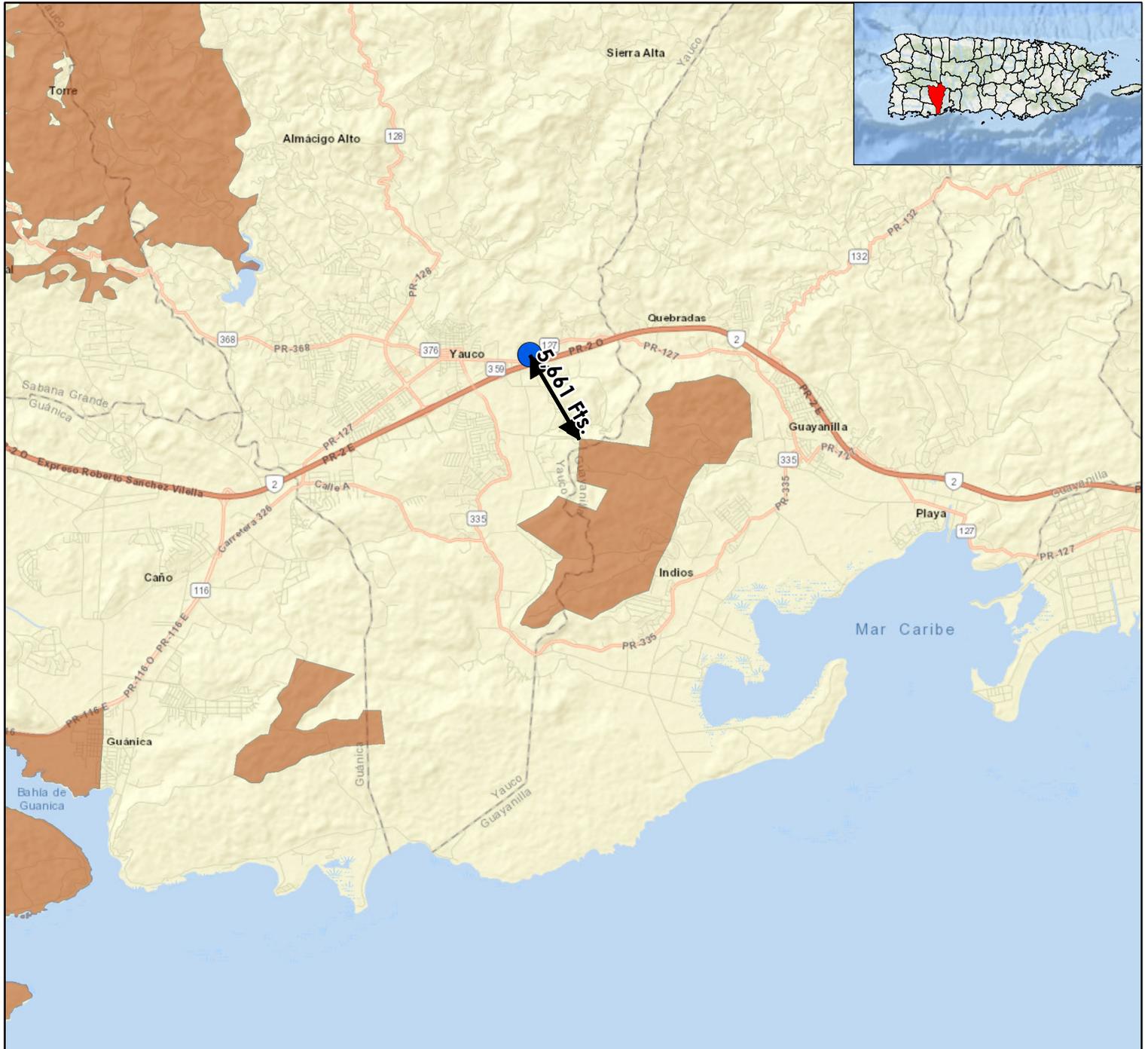
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Figure 7.2

Threatened & Endangered Species

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- Critical Habitat

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Source:

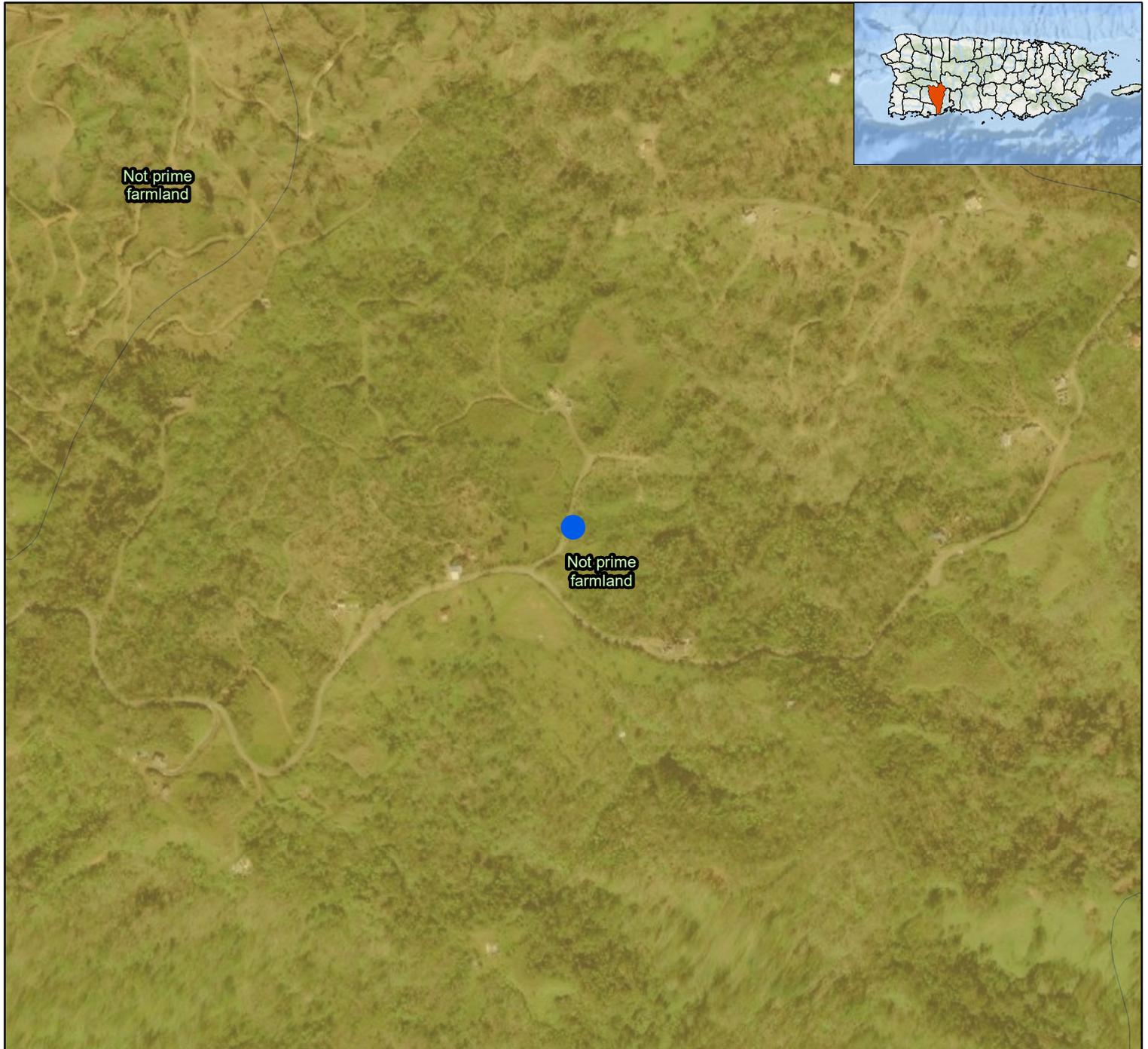
NOAA Office of Response and Restoration
<https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/>

1:100,000

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Figure 8.1: Farmland Protection

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

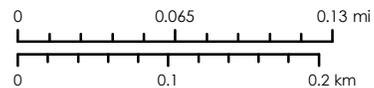


Legend:

 PR-RGRW-01721

Farm Class

 Not prime farmland



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Gridded Soil Survey Geographic Database (gSSURGO)
<https://data.nal.usda.gov/dataset/soil-survey-geographic-database-ssurgo>



1:5,000

Figure 8.2

Farmland Protection

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

● PR-RGRW-01721

Farm Class

Farmland of statewide importance

Not prime farmland

Prime farmland if drained

Prime farmland if irrigated

0 380 760 Meters

0 0.4 0.8 km

Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Gridded Soil Survey Geographic Database (gSSURGO)
<https://data.nal.usda.gov/dataset/soil-survey-geographic-database-ssurgo>

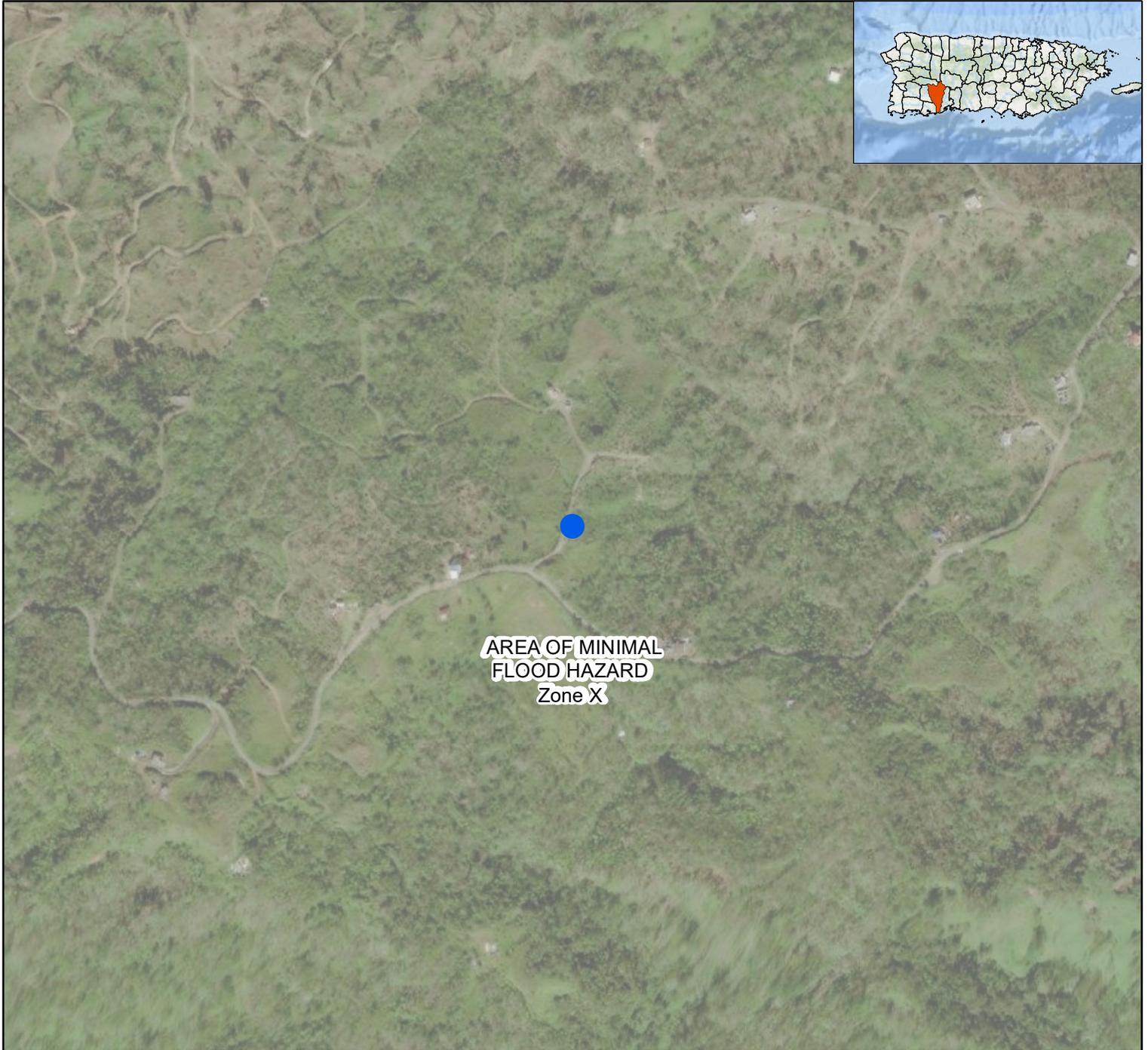
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Figure 9.1: Advisory Base Flood Elevation

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-01721
-  Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA),
Junta de Planificacion de Puerto Rico (JP),
Mapas de Niveles de Inundacion Base Recomendados,
<https://maps.jp.pr.gov/>

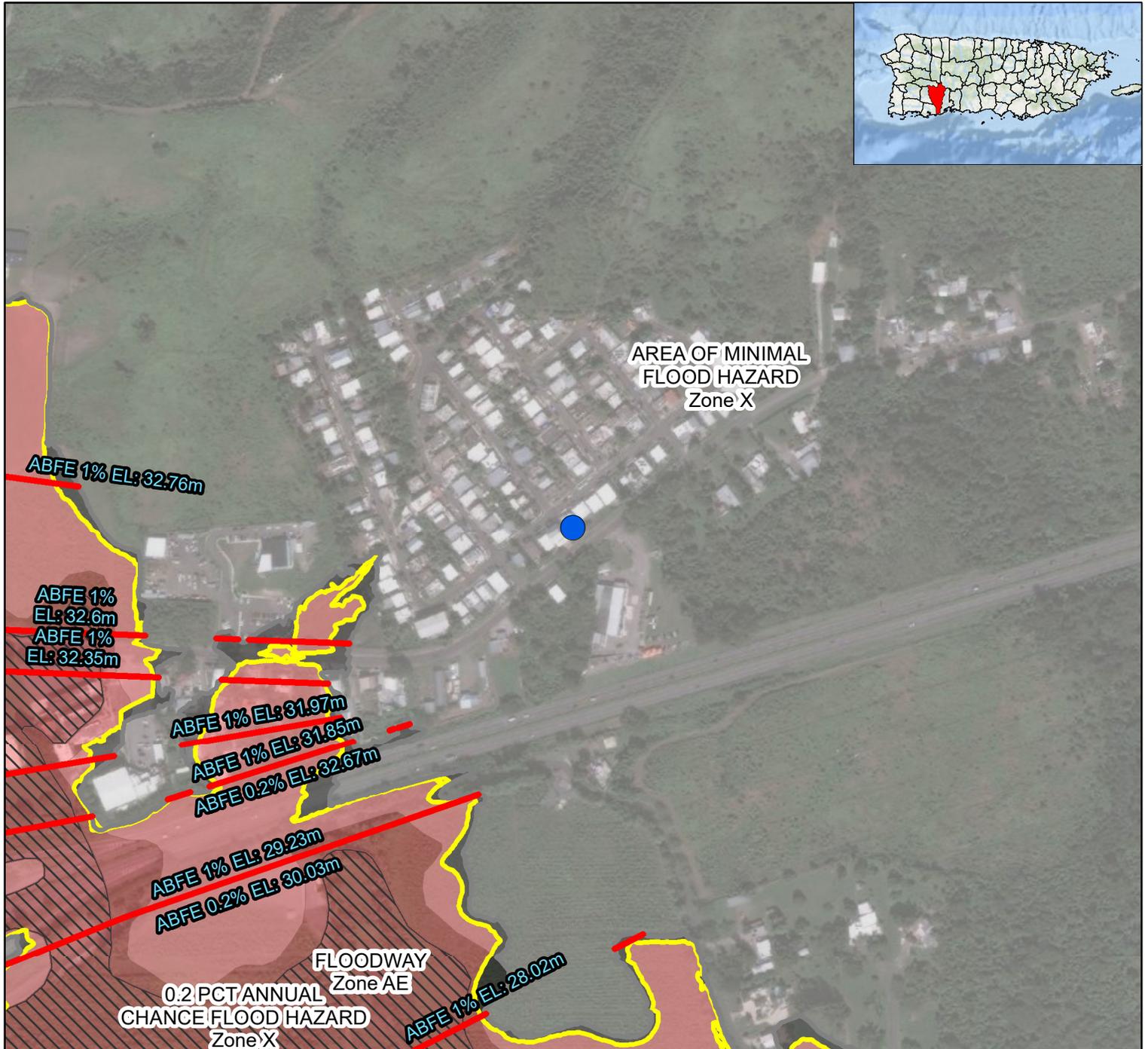


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Figure 9.2

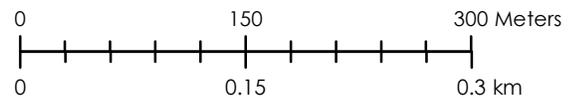
Advisory Base Flood Elevation

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
 - Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFE)
 - 0.2-percent annual chance flood
 - 1-percent annual chance flood
- | Flood Zone | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| | A |
| | 0.2% Annual Chance Flood |
| | Floodway |
| | Floodway |
| | Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X |



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA),
Junta de Planificacion de Puerto Rico (JP),
Mapas de Niveles de Inundacion Base Recomendados,
<https://maps.jp.pr.gov/>

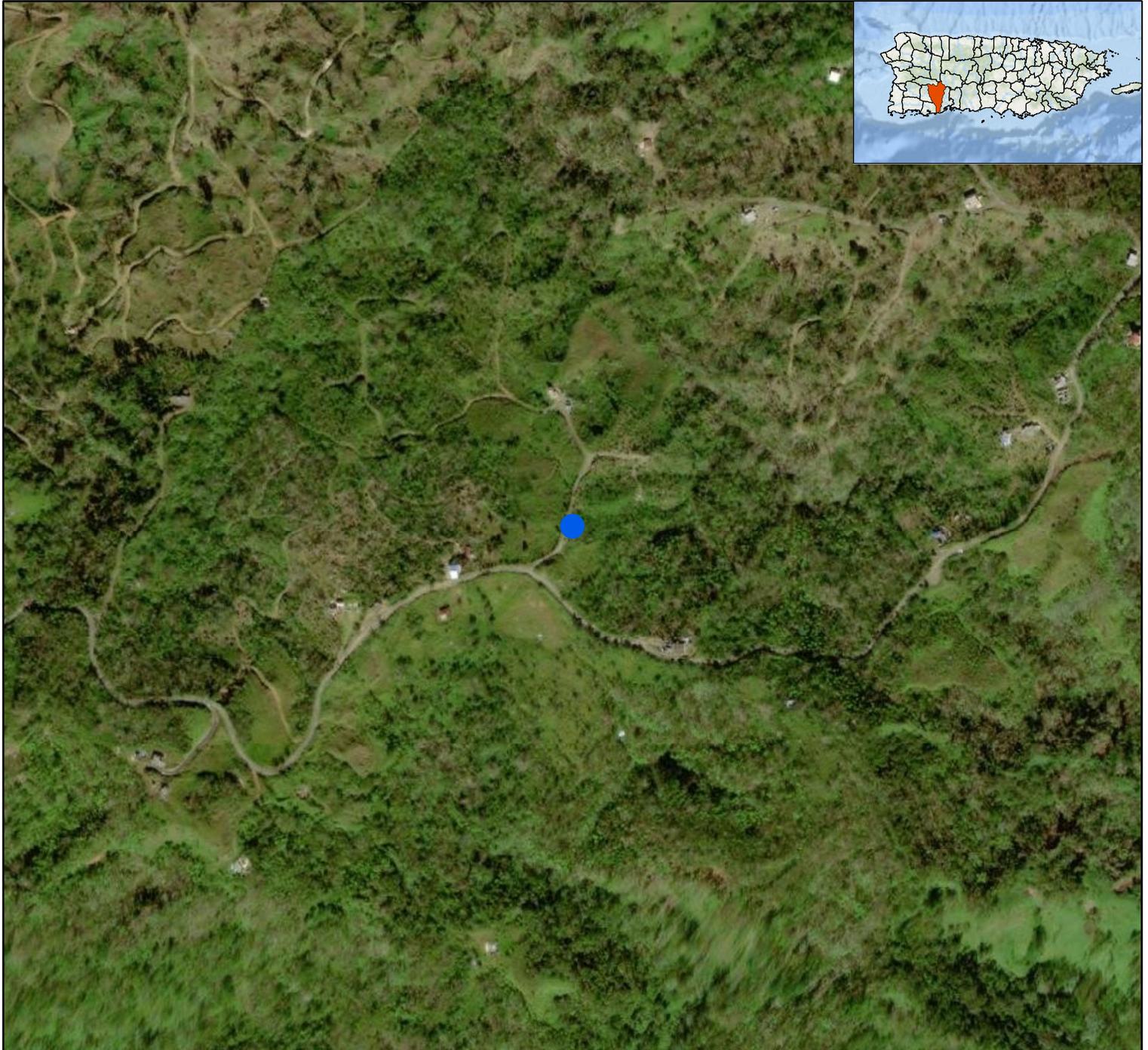


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Figure 10.1: Historic Preservation Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-01721
-  Traditional Urban Center
-  Archaeological Resource Zones
-  Cultural_Resources - Public Plaza
-  Cultural_Resources - Registry ICP
-  Cultural_Resources - Historic Places JP
-  Cultural_Resources - Scenic Places
-  Cultural_Resources - Cultural Value Places
-  Cultural_Resources - Railway Vestiges



