

Environmental Assessment

Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects

24 CFR Part 58

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-02046

Project Name: Yamilka S. Padilla Ríos

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico / Lares, PR

Preparer: Patricia Carmenatty

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Permit and Environmental Compliance Officers: Sally Acevedo Cosme, Pedro de León Rodríguez, 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:
(environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov)

Project Location:

Barrio Bartolo, Sector Calvache. Carr. 128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2, Lares, PR 00669

Cistern location: latitude 18.202217 longitude -66.843514

Storage shed location: latitude 18.20189 longitude -66.84282

Greenhouses to repair location: latitude 18.202224 longitude -66.843452

Parcel cadastral: 238-000-003-56-000

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

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02046 consist of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area. The washing area will be located at the entrance of the greenhouse and all pipes from the cistern to the washing area will be located above ground. The greenhouse materials are to repair

two large existing greenhouses measuring 80' x 22' and 30' x 14'. The replacement of the tubes that will be anchored two feet deep will involve ground disturbance. The storage shed and the 600-gallon cistern will be installed on bare soil. The proposed area for the storage shed and cistern will undergo thorough minor leveling to ensure that both are stable in their respective areas. The cistern will be installed on high ground, and the pipelines above the ground so that the stored water descends by gravity to the greenhouses. The water needed to fill the cistern will be supplied from an existing PRASA intake on the property and all new pipes will be above ground. The project area is located at PR-128, ramal 4428, Km 3.2 within the Municipality of Lares. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 20 years.

A site Map is included in Figure 1, illustrating the location of the cistern, storage shed and the repair of the two greenhouses 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 island wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. This agricultural project associated with the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area 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 area where the cistern and the storage will be placed and where the greenhouse will be repaired has a flat topography. On the surface we observed grasses, trees, vines and bushes. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with the cistern, storage shed and the repair of the two greenhouses placements.

Funding Information

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

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$10,595.78

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$10,595.78.

Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities

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

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6		
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project consists only of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area and will have no impact on any Airports. The site is located 107,387 feet from the nearest major civil airport (Eugenio Maria de Hostos in Mayagüez) and 304,278 feet from nearest the military airport (Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in San Juan). See the attached Airport map Runway Protection Zone, Figure 2. The project is in compliance with the HUD's Airport Hazard regulations without further evaluation.
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. The project is located 85,382 feet northwest of the nearest Coastal Barrier Resource System, PR-58P. 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 of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is located in a Zone X, Panel 72000C1055H, 4/19/2005 on the FEMA FIRM. The project does not require flood insurance or is excepted from flood insurance. See attached Flood Map, Figure 4. The project is in compliance with the Flood Disaster Protection regulations without further evaluation.
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS 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 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project consists of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area 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 county by year for all criteria pollutants in Appendix 2.
Coastal Zone Management Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is located 71,578 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	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project consists of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming

<p>24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)</p>		<p>equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area 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 no site of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet from the project site.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances requirements. See attached Toxics Map, Figure 6.</p>
<p>Endangered Species</p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>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 (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>), PR Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>), PR Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>), PR Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>) and PR Harlequin butterfly (<i>Atlantea tulita</i>) 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 since it will only be the repairs of existing structures. This farm equipment will be around a space that has been maintained that way for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>The Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application was used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species for this project.</p>

		<p>Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk and Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk, which determined that the proposed actions for this project would have "No Effect" (NE) for these species.</p> <p>In a response from USFWS dated February 12, 2024, USFWS and PRDOH concurred with a finding of that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican harlequin Butterfly and Puerto Rican parrot. In addition, the closer Final Critical Habitat is located 24,135 feet from the project location.</p> <p>For conservation measures guideline for Harlequin butterfly see USFWS Determination Letter in Appendix 4. 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.</p> <p>https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/guideline/design/population/156/office/41430.pdf</p> <p>This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. See attached USFWS Determination Letter and Consultation Package in Appendix 4. See attached Endangered Species map, Figure 7.</p>
<p>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists only of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table</p>

		materials and post-harvest washing area and does not include development, construction or rehabilitation that will increase residential density. The project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable Hazard requirements.
<p>Farmlands Protection</p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. All areas under the project site are not prime farmland. The scope of work includes the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area, 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.</p>
<p>Floodplain Management</p> <p>Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located in a Zone X, Panel, 72000C1055H, 4/19/2005 (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).</p>
<p>Historic Preservation</p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site was visited on October 26, 2023, by SOI-qualified archaeologist. Based on the nature and scope of the undertaking, the APE has been defined as the area potentially affected by ground-disturbing activities related to the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed and the repair of two greenhouses. Documentation with photographs and maps was subsequently submitted to SHPO (attached Appendix 1). In a response from PR SHPO dated December</p>

		4, 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.
<p>Noise Abatement and Control</p> <p>Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists only of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area 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.</p>
<p>Sole Source Aquifers</p> <p>Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Safe Drinking Water Act without further evaluation.</p>
<p>Wetlands Protection</p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Wild and Scenic Rivers</p> <p>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 366,924 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. See Map, Figure 12. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Based on the scope of work for this project, there will be no additional impact on low-income or minority residents. This proposed activity will not have a negative impact on Environmental Justice. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section.

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

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

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

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
LAND DEVELOPMENT		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land	2	The proposed action is continued agricultural use of property which is compatible with a zoning code of A-4 (General Rural) and existing land use is SREP-AH

Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design		(Specially Protected Rustic Land – Agricultural and Hydric) 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 the project area has been classified as Anones clay loam 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded (AoF2). This soil is on strongly dissected sides and tops of ridges in the uplands. This soil is not suitable for cultivation. The landslide data indicates high to very high landslide susceptibility. However, 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 purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area on an existing agricultural farm. No power is needed to operate. The cistern will be installed on high ground, and the pipelines above the ground so that the stored water descends by gravity to the greenhouses.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		
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 Lares, 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	2	<p>In the project area within a one-mile radius:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people of color are 100% compared to PR average of 96% • 71 % of the people are low income compared to PR average of 70% • 12% of the people are unemployed compared to PR average of 15% <p>The proposed activities for the installation of the cistern, storage shed and the repair of two greenhouses will have a positive impact on creating jobs for local people. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section. See EJSscreen Report in Appendix 3.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area 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 purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials,

		infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area 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 purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area 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 cistern will be installed on high ground, and the pipelines above the ground so that the stored water descends by gravity to the greenhouses. The water needed to fill the cistern will be supplied from an existing PRASA intake on the property. The proposed project will have no impact on the water supply.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area 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 purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest

	washing area for an agricultural site and will have no impact on transportation and accessibility.
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Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The proposed project will be situated on previous agriculture property and will have no impact to unique natural features or water resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The proposed project will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity. There may be wildlife attracted to the cistern, storage shed and two greenhouses 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 26, 2023, Jaqueline Lopez, SOI-Qualified Archaeologist. Field Site inspection was performed by Yazmin Acevedo on September 2, 2023.

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/npas/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 purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area 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 cistern, storage shed and the two greenhouses. 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 purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area 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	<p>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.</p> <p>Conservation measures were provided by the Service will be implemented prior to and during the project activities to avoid and minimize impacts to the Puerto Rican harlequin Butterfly and Puerto Rican parrot. For conservation measures guideline for Harlequin butterfly see USFWS Determination Letter in Appendix 4.</p>

Determination:

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

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

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

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

Preparer Signature:  Date: 2/15/2024

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

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: April 2, 2024

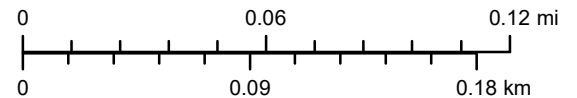
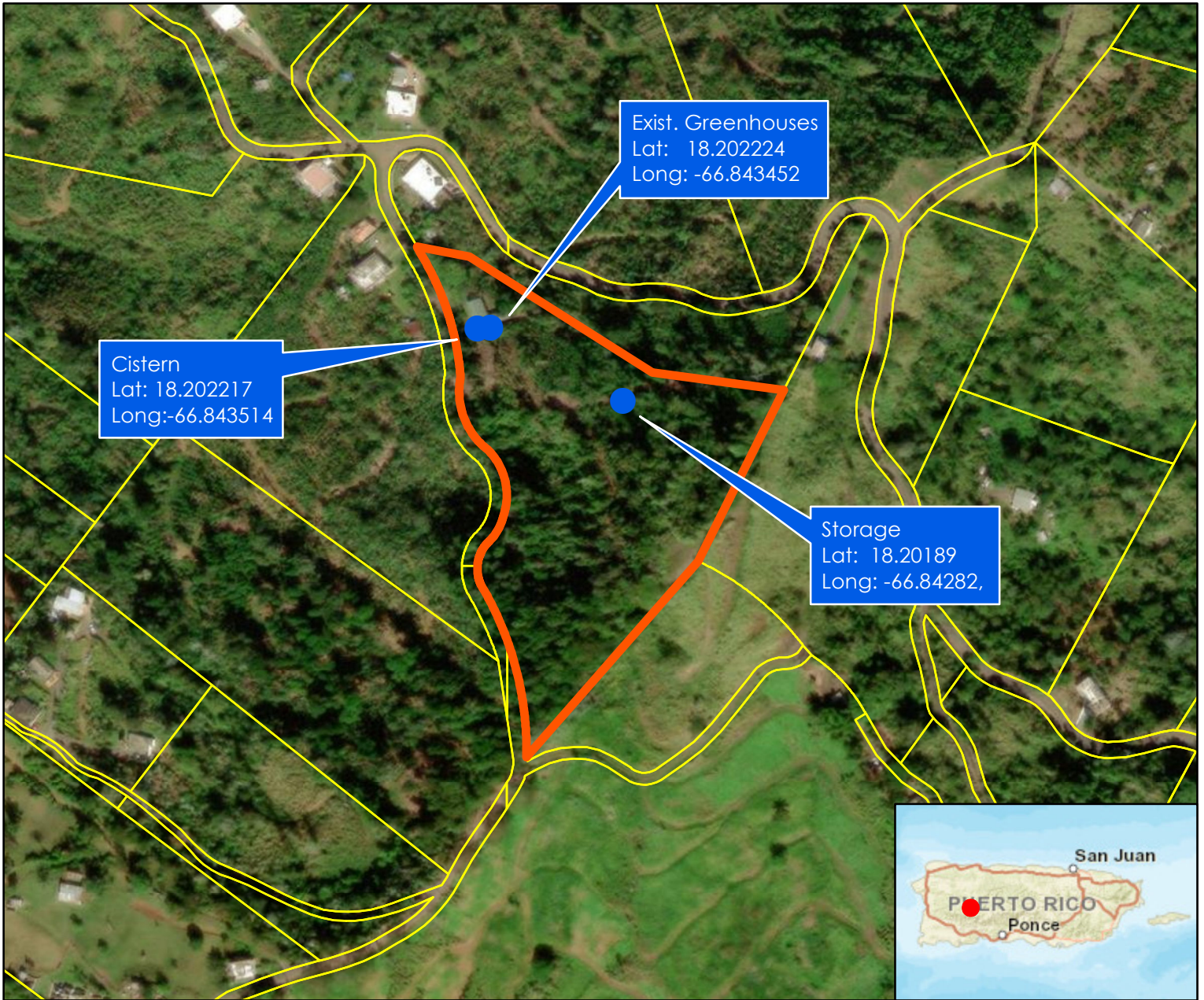
Name/Title: Mónica M. Machuca Ríos / Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist

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

Figures

Location: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structures
- 02046 Parcela
- CRIM_Parcels

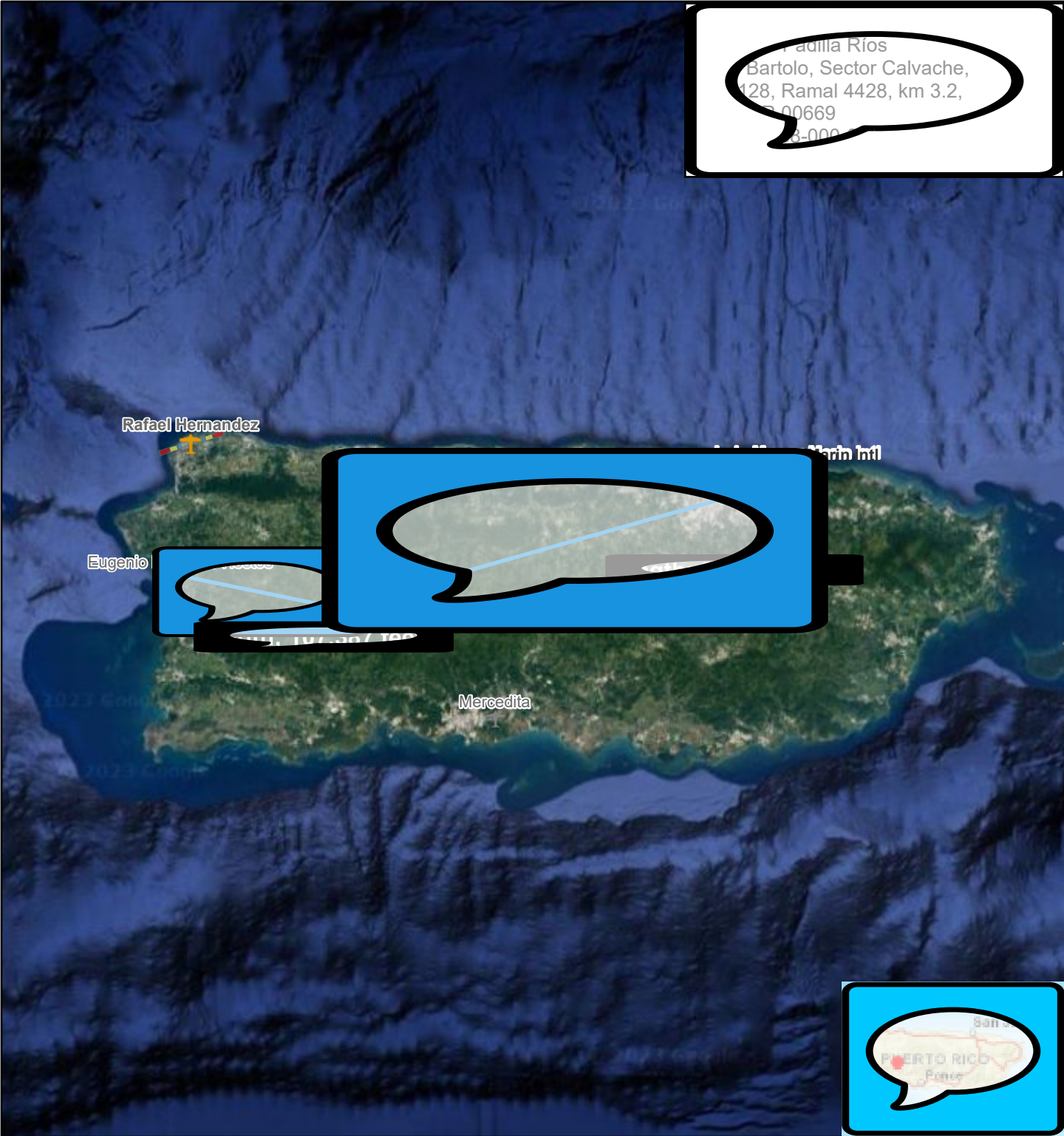
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google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



