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

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-04515

Project Name: Rain Harvest Farming LLC

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico / Las Piedras, PR

Preparer: Patricia Carmenatty

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Permit and Environmental Compliance Officers: Sally Acevedo Cosme, Pedro de León Rodriguez, María T. Torres Bregon, Ivelisse Lorenzo, Angel Gabriel Lopez Guzman, Janette Cambrelen, Santa Ramirez, Limary Vélez Marrero, Juan Carlos Perez Bofill and Mónica M. Machuca Ríos.

Consultant: Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

Direct Comments to: Puerto Rico Department of Housing:

(environmentcdba@vivienda.pr.gov)

Project Location:

Carr 9936, KM 1.6 LOT C-1 BO Rio Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777

Rain collection system location: latitude 18.207206 longitude -65.867258

Parcel cadastral: 254-000-001-32-000

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

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-04515 consist of installing a 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse with a rain collection system integrated. The warehouse/rain collection system will be installed on a 20' x 20' concrete slab provided by the applicant. The warehouse has a steel tejas roof so that the rainwater that falls on it will be collected in a system of pipes that takes it to 600-gallons cisterns. These cisterns will be installed inside the warehouse. The project area is located at Carr. 9936 Km. 1.6 Lot C-1, Bo. Río Piedras within the Municipality of Las Piedras. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for over the past 30 years.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) has been defined as the area potentially impacted by ground disturbing activities related to the installation of a warehouse/rain collection system. 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 warehouse/rain collection system plus a 15-meter buffer and the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

A site Map is included in Figure 1, illustrating the location of the warehouse/rain collection system 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)]: The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) will 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. This agricultural project associated with the warehouse/rain collection system is in keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The existing area for the proposed module placement is used for agricultural purposes. The topography of the project area is flat. The area is completely covered with vegetation consisting of grasses and shrubs. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with the warehouse/rain collection system placements.

Funding Information

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

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$9,325.00

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$9,325.00.

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 formon compliance steps or mitigation required?	re '
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS,	AND REGUL	ATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No	This project consists only of the installation of 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system and will have no impact on any Airports. The project is in compliance with the HUD's Airport Hazard regulations without further evaluation. The site is located 73,928 feet from the nearest major civil airport (Jose Aponte de la Torre in Ceiba) and 97,743 feet from nearest the military airport (Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in San Juan). See the attached Airport map Runway Protection Zone, Figure 2.
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes No	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. The project is located 55,821 feet northeast of the nearest Coastal Barrier Resource System, PR-39. 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 map, Figure 3.
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act	Yes No	The project is located in a Zone X, Panel 72000C1255J, 11/18/2009 on the FEMA FIRM. The project does not require flood insurance or is excepted from flood insurance. See attached Flood Map, Figure 4.

of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]			
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS,	AND RE	GULATI	ONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5
Clean Air Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	Yes	No 	This project consists of the installation 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system for an agricultural site and is not located in a nonattainment municipality of Puerto Rico (Arecibo, Bayamón, Cataño, 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.
Coastal Zone Management Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes	No 🔀	The project is located 33,495 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is a new construction. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See the attached CZMA map, Figure 5.
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)	Yes	No 🖂	This project consists of the installation of a 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system for an agricultural project. 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. There is one site of environmental concernidentified within 3,000 feet from the project site. • EPA Facility Interests RCRA (Hazardous Waste) 110041197861 Las Piedras Closed Landfill – 2,947

		ft. Address: Carr 9936, Barrio Rio, Las Piedras, PR 00771. Coordinates: 18.214747, - 65.865716. Based on EPA Enforcement and Compliance History Online (EPA ECHO), Las Piedras Closed Landfill (110041197861) has no violation identified. See Appendix 3. The project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances requirements. See attached Toxics Map, Figure 6.
Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	Yes No	The project could involve any activity that has an adverse effect on protected species or critical habitats. 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 PR boa (Chilabothrus inornatus) and Guajon (Eleutherodactylus cooki) could be found in the project area. The scope of work includes continued agricultural use of the property with no intention of cutting down trees or altering the general area where the warehouse/rain collection system will be installed. The warehouse/rain collection system will be installed. The warehouse/rain collection system will be on a space that has been maintained that way for agricultural purposes. 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 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 and Guajon. The project is 20,854 feet from the nearest final threatened species critical habitat. Therefore, the project has no critical habitats in the area.
		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/guidelin e/design/population/156/office/41430.p df
		If a Guajon is found in the project activity site, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Guajon. As established by the USFWS Caribbean ES Coqui Guajon Conservation Measures Guideline.
		https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/ ZZGAHRBSXBHERPGRVK67LDWGL4/docu ments/generated/7136.pdf
		This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. See attached Endangered Species map, Figure 7. See attached "No Effect" Memo and Supporting Documents in Appendix 4.
Explosive and Flammable Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	Yes No	This project consists only of the installation of 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system and does not include development, construction or rehabilitation that will increase residential

		density. The project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable Hazard requirements.
Farmlands Protection Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	Yes No	This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. All areas under the project site are prime farmland if drained. The scope of work includes the installation of 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system, and this is a construction limited to on-farm structures needed for farm operations. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. See the attached Farmlands map, Figure 8.
Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	Yes No	The project is located in a Zone X, Panel, 72000C1255J, 11/18/2009 (Figure 4). The site is not located in a Preliminary Firm or an Advisory Base Flood Elevation special flood hazard area. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. See attached Flood Map (Figure 9).
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	Yes No	The site was visited on October 8, 2023, by SOI-qualified archaeologist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the undertaking, the APE has been defined as the area potentially affected by ground-disturbing activities related to the installation of 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system. Documentation with photographs and maps was subsequently submitted to SHPO (attached Appendix 1). In a response from PR SHPO dated November 14, 2023, SHPO concurred with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected within the project's Area of Potential Effects (see attached Appendix 1). The property is not considered historic or contributing to an historic district (See attached Historic map, Figure 10). Therefore, this

		activity is in compliance with National Historic Preservation Act.	
Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	Yes No	This project consists only of the installation of 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system for an agricultural site. The project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The site is rural in nature and there will be no impact to or from the surrounding area from a noise perspective. The Project is in compliance with HUD's Noise regulations.	
Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes No	There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Safe Drinking Water Act without further evaluation.	
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes No	There are no wetlands located on or near the project activity area. Therefore, no wetland will be affected by the project undertaking. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. See the attached Wetlands map, Figure 11.	
Wild and Scenic Rivers Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes No	This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The project is located 30,426 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. See Map, Figure 12.	
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE			
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	Yes No	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.	

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

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

- (1) Minor beneficial impact
- (2) No impact anticipated
- (3) Minor Adverse Impact May require mitigation
- (4) Significant or potentially significant impact requiring avoidance or modification which may require an Environmental Impact Statement

I		
Environmental	Impact	
Assessment Factor	Code	Impact Evaluation
LAND DEVELOP	MENT	
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The proposed action is continued agricultural use of property which is compatible with a zoning code of A-1 (Agricultural - one) and existing land use is SREP-A (Specially Protected Rustic Land - Agricultural) There is no urban design associated with this rural, agricultural site.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	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 this area has been classified as Candelero loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes (CdB). This soil is on terraces and alluvial fans. The Candelero soils are deep, somewhat poorly drained and slowly permeable. The landslide data

		indicates low landslide susceptibility. Therefore, no erosion is expected to occur from this project. The project will not affect the drainage in the area. There will be no additional runoff associated with the project. See Landslide Susceptibility Map, Figure 13.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	There are no specific environmental hazards that have been identified for this site. The site is not in a high Noise Level area, nor will the project generate any additional noise. Additionally, the project does not include housing or such to where inhabitants would be affected.
Energy Consumption	2	The project is the installation of 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system on an existing agricultural farm. No power is needed to operate the rain collection system because it works with gravity. The warehouse has a steel tejas roof so that the rainwater that falls on it will be collected in a system of pipes that takes it to 600-gallons water tanks.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOA	AIC .	
Employment and Income Patterns	2	The project is not anticipated to have a significant impact on Employment and Income Patterns. However, since the project will include an economic component, it may aid in restoring some employment opportunities and income patterns.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The proposed project will not alter the demographic characteristics of Las Piedras, PR. The applicant is already located at this location and the project will provide opportunities for the continuous agricultural growth of the business.
Environmental Justice		In the project area within a one-mile radius:

