

Environmental Assessment

Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects

24 CFR Part 58

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-02154

Project Name: Alfredo González Landrón

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico / Guayama, PR

Preparer: Patricia Carmenatty

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

Consultant: Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

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

Project Location:

PR-742 Bo. Carite, Guayama, PR 00736

Passion fruit arbor and fence location: latitude 18.100780 longitude -66.104591

Parcel cadastral: 325-000-007-11-001

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

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02154 consist of the purchase of galvanized tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts. The farm equipment includes: 8" curved blade pruner, grinch 5 T, PL40 Lopper accessory hand tool, precision hedge shear accessory hand tool, Stihl manual pump sprayer, bypass hand pruner 8", shovel cut truper M/long, shovel cut truper M/short, pruning saw 10P, folding curved

blade comfort grip 7dpp, fiberglass telescopic handle cutter, auge 36.3CC 1.4 Kw 21.8 lbs., 4 ½ “ x 27 3/8” earth auger, 48” fiberglass digger, stihl chain saw 45.4cc 18”, fruit picker, hoe with rope #2 and aluminum head sanitary shovel. For passion fruit planting, T-shaped tubes will be installed to support the fruit. The tubes will be 3 feet from each other and will be anchored to the ground at a depth of 2 feet. The installation of the fence will be anchored to the ground with metal posts so it will require ground disturbance. Each post will be driven approximately 2' below the ground surface to ensure the fence is secure. The fence will be installed to protect the crops. The project area is located at PR-742 Bo. Caribe within the Municipality of Guayama. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area of the passion fruit planting and fence was characterized as an agrarian setting in 1968 (the earliest imagery available for the area) and it remains predominantly agricultural through to the present day.

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

A site Map is included in Figure 1, illustrating the location of the passion fruit arbor and fence on the property. Photos of the location are included in Section 106 documentation, Appendix 1. See Appendix 3 for Site Inspection Report.

Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]: The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) will increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. This agricultural project is associated with the purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts is in keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The existing area for which the proposed passion fruit arbor and fence has a steep topography. On the surface we observed grasses and shrubs. Therefore, there is little to no change in land use associated with these placements.

Funding Information

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

B-18-DE-72-0001	Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)	
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Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$50,000.00

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$50,000.00.

Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities

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

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required	Compliance determinations
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6		
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is the purchase of galvanized tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts will have no impact on any Airports. The site is located 125,057 feet from the nearest major civil and military airport (Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in San Juan). This topic is in compliance with the HUD's Airport Hazard regulations without further evaluation. See the attached Airport map Runway Protection Zone, Figure 2.
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. The project is located 51,952 feet northwest of the nearest Coastal Barrier Resource System, PR-43. Therefore, this

<p>Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]</p>		<p>project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. See the attached CBRS map, Figure 3.</p>
<p>Flood Insurance</p> <p>Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located in Zone X, Panel 72000C1755H, 4/19/2005 on the FEMA FIRM. The project does not require flood insurance or is excepted from flood insurance. See attached Flood Map, Figure 4. The project is in compliance with the Flood Insurance without further evaluation.</p>
<p>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5</p>		
<p>Clean Air</p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts for an agricultural site and is not located in a nonattainment municipality of Puerto Rico (Arecibo, Bayamón, Cataño, Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan, Toa Baja). The installation and operation of this project will have no impact and is in compliance with the Clean Air Act without further evaluation. See attached published list of Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for each country by year for all criteria pollutants in Appendix 2.</p>
<p>Coastal Zone Management</p> <p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located 45,968 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management Area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See the attached CZMA map, Figure 5.</p>
<p>Contamination and Toxic Substances</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase of galvanized tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion</p>

24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)

fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts for an agricultural project. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. There is one site of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet of the location of the proposed project.

EPA Facility Interest NPDES (Water Discharges) 110009814246 PRASA Cayey (Farallon) WTP - 1,325 ft. Coordinates: 18.102222, -66.108333. Address: State Road #742 - KM.47, Cayey, PR 00736.

Based on EPA Enforcement and Compliance History Online (EPA ECHO) a violation has been identified on the PRASA Cayey (Farallon) WTP, however, to the distance of the WTP from the project, it will not be affected. The information provided by the NEPAassist database indicates that the PRASA Cayey (Farallon) WTP is located 1,325 feet from the project site. However, upon reviewing aerial maps, it is understood that the Farallon WTP pin is incorrect as no structure is visible found at that location. To corroborate this information, a search was conducted in the PRASA (The Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority) database and the Cayey (Farallon) WTP it is located at coordinates: latitude 18.0895002 longitude -66.1059745, about 4,100 feet from the project site. Therefore, there will be no contamination as a result of the proposed project.

HUD's environmental regulations at 24 CFR 58.5(i)(2)(i) and (ii)4 state that, [i]t is HUD's policy that all properties that are

		<p>being proposed for use in HUD programs be free of hazardous materials, contamination, toxic chemicals and gases, and radioactive substances, where a hazard could affect the health and safety of occupants or conflict with the intended utilization of the property. For the proposed project, which involves the installation a passion fruit arbor and fence, radon analysis will not be required. This is because the proposed project qualifies for an exemption, as it does not involve any buildings with no enclosed areas having ground contact.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements. See attached Toxics Map, Figure 6. See Appendix 3 for ECHO Report. Refer to Appendix 3 for Site Inspection Report.</p>
<p>Endangered Species</p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>After reviewing data from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC) and the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) database, the PR boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>), Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>), Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon (<i>Columba inornata wetmorei</i>), Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>) and Uvillo (<i>Eugenia haematocarpa</i>) could be found in the project area. The installation will involve ground disturbance and the removal of trees and vegetation, depending on the need of the installation of the passion fruit arbor.</p> <p>The nature of the project, scope of work, information available, a careful analysis of the IpaC, the Puerto Rico Boa conservation measures, the Caribbean Dkey in the US Fish and Wildlife Service's</p>

online IPaC application, and the observations during the field visit on September 27, 2023, were used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species from this project. Based on that information and the answer inputted into the new Dkey, it was determined that the proposed action will have "May affect but is not likely to adversely affect" (NLAA) determination on the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk and Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk.

An Informal Consultation was submitted to the USFWS on 3/4/2024, and a Concurrence Letter with a NE determination for the listed species was received on 4/4/2024. However, the potential tree cutting for the installation of the passion fruit arbor was not considered in the initial consultation, prompting a second consultation. This second informal consultation was submitted on 7/17/2024 and a Concurrence Letter was received on 8/4/2024. Due to the changes in the SOW, on July 15, 2024, PRDOH updated the answers provided on the previous DKey, which resulted in a may affect not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) determination for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk. The Service acknowledges receipts of the NLAA consistency letter for the above mentioned species. For the Rican plain pigeon, it was determined that the proposed actions will have NE on this species. As for uvillo, has still determined that the proposed project is NLAA this species since the land is a maintained area and is currently used for agricultural purposes. Thus, the Service's acknowledgement of the NE

		<p>determination for the Puerto Rican plain pigeon and concurrence with the NLAA determination for uvillo on April 04, 2024, still stands. The nearest Critical Habitat is 12,023 feet from the project location.</p> <p>If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa. As established by the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures Guideline.</p> <p>https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/guideline/design/population/156/office/41430.pdf</p> <p>This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. See attached USWFS Informal Consultation Package and supporting documents in Appendix 4. See attached Endangered Species map, Figure 7.</p>
<p>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts and does not include development, construction or rehabilitation that will increase residential density. This project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable hazards without further evaluation.</p>
<p>Farmlands Protection</p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. The areas under the project site are not prime farmland. The scope of work includes the installation of a passion fruit</p>

		<p>arbor and a fence, and this is a construction limited to on-farm structures needed for farm operations. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. See the attached Farmlands map, Figure 8.</p>
<p>Floodplain Management</p> <p>Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) introduced new floodplain regulations under 89 FR 30850, effective June 24, 2024, establishing the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS). This project was evaluated using the 0.2 Percent-Annual-Chance Floodplain Approach (0.2 PFA) to determine the extent of the FFRMS. The current project involves non-critical actions that are located outside the 0.2-percent-annual-chance floodplain (500-year flood elevation). This approach ensures compliance with the FFRMS, meaning no mitigation is required, and the project adheres to the regulations set forth in 24 CFR Part 55.</p> <p>The project is not located in the 100-year floodplain or ABFE special flood hazard area; therefore, no further action is required.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690. See attached ABFE Map (Figure 9).</p>
<p>Historic Preservation</p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966,</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site was visited on October 15, 2023, by SOI-qualified archaeologist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the undertaking, the APE has been defined as the area potentially affected</p>

<p>particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>		<p>by ground-disturbing activities related to installation of the passion fruit arbor and fence. Documentation with photographs and maps was subsequently submitted to SHPO (attached Appendix 1). In a response from PR SHPO dated November 13, 2023, SHPO concurred with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected within the project's Area of Potential Effects (see attached Appendix 1). The property is not considered historic or contributing to an historic district (See attached Historic map, Figure 10). Therefore, this activity is in compliance with Historic Preservation.</p>
<p>Noise Abatement and Control</p> <p>Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts for an agricultural site. The project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The site is rural in nature and there will be no impact to or from the surrounding area from a noise perspective. This topic is in compliance with Noise abatement and Control without further evaluation.</p>
<p>Sole Source Aquifers</p> <p>Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source aquifers without further evaluation. See the attached Sole Source Aquifers map, Figure 11.</p>
<p>Wetlands Protection</p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>According to the map, the Grande creek is seen approximately 80 feet from what the fence would be, plus 40 feet of elevation. The creek runs parallel to the road that's lead to the entrance of the farm. In the Field Report photos, it can be</p>

		<p>observed that between the creek and the proposed fence, there is a road and a steep slope. Additionally, from where the fence will be installed, there is a distance of approximately 15-20 feet to the edge where the slope begins. This space will be left intentionally as the applicant needs space to reach the highest point of the plantation with a UTV. However, standard BMPs should be applied to mitigate impact on wetlands, like installing erosion controls or diverting runoff (in any) around the areas of ground disturbance.</p> <p>The Area of Potential Effect is located outside of the creek; therefore, no wetland will be affected by the project undertaking. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. See the attached Wetlands map, Figure 12. See attached Field Reports and photos in Appendix 3.</p>
<p>Wild and Scenic Rivers</p> <p>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project is not within proximity of the NWSRS river. The project is located 121,507 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. See Map, Figure 13.</p>
<p>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</p>		
<p>Environmental Justice</p> <p>Executive Order 12898</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Based on the scope of work for this project, there will be no additional impact on low-income or minority residents. This proposed activity will not have a negative impact on Environmental Justice. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section. See EJ Screen Report in Appendix 3.</p>

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

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

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

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
LAND DEVELOPMENT		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts and is continued agricultural use of property which is compatible with a zoning code of B-1 (Interior Forest) and existing land use of SREP-E (Specially Protected Ecological Rustic Land). There is no urban design associated with this rural, agricultural site.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts and the soil is

Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff		<p>currently being used for agriculture purposes. There is no change in land use since the land will continue to be used to agriculture purposes. In the project area the soil in this area has been classified as Los Guineos clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes (LsF). This is a very steep, moderately well drained soil on side slopes of strongly dissected uplands. Permeability is moderately slow, and the available water capacity is high. Runoff is very rapid, and erosion is a hazard. This soil is very difficult to work because it is very steep and because of the stickiness and plasticity of the clay. Natural fertility is medium.</p> <p>The landslide data indicates moderate to high landslide susceptibility; but it is not expected that there will be little to no erosion since the type of work to be carried out in the installation of the fence and the passion fruit arbor will not require any cutting or leveling off the ground. It is an area already impacted by agriculture; therefore, no erosion is expected to occur from this project. The project will not affect the drainage in the area. There will be little to no additional runoff associated with the project. Contractors will be required to use BMPs during construction if erosion impacts occur. The construction manager should investigate if a DNER authorization is required for any land alteration associated with the proposed project activities. See Landslide Susceptibility Map, Figure 14.</p>
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	<p>The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts. There are no specific environmental hazards that have been identified for this site. The site is not in a high Noise Level area, nor will the project generate any additional noise. Additionally, the project does not include housing or such to where inhabitants would be affected.</p>
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		

Employment and Income Patterns	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts. The project will result in short-term benefit to employment when contractors are hired for the construction of the passion fruit arbor and fence. After construction, there may be a net positive benefit for the farm, a small business receiving this funding for economic development recovery purposes, which will aid in the continued operations of the intended use of the farm which products will be used by Puerto Rico population. The project is not anticipated to have a significant impact on Employment and Income Patterns, however, the project may help restore employment opportunities and income patterns.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts and will not alter the demographic characteristics of Guayama, PR. The applicant is already located at this location and the project will provide opportunities for the continuous agricultural growth of the business.
Environmental Justice	2	<p>In the project area within a one-mile radius:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people of color are 100% compared to PR average of 96% • 60 % of the people are low income compared to PR average of 70% • 0% of the people are unemployed compared to PR average of 15% <p>The proposed activities of the installation of the passion fruit arbor and fence will have a positive impact on creating jobs for local people. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section. See EJ Screen Report in Appendix 3.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
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COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts for an agricultural site and will have no impact on educational and cultural facilities.
Commercial Facilities	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts and may aid in restoring the demand for local commercial services; however, not to the point of putting undue pressure on commercial facilities.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts for an agricultural site and will have no impact on Health Care and Social Services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts and will have no impact on Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling services. The products and by-products are agricultural, and any waste would be biodegradable. The remaining construction solid waste materials would be collected for transport to the local landfill.
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts. The installation of the passion fruit harbor and fence will not produce any wastewater. Based on the scope of work is not expected to result in any significant changes in wastewater or sanitary sewer generation. The proposed project will have no impact on Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers.

Water Supply	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts and will not require an additional water supply. No new connections will be provided for potable water. The proposed project will have no impact on the water supply.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts for an agricultural site and will have no impact on Public Safety.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts and will have no impact to Parks, Open Space and Recreation. The property being used is agricultural and it will continue as agricultural use.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The project consists of the purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts for an agricultural site and will have no impact on transportation and accessibility.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts and will be situated on previous agriculture property and will have no impact to unique natural features or water resources.

Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts and will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity. There may be wildlife attracted to the passion fruit arbor and fence but no negative impact on wildlife.
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Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
Climate and Energy		
Climate Change	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts. The Re-Grow Program proposed project aims to increase resiliency in the agricultural industry to prepare for future climate related disasters. The project will not contribute to climate change and will provide a minor net benefit by allowing for increased food production. On the other hand, a drought could affect agricultural activities related to the project.
Energy Efficiency /Consumption	2	The project consists of purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts on an existing agricultural farm and will not require any expansion to existing power facilities.

Additional Studies Performed: Not applicable.

Field Inspection (Date and completed by): October 15, 2023, Jaqueline Lopez, SOI-Qualified Archaeologist. Site Inspection performed by Patricia Carmenatty on September 27, 2023.

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

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems:
www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/npia/reports/NPIAS-Report-2017-2021-

Appendix-B-Part6.pdf

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, Puerto Rico map.
www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf

National Park Service, National Registry of Natural Landmarks.
www.nature.nps.gov/nnl/docs/NNLRegistry.pdf

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

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

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

Programmatic Agreement among the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office and the Central Office for Recovery, Reconstruction and Resilience – amended to include the Puerto Rico Department of Housing.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

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

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

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

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

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

List of Permits Obtained: None required.

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

Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]: In accordance with 24 CFR 58.32 (Aggregation), there are no cumulative impacts associated with the purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts for an agricultural site.

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

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

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

The 'No-Action' alternative would mean that the applicant would not receive federal funding to provide the purchase of galvanize tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts for an agricultural site which would inhibit the economic growth opportunity that the applicant would not otherwise have under the PRDOH Re-Grow Puerto Rico program. As a result, these owners may not be able to experience the growth needed to recover and expand their agriculture activities. A provision of the grant

allows for economic development for businesses. The No-Action alternative would not allow for the economic development for this applicant.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions: The proposed activity has been found to not have any adverse effects on the environment nor is there the requirement for further consultation with any agency. There are no environmental review topics addressed that result in the need for formal compliance steps or the requirement for mitigation.

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Wetlands Protection (Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5)	Standard BMPs should be applied to mitigate impact on wetlands.
Endangered Species Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	<p>If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa. As established by the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures Guideline.</p> <p>If a Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk or a Puerto Rican Sharp-Shinned Hawk were observed nesting or hunting within the project activity site, all work shall cease immediately in the vicinity. The Construction Manager must notify the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources to ensure that appropriate actions are taken to minimize disturbance, following the USFWS Puerto Rican Sharp-Shinned Hawk Conservation Measures.</p>

	<p>A tree/vegetation survey will be completed prior to any tree or vegetation removal and if any listed species are identified USFWS will be notified before work begins.</p> <p>Nationwide Standard Conservation Measures will be implemented for the Uvillo.</p>
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	<p>Soil suitability will be assessed prior to construction. Contractors will be required to use BMPs during construction if erosion impacts occur. The construction manager should investigate if a DNER authorization is required for any land alteration associated with the proposed project activities.</p>

Determination:

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

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

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

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

Preparer Signature:  Date: 8/29/2024

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

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: 09/10/2024

Name/Title: Limary Vélez Marrero / Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist

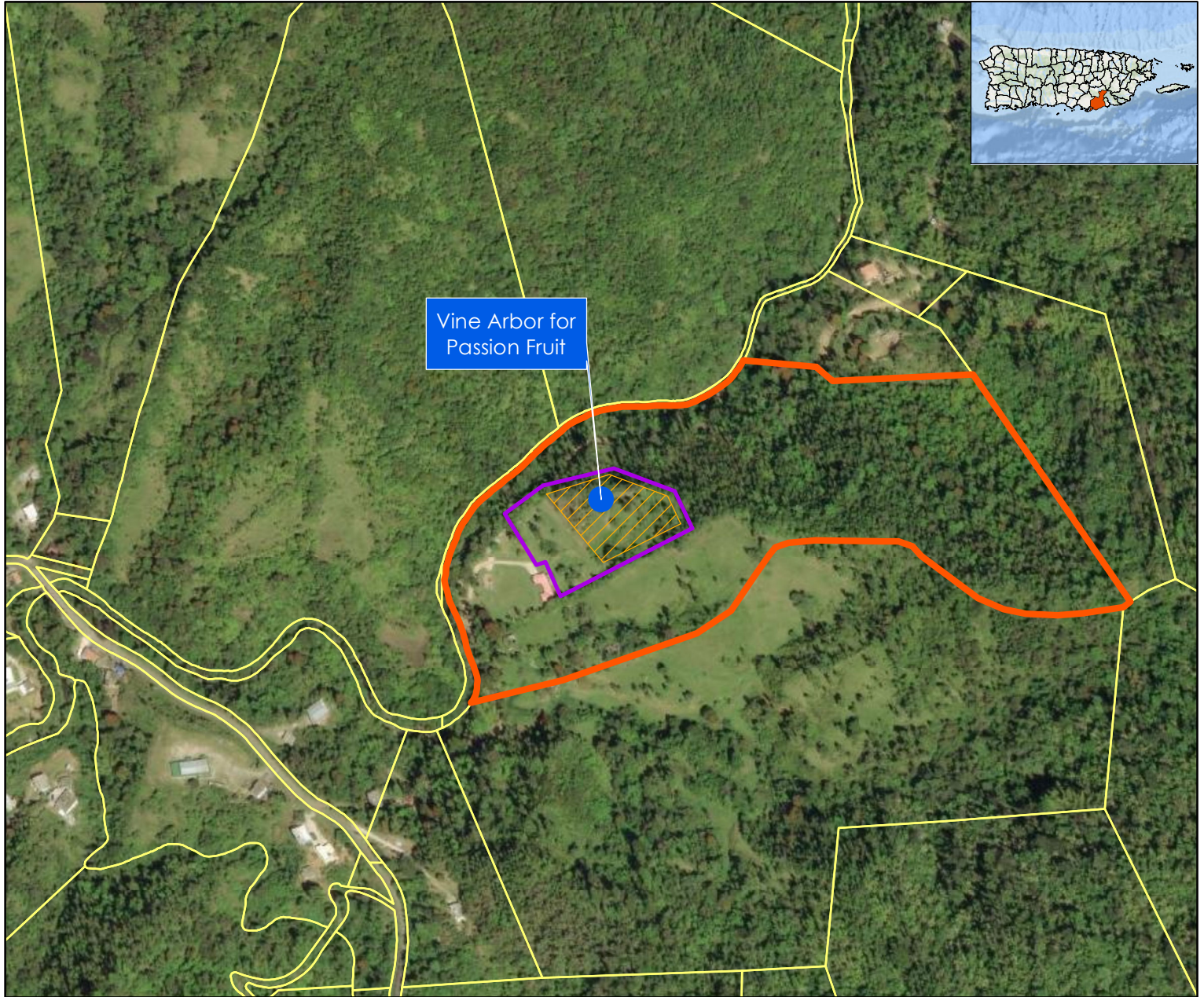
This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the activity/project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and in accordance with recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).