Source

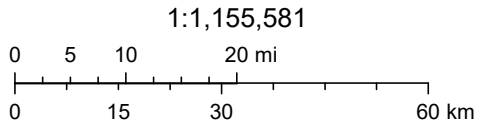
Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>

Padilla Ríos
Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
00669
8-000



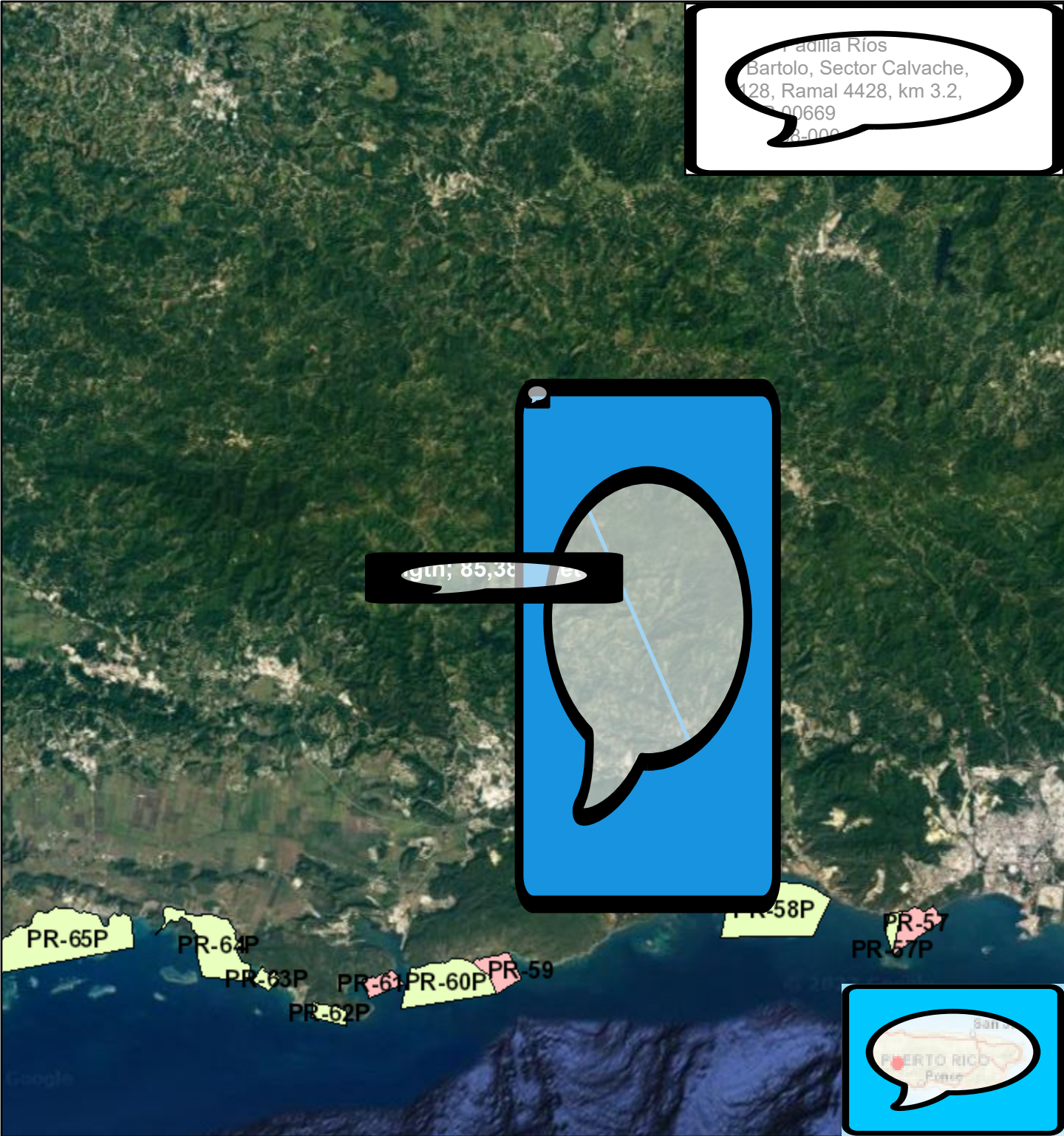
10/26/2023, 1:53:53 PM

- Accident Potential Zone
- Clear Zone
- APZ 1
- APZ 2
- RGRW-02046
- ✈ USA Airports Military
- ✈ USA Civil Airports



Protection Zones
Military Airports
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
a-faa.com

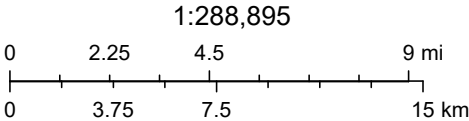
Padilla Ríos
Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
00669
787-000



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CBRS Units

- Otherwise Protected Area
- System Unit

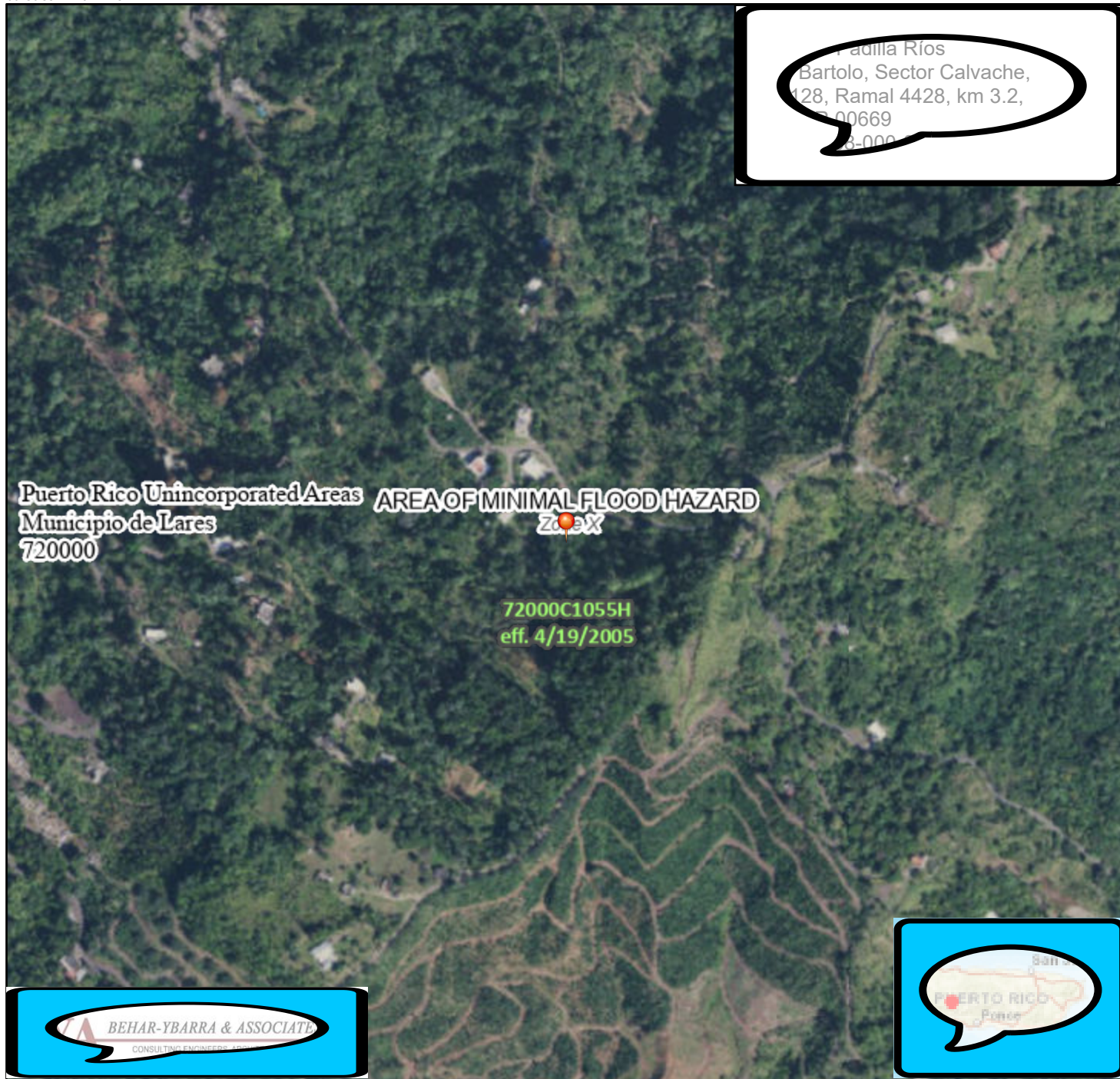


U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS):
www.fws.gov/programs/conservation

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette

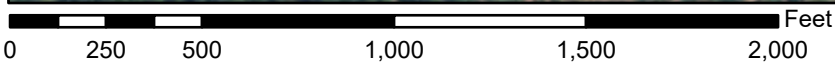


66°50'55"W 18°12'25"N



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

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A, V, A99
		With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR
		Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D
OTHER AREAS		NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X
		Effective LOMRs
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D
		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
OTHER FEATURES		20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance
		17.5 Water Surface Elevation
		Coastal Transect
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
		Jurisdiction Boundary
		Coastal Transect Baseline
		Profile Baseline
		Hydrographic Feature
MAP PANELS		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped
		The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.



1:6,000

66°50'18"W 18°11'51"N

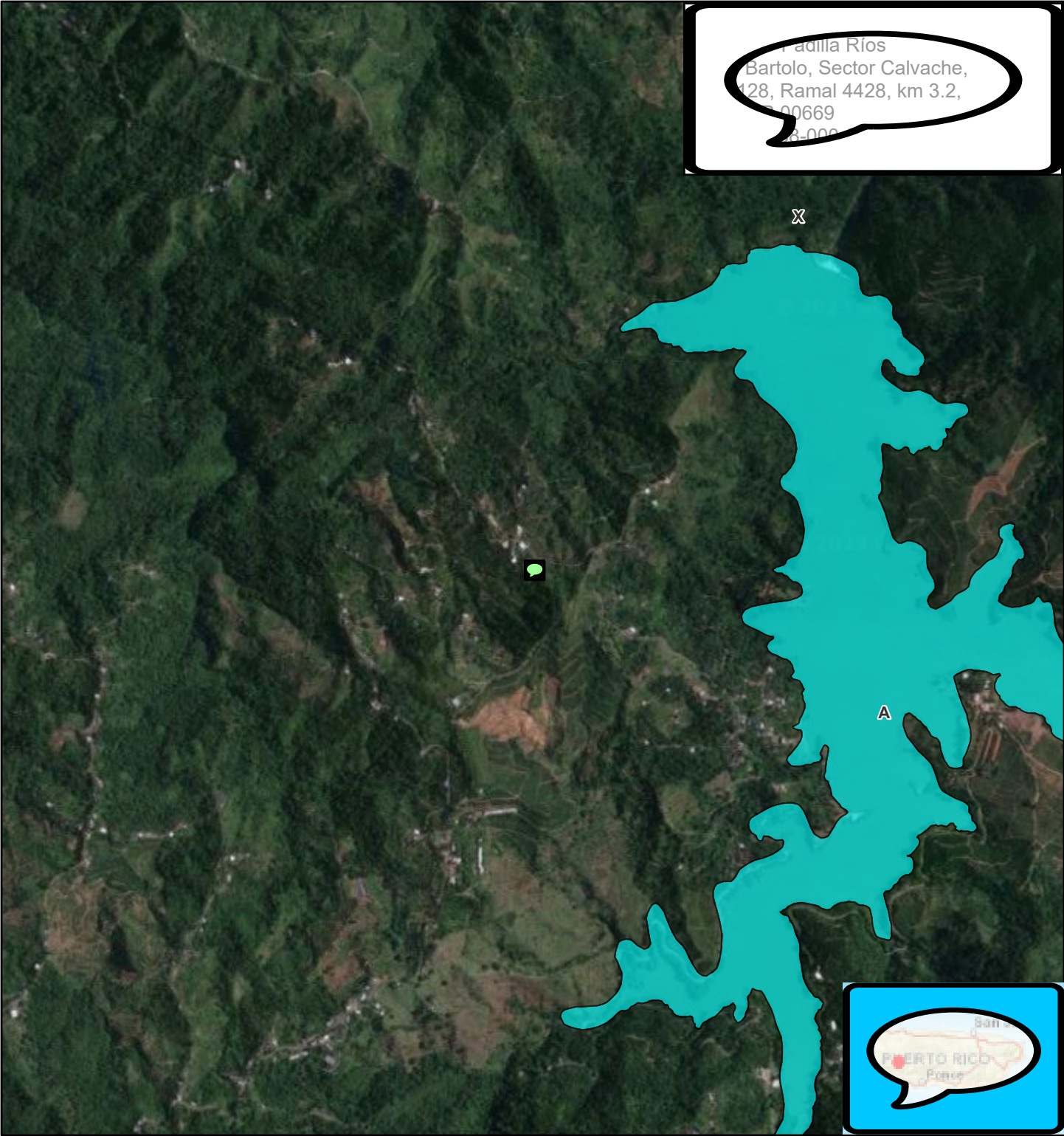
Basemap Imagery Source: USGS National Map 2023