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



Source

National Park Service (NPS) - National Register of Historic Places(NRHP) <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm>
 State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) <https://oech.pr.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

1:5,000

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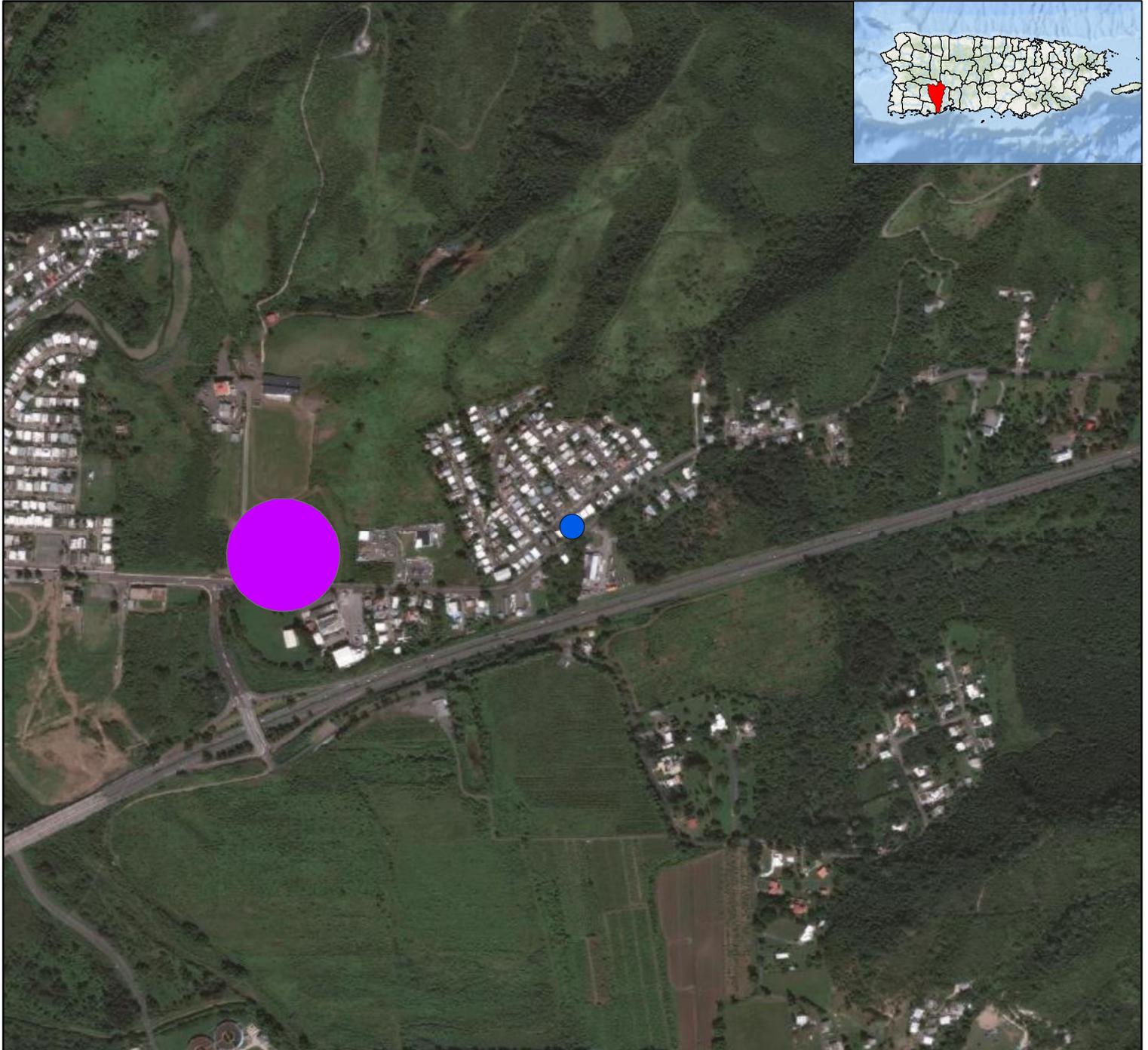
Catastro: 361-087-327-05-000

Lat: 18.034084, Lon: -66.836463

Figure 10.2

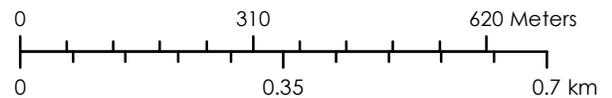
Historic Preservation Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-01721
-  Archaeological Resource Zones



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

National Park Service (NPS) - National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm>

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

<https://oeh.pr.gov/Pages/default.aspx>



1:10,000

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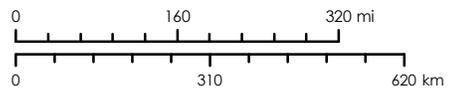
Figure 11.1: EPA Sole Source Aquifers

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-01721
-  EPA Sole Source Aquifers



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



Source

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
<https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ada1877155fe31356b>

1:12,000,000

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Yauco PR, 00698

Catastro: 361-087-327-05-000

Lat: 18.034084, Lon: -66.836463

Figure 11.2

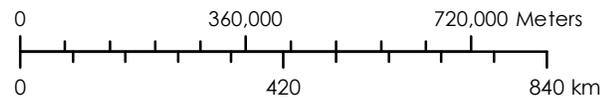
EPA Sole Source Aquifers

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-01721
-  EPA Sole Source Aquifers



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



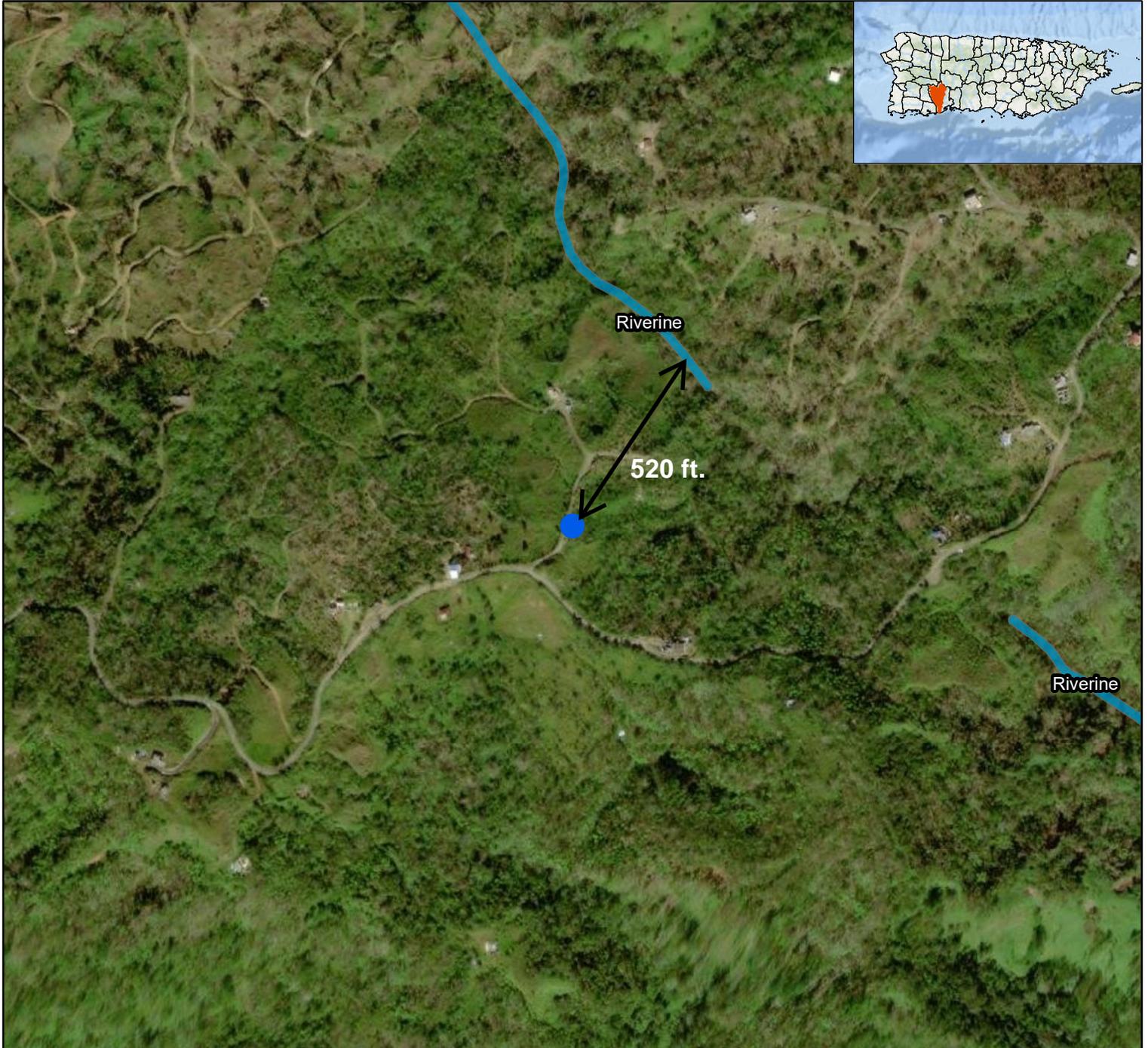
Source:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
<https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ada1877155fe31356b>
1:12,000,000

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Yauco, PR 00698
Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000
Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

Figure 12.1: Wetlands Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

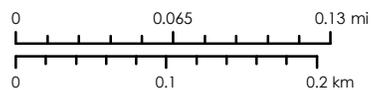


Legend:

 PR-RGRW-01721

National Wetlands Inventory

 Riverine



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
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Source

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - National Wetlands Inventory
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory>

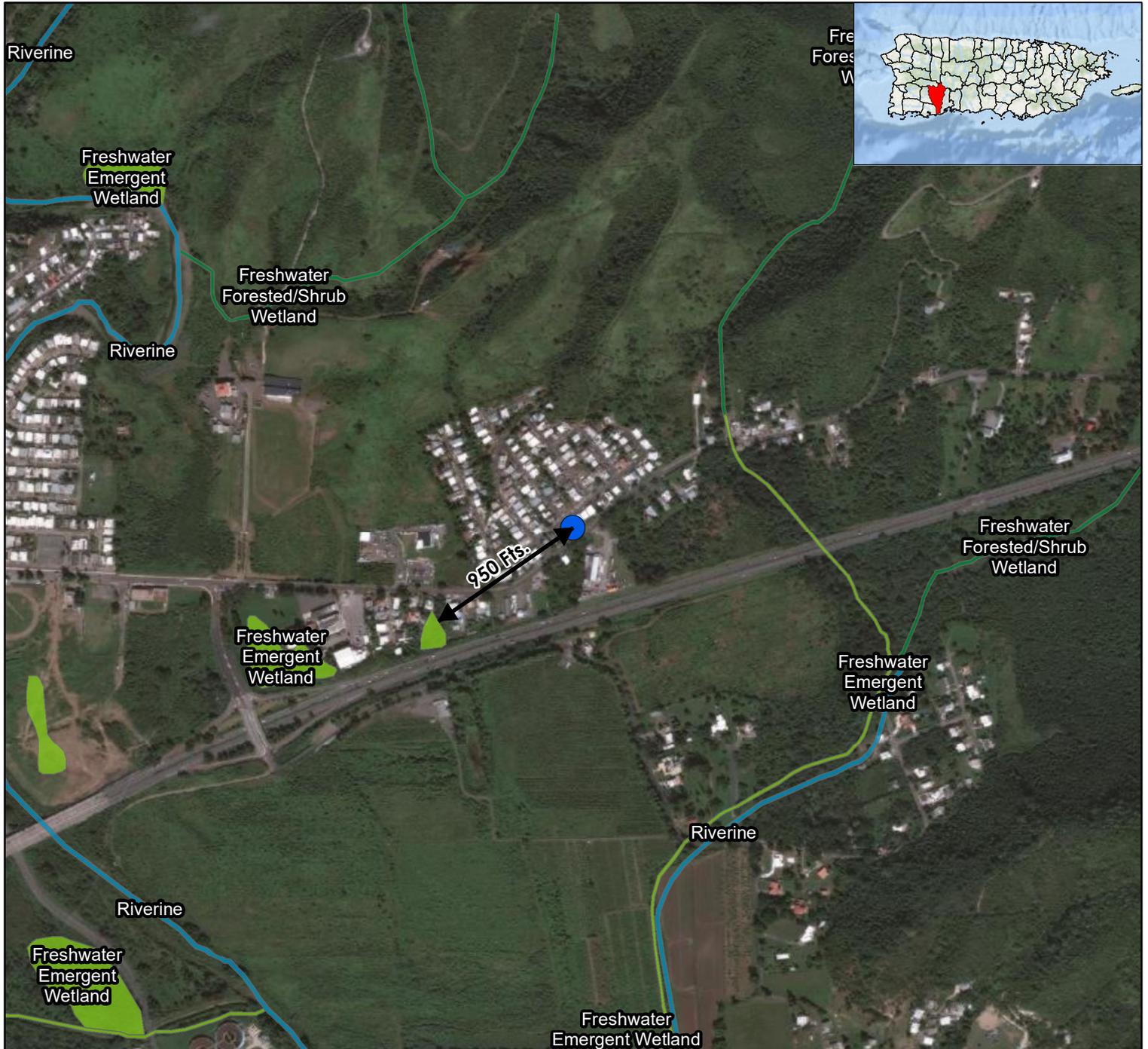


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Figure 12.2

Wetlands Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

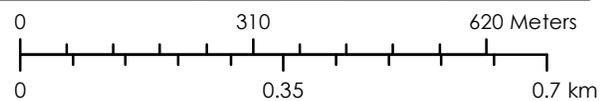


Legend:

● PR-RGRW-01721

National Wetlands Inventory

- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Riverine



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - National Wetlands Inventory
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory>

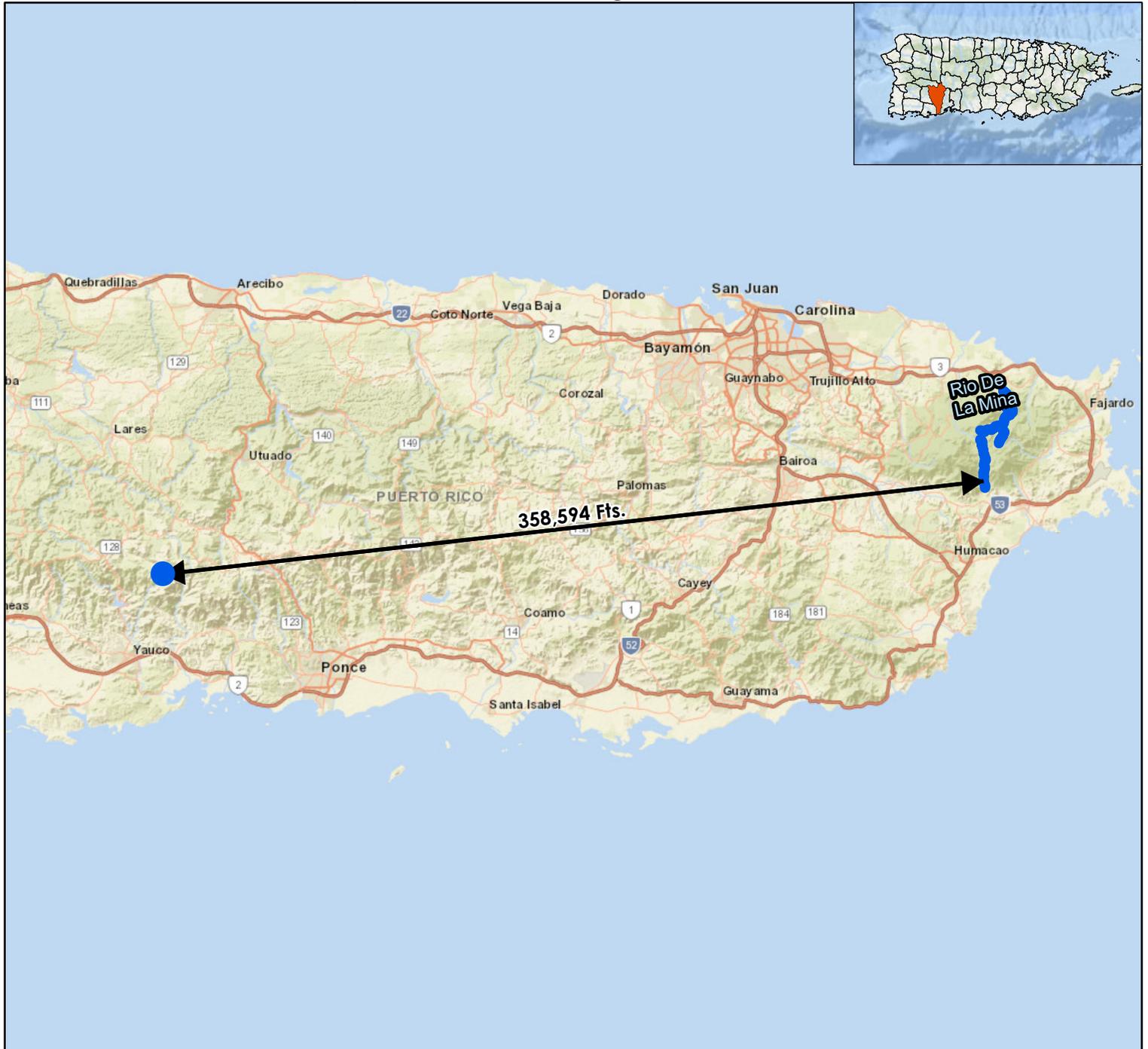


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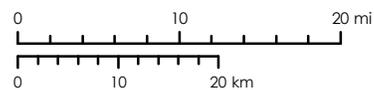
Figure 13.1: Wild and Scenic Rivers

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- Wild and Scenic Rivers



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Source

FWS National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
<https://www.rivers.gov/mapping-gis.php>