Figures






Alfredo González Landrón
 PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
 Guayama, PR 00784
 Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
 Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

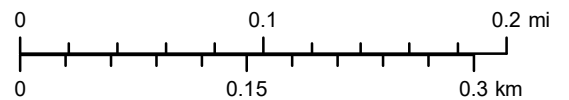
Figure 1: Location Photo Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  Applicant Structure
-  02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
-  02154_Parcela
-  02154 Chain Link Fence
-  CRIM Parcels



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



Source

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

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PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
Guayama, PR 00784

Catastro:325-000-007-11-001

Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

Figure 2: Airports Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-02154
- SJU Military Runway
- Civil Runway

Accident Potential Zone

- APZ 1
- APZ 2
- Clear Zone



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1:300,000

Source

Junta de Planificacion de Puerto Rico (JPPR), <https://jp.pr.gov/>

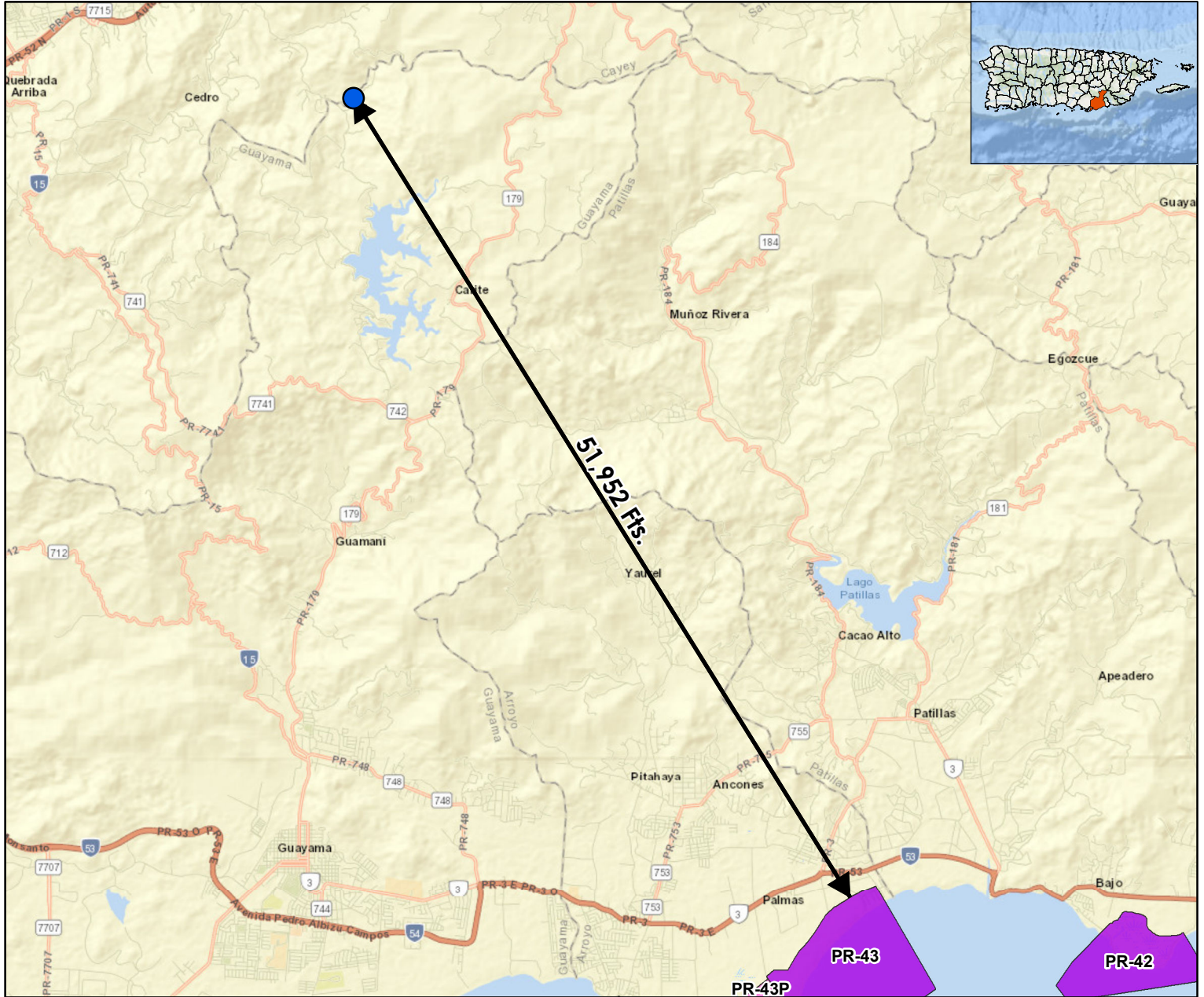
Alfredo González Landrón
 PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
 Guayama, PR 00784

Catastro:325-000-007-11-001

Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

Figure 3: Coastal Barrier Resources System

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow




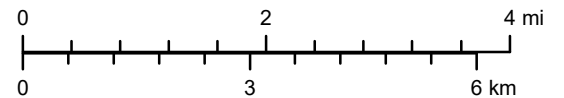
Legend:

 PR-RGRW-02154

Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS)

 Otherwise Protected Area

 System Unit



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



1:100,000

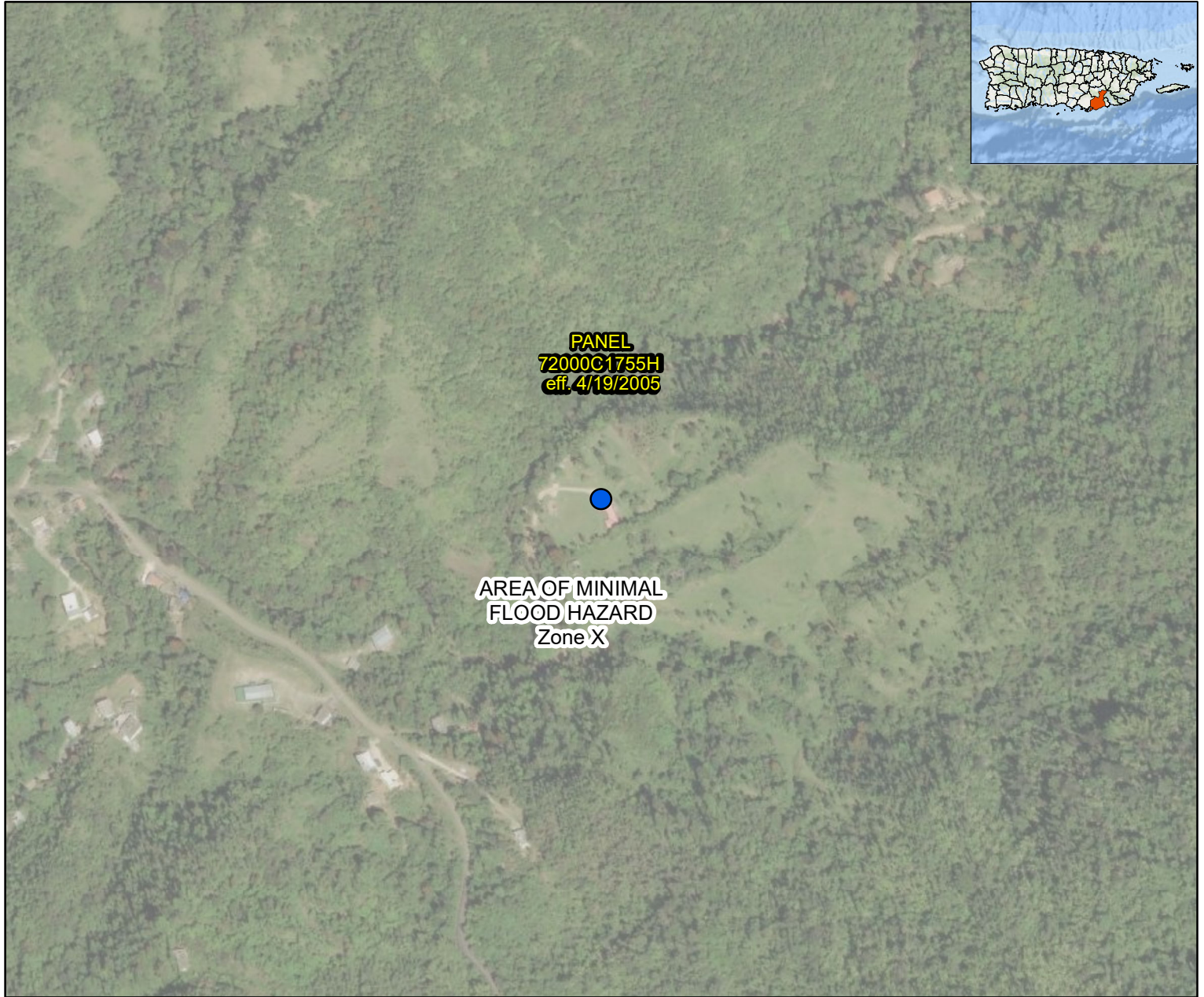
Source

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





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 PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
 Guayama, PR 00784
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 Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

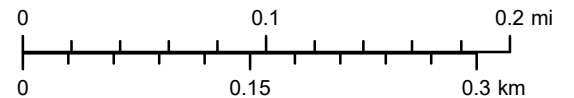
Figure 4: Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-02154
-  Area of Minimal Flood Hazard-Zone X *Zone X*
-  Flood Hazard Areas_Label
-  FIRM Panel



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



1:5,000

Source

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

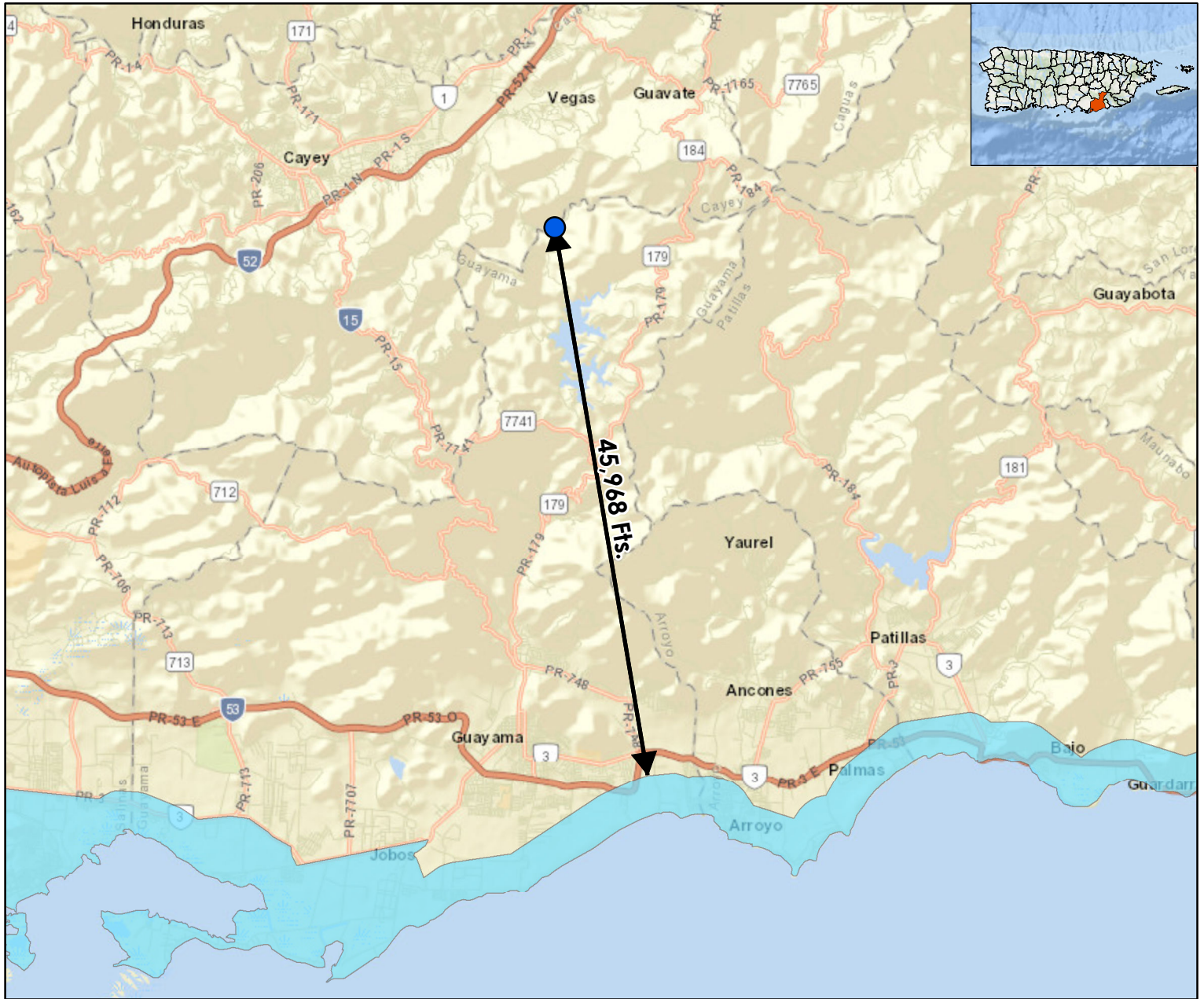
Alfredo González Landrón
PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
Guayama, PR 00784

Catastro:325-000-007-11-001

Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104


Figure 5: Coastal Zone Management

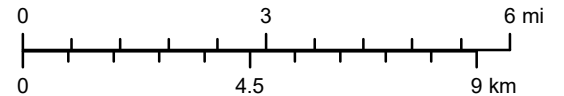
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

 PR-RGRW-02154

 Coastal Zone Management



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1:150,000

Source

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

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Guayama, PR 00784




Figure 6: Toxic and Hazardous Facilities

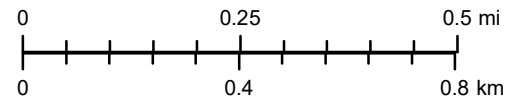
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-02154
-  3,000 Ft. (914.4 Mts.) Buffer
-  NPDES



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1:14,000

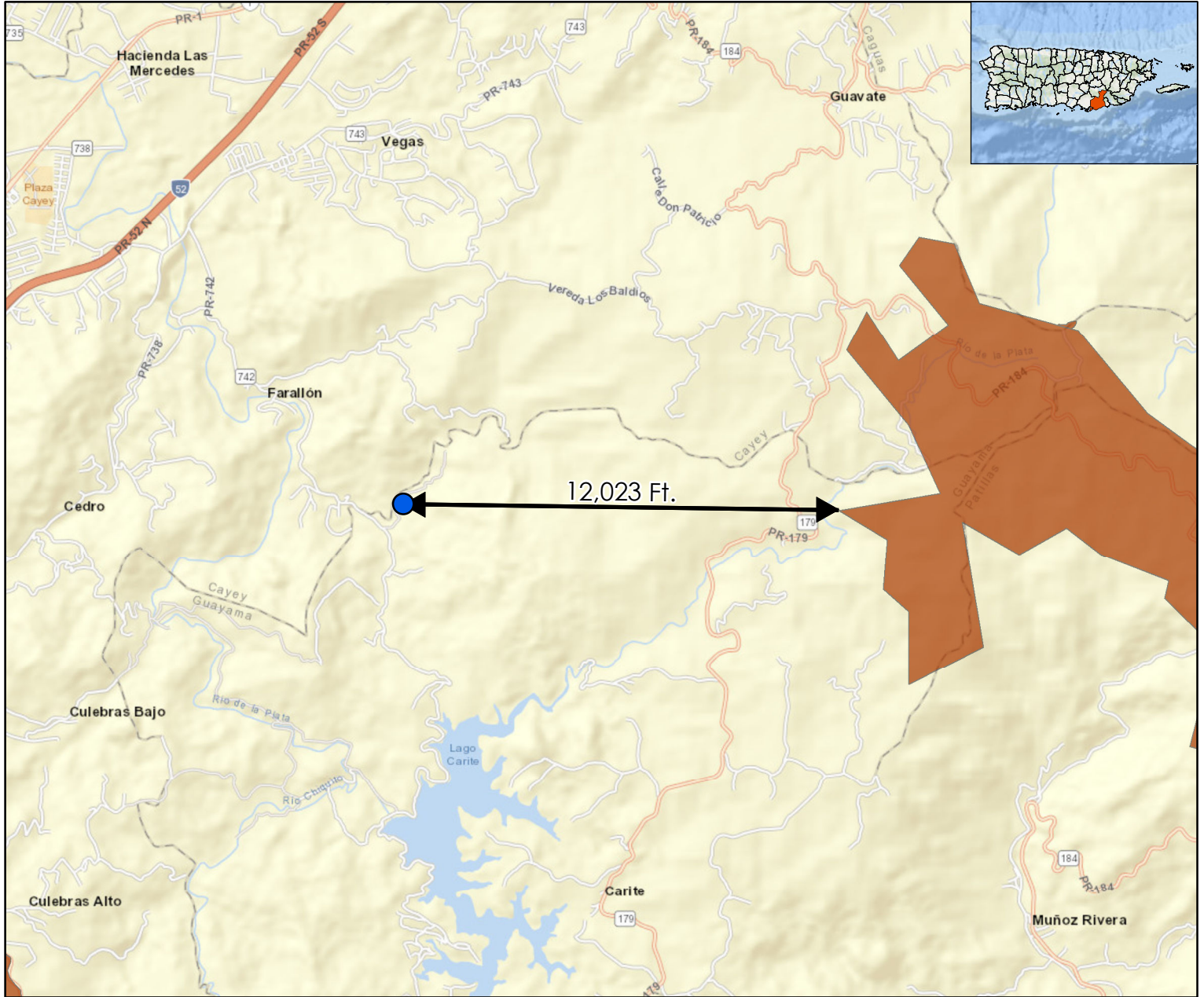
Source

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

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Guayama, PR 00784
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Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

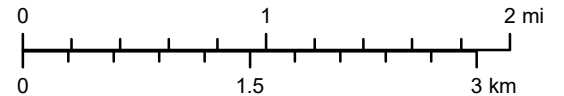
Figure 7: Threatened and Endangered Species