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 10/26/2023 at 2:37 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

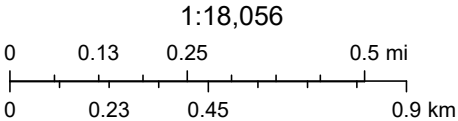
Padilla Ríos
Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
00669
787-000



10/26/2023, 2:10:11 PM

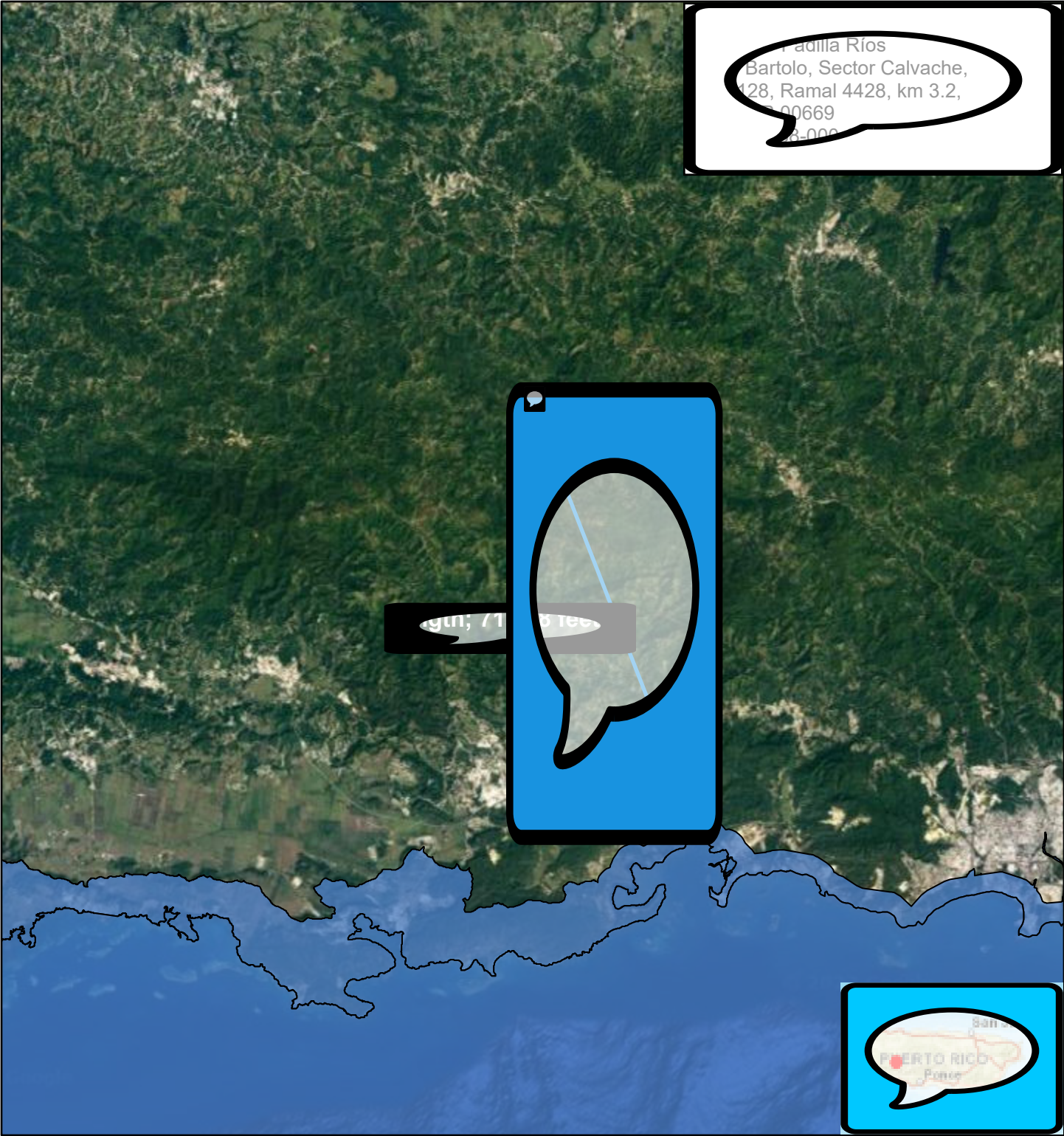
FEMA_FIRM - FEMA_FLOOD_HAZARD_AREAS

- Special Flood Hazard Areas
- Other Areas



PR-RGRW-02046 CZM

Padilla Ríos
Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
00669
783-0000

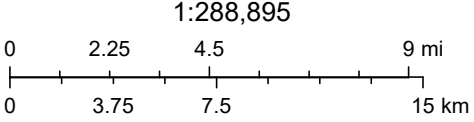


71 3 75

10/26/2023, 2:06:00 PM

PR CoastalZoneManagementActBoundary

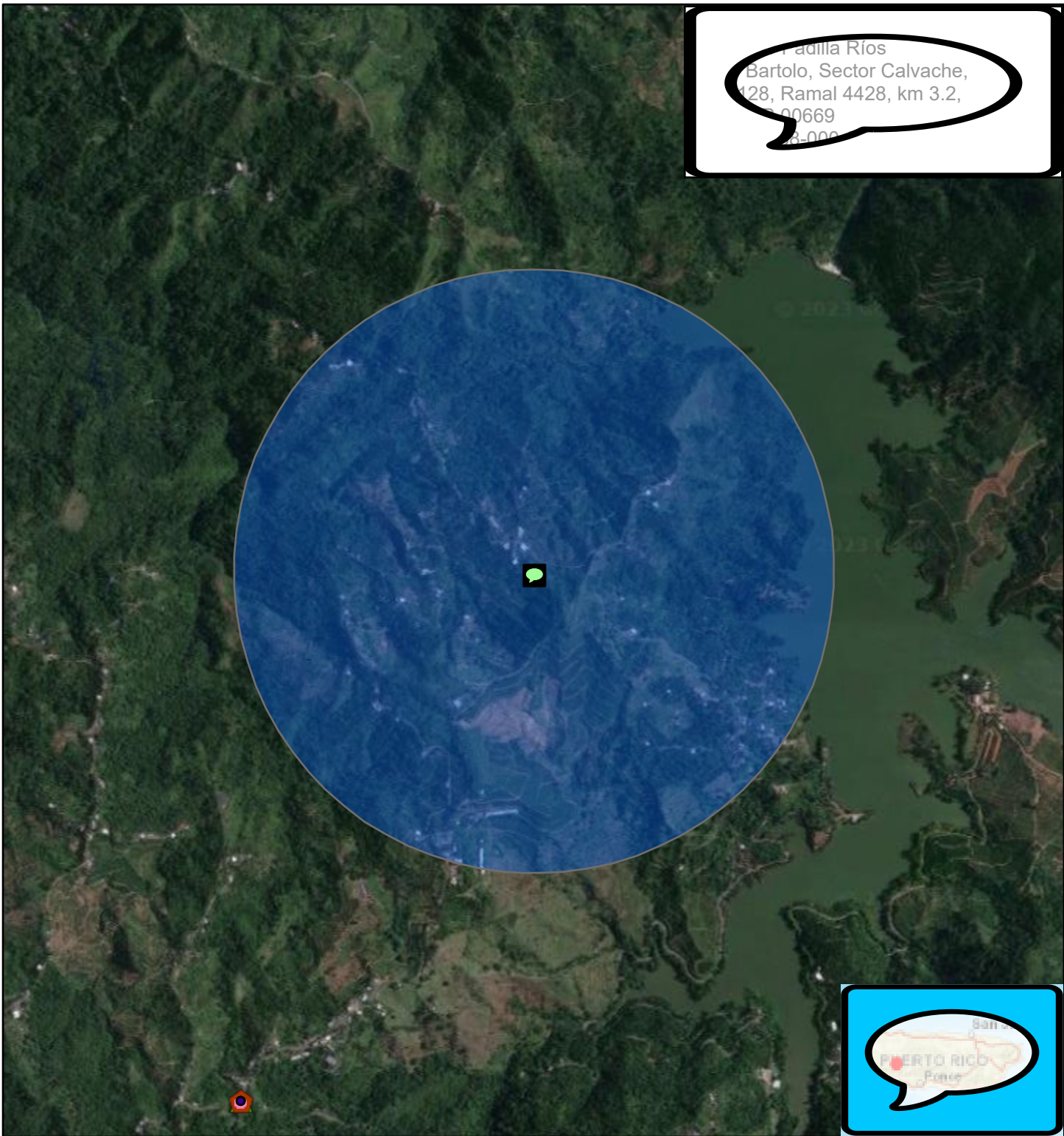
RGRW-02046



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office for Coastal Management (NOAA/OCM)
Series no.

PR-RGRW-02046 Toxic

Padilla Ríos
Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
00669
787-000



10/26/2023, 4:09:33 PM

Buffer_of_02046_3000FT - BufferedFeatures

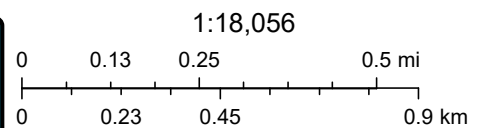
FACILITY INTERESTS

ICIS

NPDES

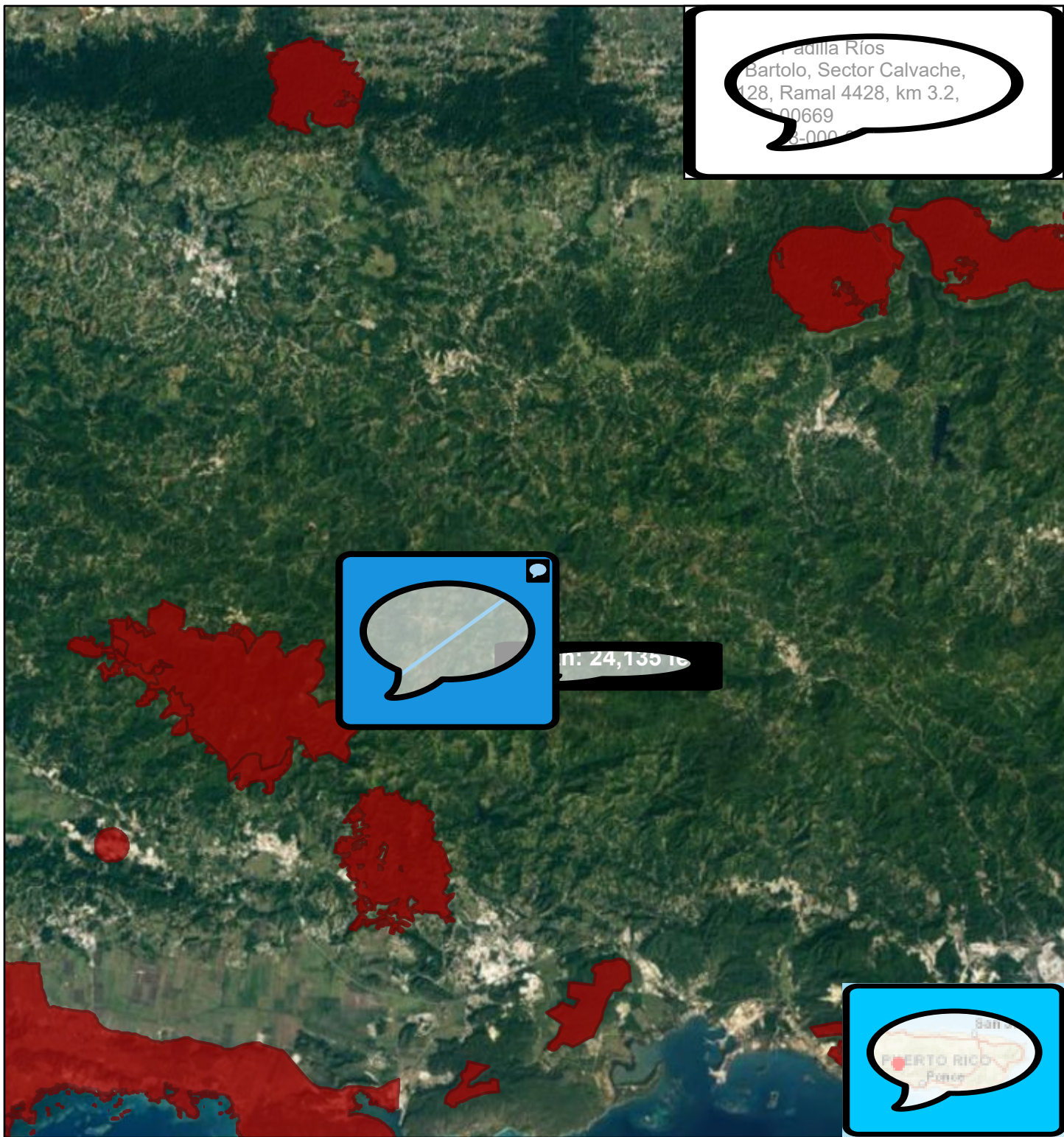
RCRA

RCRA INACTIVE



Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Registry Service (FRS)

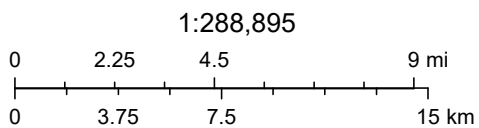
PR-RGRW-02046 Endangered Species



12/6/2023, 3:24:43 PM

 USFWS Critical Habitat - Final



1:288,895

Federal Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Response and Restoration

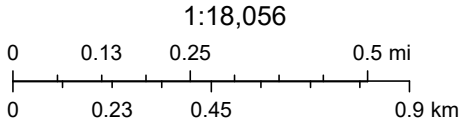
Padilla Ríos
Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
00669
83-000