5% of the people are unemployed compared to PR average of 15%
The proposed activities for the installation of the rain collection system will have a positive impact on creating jobs for local people. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section. See EJScreen Report in Appendix 3.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
COMMUNITY FA	CILITIES A	AND SERVICES
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project consists of the installation of 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system for an agricultural site and will have no impact on educational and cultural facilities.
Commercial Facilities	2	The proposed project may aid in restoring the demand for local commercial services; however, not to the point of putting undue pressure on commercial facilities.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The project consists of the installation of 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system for an agricultural site and will have no impact on Health Care and Social Services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The proposed project 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 installation of 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system 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 proposed project will not require an additional water supply. No new municipal connections will be provided for potable water. The water needed to

		operate will come from the rain collection system. The warehouse has a steel tejas roof so that the rainwater that falls on it will be collected in a system of pipes that takes it to 600-gallons water tanks. The proposed project will have no impact on the water supply.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The project consists of the installation of 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system for an agricultural site and will have no impact on Public Safety.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The proposed project 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 installation of 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system 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		The proposed project will be situated on previous agriculture property and will have no impact to unique natural features or water resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife		The proposed project will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity. There may be wildlife attracted to the module container but no negative impact on wildlife.
Climate Change	2	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. On the other hand, the lack of rain and the threat of a drought could affect the project.

Field Inspection (Date and completed by): October 8, 2023, Jaqueline Lopez, SOI-Qualified Archaeologist

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]: 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 installation of $20' \times 20' \times 12'$ warehouse/rain collection system for an agricultural site.

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 the new rain collection system. However, other locations may result in tree clearing prior to construction and/or need to fill in some steep area. 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 for the installation of 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse/rain collection system 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 the economic development for this applicant.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions: The proposed activity has been found to not have any adverse effects on the 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. DNER authorization may be required for any ground disturbance associated with the activities in the proposed project.	
Endangered Species Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	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.	

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:3/7/2024
Name/Title/Organization: <u>Patricia Carmenatty / Environmental Specialist/ Behar Ybarro</u> <u>& Associates LLC</u>
Certifying Officer Signature:Date: March 14, 2024
Name/Title: I. Lorenzo, Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist

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



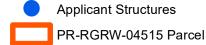
Figures

Location: Aerial Map Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

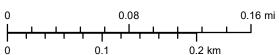
Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



Legend:



CRIM Parcels



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: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



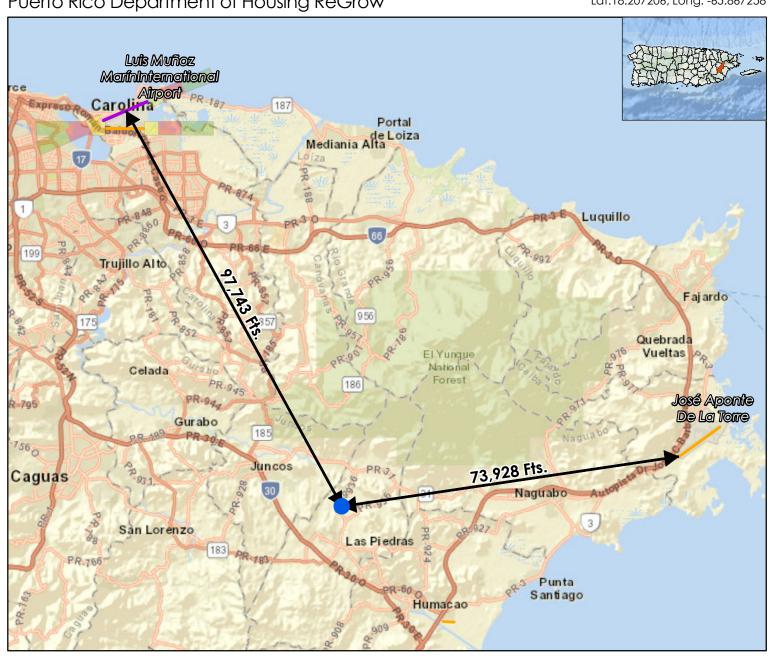
Source

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

Figure 2:

AirportsPuerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258











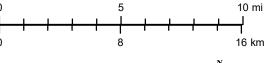
Clear Zone

Accident Potential Zone





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



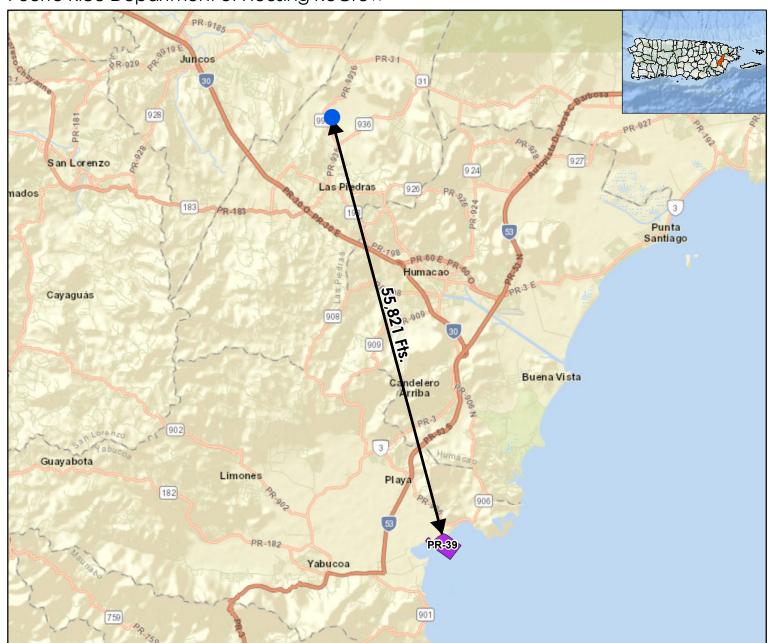
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



Figure 3:

Coastal Barrier Resources System Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



Legend:

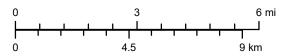
PR-RGRW-04515

PR-RGRW-04515

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), W Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

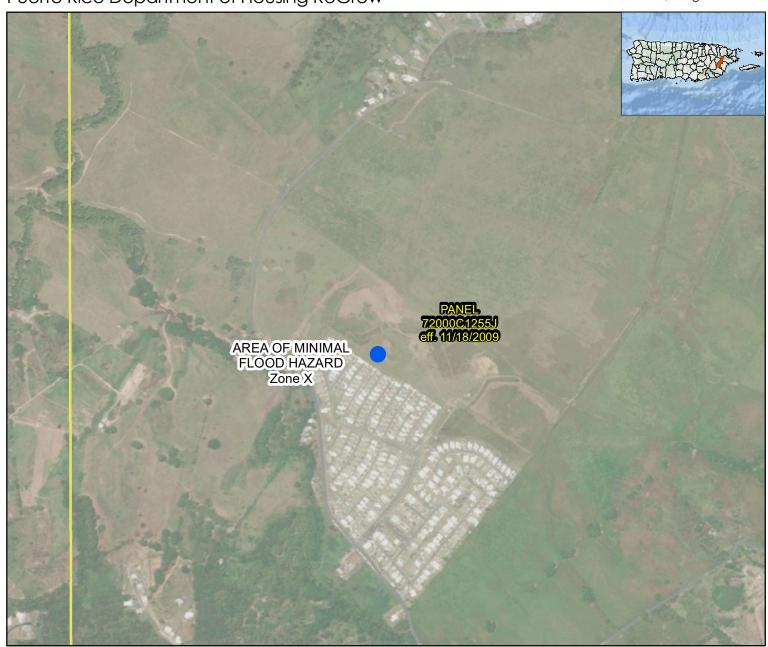
1:150,000

Source

FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/national-flood-hazard-layer Figure 4:

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



Legend:



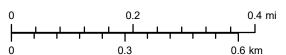
PR-RGRW-04515



Area of Minimal Flood Hazard-Zone X Zone X



FIRM Panel



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



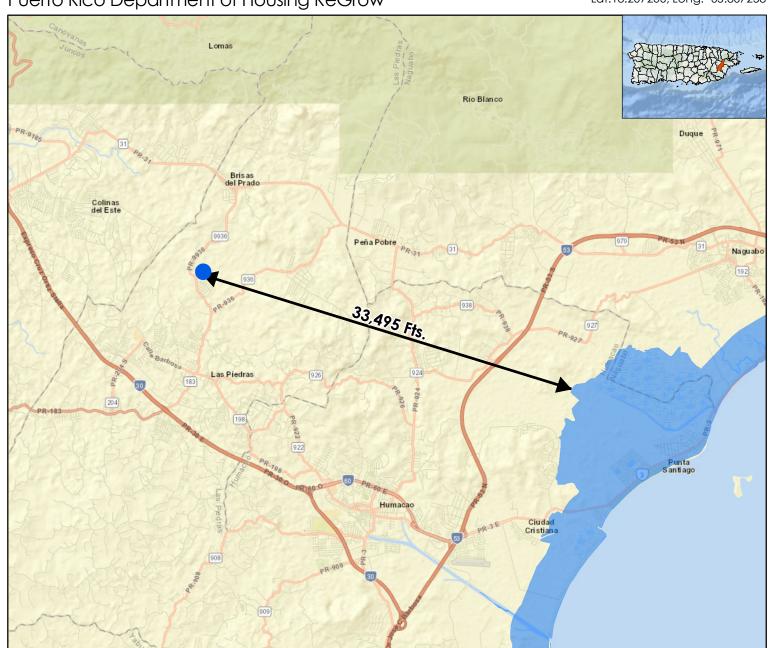
1:10,000

Source

FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer $\hbox{https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/national-flood-hazard-layer}$ Figure 5:

Coastal Zone Management Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



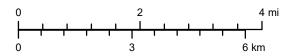
Legend:



PR-RGRW-04515



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



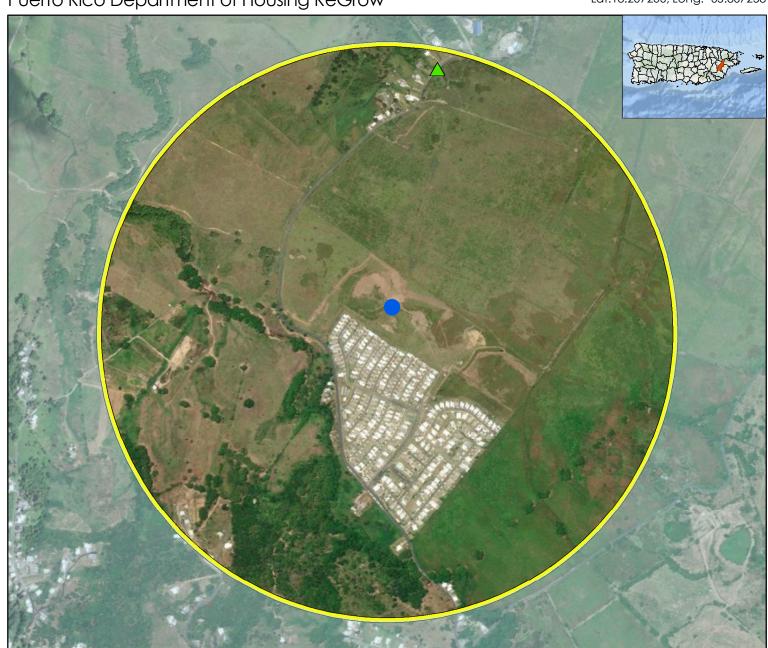
Source

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

Figure 6:

Toxic and Hazardous FacilitiesPuerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



Legend:



PR-RGRW-04515



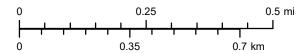
RCRA



RCRA_ACTIVE



3,000 Ft. (914.4 Mts.) Buffer



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



1:12,000

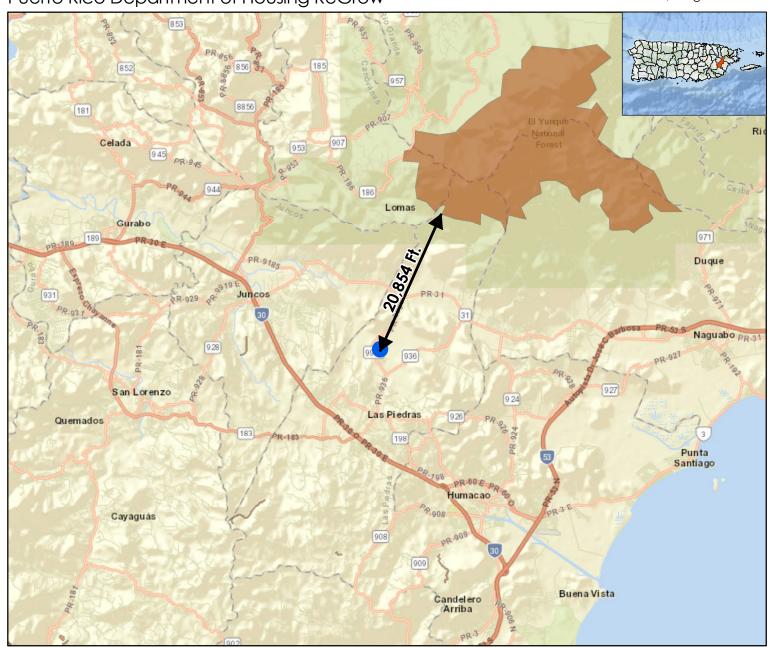
Source

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

Figure 7:

Threatened and Endangered Species Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



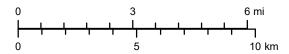
Legend:



PR-RGRW-04515



Critical Habitat



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

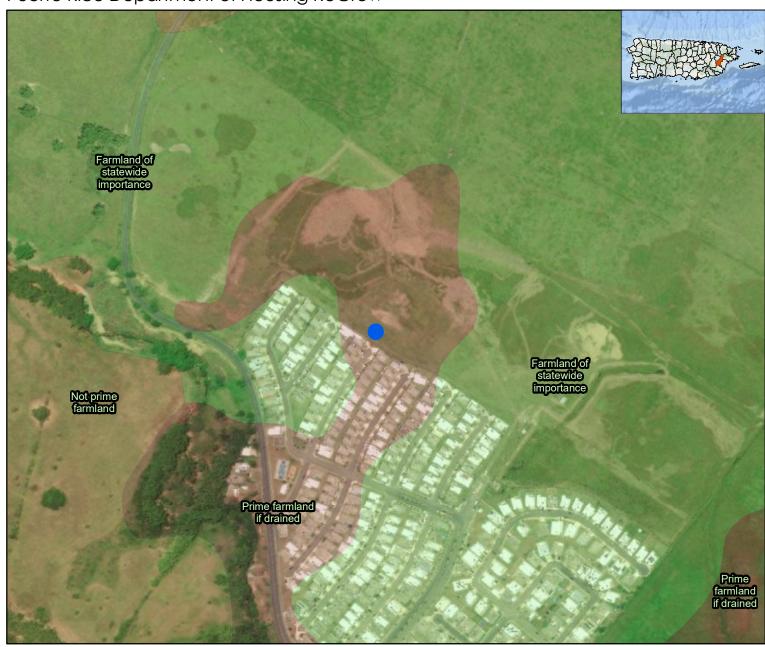
NOAA Office of Response and Restoration https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/

Figure 8:

Farmland Protection

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



Legend:



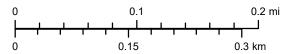
PR-RGRW-04515

Farm Class

Farmland of statewide importance



Prime farmland if drained



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

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

Figure 9:

Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



Legend:





0.2-Percent Annual Chance Flood

1-Percent Annual Chance Flood

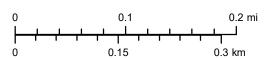
Hydrography

Advisory Base Flood Elevation

Flood Zone



0.2% Annual Chance Flood



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



1:5,500

Source

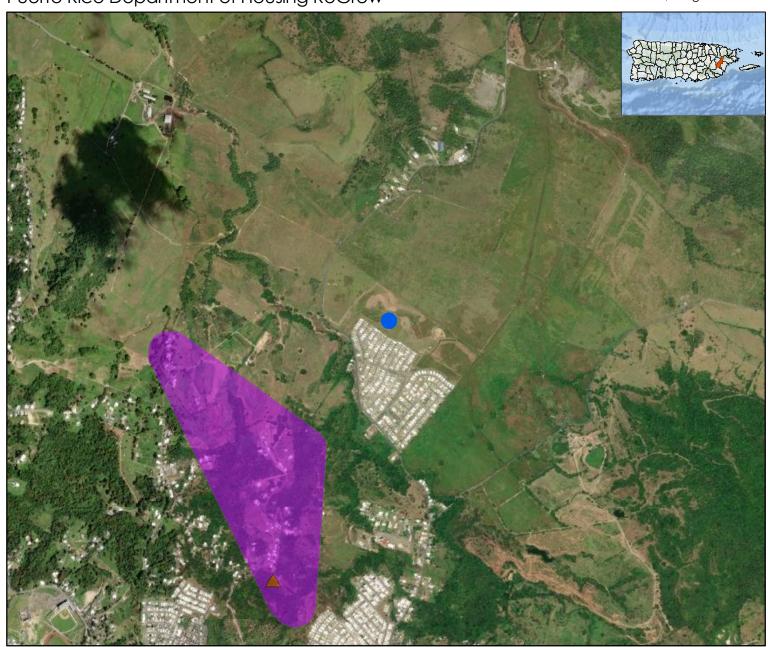
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Junta de Planificacion de Puerto Rico (JP) Mapas de Niveles de Inundacion Base Recomendados https://maps.jp.pr.gov/

Figure 10:

Historic Preservation

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



Legend:



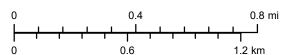
PR-RGRW-04515



Cultural Resource Site



Archaeological Resource Zones



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

Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



1:20,000

Source

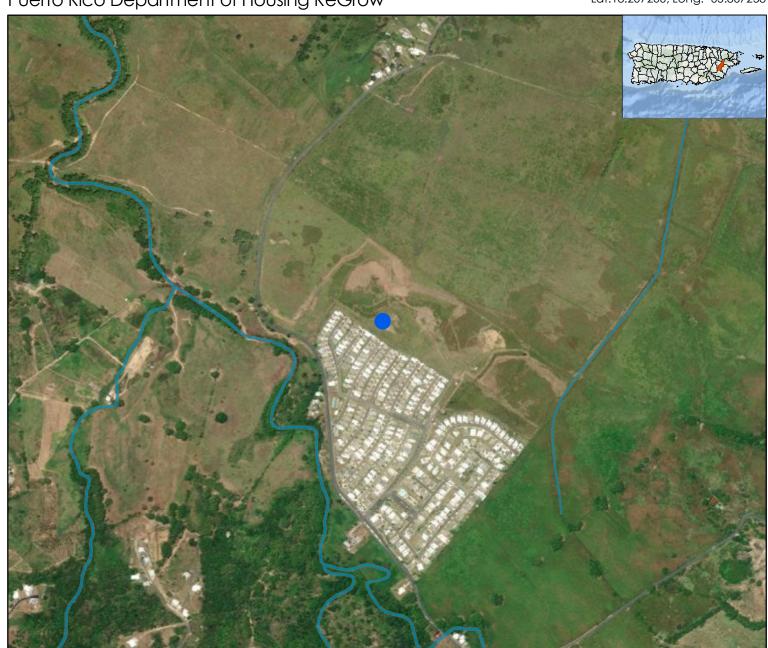
National Park Service (NPS) - National Register of Historic Places(NRHP) https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) https://oech.pr.gov/Pages/default.aspx

Figure 11:

Wetlands

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



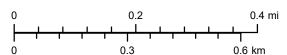
Legend:



PR-RGRW-04515

National Wetlands Inventory





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

contributors



1:10,000

Source

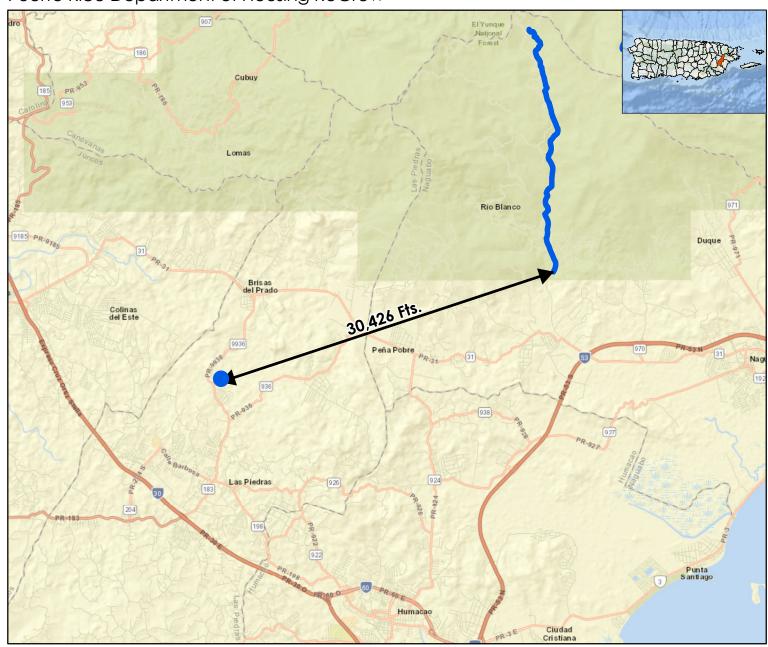
FWS National Wild and Scenic Rivers System https://www.rivers.gov/mapping-gis.php

Figure 12:

Wild and Scenic Rivers

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



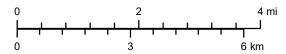
Legend:



PR-RGRW-04515



Wild and Scenic Rivers



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



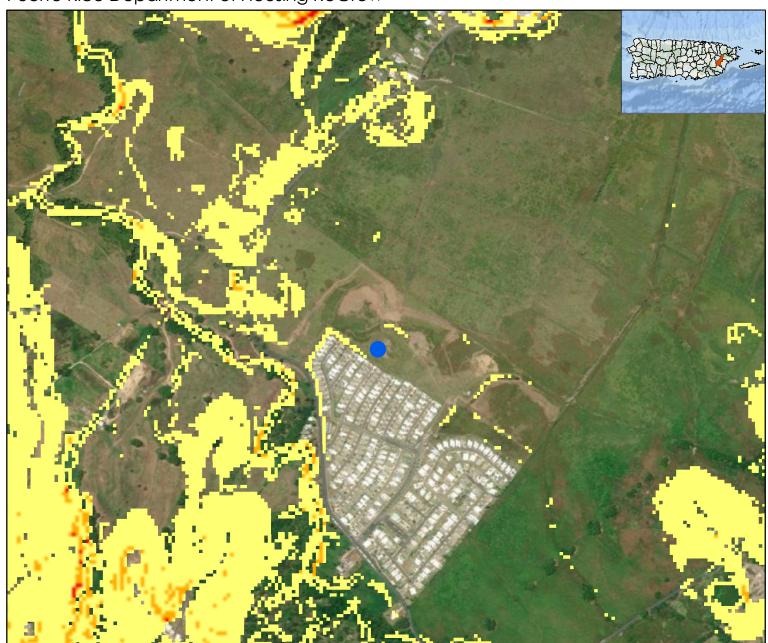
Source

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

Figure 13:

Landslide Susceptibility Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



Legend:

PR-RGRW-04515

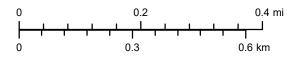
Low

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



1:10,000

Source

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



Appendix 1



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

November 14, 2023

Lauren Bair Poche

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

SHPO 10-27-23-17 SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION SUBMITTAL: PR-RGRW-04515 – RAIN HARVEST FARMING, LLC – CARR. 9936, KM 1.6, BO. RÍO PIEDRAS, LAS PIEDRAS, PUERTO RICO

Dear Ms. Bair,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer

any affinition

CARC/GMO/MB





October 27, 2023

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

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

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-04515 – Rain Harvest Farming LLC – Carr. 9936, Km. 1.6 Lot C-1, Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, Puerto Rico – No Historic Properties Affected

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

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

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, HORNE is submitting documentation for activities proposed by Rain Harvest Farming LLC located at Carr. 9936, Km. 1.6 Lot C-1, Bo. Río Piedras, in the municipality of Las Piedras. The undertaking for this project includes the purchase and installation a 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse with an integrated rain collection system, and the purchase of equipment (disc harrow, harrow, tractor, taladora and an UTV). The warehouse/rain collection system will be installed on a concrete slab provided by the applicant. The warehouse will have a steel tejas roof so that the rainwater that falls in it will be collected in a system of pipes that takes it to cisterns.