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-02154
- Critical Habitat



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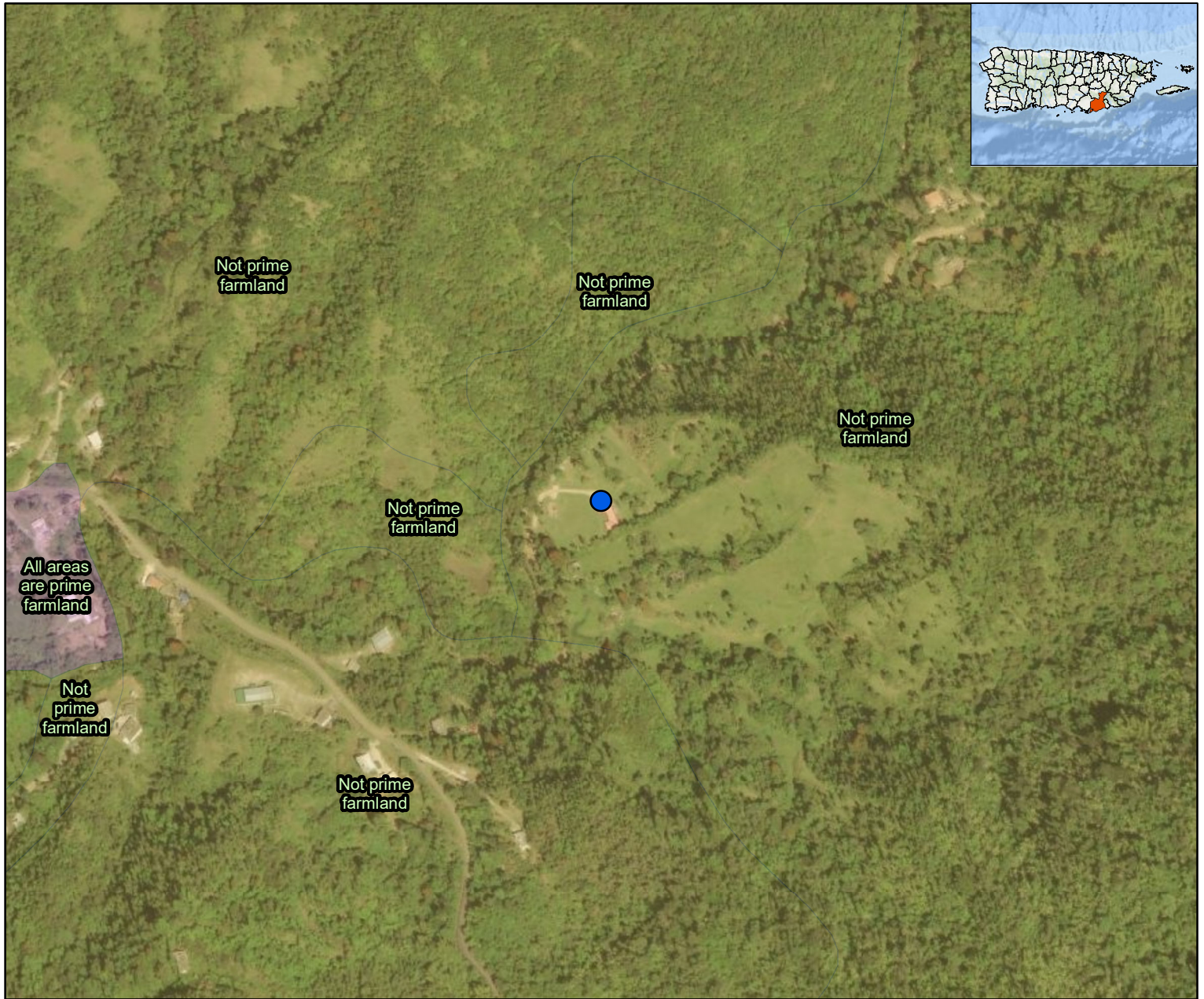
Source

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

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 PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
 Guayama, PR 00784
 Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
 Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

Figure 8: Farmland Protection

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow


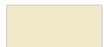


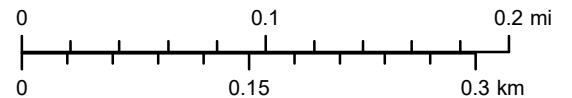
Legend:

 PR-RGRW-02154

MUPOLYGON

Farm Class

-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Not prime farmland



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1:5,000

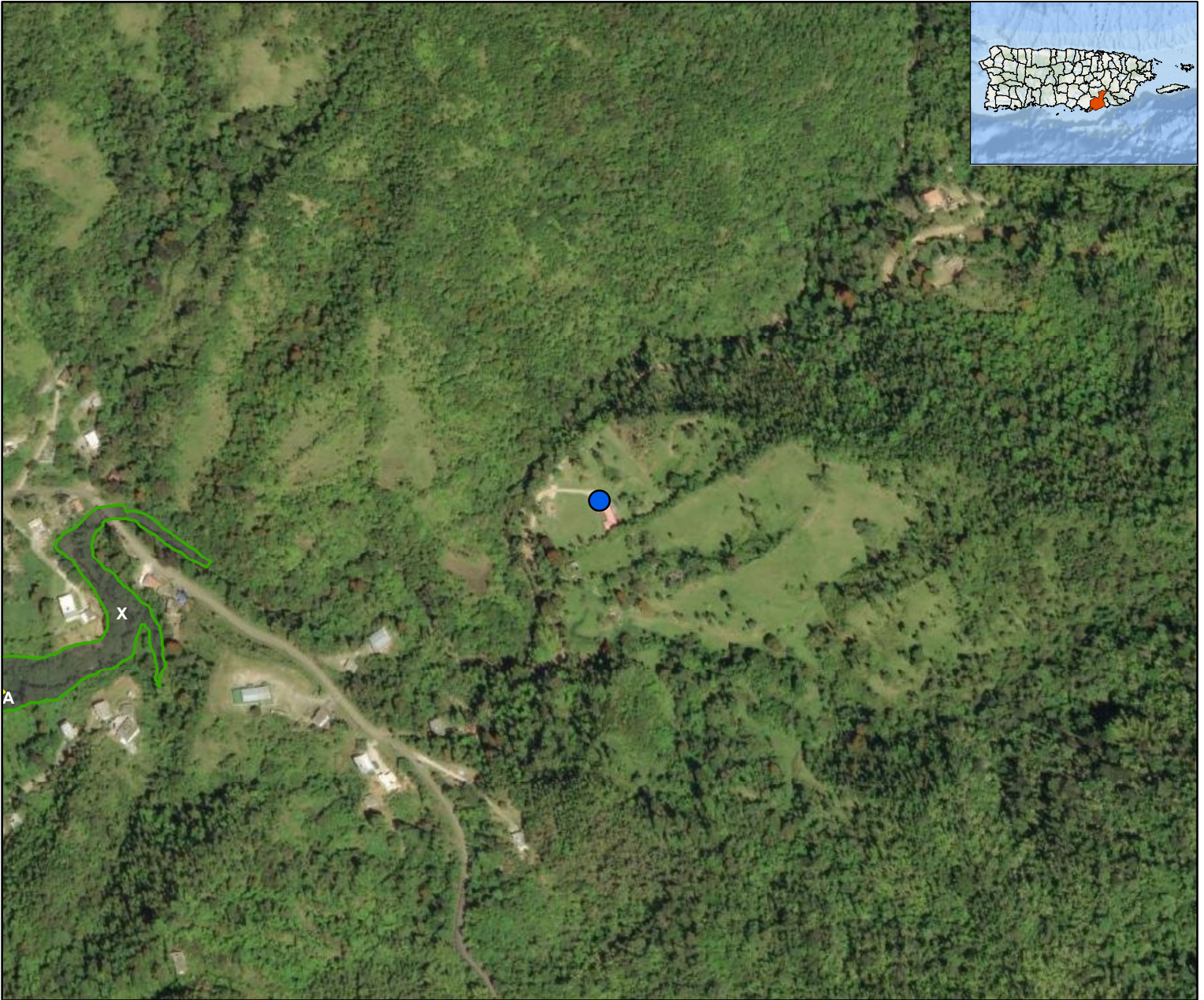
Source

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

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 PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
 Guayama, PR 00784
 Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
 Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

Figure 9: Advisory Base Flood Elevation Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

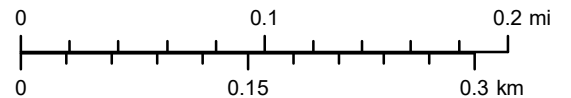


Legend:

- PR-RGRW-02154
- 1-Percent Annual Chance Flood
- 0.2-Percent Annual Chance Flood

Flood Zone

- A
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood



Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community
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1:5,000

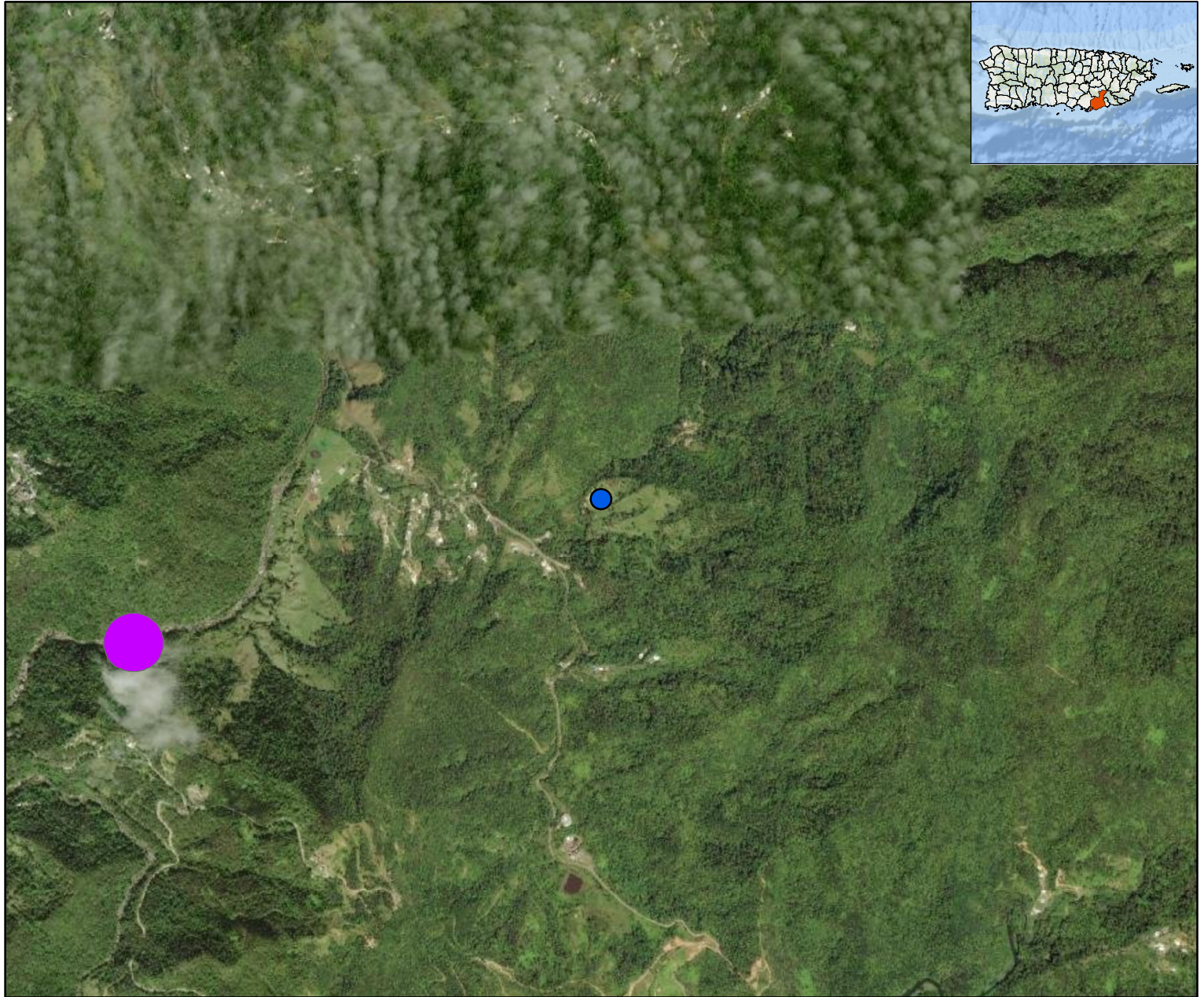
Source

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

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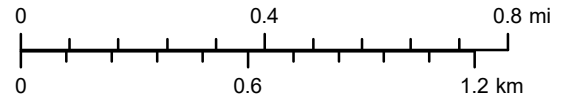
Figure 10: Historic Preservation

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-PGRW-02154
- Archaeological Resource Zones
- Traditional Urban Center
- Historic Communities
- P Cultural_Resources - Public Plaza
- + Cultural_Resources - Registry ICP
- ⦿ Cultural_Resources - Historic Places JP
- ▲ Cultural_Resources - Scenic Places
- Cultural_Resources - Cultural Value Places
- Cultural_Resources - Railway Vestiges



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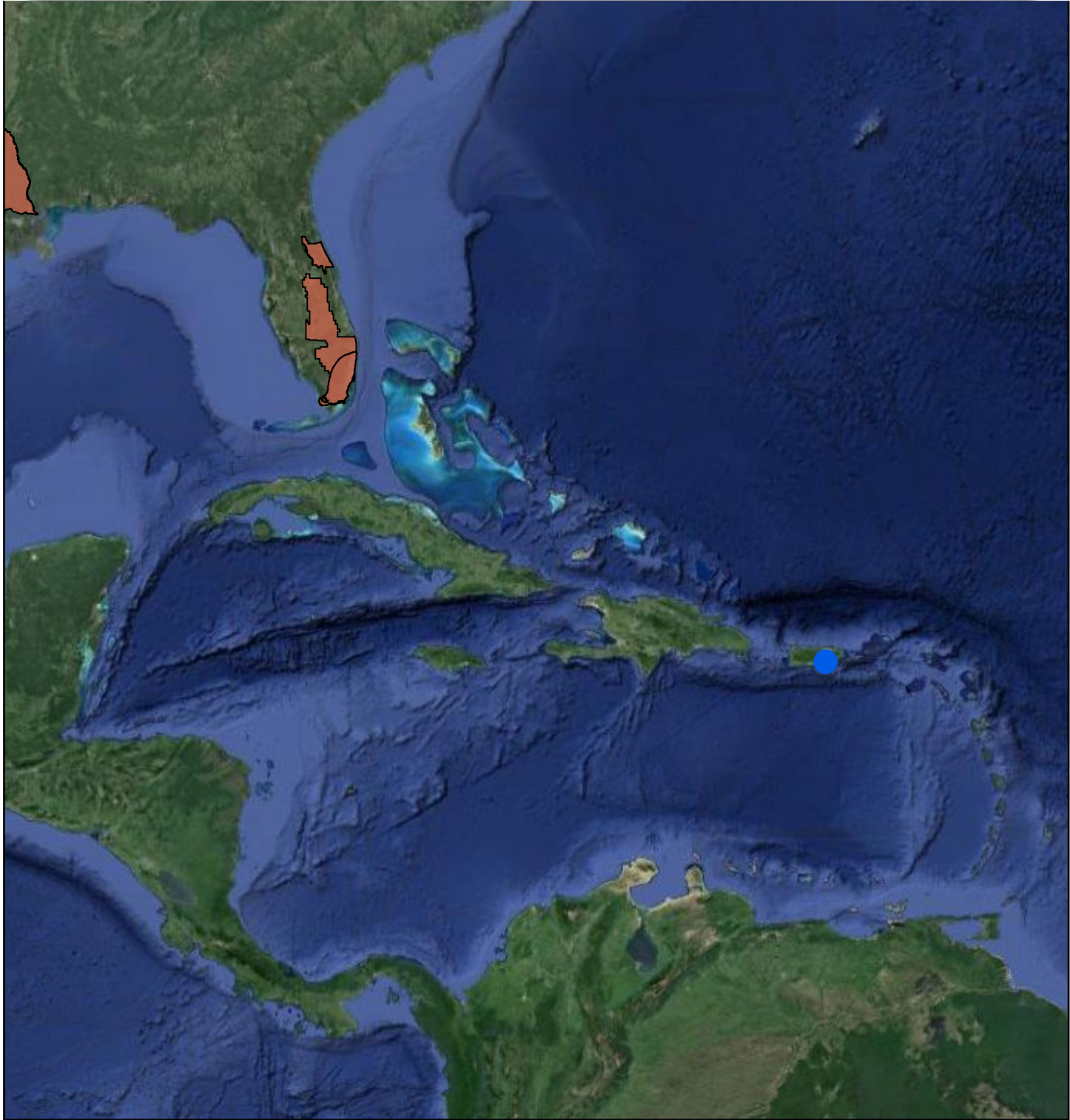
1:20,000

Source



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

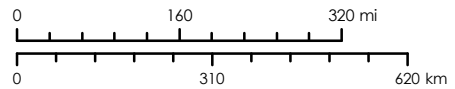
...SOURCES, REGULATIONS AND PLANNING
...AND THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, THE ROYAL SOCIETY
Alfredo Go

Source Aquifers



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-02154
-  EPA Sole Source Aquifers



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



Source

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

1:12,000,000

Alfredo González Landrón
 PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
 Guayama, PR 00784
 Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
 Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

Figure 12: Wetlands

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

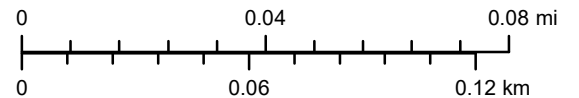


Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- 02154 Chain Link Fence
- 02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area

National Wetlands Inventory

- Riverine



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



1:2,000

Source

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

Alfredo González Landrón
 PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
 Guayama, PR 00784

Catastro:325-000-007-11-001

Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

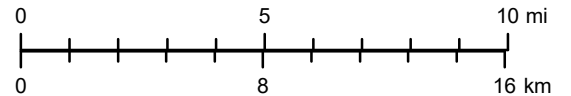
Figure 13: Wild and Scenic Rivers

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- PR-RGRW-02154
- Wild and Scenic Rivers



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1:250,000

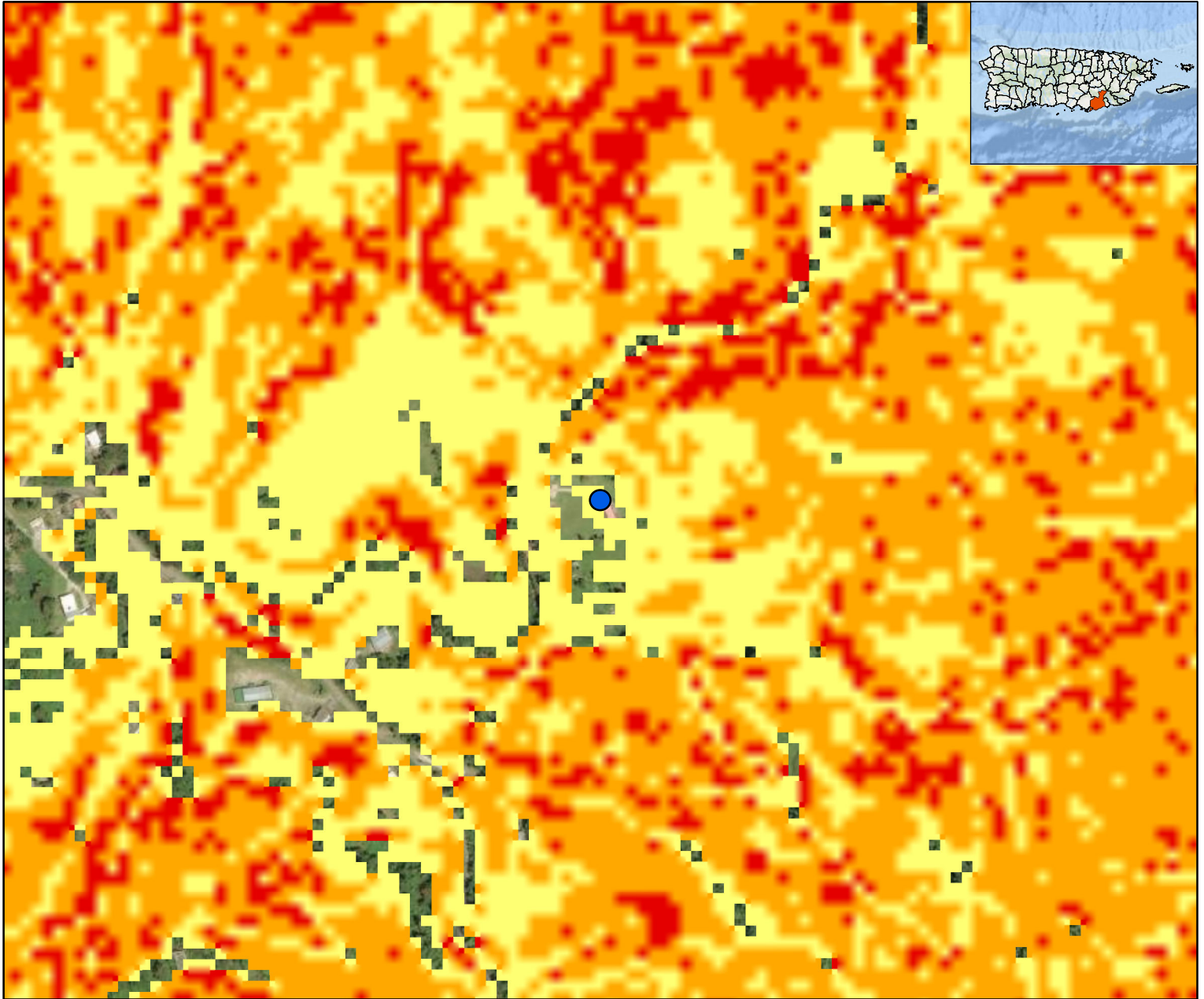
Source

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







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Guayama, PR 00784
Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

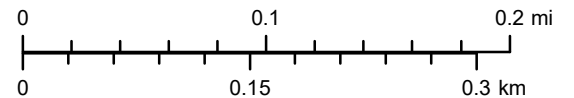
Figure 14: Landslide Susceptibility

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  PR-RGRW-02154
-  Low
-  Moderate
-  High
-  Very High
-  Extremely High



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Source

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

Appendix 1: SHPO Consultation Package

ENVIRONMENTAL MEMORANDUM

Date: 8/8/2024

To: Environmental Review Record (ERR) File

Subject: Explanation of Conflicting Information within the ERR

Applicant Name: Alfredo Gonzalez Landron

Application Number: PR-RGRW-02154

This memorandum serves to provide an explanation as to the presence of conflicting pieces of information within the Environmental Review Record (ERR) file.