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Farmland Protection

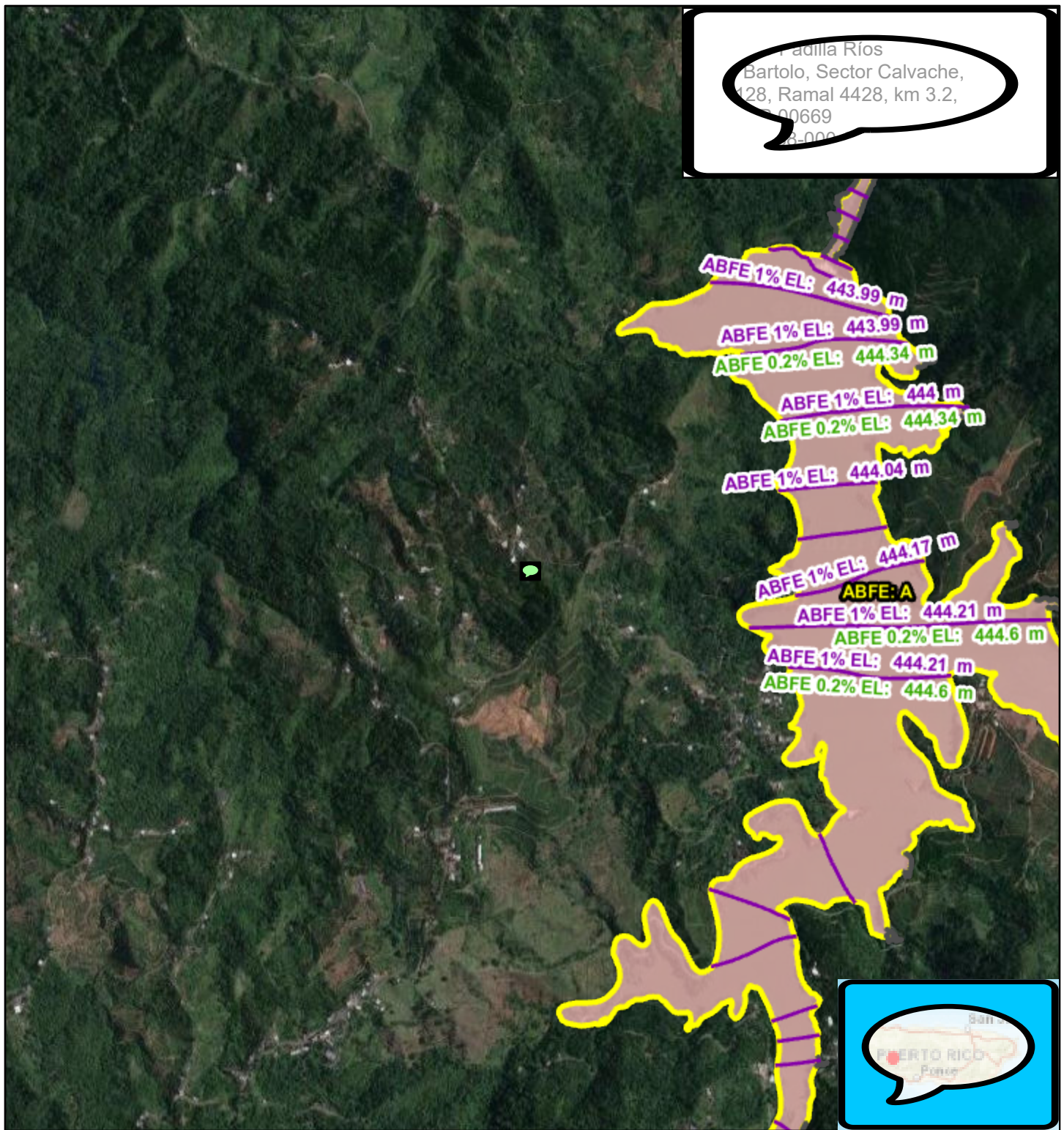
- All areas are prime farmland
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Not prime farmland



Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
National Wetland Inventory Geographic Database (gssurgo)
2002

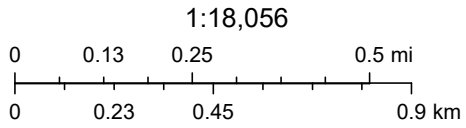


Padilla Ríos
Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
00669
787-000

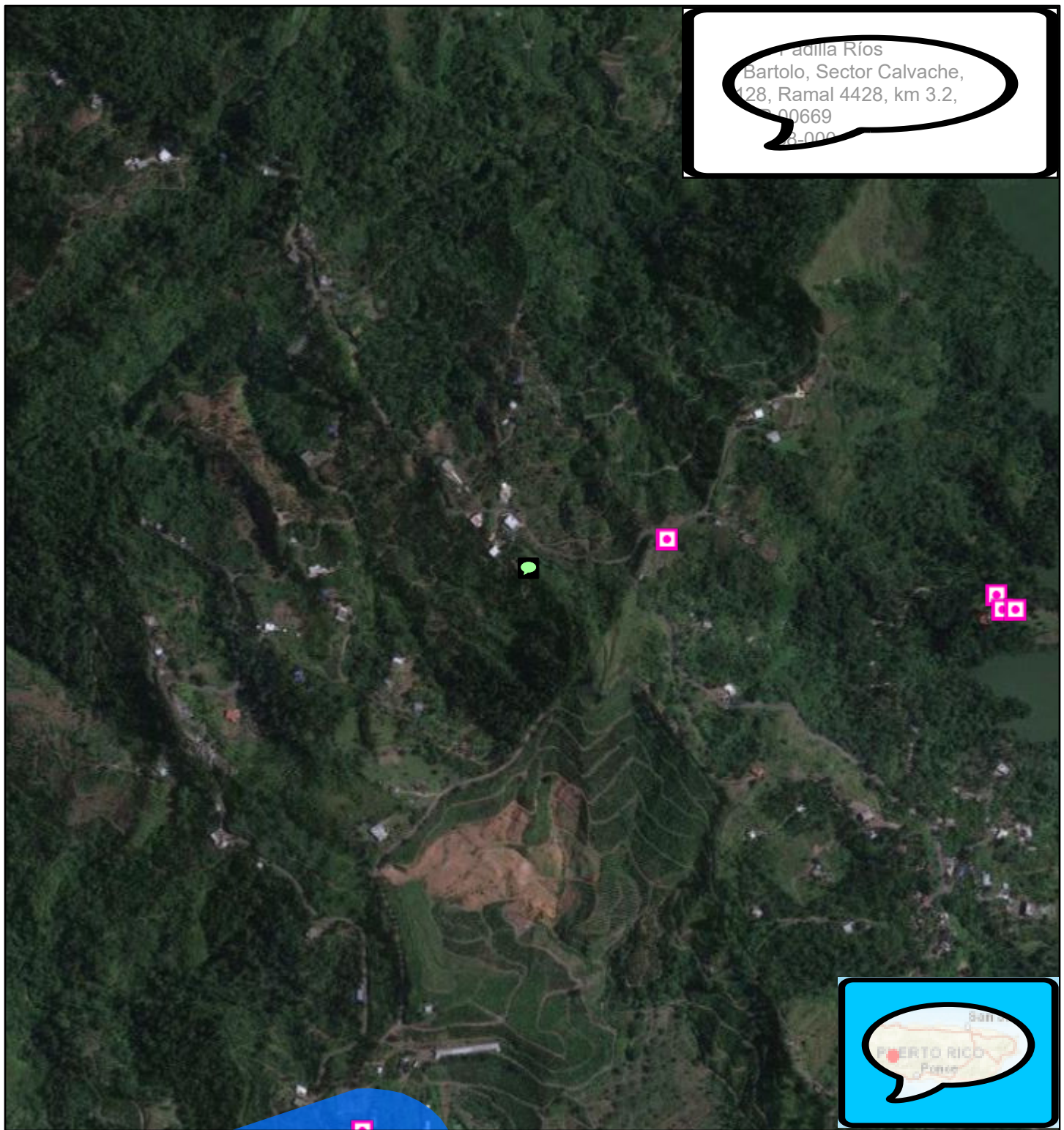


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- Flood Hazard Zone
- A
 - X 0.2% Annual Chance Flood
 - Zone/BFE Boundary
- Flood Hazard Extent
- 1% Annual Chance Flood
 - 0.2% Annual Chance Flood
 - Advisory Base Flood Elevation (zoom in to make visible)

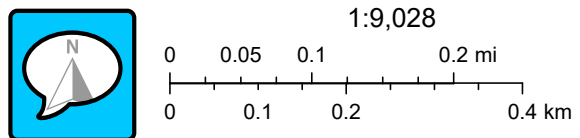


Padilla Ríos
Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
00669
787-000



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- Cultural_Resources - Cultural Value Places
- Cultural_Resources - Archeological Resources
- PR-RGRW-020



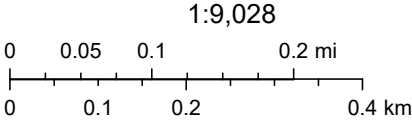
National Park Service (NPS) - National Register of Historic Places
www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm
Information Office (2023)



12/6/2023, 4:28:06 PM

WETLANDS - National Wetlands Inventory

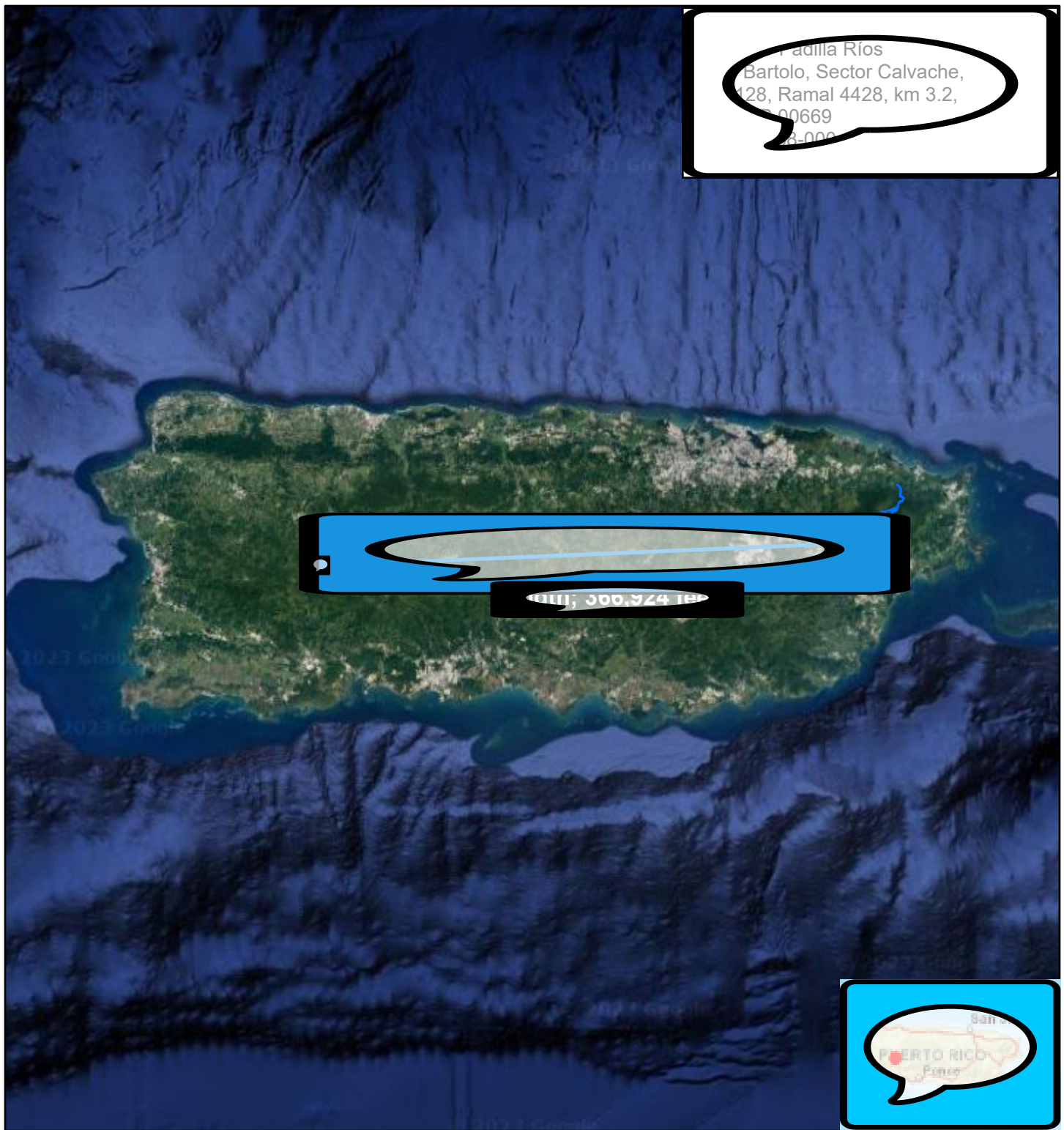
- Lake
- Riverine
- Hidrografia - Oficina Plan de Agua
- PR-RGRW-02046



1:9,028



Padilla Ríos
Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
00669
787-000



000; 500,974 Te



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— National Wild and Scenic River Line

PR-RGRW-020



1:1,155,581
0 5 10 20 mi
0 15 30 60 km

Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
Wild and Scenic Rivers System
Rivers of

Appendix 1



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

December 04, 2023

Lauren Bair Poche

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

SHPO: 12-01-23-08 PUERTO RICO DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR RE-GROW PR URBAN-RURAL AGRICULTURAL RE-GROW PROGRAM, PR-RGRW-02046, YAMILKA S. PADILLA RÍOS, CARR. 128, RAMAL 4428, KM 3.2, LARES, PUERTO RICO

Dear Ms. Poche,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

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



December 1, 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-02046 – Yamilka S Padilla Ríos – Carr. 128, Ramal 4428, Km. 3.2, Lares, 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 Yamilka S Padilla Ríos located at Carr. 128, Ramal 4428, Km. 3.2, in the municipality of Lares. The undertaking for this project includes the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, greenhouse materials (infrastructure and table materials) and the purchase of a tractor, farming equipment, and post-harvest washing area. The greenhouse materials are to repair two large existing greenhouses measuring 80' x 22' and 30' x 14' and included the replacement of supports that will be anchored two feet deep will involve ground disturbance. The storage shed and the 600-gallon cistern will be installed on bare soil. The proposed area for the storage shed and cistern will undergo clearing and leveling to ensure stable installation. The cistern will be installed on high ground, and the water pipelines above the ground so that the stored water descends by gravity to the greenhouses.

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

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


Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Lauren B. Poche'.