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,

Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.

Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Senior Manager

Attachments

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARIMENT OF HOUSING
Applicant: Rain Harvest Farming LLC	'
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04515	City: Las Piedras

Project Location: Carr. 9936, Km. 1.6 Lot C-1, Bo. Río Piedras				
Project Coordinates: 18.207206 -65.867258				
TPID (Número de Catastro): 254-000-001-32-000				
Type of Undertaking:				
□ Substantial Repair/Improvements				
New Construction				
Construction Date (AH est.): n/a	Property Size (acres): 28.23			

SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jaqueline López Meléndez		
Date Reviewed: October 8, 2023		

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

Project Description (Undertaking)

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-04515 consist of installing a 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse with a rain collection system integrated, and the purchase of disc harrow, harrow, tractor, taladora and an UTV. The warehouse/rain collection system will be installed on a concrete slab provided by the applicant. The warehouse has a steel tejas roof so that the rainwater that falls in it will be collected in a system of pipes that takes it to cisterns. The project area is located at Carr. 9936 Km. 1.6 Lot C-1, Bo. Río Piedras within the Municipality of Las Piedras. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for over the past 30 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 warehouse 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

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04515	City: Las Piedras
Applicant: Rain Harvest Farming LLC	' '
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM	

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 one (1) reported archaeological site within a half-mile radius of the project location: a pre-Columbian site: Formación de piedras grandes (ICP: LP-4), located 0.45 miles southwest (see table).

The proposed project is located in Las Piedras, at an altitude of 285 feet above sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area is within mapped soil series: Candelero loam. The project area APE is in CdB. The nearest body of water is Arenas creek, located 0.17 miles southwest from the project area. The coast is approximately 7.70 miles southeast from the project area.

There are eight (8) archaeological surveys conducted within 0.50 miles of the project area, three with positive results. In 2012 Maurás and Rivera conducted archaeological studies for the Juncos Solar Project documenting an archaeological site located more than 0.50 miles from the project area. In 1996 Meléndez conducted a cultural resources inventory for the municipality of Las Piedras documenting several archaeological sites. The closest is site LP0100004 located 0.53 miles southwest. The archaeological evaluations conducted by González (1998) and Questell (2009) are important because they cover the project area. These two Phases IA-IB evaluations conducted for the Urbanización Las Marías and Las Brisas projects yielded negative results.

The project area does not have cultural resources that are listed either on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or in a Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. On October 7, 2023, we visually inspected the project area. The property is located in the flat area of Las Piedras. The topography of the project area is flat. The area is completely covered with vegetation consisting of grasses and shrubs. The owner of the property told me that when he bought the land it was being used for cattle. And that many years ago this land was planted with sugar cane.

The soil in this area has been classified as Candelero loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes (CdB). This soil is on terraces and alluvial fans. The Candelero soils are deep, somewhat poorly drained and slowly permeable.

Determination

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. Within the 0.50 miles radius of the PR-RGRW-04515 project there are one reported historic site. A pre-Columbian archaeological site known as Formación de piedras grandes (ICP: LP-4) located 0.45 miles southwest of the project area, has been reported. The archaeological site is not within the project area. There are no known archaeological sites or NRHP

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARIMENT OF HOUSING
Applicant: Rain Harvest Farming LLC	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04515	City: Las Piedras

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-04515 is located. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project.

Recommendation

Ine	e Puerto Rico Department of Housing requests that the Puerto Rico SHPO concur	ma
the	e following determination is appropriate for the undertaking (Choose One):	
\boxtimes	No Historic Properties Affected	

M No historic Properties Affected
□ No Adverse Effect
Condition (if applicable):
□ Adverse Effect
Proposed Resolution (if appliable)

This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

• • •	<u>'</u>
The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed and:	d the above information
□ Concurs with the information provided.	
·	
□ 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	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Applicant: Rain Harvest Farming LLC	' '
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04515	City: Las Piedras

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		Distance/Direction Description	
Formación de piedras grandes	-	LP-4	0.45 mi SW	Pre-Columbian site, petroglyph	No data

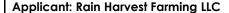
Table of cultural resources surveys conducted within the project area or within a 0.50-miles radius.

Author	Phase/Title	Year	SHPO / IPRC code	Results	Distance/ Direction
Eduardo Questell	IA-IB/ Urbanización Las Marías	2009	ICP/CAT-LP- 09-09-03	Negative	Within
Juan González	IA-IB/ Las Brisas	1998	ICP/CAT-LP- 98-06-01	Negative	Within
Antonio Daubón	IA-IB/ Urb. Laderas	2002	ICP/CAT-LP- 02-07-05	Negative	0.18 mi W
Fernando Alvardo	IA-IB/ Villa Natalia	2008	ICP/CAT-LP- 08-09-02	Negative	0.43 mi S
Adalberto Maurás	IA/ Juncos Solar Project	2012	ICP/CAT-JN- 12-10-03	Positive. Archaeological site located more than 0.50 miles away	0.43 mi NW
Virginia Rivera	IB/ NRG Juncos Solar Project	2012	ICP/CAT-JN- 12-10-04	Positive. Archaeological site located more than 0.50 miles away	0.43 mi NW
Guabancex	IA-IB/ Pueblo del Río Pump Station	1989	SHPO: 10- 28-96-03	Negative	0.44 mi NW
Marisol Meléndez	Inventario de Recursos Culturales de Las Piedras	1996	-	Positive. Documented Pre- Columbian and historical sites. The closest site is Quebrada Arenas Residuary (SHPO: LP0100004) located 0.53 miles southwest.	Within

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Case ID: PR-RGRW-04515 City: Las Piedras

Project (PR-RGRW-4515) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)



Area of Potential Effect Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-04515

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO





Applicant: Rain Harvest Farming LLC

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04515 City: Las Piedras

Project (PR-RGRW-4515) Location - Aerial Map



Location: Aerial MapPuerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-04515

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Rio Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258



Legend:



Senice Layer Oredita Sources: Est i 1888, Garmin UGS, Internop. NCRE/ENT P. NRCon. Est Japan. NRCI. Est Ohion (Mong. Karg). Est Koreo, Est (Incland). NRCC. [c] Open/tree-flulp contibutors and the GS User Community Source: Est News. Est that Geographics and the QS User Community and Geographics.

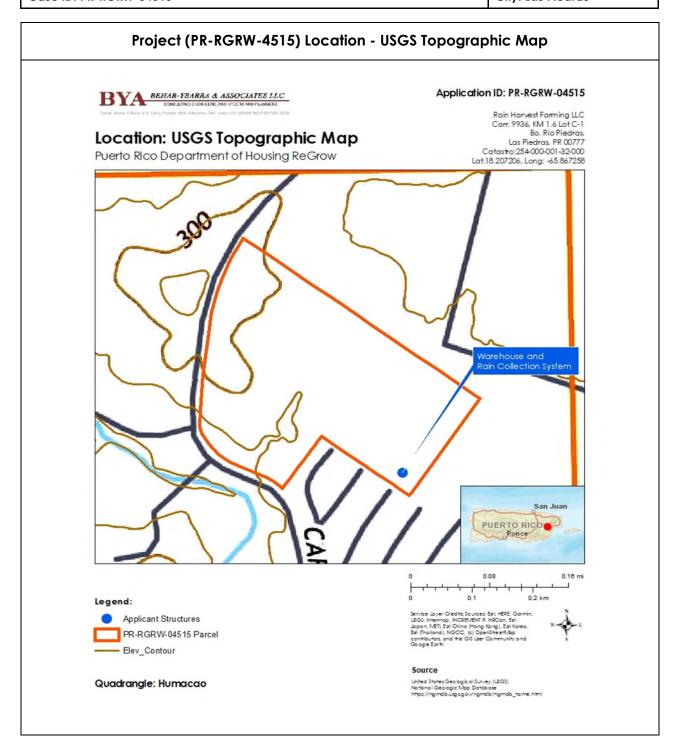


Centro de Recoudoción de Ingresos I/Junicipales (CRII/) https://catasto.crimpr.net/cdprpc/



Applicant: Rain Harvest Farming LLC

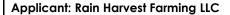
Case ID: PR-RGRW-04515 City: Las Piedras



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Case ID: PR-RGRW-04515 City: Las Piedras