Confliction Information: Coordinates Address Municipio Parcel ID/Cadaster Number
 Construction Date Applicant Name Other: New Scope of work approved

Location(s) of SHPO Package: Project Description (Undertaking)
Conflicting Information:

Explanation: The applicant requested a change in the scope of work that was approved by the program on April 5, 2024. The original IUGF included the purchase of a slicer. The applicant has requested the removal of the slicer from the IUGF and purchase of a Zeto Tractor instead. Consultation with SHPO was initiated on October 27, 2023 and SHPO concurred with a finding of NHPA on November 13, 2023, prior to the approved scope of work change. The change in scope of work does not include ground disturbing activities or improvement of a structure and includes only the purchase of moveable equipment. Therefore, the application does not need to return to SHPO for re-consultation."



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

November 13, 2023

Lauren Bair Poche

HORNE

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

SHPO 10-27-23-12 SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION SUBMITTAL:
PR-RGRW-02154 – ALFREDO GONZÁLEZ LANDRÓN – PR-742, BO. CARITE,
GUAYAMA, PUERTO RICO

Dear Ms. Bair,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela
State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/MB



October 27, 2023

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

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

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-02154 – Alfredo González Landrón – PR-742 Bo. Carite, Guayama, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected*

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

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

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, HORNE is submitting documentation for activities proposed by Alfredo González Landrón located at PR-742 Bo. Carite, in the municipality of Guayama. The undertaking for this project includes the purchase of materials (tubing and wire) to build a trellis system to support passion fruit, construction of new wire fencing, and the purchase of farm equipment (slicer and tractor extension parts). For the passion fruit planting, T-shaped tubes will be installed to support the fruit. The tubes will be 3 feet from each other and will be anchored to the ground at a depth of 2 feet. The installation of the fence to protect the crops will be anchored to the ground with metal posts driven approximately 2' below the ground surface to ensure the fence is secure.

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

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


Kindest regards,

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

Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.

Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Senior Manager

Attachments

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Applicant: Alfredo González Landrón		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02154	City: Guayama	

Project Location: PR-742 Bo. Carite	
Project Coordinates: 18.100780 -66.104591	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 325-000-007-11-001	
Type of Undertaking: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair/Improvements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): n/a	Property Size (acres): 22.21

SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jaqueline López Meléndez
Date Reviewed: October 15, 2023


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

Project Description (Undertaking)

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02154 consist of the purchase of materials (tubing and wire) to build a trellis system to support passion fruit, construction of new wire fencing, and the purchase of farm equipment (slicer and tractor extension parts). For the passion fruit planting, T-shaped tubes will be installed to support the fruit. The tubes will be 3 feet from each other and will be anchored to the ground at a depth of 2 feet. The installation of the fence will be anchored to the ground with metal posts so it will require ground disturbance. Each post will be driven approximately 2' below the ground surface to ensure the fence is secure. The fence will be installed to protect the crops. The project area is located at PR-742 Bo. Caribe within the Municipality of Guayama. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area of the passion fruit planting and fence was characterized as an agrarian setting in 1968 (the earliest imagery available for the area) and it remains predominantly agricultural through to the present day.

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 new wire fence and passion fruit planting are plus a 15-meter buffer. The visual APE is the view shed of the proposed project.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGrow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
Applicant: Alfredo González Landrón	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02154	City: Guayama

Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that there are no reported archaeological sites, archaeological materials of significant cultural properties within a half-mile (0.50 miles) radius of the project location. The closest reported archaeological site to the PR-RGRW-02154 project area is the Pre-Columbian site El Salto (SHPO: CY0100003) located 1.02 miles southwest. The proposed project is located in Guayama at an altitude of 1476 to 1607 feet above sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area is within mapped soil series: Guineos clay. The project area APE is in LsF. The nearest body of water is Grande creek, located 0.04 miles north and 0.06 miles west. The coast is approximately 9.20 miles southeast from the project area.


There is one (1) archaeological study within 0.50 miles radius of the project area, with negative results.

The soil in this area has been classified as Los Guineos clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes (LsF). This is a very steep, moderately well drained soil on side slopes of strongly dissected uplands. Permeability is moderately slow, and the available water capacity is high. Runoff is very rapid, and erosion is a hazard. This soil is very difficult to work because it is very steep and because of the stickiness and plasticity of the clay. Natural fertility is medium.

The project area does not have cultural resources that are listed either on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nor is it within a Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. On October 14, 2023, we visually inspected the project area. The area where the fence and passion fruit will be planted has a steep topography and the surface is covered with grass and shrubs. No cultural remains can be observed on the surface of the parcel.

Determination

The project area is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed historic district or Traditional Urban Center. There are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project location. There are no known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or roads and agricultural infrastructure has minimally impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project activities.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
Applicant: Alfredo González Landrón		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02154	City: Guayama	

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"/> Concurs with the information provided. <input type="checkbox"/> Does not concur with the information provided.	
Comments:	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation Officer	Date:


PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Applicant: Alfredo González Landrón		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02154	City: Guayama	

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

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

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

Author	Phase/Title	Year	SHPO / IPRC code	Results	Distance/Direction
Diana López	IA/ Improvements to the water supply system of Cayey Region	1987	ICP/CAT-CY-87-01-04	Negative	0.22 mi SW

Applicant: Alfredo González Landrón

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02154

City: Guayama

Project (PR-RGRW-02154) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)

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

Cloud, Iberia 1 Suite J-3, Calle Ponce 554, Altamira, San Juan, PR, 00903 Tel: (787) 763-0290

Application ID: PR-RGRW-02154

Alfredo González Landrón
PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
Guayama, PR 00784
Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

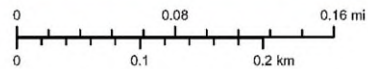
Area of Potential Effect

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- Area of Potential Effect 15 Mts.
- 02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
- 02154 Fence
- 02154 Parcel
- CRIM Parcels



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



Source

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

Applicant: Alfredo González Landrón

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02154

City: Guayama

Project (PR-RGRW-02154) Location - Aerial Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Ciudad, Ibove 1 Suite 403, Calle Ponce 504, Arroyo, San Juan, PR 00959 Tel: (787) 763-0296

Application ID: PR-RGRW-02154

Alfredo González Landrón
PR-742 Bo. Carife,
Guayama, PR 00784
Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

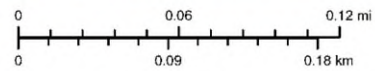
Location: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- 02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
- 02154 Fence
- 02154 Parcel
- CRIM Parcels



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



Source

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

Applicant: Alfredo González Landrón

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02154

City: Guayama

Project (PR-RGRW-02154) Location - USGS Topographic Map

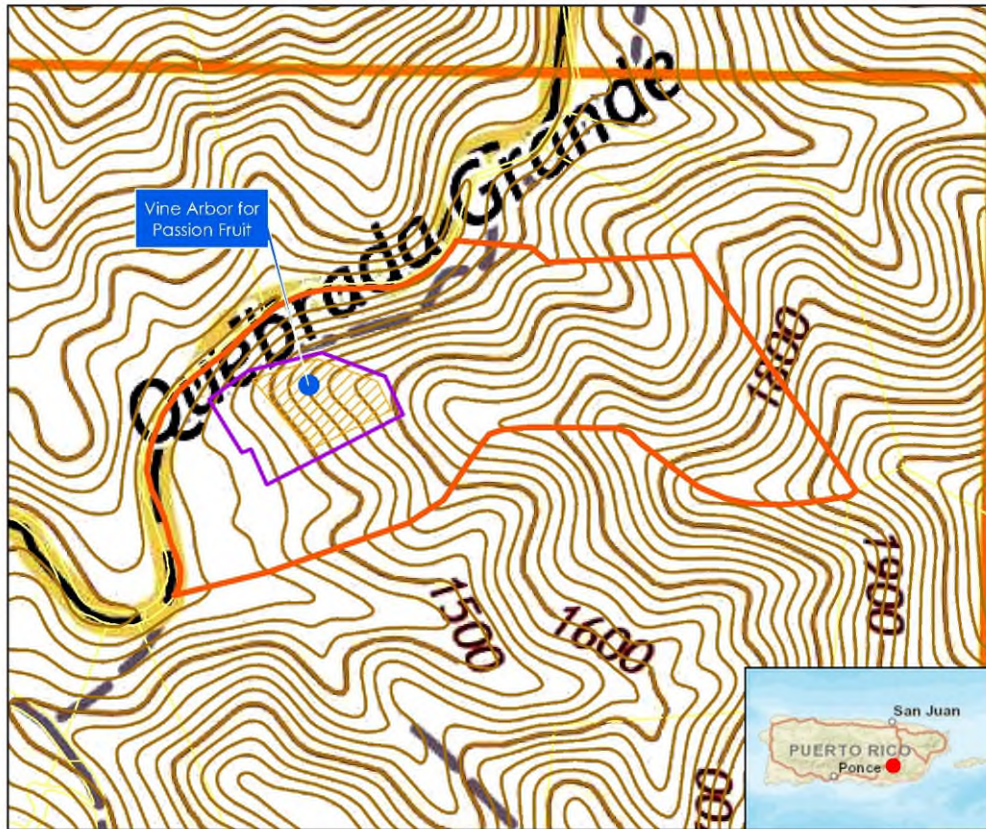
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

Application ID: PR-RGRW-02154

Alfredo González Landrón
PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
Guayama, PR 00784
Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

Location: USGS Topographic Map

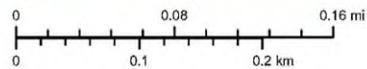
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- 02154_Parcela
- 02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
- 02154 Fence
- Contour Interval 20 Feet
- CRIM Parcels

Quadrangle: Patillas



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



Source

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

Applicant: Alfredo González Landrón

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02154

City: Guayama

Project (PR-RGRW-02154) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map

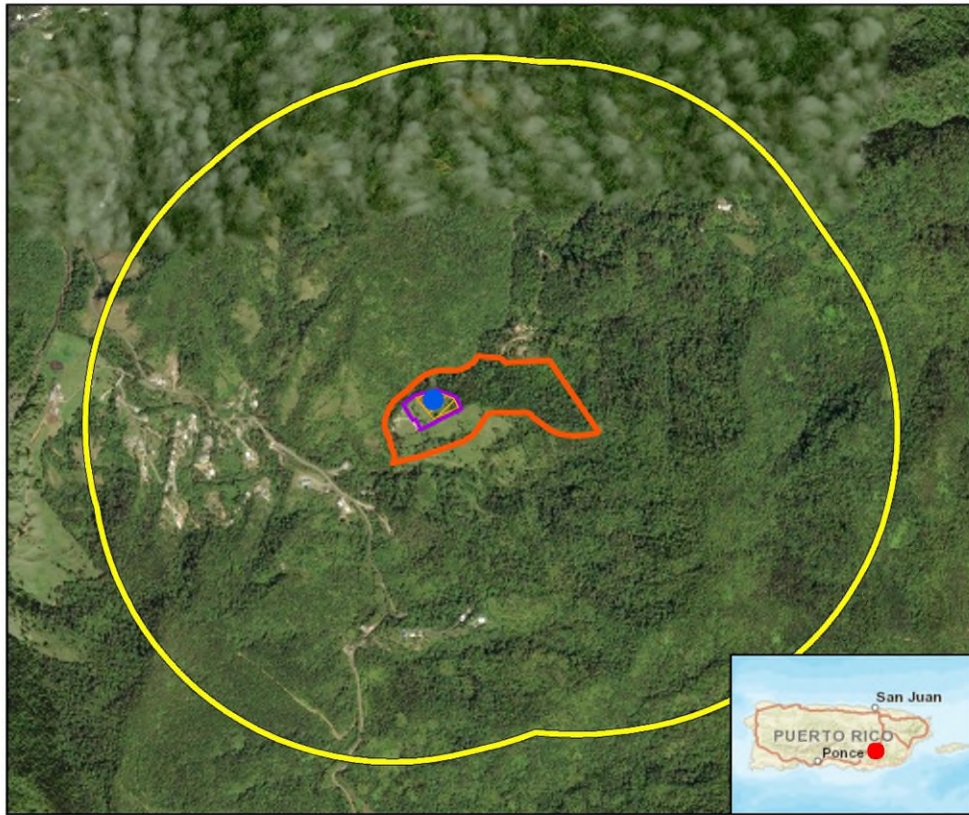
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
COND. IDENR 1 Suite J-3, Calle Ponce 50A, Arroyo, San Juan, PR. 00920 TEL:787/763-0290

Application ID: PR-RGRW-02154

Alfredo González Landrón
PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
Guayama, PR 00784
Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

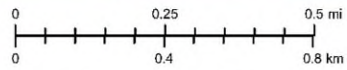
Previous Investigations: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- 02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
- 02154 Fence
- 02154 Parcel
- 0.5 Mille (0.80Km.) Buffer



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



Source

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

Applicant: Alfredo González Landrón

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02154

City: Guayama

Project (PR-RGRW-02154) Location with Previous Investigations - Topographic Map

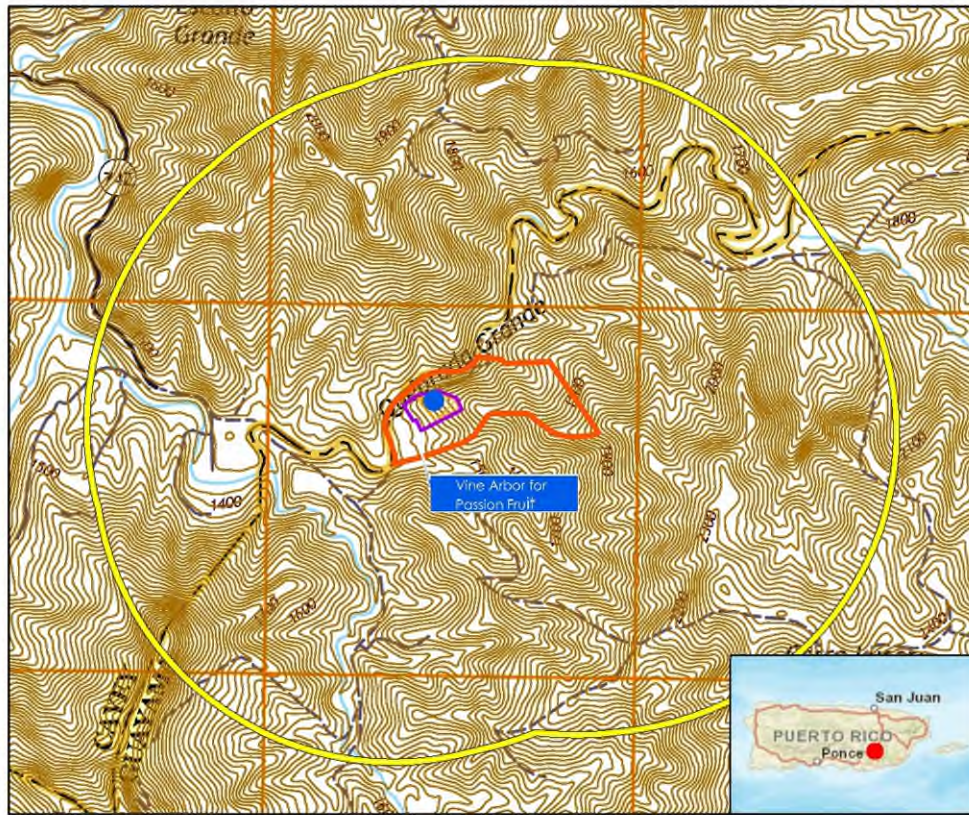
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
CONC. BARR. Y BARR. A.S. CAROL YBARRA OSA, ARCHITECT, SAN JUAN, P.R. 00923 TEL: 783-1039-2885

Application ID: PR-RGRW-02154

Alfredo González Landrón
PR-742 Bo. Carite,
Guayama, PR 00784
Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

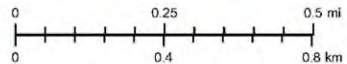
Previous Investigations: USGS Topographic Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- 02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
- 02154 Fence
- 02154 Parcel
- 0.5 Mille (0.80Km.) Buffer
- Contour Interval 20 Feet



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



Source

United States Geological Survey (USGS)
National Geo.org; Map Database
https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ngmdb/rngmdb_home.htm

Quadrangle: Patillas

Applicant: Alfredo González Landrón

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02154

City: Guayama

Photograph Key

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
CORP. 10801 1st Suite J-3, Calle Ponce 554, Arroyo, San Juan, P.R. 00920 Tel: (787) 763-0296

Application ID: PR-RGRW-02154

Alfredo González Landrón
PR-742 Bo. Camite,
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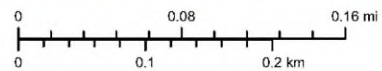
Area of Potential Effect

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- Area of Potential Effect 15 Mts.
- 02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
- 02154 Fence
- 02154 Parcel
- CRIM Parcels



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



Source

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



Applicant: Alfredo González Landrón

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02154

City: Guayama



Photo #: 1

Description (include direction): General area where the passion fruit arbor will be planted, looking northeast.

