



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban  
Development  
451 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20410  
[www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov)  
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**Environmental Review for Activity/Project that is  
Categorically Excluded Subject to Section 58.5  
Pursuant to 24 CFR 58.35(a)**

**Project Information**

**Project Name:** PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE

**HEROS Number:** 900000010433922

**Start Date:** 10/24/2024

**State / Local Identifier:**

**Project Location:** , Ciales, PR 00638

**Additional Location Information:**

The project is located at latitude 18.265358, longitude -66.496327 at the address given above. Tax ID Number: 192-000-001-73-000

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

This project (PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE) entails the award of a grant to AGRO F.E. CORP, an agricultural business, at CARR 615 KM 11.7 Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638. Tax ID Number: 192-000-001-73-000. Coordinates (18.264768, -66.495222). This project had an original CENST review which included the purchase of farm equipment including a vehicle and cocoa seeds for project cost of \$61,856.36. This project also had another CENST re-evaluation review which included the purchase of farm equipment including animal feed, farming equipment (saw, trimmers, blower, hedger, pole saw, wheelbarrow, PVC scissors, hammers, 100 ft sleeve, staples, fabric), plantain seeds. See attached original CENST and re-evaluation environmental reviews. This review includes a scope items previously considered as an EA level of review (generator 30k, water well, water tanks) which are now evaluated as CEST level of review in accordance with FR-6492-N-01 with a project cost of \$68,104.50. The proposed project includes three scopes of work (SOW) within the parcel. The SOW-1 includes the installation of a water well. The applicant plans to drill a 500-foot deep and 6-inch diameter water well at coordinates 18.2647685, -66.4952224. The drilling of the well will require an initial diameter of 8 inches to be reduced to 6 inches. Proposed seal is a 6-inch to 2-inch well-seal. The purpose of the well is to provide water to the existing animal barn building where chickens, goats and rabbits are located. SOW-1 includes the on-site poured concrete pad of 4 feet x 4 feet with a thickness of 4-6 inches. An estimated depth of 1-foot is needed for the construction of the concrete pad. Although it is not included in the project SOW or in the IUGF, applicant future plans include the purchase and installation of a solar water pump system for the well. SOW-2 is the purchase and installation of a 30-kW power generator at coordinates 18.2650232, -66.4948040 to provide power to existing animal barn structure. The power generator will be located at an approximate distance of 10 feet from the main electrical meter connection and installed on a new poured concrete pad measuring 10 feet x 10 feet with a thickness of 4-6 inches. An estimated depth of 1-foot is needed for the construction of the concrete pad. Power connection from the generator to the barn

structure will be achieved via an underground electrical conduit. Connection will require an electrical trench of an estimated distance of 150 feet and 3 feet of depth. SOW-3 is the purchase and installation of 2 water tanks with an approximate volume of 200-gallons each, to be located on the east side of the existing barn structure, at coordinates 18.26509, -66.49526. Tanks will be used for the storage of water drawn from the proposed well via an approximately 200-foot long PVC pipeline installed aboveground. This water will be used to provide water to animals and the operations of the barn. Water tanks are going to be installed aboveground on leveled terrain, no concrete pad construction is required for the installation of the tanks. The project AGRO F.E. CORP, PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #10 - 10. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (xxvii): Watering tank or trough installation, if in areas not previously disturbed. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Agricultural watering tank or trough installation that includes new ground disturbance, and CE: #11 - 11. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (xxvi11): Wells. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Well installation and repairs for agricultural needs, with ground disturbance have been classified as CEST under the waiver.

#### Level of Environment Review Determination:

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

#### Funding Information

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

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$68,104.50

**Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.2 (a) (5)]:** \$68,104.50

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure or Condition	Comments on Completed Measures	Complete
Endangered Species Act	The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field	N/A	

	<p>Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on January 10, 2025 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk and Puerto Rican Harlequin. The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4) if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Conservation Measures and (5) if a Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately. Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.</p>			
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**Determination:**

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

Preparer Signature:  Date: April.14.2025

Name / Title/ Organization: Ianmario Heredia / Department of Housing - Puerto Rico

Responsible Entity Agency Official Signature:  Date: 6/6/2025

Name/ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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



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

**Project Information**

**Project Name:** PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE

**HEROS Number:** 900000010433922

**Start Date:** 10/24/2024

**Responsible Entity (RE):** Department of Housing - Puerto Rico, P.O. Box 21365 San  
Juan PR, 00928

**State / Local Identifier:**

**RE Preparer:** Ianmario Heredia

**Certifying Office**  
**r:**

**Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Entity):**

**Point of Contact:**

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

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

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

**Project Location:** , Ciales, PR 00638

**Additional Location Information:**

The project is located at latitude 18.265358, longitude -66.496327 at the address given above. Tax ID Number: 192-000-001-73-000

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

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

This project (PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE) entails the award of a grant to AGRO F.E. CORP, an agricultural business, at CARR 615 KM 11.7 Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638. Tax ID Number: 192-000-001-73-000. Coordinates (18.264768, -66.495222). This project had an original CENST review which included the purchase of farm equipment including a vehicle and cocoa seeds for project cost of \$61,856.36. This project also had another CENST re-evaluation review which included the purchase of farm equipment including animal feed, farming equipment (saw, trimmers, blower, hedger, pole saw, wheelbarrow, PVC scissors, hammers, 100 ft sleeve, staples, fabric), plantain seeds. See attached original CENST and re-evaluation environmental reviews. This review includes a scope items previously considered as an EA level of review (generator 30k, water well, water tanks) which are now evaluated as CEST level of review in accordance with FR-6492-N-01 with a project cost of \$68,104.50. The proposed project includes three scopes of work (SOW) within the parcel. The SOW-1 includes the installation of a water well. The applicant plans to drill a 500-foot deep and 6-inch diameter water well at coordinates 18.2647685, -66.4952224. The drilling of the well will require an initial diameter of 8 inches to be reduced to 6 inches. Proposed seal is a 6-inch to 2-inch well-seal. The purpose of the well is to provide water to the existing animal barn building where chickens, goats and rabbits are located. SOW-1 includes the on-site poured concrete pad of 4 feet x 4 feet with a thickness of 4-6 inches. An estimated depth of 1-foot is needed for the construction of the concrete pad. Although it is not included in the project SOW or in the IUGF, applicant future plans include the purchase and installation of a solar water pump system for the well. SOW-2 is the purchase and installation of a 30-kW power generator at coordinates 18.2650232, -66.4948040 to provide power to existing animal barn structure. The power generator will be located at an approximate distance of 10 feet from the main electrical meter connection and installed on a new poured concrete pad measuring 10 feet x 10 feet with a thickness of 4-6 inches. An estimated depth of 1-foot is needed for the construction of the concrete pad. Power connection from the generator to the barn structure will be achieved via an underground electrical conduit. Connection will require an electrical trench of an estimated distance of 150 feet and 3 feet of depth. SOW-3 is the purchase and installation of 2 water tanks with an approximate volume of 200-gallons each, to be located on the east side of the existing barn structure, at coordinates 18.26509, -66.49526. Tanks will be used for the storage of water drawn from the proposed well via an approximately 200-foot long PVC pipeline

installed aboveground. This water will be used to provide water to animals and the operations of the barn. Water tanks are going to be installed aboveground on leveled terrain, no concrete pad construction is required for the installation of the tanks. The project AGRO F.E. CORP, PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #10 - 10. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (xxxvii): Watering tank or trough installation, if in areas not previously disturbed. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Agricultural watering tank or trough installation that includes new ground disturbance, and CE: #11 - 11. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (xxxvi11): Wells. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Well installation and repairs for agricultural needs, with ground disturbance have been classified as CEST under the waiver.

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

[ReEvaluation Memo .docx](#)

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE Site Map.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE CEST IUGF.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-01660-Re-evaluation CENST ERR.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-01660 CENST ERR.pdf](#)

[PRDOH Regrow Puerto Rico Program - 5836 Waiver \(002\).pdf](#)

[Farm Service Agency Adopted Categorical Exclusions Identified in FR-6492-N-01.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE EFOR.pdf](#)

**Level of Environmental Review Determination:**

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

58.35(a)(3)(iii)

**Determination:**

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

**Approval Documents:**[01660-SIG-PAGE\(1\).pdf](#)**7015.15 certified by Certifying Officer****on:****7015.16 certified by Authorizing Officer****on:****Reevaluation of a Completed Review**

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

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

It was determined that the original findings were still valid.

**Statement or memo documenting determination:**

The project AGRO F.E. CORP, PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #10 - 10. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (xxxvii): Watering tank or trough installation, if in areas not previously disturbed. HUD Level of Review: CEST.

Potential application to HUD activities: Agricultural watering tank or trough installation that includes new ground disturbance, and CE: #11 - 11. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (xxxvi11): Wells. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Well installation and repairs for agricultural needs, with ground disturbance have been classified as CEST under the waiver.

[ReEvaluation Memo \(1\).docx](#)[PR-RGRW-01660-Re-evaluation CENST ERR\(1\).pdf](#)[PR-RGRW-01660 CENST ERR\(1\).pdf](#)[PRDOH Regrow Puerto Rico Program - 5836 Waiver \(002\)\(1\).pdf](#)[Farm Service Agency Adopted Categorical Exclusions Identified in FR-6492-N-01\(1\).pdf](#)

**Funding Information**

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

**Estimated Total HUD Funded, Assisted or Insured Amount:** \$68,104.50

**Estimated Total Project Cost:** \$68,104.50

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

<b>Compliance Factors:</b> Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §50.4, §58.5, and §58.6	<b>Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?</b>	<b>Compliance determination (See Appendix A for source determinations)</b>
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 &amp; § 58.6</b>		
<b>Airport Hazards</b> Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest civil airport, "Mercedita International Airport", is approximately 95,136 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport, "Aeropuerto Internacional Luis Munoz Marin", is approximately 177,875 feet from the proposed site. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.
<b>Coastal Barrier Resources Act</b> Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is 70,219 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in

Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]		compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.
<b>Flood Insurance</b> Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Flood Map Number 72000C0665J, effective on 11/18/2009: The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 &amp; § 58.5</b>		
<b>Air Quality</b> Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under the Clean Air Act. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.
<b>Coastal Zone Management Act</b> Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 66,636 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.
<b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b> 24 CFR 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Site contamination was evaluated as follows: None of the above. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. A review of science-based radon data offered a lack of data for the project site and radon testing was determined to be infeasible or impracticable. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements.
<b>Endangered Species Act</b> Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	This project May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect, listed species, and informal consultation was conducted. With mitigation, identified in the mitigation section of this review, the

		project will be in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.
<b>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</b> Above-Ground Tanks)[24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description the project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements.
<b>Farmlands Protection</b> Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural use. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.
<b>Floodplain Management</b> Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Flood Map Number 72000C0665J, effective on 11/18/2009: This project does not occur in the FFRMS floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690. PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Ciales; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review.
<b>Historic Preservation</b> National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	(c. 2005) Based on Section 106 consultation there are No Historic Properties Affected because there are no historic properties present. The project is in compliance with Section 106.
<b>Noise Abatement and Control</b> Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under HUD's noise regulation. The project is in compliance with HUD's Noise regulation.
<b>Sole Source Aquifers</b> Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	The project is not located on a sole source aquifer area. According to EPA, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.

<b>Wetlands Protection</b> Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. This project does not involve new construction, so a visual wetlands survey was not conducted.
<b>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act</b> Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 243,584 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.
<b>HUD HOUSING ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS</b>		
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b>		
<b>Environmental Justice</b> Executive Order 12898	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	No adverse environmental impacts were identified in the project's total environmental review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898. On January 21, 2025, President Donald Trump issued the Executive Order 14173 titled "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity", which revoked Executive Order 12898 and eliminated federal mandates requiring agencies to assess environmental justice impacts. Consequently, there is no longer a federal requirement to address environmental justice concerns in the environmental compliance review process.

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

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



Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure or Condition	Comments on Completed Measures	Mitigation Plan	Complete
Endangered Species Act	<p>The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on January 10, 2025 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk and Puerto Rican Harlequin. The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4) if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Conservation Measures and (5) if a Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately.</p> <p>Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if:</p> <p>(1) new information reveals</p>	N/A		

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

Should new ground disturbance occur the Karst zone must be evaluated and when necessary DNER must be consulted prior to construction activities. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on January 10, 2025 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk and Puerto Rican Harlequin. The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4) if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Conservation Measures and (5) if a Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately. Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.

**Supporting documentation on completed measures**

**APPENDIX A: Related Federal Laws and Authorities****Airport Hazards**

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest civil airport, "Mercedita International Airport", is approximately 95,136 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport, "Aeropuerto Internacional Luis Munoz Marin", is approximately 177,875 feet from the proposed site. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE Airports.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

**Coastal Barrier Resources**

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

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

☒ No

Document and upload map and documentation below.

Yes

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is 70,219 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE CBRS.pdf](#)

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

Yes

☒ No

## Flood Insurance

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

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

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

✓ Yes

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

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE FIRM.pdf](#)

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

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

Yes

✓ No

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

Flood Map Number 72000C0665J, effective on 11/18/2009: The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.

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

Yes

✓ No

**Air Quality**

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

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

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

Yes

✓ No



**Coastal Zone Management Act**

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

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

Yes

☒ No

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

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 66,636 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE CZM.pdf](#)

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

Yes

☒ No

## Contamination and Toxic Substances

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

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

ASTM Phase I ESA

ASTM Phase II ESA

Remediation or clean-up plan

ASTM Vapor Encroachment Screening.

☒ None of the above

\* HUD regulations at 24 CFR § 58.5(i)(2)(ii) require that the environmental review for multifamily housing with five or more dwelling units or non-residential property include the evaluation of previous uses of the site or other evidence of contamination on or near the site.

For acquisition and new construction of multifamily and nonresidential properties HUD strongly advises the review include an ASTM Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) to meet real estate transaction standards of due diligence and to help ensure compliance with HUD's toxic policy at 24 CFR §58.5(i) and 24 CFR §50.3(i). Also note that some HUD programs require an ASTM Phase I ESA.

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

Provide a map or other documentation of absence or presence of contamination\*\* and explain evaluation of site contamination in the Screen Summary at the bottom of this screen.

☒ No

Explain:

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

Yes

\* This question covers the presence of radioactive substances excluding radon. Radon is addressed in the Radon Exempt Question.

\*\* Utilize EPA's Enviromapper, NEPAAssist, or state/tribal databases to identify nearby dumps, junk yards, landfills, hazardous waste sites, and industrial sites, including EPA National Priorities List Sites (Superfund sites), CERCLA or state-equivalent sites, RCRA Corrective Action sites with release(s) or suspected release(s) requiring clean-up action and/or further investigation. Additional supporting documentation may include other inspections and reports.

**3. Evaluate the building(s) for radon. Do all buildings meet any of the exemptions\* from having to consider radon in the contamination analysis listed in CPD Notice [CPD-23-103](#)?**

Yes

Explain:

✓ No

\* Notes:

- Buildings with no enclosed areas having ground contact.
- Buildings containing crawlspaces, utility tunnels, or parking garages would not be exempt, however buildings built on piers would be exempt, provided that there is open air between the lowest floor of the building and the ground.
- Buildings that are not residential and will not be occupied for more than 4 hours per day.
- Buildings with existing radon mitigation systems - document radon levels are below 4 pCi/L with test results dated within two years of submitting the application for HUD assistance and document the system includes an ongoing maintenance plan that includes periodic testing to ensure the system continues to meet the current EPA recommended levels. If the project does not require an application, document test results dated within two years of the date the environmental review is certified. Refer to program office guidance to ensure compliance with program requirements.
- Buildings tested within five years of the submission of application for HUD assistance: test results document indoor radon levels are below current the EPA's recommended action

levels of 4.0 pCi/L. For buildings with test data older than five years, any new environmental review must include a consideration of radon using one of the methods in Section A below.

**4. Is the proposed project new construction or substantial rehabilitation where testing will be conducted but cannot yet occur because building construction has not been completed?**

Yes

Compliance with this section is conditioned on post-construction testing being conducted, followed by mitigation, if needed. Radon test results, along with any needed mitigation plan, must be uploaded to the mitigation section within this screen.

✓ No

**5. Was radon testing or a scientific data review conducted that provided a radon concentration level in pCi/L?**

Yes

✓ No

If no testing was conducted and a review of science-based data offered a lack of science-based data for the project site, then document and upload the steps taken to look for documented test results and science-based data as well as the basis for the conclusion that testing would be infeasible or impracticable.

Explain:

Radon testing is not feasible or practicable for this case, please see the attached Radon Memo.

File Upload:

[Radon Attachments.pdf](#)  
[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE Radon Memo.docx](#)

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Continue to the Screen Summary at the bottom of this screen.

Non-radon contamination was found in a previous question.

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

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

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE Toxics Map 2.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE Toxics Map 1.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE EFOR\(1\).pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

## Endangered Species

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

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

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

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

- ✓ Yes, the activities involved in the project have the potential to affect species and/or habitats.

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

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

- ✓ Yes, there are federally listed species or designated critical habitats present in the action area.

### 3. What effects, if any, will your project have on federally listed species or designated critical habitat?

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

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

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

**4. Informal Consultation is required**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

✓ Mitigation as follows will be implemented:

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on January 10, 2025 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk and Puerto Rican Harlequin. The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4) if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Conservation Measures and (5) if a Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately. Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.

No mitigation is necessary.



**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

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

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE USFWS Consultation Package.pdf](#)  
[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE USFWS Conservation Measures.pdf](#)  
[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE USFWS Concurrence Letter.pdf](#)

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

✓ Yes

No

**Explosive and Flammable Hazards**

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

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

☒ No

Yes

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

☒ No

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

Yes

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

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

**Supporting documentation**

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

Yes

☒ No

**Farmlands Protection**

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
The Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) discourages federal activities that would convert farmland to nonagricultural purposes.	Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981 (7 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.)	<a href="#">7 CFR Part 658</a>

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

Yes

✓ No

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

The proposed project is located on a private farm. The proposed action is compliant with the current agricultural land use of the project area.

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

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

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

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE Farmlands.pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

## Floodplain Management

General Requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, requires Federal activities to avoid impacts to floodplains and to avoid direct and indirect support of floodplain development to the extent practicable.	Executive Order 11988 * Executive Order 13690 * 42 USC 4001-4128 * 42 USC 5154a * only applies to screen 2047 and not 2046	24 CFR 55

**1. Does this project meet an exemption at 24 CFR 55.12 from compliance with HUD's floodplain management regulations in Part 55?**

Yes

(a) HUD-assisted activities described in 24 CFR 58.34 and 58.35(b).

(b) HUD-assisted activities described in 24 CFR 50.19, except as otherwise indicated in § 50.19.

(c) The approval of financial assistance for restoring and preserving the natural and beneficial functions and values of floodplains and wetlands, including through acquisition of such floodplain and wetland property, where a permanent covenant or comparable restriction is place on the property's continued use for flood control, wetland projection, open space, or park land, but only if:

(1) The property is cleared of all existing buildings and walled structures; and

(2) The property is cleared of related improvements except those which:

(i) Are directly related to flood control, wetland protection, open space, or park land (including playgrounds and recreation areas);

(ii) Do not modify existing wetland areas or involve fill, paving, or other ground disturbance beyond minimal trails or paths; and

(iii) Are designed to be compatible with the beneficial floodplain or wetland function of the property.

(d) An action involving a repossession, receivership, foreclosure, or similar acquisition of property to protect or enforce HUD's financial interests under previously approved loans, grants, mortgage insurance, or other HUD assistance.

(e) Policy-level actions described at 24 CFR 50.16 that do not involve site-based decisions.

(f) A minor amendment to a previously approved action with no additional adverse impact on or from a floodplain or wetland.

(g) HUD's or the responsible entity's approval of a project site, an incidental portion of which is situated in the FFRMS floodplain (not including the floodway, LiMWA, or coastal high hazard area) but only if: (1) The proposed project site does not include any existing or proposed buildings or improvements that modify or occupy the FFRMS floodplain except de minimis improvements such as recreation areas and trails; and (2) the proposed project will not result in any new construction in or modifications of a wetland .

(h) Issuance or use of Housing Vouchers, or other forms of rental subsidy where HUD, the awarding community, or the public housing agency that administers the contract awards rental subsidies that are not project-based (i.e., do not involve site-specific subsidies).

(i) Special projects directed to the removal of material and architectural barriers that restrict the mobility of and accessibility to elderly and persons with disabilities.

Describe:

✓ No

**2. Does the project include a Critical Action? Examples of Critical Actions include projects involving hospitals, fire and police stations, nursing homes, hazardous chemical storage, storage of valuable records, and utility plants.**

Yes

Describe:

✓ No

**3. Determine the extent of the FFRMS floodplain and provide mapping documentation in support of that determination**

The extent of the FFRMS floodplain can be determined using a Climate Informed Science Approach (CISA), 0.2 percent flood approach (0.2 PFA), or freeboard value approach (FVA). For projects in areas without available CISA data or without FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), Flood Insurance Studies (FISs) or Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFEs), use the best available information<sup>1</sup> to determine flood elevation. Include documentation and an explanation of why this is the best available information<sup>2</sup> for the site. Note that newly constructed and substantially improved<sup>3</sup> structures must be elevated to the FFRMS floodplain regardless of the approach chosen to determine the floodplain.

Select one of the following three options:

CISA for non-critical actions. If using a local tool, data, or resources, ensure that the FFRMS elevation is higher than would have been determined using the 0.2 PFA or the FVA.

- ✓ 0.2-PFA. Where FEMA has defined the 0.2-percent-annual-chance floodplain, the FFRMS floodplain is the area that FEMA has designated as within the 0.2-percent-annual-chance floodplain.