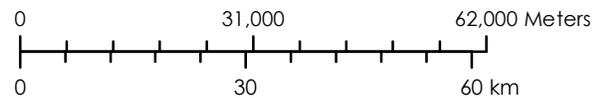
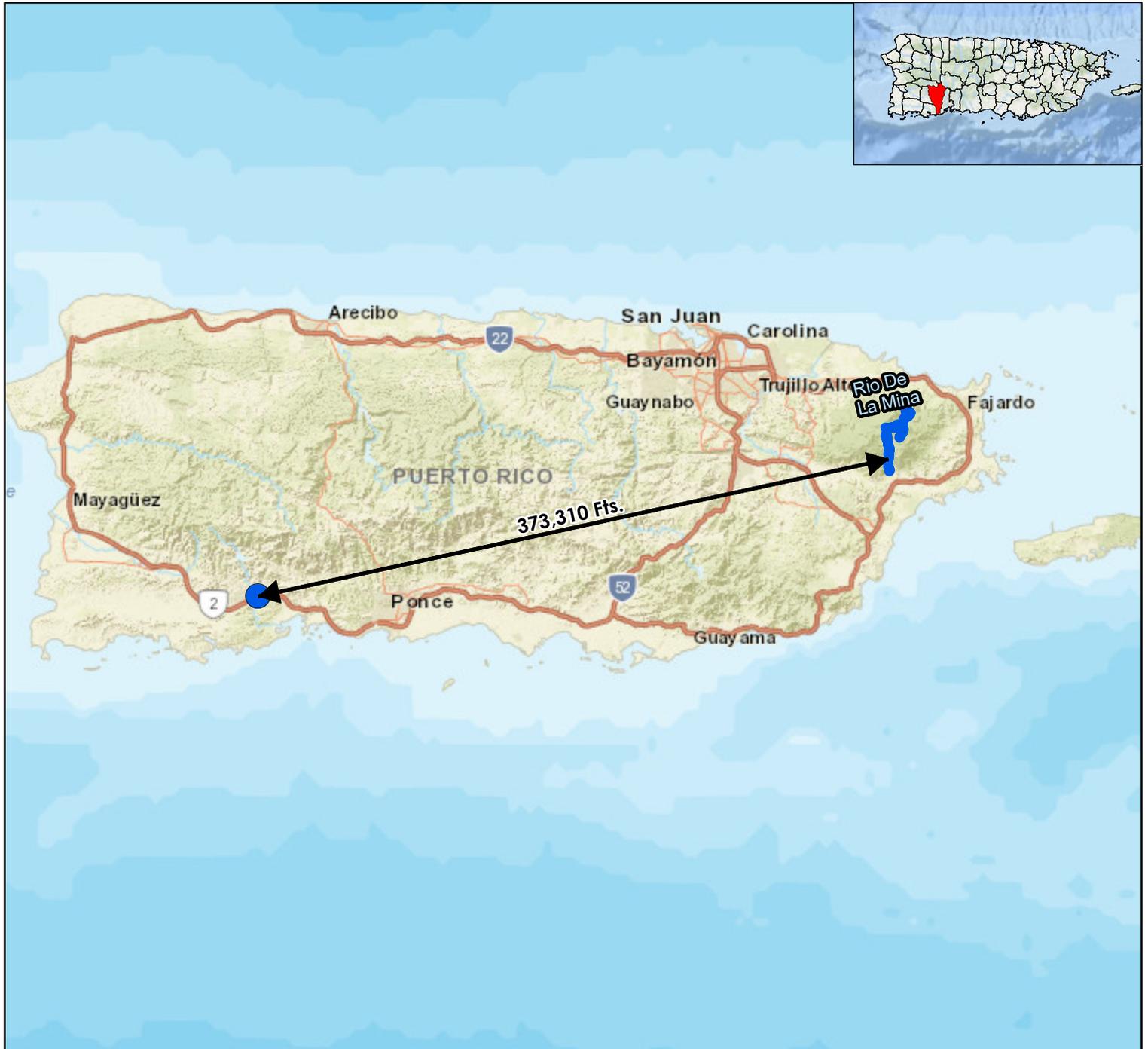
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Catastro: 361-087-327-05-000
Lat: 18.034084, Lon: -66.836463

Figure 13.2

Wild and Scenic Rivers

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- Wild and Scenic Rivers

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



Source:

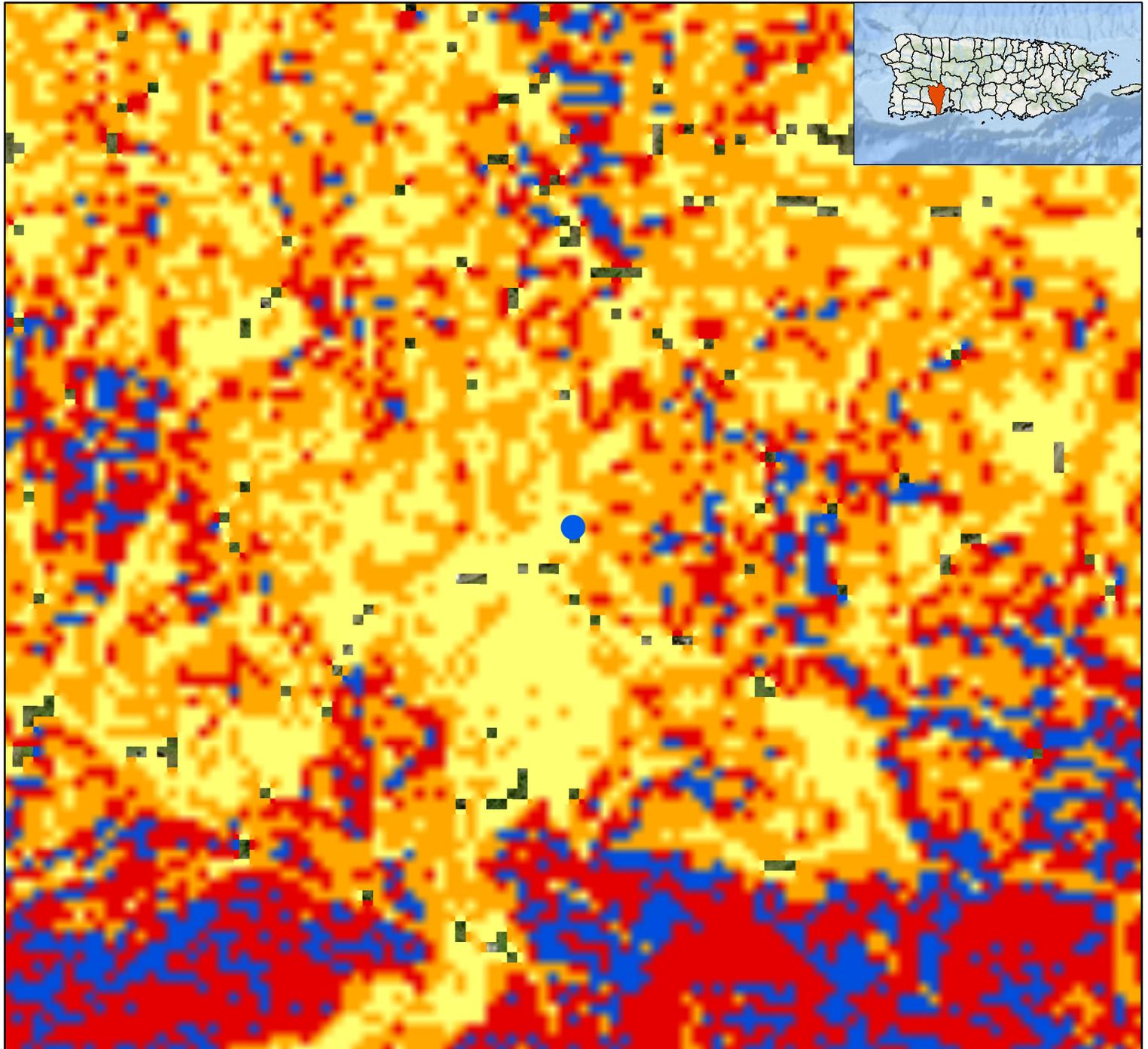
FWS National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
<https://www.rivers.gov/mapping-gis.php>

1:1,000,000

José Ángel Feliciano Rivera
Carr. 374 Km.Hm 5.4,
Yauco, PR 00698
Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000
Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

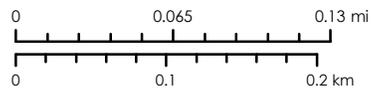
Figure 14.1: Landslide Susceptibility

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-01721
-  Low
-  Moderate
-  High
-  Very High
-  Extremely High



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
<https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/ofr20201022>



Figure 14.2

Landslide Susceptibility

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

● PR-RGRW-01721

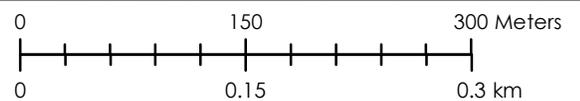
Low

Moderate

High

Very High

Extremely High



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source:

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
<https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/ofr20201022>



1:5,000

Appendix 1: SHPO Consultation Package



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Lauren B Poche

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

SHPO-CF-06-07-24-04 PR-RGRW-01721 (Yauco), Jose Angel Feliciano Rivera

Ms. Poche,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/OJR



Cuartel de Ballajá (Tercer Piso), Calle Norzagaray, Esq. Beneficencia, Viejo San Juan, PR 00901 | PO Box 9023935, San Juan, PR 00902-3935

June 7, 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-01721 – José Angel Feliciano Rivera.
– Bo. Rio Prieto, Carr. 374 Km. Hm. 5.4, Yauco, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected***

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

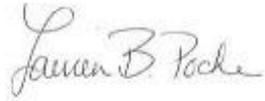
In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800, HORNE is providing information for your review and requesting your concurrence regarding the above-referenced projects on behalf of the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH). 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 José Angel Feliciano Rivera. located at Bo. Rio Prieto, Carr. 374 Km. Hm. 5.4, in the municipality of Yauco. The undertaking for this project includes the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 x 8 feet storage building, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence. The repair of the ca. 2021 building includes the replacement of walls, the roof, door, and windows. No new connections for water or electricity will be necessary for the storage, as its function will be for the storage of agricultural equipment. The fence will be built with 1" and 2" wide galvalume posts anchored two feet deep. The new fence will be approx. 600 linear feet, and the fence to be repaired will be approx. 575 linear feet. The proposed project also includes the purchase of a 200-gallon cistern which will be used for transporting water, to be used for irrigation of the farm. The applicant will supply water from his house and transport it in the cistern on his personal pickup truck.

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

Please contact me by email at lauren.poche@horne.com or phone at 225-405-7676 with any questions or concerns.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lauren B. Poche".

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		
Applicant: José Ángel Feliciano Rivera		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01721	City: Yauco	

Project Location: Bo. Rio Prieto, Carr. 374 Km. Hm. 5.4, Yauco, PR 00698	
Project Coordinates: 18.130559 -66.812289	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 289-000-006-22-000	
Type of Undertaking: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair/Improvements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): ca. 2021	Property Size (acres): 20.8

SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jaqueline López Meléndez
Date Reviewed: March 26, 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 activities for PR-RGRW-01721 include the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence. The storage repair materials include 2" x 4" and 2" x 2" steel posts, galvalume steel panels, 2' x 4' galvalume windows, and a steel door. The storage repair includes the replacement of walls and the roof. No new connections for water or electricity will be necessary for the storage, as its function will be for the storage of agricultural equipment. The fencing materials include: 5 x 50' cyclone fence galvalume, 2" x 20' galvalume fence posts, 1" x 20' galvalume fence posts, aluminum gate corner and aluminum loop cap. The fence will be built with 1" and 2" wide galvalume posts anchored two feet deep. The new fence will be approx. 600 linear feet, and the fence to be repaired will be approx. 575 linear feet.

The proposed project also includes the purchase of a 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine. The cistern will be used for transporting water, which will be used for irrigation of the farm. The applicant will supply water from his house and transport it in the cistern on his personal pickup truck. The water to fill the cistern will come from an existing PRASA connection in the applicant's home at the coordinates lat 18.034084, long -66.836463 (parcel: 361-087-327-05-000). The coffee toaster machine and coffee grinder machine will be used in the applicant's residence at coordinates 18.034084, -66.836463 (parcel: 361-087-327-05-000). These machines will not be fixed to the ground, and the power needed will be from an existing PREPA outlet at the applicant's residence.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
Applicant: José Ángel Feliciano Rivera	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01721	City: Yauco

The ground disturbance required by the proposed project will only be for the repair of the storage and the installation and repair of the fence. The project area is located at Carr. 374 Km. 5.4, within the Municipality of Yauco. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area for the proposed activities has been used for agricultural purposes for over 20 years.

Area of Potential Effects

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

Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that there are no reported archaeological sites within a half-mile (0.50 miles) radius of the project location. The nearest cultural resource is the historic site Hacienda Américo (ICP: YA-44), located 0.76miles northwest. The proposed project is located in the mountainous area of Yauco at an elevation of 3,018 to 3,182 feet above sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area is within mapped soil series: Maricao. The project area APE is in MoF. The closest freshwater source is Montaña creek, located 0.04 miles northeast of the project area. The south coast is approximately 9 miles (14.48 km) from the project area.

There are no cultural resource studies within a half-mile radius of the property.

The soil in this area has been classified as Maricao clay, 20 to 60 percent slopes (MoF). This is a steep to very steep, well-drained soil on side slopes and narrow hilltops of the strongly dissected uplands. Permeability and the available water capacity are moderate. Runoff is very rapid, and erosion is a hazard. This soil is difficult to work because it is steep to very steep and because of the stickiness and plasticity of the clay.

Visual inspection of the APE and its surroundings found no evidence of cultural materials.

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

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
Applicant: José Ángel Feliciano Rivera	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01721	City: Yauco

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 the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed Traditional Urban Center / Historic District.

The project area is in a rural and mountainous area of Yauco with mature vegetation. The area directly around the existing building consists of grass, bushes and some plantain trees. It is located on a slight slope. The existing structure to be repaired measures 12 ft x 8 ft and is made of wood panels and a zinc roof and is in a very poor condition. The building appears in a 2021 aerial image but is absent from a 2020 aerial image. It is likely, based on information gathered in the field and through the review of aeriels, the building was constructed ca. 2021. This structure is modern and does not meet the requirements to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Determination

No historic properties were identified within the APE.

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect. The project area is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed historic district or Traditional Urban Center. There are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project location. There are no known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the Area of Potential Effect of case PR-RGRW-01721 is located. The closest freshwater body is approximately 0.04 miles northeast of the project area. The construction of public roads and residential structures/agricultural infrastructure has minimally impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed activities.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGRW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Applicant: José Ángel Feliciano Rivera		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01721	City: Yauco	

Recommendation (Please keep on same page as SHPO Staff Section)

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

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

This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

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

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGrow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Applicant: José Ángel Feliciano Rivera		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-01721	City: Yauco	

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01721

Project Coordinates: 18.130559 -66.812289

Table of archaeological sites, historic properties and historic districts located within the project area or within a 0.50-miles radius

Name	SHPO id #	IPRC id #	Distance/Direction	Description	NRHP (listed, eligible, non-eligible, no data)
None	-	-	-	-	-

Table of cultural resources surveys conducted within the project area or within a 0.50-miles radius.

Author	Phase/Title	Year	SHPO / IPRC code	Results	Distance/Direction
None	-	-	-	-	-

Project (PR-RGRW-01721) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)

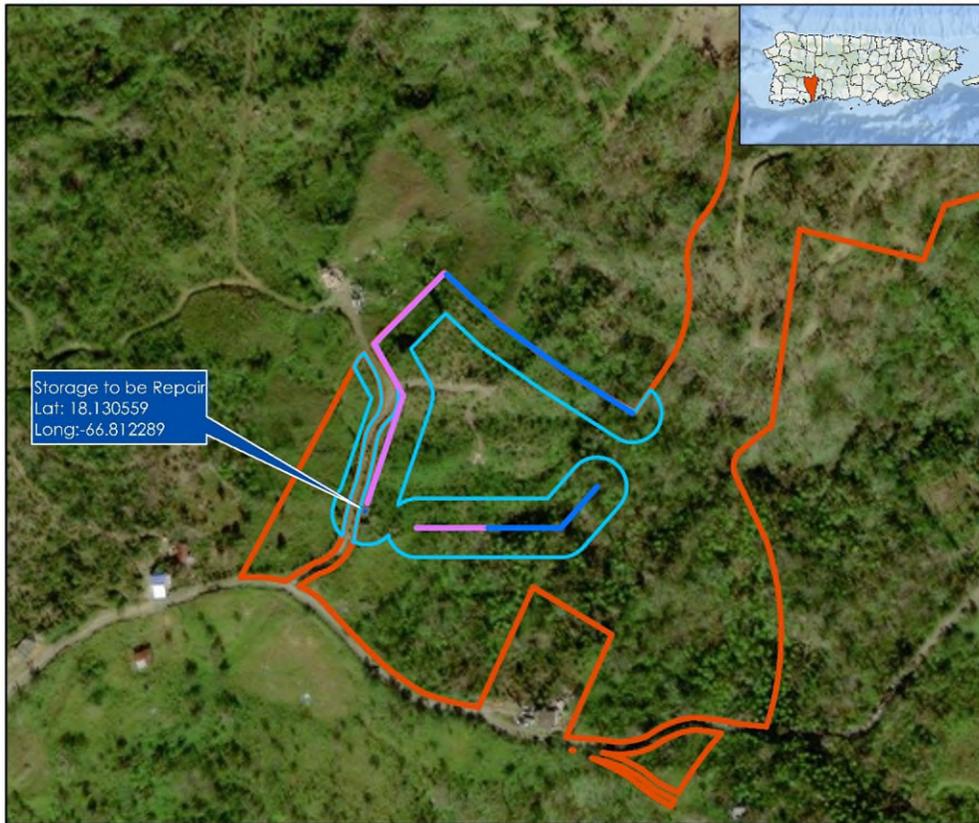
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Good: 108th 1 Suite 2-3, Calle Ponce 55A, Arroyo, San Juan, PR, 00920 Tel: (787) 763-0290

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01721

José Ángel Feliciano Rivera
Carr. 374 Km.Hm 5.4,
Yauco, PR 00698
Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000
Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

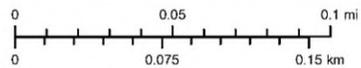
Area of Potential Effect

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- New Fence 01721
- Fence to be Repair
- Area of Potential Effect (15 Mts.)
- Storage to be Repair
- Parcel-01721



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>

Applicant: José Ángel Feliciano Rivera

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01721

City: Yauco

Project (PR-RGRW-01721) Location - Aerial Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

CORPORATION 1 Suíte J-3, Calle Pinar 564, Arroyo, San Juan, PR, 00920 TEL: (787) 733-0290

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01721

José Ángel Feliciano Rivera

Carr. 374 Km.Hm 5.4,

Yauco, PR 00698

Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000

Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

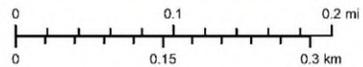
Location: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Storage to be Repair
- New Fence
- Fence to be Repair
- Parcel-01721
- CRIM_PARCELS



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



1:5,000

Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crim.net/cdrprc/>



Applicant: José Ángel Feliciano Rivera

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01721

City: Yauco

Project (PR-RGRW-01721) Location - USGS Topographic Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Corral, Suite 1, Suite J-3, Calle Ponce 35A, Arroyo, San Juan, P.R. 00923 TEL: (787) 763-0290