Project (PR-RGRW-4515) Location – Soils Map



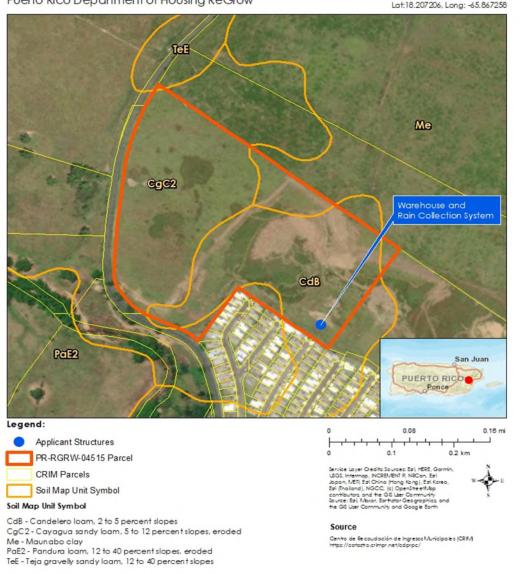
Send, bens, 1 Dulie J.S. Calle Person 684, Attainine, Sen Jusin, 1171, 00000 fed (1917)160-3230

Soils MapPuerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-04515

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO





Applicant: Rain Harvest Farming LLC

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04515 City: Las Piedras

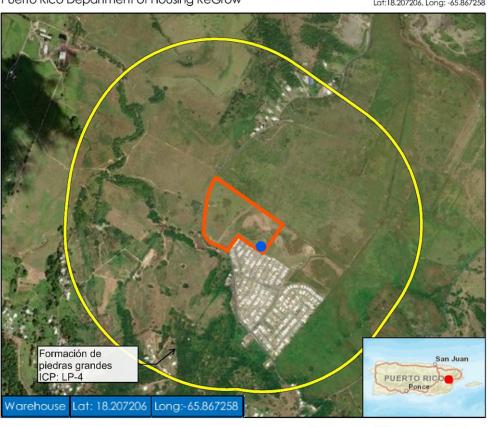
Project (PR-RGRW-4515) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map



Application ID: PR-RGRW-04515

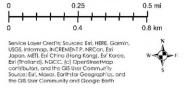
Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258

Previous Investigations: Aerial MapPuerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow









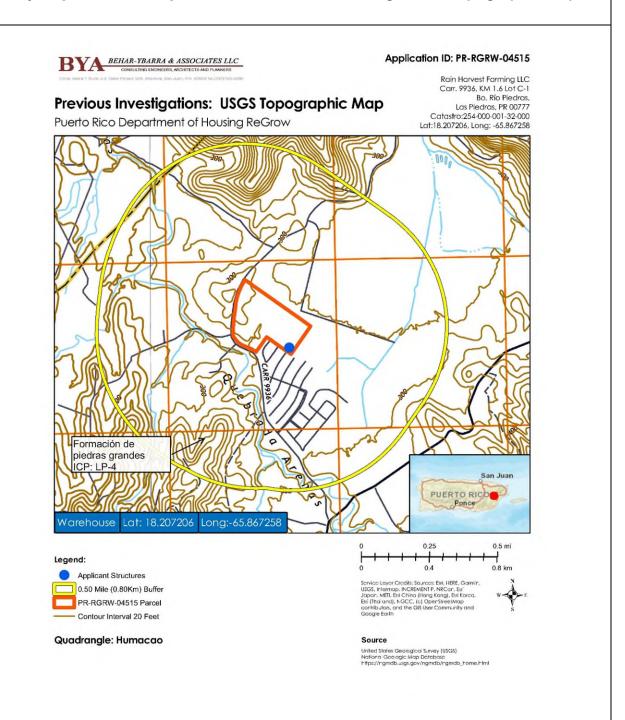
Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM) https://calastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/



Applicant: Rain Harvest Farming LLC

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04515 City: Las Piedras

Project (PR-RGRW-4515) Location with Previous Investigations - Topographic Map



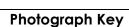
PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Applicant: Rain Harvest Farming LLC

Case ID: PR-RGRW-04515 City: Las Piedras





Area of Potential Effect

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Application ID: PR-RGRW-04515

Rain Harvest Farming LLC Carr. 9936, KM 1.6 Lot C-1 Bo. Río Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777 Catastro:254-000-001-32-000 Lat:18.207206, Long: -65.867258

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO



Legend:



0.16 mi

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esti. HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esti Japan, MEIL, Esti China (Hang Kong), Esti Korea, Esti (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenSite elliway contributors, and the GIS User Community Source: Est, Maxor, Estithstata Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

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REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination







Photo #: 1

Date: October 7, 2023

Description (include direction): General area where the warehouse will be installed, looking northwest.

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO



Photo #: 2

Date: October 7, 2023

Description (include direction): General area where the warehouse will be installed, looking northeast.



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.

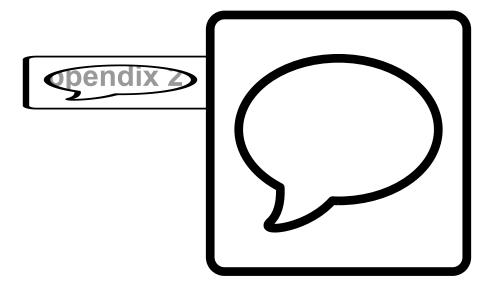
To comply with the environmental requirements established by HUD, the Department of Housing of Puerto Rico (PRDOH) contracted Horne Federal LLC to provide environmental registry review services, among others, that will support the objectives of the agenda for both CDBG-DR and CDBG -MIT Programs.

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







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 μ g/m 3) is revoked in attainment and maintenance areas for that NAAQS. For additional information see the PM-2.5 NAAQS SIP Requirements Final Rule, effective October 24, 2016. (81 FR 58009)

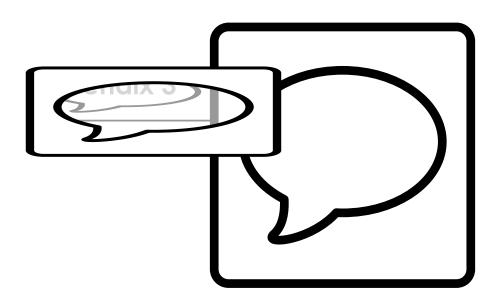
Change the State:	
PUERTO RICO 🕶	GO

Important	Notes		Download	National Datas	et: dbf xls	Data	dictionary	(PDF)
	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or/ Part County	Population (2010)	State/ County FIPS Codes
PUERTO	RICO							
Municipio	(2008)	Arecibo, PR	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	//		Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	22,921	72/021
0.4	Sulfur	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Whole	28,140	72/033
Guaynabo Municipio	PM-10	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
Calinas	Sulfur	Guayama-	181920212223	//		Part	23,401	72/123
Con Isson	Sulfur	San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	147,963	72/127
Toa Baja Municipio		San Juan, PR	181920212223	//		Part	52,441	72/137

Important Notes

Discover. Connect. Ask.





APPLICANT/LOCATION INFORMATION							
Applicant ID:	PR-RGRW-04515	- X 9/2)	ATES ATT A CONTRACT				
Name:	Antonio Rivera	PR-31		2.903			
Parcel ID:	254-000-001-32-000		Bris as del Prado	Q.			
Latitude:	18.207206	as	一人喝食				
Longitude:	-65.867258	ste					
Elevation:	94.22217180130829	2 0	(9938)				
Development		VA /	6				
Street Address:	Carr. 9936, Km. 1.6 Lot C-1, Bo. Río Piedras	X Lond	036				
Municipio:	Las Piedras	XX	PR.936				
Zip Code:		对关系					
Site Inspector:	Patricia Carmenatty			The state of the s			
Date of Visit:	September 23, 2023	Esri, HERE,	Powered by Esri	Esri, Maxar Powered by Esri			
Time of Visit:	08:27		The Plecific	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			
	Question	Answer		Notes			
A. Is the structure in use?		No	New structure				
B. Is the structure a greenhou	se?	No					
C. Is Electricity connected? (U	Utilities or Well)	No					
D. Is water connected? (Utilitie	es or Well)	No					
garbage, strom debris, solid	isekeeping on site? (mounds of rubble, d waste, petroleum products, paint, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, substances, etc.)	No					
2. Are there any 55-gallon dru	ums visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	Yes	Three 55 gal drums				
Are there any (or signs of a property?	any) underground storage tanks on the	No					
Are there signs of AST on tapproximate size and content	the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list ents, if known.	No					
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 s	torage of Fertilizer or Pesticides?	Yes					
Are there any groundwater parcel?	monitoring wells on the site or adjacent	No					
9. Is there evidence of a faulty	y septic system?	No					
10. Is there distressed vegetati	on on the parcel?	No					
11. Is there any visible indication	on of mold?	No					
	e of asbestos, chipping, and flaking or smaterials present in or on the structure?	No					
13. Are any additional site haza	ards observed?	No					
14. Is there any permanent sta located on the site(do not in events)?	nding water, such as a pond or stream, nclude ponding from recent rain / weather	No					
15. Does the subject property h	nave water frontage?	No					
16. Is there any indication of th	e presence of wetlands?	No					
17. Are there any obvious signs site?	s of animals or birds nesting on or near the	No					
	ny signifcant historcal event or persons re, or of it being located in a historic district/	No					
19. Is a historic marker present	1?	No					