FVA. If neither CISA nor 0.2-PFA is available, for non-critical actions, the FFRMS floodplain is the area that results from adding two feet to the base flood elevation as established by the effective FIRM or FIS or — if available — a FEMA-provided preliminary or pending FIRM or FIS or advisory base flood elevations, whether regulatory or informational in nature. However, an interim or preliminary FEMA map cannot be used if it is lower than the current FIRM or FIS.

<sup>1</sup> Sources which merit investigation include the files and studies of other federal agencies, such as the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Soil Conservation Service and the U. S. Geological Survey. These agencies have prepared flood hazard studies for several thousand localities and, through their technical assistance programs, hydrologic studies, soil surveys, and other investigations have collected or developed other floodplain information for numerous sites and areas. States and communities are also sources of information on past flood 'experiences within their boundaries and are particularly knowledgeable about areas subject to high-risk flood hazards such as alluvial fans, high velocity flows, mudflows and mudslides, ice jams, subsidence and liquefaction.

<sup>2</sup> If you are using best available information, select the FVA option below and provide supporting documentation in the screen summary. Contact your [local environmental officer](#) with additional compliance questions.

<sup>3</sup> Substantial improvement means any repair or improvement of a structure which costs at least 50 percent of the market value of the structure before repair or improvement or results in an increase of more than 20 percent of the number of dwelling units. The full definition can be found at [24 CFR 55.2\(b\)\(12\)](#).

5. Does your project occur in the FFRMS floodplain?

Yes

✓ No

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

Flood Map Number 72000C0665J, effective on 11/18/2009: This project does not occur in the FFRMS floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690. PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Ciales; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE ABFE.pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

## Historic Preservation

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

### Threshold

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

No, because the project consists solely of activities listed as exempt in a Programmatic Agreement (PA ). (See the PA Database to find applicable PAs.)

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

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

### Step 1 – Initiate Consultation

#### Select all consulting parties below (check all that apply):

- ✓ State Historic Preservation Offer (SHPO) Completed

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

Other Consulting Parties



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

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

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

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

Yes

No

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

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

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

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

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

**Additional Notes:**

No Historic Properties present within the APE

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

Yes

✓ No

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

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

per guidance on direct and indirect effects.

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

☒ No Historic Properties Affected

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

**Document reason for finding:**

☒ No historic properties present.

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

No Adverse Effect

Adverse Effect

**Screen Summary**

**Compliance Determination**

(c. 2005) Based on Section 106 consultation there are No Historic Properties Affected because there are no historic properties present. The project is in compliance with Section 106.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE SHPO Consultation Package.pdf](#)

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

Yes

☒ No

## Noise Abatement and Control

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

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

New construction for residential use

Rehabilitation of an existing residential property

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

An interstate land sales registration

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

☒ None of the above

### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

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

#### **Supporting documentation**

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

Yes

☒ No



**Sole Source Aquifers**

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

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

< No

✓

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

Yes

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

Yes

No

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

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

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE Sole Source Aquifers.pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

**Wetlands Protection**

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

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

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE Wetlands.pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

**Wild and Scenic Rivers Act**

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

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

✓ No

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

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

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 243,584 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-01660-W-RE Wild an Scenic.pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No



**Environmental Justice**

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

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

**Screen Summary****Compliance Determination**

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

**Supporting documentation**

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

Yes

✓ No



## Environmental Field Observation - Puerto Rico Department of Housing

APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Application ID	PR-RGRW-01660		
Applicant Name	AGRO F.E. CORP		
Property Address	CARR 615 KM 11.7 Bo. Pozas		
Parcel ID	192-000-006-51		
Coordinates	18.264768, -66.495222		
Inspector Name	Antonio A. Martinez		
Inspection Date	11/01/2023		
Building Type	vacant		
Number of Units	0		
Number of Stories	0		
Year Built; Data Source	----; Historian		
ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS (attach photos and notes, as necessary, for any YES answers)			
OBSERVATION ITEMS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
A. Is the structure in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
B. Is structure a greenhouse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
C. Is Electricity connected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Power service connected
D. Is water connected? (Utilities or Well)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Water service connected
1. Are there signs of <b>poor housekeeping</b> on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Are there any <b>55-gallon drums</b> visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Are there any (or signs of any) <b>underground storage tanks</b> on the property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Are there signs of <b>ASTs</b> on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	450 gallons Water
5. Is there any <b>stained soil or pavement</b> on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6. Is a water <b>drainage system</b> in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of <b>Fertilizer or Pesticides</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Are there any <b>groundwater monitoring wells</b> on the site or adjacent parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Is there evidence of a <b>faulty septic system</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Is there <b>distressed vegetation</b> on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11. Is there any visible indication of <b>MOLD</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
12. Is there any visible evidence of <b>asbestos, chipping, flaking or</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

peeling paint, or hazardous materials present in or on the structure?			
13. Are any <b>additional site hazards</b> observed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
14. Is there any <b>permanent standing water</b> , such as a pond or stream, located on the site (do not include ponding from recent rain / weather events)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
15. Does the subject property have <b>water frontage</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
16. Is there any indication of the presence of <b>Wetlands</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
17. Are there any obvious signs of <b>animals or birds nesting</b> on or near the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
18. Is the applicant aware of any <b>significant historical event or persons</b> associated with the structure, or of it being located in a historic district/area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
19. Is a <b>historic marker</b> present?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Additional Notes: Case: PR-RGRW-01660 Project Name: AGRO F.E. CORP

Is the field graded? For what purpose the field was graded? Month, Year: At the time of inspection, the fields where excavation of the water well and power generator installation are planned to be located has not been graded.

Scope of Work: The proposed project includes the purchase and installation of a generator, water well, water tank, cage, cocoa seeds and a vehicle. Land current in use for: Pasture Past Land use was: Coffee and plantains farming from 1940's to 2017 (until Hurricane Maria) The applicant plans to do: Excavation for a water well to provide pressurized water irrigation to animal barn building where chickens, goats and rabbits are located. Purchase and installation of a generator to back up power in animal barn, sixty four (64) 3' x 2' metal cages for breeding and selling of rabbits, a 4'x4' vehicle for farming land transportation and cocoa seeds that will not be stored but planted right away.

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

Scope of Work #1: Construction of a water well system Coordinates: 18.2647685, -66.4952224 Installation of a pressurized water well system to provide water irrigation to the field and for the existing animal barn. Excavation depth is approximately 500 feet with a diameter of 6". A proposed construction of a concrete base of 4 x 4. Applicant informed that the power will be generated with a future installation of a solar battery system.

Scope of Work #2: Installation of metal cages for rabbit breeding in existing building. Coordinates: 18.265104, -66.495327 Purchase and installation of sixty-four (64) 3' x 2' cages for rabbits breeding and selling. Metal cages comes with water and food supplier included.

Scope of Work #3: Purchase and installation of a power generator Coordinates: 18.265023, -66.494804 Purchase and installation of a generator to provide power to existing animal barn structure where rabbits cages are going to be installed. Applicant also informed of the construction of a 10' x 10' concrete pad where power generator is going to be installed. This will be installed to the adjacent main power electric connection underground approximately 3' with a linear foot of approximately 10'.

Scope of Work #4: Cocoa seeds planting Coordinates: 18.2645657, -66.4956854 Purchase of 2,000 cocoa seeds.

Scope of Work #5: Two water tank installation of 200 gallons each approximately adjacent to the Scope of work 2: 18.26509, -66.49526. Water from the water well thru a PVC tube overground with an approximately linear foot of 200'. This water will be use for the barn.

Any new water connection or power connection? Power and water services connected. Water service connected to PRASA with the meter located in front of power meter column. This service provides water to the main structure (where applicant lives) and to the animal barn located approximately 85 feet from main structure. Applicant is planning to extend service to provide power to the animal barn, after the installation of the power generator, overground with approximately linear feet of 150 feet long.

The scope of work included tools, machinery or farms products, Where the applicant will be storing them? Vehicle, will be storage in the applicant house facilities: 18.265111, -66.495056

**Front of Structure**

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Facing Away From Front**

Photo Direction: Northwest





**Side #1 of Structure**

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Facing Away From Side #1**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Back of Structure**

Photo Direction: North



**Facing Away From Back**

Photo Direction: South





**Side #2 of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Facing Away From Side #2**

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Streetscape #1**

Photo Direction: East



**Streetscape #2**

Photo Direction: West





Address

Photo Direction: Southwest



Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Photo Description: Water canal underneath high vegetation

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest





Structural Details	
Photo Description: Architectural details	
Photo Direction: North	
<div><div><div><div>11:19 AM · The New 2</div><div><div>&lt;</div><div>📍</div><div>⋮</div></div></div><div><div>Dropped pin</div><div>Near Toro Negro, Ciales 00638, Puerto Rico</div><div>🕒 1 hr 13 min</div><div><div>📍</div><div>Directions</div><div>🚶</div><div>Start</div><div>📌</div><div>Save</div><div>🗨️</div><div>A</div></div><div><div>📏</div><div>Measure distance</div></div><div><div>📍</div><div>7073+RPG Ciales, Puerto Rico</div><div>🕒</div></div><div><div>(18.2645657, -66.4956854)</div></div><div><div>✎</div><div>Suggest an edit</div></div><div><div>📍</div><div>Add a missing place</div></div><div><div>🏢</div><div>Add your business to Maps for free</div></div></div></div><div></div></div>	

Electricity Connected

Photo Description: Power service connection

Photo Direction: Southeast



Water Connected

Photo Description: Water meter

Photo Direction: Southeast



Aboveground Storage Tanks

Photo Description: 450 gallons cistern

Photo Direction: Southwest



Aboveground Storage Tanks

Photo Description: Propane tank

Photo Direction: Northwest





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of Work #1: Water Well

Photo Direction: East



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of Work #1: Water well system

Photo Direction: South



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scooe of Work #1: Water Well

Photo Direction: West



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of Work #1: Water Well

Photo Direction: North





Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #2 and #5: Rabbit cages and water tank

Photo Direction: Northeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #2 and #5: Rabbit cages and water tank

Photo Direction: East



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #2 and #5: Rabbit cages and water tank

Photo Direction: Southeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #2 and #5: Rabbit cages and water tank

Photo Direction: West





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of Work #3: Power generator

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of Work #3: Power generator

Photo Direction: Northwest



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #3: Power generator

Photo Direction: Southeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #3: Power generator

Photo Direction: North





Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scooe of Work #4: Cocoa seeds planting

Photo Direction: Southwest



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #4: Cocoa seeds planting

Photo Direction: West



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #4: Cocoa seeds planting

Photo Direction: Northwest



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #4: Cocoa seeds planting

Photo Direction: Northeast





# GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

## STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Executive Director | Carlos A. Rubio Cancela | [carubio@prshpo.pr.gov](mailto:carubio@prshpo.pr.gov)

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

**Lauren B Poche**

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

SHPO-CF-03-18-24-05 PR-RGRW-01660 (Ciales), Agro F. E. Corp.

Dear Ms. Poche,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/MB



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



March 18, 2024

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

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

**Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-01660 – AGRO F.E. CORP – Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, 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) and the Home Repair, Reconstruction, or Relocation (R3) Program. On February 9, 2018, an allocation of Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds were approved by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Federal Register Volume 83, No. 28, 83 FR 5844, to assist the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in meeting unmet needs in the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. On August 14, 2018, an additional \$8.22 billion recovery allocation was allocated to Puerto Rico under the Federal Register Volume 83, No. 157, 83 FR 40314. With these funding allocations, the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (Housing) aims to lead a comprehensive and transparent recovery for the benefit of Puerto Rico residents.

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, we are submitting documentation for activities proposed by AGRO F.E. CORP at CARR 615 KM 11.7 Bo. Pozas in the municipality of Ciales. The undertaking for this project includes the installation includes the purchase and installation of a 30KW power generator, two 200 gallons water tanks, the installation of a water well, and the purchase of 64 rabbit cages.

The applicant plans to drill a 500 foot (ft) deep and 6 inches diameter water well at coordinates 18.2647685, -66.4952224. A new poured concrete pad of 4 ft x 4 ft will be installed adjacent to the well to house a future solar powered water pump. The purpose of the well is to provide water to the existing animal barn building.

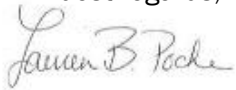
New metal cages for rabbit breeding will be installed in the existing ca. 2005 barn. A 30KW power generator to provide power to the barn will be installed on a new 10 ft by 10 ft concrete pad at coordinates 18.2650232, -66.4948040, an approximate distance of 10 ft from the main electrical meter connection. An electrical trench of an estimated distance of 150 ft and 3 ft of depth will be required to provide power to the barn.

Lastly, there will be the installation of 2 water tanks with an approximate volume of 200 gallons each, to be located adjacent to the metal cages at coordinates 18.26509, -66.49526 on the east side of the building. The tanks will be installed on bare ground, with some leveling anticipated. Tanks will be used for the storage of water drawn from the well via an approximately 200 ft. long PVC pipeline installed aboveground. This water will be used to provide water to animals and the barn.

Based on the submitted documentation, the Program requests a concurrence that a determination of No Historic Properties Affected is appropriate for this proposed project.

Please contact me by email at [lauren.poche@horne.com](mailto:lauren.poche@horne.com) or phone at 225-405-7676 with any questions or concerns.

Kindest regards,




**Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.**

Architectural Historian, EHP Senior Manager

LBP/JLE

Attachments

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>		 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
<b>Subrecipient:</b> AGRO F.E. CORP		
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01660	<b>City:</b> Ciales	

<b>Project Location:</b> Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638	
<b>Project Coordinates:</b> 18.264768, -66.495222	
<b>TPID (Número de Catastro):</b> 192-000-006-51-000	
<b>Type of Undertaking:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
<b>Construction Date (AH est.):</b> ca. 2005	<b>Property Size (acres):</b> 240.2

<b>SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian:</b> Maria F. Lopez Schmid
<b>Date Reviewed:</b> 11/08/2023
<b>SOI-Qualified Archaeologist:</b> Roberto G. Muñoz-Pando, PhD
<b>Date Reviewed:</b> 12/26/2023

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 intent use of grant funds (IUGF) for the proposed project includes the purchase and installation of a 30KW power generator, two 200 gallons water tanks, the installation of a water well, and the purchase of 64 rabbit cages. From 1940's to 2017 (until Hurricane Maria) the land was used for coffee and plantains farming. Currently it is used for pasture and as a farm with chicken, goats, and rabbits. The field is not graded.

The scope of work #1 (SOW-1) is the installation of a water well. The applicant plans to drill a 500 foot (ft) deep and 6 inches diameter water well at coordinates 18.2647685, -66.4952224. The purpose of the well is to provide water to the existing animal barn building where chickens, goats and rabbits are located. The SOW-1 includes the on-site poured concrete pad of 4 ft x 4 ft. Although it is not included in the project SOW or in the IUGF, applicant future plans include the purchase and installation of a solar water pump system for the well.

The scope of work #2 (SOW-2) is the Installation of metal cages for rabbit breeding in the existing barn; the estimated construction date of the barn is ca. 2005. The cages will be installed at coordinates 18.265104, -66.495327. Metal cages include food and water feeders.

The Scope of Work #3 (SOW-3) is the purchase and installation of a 30-KW power generator at coordinates 18.2650232, -66.4948040 to provide power to existing animal barn structure where rabbits' cages are going to be installed. The power generator will be located at an



<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Subrecipient:</b> AGRO F.E. CORP		
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01660	<b>City:</b> Ciales	


approximate distance of 10 ft from the main electrical meter connection and installed on an new poured concrete pad measuring 10 ft x 10 ft. Power connection from the generator to the barn structure will be achieved via an underground electrical conduit. Connection will require an electrical trench of an estimated distance of 150 ft and 3 ft of depth.

The Scope of Work #4 (SOW-4) is the purchase and installation of 2 water tanks with an approximate volume of 200 gallons each, to be located adjacent to the Scope of work 2 at coordinates 18.26509, -66.49526 on the east side of the building. Tanks will be used for the storage of water drawn from the well via an approximately 200 ft. long PVC pipeline installed aboveground. This water will be used to provide water to animals and the barn. Water tanks are going to be installed aboveground on leveled terrain, no concrete pad construction is required for the installation of the tanks.

The facilities are currently connected to local water and power utilities. The water is provided by PRASA with the water meter located in front of the power meter column. This utility provides water to the main structure (residence) and is used to provide water to the operations of the animal barn located approximately 85 feet from the main structure. Existing power connection only provides service to the residence, but the barn is not currently connected to power service. In future the applicant plans to extend service to provide power to the barn. Materials and installation costs of power utility connection activities are not included as part of the SOWs or the IUGF. While the applicant plans to pay for this activity themselves and no HUD funds would be utilized for this portion of work, the potential impacts from this action are included in the analyses below and it is delimited in the Area of Potential Effect (APE). The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

## Area of Potential Effects

As defined in 36 CFR §800.16(d), the area of potential effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the location of the concrete pads for the water well and power generator, the route of the below-ground electric conduit, and location of the leveled terrain for the water tanks. The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project and includes a 15-meter buffer to allow for variation in project activities. The APE for this project is approximately 0.80 acres.

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Subrecipient:</b> AGRO F.E. CORP	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01660	<b>City:</b> Ciales


### Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that the project area has no previously recorded archaeological sites within a half-mile buffer of the project area. Similarly, no previous archaeological resource surveys have been conducted between the half-mile buffer of the project area. The closest freshwater body (Quebrada Muda) is approximately 0.18 north of the project area. As most of pre-historic Puerto Rico, the current day Municipality of Ciales was mainly populated by the *Taínos* at the time of European contact. However, most of the soils in or near the APE are Mucara Clay (MuF) 40 to 60 percent slopes, making the probability of finding new and intact archaeological remains low to moderate.

### Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture

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

The proposed project is located in a rural, mountainous terrain surrounded by grasslands. The property lies south of Route PR-615 in Ciales. Interior modifications are proposed to a circa 2005 barn for the installation of rabbit cages and feeders. The building, located at 18.265104, -66.495327, appears in a 2006 aerial image, but not in a 2004 aerial image. This building (shown below) is a one-story reinforced concrete agricultural building to house animals. The building has concrete walls and a split gable corrugated metal roof.

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Subrecipient:</b> AGRO F.E. CORP		
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01660	<b>City:</b> Ciales	



**Figures 3 & 4.** Circa 2005 building on the property, view to the northwest and the west.


This building is modern, and it **does not** meet the requirements to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

### Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect. The project area is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed historic district or Traditional Urban Center. There are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project location. No known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the Area of Potential Effect of case PR-RGRW-01660 is located. The closest freshwater body is approximately 0.18 mi (0.29 km) of the project area. The construction of public roads, residential structures, and agricultural infrastructure has minimally disturbed the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project activities.