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01721

José Ángel Feliciano Rivera

Carr. 374 Km.Hm 5.4,

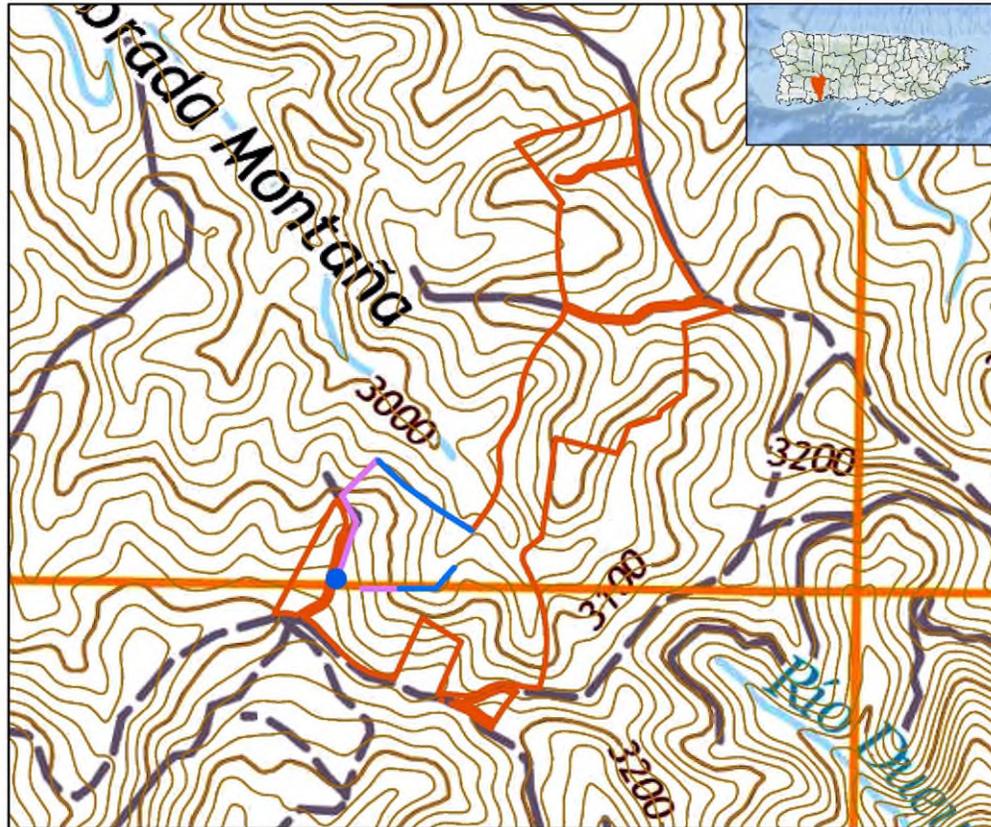
Yauco, PR 00698

Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000

Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

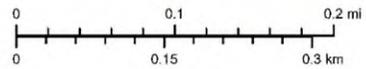
Location: USGS Topographic Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  Storage to be Repair
-  New Fence
-  Fence to be Repair
-  Parcel-01721
-  Contour Interval 20 Feet



Service Layer Credits: Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA, IGN, and other contributors and Google Earth



1:5,000

Source

United States Geological Survey (USGS)
National Geographic Map Database
https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ngmdb/ngmdb_home.html

Quadrangle: Monte Guilarte

Project (PR-RGRW-01721) Location – Soils Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

Correio. (596) 1 Suato J-3, Calle Pinarco 56A, Aguaytán, San Juan, PR, 00920 784.679.7153-0290

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01721

José Ángel Feliciano Rivera

Carr. 374 Km.Hm 5.4,

Yauco, PR 00698

Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000

Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

Soils Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

● Storage to be Repair

— New Fence

— Fence to be Repair

▭ Parcel-01721

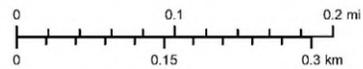
— Soil Map Unit Symbol

Soil Map Unit Symbol

MkF - Maricao clay, 20 to 60 percent slopes

MkG - Maricao clay, 60 to 90 percent slopes

AbF - Agueybana clay, 12 to 60 percent slopes



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



1:5,000

Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cadprpc/>



Applicant: José Ángel Feliciano Rivera

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01721

City: Yauco

Project (PR-RGRW-01721) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map

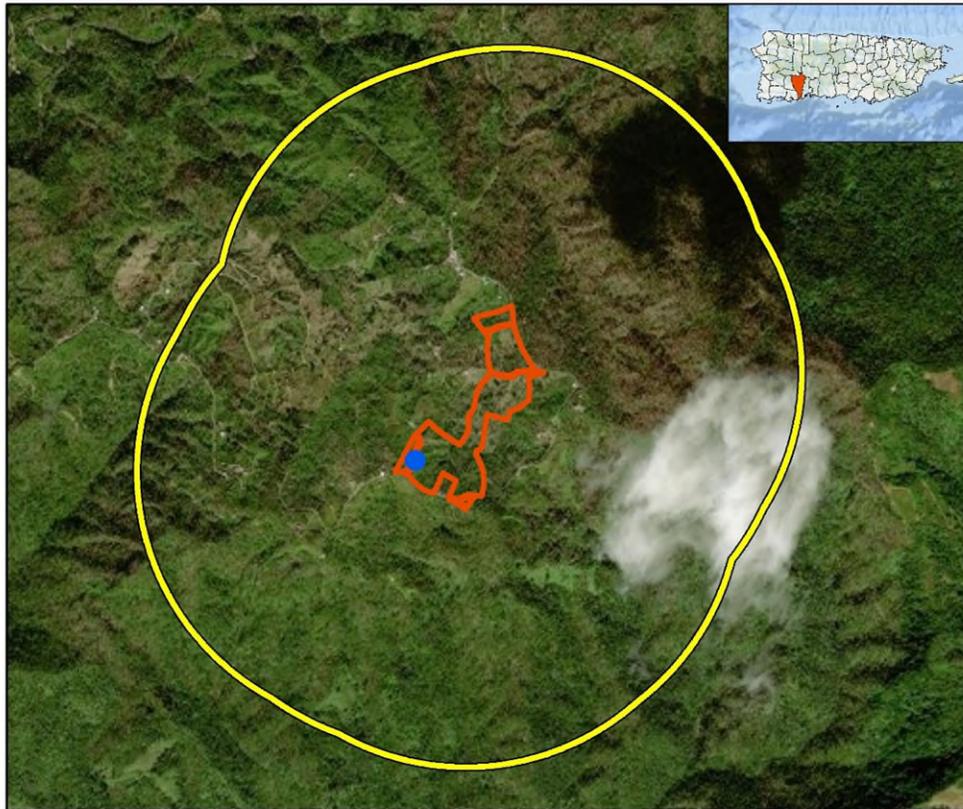
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
COND. 50066, 1 Suíte J-3, Calle Príncipe 204, APT. 1018, SAN JUAN, P.R. 00902 TEL: (787) 769-0290

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01721

José Ángel Feliciano Rivera
Carr. 374 Km.Hm 5.4,
Yauco, PR 00698
Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000
Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

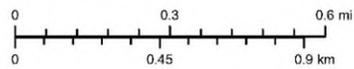
Previous Investigations: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- 0.5 Mile (0.8Km) Buffer
- Parcel-01721



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>

Project (PR-RGRW-01721) Location with Previously Investigation - USGS Topographic Map

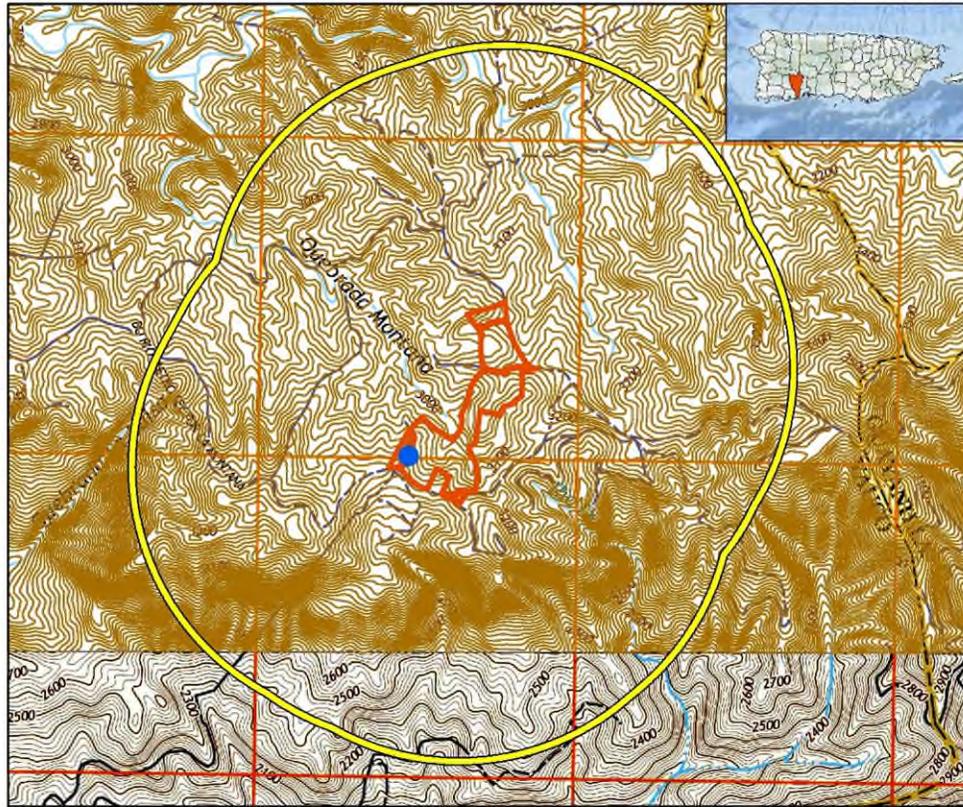
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01721

José Ángel Feliciano Rivera
Carr. 374 Km.Hm 5.4,
Yauco, PR 00698
Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000
Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

Previous Investigations: USGS Topographic Map

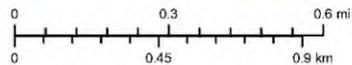
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-01721
- Parcel-01721
- 0.5 Mile (0.8Km) Buffer
- Contour Interval 20 Feet

Quadrangle: Monte Guilarte



Service Layer Credits: Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA, NGDC, and other contributors and Google Earth

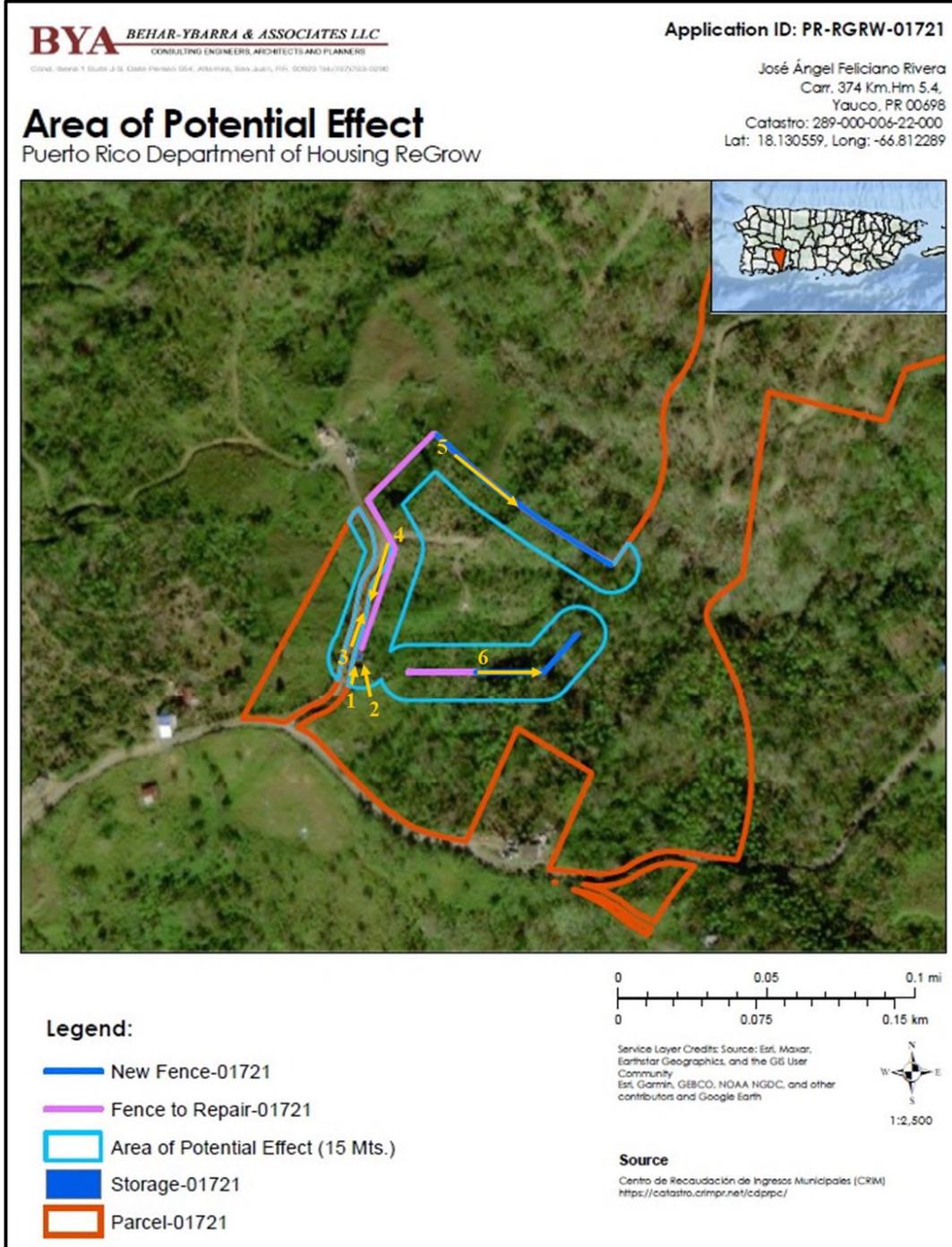


1:15,000

Source

United States Geological Survey (USGS)
National Geographic Map Database
<https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ngmdb/home.html>

Photograph Key





Applicant: José Ángel Feliciano Rivera

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01721

City: Yauco



Photo #:1

Description (include direction): Area of the storage to be repair, looking north.

Date: March 22, 2024



Photo #:2

Description (include direction): Area of the storage to be repair, looking northwest.

Date: March 22, 2024



Applicant: José Ángel Feliciano Rivera

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01721

City: Yauco



Photo #:3

Description (include direction): Area where the fence will be repaired, looking northeast.

Date: March 22, 2024



Photo #:4

Description (include direction): Area where the fence will be repaired, looking southwest.

Date: March 22, 2024



Applicant: José Ángel Feliciano Rivera

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01721

City: Yauco



Photo #:5

Description (include direction): Area where the new fence will be installed, looking southeast.

Date: March 22, 2024



Photo #:6

Description (include direction): Area where the new fence will be installed, looking east.

Date: March 22, 2024



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

Appendix 2: Puerto Rico Nonattainment/ Maintenance Status for each count by year for all pollutants



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

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

Data is current as of March 31, 2023

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

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

Change the State:

PUERTO RICO

Important Notes

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

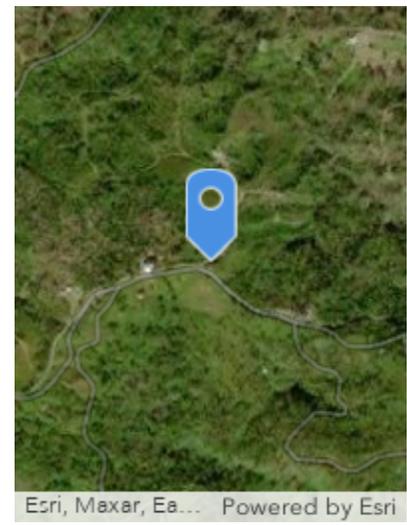
County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or Part County	Population (2010)	State/County FIPS Codes
PUERTO RICO								
Arecibo Municipio	Lead (2008)	Arecibo, PR	11121314151617181920212223	//		Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	22,921	72/021
Catano Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Whole	28,140	72/033
Guaynabo Municipio	PM-10 (1987)	Mun. of Guaynabo, PR	929394959697989900010203040506070809	02/11/2010	Moderate	Part	90,470	72/061
Guaynabo Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	23,802	72/061
Salinas Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Guayama-Salinas, PR	181920212223	//		Part	23,401	72/123
San Juan Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	147,963	72/127
Toa Baja Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	52,441	72/137

Important Notes

Appendix 3: Site Inspection Report, EJ Screen Community Report and EPA ECHO Reports

APPLICANT/LOCATION INFORMATION

Applicant ID:	PR-RGRW-01721
Applicant Name:	Jose Angel Feliciano Rivera
Parcel ID:	289-000-006-22-000/ 361-087-327-05-000
Coordinates:	18.130244, -66.812521 / 18.034084 I-66.836463
Street Address:	Carr 374 KM.HM 5.4 / Comm. Jacanas, Calle 1 Solar 8, Yauco PR, 00698.
Municipio:	Yauco
Zip Code:	00698
Site Inspector:	Egon A Gonzalez
Date of Visit:	March 15, 2024
Time of Visit:	11:38



FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Question	Answer	Notes
A. Is the structure in use?	Yes	Structure is repaired
B. Is the structure a greenhouse?	No	
C. Is Electricity connected? (Utilities or Well)	No	Generator is used to supply electricity
D. Is water connected? (Utilities or Well)	No	
1. Are there signs of poor housekeeping on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.)	No	
2. Are there any 55-gallon drums visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	No	
3. Are there any (or signs of any) underground storage tanks on the property?	No	
4. Are there signs of AST on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	Yes	Water cistern
5. Is there any stained soil or pavement on the parcel?	No	
6. Is a water drainage system in use?	No	
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of Fertilizer or Pesticides?	Yes	Warehouse will be used to store tools and fertilizer
8. Are there any groundwater monitoring wells on the site or adjacent parcel?	No	
9. Is there evidence of a faulty septic system?	No	
10. Is there distressed vegetation on the parcel?	No	
11. Is there any visible indication of mold?	No	
12. Is there any visible evidence of asbestos, chipping, and flaking or peeling paint, or hazardous materials present in or on the structure?	No	
13. Are any additional site hazards observed?	No	
14. Is there any permanent standing water, such as a pond or stream, located on the site(do not include ponding from recent rain / weather events)?	Yes	Stream near property border
15. Does the subject property have water frontage?	No	
16. Is there any indication of the presence of wetlands?	No	
17. Are there any obvious signs of animals or birds nesting on or near the site?	No	
18. Is the applicant aware of any significant historical event or persons associated with the structure, or of it being located in a historic district/ area?	No	
19. Is a historic marker present?	No	

Front of Structure

Photo Direction:

Comments: Storage to be repaired
Dimension: 12ft x 8ft Coordinates:
18.130559, -66.812289



Facing Away from Front

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Back of Structure

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Facing Away from Back

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Side #2 of Structure

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Facing Away from Side #2

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Streetscape #1

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Streetscape #2

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Address

Photo Direction:

Comments: Entrance to farm



Architectural Details 1

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Fence to be replaced



Architectural Details 2

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Fence to be replaced



Architectural Details 3

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Location of fence



Architectural Details 4

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Bananas and coffee



Architectural Details 5

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Existing AST water cistern



Architectural Details 6

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Fence to be replaced



Architectural Details 7

Photo Direction:

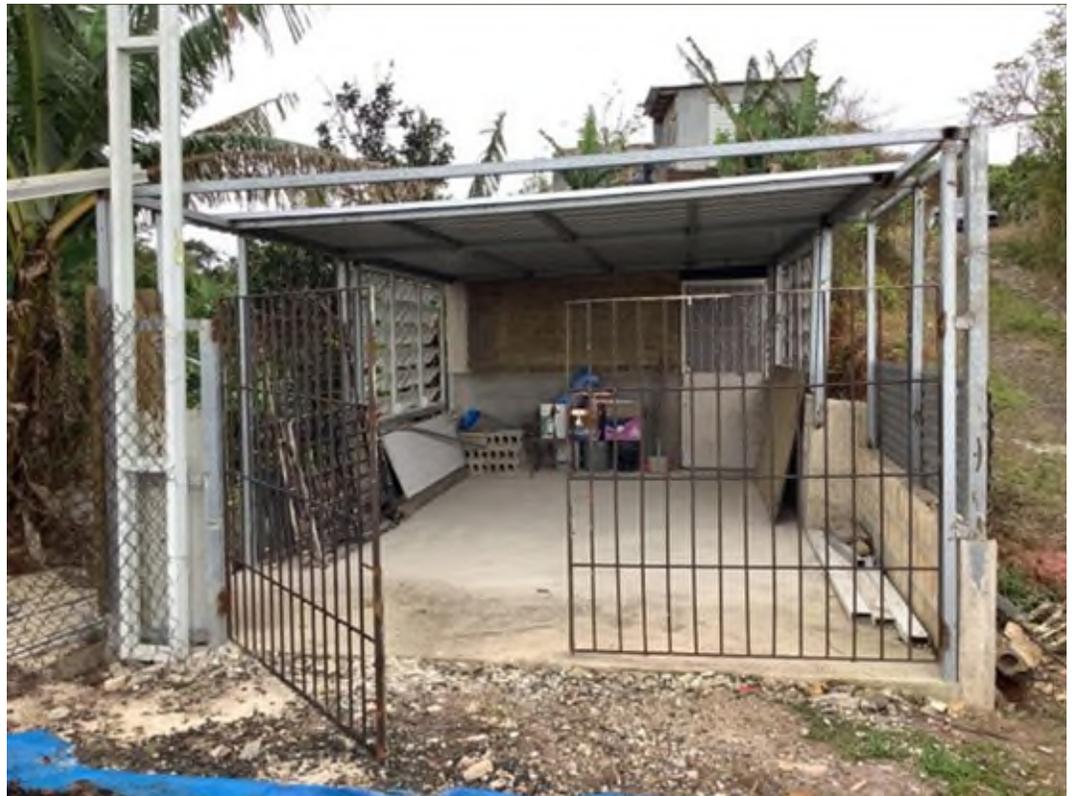
Photo Description: Coffee



Architectural Details 8

Photo Direction:

Photo Description:



Architectural Details 9

Photo Direction:

Photo Description:



Architectural Details 10

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Stream near border parcel



Architectural Details 11

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Fence to be replaced



Architectural Details 12

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Fence to be replaced



Architectural Details 13

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Overview



Architectural Details 14

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Area where the coffee toaster and grinder will be.