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		
Applicant: Yamilka S. Padilla Ríos		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02046	City: Lares	

Project Location: Carr. 128, Ramal 4428, Km. 3.2	
Project Coordinates: 18.20189 -66.84282, 18.202224 -66.843452, 18.202217 -66.843514	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 238-000-003-56-000	
Type of Undertaking: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair/Improvements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): n/a	Property Size (acres): 5.15

SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jaqueline López Meléndez
Date Reviewed: October 26, 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-02046 consist of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, a tractor, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area. The greenhouse materials are to repair two large existing greenhouses measuring 80' x 22' and 30' x 14'. The replacement of the tubes that will be anchored two feet deep will involve ground disturbance. The storage shed and the 600-gallon cistern will be installed on bare soil. The proposed area for the storage shed and cistern will undergo thorough minor leveling to ensure that both are stable in their respective areas. The cistern will be installed on high ground, and the pipelines above the ground so that the stored water descends by gravity to the greenhouses. The water needed to fill the cistern will be supplied from a PRASA intake on the property. The project area is located at PR-128, ramal 4428, Km 3.2 within the Municipality of Lares. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 20 years.

Area of Potential Effects

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

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
Applicant: Yamilka S. Padilla Ríos	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02046	City: Lares

Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that there are no reported archaeological sites, archaeological materials of significant cultural properties within a half-mile (0.50 miles) radius of the project location. The closest reported archaeological site to the PR-RGRW-02046 project area is the historic site Hacienda Buena Vista (SHPO: LR0200012) located 0.55 miles southwest. The proposed project is located in Lares, at an altitude between 1,968 and 2,066 feet above sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area is within mapped soil series: Anones clay loam. The project area APE is in Aof2. The nearest bodies of water are: Guayo lagoon, located 0.46 miles east and an unnamed creek located 0.42 miles north from the project area. The coast is approximately 17.31 miles south from the project area.


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

The soil in the project area has been classified as Anones clay loam 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded (Aof2). This soil is on strongly dissected sides and tops of ridges in the uplands. This soil is not suitable for cultivation. Slope, runoff, shallowness to saprolite, past erosion, and hazard of further erosion are limitations.

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 19, 2023, we visually inspected the project area. The area where the cistern and the storage will be placed and where the greenhouse will be repaired has a flat topography. On the surface we observed grasses, trees, vines and bushes. Visibility is good despite the vegetation. No cultural remains can be observed on the surface of the parcel.

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. There are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project location. There are no known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the Area of Potential Effect of case PR-RGRW-02046 is located. The construction of public roads and agricultural infrastructure has minimally impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project activities.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Applicant: Yamilka S. Padilla Ríos		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02046	City: Lares	

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

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

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

This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

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



Applicant: Yamilka S. Padilla Ríos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02046

City: Lares

Project (PR-RGRW-02046) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)



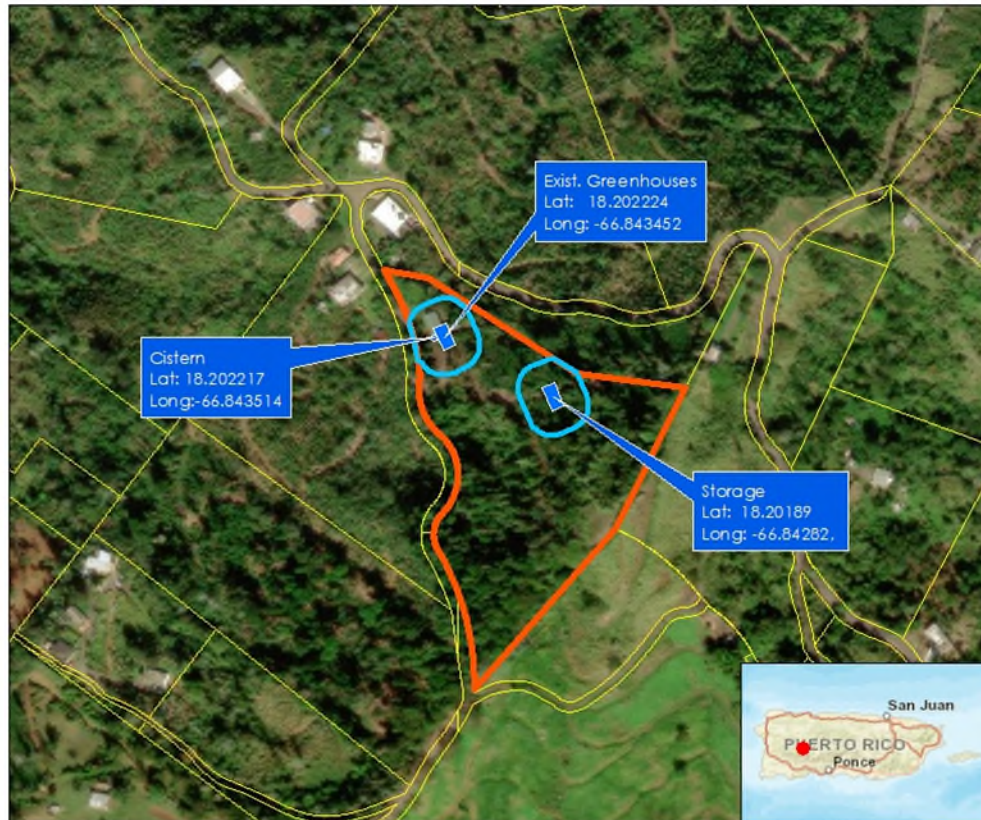
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Carre. Isla Verde J. B. Calle Ponce 885, Alhambra, San Juan P.R. 00920 Tel: (787) 769-3230

Application ID: PR-RGRW-02046

Yamilka S Padilla Ríos
Barrio Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
Carr. 128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
Lares, PR 00669
Catastro:238-000-003-56-000
Lat: See List Below, Long: See List Below

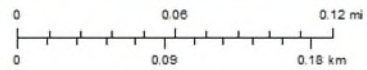
Area of Potential Effect

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structures
- Area of Potential Effect 15 Mts.
- 02046 Parcela
- CRIM_Parcels



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, UIGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Source: Esri, Mapbox, Satbird Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth.



Source

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

Applicant: Yamilka S. Padilla Ríos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02046

City: Lares

Project (PR-RGRW-02046) Location - Aerial Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Carroll, Suite 1000 J.D. Calle Ponce, 55A, Ponce, PR, 00731 (787) 750-3330

Application ID: PR-RGRW-02046

Yamilka S Padilla Ríos
Barrio Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
Carr. 128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
Lares, PR 00669
Catastro:238-000-003-56-000
Lat: See List Below, Long: See List Below

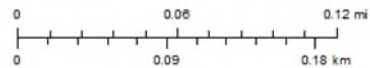
Location: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structures
- 02046 Parcela
- CRIM_Parcels



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Ireland), SDC, Swisstopo, GEBCO, Esri, Swisstopo, contributors, and the GIS User Community. Source: Esri, Mapbox, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

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

Applicant: Yamilka S. Padilla Ríos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02046

City: Lares

Project (PR-RGRW-02046) Location - USGS Topographic Map

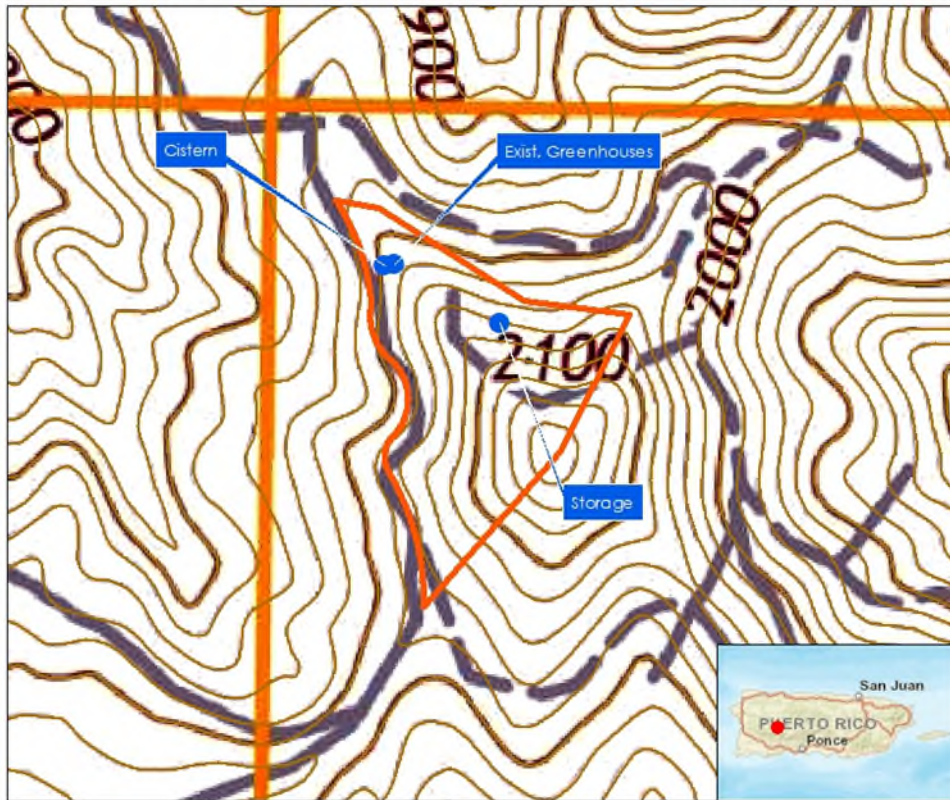
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Carretera 9000, Suite 400, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00906-1000

Application ID: PR-RGRW-04065

Yamilka S Padilla Ríos
Barrio Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
Carr. 128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
Lares, PR 00669
Catastro:238-000-003-56-000
Lat: See List Below, Long: See List Below

Location: USGS Topographic Map

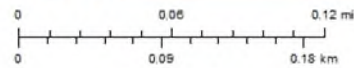
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structures
- 02046 Parcela
- Countour Interval 20 Feet

Quadrangle: Aguadilla



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



Source

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

Project (PR-RGRW-02046) Location – Soils Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Corporación, Avenida 9 de Julio 218, Calle Comercio 1004, Alamo, San Juan, P.R. 00909 Tel: (787) 750-3230

Application ID: PR-RGRW-02046

Yamilka S Padilla Ríos
Barrio Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
Carr. 128, Ramal 4426, km 3.2,
Lares, PR 00669
Catastro:238-000-003-56-000
Lat: See List Below, Long: See List Below

Soil Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

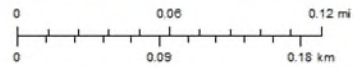


Legend:

- Applicant Structures
- 02046 Parcela
- Soil Map Unit Symbol

Soil Map Unit Symbol

AoF2 - Anones clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded
CoF2 - Consumo clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes
MwF2 - Morado clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes



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
Sources: Esri, Natural Earth, Geographic, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

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

Applicant: Yamilka S. Padilla Ríos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02046

City: Lares

Project (PR-RGRW-02046) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Carretera, Calle Y Duro # 9, Calle Ponce 58A, Alamo, San Juan, PR 00925 Tel: (787) 762-3220

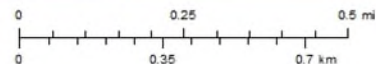
Application ID: PR-RGRW-02046

Yamilka S Padilla Ríos
Barrio Bartolo, Sector Calvache
Carr. 128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
Lares, PR 00669
Catastro:238-000-003-56-000
Lat: See List Below, Long: See List Below

Previous Investigations: Aerial Map
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Cistem	Lat: 18.202217	Long: -66.843514
Exist. Greenhouses	Lat: 18.202224	Long: -66.843452
Storage	Lat: 18.20189	Long: -66.84282



Service layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, U.S.G., Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGIS, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Sources: Esri, Mapbox, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Legend:

- Applicant Structures
- 02046 Parcela
- 0.5 Mille (0.80Km.) Buffer

Source

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

Applicant: Yamilka S. Padilla Ríos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02046

City: Lares

Project (PR-RGRW-02046) Location with Previous Investigations - Topographic Map

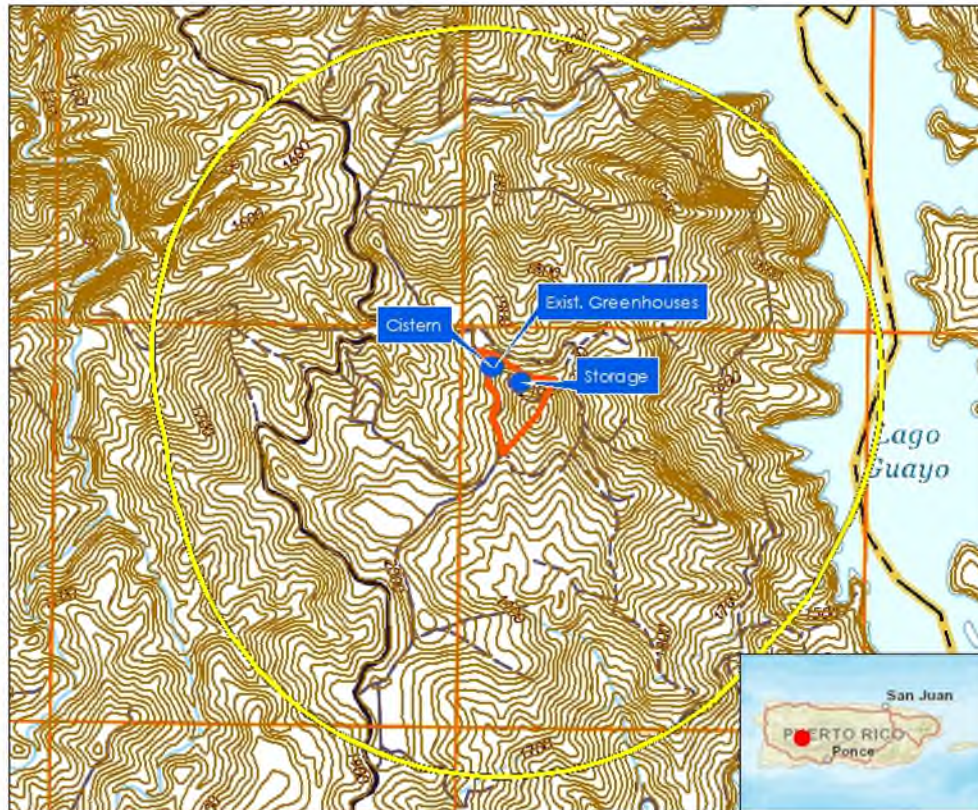
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
1996, 1999 Y BARRA & ASSOCIATES, INC., SAN JUAN, P.R. 00909