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Subrecipient:</b> AGRO F.E. CORP		
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01660		<b>City:</b> Ciales

### Recommendation

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

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

### This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

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



Subrecipient: AGRO F.E. CORP

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01660

City: Ciales

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



**TETRA TECH**

Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 10/7/2022

#### Legend

- Tier 2 Site
- Area of Potential Effect
- Parcelario

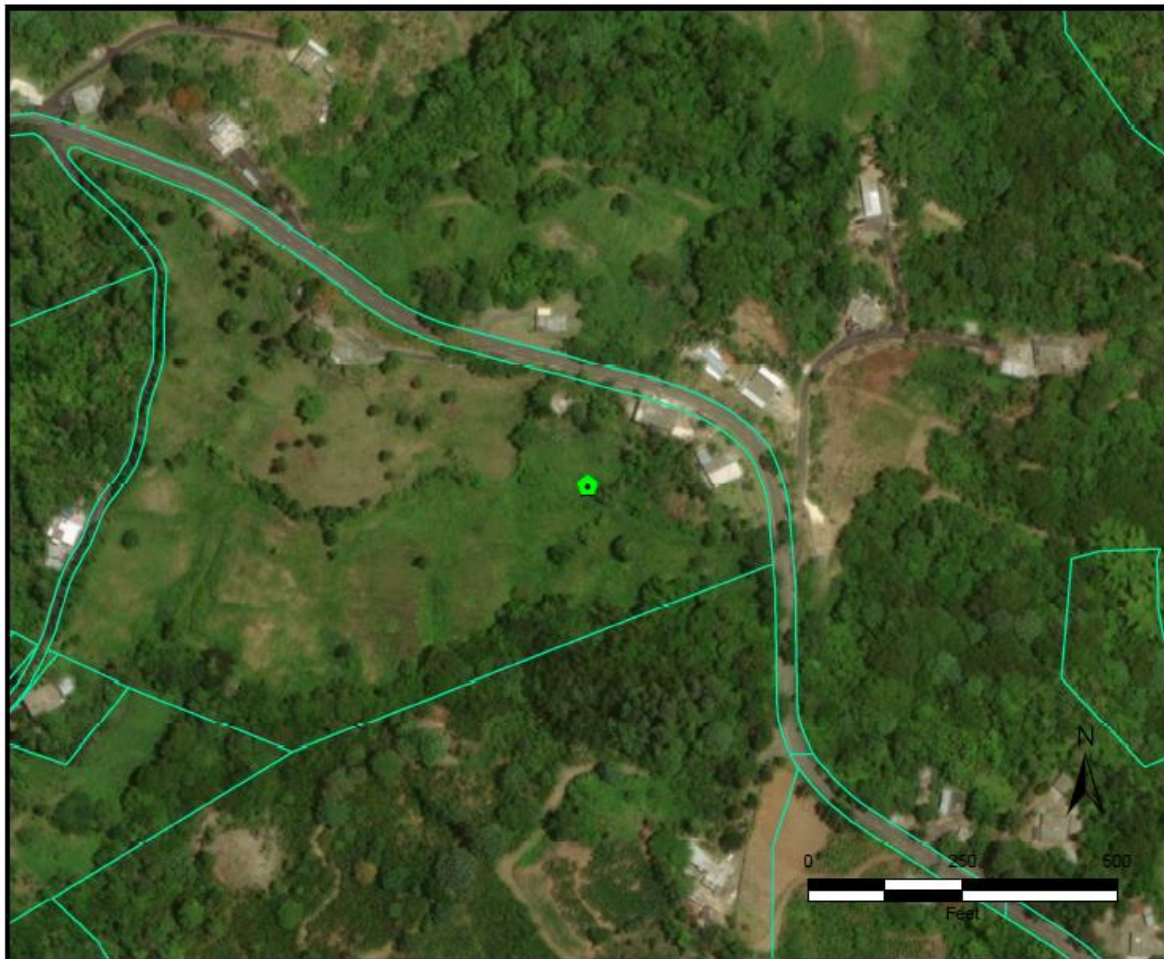


Subrecipient: AGRO F.E. CORP

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01660

City: Ciales

### Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map





Subrecipient: AGRO F.E. CORP

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01660

City: Ciales

### Project (Parcel) Location - USGS Topographic Map







**TETRA TECH**

Source: USGS

Author: TG

Date: 9/19/2023

#### Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Historic Comunidades
-  Traditional Urban Centers
-  Cultural Resource District Polygon

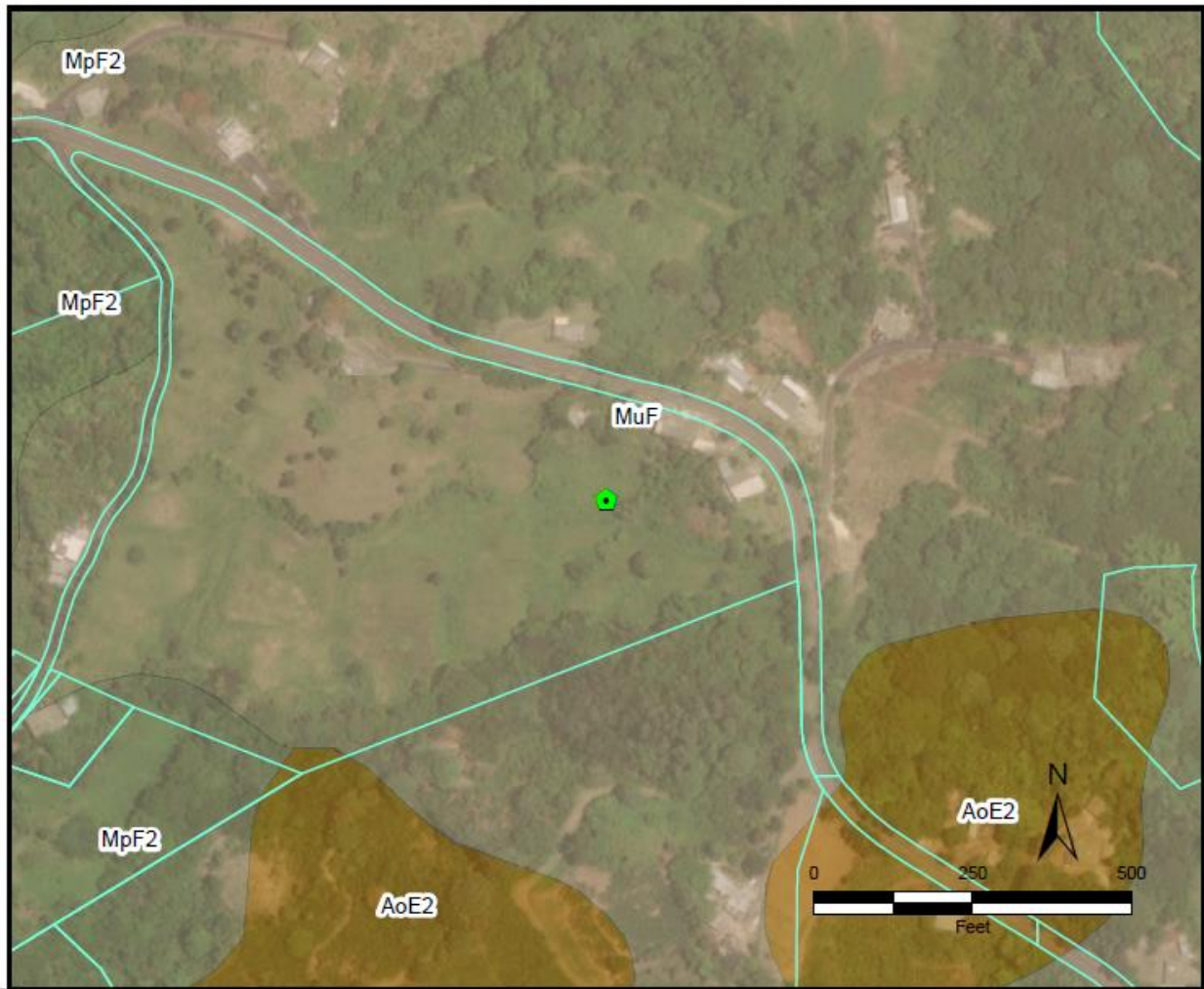


Subrecipient: AGRO F.E. CORP

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01660

City: Ciales

### Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map



**TETRA TECH**

Source: USDA

Author: TG

Date: 11/16/2023

**Legend**



Tier 2 Site



Parcelario

**Soil Type**



AoE2; Alonso clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes



MpF2; Morado clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes



MuF; Mucara clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes



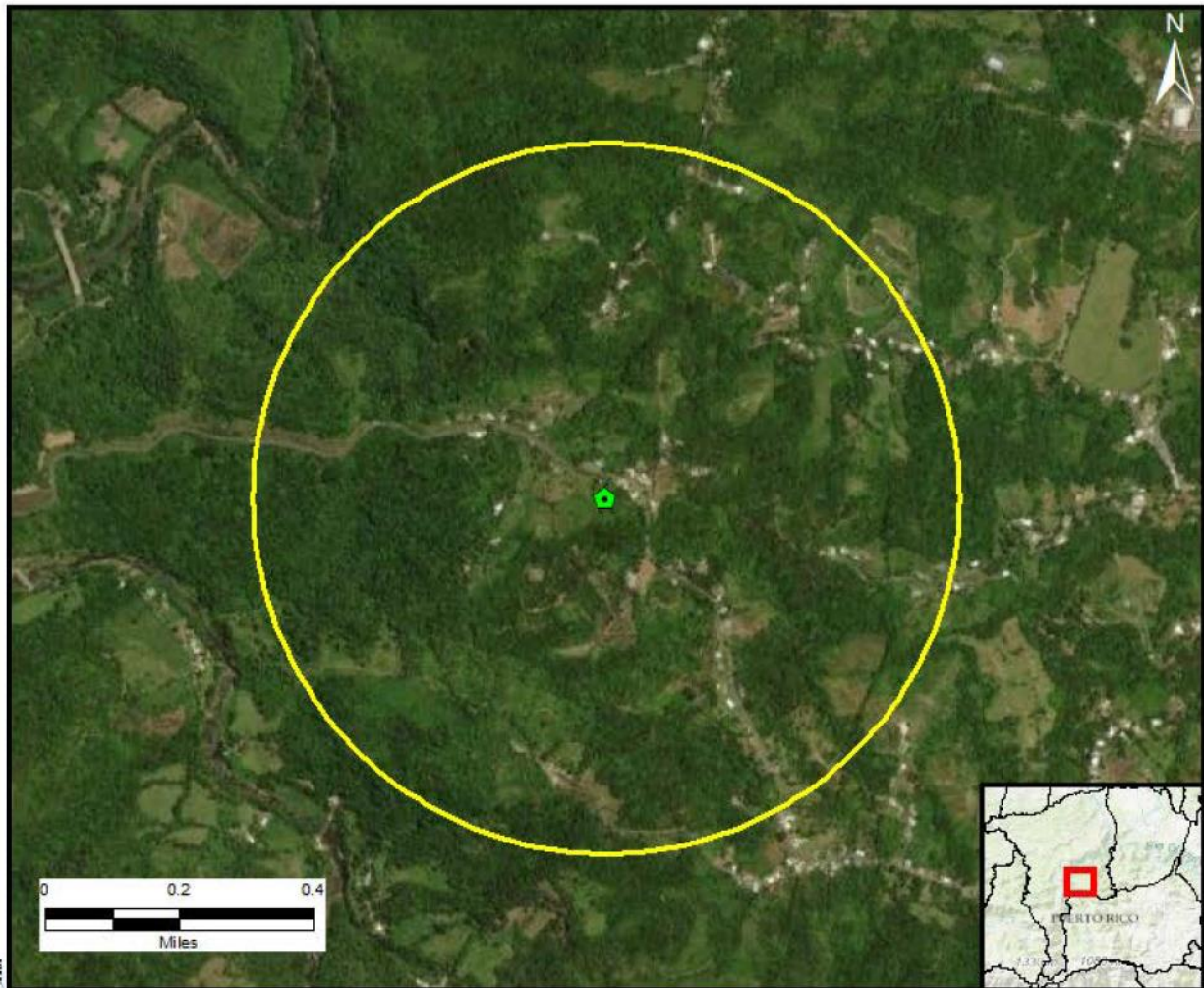


Subrecipient: AGRO F.E. CORP

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01660

City: Ciales

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



**TETRA TECH**

Source: National Park Service

Author: TG

Date: 7/27/2023

**Legend**



Tier 2 Site



Half Mile Buffer



Historic Comunidades



Traditional Urban Centers



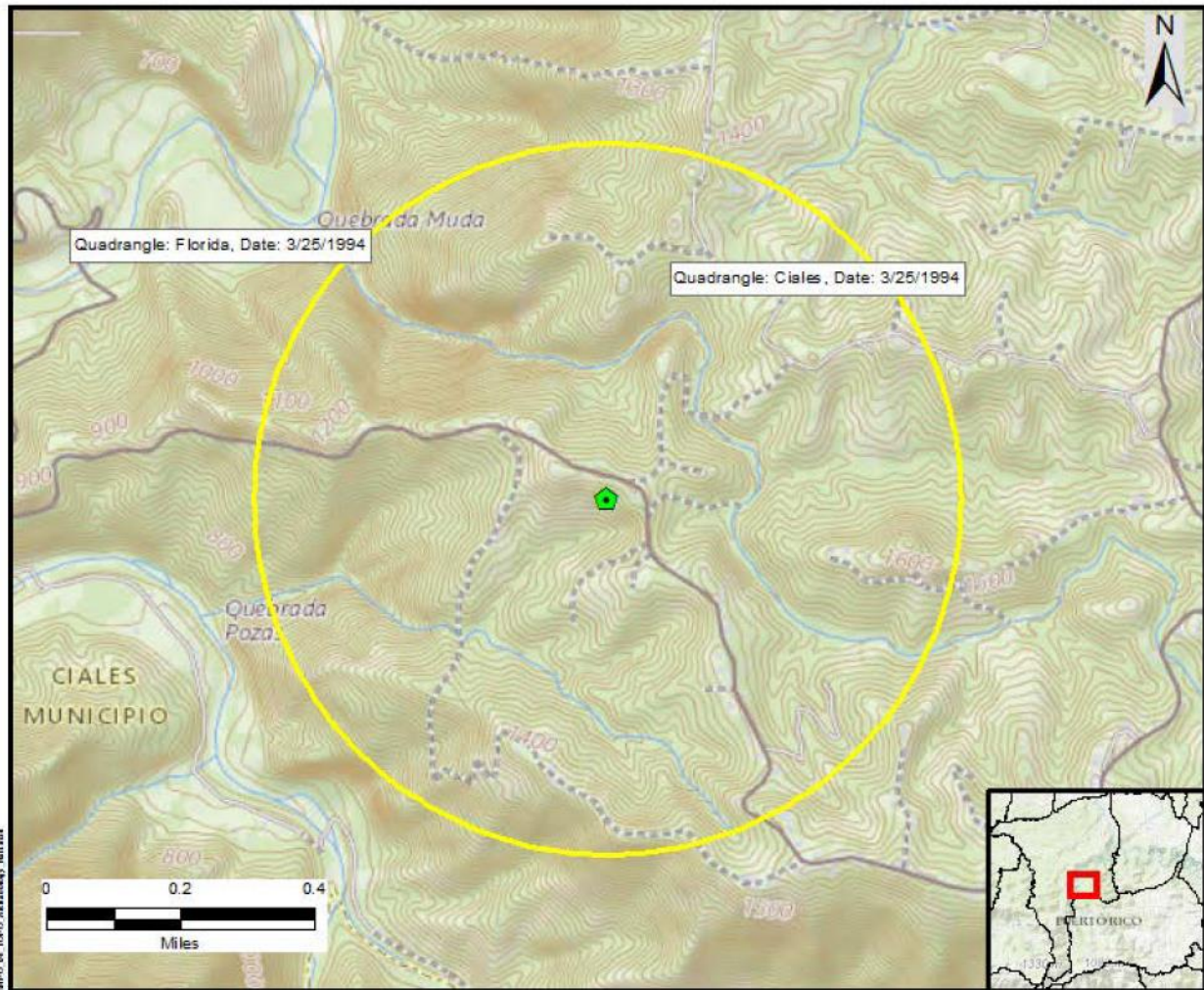
Cultural Resource District Polygon

Subrecipient: AGRO F.E. CORP

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01660

City: Ciales

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



Source: National Park Service

Author: TG

Date: 7/21/2023

- Legend**
- Tier 2 Site
  - Half Mile Buffer
  - Historic Comunidades
  - Traditional Urban Centers
  - Cultural Resource District Polygon



Subrecipient: AGRO F.E. CORP

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01660

City: Ciales

### Photograph Key



**Subrecipient:** AGRO F.E. CORP

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01660

**City:** Ciales



**Photo #: 1**

**Description (include direction):** Scope of Work 1: Construction of a water well, view to the southwest.

**Date:** 11/1/2023



**Photo #: 2**

**Description (include direction):** Scope of Work 1: Construction of a water well, view to the northwest.

**Date:** 11/1/2023



**Subrecipient:** AGRO F.E. CORP

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01660

**City:** Ciales



**Photo #:** 3

**Description (include direction):** Scope of Work 2 and 4 Installation of metal cages for rabbit breeding and Water Tank, view to the northeast.

**Date:** 11/1/2023



**Photo #:** 4

**Description (include direction):** Scope of Work 2 and 4: Installation of metal cages for rabbit breeding and Water Tank, view to the northwest.

**Date:** 11/1/2023

Subrecipient: AGRO F.E. CORP

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01660

City: Ciales



Photo #: 5

**Description (include direction):** Scope of Work 2: Installation of metal cages for rabbit breeding, view to the Northeast.


Date: 11/1/2023



Photo #: 6

**Description (include direction):** Scope of Work 3: Purchase and installation of a power generator, view to the northwest.

Date: 11/1/2023

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>		 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Subrecipient:</b> AGRO F.E. CORP		
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01660		<b>City:</b> Ciales

	
<b>Photo #: 7</b>	<b>Description (include direction):</b> Scope of Work 3: Purchase and installation of a power generator, view to the Southwest.
<b>Date:</b> 11/1/2023	





October 20, 2022

**Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela**

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

Cuartel de Ballajá Bldg.

San Juan, Puerto Rico

**Re: Authorization to Submit Documents**

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela:

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

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

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

Cordially,

Juan C. Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng

Director of Disaster Recovery

CDBG DR-MIT



## United States Department of the Interior

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



In Reply Refer to:  
FWS/R4/CESFO/72039-Gen

Submitted Via Electronic Mail: [jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto: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-01660 Agro F.E.  
Corp., Ciales, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

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

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is proposing the drilling and installation of a 500-foot deep and 6-inch diameter water well (18°15'53.2"N 66°29'42.8"W), purchase and installation of a 30-kW power generator (18.2650232, -66.4948040) and the purchase and installation of two 200 gallons water tanks (18°15'54.3"N 66°29'42.9"W). The proposed project will be located on State Road PR-615, Km. 11.7, Pozas Ward in the municipality of Ciales. According to PRDOH, the project site will require minor clearing, grading, and vegetation removal for all project activities. However, proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees.

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

PRDOH used the Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project on federally listed species (Project code: 2025-0011904). Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk which determined that the proposed actions for this project will have no effect (NE) on these species.

Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and analysis of the existing habitat sloped pastureland, and the land is currently used for pasture and as a farm with chicken, goats, and rabbits, PRDOH has determined that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk instead of the NE obtained by using the Dkeys. Also, PRDOH has made a NLAA determination for the Puerto Rican parrot and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly. Conservation measures for all species will be implemented in cases an encounter occurs.

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

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

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

Sincerely,

LOURDES  
MENA

Digitally signed by LOURDES  
MENA  
Date: 2025.01.10 15:29:07  
-04'00'

Lourdes Mena  
Field Supervisor

drr  
cc:  
HUD  
DNER





**DEPARTAMENTO DE LA VIVIENDA**  
GOBIERNO DE PUERTO RICO  
Secretaria | Hon. Ciary Pérez Peña

February 6, 2025

**TO: José M. Olmo Terrasa, Esq.**

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

**RE: Endangered Species Concurrence - Conservation Measures Implementation  
Agro F.E. Corp. (PR-RGRW-01660)**

Dear Mr. Olmo:

This memorandum is to notify the CDBG-DR Re-Grow PR Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (Re-Grow Program) that on November 1, 2024, for the case **PR-RGRW-01660**, the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division submitted an informal consultation under Section 7 (a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) for the proposed project of the drilling and installation of a diameter water well, purchase and installation of two gallons water tanks and a power generator, for Agro F.E. Corp, an agricultural business, located at PR-615 Km 11.7, Pozas Ward, Ciales, PR 00638; latitude 18.265358, longitude -66.496327.

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

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

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on January 10, 2025 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have **May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)** the Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk and Puerto Rican Harlequin.

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

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

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

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

USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office key contact information:

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

Sincerely,

Permits and Environmental Compliance Division  
Disaster Recovery Office

# Caribbean ES Puerto Rican Boa

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## *Puerto Rican Boa*

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





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

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

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

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



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

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

#### Conservation Measures:

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

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

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

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





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

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

# Guaraguao de bosque

*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*



Distribución ■

## Información biológica

### Reproducción

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

### Hábitat

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

**Familia:** Accipitridae  
**Orden:** Falconiformes

## Descripción

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

AMENAZADA

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

### Distribución

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

### Amenazas

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

### Medidas de conservación

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

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# AMENAZADA



# Cotorra puertorriqueña

*Amazona vittata vittata*



Distribución ■

**Familia:** Psittacidae  
**Orden:** Psittaciformes

## Descripción

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

## Información biológica

### Reproducción

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

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

### Dieta

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

### Distribución

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

EN PELIGRO

## Amenazas

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

## Medidas de conservación

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

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

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

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

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

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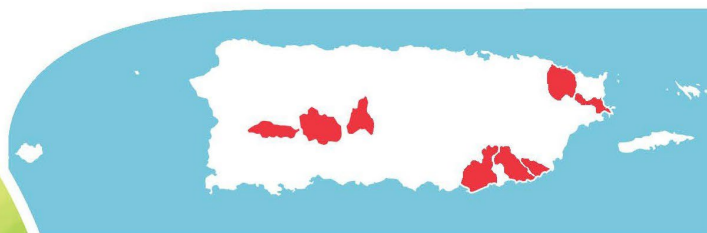
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EN PELIGRO

# Falcon de sierra *striatus*



Distribución

## Habitat

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

## Dieta

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

## Distribuci6n

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

## Amenazas

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

**Familia:** Accipitridae  
**Orden:** Falconiformes

## Descripci6n

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

## Informaci6n biol6gica

### Reproducci6n

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



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

## **Medidas de conservaci6n**

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

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

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**seaGiint**  
Puerto Rico

**EN PELIGRO**



November 1, 2024

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**RE: Puerto Rico Department of Housing / Re-Grow Program  
PR-RGRW-01660 – Agro F.E. Corp.  
Endangered Species Concurrence for NLAA Determination**

Dear Ms. Mena:

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-01660, located at PR-615 Road Km 11.7, Pozas Ward, Ciales, PR 00638 (Parcel ID# 192-000-006-51-000). The coordinates of the project site are 18.2647685, -66.4952224.

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

The proposed project, PR-RGRW-01660, includes three scopes of work (SOW) within the parcel. The SOW-1 includes the installation of a water well. The applicant plans to drill a 500-foot deep and 6-inch diameter water well at coordinates 18.2647685, -66.4952224. The drilling of the well will require an initial diameter of 8 inches to be reduced to 6 inches. Proposed seal is a 6-inch to 2-inch well-seal. The purpose of the well is to provide water to the existing animal barn building where chickens, goats and rabbits are located. SOW-1 includes the on-site poured concrete pad of 4 feet x 4 feet with a thickness of 4-6 inches. An estimated depth of 1-foot is needed for the construction of the concrete pad. Although it is not included in the project SOW or in the IUGF, applicant future plans include the purchase and installation of a solar water pump system for the well. SOW-2 is the purchase and installation of a 30-kW power generator



at coordinates 18.2650232, -66.4948040 to provide power to existing animal barn structure. The power generator will be located at an approximate distance of 10 feet from the main electrical meter connection and installed on a new poured concrete pad measuring 10 feet x 10 feet with a thickness of 4-6 inches. An estimated depth of 1-foot is needed for the construction of the concrete pad. Power connection from the generator to the barn structure will be achieved via an underground electrical conduit. Connection will require an electrical trench of an estimated distance of 150 feet and 3 feet of depth. SOW-3 is the purchase and installation of 2 water tanks with an approximate volume of 200-gallons each, to be located on the east side of the existing barn structure, at coordinates 18.26509, -66.49526. Tanks will be used for the storage of water drawn from the proposed well via an approximately 200-foot long PVC pipeline installed aboveground. This water will be used to provide water to animals and the operations of the barn. Water tanks are going to be installed aboveground on leveled terrain, no concrete pad construction is required for the installation of the tanks.