EJScreen Community Report

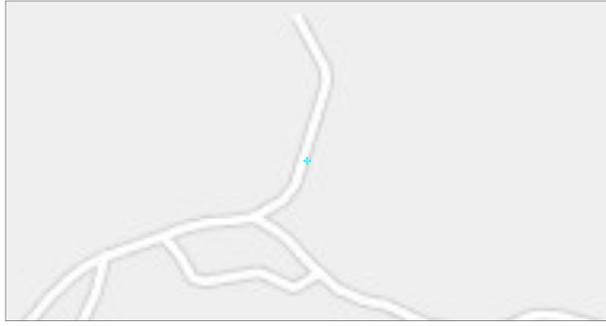
This report provides environmental and socioeconomic information for user-defined areas, and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

Yauco Municipio, PR

1 mile Ring Centered at 18.130558,-66.812290

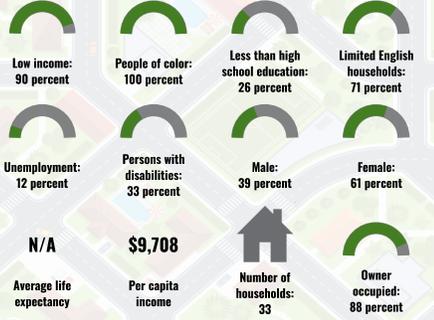
Population: 111

Area in square miles: 3.14

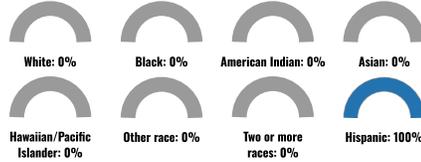


October 30, 2024
Search Result (point)
11,128
0 0.01 0.02 0.05 mi
0 0.02 0.04 0.08 km
EPA, HUD, FEMA, US Dept of Health & Human Services, and the US Dept of Justice. Map data by OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community. Map made possible by Technologies, Inc. ©2024

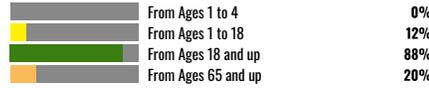
COMMUNITY INFORMATION



BREAKDOWN BY RACE



BREAKDOWN BY AGE



LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



Notes: Numbers may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2018-2022. Life expectancy data comes from the Centers for Disease Control.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
No language data available.	

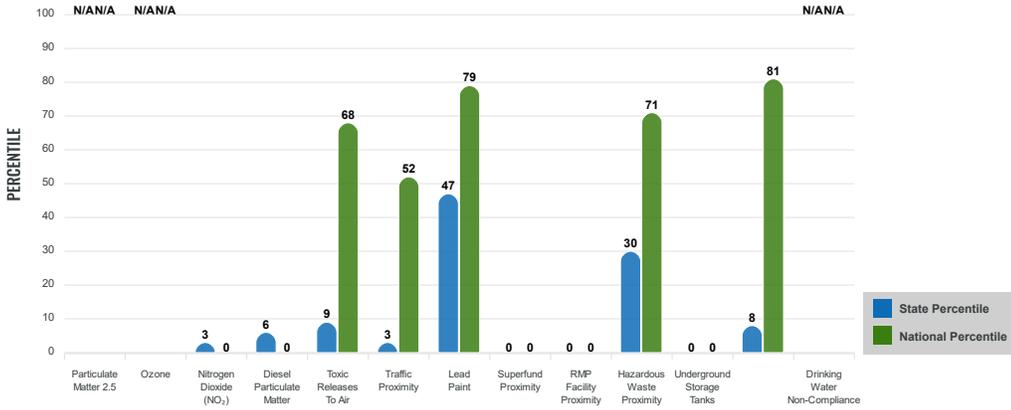
Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

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

EJ INDEXES

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

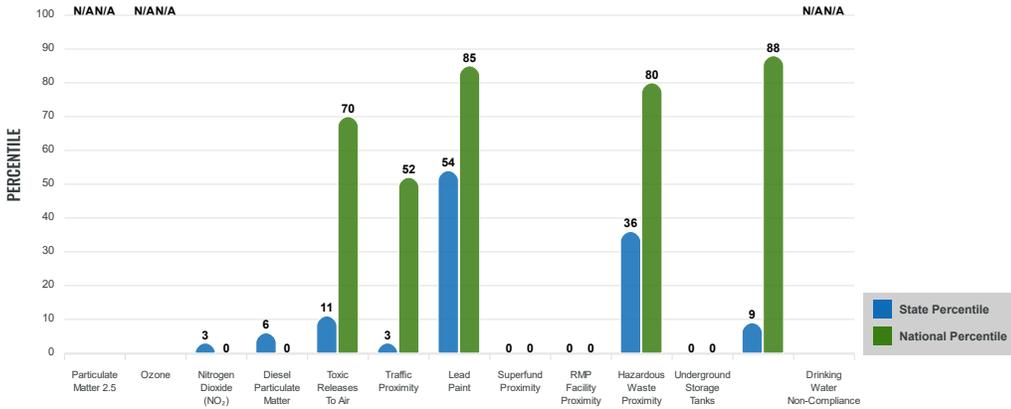
EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

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

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.130558,-66.812290

Report produced October 30, 2024 using EJScreen Version 2.3

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
ENVIRONMENTAL BURDEN INDICATORS					
Particulate Matter 2.5 (µg/m ³)	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.45	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.8	N/A
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂) (ppbv)	0.74	5.5	2	7.8	0
Diesel Particulate Matter (µg/m ³)	0.0115	0.0618	5	0.191	0
Toxic Releases to Air (toxicity-weighted concentration)	77	4,300	8	4,600	21
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	66,000	1,100,000	2	1,700,000	14
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.072	0.16	43	0.3	31
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0	0.23	0	0.39	0
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0	0.66	0	0.57	0
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.29	1.2	28	3.5	26
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	0	0	0	3.6	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	6.6	670000	7	700000	33
Drinking Water Non-Compliance (points)	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.2	N/A
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index USA	3.71	N/A	N/A	1.34	99
Supplemental Demographic Index USA	4.94	N/A	N/A	1.64	99
Demographic Index State	5.19	4.63	85	N/A	N/A
Supplemental Demographic Index State	3.44	2.72	83	N/A	N/A
People of Color	100%	97%	31	40%	98
Low Income	90%	70%	84	30%	99
Unemployment Rate	12%	14%	53	6%	86
Limited English Speaking Households	71%	66%	52	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	26%	20%	66	11%	88
Under Age 5	0%	3%	0	5%	0
Over Age 64	20%	23%	38	18%	65

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

Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

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

Other community features within defined area:

Schools	0
Hospitals	0
Places of Worship	0

Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	No
Impaired Waters	Yes

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

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.130558,-66.812290

Report produced October 30, 2024 using EJScreen Version 2.3

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

HEALTH INDICATORS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A	N/A	20%	N/A
Heart Disease	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.8	N/A
Asthma	N/A	N/A	N/A	10.3	N/A
Cancer	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.4	N/A
Persons with Disabilities	32.7%	22.7%	91	13.7%	99

CLIMATE INDICATORS

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

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	56%	29%	91	13%	99
Lack of Health Insurance	2%	7%	4	9%	9
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.130558, -66.812290

Report produced October 30, 2024 using EJScreen Version 2.3

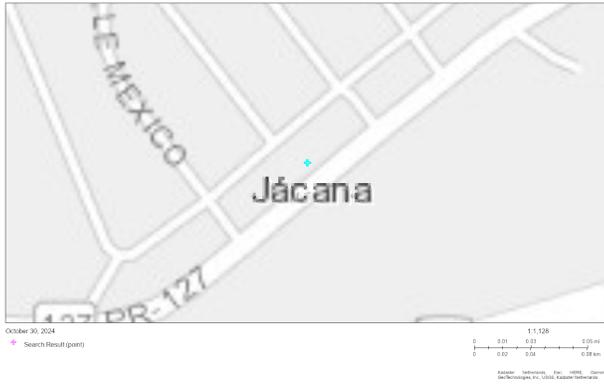


EJScreen Community Report

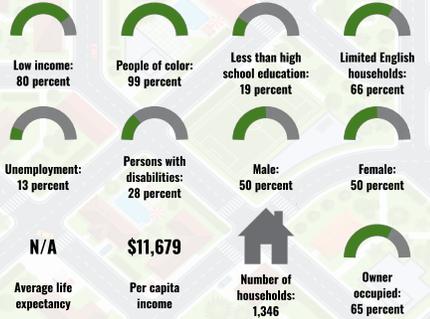
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Yauco Municipio, PR

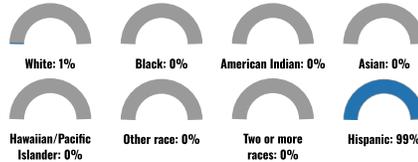
1 mile Ring Centered at 18.034084,-66.836462
Population: 3,732
Area in square miles: 3.14



COMMUNITY INFORMATION



BREAKDOWN BY RACE



BREAKDOWN BY AGE



LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



Notes: Numbers may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2018-2022. Life expectancy data comes from the Centers for Disease Control.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	9%
Spanish	91%
Total Non-English	91%

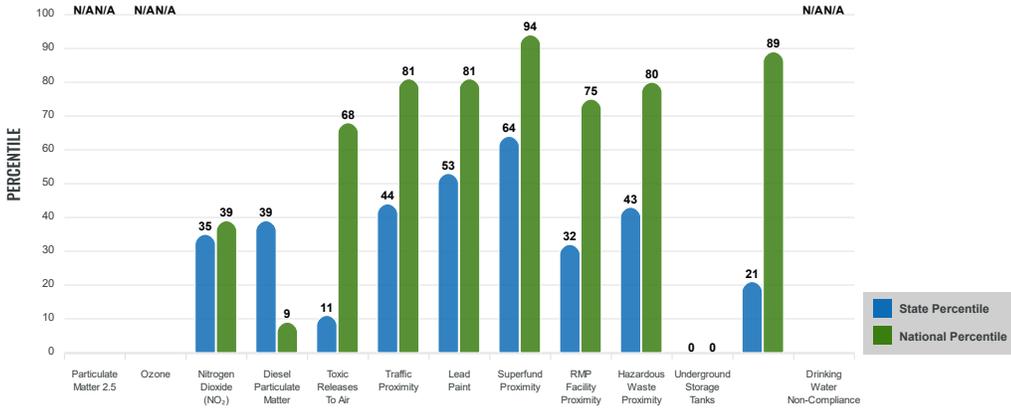
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EJ INDEXES

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

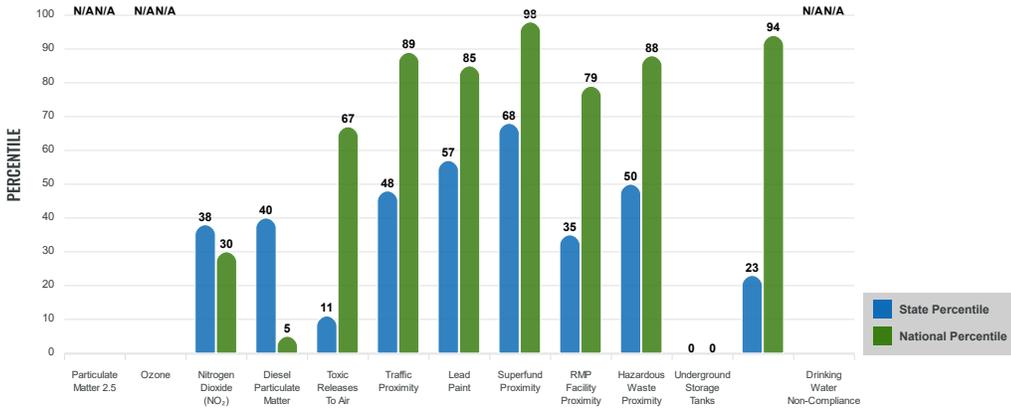
EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

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

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.034084,-66.836462

Report produced October 30, 2024 using EJScreen Version 2.3

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
ENVIRONMENTAL BURDEN INDICATORS					
Particulate Matter 2.5 (µg/m ³)	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.45	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.8	N/A
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂) (ppbv)	3.2	5.5	33	7.8	7
Diesel Particulate Matter (µg/m ³)	0.0272	0.0618	40	0.191	2
Toxic Releases to Air (toxicity-weighted concentration)	94	4,300	10	4,600	23
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	510,000	1,100,000	43	1,700,000	40
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.11	0.16	55	0.3	37
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.11	0.23	62	0.39	61
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.14	0.66	42	0.57	39
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.64	1.2	40	3.5	37
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	0	0	0	3.6	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	48	670000	21	700000	49
Drinking Water Non-Compliance (points)	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.2	N/A
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index USA	3.45	N/A	N/A	1.34	98
Supplemental Demographic Index USA	4.34	N/A	N/A	1.64	99
Demographic Index State	4.93	4.63	61	N/A	N/A
Supplemental Demographic Index State	2.96	2.72	58	N/A	N/A
People of Color	99%	97%	27	40%	96
Low Income	80%	70%	60	30%	97
Unemployment Rate	13%	14%	55	6%	88
Limited English Speaking Households	66%	66%	40	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	19%	20%	50	11%	81
Under Age 5	5%	3%	70	5%	49
Over Age 64	23%	23%	52	18%	74

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

Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

Superfund	0
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	0
Water Dischargers	4
Air Pollution	1
Brownfields	6
Toxic Release Inventory	1

Other community features within defined area:

Schools	4
Hospitals	0
Places of Worship	0

Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	No
Impaired Waters	Yes

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

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.034084, -66.836462

Report produced October 30, 2024 using EJScreen Version 2.3

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

HEALTH INDICATORS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A	N/A	20%	N/A
Heart Disease	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.8	N/A
Asthma	N/A	N/A	N/A	10.3	N/A
Cancer	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.4	N/A
Persons with Disabilities	27.6%	22.7%	77	13.7%	97

CLIMATE INDICATORS

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

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	42%	29%	78	13%	96
Lack of Health Insurance	4%	7%	21	9%	27
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.034084,-66.836462

Report produced October 30, 2024 using EJScreen Version 2.3



Detailed Facility Report

Facility Summary

IMPROVEMENTS TO ROAD PR-359 FROM KM. 0.0 TO KM. 2.3

PR-359, KM. 0.0 TO 2.3, YAUCO, PR 00698

FRS (Facility Registry Service) ID: 110070545101

EPA Region: 02

Latitude: 18.0311

Longitude: -66.8419

Locational Data Source: NPDES

Industries: --

Indian Country: N

Enforcement and Compliance Summary

Statute	CWA
Compliance Monitoring Activities (5 years)	--
Date of Last Compliance Monitoring Activity	--
Compliance Status	Terminated Permit
Qtrs in Noncompliance (of 12)	0
Qtrs with Significant Violation	0
Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Penalties from Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
EPA Cases (5 years)	--
Penalties from EPA Cases (5 years)	--

Regulatory Information

Clean Air Act (CAA): No Information

Clean Water Act (CWA): Non-Major, Permit Terminated; Compliance Tracking Off (PRR100077)

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): No Information

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA): No Information

Go To Enforcement/Compliance Details

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

Other Regulatory Reports

Air Emissions Inventory (EIS): No Information

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (eGGRT): No Information

Toxic Releases (TRI): No Information

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

Facility/System Characteristics

Facility/System Characteristics

System	Statute	Identifier	Universe	Status	Areas	Permit Expiration Date	Indian Country	Latitude	Longitude
FRS		110070545101					N	18.0311	-66.8419
ICIS-NPDES	CWA	PRR100077	Non-Major: General Permit Covered Facility	Terminated; Compliance Tracking Off	Construction Stormwater	02/15/2022	N	18.0311	-66.8419

Facility Address

System	Statute	Identifier	Facility Name	Facility Address	Facility County
FRS		110070545101	IMPROVEMENTS TO ROAD PR-359 FROM KM. 0.0 TO KM. 2.3	PR-359, KM. 0.0 TO 2.3, YAUCO, PR 00698	Yauco Municipio
ICIS-NPDES	CWA	PRR100077	IMPROVEMENTS TO ROAD PR-359 FROM KM. 0.0 TO KM. 2.3	PR-359, KM. 0.0 TO 2.3, YAUCO, PR 00698	

Facility SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) Codes Facility NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) Codes

System	Identifier	SIC Code	SIC Description	System	Identifier	NAICS Code	NAICS Description
No data records returned				No data records returned			

Facility Industrial Effluent Guidelines

Identifier	Effluent Guideline (40 CFR Part)	Effluent Guideline Description	Reservation Name	Tribe Name	EPA Tribal ID	Distance to Tribe (miles)
No data records returned						

Facility Tribe Information

Enforcement and Compliance

Compliance Monitoring History

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

Entries in italics are not included in ECHO's Compliance Monitoring Activity counts because they are not compliance monitoring strategy <<https://www.epa.gov/compliance/compliance-monitoring-programs>> activities or because they are not counted as inspections within EPA's Annual Results <<https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/enforcement-data-and-results>>.