Application ID: PR-RGRW-02046

Yamilka S Padilla Rios
Barrio Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
Carr. 128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
Lares, PR 00669
Catastro:238-000-003-56-000
Lat: See List Below, Long: See List Below

Previous Investigations: USGS Topographic Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

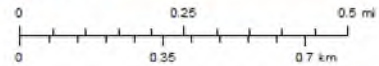


Cistern	Lat: 18.202217	Long: -66.843514
Exist. Greenhouses	Lat: 18.202224	Long: -66.843452
Storage	Lat: 18.20189	Long: -66.84282

Legend:

- Applicant Structures
- 02046 Parcela
- 0.5 Mille (0.80Km.) Buffer

Quadrangle: Monte Guilarte



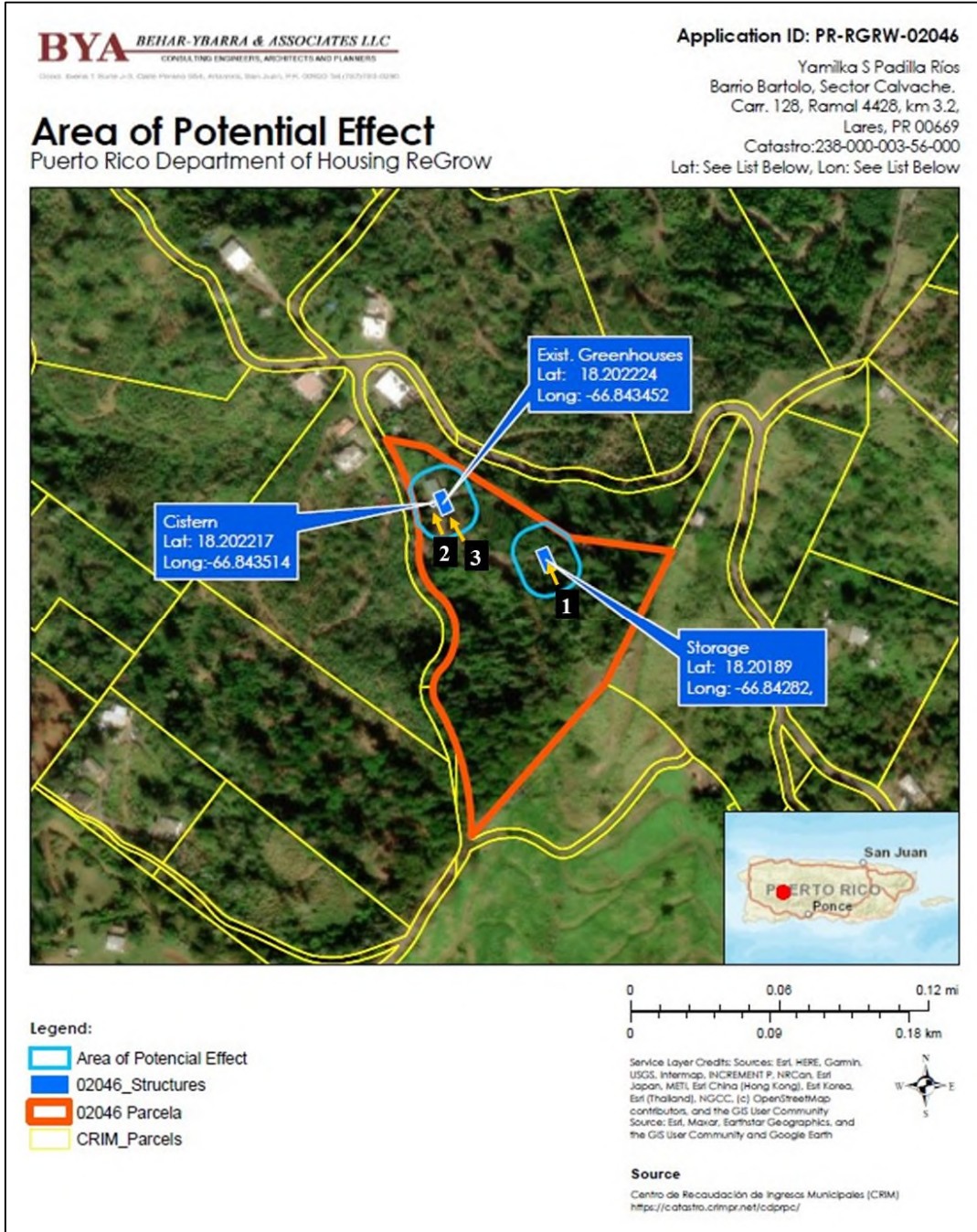
Service Layer Credits Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NOAA, Esri, Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, Esri (Ireland), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community and Geogebra.



Source

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

Photograph Key





Applicant: Yamilka S. Padilla Ríos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02046

City: Lares



Photo #: 1

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

Date: October 19, 2023



Photo #: 2

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

Date: October 19, 2023

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: Yamilka S. Padilla Ríos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02046

City: Lares



Photo #: 3

Date: October 19, 2023

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



October 20, 2022

Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

Cuartel de Ballajá Bldg.

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Re: Authorization to Submit Documents

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela:

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

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

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

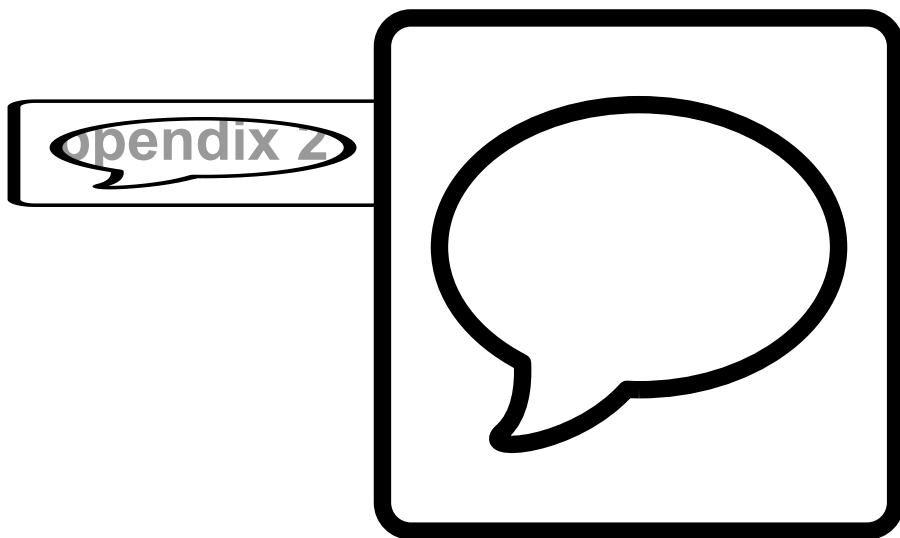
Cordially,

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

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

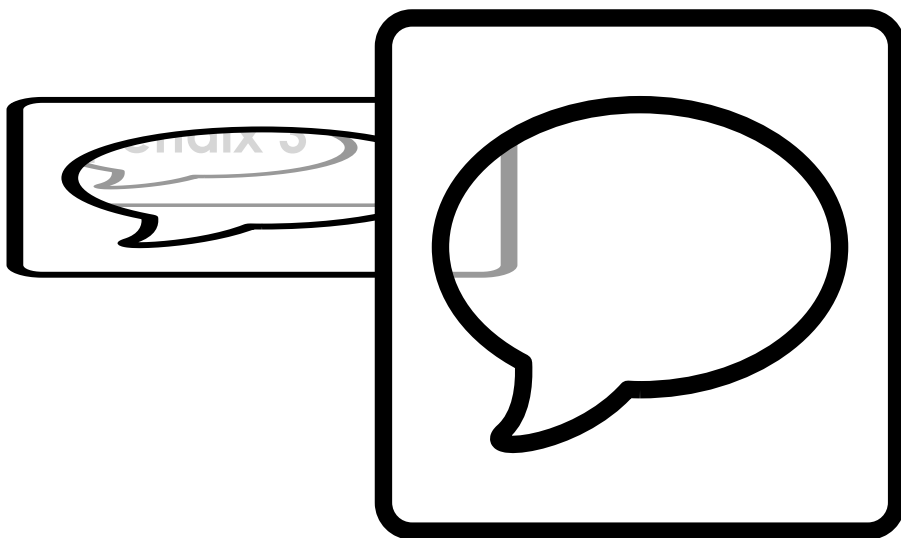
Change the State:

Important Notes


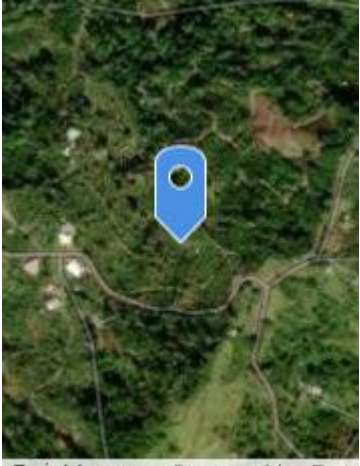
Download National Dataset: [dbf](#) | [xls](#) | [Data dictionary \(PDF\)](#)

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

Important Notes



APPLICANT/LOCATION INFORMATION	
Applicant ID:	PR-RGRW-02046
Name:	Yamilka S Padilla Ríos
Parcel ID:	
Latitude:	18.203161904947162
Longitude:	-66.84251387609568
Elevation:	
Development	
Street Address:	Barrio Bartolo, Sector Calvache. Carr. 128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2
Municipio:	Lares
Zip Code:	00669
Site Inspector:	Yazmin Acevedo
Date of Visit:	September 2, 2023
Time of Visit:	13:05

DAMAGED STRUCTURE INFORMATION			
Foundation Type:	Concrete,	Number of Stories:	1
Building Type:	Wood structure	Year Built:	-
Number of Units:	1	Data Source:	-

FIELD OBSERVATIONS		
Question	Answer	Notes
1. Is there evidence of damage from Hurricane Irma and/or Maria?	Y	
2. Is the structure occupied?	Y	
3. Are utilities connected?	Y	
4. Are there signs of poor housekeeping? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandon vehicles, pits/ponds/pools of hazardous substances, etc.)	N	
5. Are there any 55 gallon drums visible on site?	N	
Are any of the drums leaking?	N	
6. Are there any (or signs of any) underground storage tanks?	N	
7. Are there any ASTs on the parcel or an adjacent parcel?	N	
List the approximate size and contents (if known).	N/A	
8. Is there any stained soil or pavement on the parcel?	N	
9. Are there any groundwater monitoring wells on the site or adjacent place?	N	
10. Is there evidence of a faulty septic system?	N	
11. Is there distressed vegetation on the parcel?	N	
12. Is there any visible indication of mold?	N	
13. Is there any visible evidence of asbestos; chipping, flaking or peeling paint; or hazardous materials present in or on the structure?	N	
14. Are any additional site hazards observed?	N	
15. Is there any permanent standing water, such as a pond or stream, located on or immediately adjacent to the site (do not include ponding from recent rain/weather events)?	N	
16. Does the subject property have water frontage?	N	
17. Is there any indication of the presence of Wetlands?	N	
18. Are there any obvious signs of animals or birds nesting on or near the site?	N	
19. Is the applicant aware of any significant historical event, or persons associated with the structure, or of it being in a historic district/area?	N	
20. Is there a historic marker present?	N	

Evidence

Photo Direction: Southeast

Comments: Proposed Storage Area where the equipment will be storage.



Evidence

Photo Direction: West

Comments: Pathway from proposed warehouse to existing house.



Evidence

Photo Direction: East

Comments: Existing greenhouse destroyed by Hurricane María.



Evidence

Photo Direction: Northeast

Comments: Existing condition of planting tables in existing greenhouse.



Evidence

Photo Direction: N/A

Comments: Existing greenhouse cover in poor condition.



Evidence

Photo Direction: N/A

Comments: Existing greenhouses condition.



Evidence

Photo Direction: East

Comments: Proposed water cistern location which will operate by gravity.



Evidence

Photo Direction: Northeast

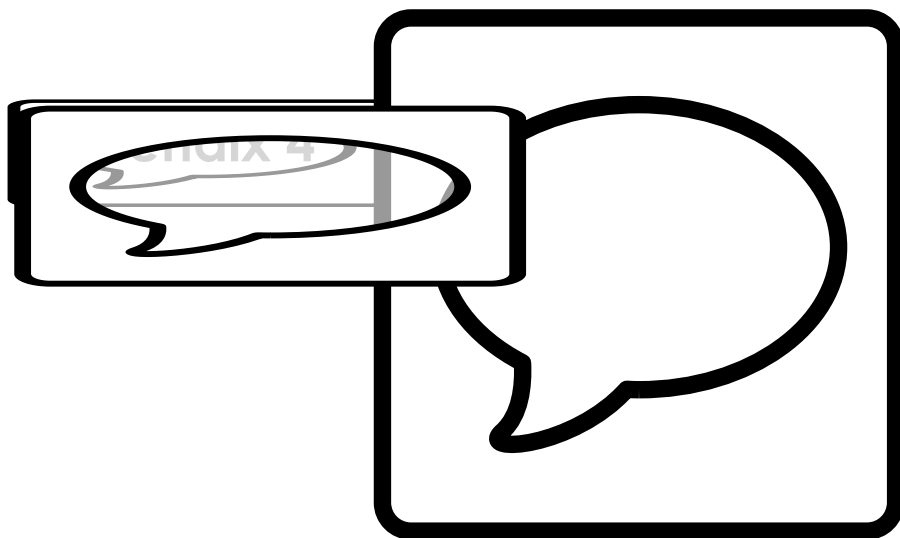
Comments: Existing greenhouse condition.



EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES					
Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.08	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.6	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.0189	0.0667	20	0.261	0
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	10	20	0	25	1
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.1	0.19	0	0.31	1
Toxic Releases to Air	140	4,300	13	4,600	27
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	1	180	0	210	4
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.089	0.16	48	0.3	33
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.055	0.15	29	0.13	46
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.12	0.47	35	0.43	36
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.064	0.76	4	1.9	12
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	0	1.7	0	3.9	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.014	2.3	60	22	70
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index	85%	83%	42	35%	97
Supplemental Demographic Index	57%	43%	87	14%	99
People of Color	100%	96%	31	39%	98
Low Income	71%	70%	41	31%	94
Unemployment Rate	12%	15%	48	6%	86
Limited English Speaking Households	98%	67%	98	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	49%	21%	97	12%	98
Under Age 5	8%	4%	87	6%	72
Over Age 64	24%	22%	60	17%	78
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>.





United States Department of the Interior

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



In Reply Refer to:
FWS/R4/CESFO/72081-Gen

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

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

Re: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-02046 Yamilka S.
Padilla, Lares, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated December 27, 2023, requesting informal consultation on the above referenced project. As per your request, our comments are provided under the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is proposing the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline (18°12'08.0"N 66°50'36.7"W), 10 feet x 12 feet storage shed (18°12'06.8"N 66°50'34.2"W), a tractor, farming equipment, greenhouse repair (18°12'08.0"N 66°50'36.4"W), infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area. The project area is located at State Road 128, ramal 4428, Km 3.2m, Sector Calvache in the municipality of Lares.

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

The Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application was used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species for this project (Project code: 2024-0023436). Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk and Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk, which determined that the proposed actions for this project would have "No Effect" (NE) for these species.

Since the land was previously used for agricultural purposes, PRDOH has determined that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican harlequin Butterfly and Puerto Rican parrot. Conservation measures previously provided by the Service will be implemented prior to and during the project activities to avoid and minimize impacts to these species.

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

Also, please be aware that the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly measures were amended to clarify how they are appropriately applied. Therefore, the Service recommends the applicant to adopt the implementation of the below updated conservation measures for the proposed actions.

1. The contractor must inform all personnel about the potential presence of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly or its occupied host plant "prickly bush" (*Oplonia spinosa*) in the project areas. A pre-work meeting should inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming this butterfly and its occupied host plant. Educational material (e.g., posters, flyers or signs with photos or illustrations of all the life stages of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (i.e., eggs, caterpillar, chrysalids and adult, and its host plant) should be prepared and available to all personnel for reference.
2. Before starting any project activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movement, the contractor must clearly delineate the boundaries of the working area in the field to avoid unnecessary habitat impacts. Once the project areas are clearly marked, and before any work activity, including site preparation, personnel with knowledge and ability to identify the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (all life stages) and the "prickly bush" must survey the areas where the work will be performed for the presence of the species and its host plant. It is important to note that the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly can be observed year-round in all its life stages; thus, oviposition (egg-laying) may occur at any time during the year.
3. If the "prickly bush" is present on the project site, try to avoid cutting it off, even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
4. If there is no prickly bush within the project area, and the butterfly is observed flying within the project area, do not harass, harm, pursue, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct, the species.
5. Adult butterflies are often observed flying near the host plant as part of their mating behavior and laying eggs. Project-related activities must stop if the prickly bush is found in the project area and the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly is observed flying in that same area. A temporary 50-meter (164 feet) buffer zone of no activity or human disturbance should be established and clearly marked around that prickly bush until the butterfly moves out on its own.

6. Once the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly has moved away, within a period of 24 to 36 hours, a search of the prickly bush that has been buffered should be conducted to determine the presence of any eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids of the butterfly on the plant. The contractor or the Applicant should send a report of the observation and its findings to caribbean_es@fws.gov after the 36-hour search is concluded.
7. If, after the initial search or after the 24 to 36-hour search, any life stage of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly is found in the prickly bush, take the following actions:
 - Clearly mark the host plant with flagging tape.
 - Establish a 10-meter (32-foot) buffer zone around the bush to protect it.
 - Eggs are typically found on the prickly bush's newly grown, tender branches. Once an egg hatches, the caterpillar moves and feeds throughout the bush. Therefore, avoid cutting off the prickly bush within the project site even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
 - Work within the 10-meter buffered area may resume when no signs of any live life stage of the butterfly are detected, which usually takes approximately 60 to 120 days.
8. For all Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly sightings (all life stages), the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where the butterfly was found must be recorded. Data should also include a photo of the butterfly (if possible) and the habitat where it was observed, site GPS coordinates, and comments on how the butterfly was detected and its behavior. All Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly sighting reports should be sent to the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Service Field Office at caribbean_es@fws.gov.
9. For questions regarding the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, the Point of Contacts are:
 - José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator:
 - Mobile: 305-304-1386
 - Office phone: 786-244-0081
 - Office Direct Line: 939-320-3120
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov
 - Carlos Pacheco, Fish and Wildlife Biologist:
 - Mobile: 786-847-5951
 - Office Direct Line: 939-320-3113
 - Email: carlos_pacheco@fws.gov

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

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

Sincerely,

Lourdes Mena
Acting Field Supervisor

drr



December 27, 2023

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

**RE: Puerto Rico Department of Housing Re-Grow Program
PR-RGRW-02046 – Yamilka S. Padilla Ríos
Endangered Species Concurrence for NLAA Determination**

Dear Mr. Muñiz:

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is requesting an informal consultation under Section 7 (a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) for the proposed project PR-RGRW-02046, located at carr. PR-128 Ramal 4428 km 3.2, barrio Bartolo, sector Calvache, Lares, PR 00669; coordinates of the water cistern location: 18.202217, -66.843514, storage location: 18.20189, -66.842820, and greenhouses to be repaired location: 18.202224, -66.843452 (see Appendix A: Figure 1 and Figure 2).

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

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02046 consist of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, a tractor, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials, and post-harvest washing area. The washing area will be located at the entrance of the greenhouse and all pipes from the cistern to the washing area will be located above ground. The greenhouse materials are to repair two large existing greenhouses measuring 80' x 22' and 30' x 14'. The replacement of the tubes that will be anchored two feet deep will involve ground disturbance. The storage shed and the 600-gallon cistern will be installed on bare soil. The proposed area for the storage shed and cistern will undergo thorough minor leveling to ensure that both are stable in their respective areas. The cistern will be installed on high ground, and the pipelines above the ground so that the stored water descends by gravity to the greenhouses. The water needed to fill the cistern will be supplied from a PRASA intake on the property and all new pipes will be above ground. The project area is located at PR-128 Ramal

4428 km 3.2 within the Municipality of Lares, Puerto Rico. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 20 years.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) has been defined as the area potentially impacted by ground disturbing activities related to the installation of the water cistern, storage and the repair of the greenhouses, see Appendix A: Figure 3.

Existing Conditions and Trends:

For the proposed project parcel 238-000-003-56-000, the area is designated as not prime farmland, see Appendix A: Figure 4. The project area is located in a rural mountainous area of Lares. The area where the cistern and the storage will be placed and where the greenhouse will be repaired has a flat topography. On the surface we observed grasses, trees, vines and bushes, refer to Appendix C. The soil in the project area has been classified as Anones clay loam 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded (AoF2). This soil is on strongly dissected sides and tops of ridges in the uplands. The land has been used for agricultural uses for over 20 years and the proposed project will not change the land use associated with these placements. In addition, the closer Final Critical Habitat is located 24,135 feet from the project location, see Appendix A: Figure 5.

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

Name of the Species	Threatened/Endangered/Candidate
Reptiles	
Puerto Rican boa <i>(Chilabothrus inornatus)</i>	Endangered
Birds	
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk <i>(Buteo platypterus brunnescens)</i>	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk <i>(Accipiter striatus venator)</i>	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot <i>(Amazona vittata)</i>	Endangered
Insects	
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly <i>(Atlantea tulita)</i>	Threatened
Critical Habitat	
There are no critical habitats within the project area.	

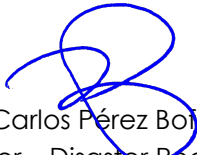
The nature of the project, scope of work, information available, a careful analysis of the IPaC, the Puerto Rico Boa conservation measures, the Caribbean Dkey dated December 6, 2023, in the US Fish and Wildlife Service's online IPaC application, and the observations during the field visit, were used 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, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk and Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk, see Appendix B.

Name of the Species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures that will be implemented
Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	No Effect (NE)	USFWS Puerto Rico Boa Conservation Measures 2023
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	No Effect (NE)	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	No Effect (NE)	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>)	May affect, but not likely to adversely affect (NLAA)	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (<i>Atlantea tulita</i>)	NLAA (May affect, but not likely to adversely affect)	No Conservation Measures
Critical Habitats		
There are no critical habitats within the project area.		

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

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,



Juan Carlos Pérez Bojill, PE, MEng.
 Director – Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR Program
environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov | 787.274.2527 ext. 4320

Attachments:

- Appendix A:
 - Figure 1 – Location Site Map
 - Figure 2 – Topographic Map
 - Figure 3 – Area of Potential Effect Map
 - Figure 4 – Farmland Protection Map
 - Figure 5 – Critical Habitats Map
- Appendix B: IPaC Resource List
- Appendix C: Field Visit Photos

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

References:

Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*)

USFWS Puerto Rican boa Conservation Measures <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628>

Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*)

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

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

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

Puerto Rican Parrot (*Amazona vittata*)

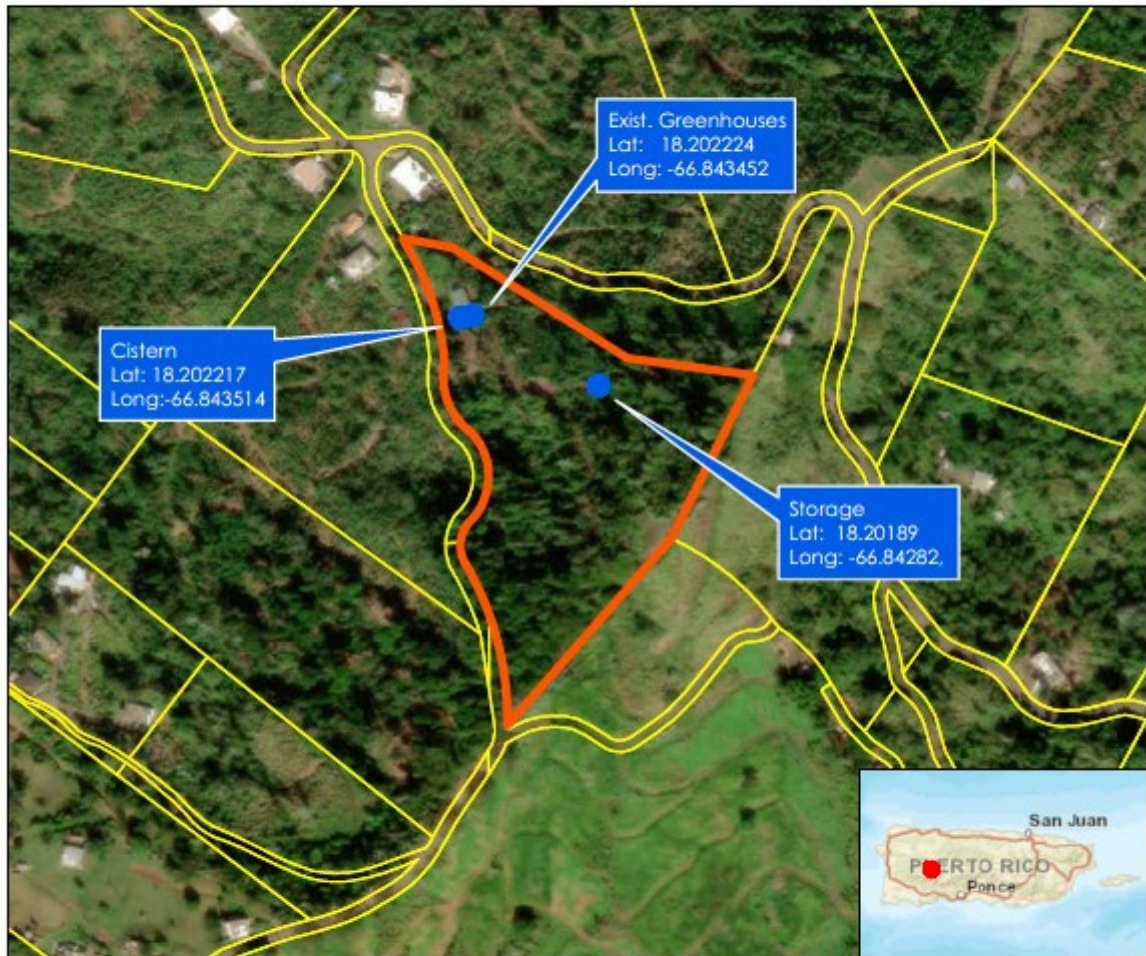
Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067>

Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*)

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

Appendix A: Figures

Location: Aerial Map
 Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



- Legend:**
- Applicant Structures
 - 02046 Parcela
 - CRIM_Parcels

0 0.06 0.12 mi
 0 0.09 0.18 km

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Inramap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Ireland), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
 Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth

N
 W E
 S

Source
 Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRM)
<https://catastro.cimpr.net/cdpppc/>

Figure 1: PR-RGRW-02046 Location Map

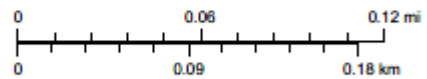
Location: USGS Topographic Map
 Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structures
- 02046 Parcela
- Contour Interval 20 Feet