The project site will require minor clearing, grading, and vegetation removal activities for all scopes. However, proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees. Surrounding landscape includes sloped pastureland throughout the parcel, with a forested south edge at the parcel boundary. From 1940's to 2017 (until Hurricane María) the land was used for coffee and plantain farming but is currently used for pasture and as a farm with chicken, goats, and rabbits. The proposed project area consists of a sloped grassy landscape, currently in use as a pasture. The National Wetlands Inventory indicated that no wetlands are located within the parcel.

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

Name of the species	Threatened/Endangered/Candidate
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk ( <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> )	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot ( <i>Amazona vittata</i> )	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk ( <i>Accipiter striatus venator</i> )	Endangered
Puerto Rican Boa ( <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> )	Endangered
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly ( <i>Atlantea tulita</i> )	Threatened
<b>Critical Habitat</b>	
There are no critical habitats at this location.	

Based on site review and site photos, no suitable habitat was found within the proposed project area for the listed species.

The Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk habitat requirements per the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1997 Recovery plan are as follows: "In the Caribbean National Forest, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawks were more often seen on the eastern side, and the tabonuco and palo colorado forest types were reported as preferred habitats for the

species (Wiley and Bauer 1985). Delannoy (1992) reported that Broad-winged Hawks were observed to be clustered in the north-central part of the forest within the subtropical wet forest and subtropical rain forest life zones, where the tabonuco is the dominant forest type. In the Carite Commonwealth Forest the species has been reported from the elfin, caimitillo, granadillo, tabonuco, and slope forest types (Hermindez 1980, Delannoy 1992). Delannoy (1992) reported Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawks sighted in the northeastern corner and west-central parts of the Río Abajo forest within the subtropical moist forest and subtropical wet forest life zones (Ewel and Whitmore 1973). Limestone hillside, sinkholes, and narrow valleys or ravines between haystack hills or "mogotes" are the dominant habitats within these life zones (Department of Natural Resources 1976)."

The Puerto Rican Parrot habitat requirements per the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are as follows: "The habitat of the parrot is generally identified as the Palo Colorado, Palma de Sierra, and Tabonuco forests types of the upper zones of the Luquillo Mountains within the El Yunque National Forest. This bird feeds chiefly on wild fruits, particularly the sierra palm (*Prestoria montana*), but may also consume flowers and tender shoots. During October, when other fruits are scarce, the tabonuco fruit (*Dacryodes excelsa*) becomes an important food item."

The Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk habitat requirements per the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1997 Recovery plan are as follows: "In the Carite Commonwealth Forest, territorial and epigamic activities were reported by Hermindez (1980) in the northeastern and north-central parts. These areas are located in the caimitillo-granadillo forest type of the subtropical wet forest and subtropical lower montane wet forest life zones (Department of Natural Resources 1976). Delannoy (1992) reported that in the Maricao Commonwealth Forest, the center of Sharp-shinned Hawk epigamic and territorial activities was located in the north-central and eastern parts. All of these areas are located within the subtropical lower montane wet forest and subtropical wet forest life zones (Ewel and Whitmore 1973). The Podocarpus and caimitillo forest types dominate these life zones (Department of Natural Resources 1976). In Toro Negro, the Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk territorial and epigamic activities were reported in the eastern segment of the forest (Delannoy 1992). These activities took place in the elfin woodland, sierra palm, caimitillo-granadillo, and tabonuco forest types of the subtropical wet forest and subtropical lower montane wet forest life zones (Department of Natural Resources 1976)."

The Puerto Rican Boa habitat requirements per the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are as follows: "The Puerto Rican Boa is considered a habitat generalist and tolerates a wide variety of habitat types (terrestrial and arboreal). These include: rocky areas and haystack hills, trees and branches, rotting stumps, caves (entrances and inside), plantations, various types of forested areas such as karst and mangrove forests, forested urban and rural areas, and along streams and road edges. Cave ecosystems and their surrounding forests are considered particularly important because of the availability of such ecological resources such as prey, shelter, thermal gradients, and mates for reproduction."

The Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly habitat requirements per the IPaC species profile are as follows: "Forested habitat: mosaic of forested habitat with canopy cover between 50

to 85 percent, average canopy height of 20 feet, and plant host cover of more than 30 percent. Water and nectar sources for adult PRHBs may vary according to the life zone and habitat type. All the sites where the PRHB occurs have a close (within a 1 km radius) water source (e.g., creek, river, pond, among others). Caterpillar feeds almost exclusively on *Oplonia spinosa*, but there are a few records of feeding on *Odontonema cuspidatum* and *Justicia mirabiloides*. All these plant species are in the family *Acanthaceae*. Images have been observed feeding on flowers of several native trees."

Based on the nature of the project, previous site disturbance, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, we have made the following effects determinations:

Name of the species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures that will be implemented
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk ( <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> )	Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Parrot ( <i>Amazona vittata</i> )	Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	Puerto Rican Parrot Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk ( <i>Accipiter striatus venator</i> )	Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Boa ( <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> )	Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly ( <i>Atlantea tulita</i> )	Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Conservation Measures 2024

Given the current land use and frequent disturbance and lack of sightings of the listed species within the vicinity, PRDOH has determined that the project is not likely to adversely affect the listed species provided the attached Conservation Measures are implemented as part of the proposed project. The automated informal consultation process was completed on October 28 through USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation website (<https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/>).

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-Bofill, PE, MEng.  
Director – Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR/MIT Program  
[environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov) | 787.274.2527 ext. 4320

**CDBG-DR FUNDS**

**Attachments:**

Appendix A:

- Figure 1 – Project Location Map
- Figure 2 – Area of Potential Effect Map
- Figure 3 – Wetland Map
- Figure 4 – Endangered Species Map
- Figure 5 – Critical Habitats Map
- Figure 6 – Farmland Protection Map

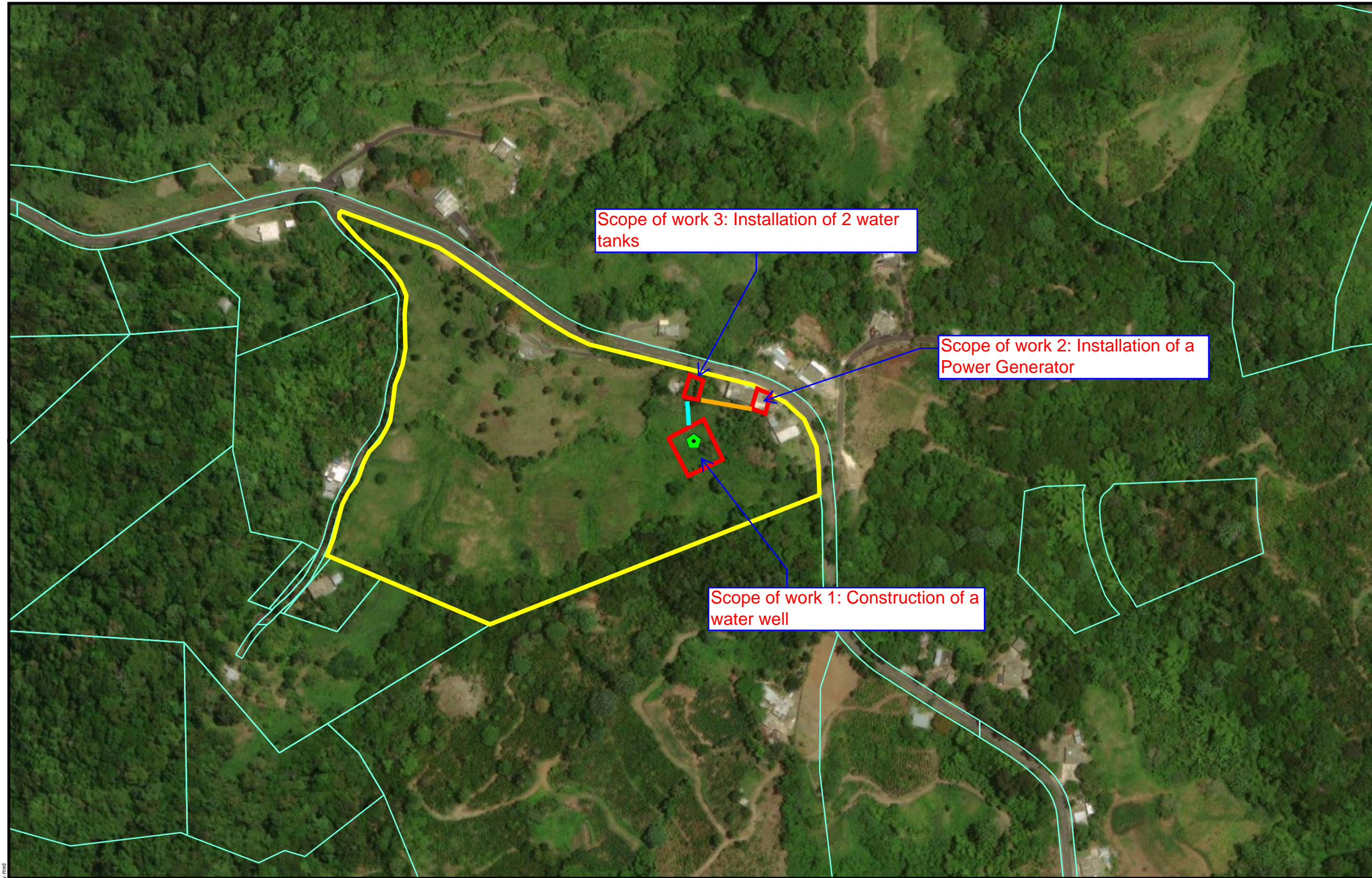
Appendix B: Species List Caribbean Ecological Services and Consistency Letter

Appendix C: Site Photos

Appendix D: Species Conservation Measures

## Appendix A: Figures





- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Parcels
  - Area of Potential Effect
  - Project Parcel Boundaries
  - Power Connections
  - Water Connections

## PUERTO RICO



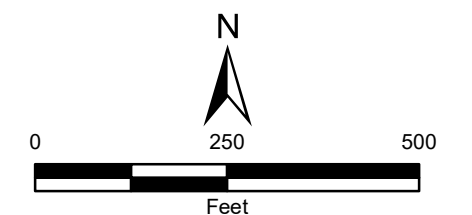
**PROJECT LOCATION**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**  
**ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638**  
Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP  
Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222



Source: CRIM  
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>

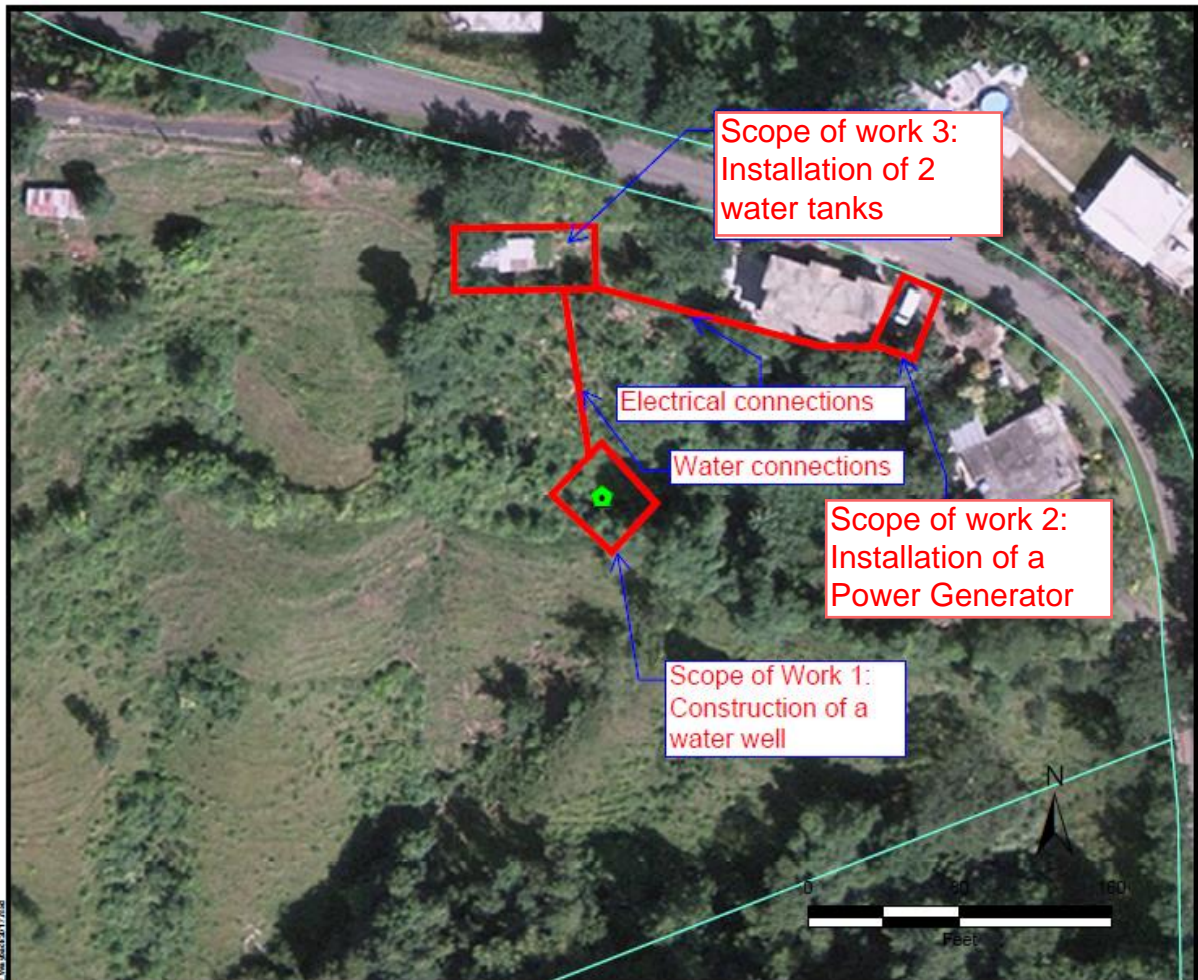
Author: TG

Date: 3/14/2024





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



**TETRA TECH**

Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 10/7/2022

#### Legend



Project Parcel



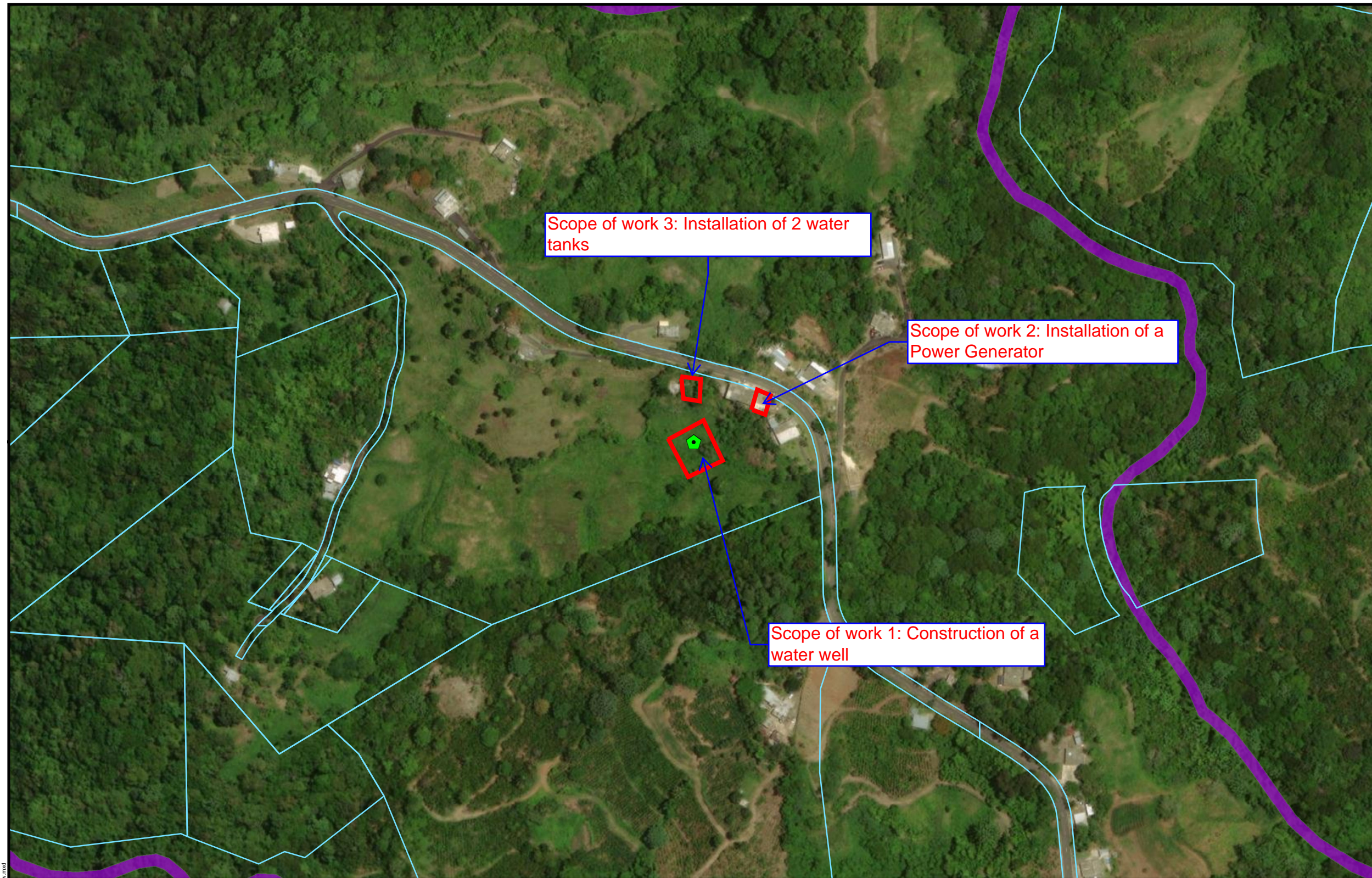
Area of Potential Effect



Parcelario







**Legend**

- Project Parcel
- Parcels

**WETLAND TYPE**

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

Area of Potential Effect

## PUERTO RICO

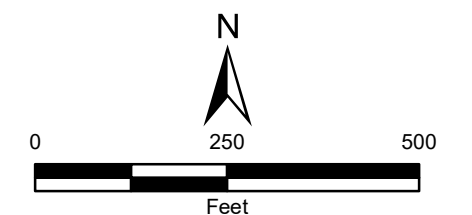


**WETLANDS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**  
ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638  
Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP  
Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222

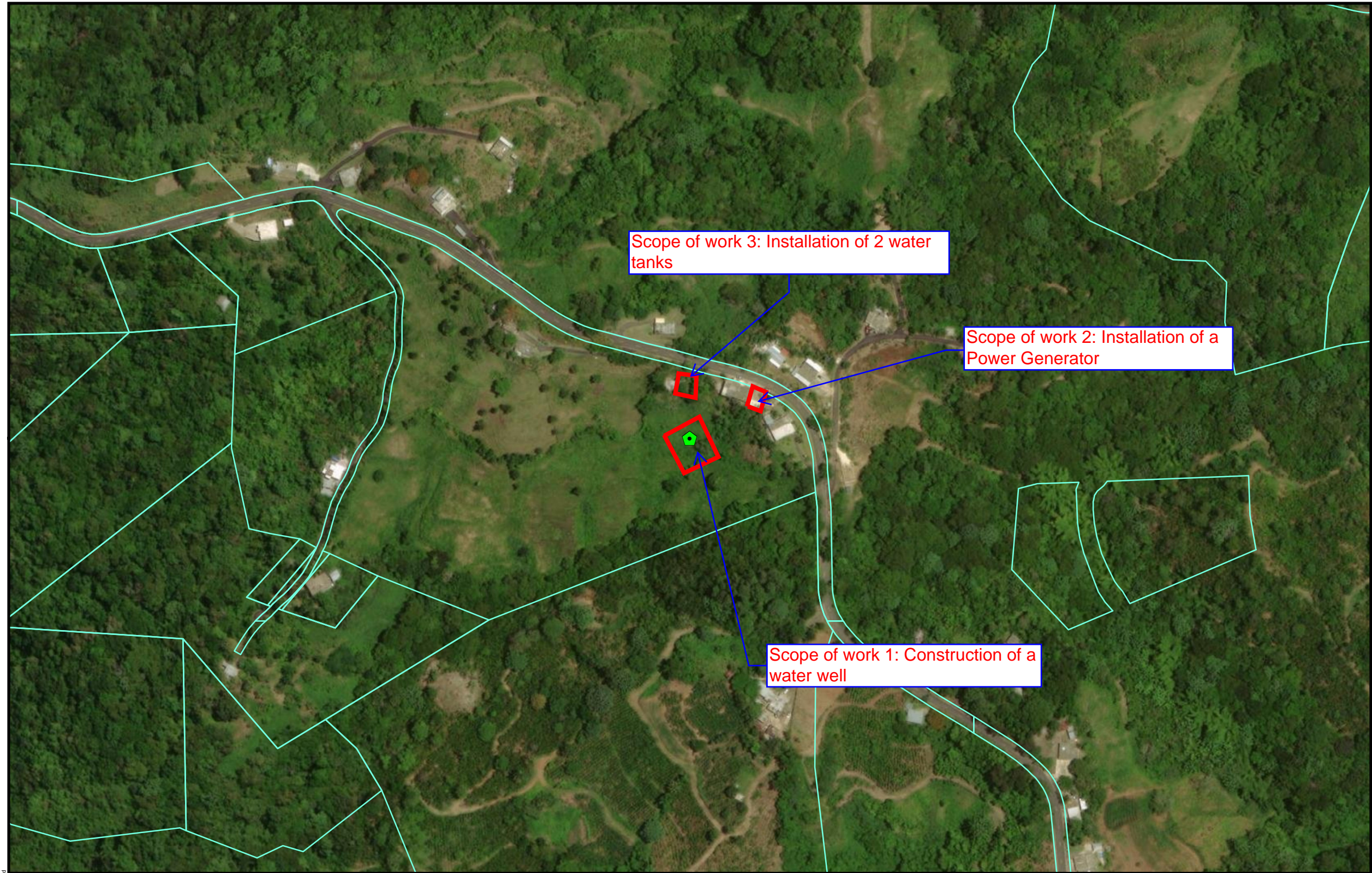


Source: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
<https://www.fws.gov>