Compliance Summary Data

Statute	Source ID	Current SNC (Significant Noncompliance)/HPV (High Priority Violation)	Current As Of	Qtrs with NC (Noncompliance) (of 12)	Data Last Refreshed
CWA	PRR100077	No	06/30/2024	0	10/18/2024

Three-Year Compliance History by Quarter

Statute	Program/ Pollutant/ Violation Type	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10	QTR 11	QTR 12	QTR 13+
CWA (Source ID: PRR100077)		07/01-09/30/21	10/01-12/31/21	01/01-03/31/22	04/01-06/30/22	07/01-09/30/22	10/01-12/31/22	01/01-03/31/23	04/01-06/30/23	07/01-09/30/23	10/01-12/31/23	01/01-03/31/24	04/01-06/30/24	07/01-10/18/24
	Facility-Level Status	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	Unknown	Terminated Permit									
	Quarterly Noncompliance Report History			Undetermined	Undetermined									

Informal Enforcement Actions

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

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

Formal Enforcement Actions

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

Environmental Conditions

Watersheds

12-Digit WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) HUC (RAD (Reach Address Database))	WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) Subwatershed Name (RAD (Reach Address Database))	State Water Body Name (ICIS (Integrated Compliance Information System))	Beach Closures Within Last Year	Beach Closures Within Last Two Years	Pollutants Potentially Related to Impairment	Watershed with ESA (Endangered Species Act)-listed Aquatic Species?
210100040202	Rio Yauco at mouth	RIO YAUCO	No	No	--	Yes

Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)

State	Report Cycle	Assessment Unit ID	Assessment Unit Name	Water Condition	Cause Groups Impaired	Drinking Water Use	Ecological Use	Fish Consumption Use	Recreation Use	Other Use
PR	2022	PRSR68A1	RIO YAUCO	Impaired - 303(d) Listed - With Restoration Plan	NUTRIENTS ORGANIC ENRICHMENT/OXYGEN DEPLETION PATHOGENS	Not Supporting	Not Supporting	--	Not Supporting	--

Air Quality Nonattainment Areas

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

Pollutants

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

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

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

Chemical Name
No data records returned

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

DMR and TRI Multi-Year Loading Report

NPDES ID	Description
No data records returned	

Environmental Justice

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

Potential Environmental Justice Concerns

- US Territory
- Supplemental/EJ index percentiles ≥ 90 (Census block group)
- Supplemental/EJ index percentiles ≥ 90 (1-mile average)

EJScreen Indexes Shown

Index Type

Related Reports

EJScreen Community Report

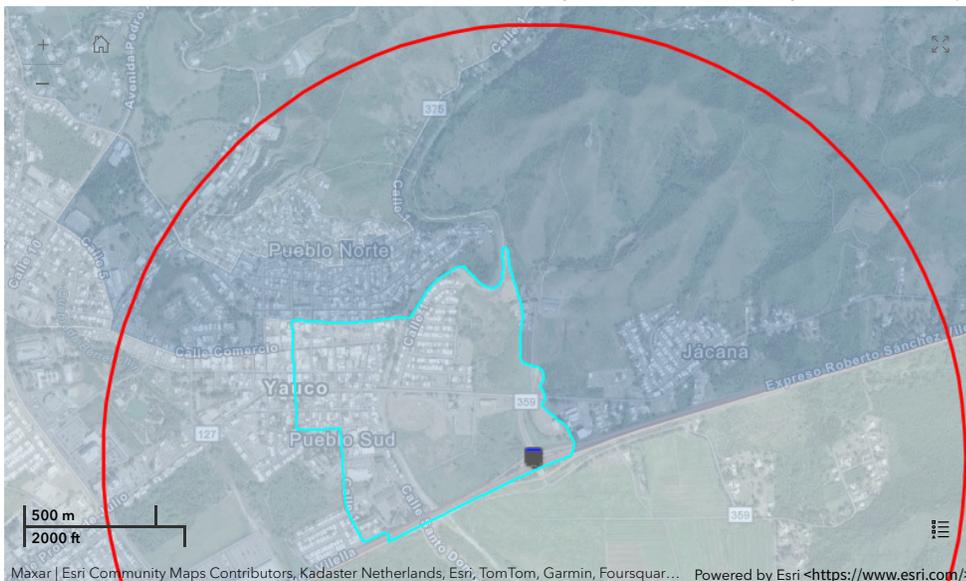
Download Data

Census Block Group ID: 721537504003	US (Percentile)			State (Percentile)		
	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Avg	1-mile Max	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Avg	1-mile Max
Supplemental Indexes						
Count of Indexes At or Above 90th Percentile	4	5	6	0	0	4
Particulate Matter 2.5	--	N/A	--	--	N/A	--
Ozone	--	N/A	--	--	N/A	--
Diesel Particulate Matter	3	3	5	21	26	34
Air Toxics Cancer Risk	50	34	56	30	0	94
Air Toxics Respiratory Hazard Index	31	34	41	31	51	93
Toxic Releases to Air	64	74	90	8	10	20
Traffic Proximity	98	96	99	73	61	85
Lead Paint	73	83	99	36	47	96
Risk Management Plan (RMP) Facility Proximity	69	79	86	22	30	40
Hazardous Waste Proximity	89	94	99	52	63	98
Superfund Proximity	95	98	99	48	62	74
Underground Storage Tanks (UST)	98	92	99	76	67	92
Wastewater Discharge	96	98	99	50	60	89

Map Display Based on: US State

Display Map Layer

Facility 1-mile Radius Facility Census Block Group



Demographic Profile of Surrounding Area (1-Mile Radius)

This section provides demographic information regarding the community surrounding the facility. ECHO compliance data alone are not sufficient to determine whether violations at a particular facility had negative impacts on public health or the environment. Statistics are based upon the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year Summary and are accurate to the extent that the facility latitude and longitude listed below are correct. Census boundaries and demographic data for U.S. Territories are based on the "2020 Island Areas Demographic Profiles" from the U.S. Census Bureau. EPA's spatial processing methodology considers the overlap between the selected radii and ACS census block groups in determining the demographics surrounding the facility. For more detail about this methodology, see the DFR Data Dictionary <<https://epa.gov/help/reports/dfp-data-dictionary#demographic>>.

General Statistics (ACS (American Community Survey))	
Total Persons	5,753
Population Density	1,845/sq.mi.
Housing Units in Area	3,036
Percent People of Color	100%
Households in Area	1,913
Households on Public Assistance	200
Persons With Low Income	4,250
Percent With Low Income	75%

Geography	
Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.
Center Latitude	18.0311
Center Longitude	-66.8419
Land Area	100%
Water Area	0%

Income Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Households (%)	
Less than \$15,000	807 (42.21%)
\$15,000 - \$25,000	214 (11.19%)
\$25,000 - \$50,000	617 (32.27%)
\$50,000 - \$75,000	190 (9.94%)
Greater than \$75,000	84 (4.39%)

Age Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Children 5 years and younger	238 (4%)
Minors 17 years and younger	1,084 (19%)
Adults 18 years and older	4,669 (81%)
Seniors 65 years and older	1,209 (21%)

Race Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
White	3,817 (66%)
African-American	0 (0%)
Hispanic-Origin	5,725 (100%)
Asian	0 (0%)
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0 (0%)
American Indian	14 (0%)
Other/Multiracial	1,014 (18%)

Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Less than 9th Grade	396 (9.9%)
9th through 12th Grade	196 (4.9%)
High School Diploma	1,313 (32.82%)
Some College/2-year	432 (10.8%)
B.S./B.A. (Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts) or More	1,218 (30.44%)

Radon
Attachments



Memorandum to File

Date: 10/21/2024

From: Patricia Carmenatty Santiago
Environmental Specialist
Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC
CDBG-DR Program
Re-Grow PR Urban-Rural Agriculture Program
Puerto Rico Department of Housing

Application Number: PR-RGRW-01721

Project: Jose Angel Feliciano Rivera

Re: Justification for the Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing

After reviewing Application Number PR-RGRW-01721 under the Re-Grow PR Urban-Rural Agriculture 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 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.
- For the proposed project, a toaster and coffee grinder will be used on the applicant's property, but in a well-ventilated, open area.

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.

Patricia Carmenatty Santiago



B.S. Biologist, Behar Ybarra & Associates



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: guerrero.carmen@epa.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 ensuring safe living environments, particularly in HUD-assisted properties. PRDOH, as the grantee of the Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery and Mitigation (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 mitigation efforts within the islands of Puerto Rico.

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

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.

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

Historical data – 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.

Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Oleg Povelko, Povelko.Oleg@epa.gov
Mr. Matthew Lantila, lantila.matthew@epa.gov



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: silvina.cancelos@upr.edu

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Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary

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



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: OIA@cdc.gov

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Sincerely,


William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: anais.rodriguez@dma.pr.gov

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

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Sincerely,


William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Luis Márquez, secretariogaire@dma.pr.gov
Eng. Amarilys Rosario, aire@dma.pr.gov
Mrs. Elid Ortega, ortega@dma.pr.gov



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: drCarlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov

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Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Raúl Hernández Dabla, rahernandez2@salud.pr.gov



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: hsweyers@usgs.gov

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

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Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.
Secretary

Cc: 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. Rodriguez 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 <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/1993/0292k/report.pdf>. 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
Geosciences 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- Radon 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>; Silvana Cancelos Mancini <silvana.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: Silvana Cancelos Mancini <silvana.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 <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Maritza Rosa Olivares <maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov>; Reyes, Brenda <Reyes.Brenda@epa.gov>; Povetko, Oleg <Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Estimada Melanie Medina

Quería dejarte 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

Silvana 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: silvana.cancelos@upr.edu



Bubble Dynamics Lab
University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez



EPA REGION 2
CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

September 23, 2024

VIA EMAIL

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

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

Dear Honorable Secretary Rodriguez Rodriguez:

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 pCi/L (picocuries per liter), perhaps locally reaching very high levels above 50 pCi/L, if a house construction and

ventilation allow for soil-gas radon to enter and concentrate within the structure.¹ 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 Irma 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, Aguadilla, Isabela, Quebradillas, Barceloneta and Vega Baja. The quality assurance protocols were anchored in American National Standards Institute/American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (ANSI/AARST) standards of practice (ANSI/AARS, 2019). 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 systems. 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 radon sampling professionals led by one such professional from 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.

Mapping radon in Puerto Rico proved to be a complicated endeavor given the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. EPA and UPRM 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.

¹ 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>.

CITY VIEW PLAZA II BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR
ROUTE 185 GUAYNABO, PR 00988

2

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
Carmen R. Guerrero Pérez
Director

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

cc: 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: cesarrodriiguez@drna.pr.gov
Marita Rosa Olivares: maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov

Appendix 4: USFWS Informal Consultation Package and supporting documentation



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/72153-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-01721 José Ángel
Feliciano Rivera, Yauco, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated July 24, 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 purchase of materials to repair an existing storage (12 feet (Ft) x 8 Ft), the repair of a 575 linear feet (LF) fence, and the installation of 600 LF of new sections to the fence. Also, a 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine will be purchased. The proposed project will be located on State Road PR-374 Km 5.4, Bo. Río Prieto (18°07'50.0"N 66°48'44.2"W) in the municipality of Yauco. Ground disturbance will be required for the repair of the storage and the installation and repair of the fence. Also, vegetation removal (grass and small bushes) will be expected, however tree cutting will not be required.

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*), Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*) and the plants, nogal (*Juglans jamaicensis*), elfin tree fern (*Cyathea dryopteroides*) and *Polystichum calderonense* (no common name).

The 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: 2024-0064465). Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican

boa, Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk and Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk, which determined that the proposed actions for this project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) these species. Conservation measures developed by the Service will be implemented.

As for the Puerto Rican parrot, Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, nogal, elfin tree fern and *Polystichum calderonense*, since the land has been used for agricultural uses for the past 20 years and the proposed project will not change the land use associated with these placements, the PRDOH has determined that the proposed project actions will have no effect (NE) on these species due to the lack of suitable habitat.

We acknowledge receipt of PRDOH's NE determination for the Puerto Rican parrot, Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly and the plant species. Currently, we do not have information to refute that determination. Because the PRDOH made a NE determination, PRDOH is not required to conduct formal or informal section 7 consultation with the Service, and the Service is not required to concur with PRDOH's NE determination.

We have reviewed the information provided and our files, and concur with PRDOH's determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican boa with the implementation of the conservation measures. Also, the Service acknowledges receipt of the NLAA DKey consistency letter for the 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 caribbean_es@fws.gov or by phone at (786) 244-0081.

Sincerely,

**LOURDES
MENA**
Lourdes Mena
Field Supervisor



Digitally signed by
LOURDES MENA
Date: 2024.08.21
19:24:35 -0400'

drr

cc:
Allison Cullett, HORNE
HUD, wilfrido.g.ortiz@hud.gov

July 4, 2024

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

RE: Informal Consultation for Case PR-RGRW-01721 at Bo. Rio Prieto, Carr. 374 Km. Hm. 5.4, Yauco, PR 00698.

Dear Mr. Tawes:

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing is requiring informal consultation under Section 7 (a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) for the proposed project PR-RGRW-01721, located at coordinates for the fence and storage: latitude 18.130559, longitude -66.812289; on Bo. Rio Prieto, Carr. 374 Km. Hm. 5.4, Yauco, PR 00698, see Figure 1: Location Map and Figure 2: Topographic Map. The project is part of the Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) that aims to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security inland wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities.

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-01721 include the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence. The storage repair materials include 2" x 4" and 2" x 2" steel posts, galvalume steel panels, 2' x 4' galvalume windows, and a steel door. The storage repair includes the replacement of walls and the roof. No new connections for water or electricity will be necessary for the storage, as its function will be for the storage of agricultural equipment. The fencing materials include: 5 x 50' cyclone fence galvalume, 2" x 20' galvalume fence posts, 1" x 20' galvalume fence posts, aluminum gate corner and aluminum loop cap. The fence will be built with 1" and 2" wide galvalume posts anchored two feet deep. The new fence will be approx. 600 linear feet, and the fence to be repaired will be approx. 575 linear feet.

The proposed project also includes the purchase of a 200-gallon cistern, a coffee toaster machine, and a coffee grinder machine. The cistern will be used for transporting water, which will be used for irrigation of the farm. The applicant will supply water from his house and transport it in the cistern on his personal pickup truck. The water to fill the cistern will come from an existing PRASA connection in the applicant's home at the coordinates lat 18.034084, long -66.836463 (parcel: 361-087-327-05-000). The coffee toaster machine and coffee grinder machine will be used in the applicant's residence at coordinates 18.034084, -66.836463 (parcel: 361-087-327-05-000). These machines will not be fixed to the ground, and the power needed will be from an existing PREPA outlet at the applicant's residence.

The ground disturbance required by the proposed project will only be for the repair of the storage and the installation and repair of the fence. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area

for the proposed activities has been used for agricultural purposes for over 20 years. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) has been defined as the area potentially impacted by ground disturbing activities related to the installation of the fence and the repair of the existing storage, see Figure 3: Area of Potential Effect.

Existing Conditions and Trends:

For the proposed project parcel 289-000-006-22-000, the area is designated as not prime farmland. The proposed project is located in a mountainous area of Yauco. The area for the proposed fence has an irregular topography, covered in grass, bushes and plantain trees, refer to Photo 1 and Photo 2. The area for the proposed storage to be repaired is on a slight slope but the ground where the storage is already located is flat, refer to Photo 3 and Photo 4. The soil in this area has been classified as Maricao clay, 20 to 60 percent slopes (MoF). This is a steep to very steep, well-drained soil on side slopes and narrow hilltops of the strongly dissected uplands. The land has been used for agricultural uses for the past 20 years and the proposed project will not change the land use associated with these placements. The closer Final Critical Habitat is located 30,247 feet from the project location, see Figure 5: Critical Habitats Map. There are no wetlands located on or near the project activity area, see Figure 6: Wetlands Map.

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

Name of species	Threatened/Endangered/Candidate
Reptiles	
Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered
Birds	
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	Endangered
Insects	
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (<i>Atlantea tulita</i>)	Threatened
Flowering Plants	
West Indian Walnut (=nogal) (<i>Juglans jamaicensis</i>)	Endangered
Ferns and Allies	
Elfin Tree Fern (<i>Cyathea dryopteroides</i>)	Endangered
<i>Polystichum calderonense</i>	Endangered
Critical Habitat	
There are no critical habitats within the project area.	

The nature of the project, scope of work, information available, a careful analysis of the IPaC (dated April 18, 2024), the Puerto Rico Boa conservation measures, the Caribbean Dkey dated April 25, 2024, in the US Fish and Wildlife Service’s online IPaC application, and the observations during the field visit,

were used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species from this project. Based on that information and the answer inputted into the Dkey, it was determined that the proposed action will have “May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect” (NLAA) determination on the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk and Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk, see Exhibit B. Based on the provided information and the observations in the field visit it was determined that can be "No Effect" for the Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly, West Indian Walnut, Elfin Tree Fern and *Polystichum calderonense*, since it is not a suitable environment for these species, in addition to not being seen during the visit. Repairing the storage and installing the fence will not require cutting down trees. However, it will involve the removal of vegetation such as grass and small bushes.

Name of the species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures that will be implemented
Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	USFWS Boa Conservation measures (Revised: January 2024)
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	No conservation measures
Puerto Rican Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>)	No Effect	No conservation measures
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	No conservation measures
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (<i>Atlantea tulita</i>)	No Effect	No conservation measures
West Indian Walnut (<i>Juglans jamaicensis</i>)	No Effect	No conservation measures
Elfin Tree Fern (<i>Cyathea dryopteroides</i>)	No Effect	No conservation measures
<i>Polystichum calderonense</i>	No Effect	No conservation measures
Critical Habitats		
There are no critical habitats within the project area.		

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NLAA determination for the listed species. Attached to this letter, we are including the documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species. Should you require any additional information, please contact Allison Cullett at allison.cullett@horne.com.

References:

Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*)

Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628>

USFWS Puerto Rican boa Conservation Measures

<https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/DL2ACOXYA5ED5AXUNEIT4UZOTA/documents/generated/7159.pdf>

Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*)

Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512>

Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus venator*)

Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/604>

Puerto Rican Parrot (*Amazona vittata*)

Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067>

Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly

Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9005>

West Indian Walnut

Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/745>

Elfin Tree Fern

Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4895>

Polystichum calderonense

Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/427>

Exhibit A: Figures

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01721

José Ángel Feliciano Rivera
Carr. 374 Km.Hm 5.4,
Yauco, PR 00698
Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000
Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

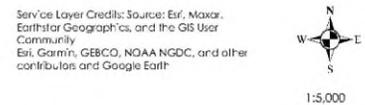
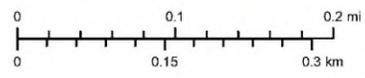
Location: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Storage to be Repair
- New Fence
- Fence to be Repair
- Parcel-01721
- CRIM_PARCELS



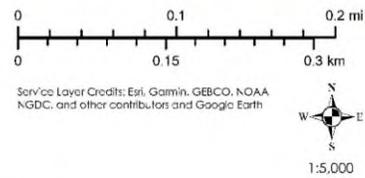
Source
Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>

Figure 1: PR-RGRW-01721 Location Map

Location: USGS Topographic Map
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



- Legend:**
- Storage to be Repair
 - New Fence
 - Fence to be Repair
 - Parcel-01721
 - Contour Interval 20 Feet



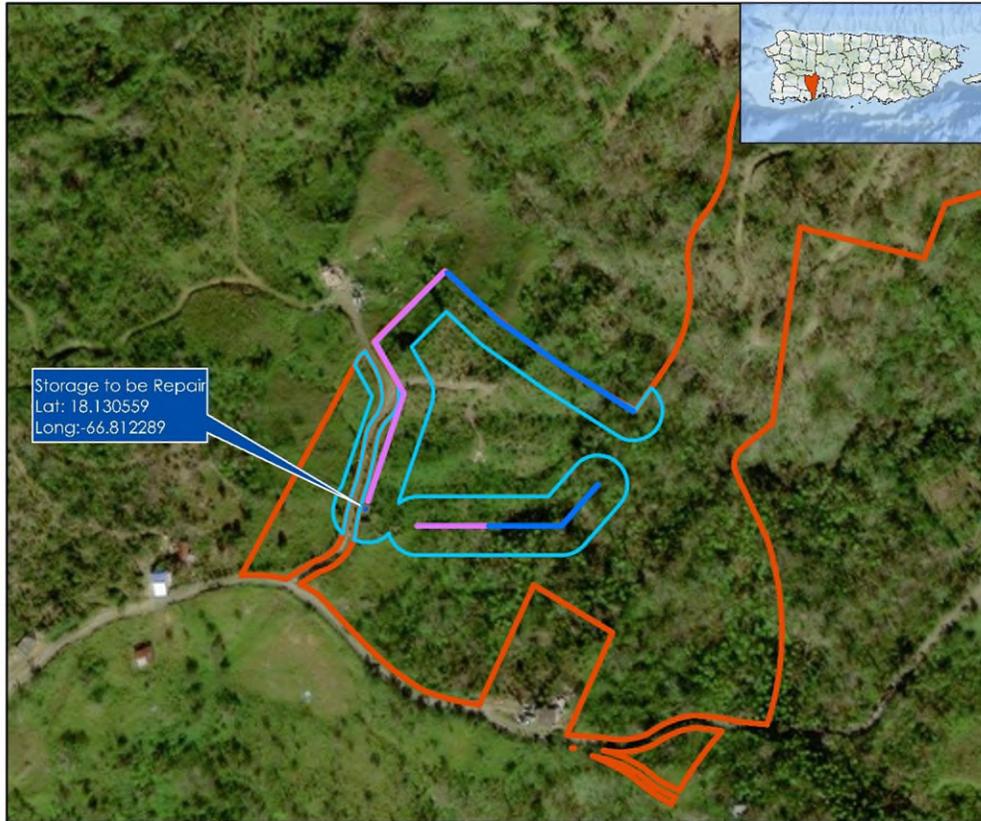
Quadrangle: Monte Guilarte

Source
United States Geological Survey (USGS)
National Geographic Map Database
https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ngmdb/ngmdb_home.html