Date: October 14, 2023



Photo #: 2

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

Date: October 14, 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





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

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

Data is current as of March 31, 2023

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

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

Change the State:

Important Notes

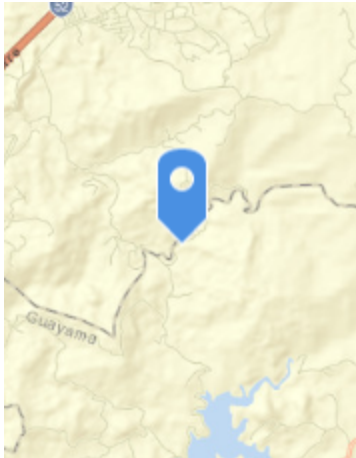
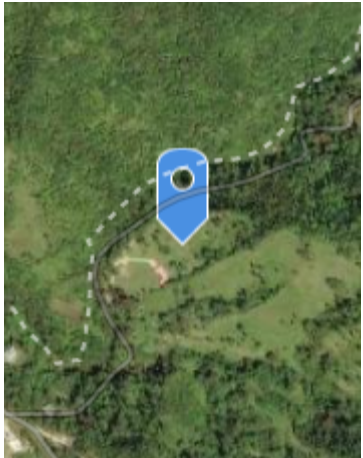
Download National Dataset: [dbf](#) | [xls](#) | [Data dictionary \(PDF\)](#)

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

Important Notes



APPLICANT/LOCATION INFORMATION	
Applicant ID:	PR-RGRW-02154
Name:	Alfredo Gonzalez Landron
Parcel ID:	325-000-007-11-001
Latitude:	18.100780
Longitude:	-66.104591
Elevation:	452.5703557815752
Development	
Street Address:	PR-742 Bo. Carite, Guayama, PR
Municipio:	Guayama
Zip Code:	00736
Site Inspector:	Patricia Carmenatty
Date of Visit:	September 27, 2023
Time of Visit:	09:39

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

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

Photo Direction: looking West

Comments: camino subiendo parte derecha hacia donde estará el cultivo de parcha



Photo Direction: N/A

Comments:



Photo Direction: West

Comments: Where the passion fruit arbor will be installed. Steep topo.



Photo Direction: West

Comments: facing away



Photo Direction: South

Comments: Where the passion fruit arbor will be installed. Steep topo.



Photo Direction: Northeast

Comments: facing away Where the passion fruit arbor will be installed. Steep topo.





Photo Direction: West

Comments:

Photo Direction: East

Comments:



Photo Direction: Northeast

Comments: Angulo Izquierdo de donde se instala postes para el cultivo de parcha



Photo Direction: Southwest

Comments: cisterna que usara para almacenar agua de un ojo de agua.



Evidence Photo 1

Photo Direction: N/A

Photo Description: Farm entrance



Evidence Photo 2

Photo Direction: N/A

Photo Description: looking from the entrance where the passion fruit arbor will be installed



Evidence Photo 3

Photo Direction: N/A

Photo Description: Grande Creek at the right of the street



Evidence Photo 4

Photo Direction: N/A

Photo Description: Streetscape. Creek at the right, slope at the left



Evidence Photo 5

Photo Direction: N/A

Photo Description: Streetscape slope at the right, creek at the left



Evidence Photo 6

Photo Direction: N/A

Photo Description: slope



Evidence Photo 7

Photo Direction: N/A

Photo Description:



Evidence Photo 8

Photo Direction: N/A

Photo Description:

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES					
Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.08	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.6	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.0134	0.0667	9	0.261	0
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	10	20	0	25	1
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.1	0.19	0	0.31	1
Toxic Releases to Air	460	4,300	29	4,600	45
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	120	180	59	210	61
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.03	0.16	26	0.3	21
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.12	0.15	67	0.13	71
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.074	0.47	18	0.43	20
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.12	0.76	20	1.9	22
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	0.42	1.7	61	3.9	38
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.02	2.3	63	22	73
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index	80%	83%	25	35%	95
Supplemental Demographic Index	40%	43%	33	14%	98
People of Color	100%	96%	31	39%	98
Low Income	60%	70%	24	31%	88
Unemployment Rate	0%	15%	0	6%	0
Limited English Speaking Households	83%	67%	80	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	18%	21%	43	12%	77
Under Age 5	5%	4%	74	6%	54
Over Age 64	18%	22%	33	17%	59
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A%	N/A	20%	N/A

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



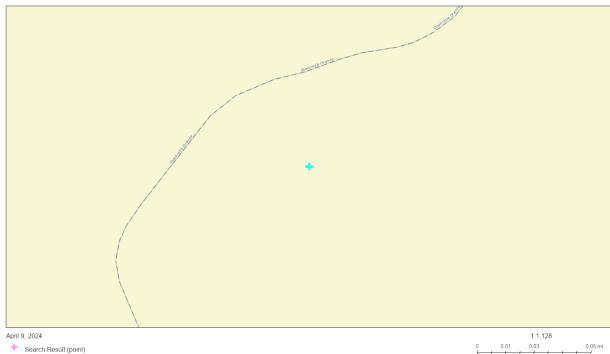
EJScreen Community Report

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

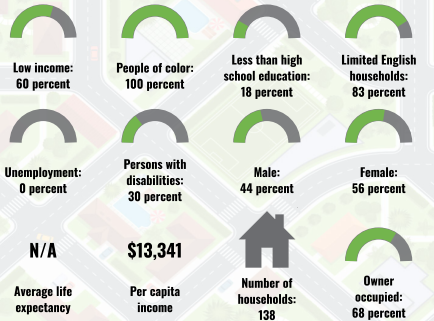
Guayama Municipio, PR

1 mile Ring Centered at 18.100780, -66.104591
 Population: 288
 Area in square miles: 3.14

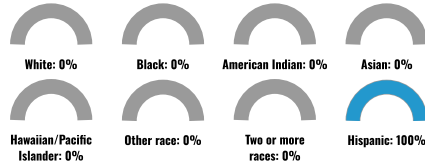
A3 Landscape



COMMUNITY INFORMATION



BREAKDOWN BY RACE



BREAKDOWN BY AGE



LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
No language data available.	

Notes: Numbers may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2017-2021. Life expectancy data comes from the Centers for Disease Control.

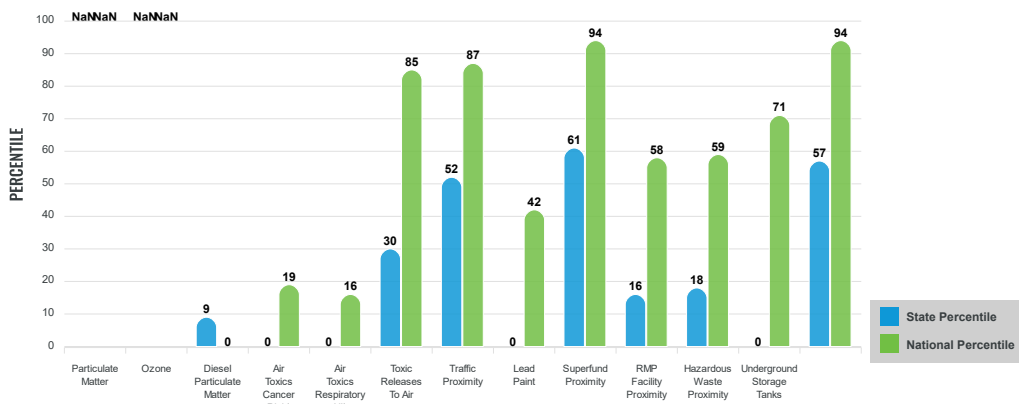
Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

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

EJ INDEXES

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

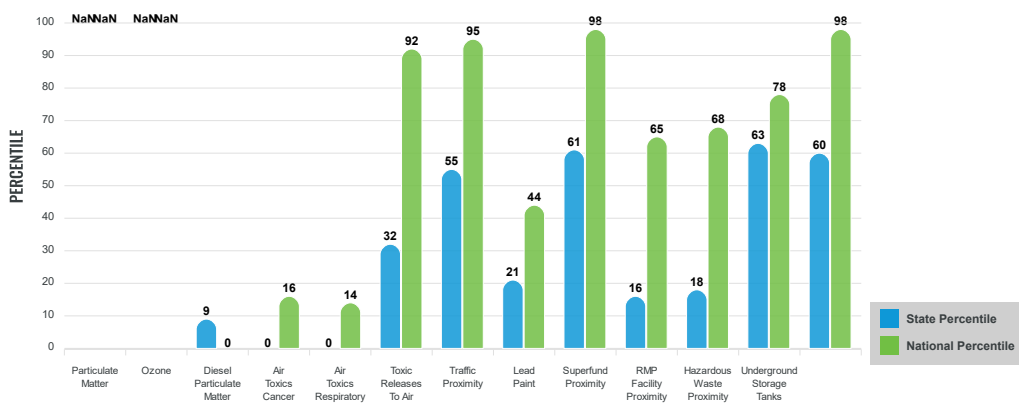
EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

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

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state or nation.

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.100780,-66.104591

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES					
Particulate Matter (µg/m³)	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.08	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.6	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter (µg/m³)	0.0134	0.0667	9	0.261	0
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	10	20	0	25	1
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Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.02	2.3	63	22	73
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Over Age 64	18%	22%	33	17%	59
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A%	N/A	20%	N/A

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

Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

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

Other community features within defined area:

Schools	0
Hospitals	0
Places of Worship	0

Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	No
Impaired Waters	Yes

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

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.100780,-66.104591

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

HEALTH INDICATORS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A	N/A	20%	N/A
Heart Disease	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Asthma	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	N/A
Cancer	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Persons with Disabilities	24.9%	21.6%	68	13.4%	95


CLIMATE INDICATORS

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

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	21%	32%	31	14%	76
Lack of Health Insurance	6%	7%	42	9%	41
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Report for 1 mile Ring Centered at 18.100780,-66.104591

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Detailed Facility Report



Detailed Facility Report

Facility Summary

PRASA CAYEY (FARALLON) WTP

STATE ROAD #742 - KM.47, CAYEY, PR 00736 

FRS (Facility Registry Service) ID: 110009814246

EPA Region: 02

Latitude: 18.102222

Longitude: -66.108333

Locational Data Source: NPDES

Industries: --

Indian Country: N

Enforcement and Compliance Summary

Statute	CWA
Compliance Monitoring Activities (5 years)	1
Date of Last Compliance Monitoring Activity	09/27/2019
Compliance Status	Violation Identified
Qtrs in Noncompliance (of 12)	8
Qtrs with Significant Violation	0
Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Penalties from Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
EPA Cases (5 years)	--
Penalties from EPA Cases (5 years)	--

Regulatory Information

Clean Air Act (CAA): No Information

Clean Water Act (CWA): Non-Major, Permit Effective (PR0026077)

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): No Information

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA): No Information

Go To Enforcement/Compliance Details

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

Other Regulatory Reports

Air Emissions Inventory (EIS): No Information

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (eGGRT): No Information

Toxic Releases (TRI): No Information

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

Facility/System Characteristics

Facility/System Characteristics

System ↓	Statute ↓	Identifier ↓	Universe ↓	Status ↓	Area ↓	Permit Expiration Date ↓	Indian Country ↓	Latitude ↓	Longitude ↓
FRS		110009814246					N	18.102222	-66.108333
ICIS-NPDES	CWA	PR0026077	Non-Major: NPDES Individual Permit	Effective		10/31/2024	N	18.102222	-66.108333

Facility Address

System ↓	Statute ↓	Identifier ↓	Facility Name ↓	Facility Address ↓	Facility County ↓
FRS		110009814246	PRASA CAYEY (FARALLON) WTP	STATE ROAD #742 - KM.47, CAYEY, PR 00736	
ICIS-NPDES	CWA	PR0026077	PRASA CAYEY (FARALLON) WTP	STATE ROAD #742 - KM.47, CAYEY, PR 00736	Cayey Municipio

Facility SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) Codes

System ↓	Identifier ↓	SIC Code ↓	SIC Description ↓
ICIS-NPDES	PR0026077	4941	Water Supply

Facility NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) Codes

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

Facility Industrial Effluent Guidelines

Identifier ↓	Effluent Guideline (40 CFR Part) ↓	Effluent Guideline Description ↓
PR0026077	000	No Applicable Effluent Guidelines

Facility Tribe Information

Reservation Name ↓	Tribe Name ↓	EPA Tribal ID ↓	Distance to Tribe (miles) ↓
No data records returned			

Enforcement and Compliance

Compliance Monitoring History Last 5 Years

Statute	Source ID	System	Activity Type	Compliance Monitoring Type	Lead Agency	Date	Finding (if applicable)
CWA	PR0026077	ICIS-NPDES	Inspection/Evaluation	Base Program - Reconnaissance without Sampling	EPA	10/14/2021	
CWA	PR0026077	ICIS-NPDES	Offsite Record Review	Base Program - Desk Audit	EPA	03/11/2021	
CWA	PR0026077	ICIS-NPDES	Inspection/Evaluation	Base Program - Evaluation	EPA	09/27/2019	

Entries in italics are not counted as compliance monitoring strategy activities. For programs without compliance monitoring strategies, entries in italics are not counted as on-site activities within EPA's Annual Results.

Compliance Summary Data

Statute	Source ID	Current SNC (Significant Noncompliance)/HPV (High Priority Violation)	Current As Of	Qtrs with NC (Noncompliance) (of 12)	Data Last Refreshed
CWA	PR0026077	No	06/30/2023	8	11/11/2023

Three-Year Compliance History by Quarter

Statute	Program/Pollutant/Violation Type	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10	QTR 11	QTR 12	QTR 13+
CWA	(Source ID: PR0026077)	07/01-09 /30/20	10/01-12 /31/20	01/01-03 /31/21	04/01-06 /30/21	07/01-09 /30/21	10/01-12 /31/21	01/01-03 /31/22	04/01-06 /30/22	07/01-09 /30/22	10/01-12 /31/22	01/01-03 /31/23	04/01-06 /30/23	07/01-11 /11/23
Facility-Level Status		Violation Identified	Violation Identified	Violation Identified	Violation Identified	Violation Identified	Violation Identified	Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	No Violation Identified	Violation Identified
Quarterly Noncompliance Report History		Reportable Noncompliance	Reportable Noncompliance	Reportable Noncompliance	Reportable Noncompliance	Reportable Noncompliance	Reportable Noncompliance	Reportable Noncompliance	Resolved - Pending	Resolved - Pending	Resolved - Pending	Resolved - Pending	Resolved - Pending	
	Pollutant	Disch Point	Mon Loc	Freq										
CWA	BOD, 5-day, 20 deg. C <effluent-charts#pr0026077/00310>	001 - A	Effluent Gross	NMth		292%	356%		10%	712%		120%	140%	714%
CWA	Chlorine, total residual <effluent-charts#pr0026077/50060>	001 - A	Effluent Gross	NMth	1900%									
CWA	Copper, total [as Cu] <effluent-charts#pr0026077/01042>	001 - A	Effluent Gross	NMth		47%	112%		60%	3303%	176%	519%	498%	
CWA	Oxygen, dissolved [DO] <effluent-charts#pr0026077/00300>	001 - A	Effluent Gross	Neither	54%									
CWA	Turbidity <effluent-charts#pr0026077/00070>	001 - Q	Effluent Gross	NMth							LIMIT VIOLATION	LIMIT VIOLATION	LIMIT VIOLATION	
Late or Missing Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Measurements														
Counts of Late DMR Measurements						2								

Informal Enforcement Actions Last 5 Years

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

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

Formal Enforcement Actions

Last 5 Years

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

No data records returned

Environmental Conditions

Watersheds

12-Digit WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) HUC (RAD (Reach Address Database))	WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) Subwatershed Name (RAD (Reach Address Database))	State Water Body Name (ICIS (Integrated Compliance Information System))	Beach Closures Within Last Year	Beach Closures Within Last Two Years	Pollutants Potentially Related to Impairment	Watershed with ESA (Endangered Species Act)-listed Aquatic Species?
210100050707	Rio de la Plata at Represa Comerio Dam	QUEBRADA GRANDE	No	No	Ammonia & ammonium- total Copper, total (as Cu) Lead, total (as Pb) Turbidity pH	Yes

Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)

State	Report Cycle	Assessment Unit ID	Assessment Unit Name	Water Condition	Cause Groups Impaired	Drinking Water Use	Ecological Use	Fish Consumption Use	Recreation Use	Other Use
PR	2020	PRER10A5	RIO LA PLATA	Impaired - 303(d) Listed - With Restoration Plan	METALS (OTHER THAN MERCURY) NUTRIENTS PATHOGENS PH/ACIDITY CAUSTIC CONDITIONS TURBIDITY	Not Supporting	Not Supporting	--	Not Supporting	--

Air Quality Nonattainment Areas

Pollutant Within Nonattainment Status Area? Nonattainment Status Applicable Standard(s) Within Maintenance Status Area? Maintenance Status Applicable Standard(s)

No data records returned

Pollutants

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

TRI Facility Year Air Emission Surface Water Discharge Off-Site Transfers to POTWs (Publicly Owned Treatment Works) Underground Injection Disposal to Land Total On-Site Release Total Off-Site Transfer

No data records returned

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

Chemical Name

No data records returned

DMR and TRI Multi-Year Loading Report

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

NPDES ID	Description	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
PR0026077	DMR Pollutant Loadings (lb/year)	16,275	150,907	146,410	135,331	2,023
PR0026077	DMR Pollutant Loadings - Load Over Limit (lb/year)	4,836	9,460	7,909	6,536	685
PR0026077	DMR Conventional Loadings (lb/year)	--	--	--	12,748	--
PR0026077	DMR Conventional Loadings - Load Over Limit (lb/year)	--	--	--	5,954	--
PR0026077	DMR Toxic-Weighted Loadings (lb-eq/year)	235	122	38.18	429	51.80
PR0026077	DMR Toxic-Weighted Loadings - Load Over Limit (lb-eq/year)	22.58	103	12.55	363	30.09

Community Environmental Justice

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

EJScreen Indexes Shown

Compare to US State

Index Type Environmental Justice Supplemental

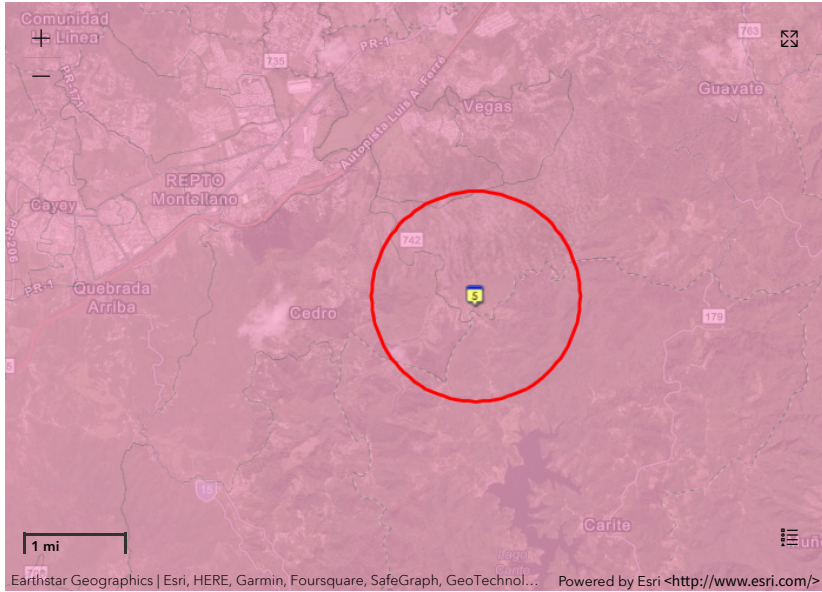
Related Reports

EJScreen Community Report

Download Data

Census Block Group ID: 720352601005	US (Percentile)	
Supplemental Indexes	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Max
Count of Indexes At or Above 80th Percentile	5	6
Particulate Matter 2.5	--	--
Ozone	--	--
Diesel Particulate Matter	0	--
Air Toxics Cancer Risk	14	22
Air Toxics Respiratory Hazard Index	12	18
Toxic Releases to Air	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 90	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 96
Traffic Proximity	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 96	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 99
Lead Paint	0	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 94
Risk Management Plan (RMP) Facility Proximity	53	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 84
Hazardous Waste Proximity	69	76
Superfund Proximity	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 98	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 99
Underground Storage Tanks (UST)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 84	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 90
Wastewater Discharge	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 96	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 99

Facility 1-mile Radius Facility Census Block Group



Demographic Profile of Surrounding Area (1-Mile Radius)

This section provides demographic information regarding the community surrounding the facility. ECHO compliance data alone are not sufficient to determine whether violations at a particular facility had negative impacts on public health or the environment. Statistics are based upon the 2010 U.S. Census and 2017 - 2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year Summary and are accurate to the extent that the facility latitude and longitude listed below are correct. EPA's spatial processing methodology considers the overlap between the selected radii and the census blocks (for U.S. Census demographics) and census block groups (for ACS demographics) in determining the demographics surrounding the facility. For more detail about this methodology, see the DFR Data Dictionary <https://epa.gov/help/reports/dfr-data-dictionary#demographic>.