Author: TG Date: 3/19/2024



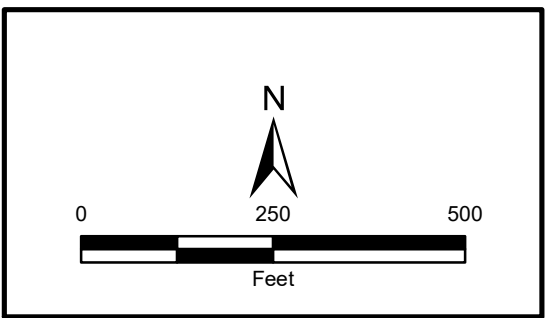




**Legend**

- Project Parcel
- Parcels
- Area of Potential Effect
- Area of Critical Habitat

**PUERTO RICO**



**TETRA TECH**

Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
<https://ecos.fws.gov>

Author: TG      Date: 3/19/2024

**ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**

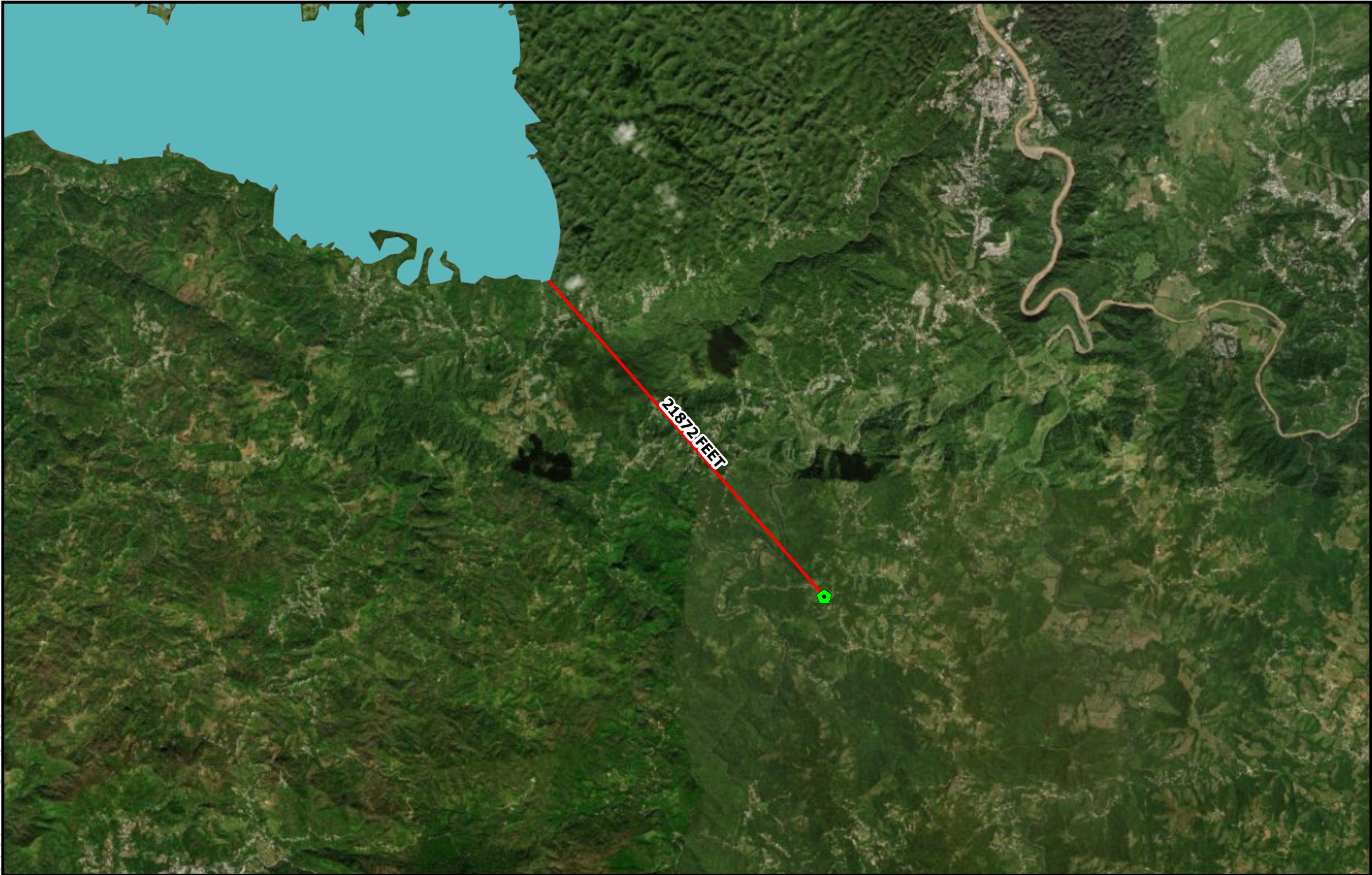
ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638

Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP


Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222

File Path: Z:\data\USPRT\Tier2\ESA\_Secundary\_Imagery\_Regrow.mxd






**Legend**

 Project Parcel


**Common Name**

 Puerto Rico harlequin butterfly

**Distance to Nearest Critical Habitat:**  
21872 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**





**TETRA TECH**

Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
<https://ecos.fws.gov>

Author: TG

**CRITICAL HABITATS**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**

ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638

Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP

Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222

0 5,000 10,000

Feet

File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\Tier2\Regrow\aparcCRTHABITAT\Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\CRTHABITAT\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow.aprx





#### Legend

Project Parcel

#### Farm Class

- All areas are prime farmland
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated
- Prime farmland if drained
- Prime farmland if irrigated
- Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
- Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

Area of Potential Effect

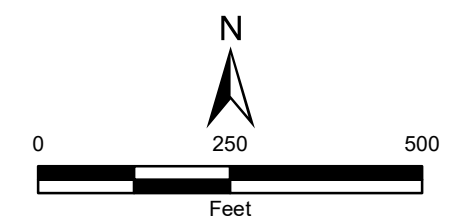
#### PUERTO RICO



**FARMLAND PROTECTION**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**  
ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638  
Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP  
Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222



Source: USDA  
<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>  
Author: TG Date: 3/19/2024





Appendix B:  
Species List Caribbean Ecological Services  
and Consistency Letter



## United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:  
Project Code: 2025-0011904  
Project Name: PR-RGRW-01660

10/28/2024 17:55:24 UTC

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](mailto: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](mailto: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

(939) 320-3135

## PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0011904

Project Name: PR-RGRW-01660

Project Type: Restoration / Enhancement - Agricultural

Project Description: The proposed project includes three scopes of work (SOW) within the parcel. The scope of work #1 (SOW-1) is the installation of a water well. The applicant plans to drill a 500 foot (ft) deep and 6 inches diameter water well at coordinates 18.2647685, -66.4952224. The drilling of the well will require an initial diameter of 8 inches (in) to be reduced to 6-in. Proposed seal is a 6-in to 2- in well-seal. The purpose of the well is to provide water to the existing animal barn building where chickens, goats and rabbits are located. The SOW-1 includes the on-site poured concrete pad of 4 ft x 4 ft with a thickness of 4-6 inches. An estimated depth of 1 ft is needed for the construction of the concrete pad. Although it is not included in the project SOW or in the IUGF, applicant future plans include the purchase and installation of a solar water pump system for the well.

The Scope of Work #2 (SOW-2) is the purchase and installation of a 30-KW power generator at coordinates 18.2650232, -66.4948040 to provide power to existing animal barn structure. The power generator will be located at an approximate distance of 10 ft from the main electrical meter connection and installed on a new poured concrete pad measuring 10 ft x 10 ft with a thickness of 4-6 inches. An estimated depth of 1 ft is needed for the construction of the concrete pad. Power connection from the generator to the barn structure will be achieved via an underground electrical conduit. Connection will require an electrical trench of an estimated distance of 150 ft and 3 ft of depth.

The Scope of Work #3 (SOW-3) is the purchase and installation of 2 water tanks with an approximate volume of 200 gallons each, to be located on the east side of the existing barn structure, at coordinates 18.26509, -66.49526. Tanks will be used for the storage of water drawn from the proposed well via an approximately 200 ft long PVC pipeline installed aboveground. This water will be used to provide water to animals and the operations of the barn. Water tanks are going to be installed aboveground on leveled terrain, no concrete pad construction is required for the installation of the tanks. The project site will require minor clearing, grading, and vegetation removal activities for all scopes. However, proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.26484465,-66.49505599278115,14z>



Counties: Ciales 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 Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, 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: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512</a>	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot <i>Amazona vittata</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067</a>	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk <i>Accipiter striatus venator</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/604">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/604</a>	Endangered

## REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628</a> General project design guidelines: <a href="https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/YUTAP27CTFD33LZJVCKK5T2ROY/documents/generated/7159.pdf">https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/YUTAP27CTFD33LZJVCKK5T2ROY/documents/generated/7159.pdf</a>	Endangered

## INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly <i>Atlantea tulita</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9005">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9005</a> General project design guidelines: <a href="https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/YUTAP27CTFD33LZJVCKK5T2ROY/documents/generated/7168.pdf">https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/YUTAP27CTFD33LZJVCKK5T2ROY/documents/generated/7168.pdf</a>	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 Act<sup>1</sup> and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats<sup>3</sup>, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the ["Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"](#).

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

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

## MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats<sup>3</sup> should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the ["Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"](#).

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

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

## WETLANDS

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

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

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

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Tetra Tech  
Name: Shelby McDowell  
Address: 2301 Lucien Way #120  
City: Maitland  
State: FL  
Zip: 32751  
Email: shelby.mcdowell@tetrattech.com  
Phone: 4096591563





## United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:  
Project code: 2025-0011904  
Project Name: PR-RGRW-01660

10/28/2024 17:58:47 UTC

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-01660' for specified threatened and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On October 28, 2024, Shelby McDowell used the Caribbean DKey; dated April 03, 2024, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-01660'. The project is located in Ciales County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.26484465,-66.49505599278115,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-01660':

The proposed project includes three scopes of work (SOW) within the parcel. The scope of work #1 (SOW-1) is the installation of a water well. The applicant plans to drill a 500 foot (ft) deep and 6 inches diameter water well at coordinates 18.2647685, -66.4952224. The drilling of the well will require an initial diameter of 8 inches (in) to be reduced to 6-in. Proposed seal is a 6-in to 2- in well-seal. The purpose of the well is to provide water to the existing animal barn building where chickens, goats and rabbits are located. The SOW-1 includes the on-site poured concrete pad of 4 ft x 4 ft with a thickness of 4-6 inches. An estimated depth of 1 ft is needed for the construction of the concrete pad. Although it is not included in the project SOW or in the IUGF, applicant future plans include the purchase and installation of a solar water pump system for the well.

The Scope of Work #2 (SOW-2) is the purchase and installation of a 30-KW power generator at coordinates 18.2650232, -66.4948040 to provide power to existing animal barn structure. The power generator will be located at an approximate distance of 10 ft from the main electrical meter connection and installed on a new poured concrete pad measuring 10 ft x 10 ft with a thickness of 4-6 inches. An estimated depth of 1 ft is needed for the construction of the concrete pad. Power connection from the generator to the barn structure will be achieved via an underground electrical conduit. Connection will require an electrical trench of an estimated distance of 150 ft and 3 ft of depth.

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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:

<b>Species</b>	<b>Listing Status</b>	<b>Determination</b>
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-01660

**2. Description**

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-01660':

The proposed project includes three scopes of work (SOW) within the parcel. The scope of work #1 (SOW-1) is the installation of a water well. The applicant plans to drill a 500 foot (ft) deep and 6 inches diameter water well at coordinates 18.2647685, -66.4952224. The drilling of the well will require an initial diameter of 8 inches (in) to be reduced to 6-in. Proposed seal is a 6-in to 2- in well-seal. The purpose of the well is to provide water to the existing animal barn building where chickens, goats and rabbits are located. The SOW-1 includes the on-site poured concrete pad of 4 ft x 4 ft with a thickness of 4-6 inches. An estimated depth of 1 ft is needed for the construction of the concrete pad. Although it is not included in the project SOW or in the IUGF, applicant future plans include the purchase and installation of a solar water pump system for the well.

The Scope of Work #2 (SOW-2) is the purchase and installation of a 30-KW power generator at coordinates 18.2650232, -66.4948040 to provide power to existing animal barn structure. The power generator will be located at an approximate distance of 10 ft from the main electrical meter connection and installed on a new poured concrete pad measuring 10 ft x 10 ft with a thickness of 4-6 inches. An estimated depth of 1 ft is needed for the construction of the concrete pad. Power connection from the generator to the barn structure will be achieved via an underground electrical conduit. Connection will require an electrical trench of an estimated distance of 150 ft and 3 ft of depth.

The Scope of Work #3 (SOW-3) is the purchase and installation of 2 water tanks with an approximate volume of 200 gallons each, to be located on the east side of the existing barn structure, at coordinates 18.26509, -66.49526. Tanks will be used for the storage of water drawn from the proposed well via an approximately 200 ft long PVC pipeline installed aboveground. This water will be used to provide water to animals and the operations of the barn. Water tanks are going to be installed aboveground on leveled terrain, no concrete pad construction is required for the installation of the tanks. The project site will require minor clearing, grading, and vegetation removal activities for all scopes. However, proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.26484465,-66.49505599278115,14z>





## 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.

Yes

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

**Automatically answered**

Yes

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

**Automatically answered**

Yes

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

**Automatically answered**

Yes

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Tetra Tech  
Name: Shelby McDowell  
Address: 2301 Lucien Way #120  
City: Maitland  
State: FL  
Zip: 32751  
Email: shelby.mcdowell@tetrattech.com  
Phone: 4096591563

## **LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

Lead Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development

## Appendix C: Site Photos



**Front of Structure**

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Facing Away From Front**

Photo Direction: Northwest





**Side #1 of Structure**

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Facing Away From Side #1**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Back of Structure**

Photo Direction: North



**Facing Away From Back**

Photo Direction: South





**Side #2 of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Facing Away From Side #2**

Photo Direction: Southwest





**Streetscape #1**

Photo Direction: East



**Streetscape #2**

Photo Direction: West



Address

Photo Direction: Southwest



Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Photo Description: Water canal underneath high vegetation

Photo Direction: South





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details	
Photo Description: Architectural details	
Photo Direction: North	
<div><div><div><div>11:19 AM · The New 2</div><div><div>&lt;</div><div>📍</div><div>⋮</div></div></div><div><div>Dropped pin</div><div>Near Toro Negro, Ciales 00638, Puerto Rico</div><div>🕒 1 hr 13 min</div><div><div>📍</div><div>Directions</div><div>🚶 Start</div><div>📌 Save</div><div>🗨️ A</div></div><div><div>📏</div><div>Measure distance</div></div><div><div>📍</div><div>7073+RPG Ciales, Puerto Rico</div><div>🕒</div></div><div><div>(18.2645657, -66.4956854)</div></div><div><div>✎</div><div>Suggest an edit</div></div><div><div>📍</div><div>Add a missing place</div></div><div><div>🏢</div><div>Add your business to Maps for free</div></div></div></div><div></div></div>	



Electricity Connected

Photo Description: Power service connection

Photo Direction: Southeast



Water Connected

Photo Description: Water meter

Photo Direction: Southeast



Aboveground Storage Tanks

Photo Description: 450 gallons cistern

Photo Direction: Southwest



Aboveground Storage Tanks

Photo Description: Propane tank

Photo Direction: Northwest





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of Work #1: Water Well

Photo Direction: East



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of Work #1: Water well system

Photo Direction: South





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scooe of Work #1: Water Well

Photo Direction: West



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of Work #1: Water Well

Photo Direction: North



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #2 and #5: Rabbit cages and water tank

Photo Direction: Northeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #2 and #5: Rabbit cages and water tank

Photo Direction: East





Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #2 and #5: Rabbit cages and water tank

Photo Direction: Southeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #2 and #5: Rabbit cages and water tank

Photo Direction: West



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of Work #3: Power generator

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of Work #3: Power generator

Photo Direction: Northwest





Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #3: Power generator

Photo Direction: Southeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #3: Power generator

Photo Direction: North



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scooe of Work #4: Cocoa seeds planting

Photo Direction: Southwest



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #4: Cocoa seeds planting

Photo Direction: West





Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #4: Cocoa seeds planting

Photo Direction: Northwest



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of Work #4: Cocoa seeds planting

Photo Direction: Northeast



Appendix D:  
Species Conservation Measures



### Conservation Measures for the Broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*)

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

The Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk is a small hawk with dark chocolate-brown upperparts, heavily streaked rufous breast, and a broadly banded black and white tail. Adult male and female are similar in appearance, but the female is slightly larger. This species occurs in elfin woodland, sierra palm, caimitillo-granadillo, and tabonuco forest types of the Río Abajo Commonwealth Forest, Carite Commonwealth Forest, and El Yunque National Forest as well as within hardwood plantations, shade coffee plantations, and mature secondary forests. The Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk population is estimated at about 125 individuals island-wide.



The broad-winged hawk was federally listed in 1994. The broad-wing prefers to hunt from a perch under the forest canopy for a better view of potential prey in a forest clearing, trail or river below. Each hunting pair requires a range of 40 hectares (98 acres). The Broad-wing builds a nest of sticks in February and March, laying 2 to 4 white/brown-spotted eggs. The female incubates the eggs for almost a month while the male searches for food. The young fledge around April or May about 1 month after hatching and can fly about 6 weeks after hatching. The parents feed the young for a few weeks after they leave the nest. The voice is a high-pitched whistle.

The hawk is an uncommon and local resident in the El Yunque National Forest, the Río Abajo State Forest, and the Toro Negro State Forest.

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

1. For any project activity that involves construction or tree-disturbing activities, all construction workers will be required to participate in environmental awareness training. The training will educate workers on: (a) special-status species that may occur in the work area, (b) procedures

to follow in the event a species is observed, and (c) other environmental BMPs and emergency spill response protocols.

2. All non-emergency work activities will be confined to daylight hours (i.e., sunrise to sunset), unless necessary for assessing or protecting biological resources.
3. Whenever possible, impacts to native nesting birds will be avoided by not conducting Project activities that involve clearing of vegetation, generation of mechanical noise, or tree disturbance during the typical breeding season for this hawk (February and March), if the hawk is determined to be present.
4. If Project activities must be conducted during the nesting bird season, the Contractor will conduct surveys for nesting birds within a 1,000-ft radius of the construction area. If nests are detected, the Contractor will notify the USFWS and establish buffers around nests that are sufficient to ensure that breeding is not likely to be disrupted or adversely impacted by construction. Buffers around active nests will be a minimum of 250 feet, unless a qualified biologist determines that smaller buffers would be sufficient to avoid impacts to nesting birds. Factors to be considered for determining buffer size will include: the presence of natural buffers provided by vegetation or topography; nest height; locations of foraging territory; and baseline levels of noise and human activity. Buffers will be maintained until young have fledged or the nests become inactive.
5. If a broad-winged hawk is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #s: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124).
6. Designated critical habitat within the vicinity of project activities will be identified. All Proposed Project actions will be designed to avoid direct and indirect adverse modifications to these areas. Minimization measures, such as establishing and maintaining buffers around areas of designated critical habitat will be implemented in the event that avoidance is not feasible.
7. If critical habitat may be adversely modified by the implementation of Proposed Project actions, the area to be modified will be evaluated by a qualified biologist to determine the potential magnitude of the project effects (e.g., description of primary constituent elements present and quantification of those affected) at a level of detail necessary to satisfy applicable environmental compliance and permitting requirements. This information shall be submitted to the PRDNER as shown in Number 5 above.
8. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact PRDNER for further guidance.

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

- Marelisa Rivera, Deputy Field Supervisor  
Email: [marelisa\\_rivera@fws.gov](mailto:marelisa_rivera@fws.gov)  
Office phone (786) 244-0081 or mobile (305) 304-1814
- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator  
Email: [jose\\_cruz-burgos@fws.gov](mailto:jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov)  
Office phone (786) 244-0081 or mobile (305) 304-1386

### **Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican Amazon (Parrot) (*Amazona vittata*)**

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

The Puerto Rican amazon (*Amazona vittata*), also known as the Puerto Rican parrot (Puerto Rican Spanish: cotorra puertorriqueña) or iguaca, is the only extant parrot endemic to the archipelago of Puerto Rico and belongs to the Neotropical genus *Amazona*. Measuring 28–30 cm (11.0–11.8 in), the bird is a predominantly green parrot with a red forehead and white rings around the eyes.



The parrot was federally listed as endangered in 1967. The parrot reaches sexual maturity at between three and four years of age. It reproduces once a year (between the months of February to June) and is a cavity nester. Once the female lays eggs, she will remain in the nest and continuously incubate them until hatching (about 24 to 28 days). The chicks are fed by both parents and will fledge 60 to 65 days after hatching. This parrot's diet is varied and consists of flowers, fruits, leaves, bark and nectar obtained from the forest canopy.