Figure 2: PR-RGRW-01721 Topographic Map

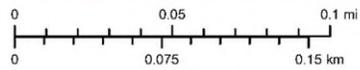
Area of Potential Effect

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  New Fence 01721
-  Fence to be Repair
-  Area of Potential Effect (15 Mts.)
-  Storage to be Repair
-  Parcel-01721



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA N-GDC, and other contributors and Google Earth



Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.cimpr.net/cdprpc/>

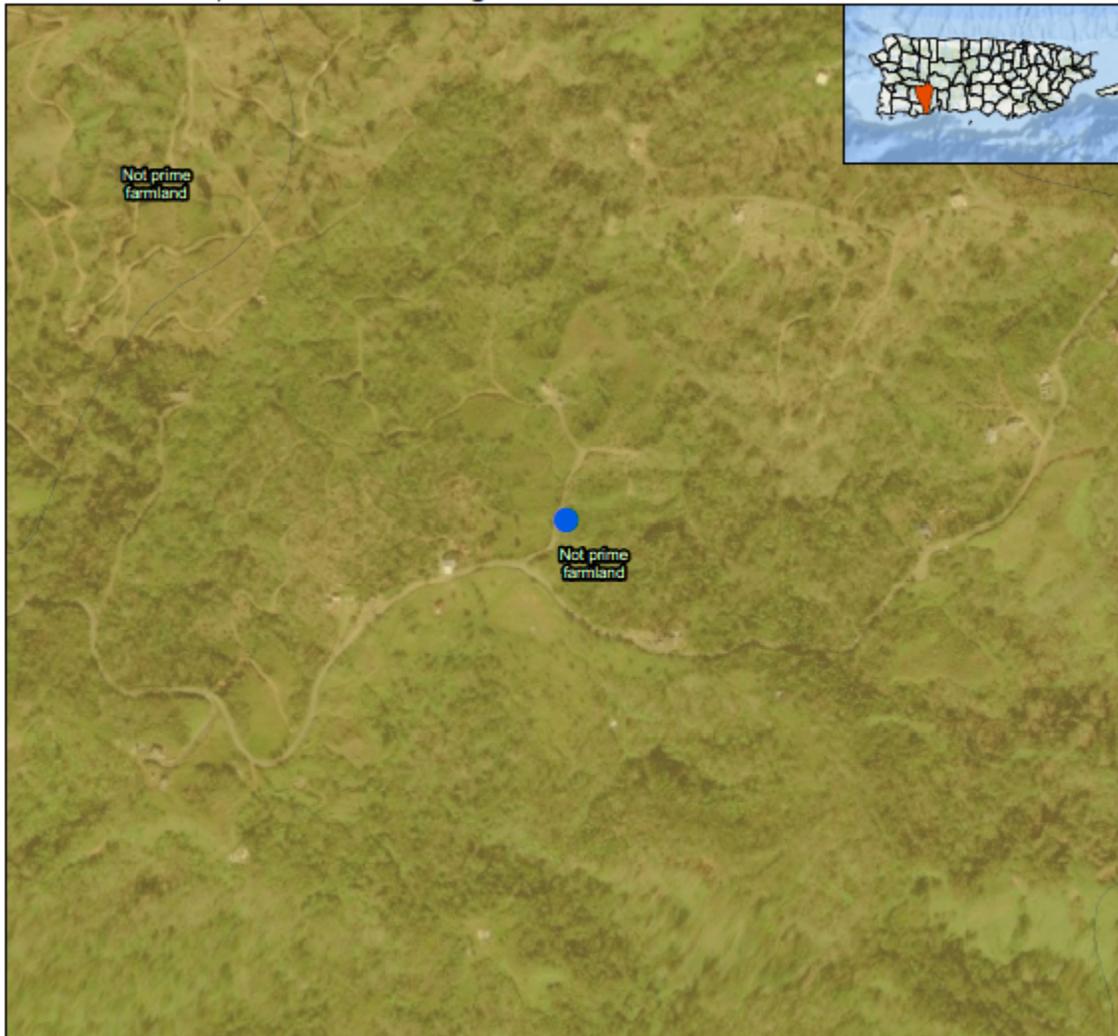
Figure 3: PR-RGRW-01721 Area of Potential Effect Map

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01721

José Ángel Feliciano Rivera
Carr. 374 Km.Hm 5.4,
Yauco, PR 00698
Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000
Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

Farmland Protection

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

● PR-RGRW-01721

Farm Class

■ Not prime farmland

0 0.045 0.13 mi

0 0.1 0.2 km

Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Gridbed Soil Survey Geographic Database (gSSURGO)
<https://data.nal.usda.gov/dataset/soil-survey-geographic-database-ssurgo>



1:5,000

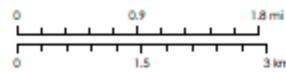
Figure 4: PR-RGRW-01721 Farmland Protection Map

Threatened & Endangered Species

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



- Legend:**
- PR-RGRW-01721
 - Critical Habitat



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swis (Italy), Mapbox, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source
NOAA Office of Response and Restoration
<http://response.restoration.noaa.gov/>



1:67,050

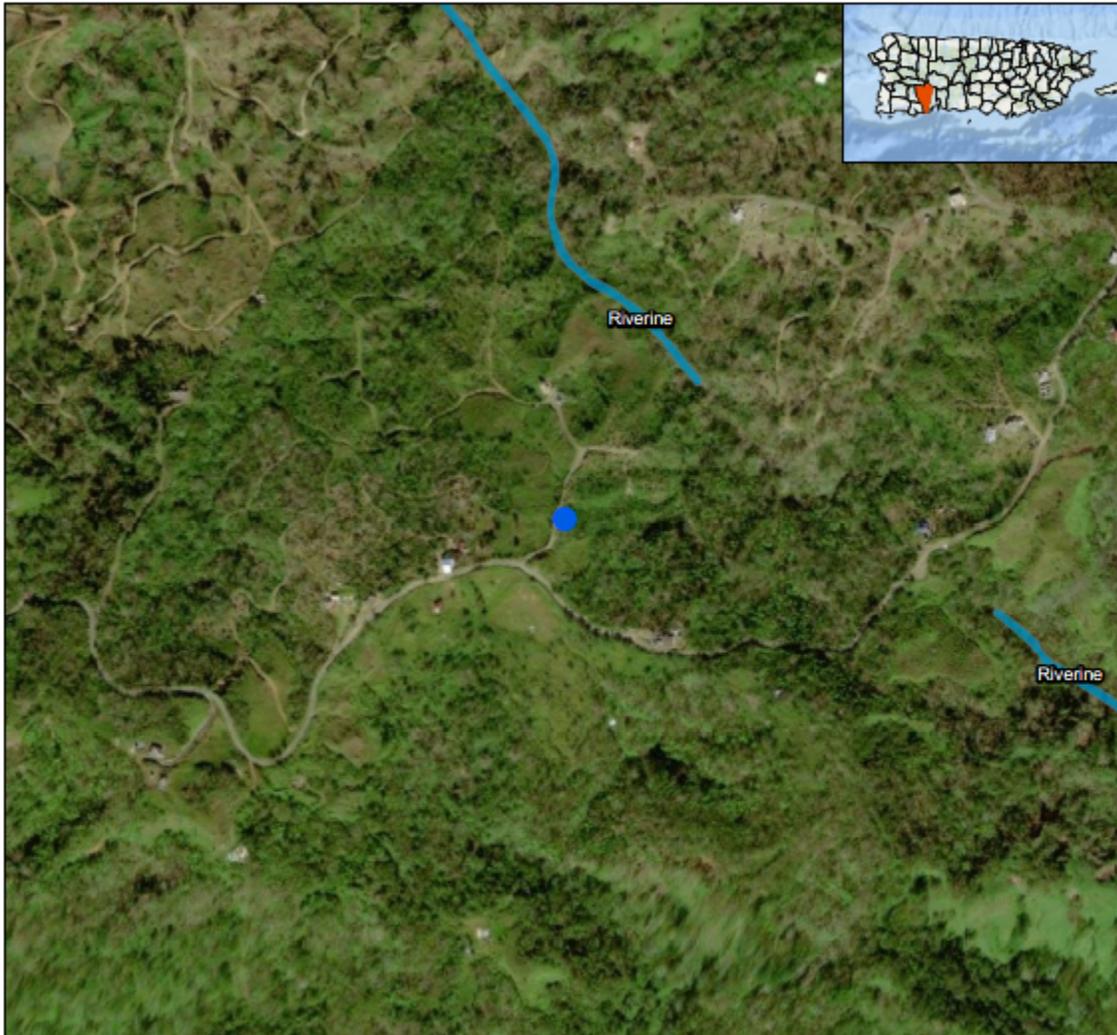
Figure 5: PR-RGRW-01721 Critical Habitats Map

Application ID: PR-RGRW-01721

José Ángel Feliciano Rivera
Carr. 374 Km.Hm 5.4,
Yauco, PR 00698
Catastro: 289-000-006-22-000
Lat: 18.130559, Long: -66.812289

Wetlands Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

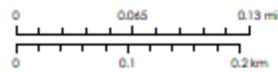


Legend:

● PR-RGRW-01721

National Wetlands Inventory

■ Riverine



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

Source

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - National Wetlands Inventory
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory>



1:5,000

Figure 6: PR-RGRW-01721 Wetlands Map

Exhibit B: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:

03/18/2024 20:02:40 UTC

Project Code: 2024-0064465

Project Name: PR-RGRW-01721

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

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through IPaC by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

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

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2))

(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at: <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see [Migratory Bird Permit | What We Do | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \(fws.gov\)](#).

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(939) 320-3135

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0064465

Project Name: PR-RGRW-01721

Project Type: New Constr - Above Ground

Project Description: The proposed project includes the purchase and construction of a new fence, storage repair materials, water tank, coffee grinding machine and coffee toasting machine.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.13218705,-66.80964331573452,14z>



Counties: Yauco County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 8 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

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

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

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

BIRDS

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

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/WNXQNUZXU5CIZER655VLT4TYYA/documents/generated/7159.pdf	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly <i>Atlantea tulita</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9005 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/WNXQNUZXU5CIZER655VLT4TYYA/documents/generated/7168.pdf	Threatened

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
West Indian Walnut (=nogal) <i>Juglans jamaicensis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/745	Endangered

FERNS AND ALLIES

NAME	STATUS
Elfin Tree Fern <i>Cyathea dryopteroides</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4895	Endangered

NAME	STATUS
Polystichum calderonense No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/427	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Egon Gonzalez
Address: Calle 37 GG1 Jardines De Caparra
City: Bayamon
State: PR
Zip: 00959
Email: egonadrian94@yahoo.com
Phone: 7874617368



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:
Project code: 2024-0064465
Project Name: PR-RGRW-01721

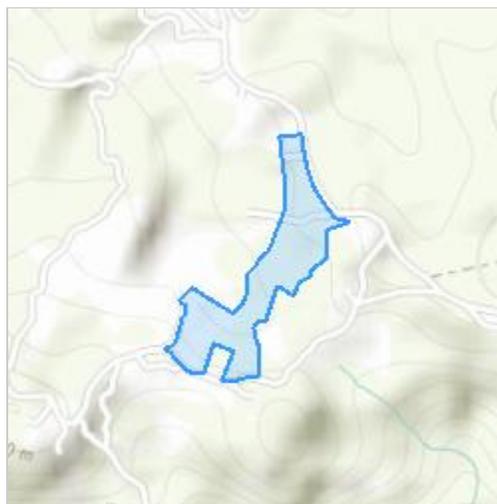
04/25/2024 13:00:04 UTC

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-01721' for specified threatened and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On April 25, 2024, Egon Gonzalez used the Caribbean DKey; dated January 19, 2024, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-01721'. The project is located in Yauco County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.13218705,-66.80964331573452,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-01721':

The proposed project includes the purchase and construction of a new fence, storage repair materials, water tank, coffee grinding machine and coffee toasting machine.

Based on your answers and the assistance of the Service's Caribbean DKey, you made the following effect determination(s) for the proposed Action:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered	NLAA
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	Endangered	NLAA
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	Endangered	NLAA

Consultation with the Service is not complete. The above effect determination(s) becomes applicable when the lead federal action agency or designated non-federal representative submits them as a request to the Service to rely on the Caribbean DKey in order to satisfy the agency's consultation requirements for this project.

Please provide this consistency letter to the lead federal action agency or its designated non-federal representative with a request for its review, and as the agency deems appropriate, to submit for concurrence verification through the IPaC system. The lead federal action agency or designated non-federal representative should log into IPaC using their agency email account and click "Search by record locator." They will need to enter the record locator **809-140283962**

Note: Projects located within the range of the Puerto Rican boa or the Virgin Islands tree boa might encounter these species during project activities. **This letter does not provide take to handle or move these species.** If relocation of the species is needed, please contact either the Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources (DNER) at 787-724-5700, 787-230-5550, or 787-771-1124 for projects in Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) at 340-775-6762 for projects in the Virgin Islands. Otherwise, contact the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office (caribbean_es@fws.gov) to determine whether the consultation needs to be reinitiated.

In addition to the species listed above, the following species and/or critical habitats may also occur in your project area and **are not** covered by this conclusion. Effects to the other federally listed species or critical habitat as listed below should be considered as part of your ESA review for the project.

- Elfin Tree Fern *Cyathea dryopteroides* Endangered
- Polystichum calderonense Endangered
- Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly *Atlantea tulita* Threatened
- Puerto Rican Parrot *Amazona vittata* Endangered
- West Indian Walnut (=nogal) *Juglans jamaicensis* Endangered

If the proposed project is located within species range where a DKey has not been developed for those species, please follow the established guidance for initiating section 7 consultation Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office.

We appreciate your interest in protecting endangered species and their habitats. It is the Service's mission to work with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of our people. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact our office at Caribbean_es@fws.gov.

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

PR-RGRW-01721

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-01721':

The proposed project includes the purchase and construction of a new fence, storage repair materials, water tank, coffee grinding machine and coffee toasting machine.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.13218705,-66.80964331573452,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Is the proposed project an EPA Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) renewal for an existing project? ([MSGP Fact Sheet](#))

No

2. Is the proposed project within an urban developed area? (i.e., cities, downtowns, shopping malls etc.)

Note: Urban and developed areas has one or more of the following characteristics: Presence of existing buildings, residential areas, and commercial establishments. Well-established infrastructure including roads, utilities, and urban facilities. High population density. Established neighborhoods and urban amenities ("urbanizaciones"). Developed landscape with paved surfaces, parking lots, and industrial areas. Signs of human activity and urbanization, such as shopping centers and recreational facilities. Location within the boundaries of a city or town ("casco urbano"). High concentration of built-up structures and limited open spaces. Aerial imagery might be requested to the applicant. .

No

3. Does the proposed project consist of rehabilitation or demolition of existing single-family homes and buildings?

No

4. Does the proposed project consist of improvements to existing facilities?

Note: Examples of facilities are occupied single family homes, and buildings; existing recreational facilities, including the installation of roofs to existing basketball courts, etc.

No

5. Does the proposed project consist of repavement or repair of existing roads and installing transit signage or guardrails?

No

6. Does the proposed project consist of the construction of gutters and/or sidewalks along existing roads, and developments?

No

7. Does the proposed project consist of replacement or repair of existing bridges which include cutting vegetation or earth movement?

No

8. Does the proposed project consist of activities within existing Right of Ways (ROWs) along roads which include cutting vegetation or earth movement?

No

9. Is the proposed project located within a rural area covered by grassland (pasture lands "pastos")?

No

10. Is the proposed project adjacent or within a forested area?

Note: Examples of immediately adjacent to forested areas are rock walls and haystack hills (“mogotes”), wet montane forest, lowland wet forest, remnant coastal, mangrove forest, damp and dry limestone karst forests, pastureland with patches of exotic trees.

No

11. Is the proposed project an existing facility or the expansion of an existing facility within the footprint of the already developed area?

Yes

12. [Hidden Semantic] Does the proposed project intersect the Puerto Rican boa area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes

13. Will the proposed project implement the U.S. Fish and Wildlife [Puerto Rican boa Conservation Measures](#)?

Yes

14. Will the proposed project be conducted during the Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk or Puerto Rican Broad-winged hawk breeding season between December and July?

No

15. If nests are detected within the project area, will the proposed project avoid any disturbance until fledging leaves the nest permanently?

Yes

16. Outside of the breeding season, in the event of a Sharp-shinned hawk nest encounter, would a buffer zone be implemented?

Note: The species or nests might be found out of the breeding season. A buffer zone is an area around the detected nests where no actions or activities can take place. The buffer zone should be clearly marked or delineated in the field and in the project plans.

Yes

17. Will the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Natural Resources be notified immediately if a nest is detected?

Yes

18. Does the proposed project intersect the Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes

19. Does the proposed project intersect the Puerto Rican Broad-winged hawk area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Egon Gonzalez
Address: Calle 37 GG1 Jardines De Caparra
City: Bayamon
State: PR
Zip: 00959
Email: egonadrian94@yahoo.com
Phone: 7874617368

Exhibit C: Field Visit Photos



Photo #:1

Description (include direction): Area where the new fence will be installed, looking southeast.

Date: March 22, 2024



Photo #:2

Description (include direction): Area where the new fence will be installed, looking east.

Date: March 22, 2024



Photo #:3

Description (include direction): Area of the storage to be repair, looking north.

Date: March 22, 2024



Photo #:4

Description (include direction): Area of the storage to be repair, looking northwest.

Date: March 22, 2024

Caribbean ES Puerto Rican Boa

Puerto Rican Boa

Generated April 18, 2024 02:58 PM UTC, IPaC v6.107.0-rc5



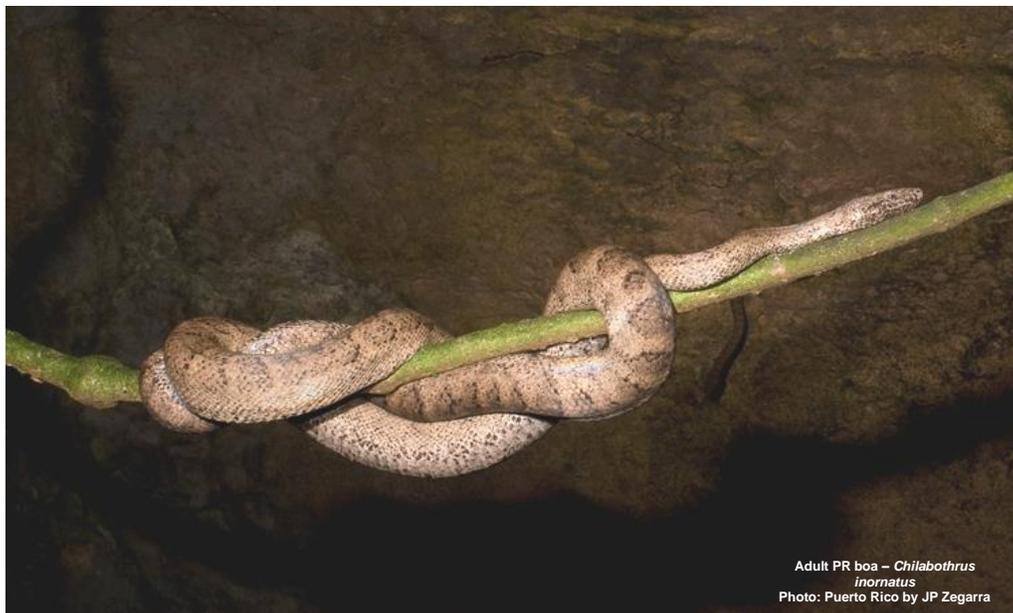


U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

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

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

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



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

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

Conservation Measures:

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

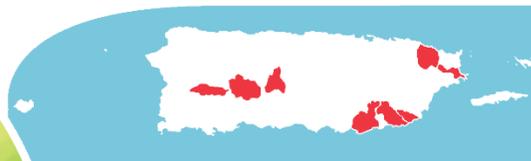
6. If a PR boa is captured by PRDNER personnel, record the name of that person and information on where the PR boa will be taken. This information should be reported to the Service.
7. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize PR boa casualties by heavy machinery or motor vehicles being used on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

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

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

Falcón de sierra

Accipiter striatus venator



Distribución ■

Hábitat

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

Dieta

Se alimenta primordialmente de aves pequeñas tales como: el comeñame (*Loxigilla portoricensis*), la reinita común (*Coereba flaveola*) y la llorosa (*Nesospingus speculiferus*).