General Statistics (U.S. Census)	
Total Persons	411
Population Density	135/sq.mi.
Housing Units in Area	180

General Statistics (ACS (American Community Survey))	
Total Persons	829
Percent People of Color	100%
Households in Area	290
Households on Public Assistance	11
Persons With Low Income	503
Percent With Low Income	61%

Geography	
Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.
Center Latitude	18.102222
Center Longitude	-66.108333
Land Area	100%
Water Area	0%

Income Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Households (%)	
Less than \$15,000	83 (28.72%)
\$15,000 - \$25,000	52 (17.99%)
\$25,000 - \$50,000	76 (26.3%)
\$50,000 - \$75,000	54 (18.69%)

Age Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)	
Children 5 years and younger	27 (7%)
Minors 17 years and younger	104 (25%)
Adults 18 years and older	307 (75%)
Seniors 65 years and older	46 (11%)

Race Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)	
White	320 (78%)
African-American	51 (12%)
Hispanic-Origin	408 (99%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	0 (0%)
American Indian	7 (2%)
Other/Multiracial	32 (8%)

Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Less than 9th Grade	83 (13.81%)
9th through 12th Grade	26 (4.33%)
High School Diploma	189 (31.45%)
Some College/2-year	70 (11.65%)
B.S./B.A. (Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts) or More	178 (29.62%)

Income Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Households (%)

Greater than \$75,000

24 (8.3%)

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Last updated on September 21, 2022

Data Refresh Information
<<https://epa.gov/resources/echo-data/about-the-data#sources>>



and supporting documentation

ENVIRONMENTAL MEMORANDUM

Date: 8/8/2024

To: Environmental Review Record (ERR) File

Subject: Explanation of Conflicting Information within the ERR

Applicant Name: Alfredo Gonzalez Landron

Application Number: PR-RGRW-02154

This memorandum serves to provide an explanation as to the presence of conflicting pieces of information within the Environmental Review Record (ERR) file.

Confliction Information: Coordinates Address Municipio Parcel ID/Cadaster Number
 Construction Date Applicant Name Other: New Scope of work approved

Location(s) of Conflicting Information: USFWS Informal Consultation Package: USFWS Concurrence Letter, PRDOH Consultation Package, IPaC Report and Consistency Letter

Explanation: The applicant requested a change in the scope of work that was approved by the program on April 5, 2024. The original IUGF included the purchase of a slicer. The applicant has requested the removal of the slicer from the IUGF and purchase of a Zeto Tractor instead. Consultation with USFWS was initiated on March 4, 2024 and a concurrence letter from USFWS was received on April 2, 2024, prior to the approved scope of work change. The change in scope of work does not include ground disturbing activities or improvement of a structure and includes only the purchase of moveable equipment. There will be no project activities associated with the purchase of a tractor that may adversely affect endangered species in the area. Therefore, the application does not need to return to USFWS for re-consultation. The determinations made by PRDOH and confirmed by USFWS in the concurrence letter received on April 2, 2024 are still valid. Additionally, the removal of trees and vegetation for the installation of the passion fruit arbor were added to the previous SOW. Therefore, a re-consultation with USFWS was requested on July 17, 2024 for a more accurate determination for the listed species. The Concurrence letters are attached to this document.



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/72057-Gen

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

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

Re: Amendment CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-02154
Alfredo González Landrón, Guayama, Puerto
Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter of July 17, 2024, requesting an amendment to the initial informal consultation of March 04, 2024, due to changes in the Scope of Work (SOW). 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 purchasing galvanize tubing, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, slicer and tractor extension parts. PRDOH is also proposing the installation of a fence that will be anchored to the ground with metal posts, which will require ground disturbance. The project area is located at State Road PR-742, Carite Ward (18°06'02.1"N 66°06'16.4"W) in the municipality of Guayama, Puerto Rico.

The following activities were added to the previous SOW for the installation of the passion fruit harbor:

- The installation will involve ground disturbance and the removal of trees and vegetation, depending on the need of the installation of the passion fruit arbor.

On the previous consultation, according to PRDOH, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system identified listed species within the project

area: Puerto Rican boa (*Epicrates inornatus* now known as *Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*), Puerto Rican

plain pigeon (*Columba inornata wetmorei*), Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus venator*) and the plant, uvillo (*Eugenia haematocarpa*).

PRDOH used the Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project on federally listed species (Project code: 2024-0016423). Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained on February 21, 2024, for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk, which determined that the proposed actions for this project would have “No Effect” (NE) on these species. The Service acknowledges receipt of the NE DKey consistency letter for these species on April 04, 2024.

Due to the changes in the SOW, on July 15, 2024, PRDOH updated the answers provided on the previous DKey, which resulted in a may affect not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) determination for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk. Conservation measures for these species will be implemented. The Service acknowledges receipts of the NLAA consistency letter for the above mentioned species with the implementation of the conservation measures.

For the Rican plain pigeon, the PRDOH has still determined that the proposed actions will have NE on this species. As for uvillo, PRDOH has still determined that the proposed project is NLAA this species since the land is a maintained area and is currently used for agricultural purposes. Thus, the Service’s acknowledgement of the NE determination for the Puerto Rican plain pigeon and concurrence with the NLAA determination for uvillo on April 04, 2024, still stands.

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

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

Sincerely,

LOURDES
MENA

Digitally signed by
LOURDES MENA
Date: 2024.08.04
16:19:59 -04'00'

Lourdes Mena
Field Supervisor

drr



July 15, 2024

Lourdes Mena
Acting Field Supervisor
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office Park I, Suite 303
State Road #2 Km 156.5
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico 00680
Email: caribbean_es@fws.gov; Lourdes.Mena@fws.gov

**RE: Puerto Rico Department of Housing / Re-Grow Program
PR-RGRW-02154 – Alfredo González Landrón
Endangered Species Concurrence for NLAA Determination**

Dear Mrs. Mena:

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing is requiring informal consultation under Section 7 (a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) for the proposed project PR-RGRW-02154, located at coordinates of the passion fruit arbor and fence: latitude 18.100780 longitude -66.104591 on PR-742 Bo. Carite, see Figure 1: Location Map and Figure 2: Topographic Map. The project is part of the Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) that aims to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security inland wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities.

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02154 consist of the purchase of galvanized tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts. The farm equipment includes: 8" curved blade pruner, grinche 5 T, PL40 Lopper accessory hand tool, precision hedge shear accessory hand tool, Stihl manual pump sprayer, bypass hand pruner 8", shovel cut truper M/long, shovel cut truper M/short, pruning saw 10P, folding curved blade comfort grip 7dpp, fiberglass telescopic handle cutter, auge 36.3CC 1.4 Kw 21.8 lbs., 4 ½ " x 27 3/8" earth auger, 48" fiberglass digger, stihl chain saw 45.4cc 18", fruit picker, hoe with rope #2 and aluminum head sanitary shovel. For passion fruit planting, T-shaped tubes will be installed to support the fruit. The tubes will be 3 feet from each other and will be anchored to the ground at a depth of 2 feet. The installation will involve ground disturbance and the removal of trees and vegetation, depending on the need of the installation of the passion fruit arbor. Each post will be driven approximately 2' below the ground surface to ensure the fence is secure. The fence will be installed to protect the crops. The project area is located at PR-742 Bo. Caribe within the Municipality of Guayama. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area of the passion fruit planting and fence was characterized as an agrarian setting in 1968 (the earliest imagery available for the area) and it remains predominantly agricultural through to the present day.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) has been defined as the area potentially impacted by ground disturbing activities related to the installation of the passion fruit arbor and fence, see Figure 3: Area of Potential Effect.

Existing Conditions and Trends:

For the proposed project parcel 325-000-007-11-001 the areas are designated as Not prime farmland, See Figure 4: PR-RGRW-02154 Farmland Protection Map. The project area is located in the rural mountainous area of Guayama. The project has a steep topography, the surface is covered with grass, shrubs and trees, refer to Photos 1 to 4. The area is almost entirely covered with grass. The soil in this area has been classified as Los Guineos clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes (LsF). This is a very steep, moderately well drained soil on side slopes of strongly dissected uplands. The land has been used for agricultural uses for over 30 years and the proposed project will not change the land use associated with these placements. In addition, the closer Final Critical Habitat is located at 12,023 feet from the project location, see Figure 5 PR-RGRW-02154 Critical Habitats Map. The Grande creek is seen approximately 80 feet from what the fence would be, plus 40 feet of elevation. The creek runs parallel to the road that's lead to the entrance of the farm, see Figure 6 PR-RGRW-02154 Wetlands Map.

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

Name of the species	Threatened/Endangered/Candidate
Reptiles	
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered
Birds	
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon (<i>Columba inornata wetmorei</i>)	Endangered
Flowering Plants	
Uvillo (<i>Eugenia haematocarpa</i>)	Endangered
Critical Habitat	
There are no critical habitats within the project area.	

The nature of the project, scope of work, information available, a careful analysis of the IPaC, the Puerto Rico Boa conservation measures, the Caribbean Dkey updated on July 15, 2024, in the US Fish and Wildlife Service's online IPaC application, and the observations during the field visit, were used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species from this project. Based on that

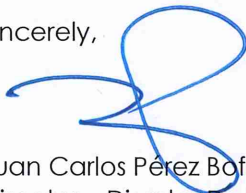
information and the answer inputted into the Dkey, it was determined that the proposed action will have "May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect" determination on the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk and Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk, see Exhibit B. Conservation measures for all NLAA species will be implemented. Based on the provided information and the observations in the field visit it was determined that the proposed action will have NE for the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon due to there is no suitable habitat in the project area. For Uvillo, it was determined that it will be an NLAA because of the ground disturbance and the removal of trees and vegetation due to the installation of the passion fruit arbor. A tree/vegetation survey will be completed prior to any tree or vegetation removal and if any listed species are identified USFWS will be notified before work begins.

Name of the species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures that will be implemented
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures (Revised January 2024)
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	USFWS Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	USFWS Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon (<i>Columba inornata wetmorei</i>)	No Effect (NE)	No Conservation Measures
Uvillo (<i>Eugenia haematocarpa</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	Nationwide Standard Conservation Measures
Critical Habitat		
There are no critical habitats within the project area.		

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NE determination for Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly, and the NLAA determination for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk, and Uvillo 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 Program
environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov | 787.274.2527 ext. 4320

Attachments:

Appendix A:

Figure 1 – Location Map

Figure 2 – Topographic Map

Figure 3 – Area of Potential Effect Map

Figure 4 – Farmland Protection Map

Figure 5 – Critical Habitats Map

Figure 6 – Wetlands Map

Appendix B: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)

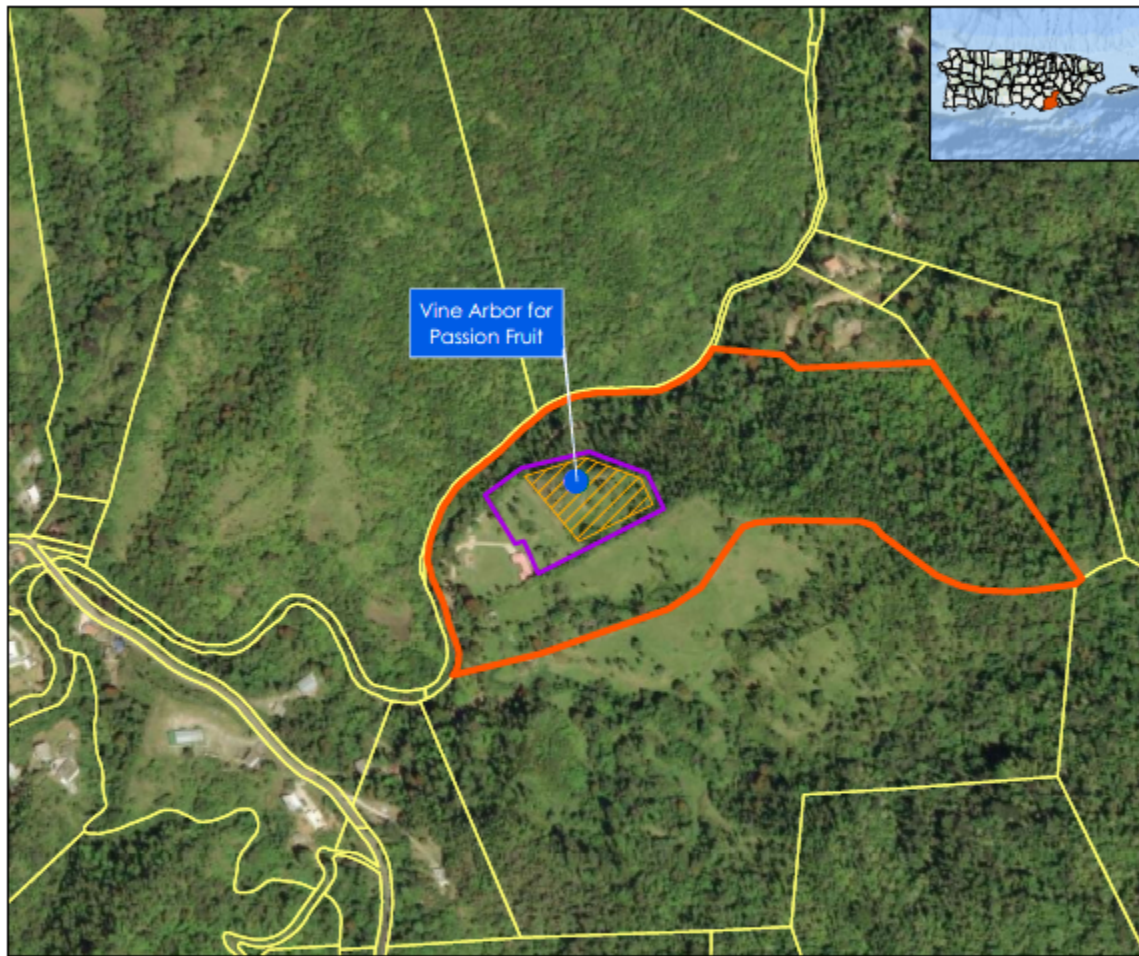
Appendix C: Field Visit Photos

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

Exhibit A: Figures

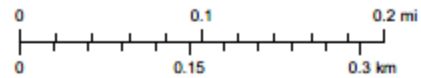
Figure 1: Location Photo Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  Applicant Structure
-  02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
-  02154_Parcela
-  02154 Chain Link Fence
-  CRIM Parcels



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



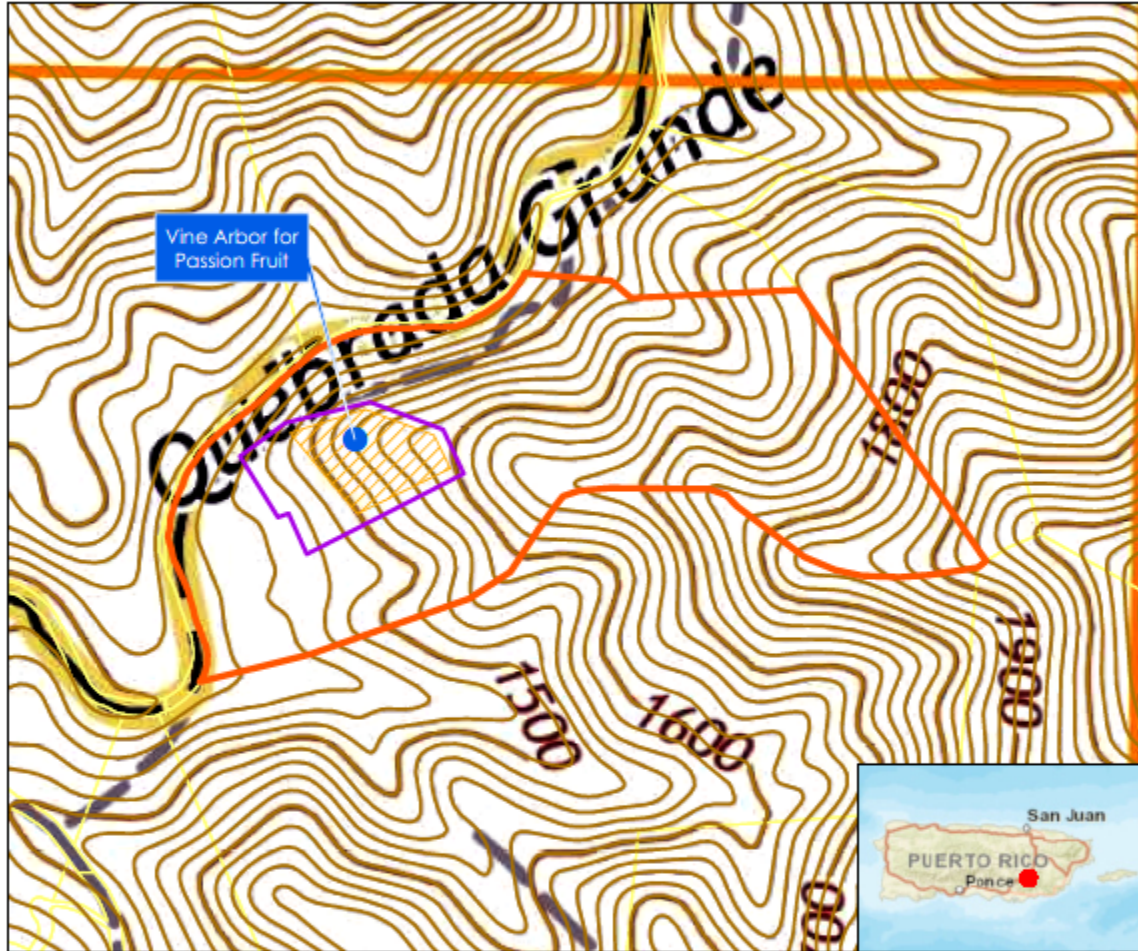
Source

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

Figure 1: PR-RGRW-02154 Location Map

Alfredo González Landrón
 PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
 Guayama, PR 00784
 Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
 Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

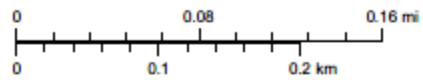
Location: USGS Topographic Map
 Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- 02154_Parcels
- 02154 Fence
- 02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
- Contour Interval 20 Feet
- CRIM Parcels

Quadrangle: Patillas



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



Source

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

Figure 2: PR-RGRW-02154 Topographic Map

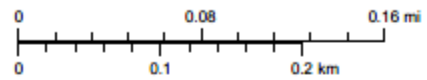
Alfredo González Landrón
 PR-742 Bo. Carrife,
 Guayama, PR 00784
 Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
 Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

Area of Potential Effect
 Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- Area of Potential Effect 15 Mts.
- 02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
- 02154 Fence
- 02154 Parcel
- CRIM Parcels