The species is the only remaining native parrot to Puerto Rico and has been listed as critically endangered by the World Conservation Union since 1994. Once widespread and abundant, the population declined drastically in the 19th and early 20th centuries with the removal of most of its native habitat; the species has completely vanished from Vieques and Mona Island. Conservation efforts commenced in 1968 to save the bird from extinction. The habitat of the parrot is generally identified as



the Palo Colorado, Palma de Sierra, and Tabonuco forests types of the upper zones of the Luquillo Mountains within the El Yunque National Forest.

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

1. For any project activity that involves construction or tree-disturbing activities, all construction workers will be required to participate in environmental awareness training. The training will educate workers on: (a) special-status species that may occur in the work area, (b) procedures to follow in the event a species is observed, and (c) other environmental BMPs and emergency spill response protocols.
2. All non-emergency work activities will be confined to daylight hours (i.e., sunrise to sunset), unless necessary for assessing or protecting biological resources.
3. Whenever possible, impacts to native nesting birds will be avoided by not conducting Project activities that involve clearing of vegetation, generation of mechanical noise, or tree disturbance during the typical breeding season for this parrot (January to July), if the parrot is determined to be present. The parrot selects a large, deep tree cavity, usually in a Palo Colorado tree. The parrot normally does not build its own nest but, many times, parrot biologists do build artificial cavities that are accepted by the parrot. A check with DNER should occur if large Palo Colorado trees are in the general construction area.
4. If Project activities must be conducted during the nesting bird season, the Contractor will conduct surveys for nesting birds within a 1,000-ft radius of the construction area. If nests are detected, the Contractor will notify the DNER and establish buffers around nests that are sufficient to ensure that breeding is not likely to be disrupted or adversely impacted by construction. Buffers around active nests will be a minimum of 250 feet, unless a qualified biologist determines that smaller buffers would be sufficient to avoid impacts to nesting birds. Factors to be considered for determining buffer size will include: the presence of natural buffers provided by vegetation or topography; nest height; locations of foraging territory; and baseline levels of noise and human activity. Buffers will be maintained until young have fledged or the nests become inactive.
5. If a parrot is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #s: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124).
6. Designated critical habitat within the vicinity of project activities will be identified. All Proposed Project actions will be designed to avoid direct and indirect adverse modifications to these

areas. Minimization measures, such as establishing and maintaining buffers around areas of designated critical habitat will be implemented in the event that avoidance is not feasible.

7. If critical habitat may be adversely modified by the implementation of Proposed Project actions, the area to be modified will be evaluated by a qualified biologist to determine the potential magnitude of the project effects (e.g., description of primary constituent elements present and quantification of those affected) at a level of detail necessary to satisfy applicable environmental compliance and permitting requirements. This information shall be submitted to the PRDNER as shown in Number 5 above.
8. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact PRDNER for further guidance.

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

- Marelisa Rivera, Deputy Field Supervisor  
Email: marelisa\_rivera@fws.gov  
Office phone (786) 244-0081 or mobile (305) 304-1814
- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator  
Email: jose\_cruz-burgos@fws.gov  
Office phone (786) 244-0081 or mobile (305) 304-1386

### **Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus venator*)**

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

The Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk is a small hawk measuring approximately 28 to 33 centimeters (11 to 13 inches). The dark slate gray upper parts and heavily barred rufous underparts of the adults are distinctive. Immatures are brown above and heavily streaked below. It has short, squared tail, often appearing notched when folded, and small head and neck. In flight, the short, rounded wings and long, narrow tail is characteristic. Adult males and females are similar in appearance, but the female is larger. The SSHA in Puerto Rico exhibits insular population traits, including small clutches, low productivity, and extended breeding periods. Historic information described this species as rare, uncommon, and occurring in restricted habitats in small numbers.



The sharp-shinned hawk was federally listed as endangered in 1994. The results of comprehensive population surveys suggest a decline of the island-wide population from 150 individuals in 1992 to about 100 individuals in 2016. In addition, a significant decline of this species have been reported in the Toro Negro Commonwealth Forest (TNCF) and Maricao Commonwealth Forest (MCF), which were previously considered the center of distribution of this species in Puerto Rico. Studies estimated the population of MCF as just 8 individuals and the population in TNCF as 26 individuals indicating a population decline of 53% and 86% in TNCF and MCF, respectively.

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

1. For any project activity that involves construction or tree-disturbing activities, all construction workers will be required to participate in environmental awareness training. The training will educate workers on: (a) special-status species that may occur in the work area, (b) procedures to follow in the event a species is observed, and (c) other environmental BMPs and emergency spill response protocols.
2. All non-emergency work activities will be confined to daylight hours (i.e., sunrise to sunset), unless necessary for assessing or protecting biological resources.
3. Whenever possible, impacts to native nesting birds will be avoided by not conducting Project activities that involve clearing of vegetation, generation of mechanical noise, or tree disturbance during the typical breeding season for this hawk (March and April), if the hawk is determined to be present.
4. If Project activities must be conducted during the nesting bird season, the Contractor will conduct surveys for nesting birds within a 1,000-ft radius of the construction area. If nests are detected, the Contractor will notify the USFWS and establish buffers around nests that are sufficient to ensure that breeding is not likely to be disrupted or adversely impacted by construction. Buffers around active nests will be a minimum of 250 feet, unless a qualified biologist determines that smaller buffers would be sufficient to avoid impacts to nesting birds. Factors to be considered for determining buffer size will include: the presence of natural buffers provided by vegetation or topography; nest height; locations of foraging territory; and baseline levels of noise and human activity. Buffers will be maintained until young have fledged or the nests become inactive.
5. If a sharp-shinned hawk is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124).
6. Designated critical habitat within the vicinity of project activities will be identified. All Proposed Project actions will be designed to avoid direct and indirect adverse modifications to these areas. Minimization measures, such as establishing and maintaining buffers around areas of designated critical habitat will be implemented in the event that avoidance is not feasible.
7. If critical habitat may be adversely modified by the implementation of Proposed Project actions, the area to be modified will be evaluated by a qualified biologist to determine the potential magnitude of the project effects (e.g., description of primary constituent elements present and quantification of those affected) at a level of detail necessary to satisfy applicable



environmental compliance and permitting requirements. This information shall be submitted to the PRDNER as shown in Number 5 above.

8. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact PRDNER for further guidance.

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

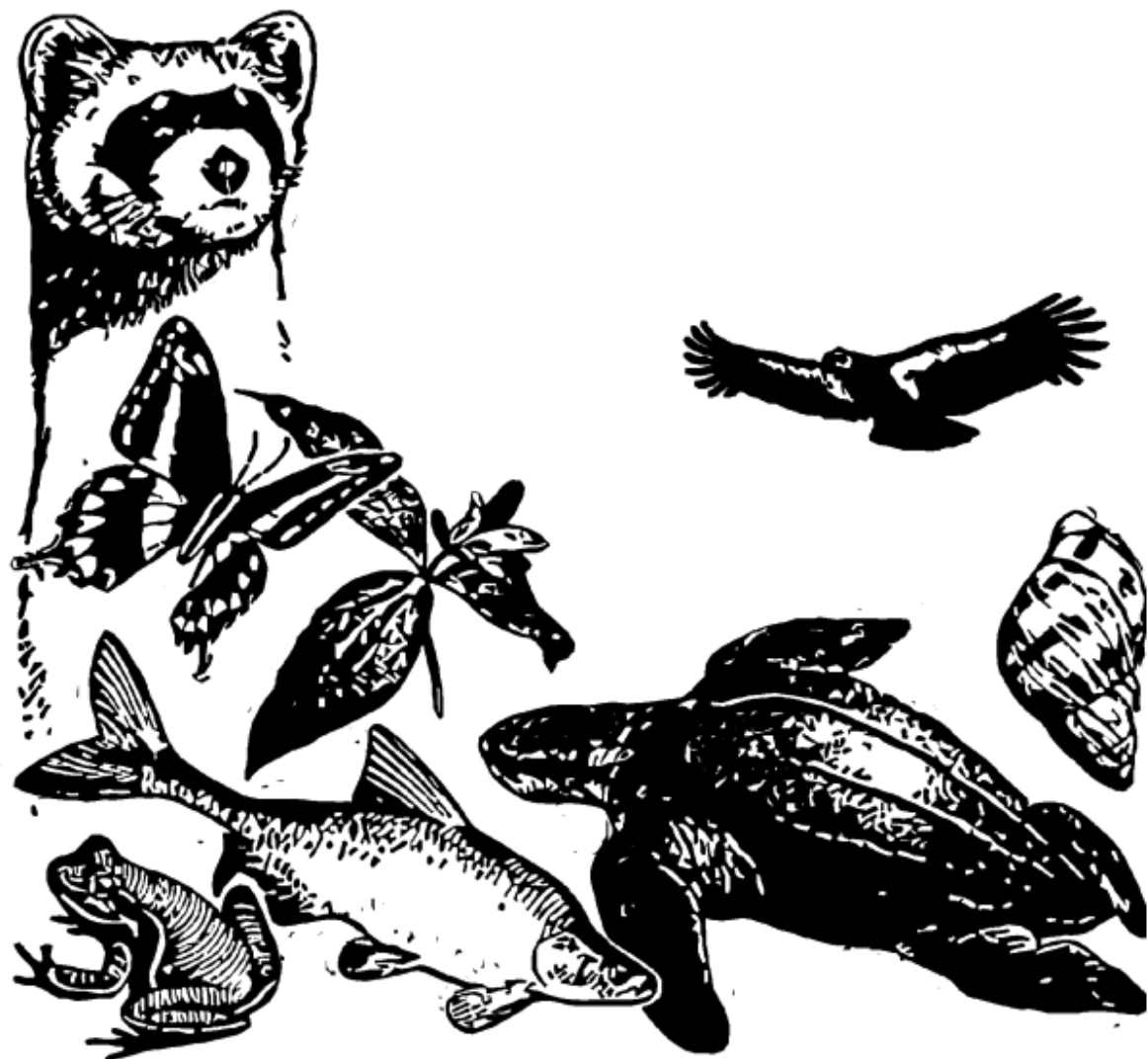
- Marelisa Rivera, Deputy Field Supervisor  
Email: marelisa\_rivera@fws.gov  
Office phone (786) 244-0081 or mobile (305) 304-1814
- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator  
Email: jose\_cruz-burgos@fws.gov  
Office phone (786) 244-0081 or mobile (305) 304-1386

# Caribbean ES Puerto Rican Boa

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## *Puerto Rican Boa*

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

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

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

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



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

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

#### Conservation Measures:

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



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

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

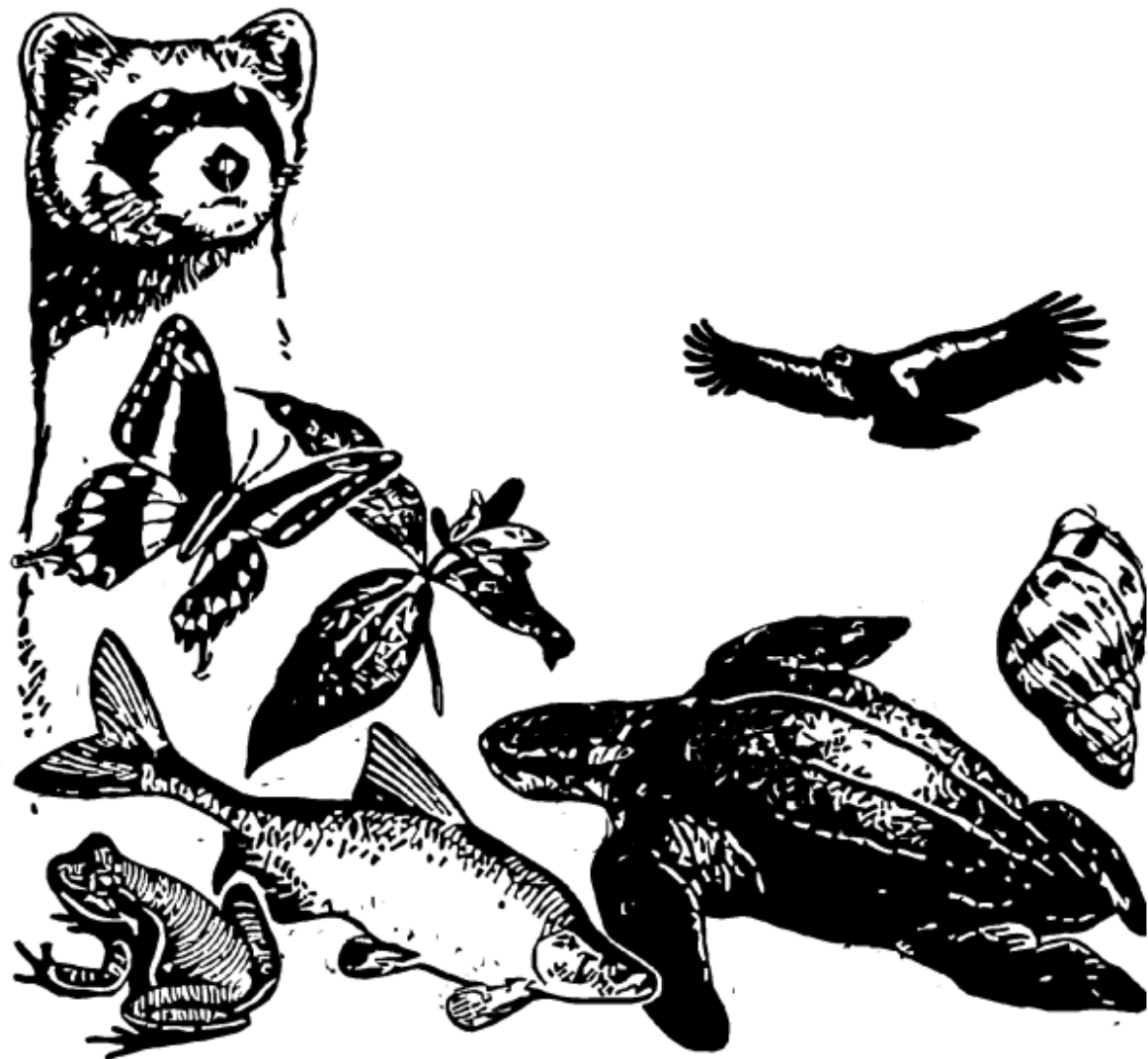
- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Program Coordinator
  - Email: [jose\\_cruz-burgos@fws.gov](mailto:jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov)
  - Office phone (305) 304-1386
- Jan Zegarra, Fish and Wildlife Biologist
  - Email: [jan\\_zegarra@fws.gov](mailto:jan_zegarra@fws.gov)
  - Office phone (786) 933-1451

# Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly conservation measures

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## *Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly*

Generated October 28, 2024 05:26 PM UTC, IPaC v6.114.0-rc2





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

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

Section 7 (a)(1) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) mandates Federal agencies to aid in the conservation of federally listed species. Section 7 (a)(2) requires the Federal agencies, through consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), to ensure their activities are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of federally listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitats. Section 7 applies to the management of Federal lands as well as Federal actions that may affect listed species, such as approval of private activities through the issuance of Federal funding, permits, licenses, or any other actions. Any person that injures, captures, or kills a Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, or destroy its eggs or any other of its life stage (caterpillars, chrysalis) is subject to penalties under the ESA. Thus, Federal Actions agencies must initiate consultation with the Service under Section 7 of the ESA for any action that could affect the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly. To initiate a consultation under the Section 7 of the ESA, the Federal Action agency must submit a project package to the Service with the established minimum requirements (see below). The conservation measures included below should be incorporated into the project plans to minimize possible impacts to the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly. Download the [project evaluations fact sheet](#) to learn more about the requirements or visit our [project evaluations webpage](#).



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

February 2024

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

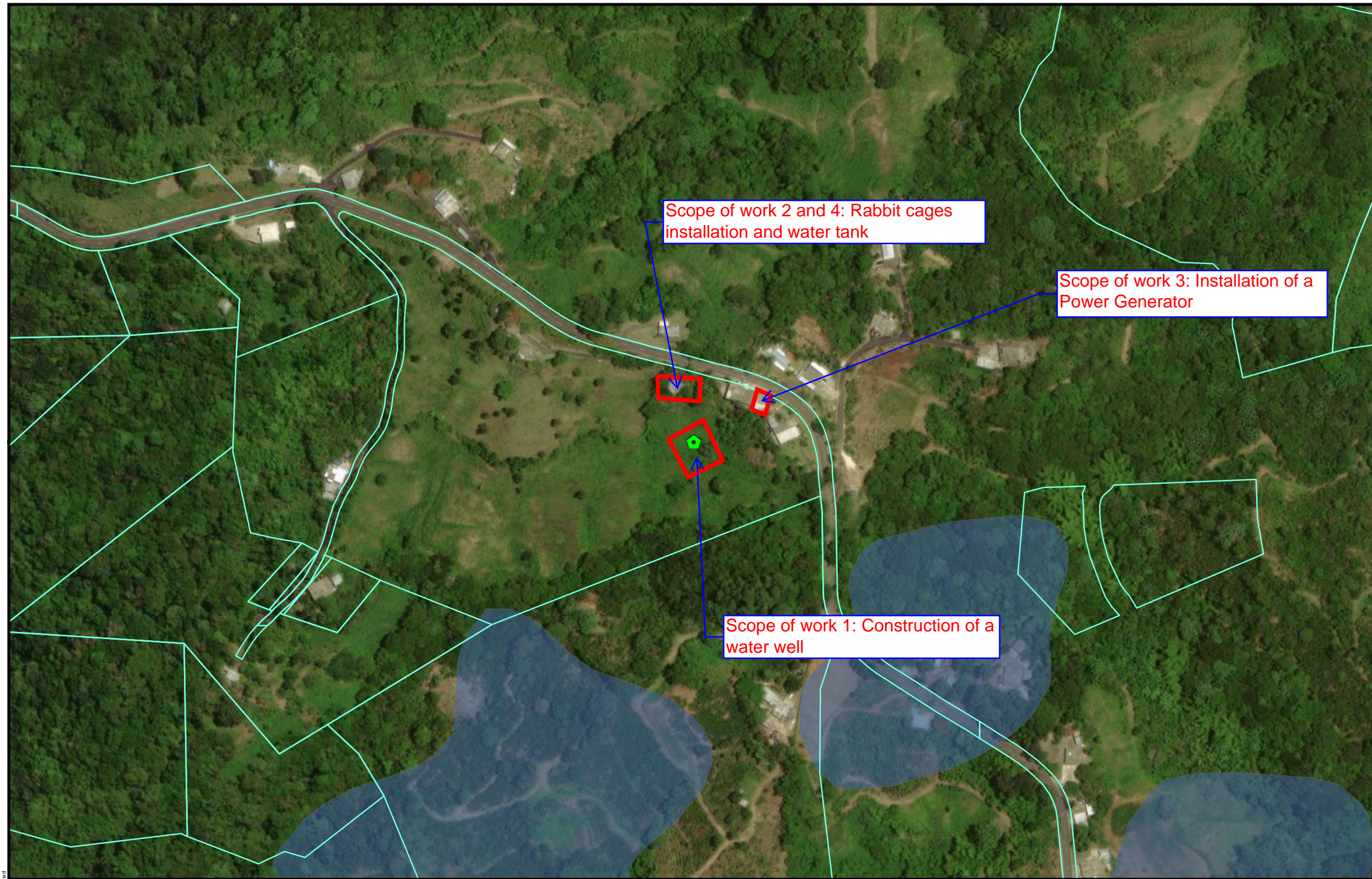
- Establish a 10-meter (32-foot) buffer zone around the bush to protect it.
- Eggs are typically found on the prickly bush's newly grown, tender branches. Once an egg hatches, the caterpillar moves and feeds throughout the plant. Therefore, avoid cutting off the prickly bush within the project site even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
- Work within the 10-meter buffered area may resume when no signs of any live life stage of the butterfly are detected, which usually takes approximately 60 to 120 days.

8. For all PR harlequin butterfly sightings (all life stages), the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where the butterfly was found must be recorded. Data should also include a photo of the butterfly (if possible) and the habitat where it was observed, site GPS coordinates, and comments on how the butterfly was detected and its behavior. All PR harlequin butterfly sighting reports should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Caribbean Ecological Service Field Office at [caribbean\\_es@fws.gov](mailto:caribbean_es@fws.gov).