Distribución

Las únicas cinco poblaciones existentes de falcón de sierra se encuentran en los bosques montañosos del Bosque Nacional El Yunque y los Bosques Estatales de: Maricao, Toro Negro, Guilarte y Carite. En el año 1992, se estimó una población general de 150 individuos para estos bosques. En censos hechos entre 2012 y 2013 se nota una disminución significativa de individuos en varios de los bosques.

Amenazas

La destrucción y la modificación del hábitat en Puerto Rico es uno de los factores más importantes que ha afectado el número y la distribución del falcón de sierra. La distribución tan limitada de esta especie puede haber sido resultado de la fragmentación de áreas 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.

Familia: Accipitridae
Orden: Falconiformes

Descripción

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

Información biológica

Reproducción

Esta ave construye sus nidos de varitas en lo alto de los árboles y pone en ellos tres huevos blancos con manchas pequeñas. La temporada de anidamiento del falcón de sierra comienza en marzo y continúa hasta julio.

EN PELIGRO

Entre las amenazas que se han identificado para esta especie se encuentran: prácticas de manejo y cultivo de madera en los bosques, construcción 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 cacería furtiva. Se ha identificado el parasitismo por la mosca parasítica del género *Philornis* como un factor de mortandad para pichones del falcón de sierra en Maricao. El falcón de sierra también es susceptible a disturbios naturales tales como las tormentas tropicales fuertes y los huracanes ya que le modifican su hábitat. Sin embargo, el problema principal del falcón de sierra es su baja densidad y lo limitado de su distribución. Esto hace a esta subespecie extremadamente vulnerable a la pérdida de un individuo.

Medidas de conservación

El falcón de sierra fue incluido en la lista federal de especies en peligro de extinción en 1994 y el plan de recuperación se escribió en 1997. La medida principal que se debe tomar para la conservación del falcón de sierra es la protección de los individuos restantes y de su hábitat. Debido a que se encuentra en áreas públicas, es imprescindible la implementación de planes de manejo adecuados para asegurar la supervivencia de esta subespecie en los bosques.

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

Cruz, A. and C.A. Delannoy. 1986. Status, breeding biology and conservation needs of the Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk, *Accipiter striatus venator*. Final report submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as specified in work contract No. 14-16-0004-82-031.

Delannoy, C.A. and A. Cruz. 1991. *Philornis* parasitism and nestling survival of the Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk. In J.E. Loye and M. Zuk (eds.), Bird-parasite interactions, ecology, evolution and behavior, pp. 93-103. Oxford University Press, New York, 406pp.

Delannoy, C.A. 1997. Status of the broad-winged hawk and sharp-shinned hawk in Puerto Rico. *Caribb. J. Sciences* 33: 21-33.

Delannoy, C.A. 1992. Status surveys of the Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus venator*) and Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunescens*). Final report submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as specified in work contract No. 14-16-0004-91-031.

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Información adicional

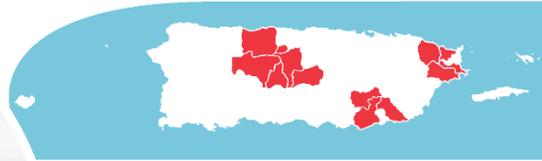
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EN PELIGRO

Guaraguao de bosque

Buteo platypterus brunnescens



Distribución ■

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 guaraguao 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 guaraguao de bosque 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

Familia: Accipitridae
Orden: Falconiformes

Descripción

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.

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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*) 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 principalmente 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 guaraguao 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 guaraguao de bosque entre los bosques.

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Información adicional

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**U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE**

Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*)

Section 7 (a)(1) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) mandates Federal agencies to aid in the conservation of federally listed species. Section 7 (a)(2) requires the Federal 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 federally listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitats. Section 7 applies to the management of Federal lands as well as Federal actions that may affect listed species, such as approval of private activities through the issuance of Federal funding, permits, licenses, or any other actions. Any person that injures, captures, or kills a Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, or destroy its eggs or any other of its life stage (caterpillars, chrysalis) is subject to penalties under the ESA. Thus, Federal Actions agencies must initiate consultation with the Service under Section 7 of the ESA for any action that could affect the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly. To initiate a consultation under the Section 7 of the ESA, the Federal Action agency must submit a project package to the Service with the established minimum requirements (see below). The conservation measures included below should be incorporated into the project plans to minimize possible impacts to the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly. Download the [project evaluations fact sheet](#) to learn more about the requirements or visit our [project evaluations webpage](#).



The Puerto Rican (PR) harlequin butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*), is a threatened species endemic to Puerto Rico, whose currently known range is limited to the Northern Karst

physiographic region and the West-central Volcanic-serpentine physiographic region of the Island. Through this range, we have identified six areas occupied by the PR harlequin butterfly that we refer to as a populations: (1) along the coastal cliff in the municipalities of Isabela, Quebradillas, and Camuy; (2) Guajataca in the municipality of Isabela; (3) Río Abajo Commonwealth Forest between the municipalities of Arecibo and Utuado; (4) Río Encantado area along the municipalities of Arecibo, Florida and Ciales; (5) Maricao Commonwealth Forest in the municipality of Maricao; and (6) Susúa Commonwealth Forest between the municipalities of Sabana Grande and Yauco. In addition, adult PR harlequin butterflies have been anecdotally reported in other areas of Puerto Rico, including the municipalities of Aguadilla, Barceloneta, Ciales, Florida, Luquillo, Ceiba, Guánica, San Germán, Las Marias and Lares.

The PR harlequin butterfly is a medium sized butterfly with a life cycle includes four distinct anatomical stages: imago (adult), egg, larva (caterpillar, with several size phases called instars), and chrysalis. The species has a wingspan of about 5.1 to 6 centimeters (cm) (2 to 2.5 inches (in)) wide and is characterized by its orange, brownish-black and beige coloration patterns. The caterpillar (larva) is dark orange with a brownish black to black, thin sub-lateral line, over a thin line of white intermittent dots crossing the body from the head to the anal plate, and has spines with hairs on each body segment. The caterpillar is less than .476 centimeters (cm) (0.19 in) in the first instar (growth stage between molts) and about 3.3 cm (1.29 in) in the fifth instar. Both eggs and caterpillars have been found almost exclusively on the host plant prickly bush (*Oplonia spinosa*). The chrysalis (pupa from which the butterfly (adult, or imago) emerges) of the PR harlequin butterfly is black, with orange and white dashes, and yellow pimples. The size of chrysalis is around 3 cm (1.2 in). In the wild, the chrysalis is more often found attached to branches of plants located close to the host plant, but it has been observed attached to dried twigs of the host plant.

The PR harlequin butterfly is difficult to detect, and the species is easily misidentified with other common butterflies such as the monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus portoricensis*), Antillean crescent (*Antillea pelops*), and Gulf fritillary (*Agraulis vanilla insularis*). The PR harlequin butterfly adults seem to be more active in the morning, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, when they are often observed flying searching for food or patrolling their territory for mating or laying eggs. The species flies slowly and is weak and fragile; thus, it is considered a poor disperser. There is information that this butterfly can disperse up to 1,026 meters (m) (3366.1 feet (ft)), approximately 1 kilometer (km) (0.6 mile (mi)) from one breeding site to another. The species seems to have specific ecological requirements for reproduction and its dispersion.

The PR harlequin butterfly was federally listed as threatened on January 3, 2023 (87 FR 73655), due to threats related to habitat modification and loss, its small populations size, and because of analyses of projected effects on the species resulting from relevant factors like increment of urban development rate and climate changes, which may negatively influence the continued existence of the species in the foreseeable future.

The Service has developed the following conservation measures with the purpose of assisting others to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the PR harlequin butterfly and its

habitat. These recommendations may be incorporated into new project plans and under certain circumstances into existing projects. Depending on the project, additional recommendations can be made besides the ones presented in this document.

1. All project construction personnel must be informed about the potential presence of the PR harlequin butterfly or its occupied host plant, prickly bush (*Oplonia spinosa*), in the project areas and the need to avoid harming the species and its occupied host plant. All personnel will be advised that there are civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing, or killing species protected under the Endangered Species Act. Educational material (e.g., posters, flyers, or signs with photos or illustrations of all the life stages of the PR harlequin butterfly (i.e., eggs, caterpillar, chrysalis, and adult) as well as 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 boundaries of the work area in the field clearly delineate 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 PR 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 PR 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 chrysalis are present.
4. If there is no prickly bush within the project area, and the butterfly is observed flying within the project area, do not harass, harm, pursue, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct, the species.
5. Adult butterflies are often observed flying near the host plant as part of their mating behavior and laying eggs. Project-related activities must stop if the prickly bush is found in the project area and the PR harlequin butterfly is observed flying in that same area where the plan is located. 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 PR 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 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 PR harlequin butterfly is found in the prickly bush, take the following actions:
 - Clearly mark the host plant with flagging tape.

- Establish a 10-meter (32-foot) buffer zone around the bush to protect it.
- Eggs are typically found on the prickly bush's newly grown, tender branches. Once an egg hatches, the caterpillar moves and feeds throughout the plant. 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 PR 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 PR harlequin butterfly sighting reports should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Caribbean Ecological Service Field Office at caribbean_es@fws.gov.

9. For questions regarding the PR harlequin butterfly, the Point of Contact is:

- José Cruz-Burgos, Threatened and Endangered Species Program Coordinator:
 - Mobile: 305-304-1386
 - Office phone: 786-244-0081
 - Office Direct Line: 939-320-3120
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov

Technical Memorandum

October 30, 2024

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

From: Behar Ybarra & Associates

RE: Threatened and Endangered Species Review for Case PR-RGRW-01721 at Comm. Jacanas, Calle 1 Solar 8, Yauco PR, 00698.

This Threatened and Endangered Species Review evaluates the purchase of a coffee grinder and a coffee toaster that will be used and stored at the coordinates: latitude 18.034084 longitude -66.836463; on Comm. Jacanas, Calle 1 Solar 8, Yauco PR, 00698. The project is part of the Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) that aims to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security inland wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities.

The proposed project PR-RGRW-01721 consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence. The project also involves purchasing a coffee toaster machine and a coffee grinder. This analysis focuses on the area where the machines will be used and stored. These machines will be used in the applicant's residence at coordinates 18.034084, -66.836463 (parcel: 361-087-327-05-000). These machines will not be fixed to the ground, and the power needed will be from an existing PREPA outlet at the applicant's residence.

Existing Conditions and Trends:

For the proposed project parcel 361-087-327-05-000, the area is designated as not prime farmland. The proposed project is located in an urban residential area of Yauco. The area for the coffee toaster and grinder is inside the applicant house. A photo of the proposed project area is included in the Site Inspection Report, See Appendix 3. The closer Final Critical Habitat is located at 5,661 feet from the project location and there are no wetlands located on or near the project activity area, See Figures 7.2 and 12.2.

Using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system (See Exhibit A), we have determined that the proposed project lies within the range of the following federally listed species and critical habitats:

Name of species	Threatened/Endangered/Candidate
Reptiles	
Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered

Flowering plants	
Bariaco (<i>Trichilia triacantha</i>)	Endangered
Critical Habitat	
There are no critical habitats within the project area.	

The nature of the project, scope of work, information available, a careful analysis of the IpaC, the Puerto Rico Boa conservation measures, the Caribbean Dkey dated October 29, 2024, in the US Fish and Wildlife Service’s online IPaC application, and the observations during the field visit, were used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species from this project. Based on that information and the answer inputted into the Dkey, it was determined that the proposed action will have “No Effect” determination on the Puerto Rican Boa. For the Bariaco, will have a No Effect (NE) determination as no ground disturbance is anticipated for the proposed project. The machines will be used and stored within the applicant's residence.

Name of the species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures that will be implemented
Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	No Effect (NE)	No Conservation Measures
Bariaco (<i>Trichilia triacantha</i>)	No Effect (NE)	No Conservation Measures
Critical Habitats		
There are no critical habitats within the project area.		

If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until it moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa.

For any questions or concerns, we can be reached by phone 787-783-0290 or email (patricia.carmenatty@byaea.com).

Patricia Carmenatty Santiago



B.S. Biologist, Behar Ybarra & Associates

EXHIBIT A



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:

10/29/2024 17:28:25 UTC

Project Code: 2025-0012567

Project Name: PR-RGRW-01721 Yauco (Applicant property)

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

To Whom It May Concern:

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

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

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

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

to caribbean_es@fws.gov. To obtain guidance for completing this process and the minimum requirements for project packages, please visit:

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

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

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

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

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

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

caribbean_es@fws.gov

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

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

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

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(939) 320-3135

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0012567

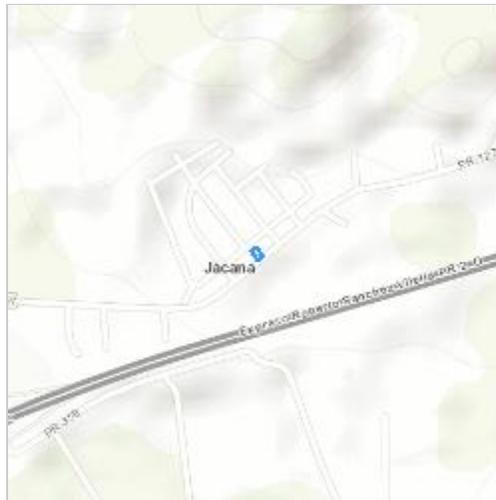
Project Name: PR-RGRW-01721 Yauco (Applicant property)

Project Type: Disaster-related Grants

Project Description: The proposed project PR-RGRW-01721 consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence. The project also involves purchasing a coffee toaster machine and a coffee grinder. This analysis focuses on the area where the machines will be used and stored. These machines will be used in the applicant's residence at coordinates 18.034084, -66.836463 (parcel: 361-087-327-05-000). These machines will not be fixed to the ground, and the power needed will be from an existing PREPA outlet at the applicant's residence.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.0340978,-66.83645663448296,14z>



Counties: Yauco County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

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

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

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

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

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

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/BQTWEGLZ3FCZ3PTWGXZNET4BFY/documents/generated/7159.pdf	Endangered

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Bariaco <i>Trichilia triacantha</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1576	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

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

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act¹ and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats³, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the ["Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"](#).

-
1. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
 2. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.

3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

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

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats³ should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)".

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

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

WETLANDS

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

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

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

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
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State: PR
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Phone: 7877830290



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:

10/29/2024 17:36:24 UTC

Project code: 2025-0012567

Project Name: PR-RGRW-01721 Yauco (Applicant property)

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-01721 Yauco (Applicant property)' for specified threatened and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On October 29, 2024, Patricia Carmenatty used the Caribbean DKey; dated April 03, 2024, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-01721 Yauco (Applicant property)'. The project is located in Yauco County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.0340978,-66.83645663448296,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-01721 Yauco (Applicant property)':

The proposed project PR-RGRW-01721 consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence. The project also involves purchasing a coffee toaster machine and a coffee grinder. This analysis focuses on the area where the machines will be used and stored. These machines will be used in the applicant's residence at coordinates 18.034084, -66.836463 (parcel: 361-087-327-05-000). These machines will not be fixed to the ground, and the power needed will be from an existing PREPA outlet at the applicant's residence.

Based on your answers and the assistance of the Service's Caribbean DKey, you determined the proposed Action will have "No Effect" on the following species:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered	No effect

Thank you for informing the Service of your "No Effect" determination(s) for this project. No further consultation/coordination for this project is required for these species. However, be aware that reinitiation of consultation may be necessary if later modifications are made to the project so that it no longer meets the criteria or outcome described above, or if new information reveals effects of the action that could affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered, or if a new species is listed.

This letter serves as documentation of your consideration of the federally listed species as required under section 7 of the ESA. However, effects to the other federally listed species or critical habitat as listed below from the "IPaC print-out for the project" (see below) should be considered as part of your ESA review for the project.

The Service will notify you within 30 calendar days if we determine that this proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a "No Effect" (NE) determination for Federally listed species in the Caribbean. If we do not notify you within that timeframe, you may proceed with the Action under the terms of the NE concurrence provided here. This verification period allows the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office to apply local knowledge to evaluate the Action, as we may identify a small subset of actions having unanticipated impacts. In such instances, the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office may request additional information to verify the effects determination reached through the DKey.

Note: Projects located within the range of the Puerto Rican boa or the Virgin Islands tree boa might encounter these species during project activities. **This letter does not provide take to handle or move these species.** If relocation of the species is needed, please contact either the Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources (DNER) at 787-724-5700, 787-230-5550, or 787-771-1124 for projects in Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) at 340-775-6762 for projects in the Virgin Islands. Otherwise, contact the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office (caribbean_es@fws.gov) to determine whether the consultation needs to be reinitiated.

In addition to the species listed above, the following species and/or critical habitats may also occur in your project area and **are not** covered by this conclusion. Effects to the other federally listed species or critical habitat as listed below should be considered as part of your ESA review for the project.

- Bariaco *Trichilia triacantha* Endangered

If the proposed project is located within species range where a DKey has not been developed for those species, please follow the established guidance for initiating section 7 consultation Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office.

We appreciate your interest in protecting endangered species and their habitats. It is the Service's mission to work with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of our people. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact our office at Caribbean_es@fws.gov.

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

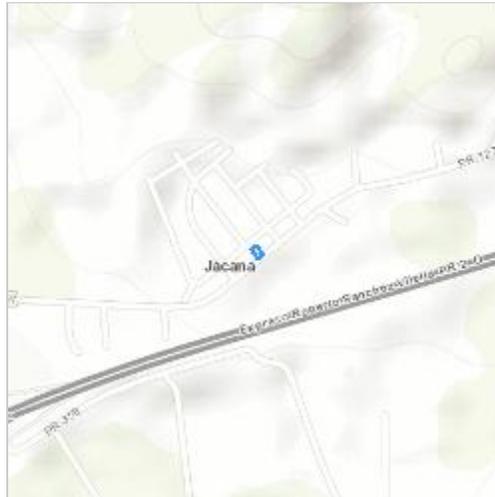
PR-RGRW-01721 Yauco (Applicant property)

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-01721 Yauco (Applicant property)':

The proposed project PR-RGRW-01721 consists of the purchase of materials to repair an existing 12 feet x 8 feet storage, the repair of a fence, and the installation of new sections of the fence. The project also involves purchasing a coffee toaster machine and a coffee grinder. This analysis focuses on the area where the machines will be used and stored. These machines will be used in the applicant's residence at coordinates 18.034084, -66.836463 (parcel: 361-087-327-05-000). These machines will not be fixed to the ground, and the power needed will be from an existing PREPA outlet at the applicant's residence.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.0340978,-66.83645663448296,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Is the proposed project an EPA Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) renewal for an existing project? ([MSGP Fact Sheet](#))

No

2. Is the proposed project within an urban developed area? (i.e., cities, downtowns, shopping malls etc.)

Note: Urban and developed areas has one or more of the following characteristics: Presence of existing buildings, residential areas, and commercial establishments. Well-established infrastructure including roads, utilities, and urban facilities. High population density. Established neighborhoods and urban amenities ("urbanizaciones"). Developed landscape with paved surfaces, parking lots, and industrial areas. Signs of human activity and urbanization, such as shopping centers and recreational facilities. Location within the boundaries of a city or town ("casco urbano"). High concentration of built-up structures and limited open spaces. Aerial imagery might be requested to the applicant. .

Yes

3. [Hidden Semantic] Does the proposed project intersect the Puerto Rican boa area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

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