Photo Direction: Northeast

Comments: where the warehouse will be placed



Facing Away from Front

Photo Direction: South

Comments:



Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction: Northeast

Comments:



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction: Northeast

Comments:



Evidence Photo 1

Photo Direction: N/A

Photo Description: Plantain



Evidence Photo 2

Photo Direction: N/A

Photo Description: Cacao to be plant



Evidence Photo 3

Photo Direction: Northwest

Photo Description:



Evidence Photo 4

Photo Direction: N/A

Photo Description: Warehouse existente



	Evidence Photo 5
Photo Direction: Northeast Photo Description: existing collection water system	
	Evidence Photo 6
Photo Direction: N/A	
Photo Direction: N/A Photo Description:	

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES		ATEMAGE	III OIMIL		III OOK
Particulate Matter (µg/m³)	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.08	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.6	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter (µg/m³)	0.0252	0.0667	34	0.261	1
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	20	15	25	5
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.14	0.19	0	0.31	1
Toxic Releases to Air	44	4,300	5	4,600	16
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	66	180	47	210	46
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.087	0.16	48	0.3	33
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.18	0.15	82	0.13	82
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.13	0.47	38	0.43	39
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	1.1	0.76	78	1.9	63
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km²)	0.16	1.7	60	3.9	30
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)		2.3	6	22	24
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index	84%	83%	36	35%	97
Supplemental Demographic Index	38%	43%	27	14%	98
People of Color	100%	96%	31	39%	98
Low Income	67%	70%	35	31%	92
Unemployment Rate	5%	15%	28	6%	61
Limited English Speaking Households	61%	67%	30	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	17%	21%	39	12%	75
Under Age 5	3%	4%	54	6%	33
Over Age 64	17%	22%	29	17%	55
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A%	N/A	20%	N/A

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

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Detailed Facility Report



Detailed Facility Report

Facility SummaryLAS PIEDRAS CLOSED LANDFILL

CARR 9936, BARRIO RIO, LAS PIEDRAS, PR 00771 **€**

FRS (Facility Registry Service) ID: 110041197861

EPA Region: 02 **Latitude:** 18.214747

Longitude: -65.865716

Locational Data Source: RCRAINFO

Industries: -Indian Country: N

Enforcement and Compliance Summary

Statute	RCRA
Compliance Monitoring Activities (5 years)	
Date of Last Compliance Monitoring Activity	02/24/2010
Compliance Status	No Violation Identified
Qtrs in Noncompliance (of 12)	0
Qtrs with Significant Violation	0
Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	
Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	
Penalties from Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	
EPA Cases (5 years)	
Penalties from EPA Cases (5 years)	

Regulatory Information

Clean Air Act (CAA): No Information
Clean Water Act (CWA): No Information

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): Active

VSQG, (PRS009000589)

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA): No Information

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

Go To Enforcement/Compliance Details

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

Facility/System Characteristics

Facility/System Characteristics

System	Statut	Identifier 🛊	Univers	Status ‡	Area	Permit Expiration Date ‡	Indian Country	Latitude	Longitude
FRS		110041197861					N	18.214747	-65.865716
ICIS		1800047712					N	18.213832	-65.86746
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PRS009000589	VSQG	Active (H)			N	18.213832	-65.86746

Facility Address

System	Statut	Identifier 🛊	Facility Name ‡	Facility Address ‡	Facility County 🛊
FRS		110041197861	LAS PIEDRAS CLOSED LANDFILL	CARR 9936, BARRIO RIO, LAS PIEDRAS, PR 00771	Las Piedras Municipio
ICIS		1800047712	LAS PIEDRAS CLOSED LANDFILL	CARR 9936, BARRIO RIO, LAS PIEDRAS, PR 00771	Las Piedras Municipio
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PRS009000589	LAS PIEDRAS CLOSED LANDFILL	CARR 9936, BARRIO RIO, LAS PIEDRAS, PR 00000	Las Piedras Municipio

Facility SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) Codes

System 🛊 Identifier ‡ SIC Code 🖠 SIC Description No data records returned

Facility NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) ‡ Codes

> System**1** Identifier **1** NAICS Code 🖠

NAICS Description 1

No data records returned

Facility Tribe Information

Reservation Name Tribe Name EPA Tribal I Distance to Tribe (miles

No data records returned

01/12/2023, 16:02 3 de 8

Enforcement and Compliance

Compliance Monitoring History

Last 5 Years

Statute Source ID System Activity Type Compl

 at 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	
RCRA	PRS009000589	No	11/25/2023	0	11/24/2023	

Three-Year Compliance History by Quarter

Statute	Program/P /Violatio		QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10	QTR 11	QTR 12+	
	CRA (Source RS00900058		01/01-03 /31/21	04/01-06 /30/21	07/01-09 /30/21	10/01-12 /31/21	01/01-03 /31/22	04/01-06 /30/22	07/01-09 /30/22	10/01-12 /31/22	01/01-03 /31/23	04/01-06 /30/23	07/01-09 /30/23	10/01-12 /31/23	
	Facility- State		No Violation Identified												
	Violation	Agency													





No data records returned

Last 5 Years

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

Formal Enforcement Actions





No data records returned

Environmental Conditions

Watersheds A

12-Digit WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) HUC (RAD (Reach Address Database))

WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) Subwatershed Nam (RAD (Reach Address Database)) State Water Body Name (ICIS (Integrated Compliance Information System)) Beach Closures Within Lase Year

Beach Closures Within Last Po Two Years

Pollutants
Potentially Related to Impairment

Watershed with ESA (Endangered Species Act)-listed Aquatic Species?

No data records returned

Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)

Report Assessment Unit Assessment Unit Water Cause Groups Drinking Water Ecological Fish Consumption Recreation Other
Cycle ID Name Condition Impaired Use Use Use Use Use

1

No data records returned

Air Quality Nonattainment Areas

Pollutant
Within Nonattainment Status Applicable Standard(s)
Nonattainment Status Applicable Area?
Within 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 Year Air Disposal to Disposal

No data records returned

Chemical Name

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

CWA (Clean Water Act) Discharge Monitoring

DMR and TRI Multi-Year Loading Report

Report (DMR) Pollutant Loadings

NPDES ID Description

No data records returned

Community

Wastewater Discharge

Environmental Justice

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

EJScreen Indexes Shown



Related Reports

EJScreen Community Report

	Downlo	oad Data
Census Block Group ID: 720851901013	US (Percentile)	
Supplemental Indexes	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Max
Count of Indexes At or Above 80th Percentile	5	8
Particulate Matter 2.5		
Ozone		
Diesel Particulate Matter	0	7
Air Toxics Cancer Risk	51	99
Air Toxics Respiratory Hazard Index	13	39
Toxic Releases to Air	52	93
Traffic Proximity	68	9 7
Lead Paint	1 84	98
Risk Management Plan (RMP) Facility Proximity	9 84	9 9
Hazardous Waste Proximity	92	99
Superfund Proximity	9 9	9 9
Underground Storage Tanks (UST)	9 81	99

71

○ 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 2010 U.S. Census and 2017 - 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year Summary and are accurate to the extent that the facility latitude and longitude listed below are correct. EPA's spatial processing methodology considers the overlap between the selected radii and the census blocks (for U.S. Census demographics) and census block groups (for ACS demographics) in determining the demographics surrounding the facility. For more detail about this methodology, see the DFR Data Dictionary https://epa.gov/help/reports/dfr-data-dictionary#demographic>.