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

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





**Legend**

Project Parcel

**Farm Class**

- All areas are prime farmland
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated
- Prime farmland if drained
- Prime farmland if irrigated
- Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
- Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

Area of Potential Effect

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 12: FARMLAND PROTECTION**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**

**ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638**

**Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP**

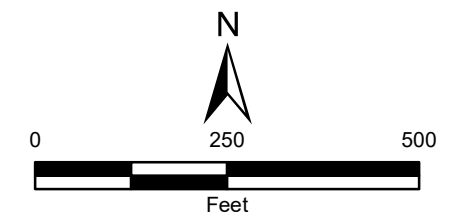
**Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222**



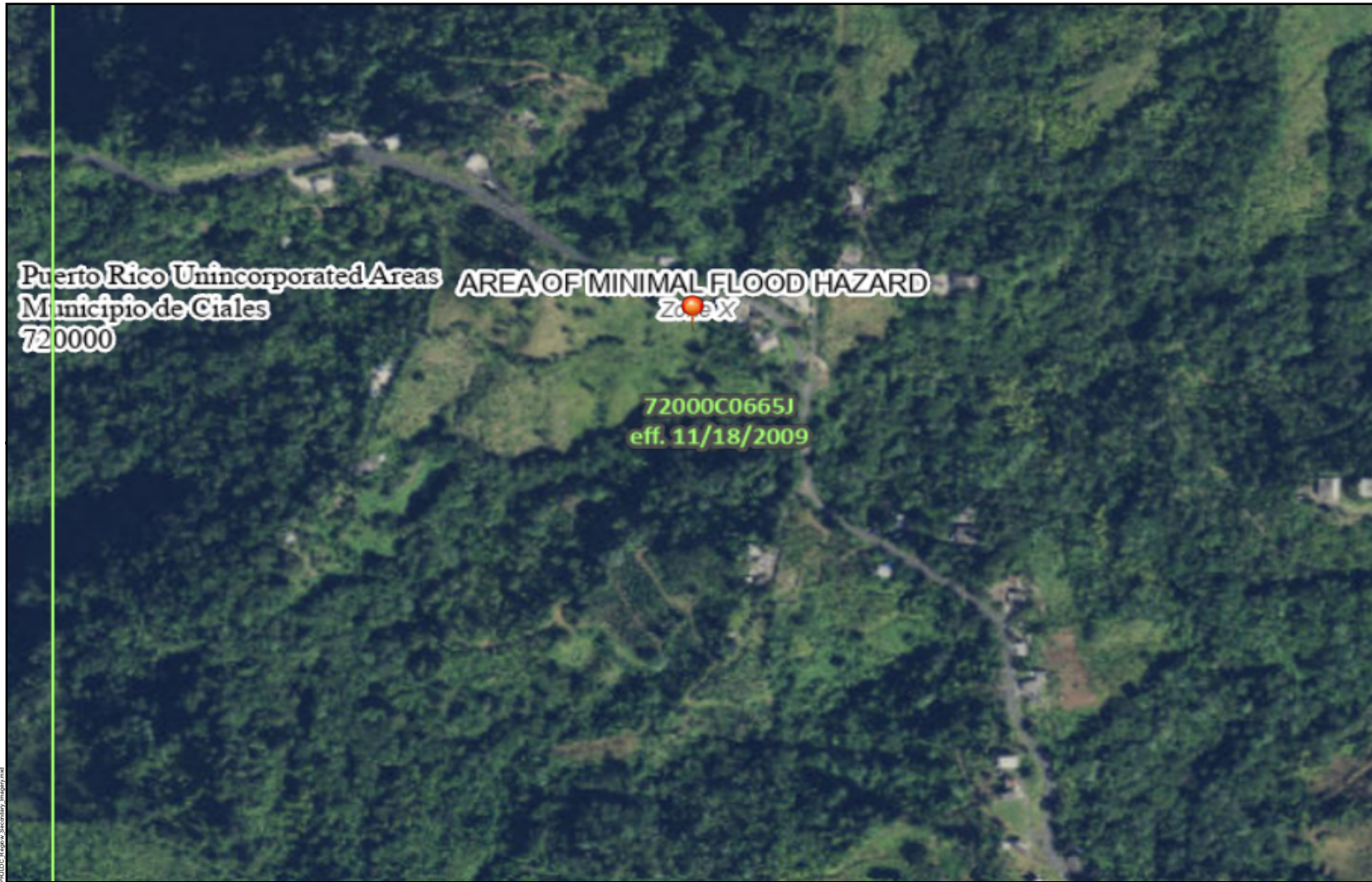
Source: USDA  
<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>

Author: TG

Date: 3/19/2024







**Legend**

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, AE, AH
- With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AD, 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
- Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D

**GENERAL STRUCTURES**

- Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
- Levee, Dike, or Floodwall

**OTHER FEATURES**

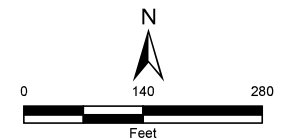
- Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
- Coastal Transect
- Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
- Limit of Study
- Jurisdiction Boundary
- Coastal Transect Baseline
- Profile Baseline
- Hydrographic Feature

**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.

## PUERTO RICO



## FIGURE 5: NATIONAL FLOOD HAZARD LAYER FIRMETTE APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660

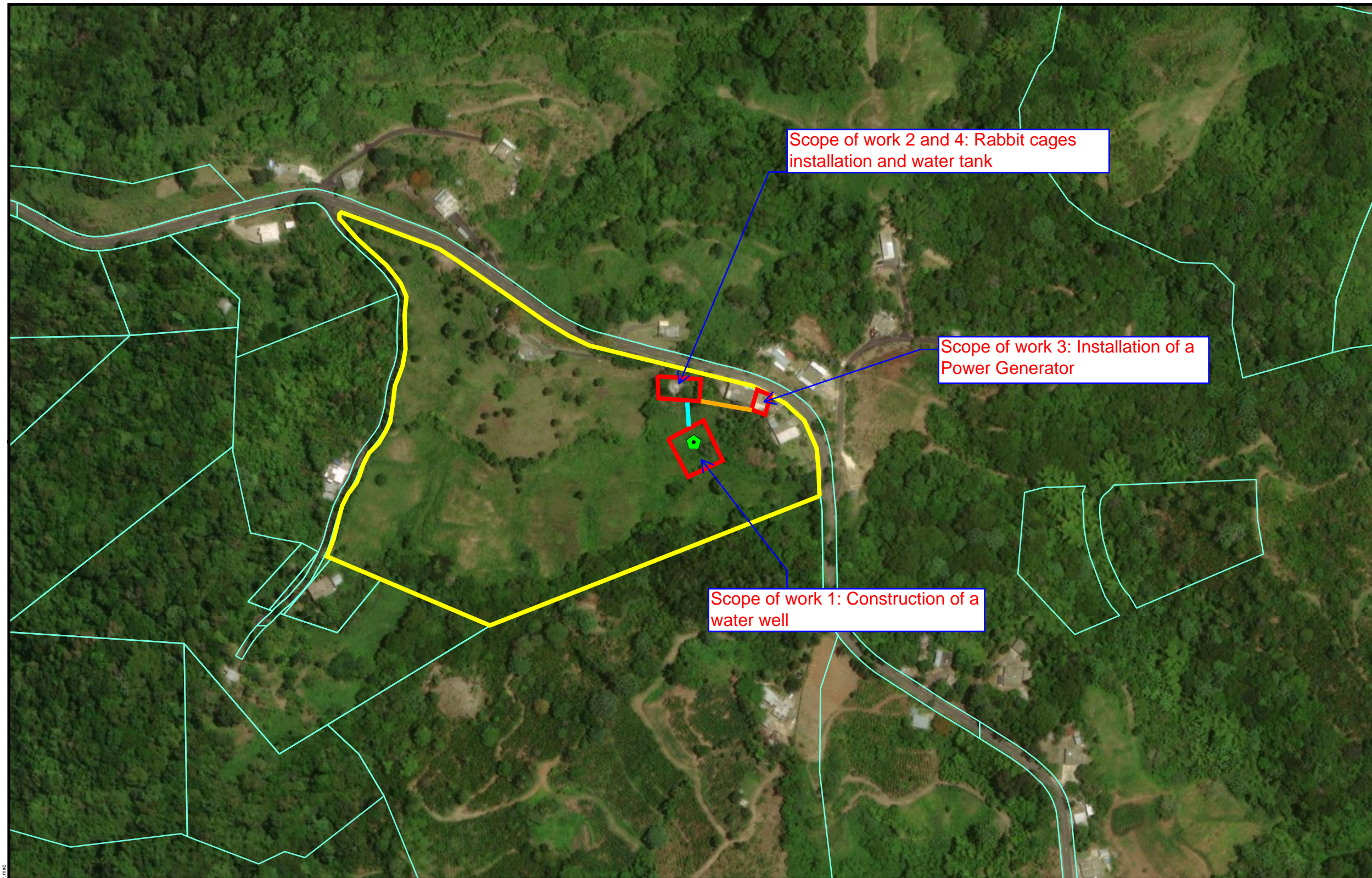
ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638  
Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP  
Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222



Source: FEMA  
<https://www.msc.fema.gov>

Author: TG Date: 5/31/2023





**Legend**

- Project Parcel
- Parcels
- Area of Potential Effect
- Project Parcel Boundaries
- Power Connections
- Water Connections

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 1: PROJECT LOCATION**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638

Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP

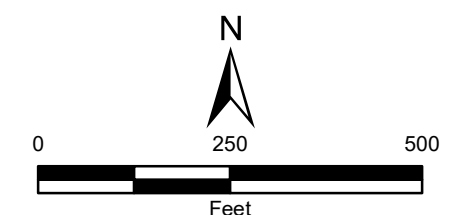
Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222



Source: CRIM  
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>

Author: TG

Date: 3/14/2024







**Legend**

 Project Parcel

 Sole Source Aquifer

 Biscayne Aquifer SSA

 Streamflow and Recharge Source Zones

Distance to Nearest Aquifer:  
5,343,833 FT

**PUERTO RICO**



File Path: Z:\data\USPRTier2Regrow\SSA\QUIFER\_Secordary\_Imagery\_Regrow\_1.aprx

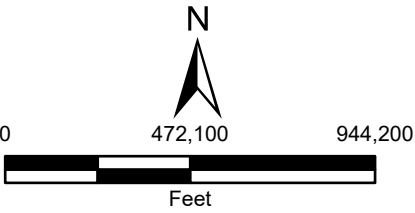


Source: USGS  
<https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/epa-sole-source-aquifers>

Author: TG Date: 2/27/2024

**Figure 17: SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**

ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638  
Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP  
Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222







**Legend**

 Project Parcel

 Sole Source Aquifer


 Biscayne Aquifer SSA

 Streamflow and Recharge Source Zones

Distance to Nearest Aquifer:  
5,343,833 FT

**PUERTO RICO**

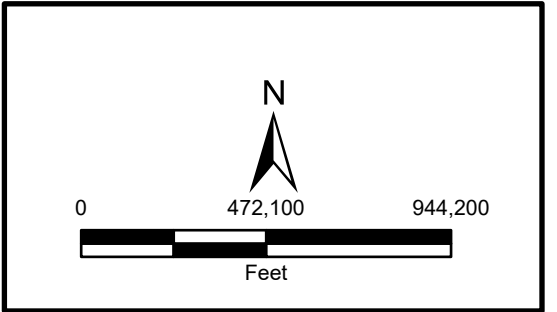


**TETRA TECH**

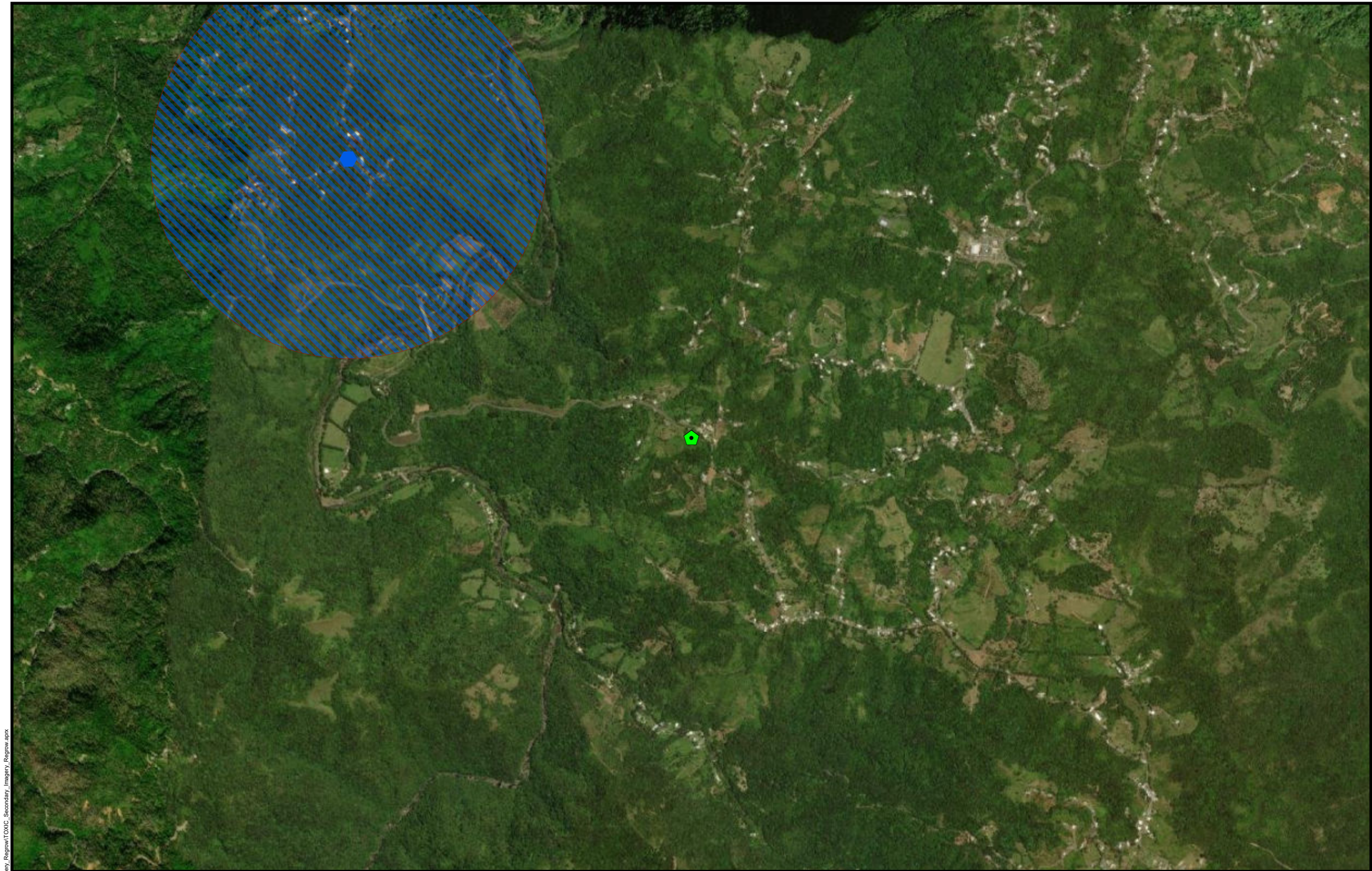
Source: USGS  
<https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/epa-sole-source-aquifers>

Author: TG	Date: 2/27/2024
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**Figure 17: SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**  
ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638  
Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP  
Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222







- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - RCRA
  - Toxic Release Inventory Site
  - Superfund Site
  - Brownfield Sites
  - 3000 Ft Buffer TRI
  - 3000 Ft Buffer Superfund
  - 3000 Ft Buffer RCRA
  - 3000 Ft Buffer Brownfield

**PUERTO RICO**

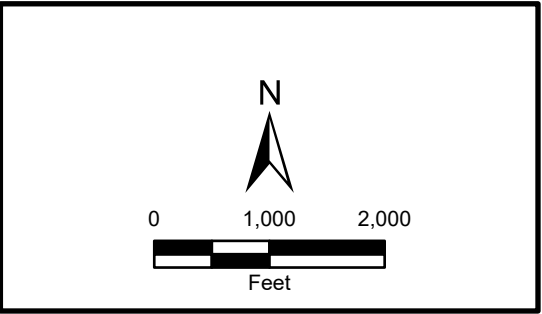


**Figure 8: TOXIC CHEMICALS AND GASES, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, CONTAMINATION. AND RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**

ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638

Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP

Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222



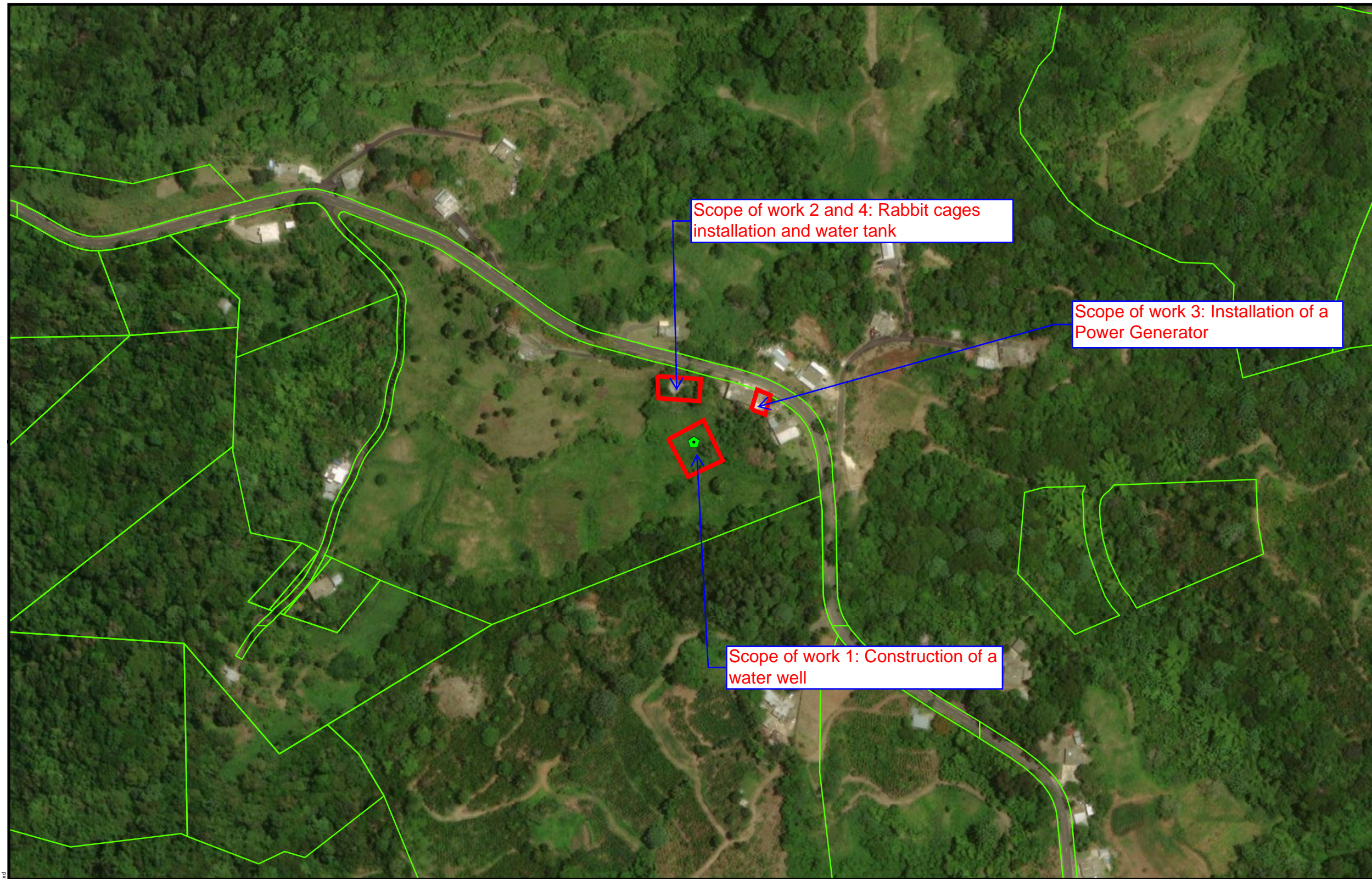
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Source: E.P.A.  
<https://www.epa.gov/frs/geospatial-data-download-service>

Author: JB/AK      Date: 11/3/2023





- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Parcels
  - ABFE Flood Zone
  - A
  - AE
  - AO
  - VE
  - X
  - Area of Potential Effect

## PUERTO RICO



### Figure 6: ADVISORY BASE FLOOD ELEVATION APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660

ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638

Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP

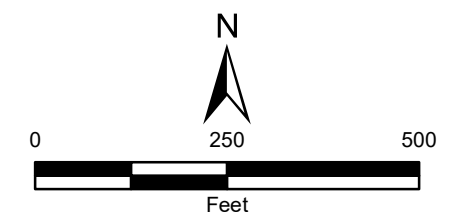
Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222



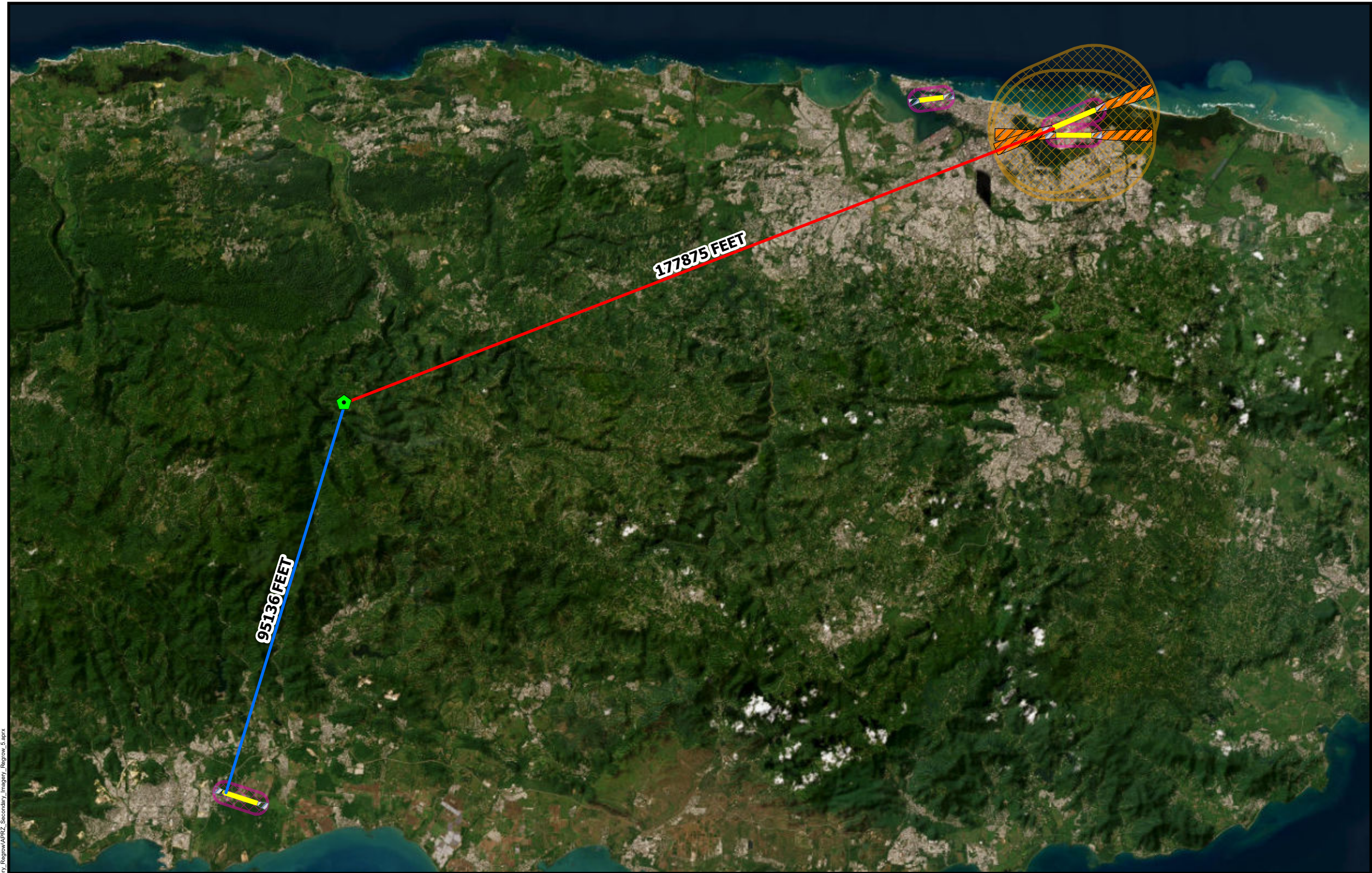
Source: FEMA  
<https://gis.fema.gov>

Author: TG

Date: 3/19/2024







**Legend**


- Project Parcel
- Civilian Runway Protection Zones
- Military Accident Potential Zones
- Airport Runways
- Civilian Airport 2,500 Feet Buffer
- Military Airport 15,000 Feet Buffer