Quadrangle: Aguadilla



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 and Google Earth



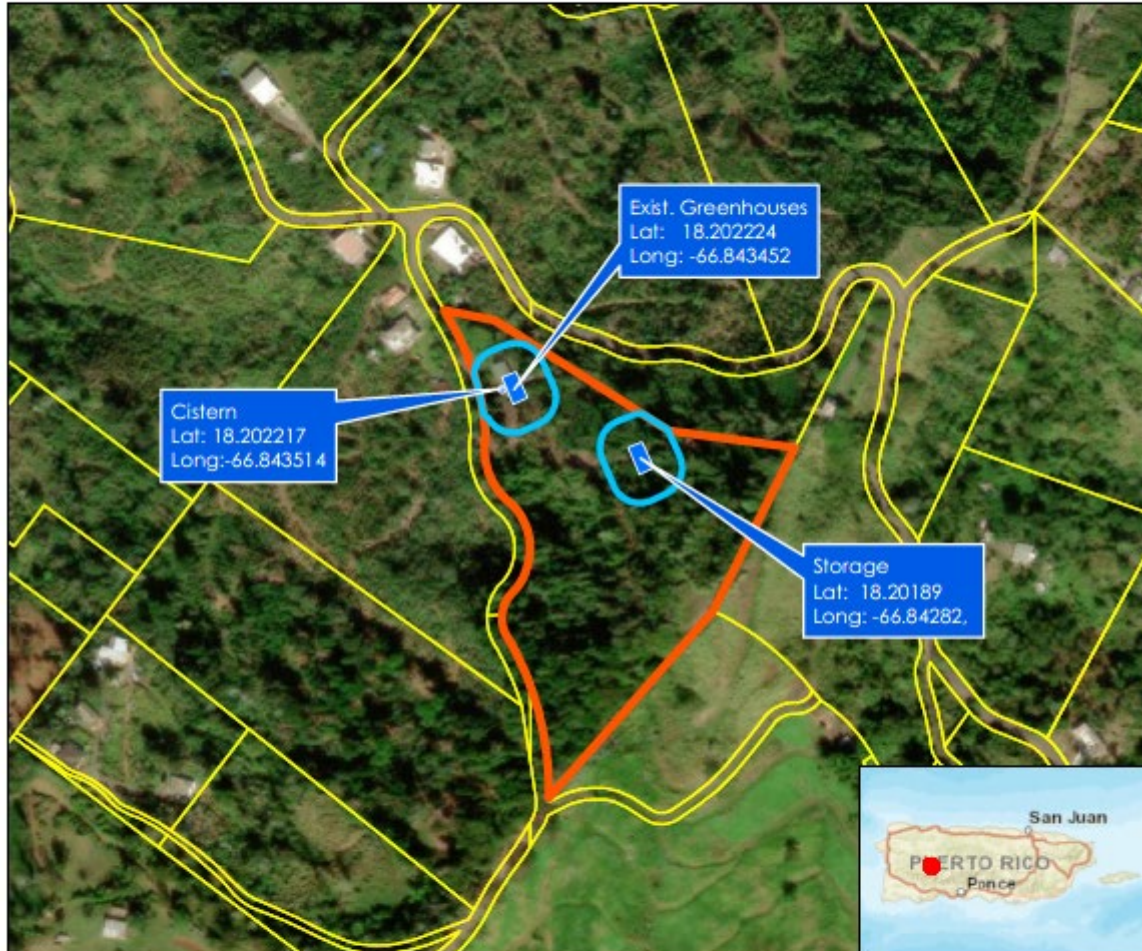
Source

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

Figure 2: PR-RGRW-02046 Topographic Map

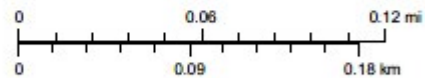
Area of Potential Effect
 Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Catastro: 238-000-003-56-000
 Lat: See List Below, Long: See List Below



Legend:

- Applicant Structures
- Area of Potential Effect 15 Mts.
- 02046 Parcela
- CRIM_Parcels



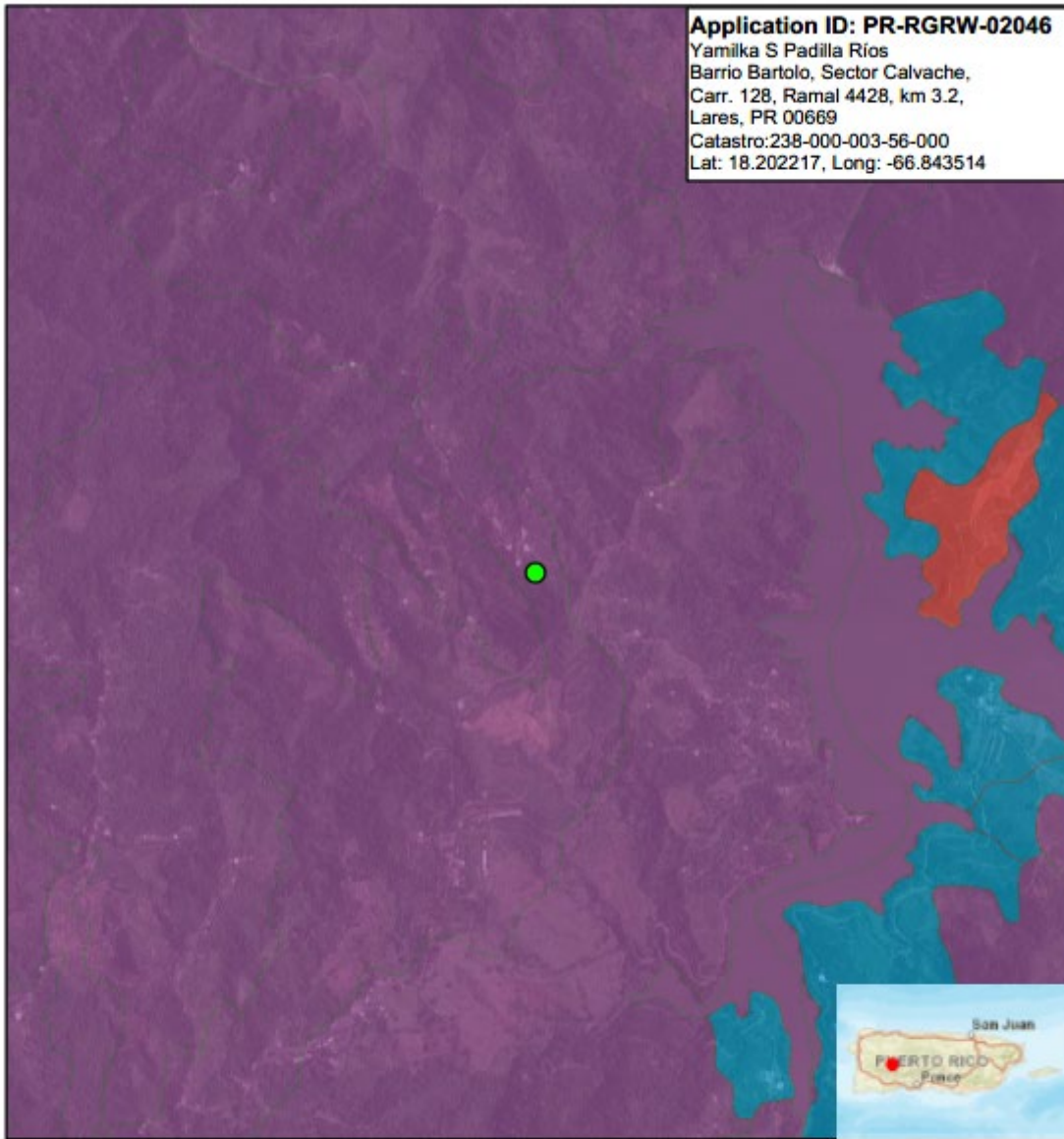
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, MEI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
 Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

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

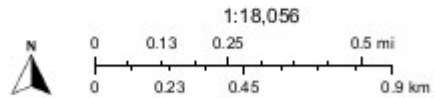
Figure 3: PR-RGRW-02046 Area of Potential Effect Map



10/26/2023, 2:29:41 PM

Farmland Protection

- All areas are prime farmland
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Not prime farmland
- PR-RGRW-02046



Source

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

Figure 4: PR-RGRW-02046 Farmland Protection Map

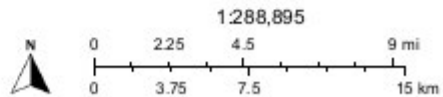


Application ID: PR-RGRW-02046
Yamilka S Padilla Rios
Barrio Bartolo, Sector Calvache,
Carr. 128, Ramal 4428, km 3.2,
Lares, PR 00669
Catastro:238-000-003-56-000
Lat: 18.202217, Long: -66.843514

12/6/2023, 3:24:43 PM

 USFWS Critical Habitat - Final

 PR-RGRW-02046



Source
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
Office of Response and Restoration
<https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/>

Figure 5: PR-RGRW-02046 Critical Habitats Map

Appendix B:
Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2024-0023436
Project Name: PR-RGRW-02046

December 06, 2023

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

To Whom It May Concern:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

caribbean_es@fws.gov

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

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

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(787) 834-1600

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0023436

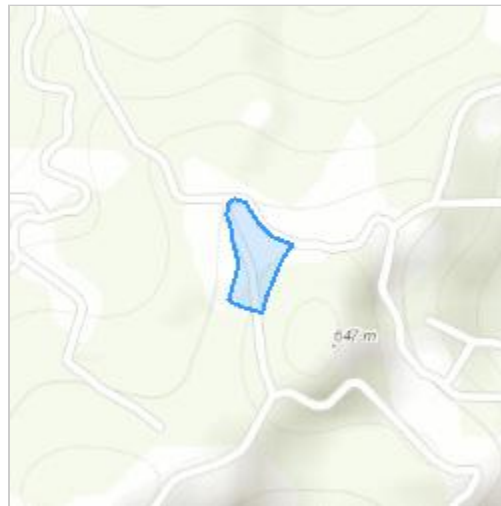
Project Name: PR-RGRW-02046

Project Type: New Constr - Above Ground

Project Description: The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02046 consist of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, a tractor, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area. The greenhouse materials are to repair two large existing greenhouses measuring 80' x 22' and 30' x 14'. The replacement of the tubes that will be anchored two feet deep will involve ground disturbance. The storage shed and the 600-gallon cistern will be installed on bare soil. The proposed area for the storage shed and cistern will undergo thorough minor leveling to ensure that both are stable in their respective areas. The cistern will be installed on high ground, and the pipelines above the ground so that the stored water descends by gravity to the greenhouses. The water needed to fill the cistern will be supplied from a PRASA intake on the property. The project area is located at PR-128, ramal 4428, Km 3.2 within the Municipality of Lares. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 20 years.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.20222245,-66.8434564776928,14z>



Counties: Lares County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 5 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

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

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

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

BIRDS

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

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/SYI34X5ZSNE4JNKFINC7ASTQ2Y/documents/generated/7140.pdf	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly <i>Atlantea tulita</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9005	Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

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

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

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

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats³, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described 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 [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

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

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

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Patricia Carmenatty
Address: Perseo St. 554 Cond. Iberia Suite J-3
City: San Juan
State: PR
Zip: 00920
Email: patricia.carmenatty@byaea.com
Phone: 7877830290



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:
Project code: 2024-0023436
Project Name: PR-RGRW-02046

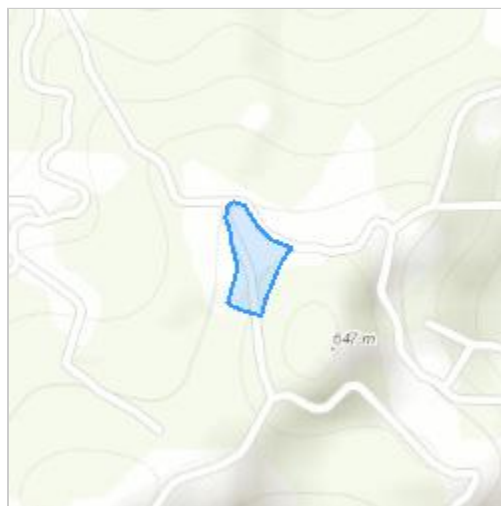
December 06, 2023

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-02046' 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 December 06, 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-02046'. The project is located in Lares County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.20222245,-66.8434564776928,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-02046':

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02046 consist of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, a tractor, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area. The greenhouse materials are to repair two large existing greenhouses measuring 80' x 22' and 30' x 14'. The replacement of the tubes that will be anchored two feet deep will involve ground disturbance. The storage shed and the 600-gallon cistern will be installed on bare soil. The proposed area for the storage shed and cistern will undergo thorough minor leveling to ensure that both are stable in their respective areas. The cistern will be installed on high ground, and the pipelines above the ground so that the stored water descends by gravity to the greenhouses. The water needed to fill the cistern will be supplied from a PRASA intake on the property. The project area is located at PR-128, ramal 4428, Km 3.2 within the Municipality of Lares. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 20 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
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered	No effect
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	Endangered	No effect
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	Endangered	No effect

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

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

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

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

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

- Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly *Atlantea tulita* Threatened
- Puerto Rican Parrot *Amazona vittata* Endangered

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

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

Action Description

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

1. Name

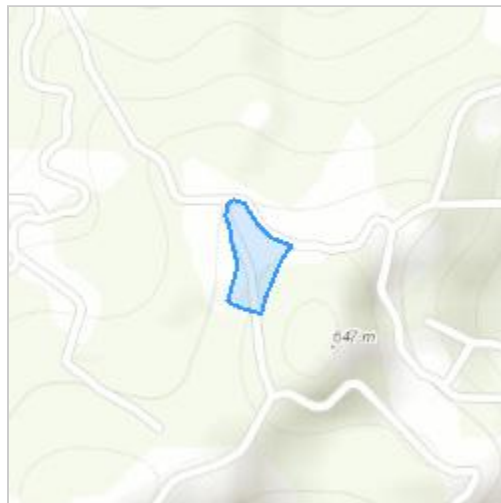
PR-RGRW-02046

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-02046':

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02046 consist of the purchase and installation of a 600-gallon cistern with pipeline, 10' x 12' storage shed, a tractor, farming equipment, greenhouse materials, infrastructure and table materials and post-harvest washing area. The greenhouse materials are to repair two large existing greenhouses measuring 80' x 22' and 30' x 14'. The replacement of the tubes that will be anchored two feet deep will involve ground disturbance. The storage shed and the 600-gallon cistern will be installed on bare soil. The proposed area for the storage shed and cistern will undergo thorough minor leveling to ensure that both are stable in their respective areas. The cistern will be installed on high ground, and the pipelines above the ground so that the stored water descends by gravity to the greenhouses. The water needed to fill the cistern will be supplied from a PRASA intake on the property. The project area is located at PR-128, ramal 4428, Km 3.2 within the Municipality of Lares. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 20 years.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.20222245,-66.8434564776928,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

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 Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes

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

Automatically answered

Yes

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

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Appendix C: Field Visit Photos



Photo #: 1

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

Date: October 19, 2023



Photo #: 2

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

Date: October 19, 2023



Photo #: 3

Date: October 19, 2023

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