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



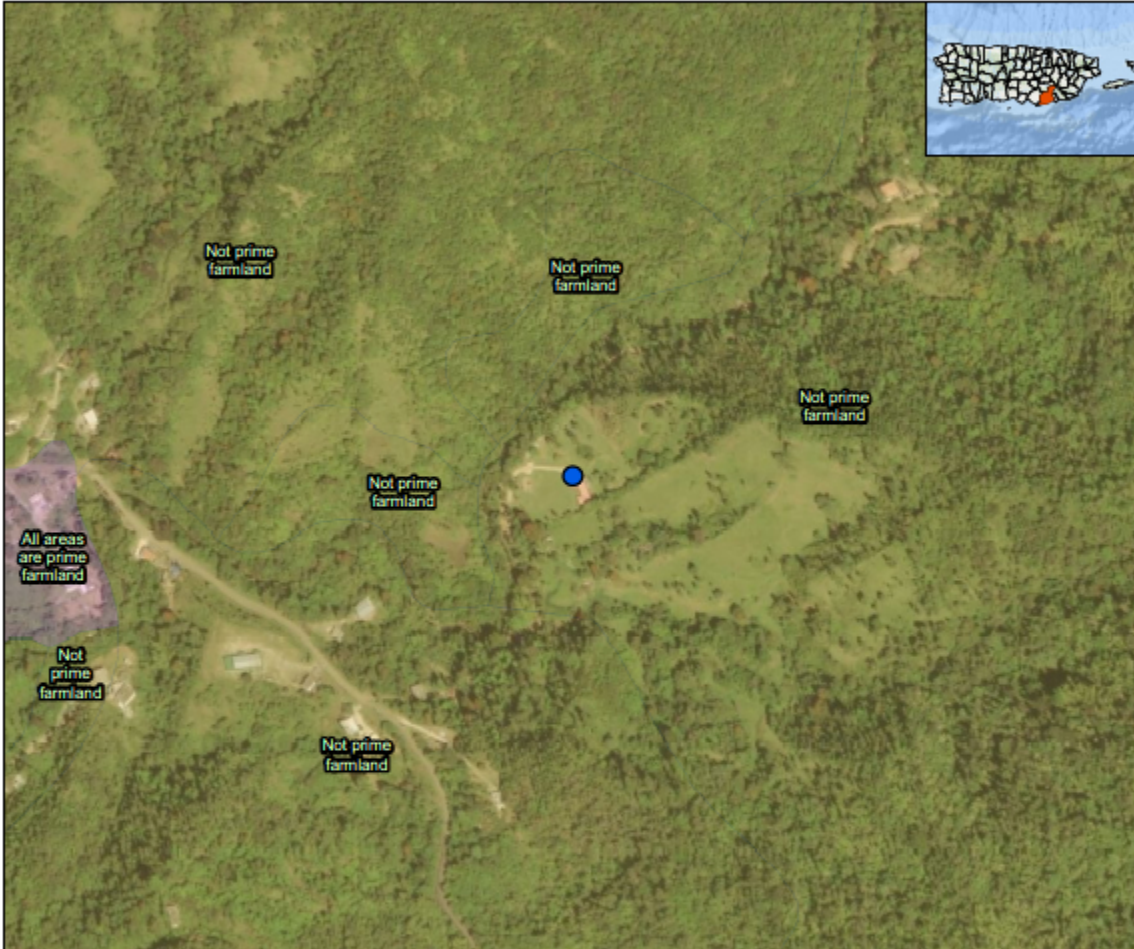
Source

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

Figure 3: PR-RGRW-02154 Area of Potential Effect Map

Farmland Protection

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



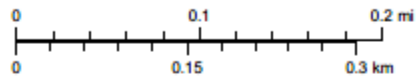
Legend:

● PR-RGRW-02154

MUPOLYGON

Farm Class

- All areas are prime farmland
- Not prime farmland



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



Source

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

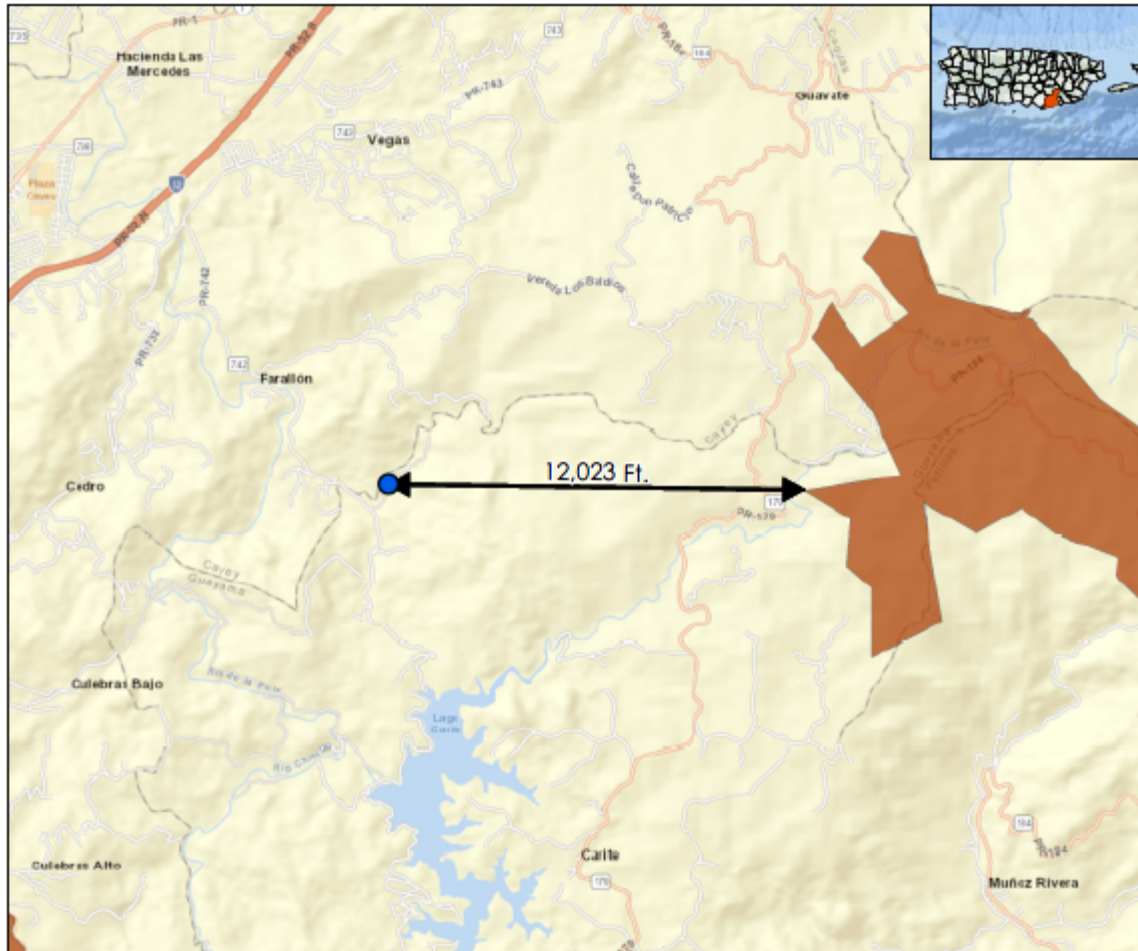
Figure 4: PR-RGRW-02154 Farmland Protection Map

Alfredo González Landrón
 PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
 Guayama, PR 00784

Threatened and Endangered Species

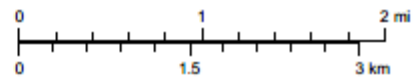
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
 Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

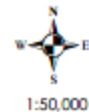


Legend:

- PR-RGRW-02154
- Critical Habitat



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



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

Figure 5: PR-RGRW-02154 Critical Habitats Map

Alfredo González Landrón
PR-742 Bo. Carrile,
Guayama, PR 00784
Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

Wetlands

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

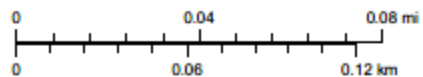


Legend:

-  Applicant Structure
-  02154 Chain Link Fence
-  02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area

National Wetlands Inventory

-  Riverine



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



Source

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

Figure 6: PR-RGRW-02154 Wetlands Map

Exhibit B: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2024-0016423
Project Name: PR-RGRW-02154

07/15/2024 15:07:38 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. To obtain guidance for completing this process and the minimum requirements for project packages, please visit:

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

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

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

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

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

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

caribbean_es@fws.gov

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

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

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(939) 320-3135

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0016423

Project Name: PR-RGRW-02154

Project Type: Disaster-related Grants

Project Description: The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02154 consist of the purchase of galvanized tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.10050125,-66.1045558153138,14z>



Counties: Guayama County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

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

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

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

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

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

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512	Endangered
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon <i>Patagioenas inornata wetmorei</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7955	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk <i>Accipiter striatus venator</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/604	Endangered

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/YQPAFMGVM5AAXKQBSUH2NXY7AQ/documents/generated/7159.pdf	Endangered

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Uvillo <i>Eugenia haematocarpa</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4279	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

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

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

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

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

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

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

MIGRATORY BIRDS

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

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

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

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

WETLANDS

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

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

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

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

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



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:

07/15/2024 18:18:33 UTC

Project code: 2024-0016423

Project Name: PR-RGRW-02154

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-02154' 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 July 15, 2024, Patricia Carmenatty used the Caribbean DKey; dated January 19, 2024, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-02154'. The project is located in Guayama County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.10050125,-66.1045558153138,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-02154':

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02154 consist of the purchase of galvanized tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts.

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

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

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

Please provide this consistency letter to the lead federal action agency or its designated non-federal representative with a request for its review, and as the agency deems appropriate, to submit for concurrence verification through the IPaC system. The lead federal action agency or designated non-federal representative should log into IPaC using their agency email account and click "Search by record locator." They will need to enter the record locator **628-138994077**

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 Plain Pigeon *Patagioenas inornata wetmorei* Endangered
- Uvillo *Eugenia haematocarpa* 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-02154

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-02154':

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02154 consist of the purchase of galvanized tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.10050125,-66.1045558153138,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

12. Is the proposed project a new facility which would require earth moving, vegetation clearing, or debris removal using heavy machinery, the use of staging areas, construction of temporary access roads?

Yes

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

Automatically answered

Yes

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

Yes

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

No

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

Yes

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

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Automatically answered

Yes

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

Automatically answered

Yes

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Exhibit C: Field Visit Photos



Photo #: 1

Description (include direction): General area where the passion fruit arbor will be planted, looking northeast.

Date: October 14, 2023



Photo #: 2

Description (include direction): General area where the passion fruit arbor will be planted, looking northeast.

Date: October 14, 2023



Photo #: 3

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

Date: October 14, 2023



Photo #: 4

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

Date: October 14, 2023



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/72057-Gen

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

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

Re: Amendment CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-02154
Alfredo González Landrón, Guayama, Puerto
Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter of July 17, 2024, requesting an amendment to the initial informal consultation of March 04, 2024, due to changes in the Scope of Work (SOW). 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 purchasing galvanize tubing, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, slicer and tractor extension parts. PRDOH is also proposing the installation of a fence that will be anchored to the ground with metal posts, which will require ground disturbance. The project area is located at State Road PR-742, Carite Ward (18°06'02.1"N 66°06'16.4"W) in the municipality of Guayama, Puerto Rico.

The following activities were added to the previous SOW for the installation of the passion fruit harbor:

- The installation will involve ground disturbance and the removal of trees and vegetation, depending on the need of the installation of the passion fruit arbor.

On the previous consultation, according to PRDOH, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system identified listed species within the project

area: Puerto Rican boa (*Epicrates inornatus* now known as *Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*), Puerto Rican

plain pigeon (*Columba inornata wetmorei*), Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus venator*) and the plant, uvillo (*Eugenia haematocarpa*).

PRDOH used the Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project on federally listed species (Project code: 2024-0016423). Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained on February 21, 2024, for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk, which determined that the proposed actions for this project would have “No Effect” (NE) on these species. The Service acknowledges receipt of the NE DKey consistency letter for these species on April 04, 2024.

Due to the changes in the SOW, on July 15, 2024, PRDOH updated the answers provided on the previous DKey, which resulted in a may affect not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) determination for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk. Conservation measures for these species will be implemented. The Service acknowledges receipts of the NLAA consistency letter for the above mentioned species with the implementation of the conservation measures.

For the Rican plain pigeon, the PRDOH has still determined that the proposed actions will have NE on this species. As for uvillo, PRDOH has still determined that the proposed project is NLAA this species since the land is a maintained area and is currently used for agricultural purposes. Thus, the Service’s acknowledgement of the NE determination for the Puerto Rican plain pigeon and concurrence with the NLAA determination for uvillo on April 04, 2024, still stands.

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

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

Sincerely,

Lourdes Mena
Field Supervisor

drr

July 15, 2024

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

RE: Informal Consultation for Case PR-RGRW-02154 at PR-742 Bo. Carite, Guayama, PR 00736.

Dear Mr. Tawes:

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing is requiring informal consultation under Section 7 (a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) for the proposed project PR-RGRW-02154, located at coordinates of the passion fruit arbor and fence: latitude 18.100780 longitude -66.104591 on PR-742 Bo. Carite, see Figure 1: Location Map and Figure 2: Topographic Map. The project is part of the Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) that aims to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security inland wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities.

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02154 consist of the purchase of galvanized tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts. The farm equipment includes: 8” curved blade pruner, grinche 5 T, PL40 Lopper accessory hand tool, precision hedge shear accessory hand tool, Stihl manual pump sprayer, bypass hand pruner 8”, shovel cut truper M/long, shovel cut truper M/short, pruning saw 10P, folding curved blade comfort grip 7dpp, fiberglass telescopic handle cutter, auge 36.3CC 1.4 Kw 21.8 lbs., 4 ½ “ x 27 3/8” earth auger, 48” fiberglass digger, stihl chain saw 45.4cc 18”, fruit picker, hoe with rope #2 and aluminum head sanitary shovel. For passion fruit planting, T-shaped tubes will be installed to support the fruit. The tubes will be 3 feet from each other and will be anchored to the ground at a depth of 2 feet. The installation of the fence will be anchored to the ground with metal posts so it will require ground disturbance. Each post will be driven approximately 2’ below the ground surface to ensure the fence is secure. The fence will be installed to protect the crops. The project area is located at PR-742 Bo. Caribe within the Municipality of Guayama. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area of the passion fruit planting and fence was characterized as an agrarian setting in 1968 (the earliest imagery available for the area) and it remains predominantly agricultural through to the present day.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) has been defined as the area potentially impacted by ground disturbing activities related to the installation of the passion fruit arbor and fence, see Figure 3: Area of Potential Effect.

Existing Conditions and Trends:

For the proposed project parcel 325-000-007-11-001 the areas are designated as Not prime farmland, See Figure 4: PR-RGRW-02154 Farmland Protection Map. The project area is located in the rural mountainous area of Guayama. The project has a steep topography, the surface is covered with grass, shrubs and trees, refer to Photos 1 to 4. The area is almost entirely covered with grass. The soil in this area has been classified as Los Guineos clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes (LsF). This is a very steep, moderately well drained soil on side slopes of strongly dissected uplands. The land has been used for agricultural uses for over 30 years and the proposed project will not change the land use associated with these placements. In addition, the closer Final Critical Habitat is located at 12,023 feet from the project location, see Figure 5 PR-RGRW-02154 Critical Habitats Map. The Grande creek is seen approximately 80 feet from what the fence would be, plus 40 feet of elevation. The creek runs parallel to the road that’s lead to the entrance of the farm, see Figure 6 PR-RGRW-02154 Wetlands Map.

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

Name of species	Threatened/Endangered/Candidate
Reptiles	
Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered
Birds	
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon (<i>Columba inornata wetmorei</i>)	Endangered
Flowering Plants	
Uvillo (<i>Eugenia haematocarpa</i>)	Endangered
Critical Habitat	
There are no critical habitats within the project area.	

The nature of the project, scope of work, information available, a careful analysis of the IPaC, the Puerto Rico Boa conservation measures, the Caribbean Dkey updated on July 15, 2024, in the US Fish and Wildlife Service’s online IPaC application, and the observations during the field visit, were used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species from this project. Based on that information and the answer inputted into the Dkey, it was determined that the proposed action will have “May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect” determination on the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk and Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk, see Exhibit B. Conservation measures for all NLAA species will be implemented. Based on the provided information and the observations in the field visit it was determined that the proposed action will have NE for the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon due to there is no suitable habitat in the project area. For Uvillo, it was determined that it will be an NLAA because of the ground disturbance and the removal of tress and vegetation due to the installation of the passion fruit arbor. A tree/vegetation survey will be completed prior to any tree or vegetation removal and if any listed species are identified USFWS will be notified before work begins.

Name of the species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures that will be implemented
Puerto Rican boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures (Revised January 2024)
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	USFWS Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus venator</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	USFWS Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon (<i>Columba inornata wetmorei</i>)	No Effect (NE)	No Conservation Measures
Uvillo (<i>Eugenia haematocarpa</i>)	May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	No Conservation Measures
Critical Habitats		
There are no critical habitats within the project area.		

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

References:

Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*)

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

USFWS Puerto Rican boa Conservation Measures

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

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

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

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

Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon (*Columba inornata wetmorei*)

Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7955>

Uvillo (*Eugenia haematocarpa*)

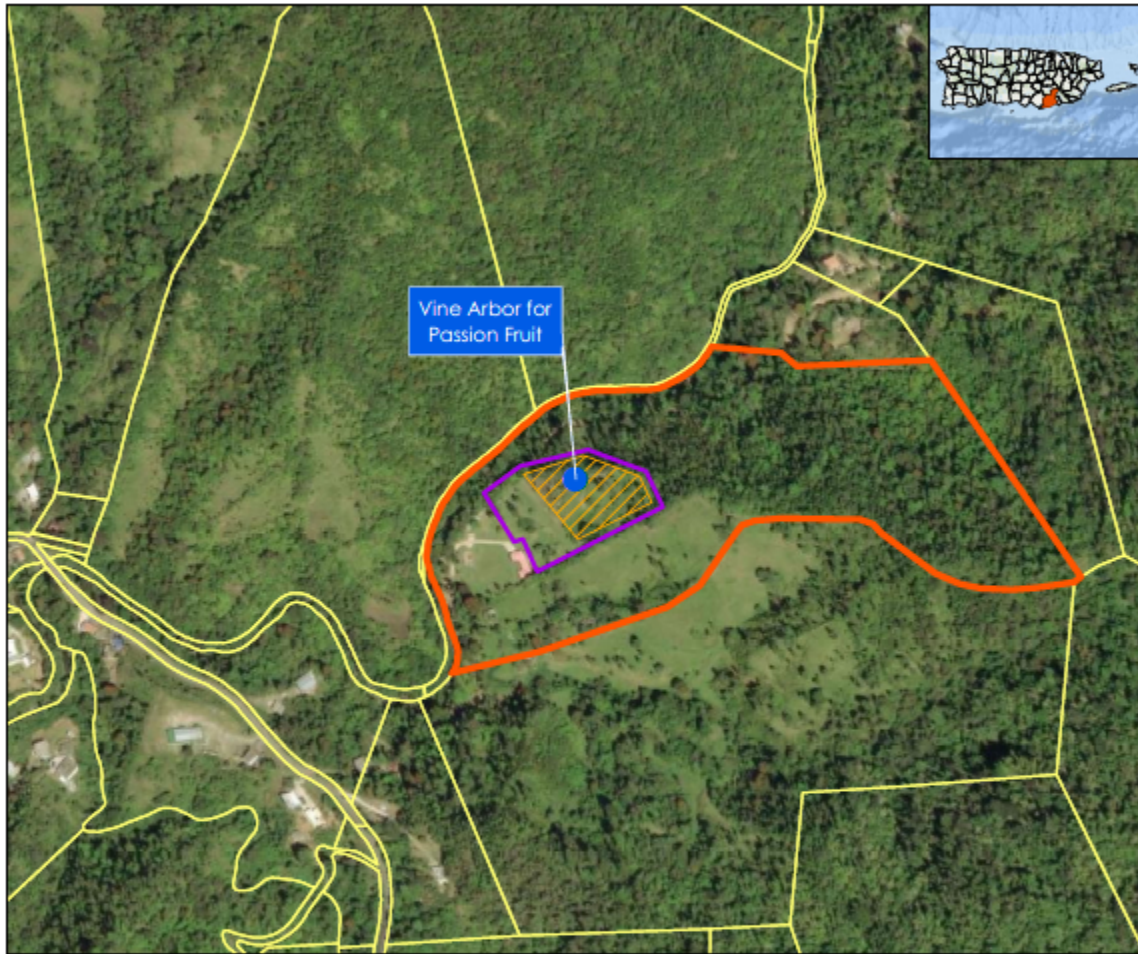
Species Profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4279>

Exhibit A: Figures

Alfredo González Landrón
PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
Guayama, PR 00784
Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

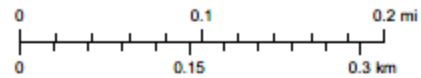
Figure 1: Location Photo Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

-  Applicant Structure
-  02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
-  02154_Parcela
-  02154 Chain Link Fence
-  CRIM Parcels



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



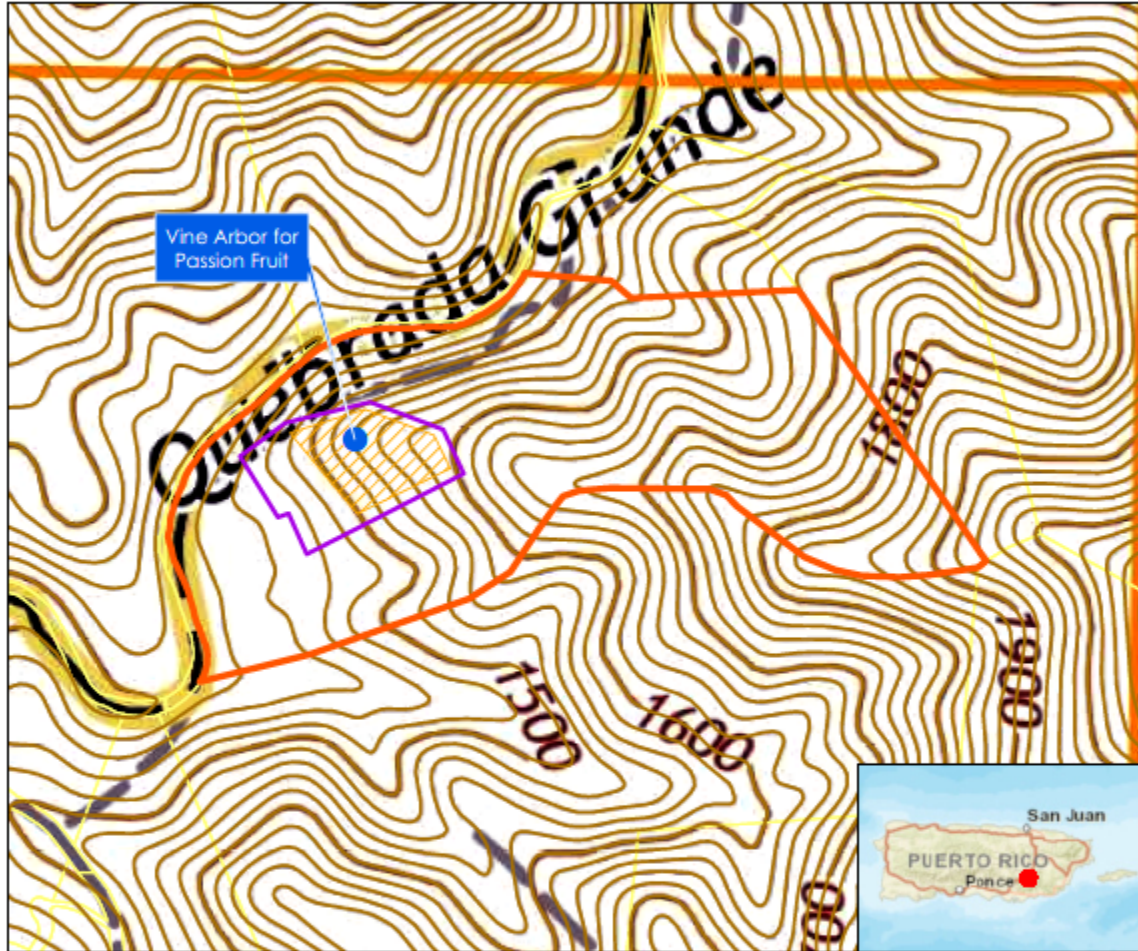
Source

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

Figure 1: PR-RGRW-02154 Location Map

Alfredo González Landrón
 PR-742 Bo. Carrite,
 Guayama, PR 00784
 Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
 Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

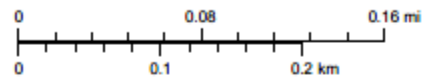
Location: USGS Topographic Map
 Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- 02154_Parcela
- 02154 Fence
- 02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
- CRIM Parcels
- Countour Interval 20 Feet

Quadrangle: Patillas



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



Source

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

Figure 2: PR-RGRW-02154 Topographic Map

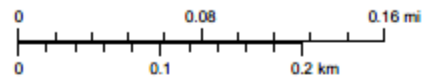
Alfredo González Landrón
 PR-742 Bo. Carrife,
 Guayama, PR 00784
 Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
 Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

Area of Potential Effect
 Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- Area of Potential Effect 15 Mts.
- 02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area
- 02154 Fence
- 02154 Parcel
- CRIM Parcels



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



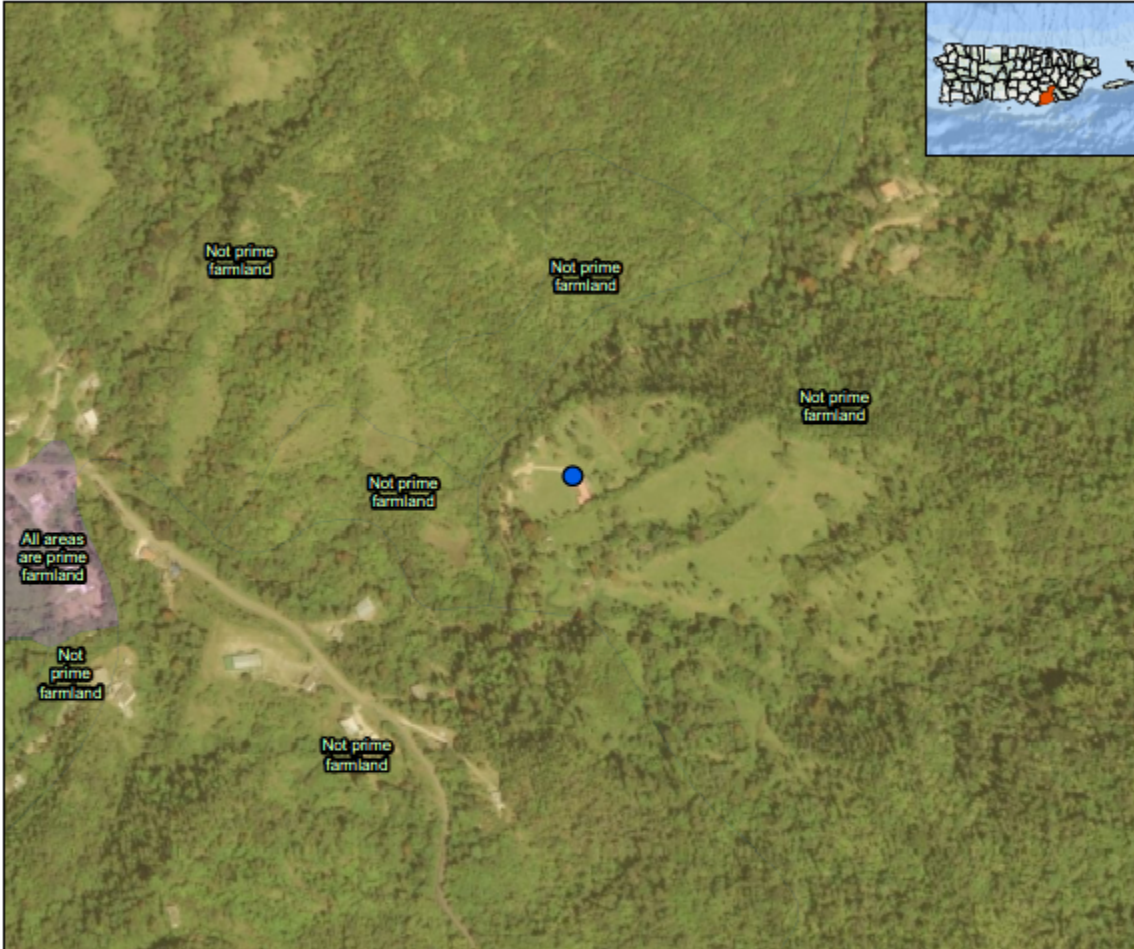
Source

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

Figure 3: PR-RGRW-02154 Area of Potential Effect Map

Farmland Protection

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



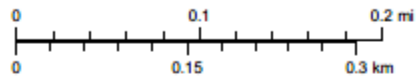
Legend:

● PR-RGRW-02154

MUPOLYGON

Farm Class

- All areas are prime farmland
- Not prime farmland



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



Source

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

Figure 4: PR-RGRW-02154 Farmland Protection Map

Alfredo González Landrón

PR-742 Bo. Carrite,

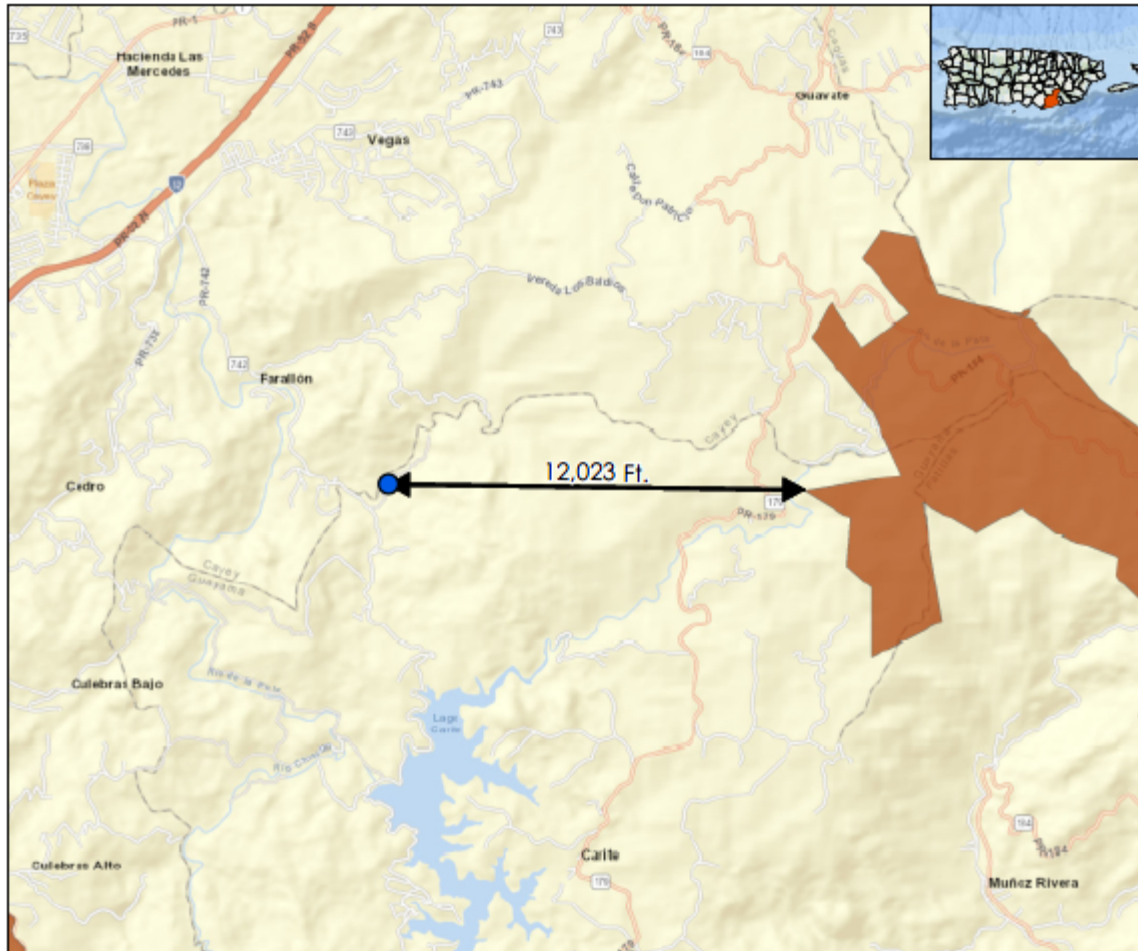
Guayama, PR 00784

Catastro:325-000-007-11-001

Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

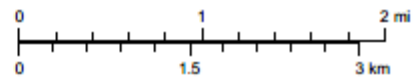
Threatened and Endangered Species

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

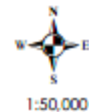


Legend:

- PR-RGRW-02154
- Critical Habitat



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



Source

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

Figure 5: PR-RGRW-02154 Critical Habitats Map


Alfredo González Landrón
PR-742 Bo. Carrile,
Guayama, PR 00784
Catastro:325-000-007-11-001
Lat: 18.100218, Long: -66.105104

Wetlands

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

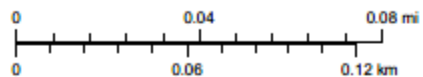


Legend:

-  Applicant Structure
-  02154 Chain Link Fence
-  02154 Passion Fruit Growing Area

National Wetlands Inventory

-  Riverine



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



Source

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

Figure 6: PR-RGRW-02154 Wetlands Map

Exhibit B: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2024-0016423
Project Name: PR-RGRW-02154

07/15/2024 15:07:38 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. To obtain guidance for completing this process and the minimum requirements for project packages, please visit:

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

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

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

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

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

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

caribbean_es@fws.gov

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

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

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(939) 320-3135

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0016423

Project Name: PR-RGRW-02154

Project Type: Disaster-related Grants

Project Description: The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02154 consist of the purchase of galvanized tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.10050125,-66.1045558153138,14z>



Counties: Guayama County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

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

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

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

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

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

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512	Endangered
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon <i>Patagioenas inornata wetmorei</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7955	Endangered
Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk <i>Accipiter striatus venator</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/604	Endangered

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/YQPAFMGVM5AAXKQBSUH2NXY7AQ/documents/generated/7159.pdf	Endangered

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Uvillo <i>Eugenia haematocarpa</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4279	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

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

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

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

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

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

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

MIGRATORY BIRDS

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

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

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

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

WETLANDS

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

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

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

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

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



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:

07/15/2024 18:18:33 UTC

Project code: 2024-0016423

Project Name: PR-RGRW-02154

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-02154' 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 July 15, 2024, Patricia Carmenatty used the Caribbean DKey; dated January 19, 2024, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-02154'. The project is located in Guayama County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.10050125,-66.1045558153138,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-02154':

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02154 consist of the purchase of galvanized tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts.

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

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

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

Please provide this consistency letter to the lead federal action agency or its designated non-federal representative with a request for its review, and as the agency deems appropriate, to submit for concurrence verification through the IPaC system. The lead federal action agency or designated non-federal representative should log into IPaC using their agency email account and click "Search by record locator." They will need to enter the record locator **628-138994077**

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 Plain Pigeon *Patagioenas inornata wetmorei* Endangered
- Uvillo *Eugenia haematocarpa* 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-02154

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-02154':

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-02154 consist of the purchase of galvanized tubing 2 x 20, galvanize tubing 1 x 20, galvanized wire, passion fruit arbor, goat wire, metal post, wire, farm equipment, Tractor Zetor and Tractor extension parts.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.10050125,-66.1045558153138,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

12. Is the proposed project a new facility which would require earth moving, vegetation clearing, or debris removal using heavy machinery, the use of staging areas, construction of temporary access roads?

Yes

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

Automatically answered

Yes

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

Yes

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

No

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

Yes

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

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Automatically answered

Yes

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

Automatically answered

Yes

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity

Name: Patricia Carmenatty

Address: Perseo St. 554 Cond. Iberia Suite J-3

City: San Juan

State: PR

Zip: 00920

Email: patricia.carmenatty@byaea.com

Phone: 7877830290

Exhibit C: Field Visit Photos



Photo #: 1

Description (include direction): General area where the passion fruit arbor will be planted, looking northeast.

Date: October 14, 2023



Photo #: 2

Description (include direction): General area where the passion fruit arbor will be planted, looking northeast.

Date: October 14, 2023



Photo #: 3

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

Date: October 14, 2023



Photo #: 4

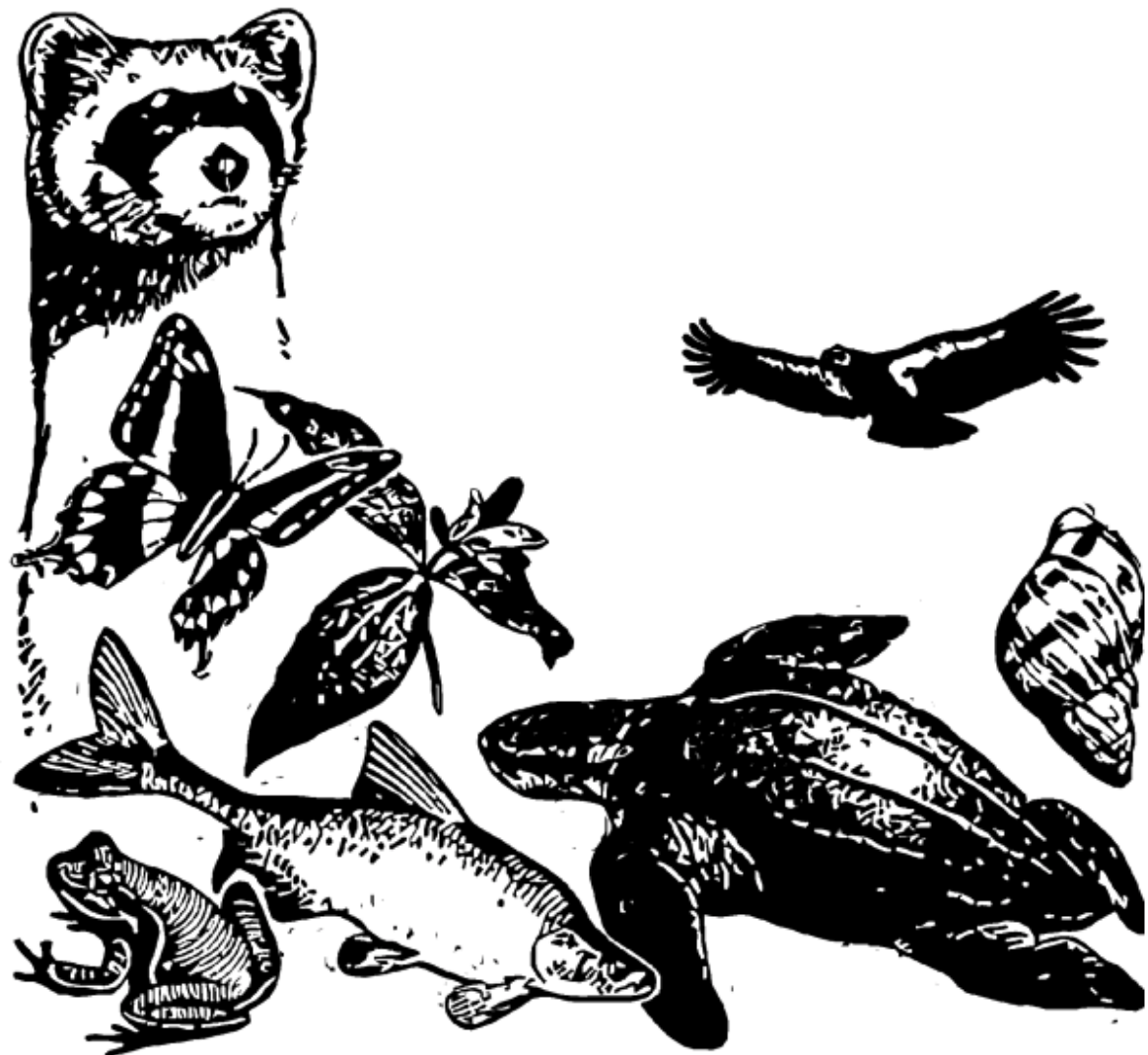
Description (include direction): General area where the fence will be installed, looking southwest.

Date: October 14, 2023

Caribbean ES Puerto Rican Boa

Puerto Rican Boa

Generated August 08, 2024 06:39 PM UTC, IPaC v6.113.1-rc4





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

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

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

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



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

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

Conservation Measures:

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

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

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

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