**Distance to Nearest Airport in Feet: 95,136**

**Distance to Nearest Civilian Airport in Feet: 95,136**

**Distance to Nearest Military Airport in Feet: 177,875**





Source: USDOT  
<https://www.faa.gov>

Author: TG      Date: 3/20/2024

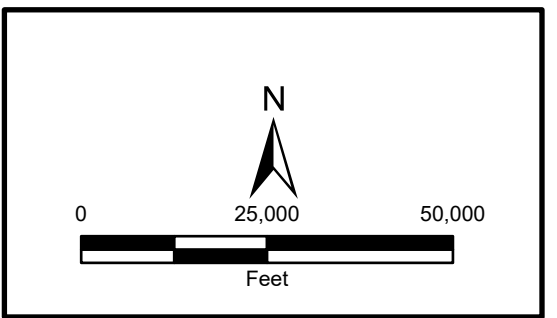
**Figure 2: AIRPORT ZONES**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**

ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638

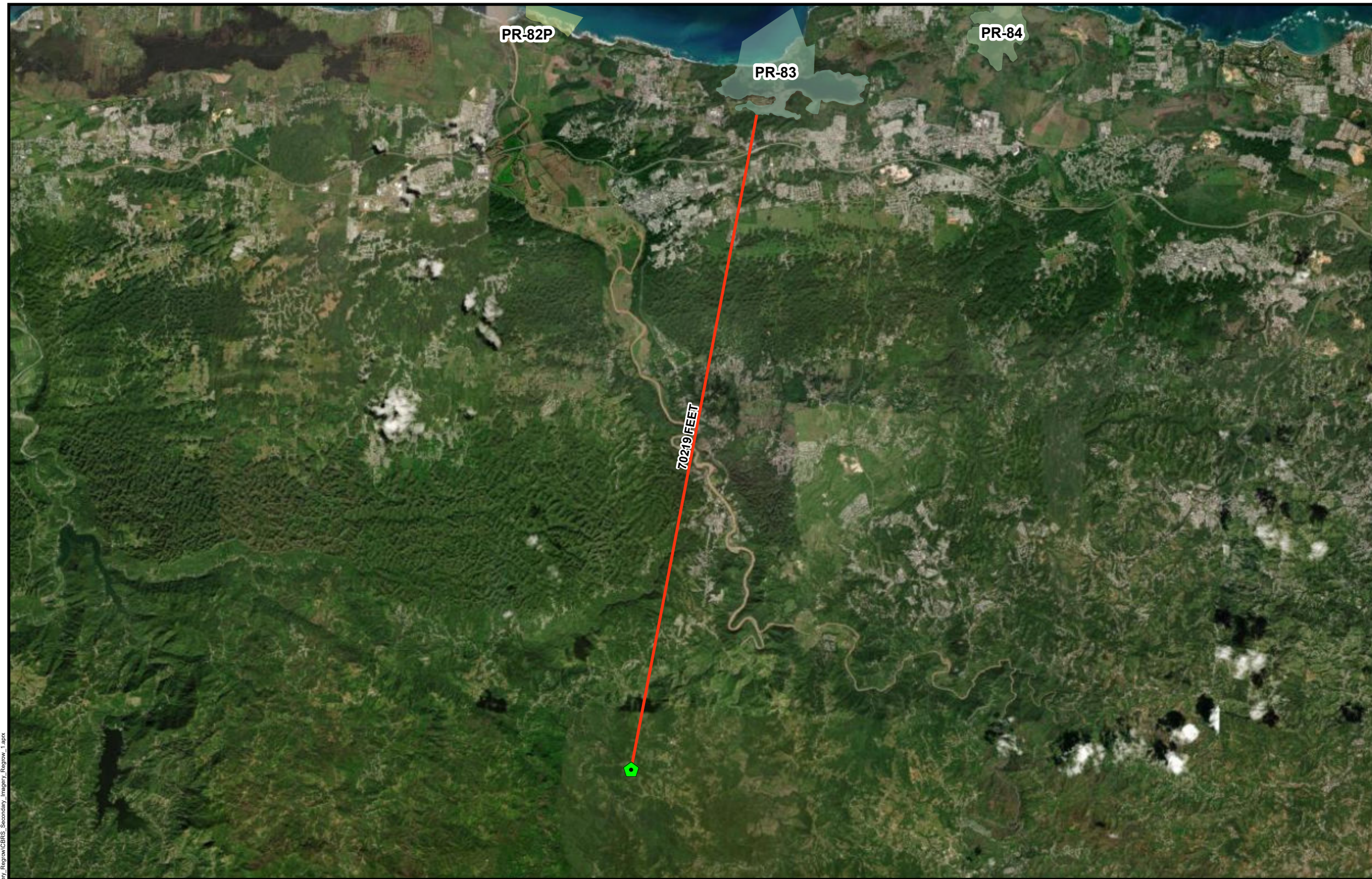
Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP

Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222



File Path: Z:\data\USPT\TetraTech\Region\APR2\_Secundary\_Imagery\_Regrow\APR2\_Secundary\_Imagery\_Regrow\_5.aprx





**Legend**

 Project Parcel

**Coastal Barrier Resources System Boundary**

**Unit**

 PR-82P

 PR-83

 PR-84

Distance to Nearest Coastal Barrier Resources System:  
70219 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**



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

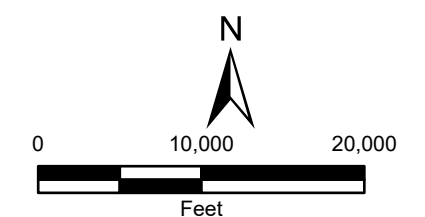
**Figure 3: COASTAL BARRIERS IMPROVEMENT ACT**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**

**ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638**

**Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP**



**Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222**







**Legend**

-  Project Parcel
-  Coastal Zone Management Boundary

Distance to Nearest Coastal Zone:  
66636 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 7: COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**

ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638

Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP

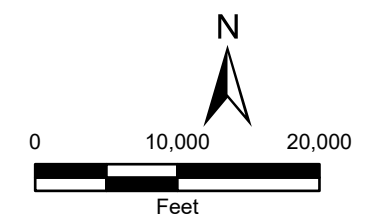
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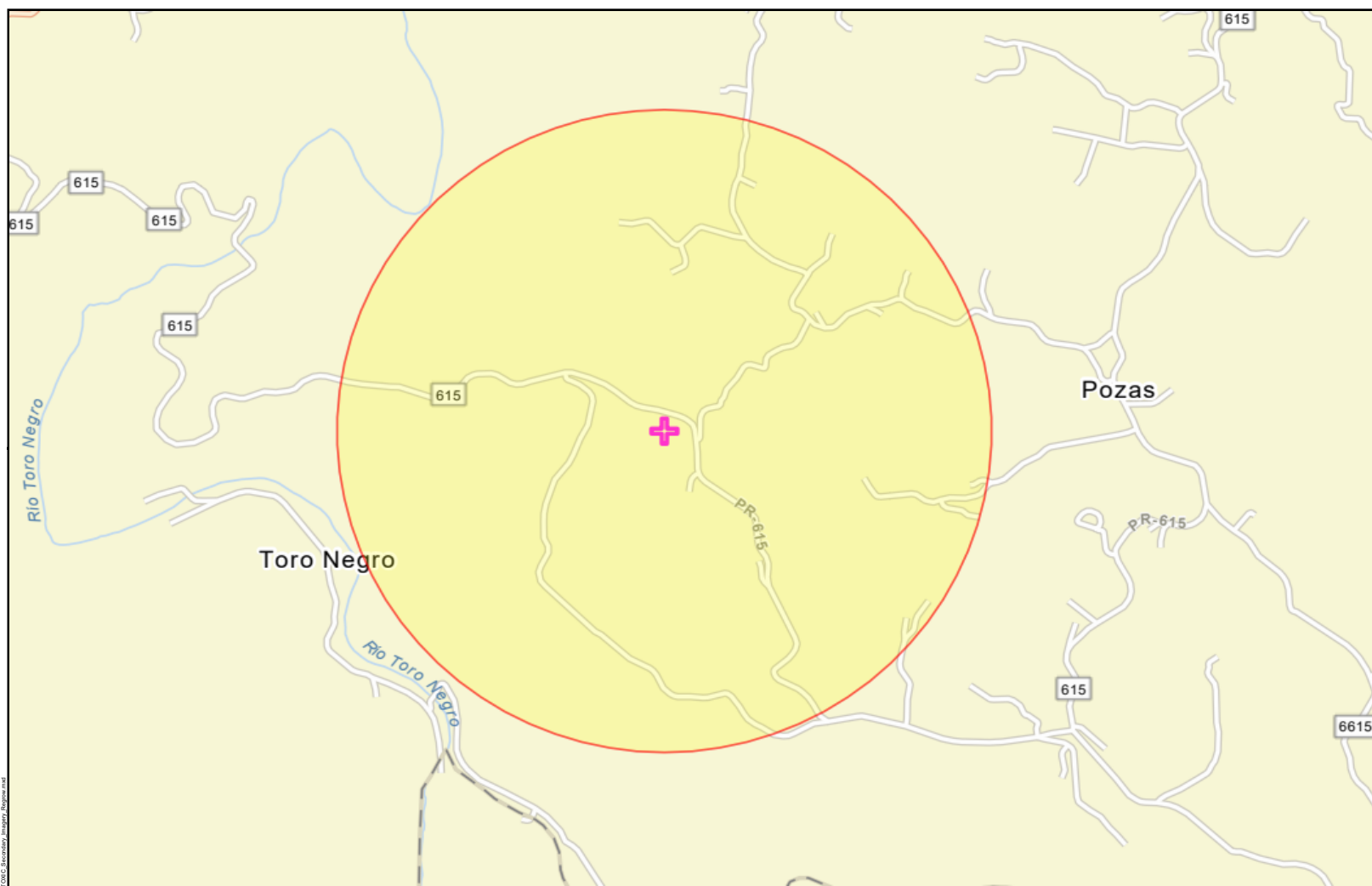
Source: NOAA's Ocean Service  
<https://data.noaa.gov>

Author: TG

Date: 10/17/2023







#### Legend

- Superfund (NPL)
- Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
- Toxic Releases (TRI)
- Brownfields (ACRES)
- Hazardous Waste (RCRAInfo)
- + Project Parcel

#### PUERTO RICO



**Figure 9: NEPA Assist Map**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**

ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638

Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP

Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222

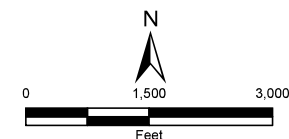


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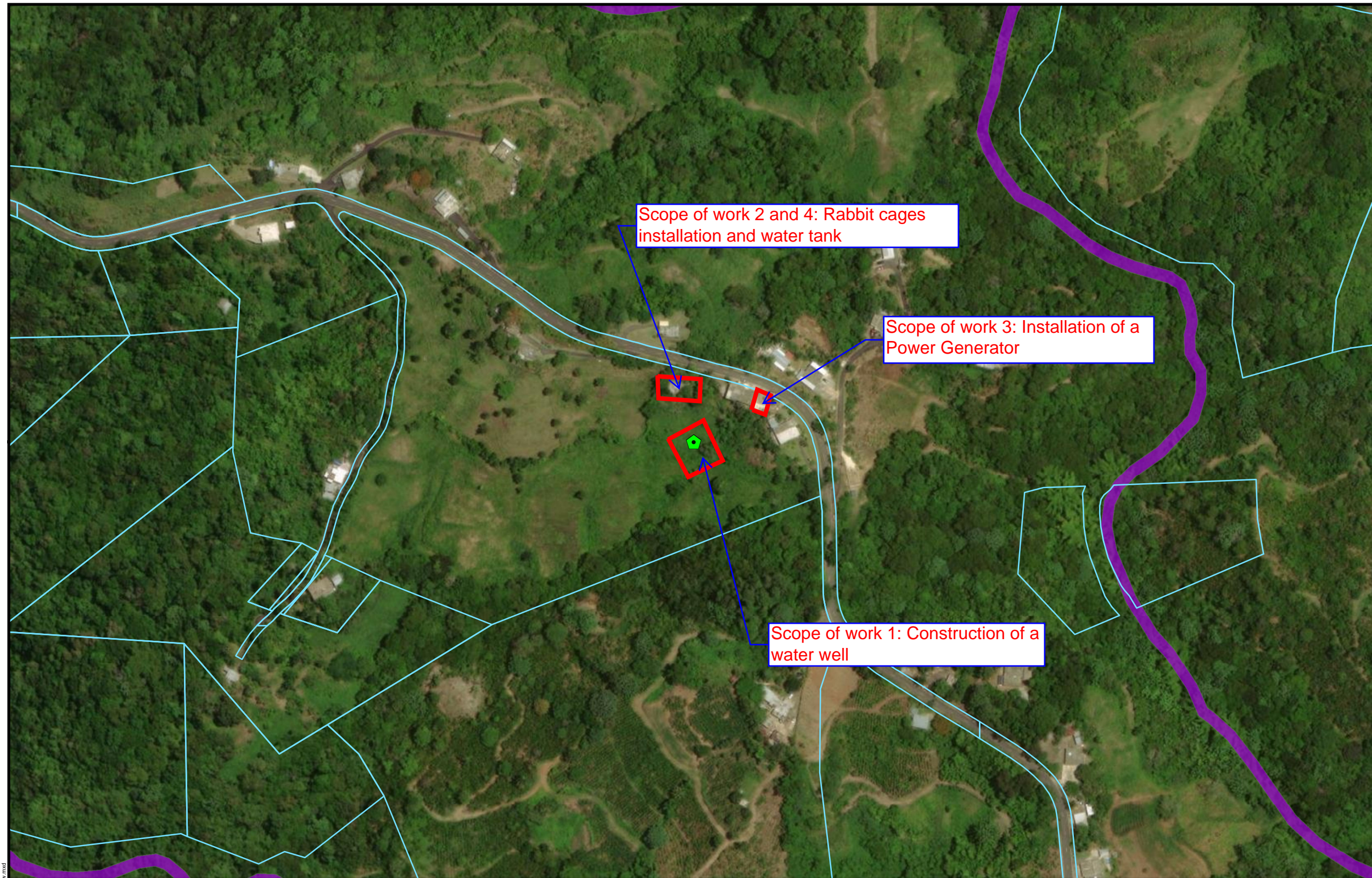
<https://www.epa.gov/frs/geospatial-data-download-service>

Author: JB/AK

Date: 5/18/2023







**Legend**

- Project Parcel
- Parcels

**WETLAND TYPE**

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

Area of Potential Effect

## PUERTO RICO

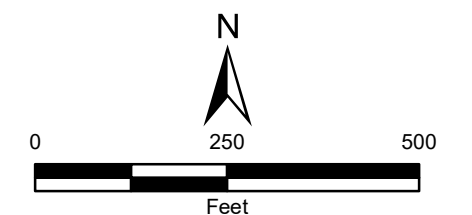


**Figure 14: WETLANDS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**  
ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638  
Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP  
Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222

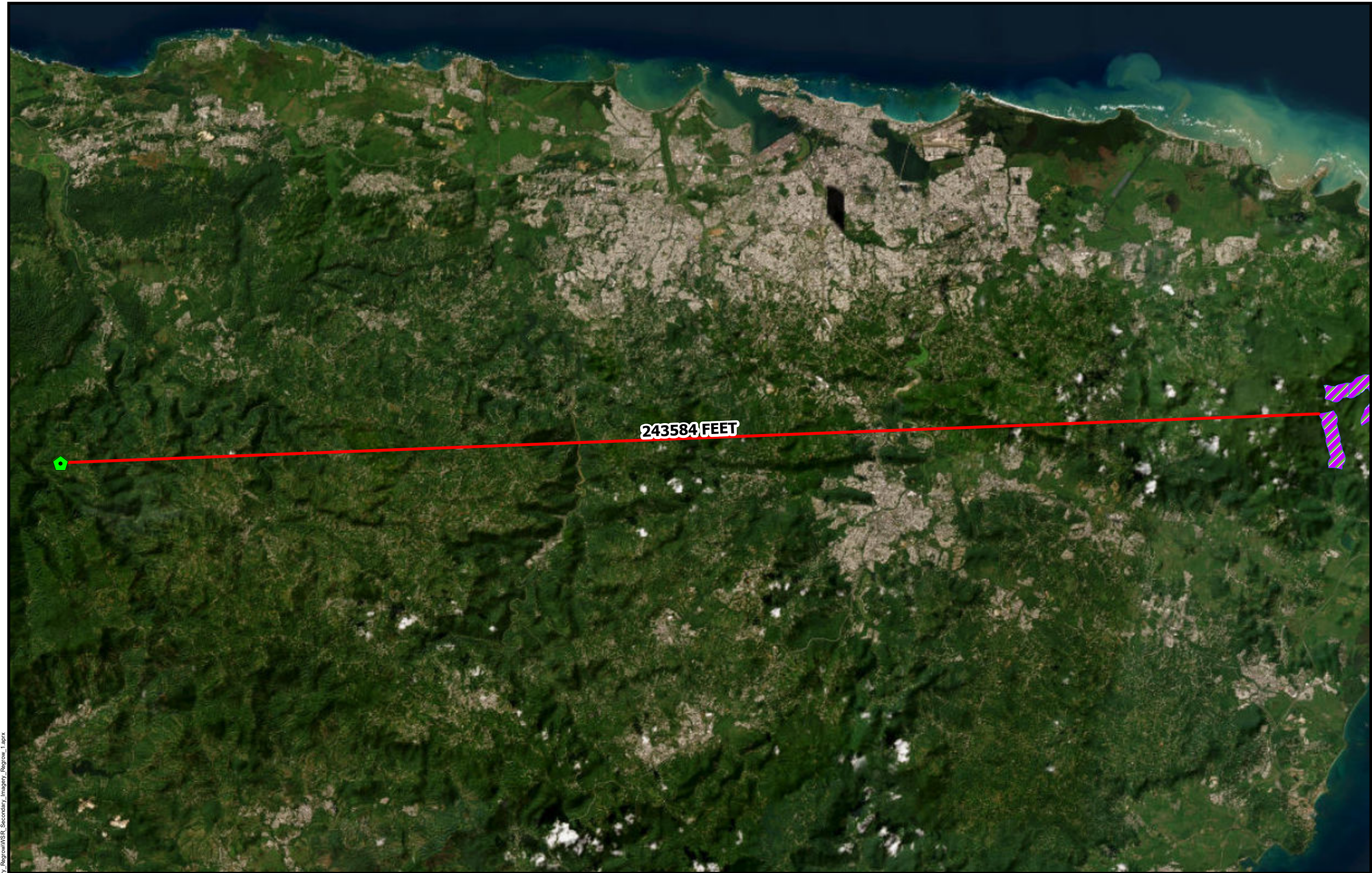


Source: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
<https://www.fws.gov>



Author: TG Date: 3/19/2024





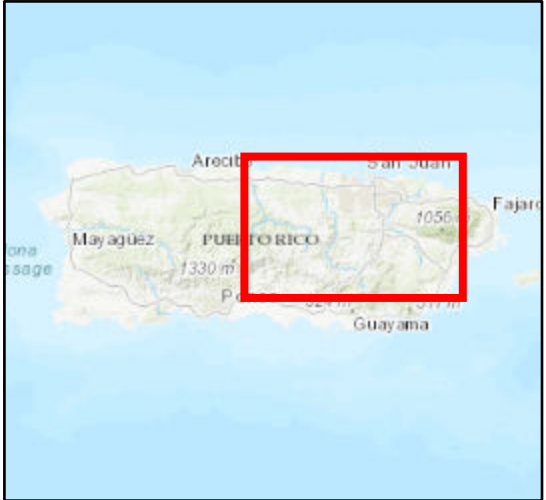


**Legend**

-  Project Parcel
-  Wild and Scenic Rivers

Distance to Nearest Wild and Scenic River: 243584 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**



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

Author: TG Date: 10/23/2023

**Figure 15: WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01660**

ADDRESS: Carr 615 KM 11.7, Bo. Pozas, Ciales, PR 00638  
Name of Development: AGRO F.E. CORP  
Parcel Coordinates: 18.264768, -66.495222