General Statistics (U.S. Census)	
Total Persons	1,781
Population Density	583/sq.mi.
Housing Units in Area	760

General Statistics (ACS (American Community Survey))	
Total Persons	2,950
Percent People of Color	100%
Households in Area	939
Households on Public Assistance	15
Persons With Low Income	1,979
Percent With Low Income	67%

Geography	
Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.
Center Latitude	18.214747
Center Longitude	-65.865716
Land Area	100%
Water Area	0%

Income Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Households (%)		
Less than \$15,000	296 (31.46%)	
\$15,000 - \$25,000	101 (10.73%)	
\$25,000 - \$50,000	244 (25.93%)	
\$50,000 - \$75,000	169 (17.96%)	
Greater than \$75,000	131 (13.92%)	

Age Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)	
Children 5 years and younger	161 (9%)
Minors 17 years and younger	487 (27%)
Adults 18 years and older	1,294 (73%)
Seniors 65 years and older	165 (9%)

Race Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%	b)
White	1,338 (75%)
African-American	199 (11%)
Hispanic-Origin	1,775 (100%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	0 (0%)
American Indian	4 (0%)
Other/Multiracial	239 (13%)

Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS (American Commun Persons (%)	nity Survey)) -
Less than 9th Grade	303 (15.49%)
9th through 12th Grade	115 (5.88%)
High School Diploma	419 (21.42%)
Some College/2-year	348 (17.79%)
B.S./B.A. (Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts) or More	502 (25.66%)

▲ Top of Page



Discover.

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FOIA Requests

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Frequent Questions

<https://www.epa.gov
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Follow.





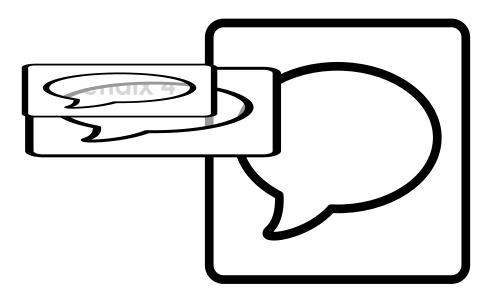
Last updated on September 21, 2022

Data Refresh Information

/echo-data/about-the-data#sources">/echo-data/about-the-data#sources

8 de 8







Technical Memorandum

January 25, 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-04515 at Carr 9936, KM 1.6 LOT C-1 BO Rio Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777.

This Threatened and Endangered Species Review evaluates a warehouse/rain collection system installation at the coordinates: latitude 18.207206, longitude -65.867258 on Carr 9936, KM 1.6 LOT C-1 BO Rio Piedras, Las Piedras, PR 00777. 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-04515 consist of installing a 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse with a rain collection system integrated. The warehouse/rain collection system will be installed on a concrete slab provided by the applicant. The warehouse has a steel tejas roof so that the rainwater that falls in it will be collected in a system of pipes that takes it to cisterns. The project area is located at Carr. 9936 Km. 1.6 Lot C-1, Bo. Río Piedras within the Municipality of Las Piedras. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for over the past 30 years.

Existing Conditions and Trends:

For the proposed project parcel 254-000-001-32-000, the areas are designated as Prime farmland if drained. The project area is located in a rural area of Las Piedras. The area where the warehouse will be placed has a flat topography. The area is completely covered with vegetation consisting of grasses and shrubs. Photos of the proposed project area are included in the Site Inspection Report, See Appendix 3. The land has been used for agricultural uses for over 30 years and the proposed project will not change the land use associated with these placements. The closer Final Critical Habitat is located at 20,854 feet from the project location and there are no wetlands located on or near the project activity area, See Figures 7 and 11.

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:

Thank of species Threatened Endangered Candidate	Name of species	Threatened/Endangered/Candidate
--	-----------------	---------------------------------



Reptiles			
Puerto Rican boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)	Endangered		
Amphibian			
Guajon (Eleutherodactylus cooki)	Threatened		
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 and Coqui Guajon conservation measures, the Caribbean Dkey dated November 30, 2023, 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 and Guajon, see Exhibit A.

Name of the species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures that will be implemented			
Puerto Rican boa (Chilabothrus	No Effect (NE)	No Conservation Measures			
inornatus)					
Guajon (Eleutherodactylus	No Effect (NE)	No Conservation Measures			
cooki)					
Critical Habitats					
There are no critical habitats within the project area.					

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

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: 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: (787) 834-1600 Fax: (787) 851-7440

Email Address: <u>CARIBBEAN ES@FWS.GOV</u>

In Reply Refer To: November 30, 2023

Project Code: 2024-0021300 Project Name: PR-RGRW-04515

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 <u>caribbean es@fws.gov</u>. 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:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491 (787) 834-1600

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0021300 Project Name: PR-RGRW-04515

Project Type: New Constr - Above Ground

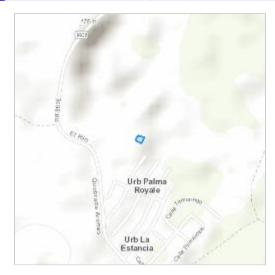
Project Description: The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-04515 consist of installing a 20' x

20' x 12' warehouse with a rain collection system integrated. The warehouse/rain collection system will be installed on a concrete slab provided by the applicant. The warehouse has a steel tejas roof so that the rainwater that falls in it will be collected in a system of pipes that takes it to cisterns. The project area is located at Carr. 9936 Km. 1.6 Lot C-1, Bo. Río Piedras within the Municipality of Las Piedras. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural

purposes for over the past 30 years.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@18.207280150000003,-65.86723378790475,14z



Counties: Las Piedras 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. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

REPTILES

NAME STATUS

Puerto Rican Boa Chilabothrus inornatus

Endangered

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/ZZGAHRBSXBHERPGRVK67LDWGL4/

documents/generated/7140.pdf

AMPHIBIANS

NAME STATUS

Guajon Eleutherodactvlus cooki

Threatened

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6963

General project design guidelines:

 $\underline{https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/ZZGAHRBSXBHERPGRVK67LDWGL4/}$

documents/generated/7136.pdf

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 <u>National Wildlife Refuge</u> system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

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

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act^1 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act^2 .

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 below.

- 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 below.

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

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

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.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

Phone: (787) 834-1600 Fax: (787) 851-7440 Email Address: <u>CARIBBEAN ES@FWS.GOV</u>

In Reply Refer To: November 30, 2023

Project code: 2024-0021300 Project Name: PR-RGRW-04515

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-04515' for specified threatened

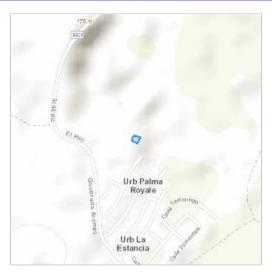
and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to

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 November 30, 2023, Patricia Carmenatty used the Caribbean DKey; dated October 12, 2023, 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-04515'. The project is located in Las Piedras County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@18.207280150000003,-65.86723378790475,14z



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-04515':

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-04515 consist of installing a 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse with a rain collection system integrated. The warehouse/rain collection system will be installed on a concrete slab provided by the applicant. The warehouse has a steel tejas roof so that the rainwater that falls in it will be collected in a system of pipes that takes it to cisterns. The project area is located at Carr. 9936 Km. 1.6 Lot C-1, Bo. Río Piedras within the Municipality of Las Piedras. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for over the past 30 years.

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
Guajon (Eleutherodactylus cooki)	Threatened	No effect
Puerto Rican Boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)	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.

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-04515

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-04515':

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-04515 consist of installing a 20' x 20' x 12' warehouse with a rain collection system integrated, and the purchase of disc harrow, harrow, tractor, taladora and an UTV. The warehouse/rain collection system will be installed on a concrete slab provided by the applicant. The warehouse has a steel tejas roof so that the rainwater that falls in it will be collected in a system of pipes that takes it to cisterns. The project area is located at Carr. 9936 Km. 1.6 Lot C-1, Bo. Río Piedras within the Municipality of Las Piedras. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for over the past 30 years.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@18.207280150000003,-65.86723378790475,14z



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

 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")?

Yes

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

Automatically answered

Yes

11. Does the proposed project intersect the Coquí Guajón area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes