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

## **Project Information**

Project ID: PR-RGRW-00359

Project Name: Anibal Seoane D/B/A

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico/Florida, PR

Preparer: Clifford Jarman

**Certifying Officer Name and Title:** Permit and Compliance Officers: Sally Acevedo Cosme, Pedro De León Rodriguez, María T. Torres Bregón, Angel G. López-Guzmán, Ivelisse Lorenzo Torres, Santa Damarys Ramírez Lebrón, and Janette I. Cambrelén

Consultant (if applicable): Tetra Tech, 251 Calle Recinto Sur, Ste. 202, San Juan, PR 00091

Direct Comments to: PRDOH (environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov)

#### **Project Location:**

The property is a 19.17-acre site located at Carretera PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4 Sec. Pajonal, Bo. Florida Adentro, in the Municipality of Florida, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 079-000-002-24-001). The proposed project parcel is located at 18.393896, -66.543938. This land was previously used for growing livestock and is currently used for plantain cultivation. The potential drill sites are located within the area used for growing plantains.

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

The proposed use of grant funds is for the location and drilling of a ground water well with an adjacent pump for the irrigation for plantain cultivation and purchase and installation of an electric generator to power the pump. There is no current electric generator.

The well would be approximately 500' feet depth The applicant would have a drilling company evaluate the area and obtain the appropriate permits. There are two possible areas for locating the well. Potential well site #1 is located at coordinates 18.39319, - 66.54383. Potential well site #2 is located at coordinates 18.39419, -66.54355. Each of the sites are currently used for growing plantains.

The area of disturbance, at either of the potential drilling sites would measure 20-foot by 20-foot which would encompass the activities associated with the drilling of the well, installation of the pump and generator, and installation of PVC pipes to channel the water to the ground outside of the drill area. The well site chosen would be cleared of vegetation (plantains) in preparation for drilling activities. Whichever well site is developed, the area of vegetation clearing is expected to be 10-foot by 10-foot. The 10-foot by 10-foot area would be graded flat. The maximum depth of excavation the area is expected to be three (3) feet.

After the evaluation and permits approval of the work performed by the drilling company, the well would be installed with the pump and generator placed adjacent to the pump so no new power utility lines or interconnections would be needed. A new 8-foot by 8-foot concrete pad would be constructed next to the well for the foundation of the pump and generator. The generator would use diesel fuel from a tank installed on the new concrete pad.

There would be no water storage tank installed. Once drilled, the new well would be connected through PVC pipes directly to the irrigation on the ground. The pipes would only be installed within the 20-foot by 20-foot area of disturbance. If any PVC pipe would need to be buried within the 20-foot by 20-foot area of disturbance, the maximum depth of burial would be one (1) foot.

Site photos are included in **Appendix A**. Site maps (Figures 1a and 1b) are included in **Appendix B**. Figure 1b presents a representational plan for each of the potential well sites.

#### 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. The purpose of this project is to increase the productivity of the farm. This agricultural project associated with the installation of a deep would provide long-term resilience to the property's agricultural activity and is in keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The land proposed for the installation of a water well is used for agricultural purposes. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with the project. Some ground disturbance will be required.

#### Structure of this Environmental Review Report (ERR).

This ERR discusses the Funding Information immediately below. The environmental impacts of the proposed action are discussed in the Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities checklist and Environmental Factors checklist. The listing of Additional Studies Performed, and Sources, Agencies and Persons Consulted follows

the checklists. The discussions of Public Outreach, Cumulative Impacts, Alternatives, and Summary of Findings and Conclusions are presented at the end of the ERR, before the listing of Mitigation Measures and Determination signatures. The appendices contain detailed information.

Appendix A – Site Inspection Appendix B – Maps Appendix C – Additional Documentation Appendix D – Endangered Species Appendix E – SHPO Consultation

## **Funding Information**

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
B-17-DM-72-0001,	Community Development Block	\$11,938,162,230
B-18-DP-72-0001,	Grant – Disaster Recovery	
B-19-DP-78-0002,	(CDBG-DR), CDBG-DR, Re-Grow	
B-18-DE-72-0001	Puerto Rico Urban-Rural	
	Agricultural Program	

#### Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$68,881.23

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$68,881.23

## 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.

<b>Compliance Factors</b> : 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,	STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6				
<b>Airport Hazards</b> 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No	The project consists of the installation of a new deep water well with pump and electric generator. The nearest airport is approximately 138,972 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport is approximately 171,840 feet from the proposed site. The project site is not			

			within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements. Refer to Figure 2 in <b>Appendix B.</b>
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]		NO N	Puerto Rico has various Coastal Barrier Resources Systems (CBRS). The project is in inland northern Puerto Rico. The distance to the nearest CBRS unit or Otherwise Protected Area is 31,955 feet. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. Refer to Figure 3 in <b>Appendix B</b> .
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]		NO	The Project site is not located in a 100-year floodplain per Floodplain Insurance Map 72000C0270J, effective date November 18, 2009. This project is in compliance with Floodplain Insurance requirements. (See Figure 4 and 5 in <b>Appendix B</b> .)
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5			
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS,	AND REG	ULATIO	ONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, Clean Air Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	Yes 1		<b>ONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5</b> The Project site is not located in a county or air quality management district that is in attainment status or non-attainment status for any criteria pollutants. The Municipio of Florida is not listed in the EPA Green Book "Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for all Criteria Pollutants" The project is for the installation of a new well with an adjacent pump and generator for an agricultural site. The installation and operation of the well, pump and generator will have no impact on air quality. The project is in compliance with Clean Air Act. Refer to EPA listing in <b>Appendix C</b> .

<b>Contamination and Toxic</b> <b>Substances</b> 24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)	Yes	No	A site visit conducted on November 18, 2022, no debris or rubbish or visible signs vegetative stress, contamination, or toxic substances were noted at the project site. See <b>Appendix A</b> . Site contamination was evaluated through online data searches to determine if toxic sites are located within 3,000-feet of the proposed project. There are no sites of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet of the project site.
			The project consists of the installation of a new deep water well with pump and electric generator. Refer to Figures 8 and 9 in <b>Appendix B</b> . The project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances.
Endangered Species Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	Yes	No	The project will have No Effect on listed species. According to EPA NEPAssist Enviromapper, the nearest critical or proposed critical habitat is 10,577 feet to the southwest of the project location (see Figures 10 and 11 in <b>Appendix B</b> ). Per the Official Species List from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website for the entire area within which the well might be sighted, the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Parrot, Cordia bellois, and Palo De Ramon can be found, but there are no critical habitats at this location.
			A site-specific review of endangered species was conducted in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended: 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) and the Self-Certification guidelines in the 2014 USFW Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office Blanket Clearance Letter. The USFWS Field Office responded on September 1, 2023, and had no comment on the No Effect determination. (See <b>Appendix D</b> ).
			The proposed potential new deep water well sites are in areas that have been used for agricultural purposes in the past and the areas are cleared of trees. The pump and generator would be adjacent to the well site.

		Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, it was determined that there would be No Effect for any of the listed species.
		If a Puerto Rican Boa is encountered, work will cease until it moves off the site or, failing that, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers will be notified for safe capture and relocation of the animal, in accordance with the USFW Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures guidelines.
		Refer to Figures 10 and 11 in <b>Appendix B</b> and site specific reviews in <b>Appendix D</b> . This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.
Explosive and Flammable Hazards	Yes No	The project does not include development, construction, or rehabilitation that will increase residential density.
24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C		The project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable Hazard requirements.
		Refer to site visit report in <b>Appendix A</b> .
Farmlands Protection Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	Yes No	The project site is designated as Prime Farmland. The proposed project includes installation of a deep water well, pump, and generator at a farm site. The project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to nonagricultural use. This project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. Refer to Figure 12 in <b>Appendix B.</b>
<b>Floodplain Management</b> Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	Yes No	The Project site is not located in a 100-year floodplain per Floodplain Insurance Map 72000C0270J, effective date November 18, 2009. The project site is not located in Preliminary Firm or an Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) special flood hazard area. This project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988 (See Figure 6 in <b>Appendix B</b> .)
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966,	Yes No	The site was evaluated on January 3, 2023 and revised on March 23, 2023 by an SOI Qualified Archaeologist. Documentation was initially submitted to SHPO on January 5, 2023 and SHPO

particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800		responded on February 2, 2023 with a finding of <b>No Historic Properties Affected</b> . Reconsultation was reinitiated on April 20, 2023 due to change in project scope. SHPO concurred with the finding of <b>No Historic Properties Affected</b> within the project's Area of Potential on Effects in a letter dated May 22, 2023 for the revised project scope. ( <b>Appendix E</b> ). This project is in compliance with Historic Preservation requirements (See Figure 13 in <b>Appendix B</b> and <b>Appendix E</b> ).
Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	Yes No	HUD's noise regulations protect residential properties from excessive noise exposure. The proposed project involves the installation of a deep water well, pump, and generator at a farm site. HUD noise regulations do not apply as the project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The proposed project is in compliance with Noise Abatement and Control.
Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes No	There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes No	The closest fresh-water bodies are Quebrada Cimarrona, 8,700 feet northwest, and Río Grande de Manatí, 15,681 feet northeast of the property. The NWI maps show no wetlands on the adjacent to the project site. This project does not impact any on- or off-site wetlands and includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. Refer to Figure 14 in <b>Appendix B</b> .
Wild and Scenic Rivers Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes No	This project is not within proximity of a National Wild and Scenic River (WSR). The distance to the nearest WSR is approximately 262,890 feet. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Refer to Figure 15 in <b>Appendix B</b> .

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	Yes No	No adverse environmental impacts were identified in any other compliance review portion of this project that may disproportionately be high for low-income and/or minority communities. Therefore, this topic complies with the regulation.

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

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

(1) Minor beneficial impact

(2) No impact anticipated

(3) Minor Adverse Impact – May require mitigation

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

Environmental	Impact	
Assessment Factor	Code	Impact Evaluation
LAND DEVELOP	MENT	
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design		The proposed project is located on a private farm. The proposed action is installation of a deep water well, pump, and generator on a farm. Both of the potential well locations are zoned Rural General. The proposed action is compliant with the current agricultural land use of the Project area.

Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff		The proposed project is located in rural, irregular terrain, on soil classified as Espinosa clay (EcC), with 5 to 12 percent slopes, surrounded by secondary forest vegetation cover, 135 meters above mean sea level.
		The project site area is rated "low" for landslide susceptibility. Refer to Figure 16 in <b>Appendix B</b> . The proposed locations for the well, pump, and generator are already cleared of trees. The well site would be small (approximately 20 feet by 20 feet) and would have little to no potential for additional runoff.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise		During implementation of the project, well drilling and well, pump, and generator installation activities may result in temporary elevation of ambient noise levels in immediate areas around the active well site. The only nearby receptors are the residents of the farm.
		There is no access to the project area by the public. Standard BMPs, such as construction fencing, would be applied to protect the farm resident public from typical construction hazards.
Energy Consumption		The project site is not connected to the local electricity provider. The project would include a power generator to power the water pump. There would be no substantial change in energy demand in the area.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONON	AIC .	
Employment and Income Patterns	2	Temporary employment of workers related to drilling activities would result, but no new permanent jobs would be created as a result of this project. These workers are expected to come from the local region. However, since the project will include an economic component, it may aid in restoring some employment opportunities and increase income.
		The proposed project would not negatively impact employment or income patterns.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The proposed project would not result in demographic character changes or displacement. Given the nature of the project area, no relocations or demolition of residential structures or businesses would occur as part of this project.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation		
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES				
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project would not result in any change to regional or local area educational and cultural facilities or increase demand for them.		
Commercial Facilities	2	The agricultural activity of the project property will improve. Other commercial facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project.		
Health Care and Social Services	2	Health care and social services facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project. The project would not increase demand for health care and social services facilities.		
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	Waste vegetation from clearing activities for the well site will either be composted on site or at regional composting centers. Soil from grading would be recycled on the farm as fill. Left over construction materials that could be reused on the farm (e.g., piping) would be stored for later use. The remaining construction solid waste materials would be collected for transport to the local landfill. The amount of impact of solid waste resulting from the construction of the proposed project would be minor. During operations, the products and by-products would be agricultural, which waste would be biodegradable.		
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The purpose of the proposed well, pump, and generator are to supply a more consistent water supply for irrigating plantains. The proposed project would not include any bathrooms, wastewater, or sewage facilities. This will not affect the wastewater or sewage at the site. Current farm conditions would remain unchanged.		
Water Supply	2	The proposed project would result in additional water supply for irrigating plantains at the farm. The appropriate permit for the new water well will be obtained from PRDNER before installation and operation. With this mitigation, there would be minor impact to water resources.		
Public Safety - Police, Fire and	2	The proposed project would not create any new demand for emergency or health services.		

Emergency Medical		
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The proposed project would not create or destroy any new parks, open space, or recreational activities. It also would not increase use of those facilities.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The proposed project would not involve the creation of new roads nor any increase in long-term traffic on existing roads. There would be some minor use of the existing road during construction. All residents and businesses would retain access to their properties during and after the project.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The proposed project will be situated on previous agricultural property and will have no impact to unique natural features or surface water resources. The proposed water withdrawal from the new well will be
		controlled under a permit. The impact to groundwater resources will be minor.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The proposed project will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity. The proposed project will have no impact on vegetation and wildlife.
Climate Change	2	This is a small project with no measurable impact on climate change factors. With respect to climate change impact on the project, agricultural activities could be affected by drought.

Additional Studies Performed: None required.

Field Inspection (Date and completed by):

Site inspection was conducted on November 18, 2022 by Carlos Medina.

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

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems:

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

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

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

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.

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: <u>www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/air-topics</u>

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Conservation Online System: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/report/species-listings-by-</u> <u>state?stateAbbrev=PR&stateName=Puerto%20Rico&statusCategory=Listed</u>

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetlands Inventory:

www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html (compilation of numerous maps)

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

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

US Geological Survey, Data Release of May Showing Concentration of Landslides Caused by Hurricane Maria,

www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/59de6459e4b05fe04ccd39d8

#### List of Permits Obtained:

None required.

Public Outreach [24 CFR 58.43]:

The local community has been very proactive in the recovery process. Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture has worked closely with the agricultural community. The project includes 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 proposed project. The agricultural activities at the farm would increase to a minor degree above current levels due to the implementation of the project. Water use would increase to a minor degree but would not impact the existing water supply in the area. There are no other wells nearby to be affected.

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

The RGRW Program's goal is to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island-wide. This Program seeks to enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. The applicant submitted a proposal to enhance and expand agricultural production on their property. The proposed use of grant funds will allow the applicant to expand the cultivation of agricultural products through the construction of a new deep well, pump, and generator. Any alternative that would involve an off-property location would not enhance and expand agricultural production or allow for the economic development for this applicant. The actions are proposed in two areas preliminarily identified by a water well drilling company as suitable for drilling the well and installing the pump and generator. Alternative locations on the property would be less suitable for access by the drilling equipment and installation of the well, pump, and generator.

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

Under the No Action Alternative, the applicant would not receive federal funding for the installation of a new well, pump, and generator 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 federal agencies associated with the topics evaluated above. There are no environmental review topics addressed above that result in the need for additional formal compliance steps with federal agencies or the requirement for mitigations other than those listed below. There may be additional approvals or permits from local agencies.

## 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
Water Supply	The appropriate permit will be obtained before installation and operation of the new water well.

#### 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.

	Clifford & Jama	
Preparer Signature:		Date: 09/01/23

Name/Title/Organization: Clifford Jarman, Senior Environmental Scientist, Tetra Tech Inc.

Certifying Officer Signature: _	J. Cardadí	Date: 9/29/2023
	0	

Name/Title: Janette I. Cambrelén, Permit 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).

# Appendix A





#### **Environmental Field Observation - Puerto Rico Department of Housing**

APPLICANT INFORMATION						
Application ID		PR-RGRW-00359				
Property Address		n1 Hc 4 Barric	o Pajonal de Florida			
Parcel ID		2-24				
Coordinates	18.393896,	-66.543938				
Inspector Name		edina				
Inspection Date						
Building Type	Concrete_Metal					
Number of Units	1					
Number of Stories	1					
Year Built; Data Source	c2005; Histo	orian				
ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS (attach		essary, for any YES answers)				
OBSERVATION ITEMS	YES	NO	COMMENTS			
			Land in use for Plateine plantation. Two possible grap was identified			
A. Is the structure in use?	V		Land in use for Platains plantation. Two possible area was identified by the company drill for the Scope of Work. The well is approximately 500' depth.			
B. is structure a greenhouse?		V				
C. Is Electricity connected?		V				
D. Is water connected? (Utilities or Well)		V				
1. Are there signs of <b>poor housekeeping</b> on site? (mounds of						
rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products,						
paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned						
vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.) <b>2.</b> Are there any <b>55-gallon drums</b> visible on site? If yes, are they						
leaking?						
3. Are there any (or signs of any) underground storage tanks on		V				
the property?						
<b>4</b> . Are there signs of <b>ASTs</b> on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes,						
list approximate size and contents, if known.						
5. Is there any stained soil or pavement on the parcel?		R				
6. Is a water drainage system in use?		Ø				
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of Fertilizer or Pesticides?		$\checkmark$				
8. Are there any groundwater monitoring wells on the site or adjacent parcel?		Ø				
9. Is there evidence of a faulty septic system?						
10. Is there distressed vegetation on the parcel?		V				





11. Is there any visible indication of MOLD?	V	
<b>12</b> . Is there any visible evidence of <b>asbestos</b> , <b>chipping</b> , <b>flaking or peeling paint</b> , <b>or hazardous materials</b> present in or on the structure?		
13. Are any additional site hazards observed?	N	
<b>14</b> . Is there any <b>permanent standing water</b> , such as a pond or stream, located on the site (do not include ponding from recent rain / weather events)?	Ŋ	
15. Does the subject property have water frontage?	Ŋ	
16. Is there any indication of the presence of Wetlands?	$\checkmark$	
<b>17</b> . Are there any obvious signs of <b>animals or birds nesting</b> on or near the site?		
<b>18</b> . Is the applicant aware of any <b>significant historical event or</b> <b>persons</b> associated with the structure, or of it being located in a historic district/area?		
19. Is a historic marker present?	V	

Additional Notes:

Case: PR-RGRW-00359 Anibal Seoane D/B/A

Correct coordinates: 18.3938962, -66.5439380

Scope of Work: Well drilling for the extraction of ground water.

Land current in use for: Platains plantation

Past land use was: Livestock

What the applicant plans to do: Applicant stated he is in first phase for the evaluation for a well drilling for the extraction of ground water. This water will be use of irrigation of the Platains Plantation. This first stage he is using a drill company to evaluate the area and obtain the permits. The well is approximately 500' feet depth and will have a electric generator power pump.

Where the applicant plans to do the ground disturbance for the new structures: At the the time of the assessment he have two possible area, depends on the final evaluation of the drill company. Scope of work area 1: Approximately 20' x 20' at coordinates 18.39319, -66.54383. This area is the first recommended drill area under evaluation by the drill company.

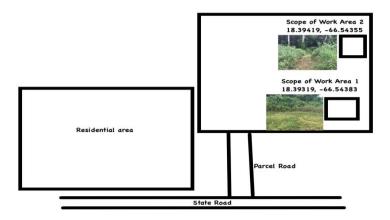
Scope of work area 2: Approximately 20' x 20' at coordinates 18.39419, -66.54355. This area is the second area recommended drill area under evaluation by the drill company.

Any new water connection, well, cisterns or power connection: After the evaluation and permits approval of the drill company the connection of the water well the pump will be use with a power generation plant.





#### Site Sketch











Back of Structure





Side #2 of Structure

# Photo Direction: Northeast











Structural Details

#### Photo Description: Architectural details

#### Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

#### Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North





Structural Details



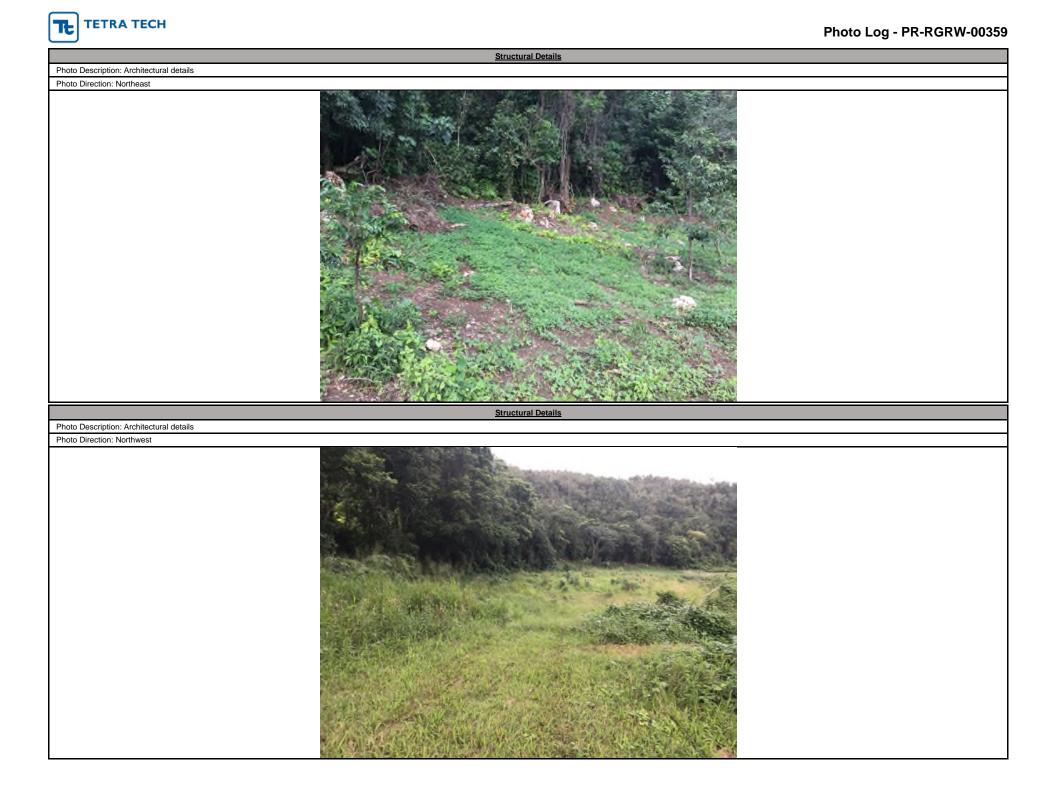


Photo Description: Architectural details

Structural Details

# Photo Direction: North Structural Details Photo Description: Architectural details Photo Direction: Northeast









Structure Occupied

#### Photo Description: Platains plantation

#### Photo Direction: North



Structure Occupied

#### Photo Description: Scope of work area 1

Photo Direction: South





Structure Occupied

#### Photo Description: Scope of work area 1

Photo Direction: Southwest





# Appendix B

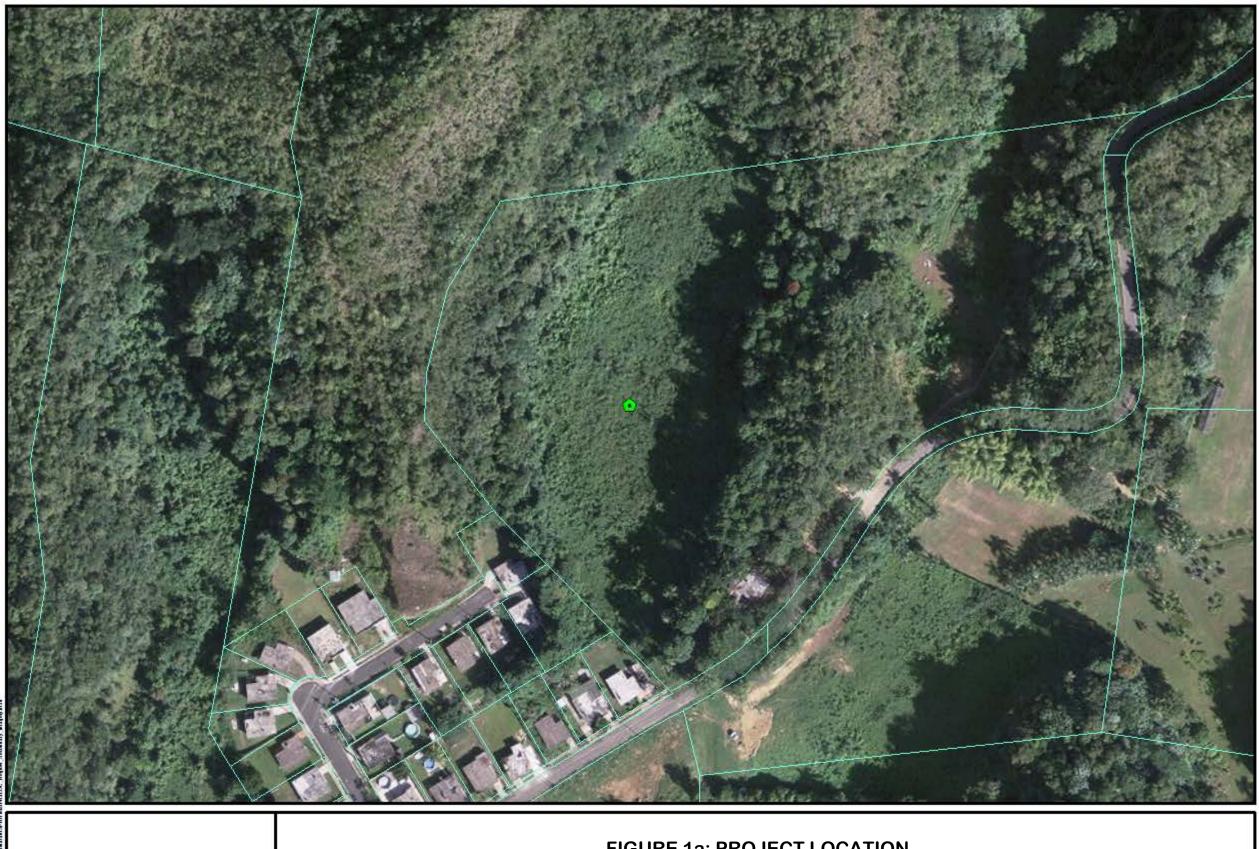




FIGURE 1a: PROJECT LOCATION

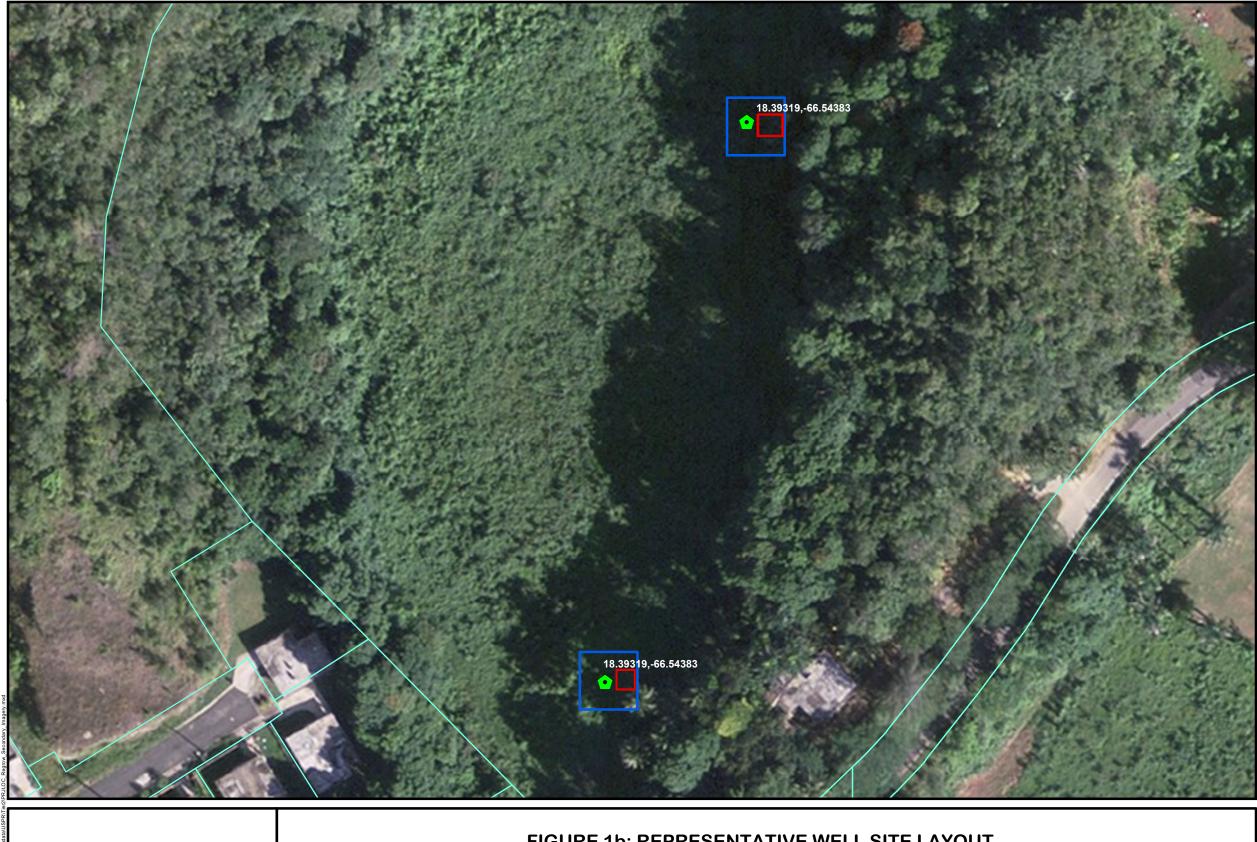
# APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359

ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938



# PUERTO RICO







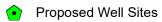
## FIGURE 1b: REPRESENTATIVE WELL SITE LAYOUT

# APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359

ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650

Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938

#### Legend



Proposed Concrete Pad Boundary

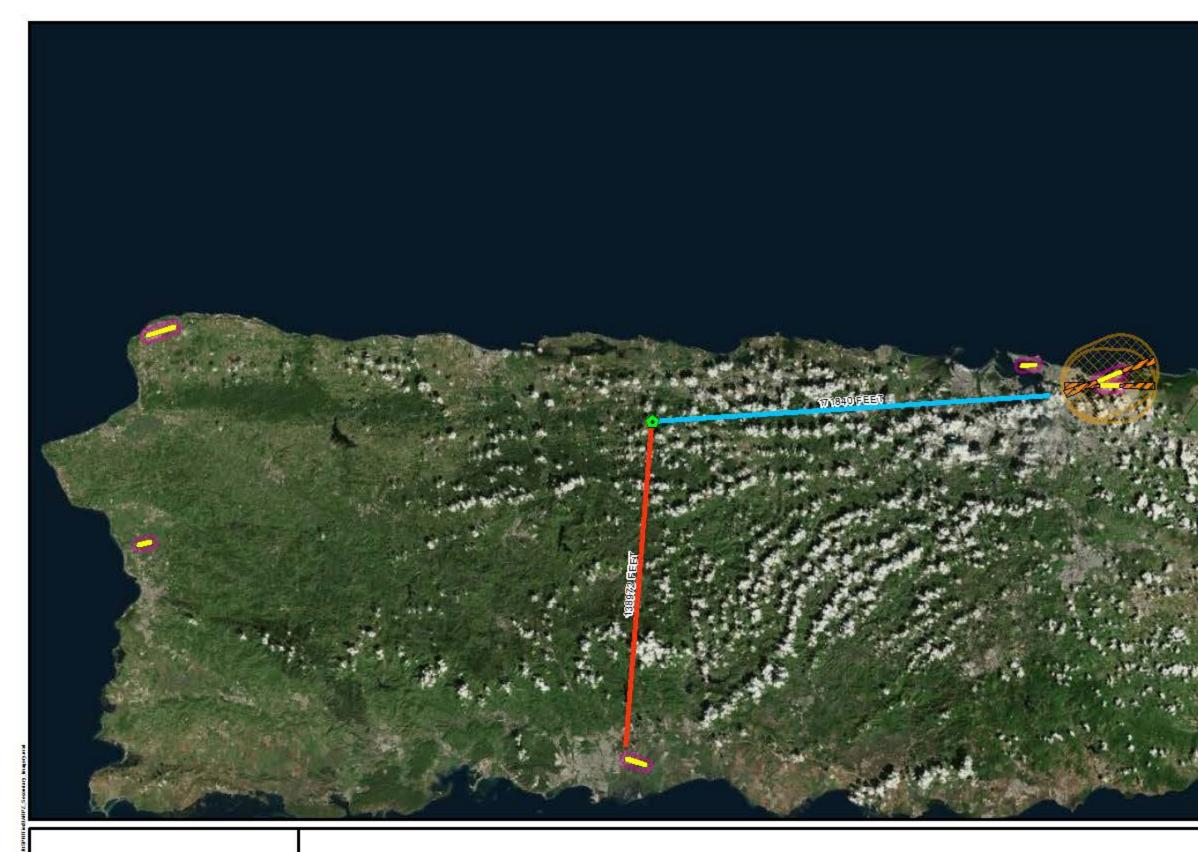


Well Boundary

Parcels

# **PUERTO RICO**







**FIGURE 2: AIRPORT ZONES** 

# APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359

ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650

Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938





Project Parcel



Civilian Runway Protection Zones



Military Accident Potential Zones

Airport Runways



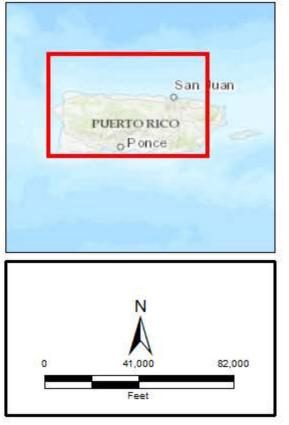
Civilian Airport 2,500 Feet Buffer



Military Airport 15,000 Feet Buffer

# Distance to Nearest Airport in Feet: 138,972

# PUERTO RICO



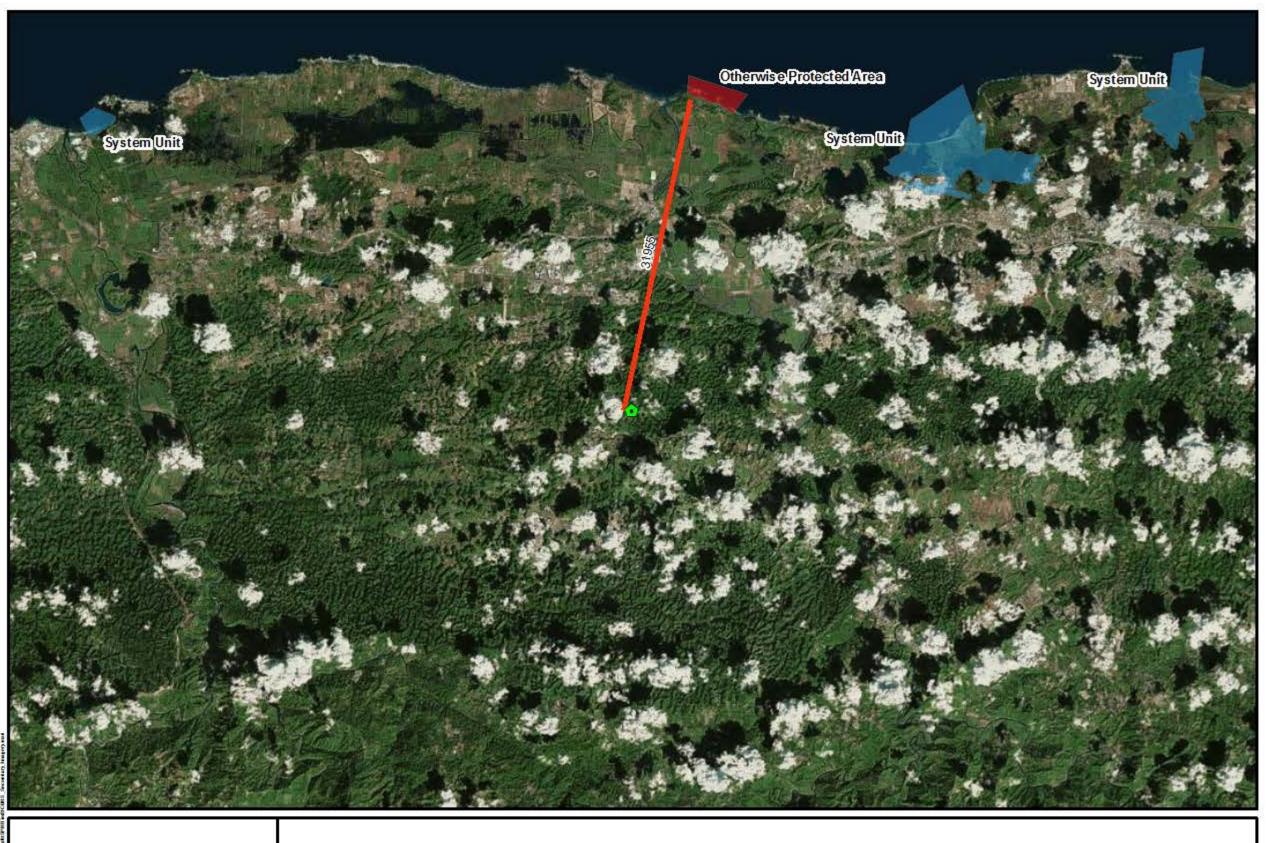




FIGURE 3: COASTAL BARRIERS IMPROVEMENT ACT

# APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359

ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938

#### Legend

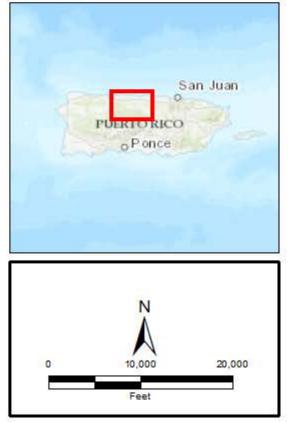
Project Parcel

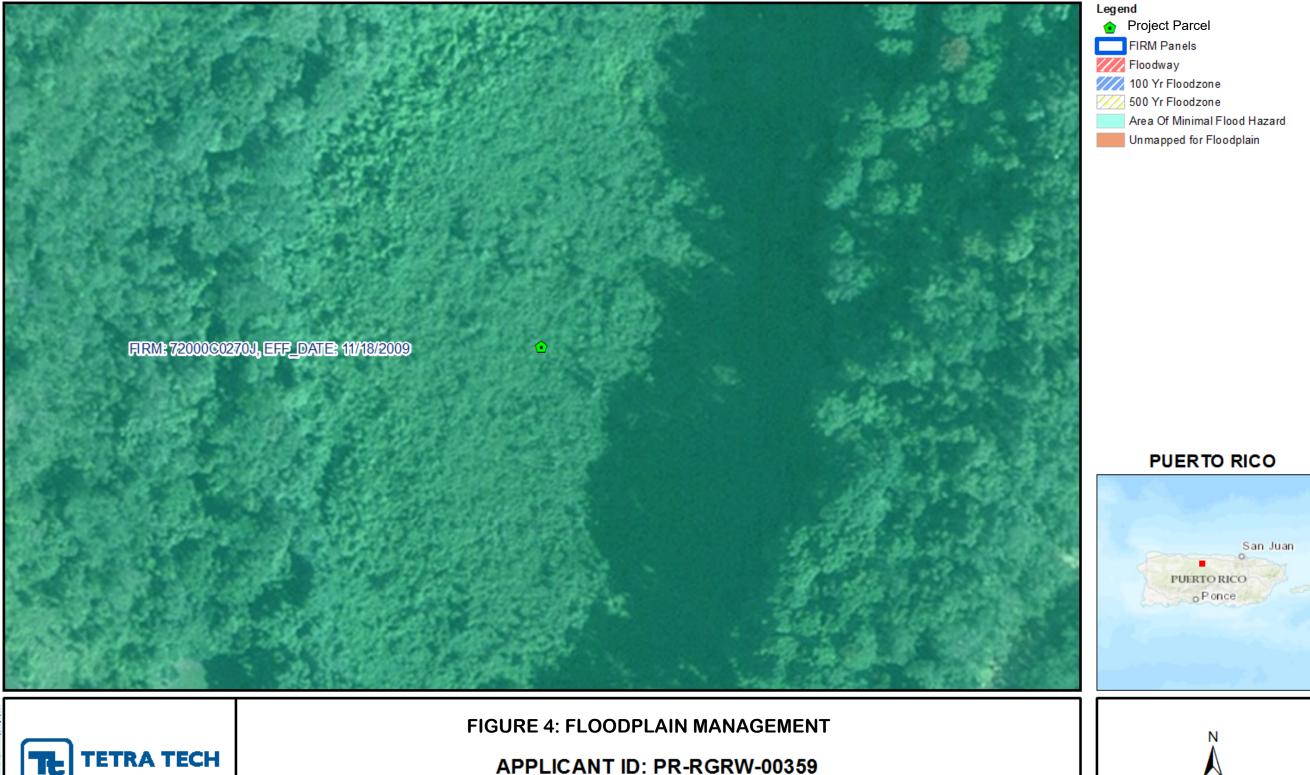
#### Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit Type

Otherwise Protected Area System Unit

#### Distance to Nearest Coastal Barrier Resources System in Feet: 31,955

# PUERTO RICO





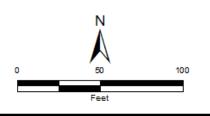
ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938

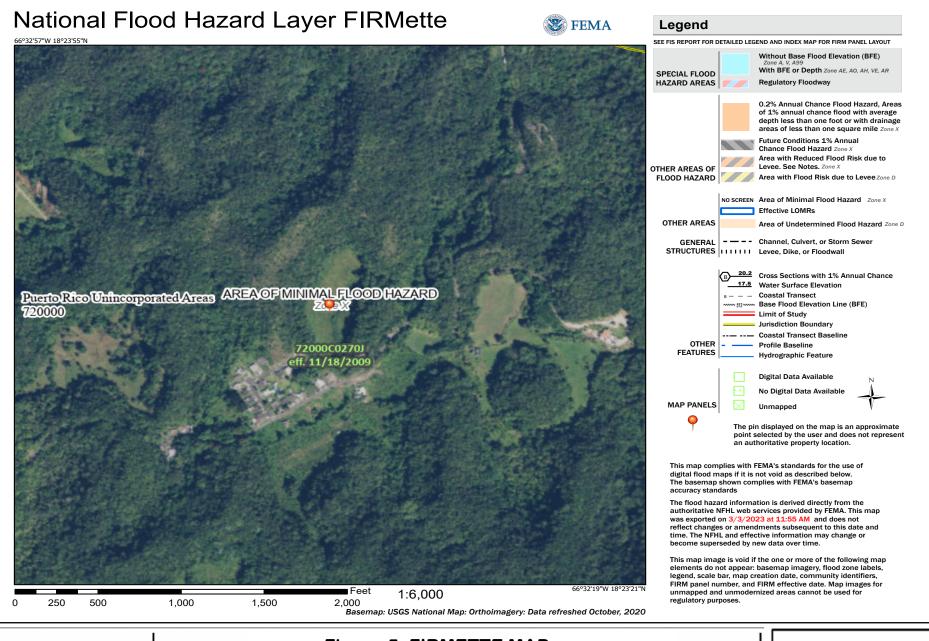
Source: FEMA

Author: TG

https://msc.fema.gov Date: 11/1/2022



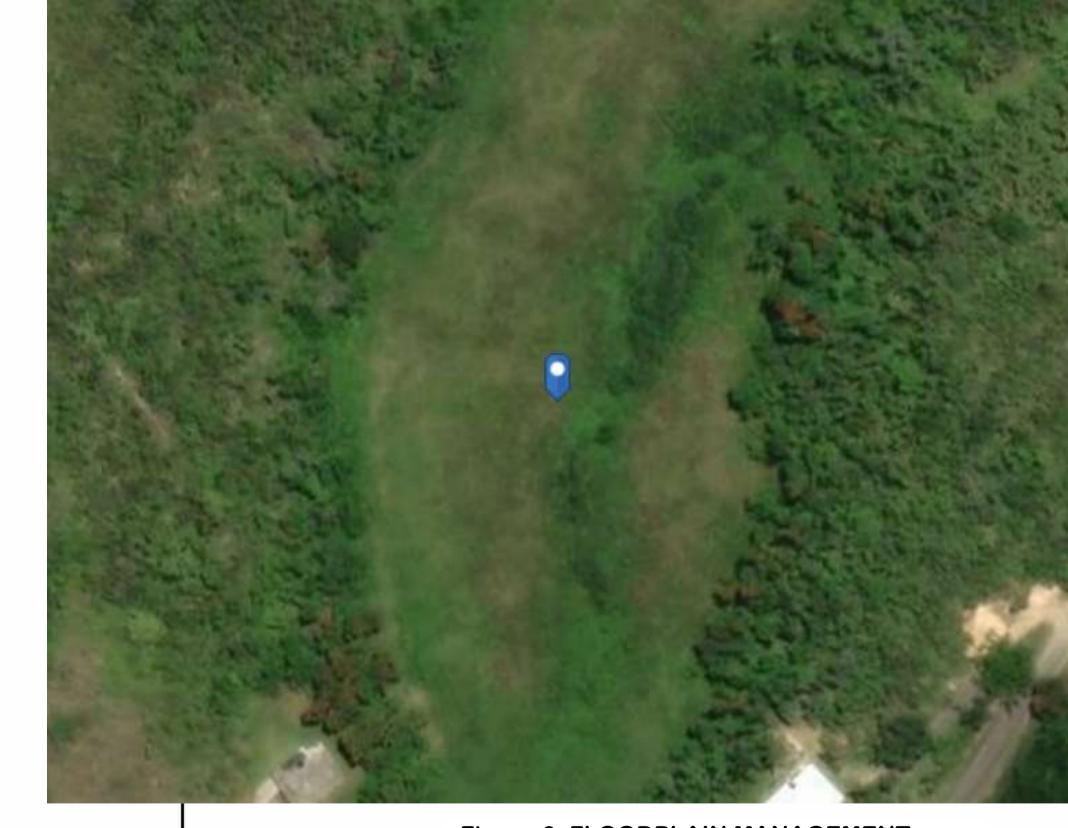






## Figure 5: FIRMETTE MAP APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359

ADDRESS: Carr 667 km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543980 Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938

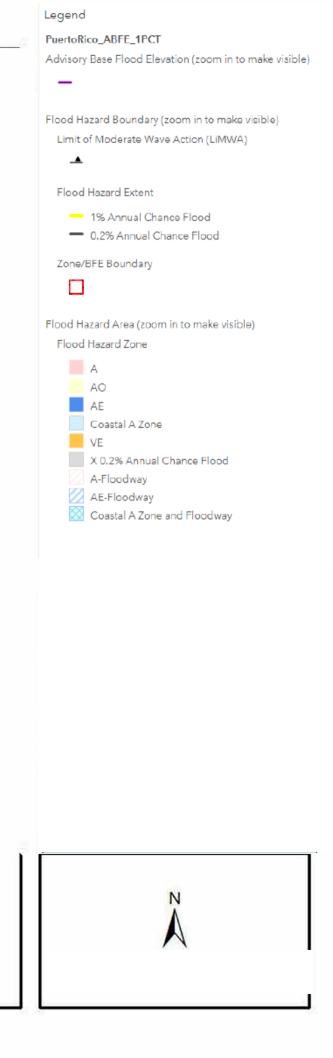


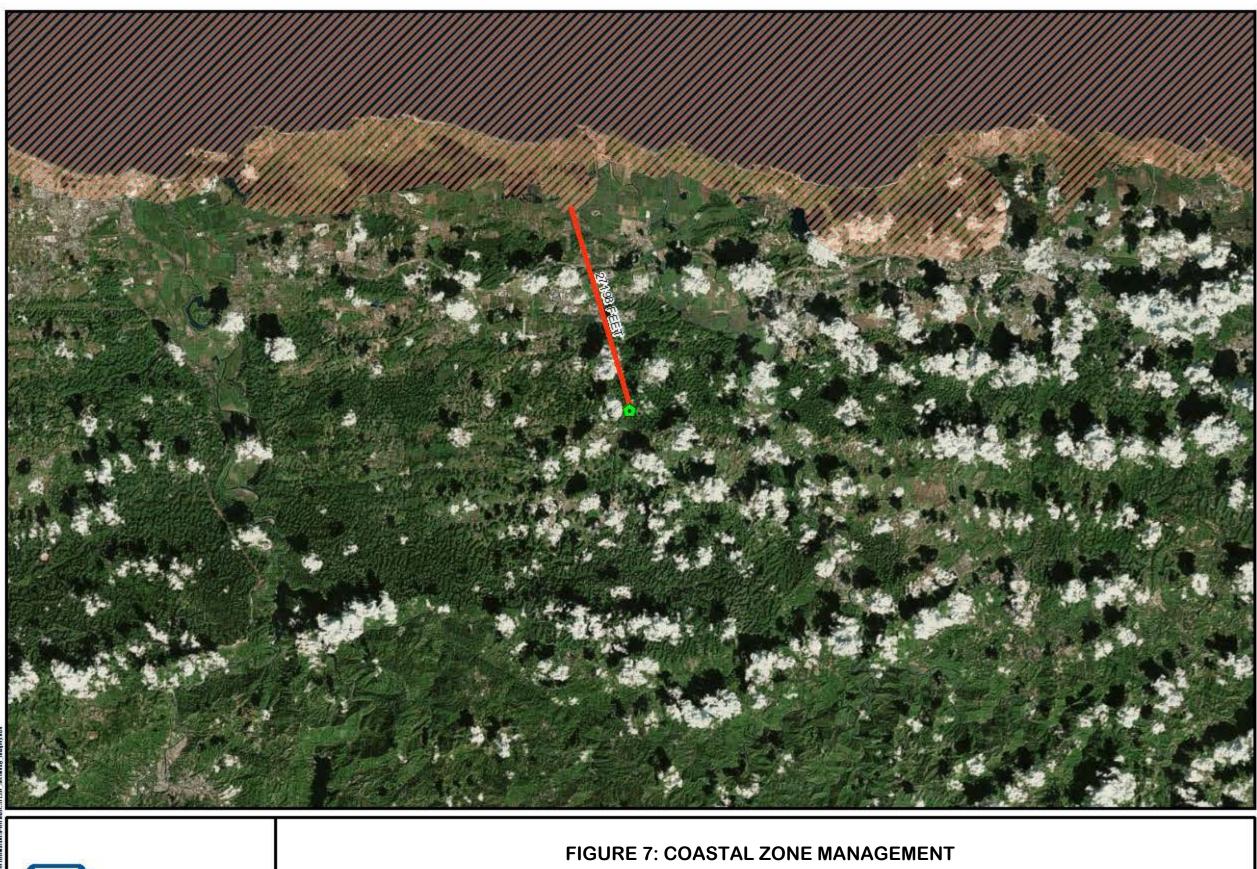


# Figure 6: FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359

ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543980

Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938







# APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359

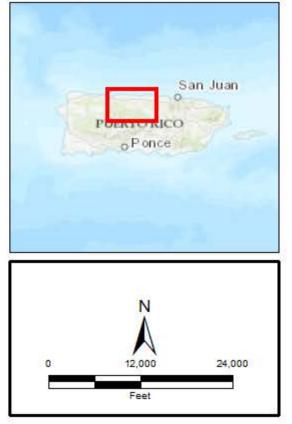
ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938

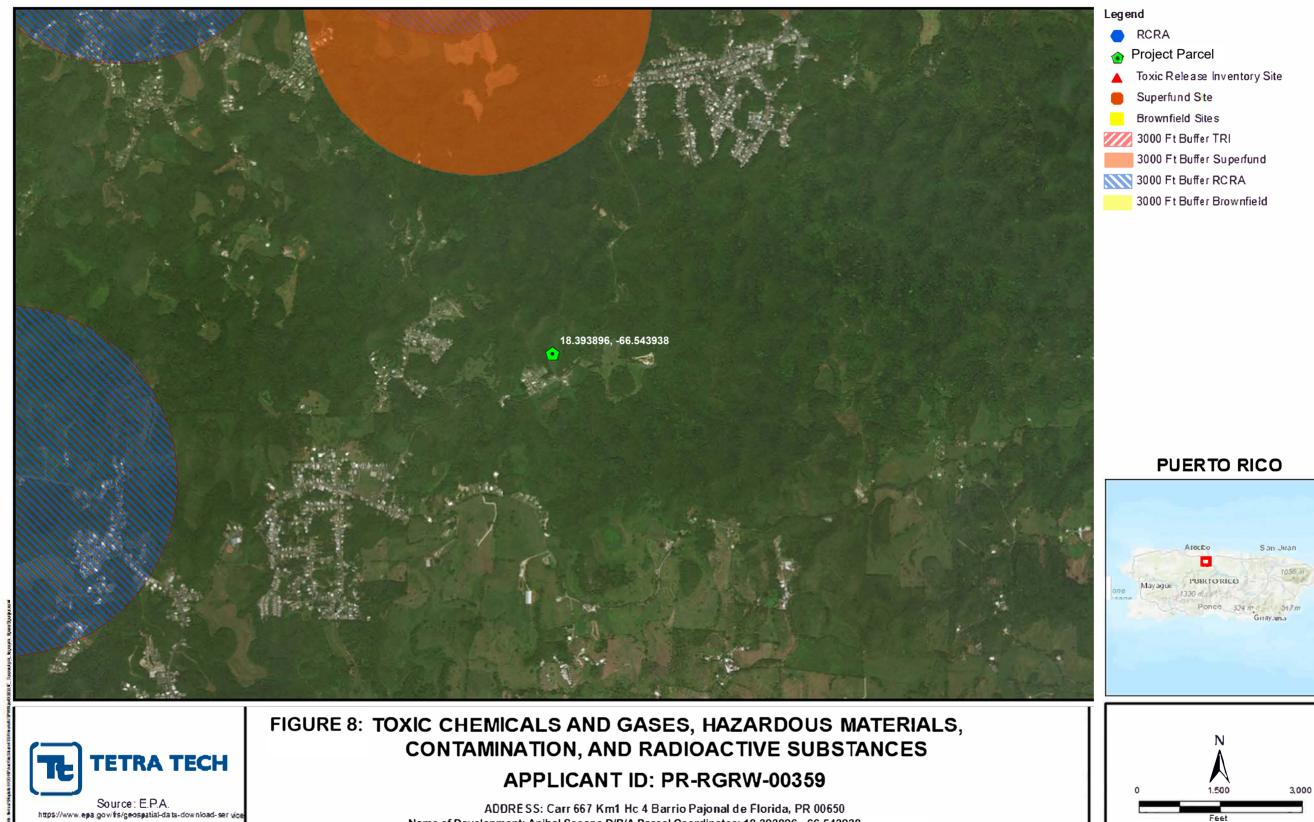


Project Parcel Coastal Zone Management Boundary

#### Distance to Nearest Coastal Zone Management Boundary in feet: 27,196

# PUERTO RICO

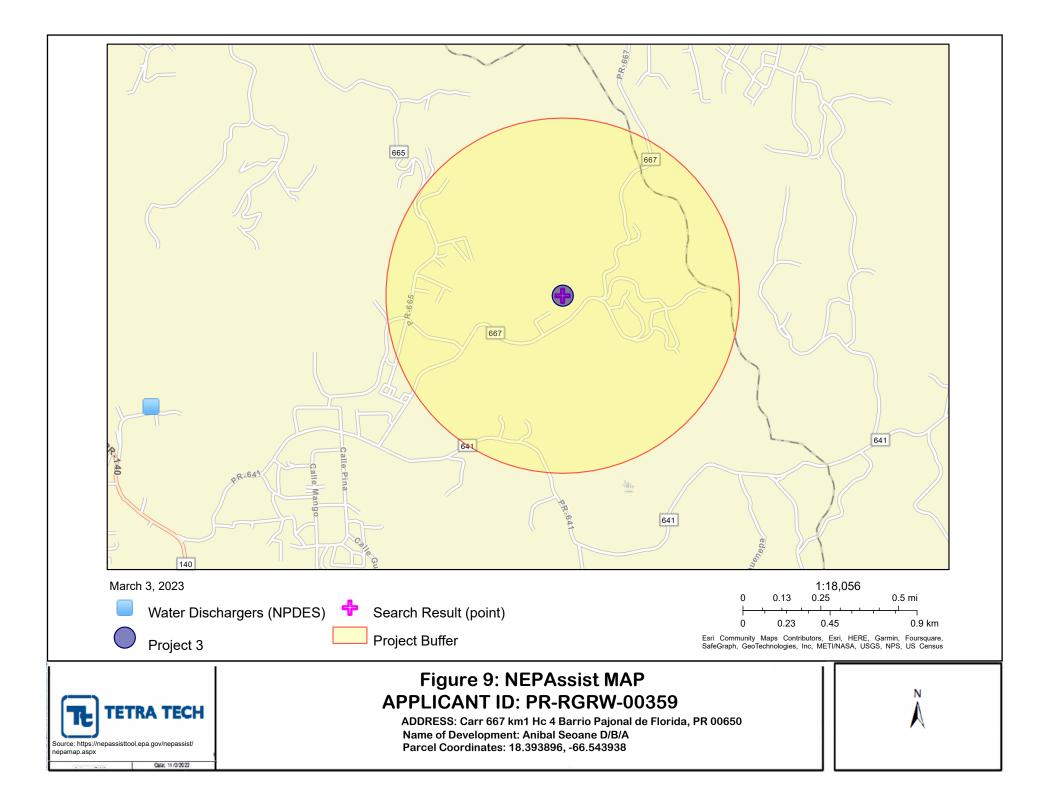




ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938

Date: 11/2/2022

Feet





TETRA TECH

Date: 10/4/2022

Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

https://ecos.fws.gov

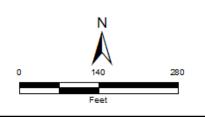
Author: TG

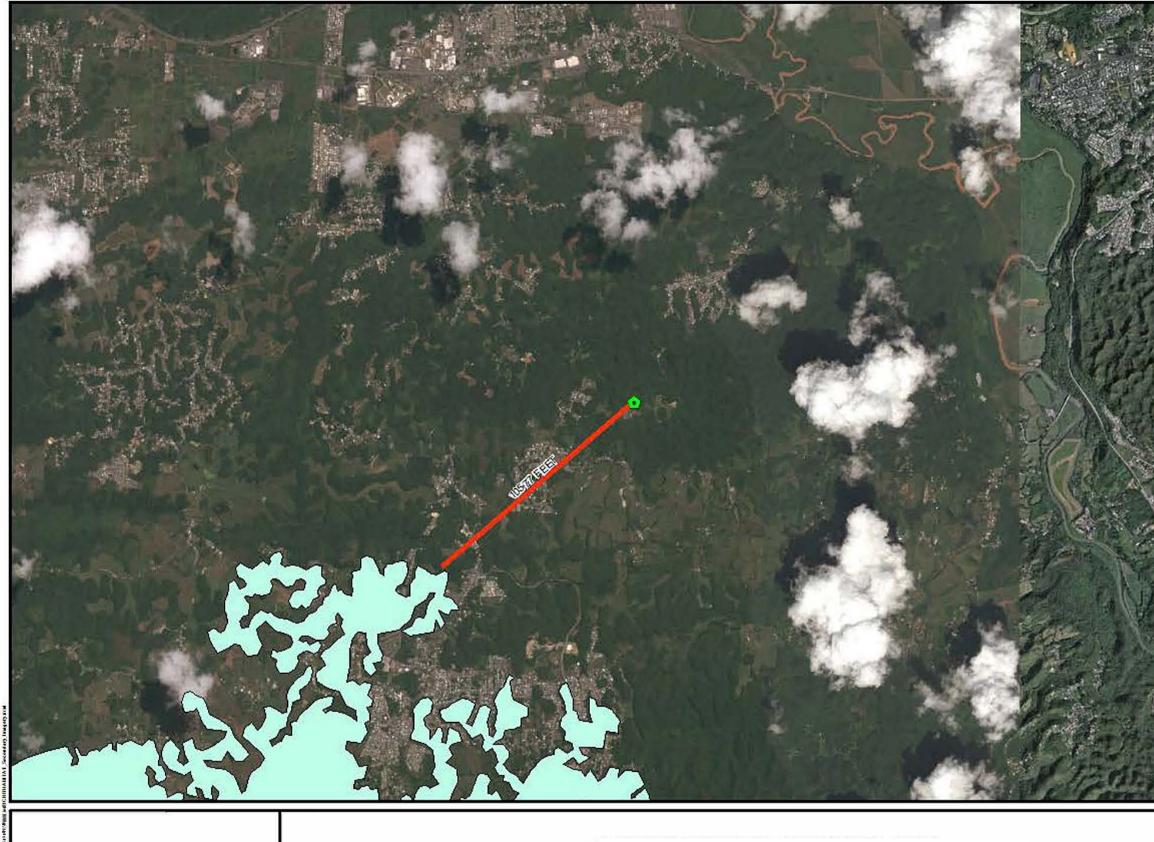
# APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359

ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938

PUERTO RICO









# FIGURE 11: CRITICAL HABITAT

# APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359

ADDRE SS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938



#### Legend

Project Parcel

#### Common Name

Puerto Rico harlequin butterfly

# Distance to nearest Critical Habitat in feet: 10,577

# PUERTO RICO





#### Legend

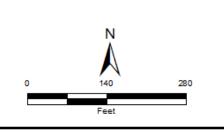
📀 Project Parcel

#### Farm Class

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

# PUERTO RICO



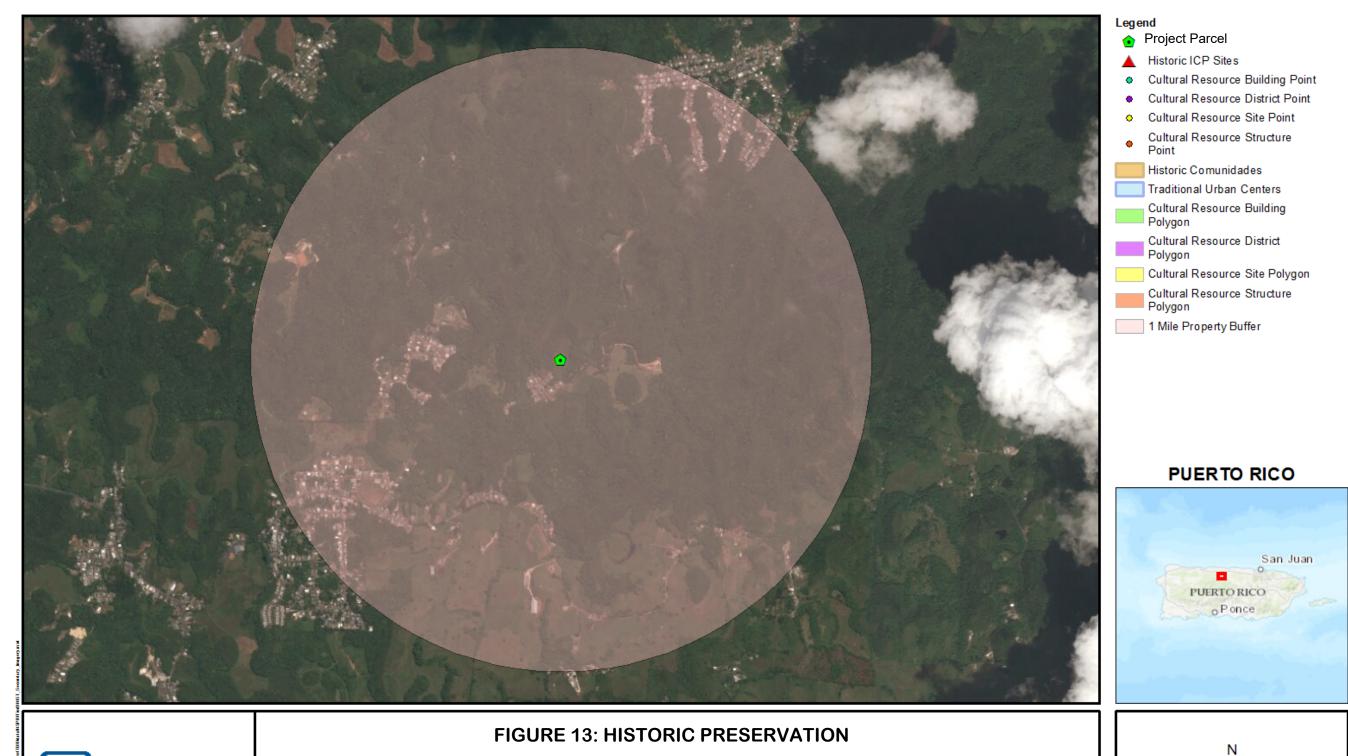




## FIGURE 12: FARMLAND PROTECTION

# APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359

ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Name of Development: Anibal Secane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938





**TETRA TECH** 

Date: 10/24/2022

Source: National Park Service

https://www.nps.gov/

Author: TG

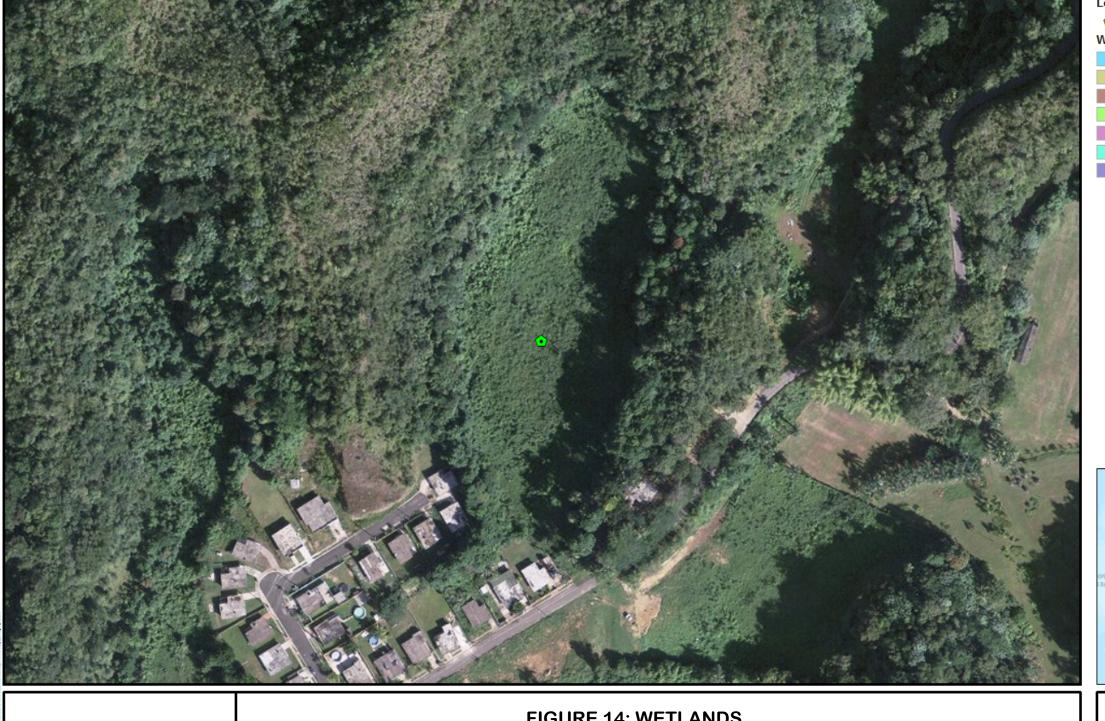
# APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359

2,800

1,400

Feet

ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938



#### Legend

Project Parcel WETLAND TYPE Estuarine and Marine Deepwater Estuarine and Marine Wetland Freshwater Emergent Wetland Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland Freshwater Pond Lake Riverine

### PUERTO RICO



Fee

300



**FIGURE 14: WETLANDS** 

## APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359

ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938





# Figure 15: WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT

# **APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-00359**

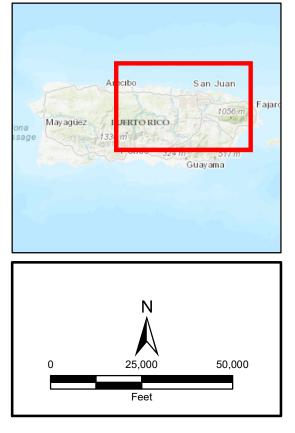
ADDRESS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938

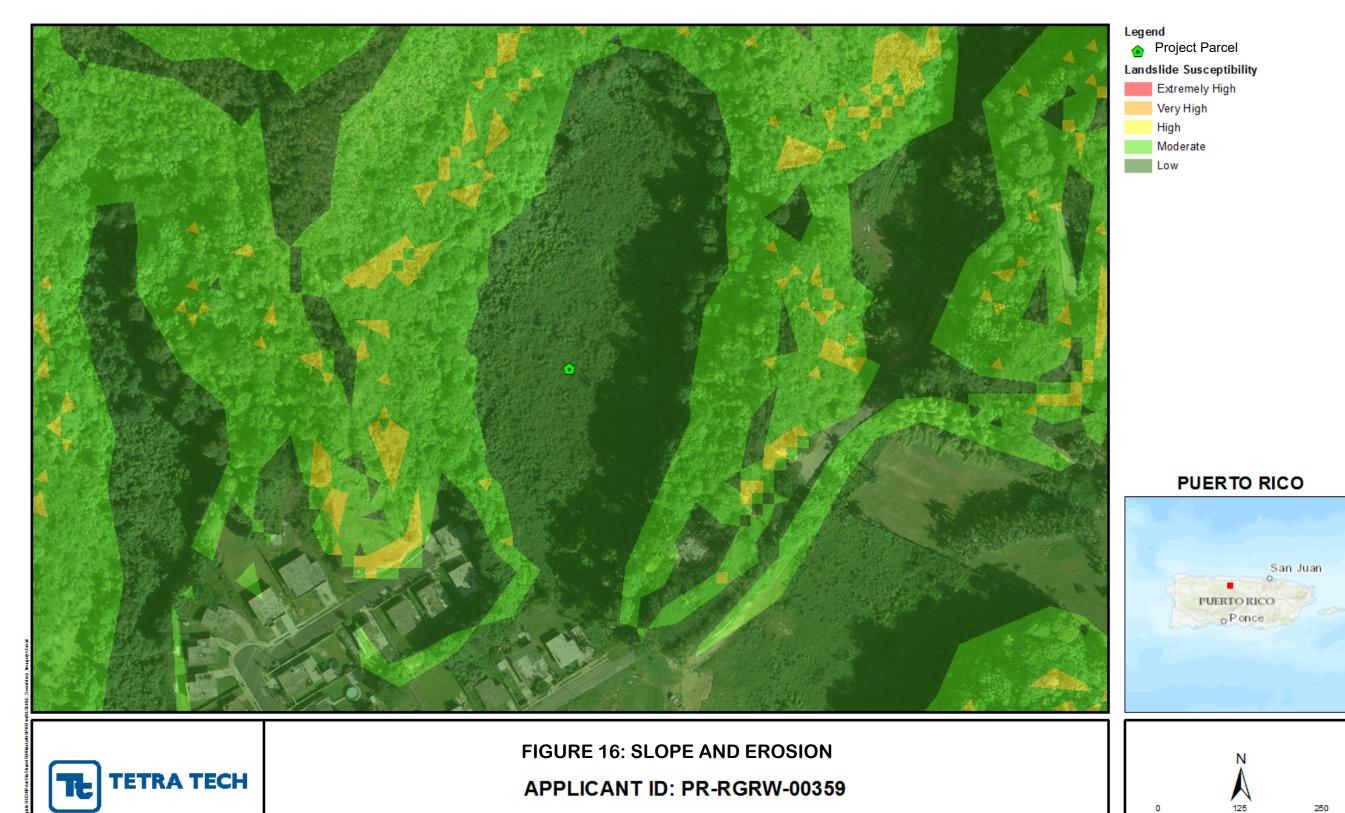
#### Legend

Project Parcel
 Nearest WSR
 Wild and Scenic Rivers

#### Distance to Nearest Wild and Scenic River in Feet: 262890

# **PUERTO RICO**





ADDRE SS: Carr 667 Km1 Hc 4 Barrio Pajonal de Florida, PR 00650 Name of Development: Anibal Seoane D/B/A Parcel Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938

Feet

ICE: PROOH

Author: TG

tip s://usgs. maps.arcgis.com apps/webappviewer/hdex.html?id =10506ecc7f15491daee17647f19248ee

Date: 10/4/2022

# Appendix C

#### C 😡 💼 https://www3.epa.gov/airqual,ty/greenbook/anayo\_pr.html

# 0 EPA Med States Environmental Protection Agency

#### Green Book

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

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

Data is current as of December 31, 2021

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 Ptvl-2.5 NAAQS (level of 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) 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:	hange the State:		
PUERTORICO	v		

portant Notes Downbad National Data aset: <u>d b f</u> 1 <u>vts</u> 1 <u>Data dictiona</u>							
County	NMQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year Reducto Ma	designation Maintenance	ion Whole or/ Part County	Population (2010)	State/ County FPS Codes
PUERTO RICO							
Arecibo Municipio	Lead (2008)	Arecibo, FR	11         12         13         14         15         16         17         18         19         20         21	11	Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, FR	18 19 20 21	11	Part	22,921	72/021
Catano Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, FR	18 19 20 21	11	Whole	28,140	72/033
Guaynabo Municipio	PM-10 (1987)	Mun. of Guaynabo, PR	92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	2/11/2010 Moderat	e Part	90,470	72/061
Guaynabo Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, FR	18 19 20 21	11	Part	23,802	72/061
Salinas Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Guayama-Salinas, FR	18 19 20 21	11	Part	23,401	72/123
San Juan Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, FR		11	Part	147,963	72/127
Toa Baja Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18 19 20 21	11	Part	52,441	72/137

Contact Us

Li 🖽 📔 ), ht) 😩 …

# Appendix D



# United States Department of the Interior

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



In Reply Refer to: FWS/R4/CESFO/72054-Gen

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: PR-RGRW-00359 Aníbal Seoane DBA, Florida, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated September 01, 2023, requesting comments on the above referenced project. As per your request, our comments are provided under the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) on behalf of Aníbal Seoane DBA (the Applicant) is proposing the drilling of a ground water well with an adjacent pump for the irrigation for plantain cultivation and purchase and installation of an electric generator to power the pump. The proposed project will be located on PR-667 Km.1, Pajonal Sector, Barrio Florida in the municipality of Florida, Puerto Rico. There are two possible locations for the well site, Well Site 1: 18°23'35.5"N 66°32'37.8"W and Well Site 2: 18°23'39.1"N 66°32'36.8"W. Both potential well sites measure 20-foot by 20-foot, were previously used for livestock and are currently being used to grow plantains, frequently disturbed and no trees are located within the proposed sites.

Using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system the proponent has determined that the proposed project lies within the range of Puerto Rican boa (*Epicrates inornatus* now known as *Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican parrot (*Amazona vittata*), Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*), palo de ramón (*Banara vanderbiltii*) and *Cordia bellonis*.

Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available and analysis of the existing habitat, the proponent has determined that the proposed project will have no effect (NE) on the above mentioned species since these areas are currently in use as plantain gardens and frequently disturbed.

#### Mr. Pérez-Bofill

We acknowledge receipt of your NE determination for the Puerto Rican parrot, Puerto Rican broadwinged hawk, Puerto Rican boa, palo de ramón and *Cordia bellonis*. Currently we do not have any information to refute your determination. Because you made a NE determination, you are not required to conduct formal or informal section 7 consultation with the Service, and the Service is not required to concur with your NE determination.

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.

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 <u>caribbean\_es@fws.gov</u> or by phone at (786) 244-0081.

Sincerely yours,

EDWIN MUNIZ Edwin E. Muñiz Field Supervisor

drr



Date: August 7, 2023

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00359 Street Address: Carretera PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4 Sec. Pajonal, Bo.Florida Adentro Municipality: Florida

#### Subject – Endangered Species Concurrence for PR-RGRW-00359 Site #1

TetraTech conducted a site specific review of endangered species 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 located at Carretera PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4 Sec. Pajonal, Bo.Florida Adentro, in the Municipality of Florida, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 079-000-002-24-001).

The proposed project is for the location and drilling of a ground water well with an adjacent pump for the irrigation for plantain cultivation and purchase and installation of an electric generator to power the pump at one of two possible locations. Potential Well Site #1 is located at coordinates 18.39319, -66.54383. Potential Well Site #2 is located at coordinates 18.39419, -66.54355. This review is for Potential Well Site #1.

Potential Well Site #1 measures 20-foot by 20-foot and encompasses the area of disturbance associated with the drilling of the well, and installation of the pump and generator. The parcel was previously used for livestock, and the location of Potential Well Site #1 is currently being used to grow plantains and is frequently disturbed.

Surrounding landscape includes relatively flat pastureland and garden plots within the center of the parcel, with forest surrounding the outer circle of the parcel but is not located within the area of Potential Well Site #1 (Figure 1a, 1b). No trees are located within Potential Well Site #1 and therefore is not sufficient habitat for nesting birds, nor arboreal snakes. Trees will not be removed during this project.

The National Wetlands Inventory indicated that no wetlands are located within the parcel, nor Potential Well Site #1 (Figure 14).

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

Species	Status
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (Buteo platypterus brunnescens)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot (Amazona vittata)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)	Endangered
Cordia bellonis	Endangered
Palo De Ramon (Banara vanderbiltii)	Endangered



Potential Well Site #1 is not suitable for the listed endangered plants, as these areas are frequently disturbed and already in use as plantain gardens.

No Critical Habitats were noted within the project area (Figure 10). Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, we have made the following effects determinations:

Species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures to be implemented (if needed)
Puerto Rican Broad- winged Hawk (Buteo platypterus brunnescens)	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Parrot (Amazona vittata)	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Cordia bellonis	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Palo De Ramon (Banara vanderbiltii)	No Effect	No Conservation Measures

Attached to this letter, are the supplemental documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species.

#### Attachments:

Site Photos IPaC Resource List

Shelby McDowell

B.S. Biologist, TetraTech







Back of Structure





Photo Direction: Northeast

Photo Direction: Southwest

Side #2 of Structure





Streetscape #1





Photo Direction: Northeast

Address





Structural Details

#### Photo Description: Architectural details

#### Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

#### Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North





Structural Details

# Photo Description: Architectural details Photo Direction: Northeast Structural Details Photo Description: Architectural details Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

#### Photo Description: Architectural details

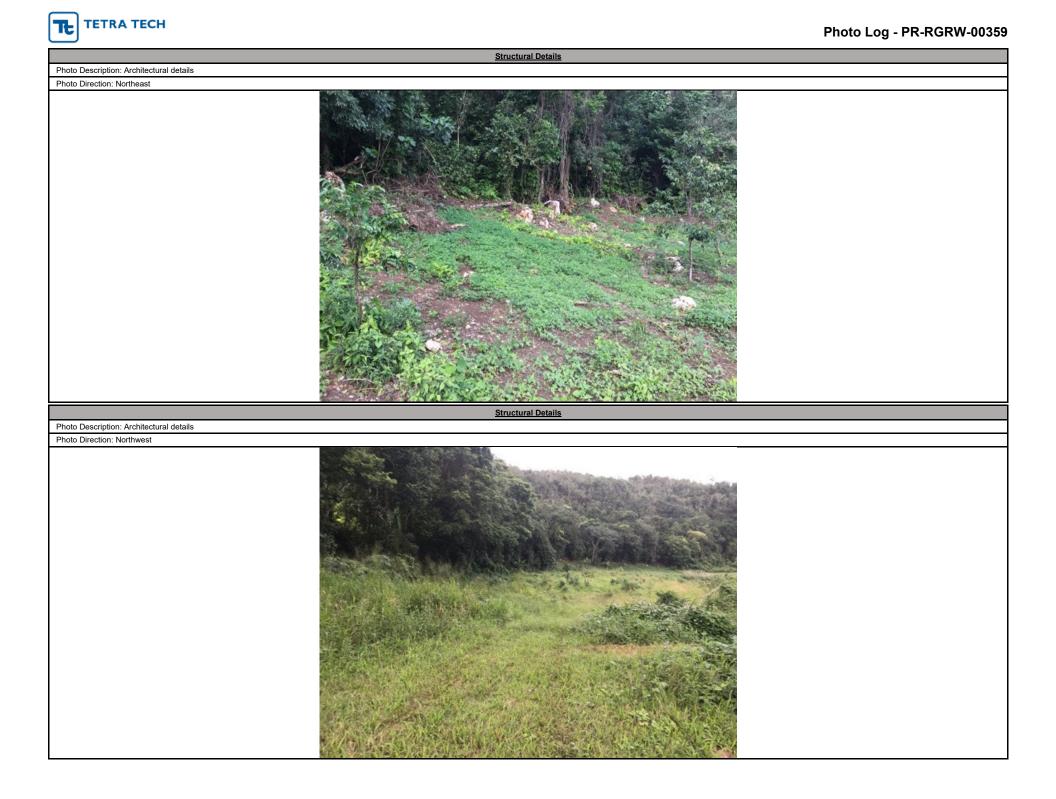
#### Photo Direction: North



Photo Direction: Northeast

Photo Description: Architectural details









Structure Occupied

#### Photo Description: Platains plantation

#### Photo Direction: North



Structure Occupied

#### Photo Description: Scope of work area 1

Photo Direction: South





Structure Occupied

#### Photo Description: Scope of work area 1

Photo Direction: Southwest

Photo Direction: Southeast





# IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

# Location

Florida County, Puerto Rico



# Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

**\$** (787) 834-1600

- 💼 (787) 851-7440
- ✓ <u>CARIBBEAN ES@FWS.GOV</u>

NOTFORCONSULTATIO

MAILING ADDRESS Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

PHYSICAL ADDRESS Office Park I State Road #2 Km 156.5, Suite 303} Mayaguez, PR 00680

https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/location/EMDW5BGY7JEV5NQKNZGA5NNW3Q/resources

# Endangered species

# This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

- 1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
- 2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
- 3. Log in (if directed to do so).
- 4. Provide a name and description for your project.
- 5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the <u>Ecological Services Program</u> of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact <u>NOAA Fisheries</u> for <u>species under their jurisdiction</u>.

1. Species listed under the <u>Endangered Species Act</u> are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the <u>listing status page</u> for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ). 2. 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.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Birds	
NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk Buteo platypterus brunnescens Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot Amazona vittata Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067	Endangered
Reptiles	
NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa Chilabothrus inornatus Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628</u>	Endangered
Flowering Plants	
NAME	STATUS
Cordia bellonis Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7228</u>	Endangered
Palo De Ramon Banara vanderbiltii Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8113</u>	Endangered

### **Critical habitats**

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

# Bald & Golden Eagles

There are no documented cases of eagles being present at this location. However, if you believe eagles may be using your site, please reach out to the local Fish and Wildlife Service office.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Managment https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <u>https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds</u>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <u>https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf</u>

### Bald and Golden Eagle information is not available at this time

### What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u> and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (<u>Eagle Act</u> requirements may apply). To see a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the <u>Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool</u>.

#### What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (Eagle Act requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

#### What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur. Please contact your local Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office if you have questions. NSU

# Migratory birds

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

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.

2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

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### Migratory bird information is not available at this time

### Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

<u>Nationwide Conservation Measures</u> describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. <u>Additional measures</u> or <u>permits</u> may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

### What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS <u>Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC)</u> and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

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### What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. This data is derived from a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and</u> <u>citizen science datasets</u>.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

#### How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the <u>RAIL Tool</u> and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

#### What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

- 1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
- 2. "BCC BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
- 3. "Non-BCC Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the <u>Eagle Act</u> requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

#### Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the <u>Northeast Ocean Data</u> <u>Portal</u>. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the <u>NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird</u> <u>Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf</u> project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the <u>Diving Bird Study</u> and the <u>nanotag studies</u> or contact <u>Caleb Spiegel</u> or <u>Pam Loring</u>.

#### What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to <u>obtain a permit</u> to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

#### Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there,

and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

# Facilities

### National Wildlife Refuge lands

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

There are no refuge lands at this location.

### Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

# Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

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

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

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

**NOTE:** This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

#### Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

#### Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tuberficid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

#### **Data precautions**

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.



Date: August 7, 2023

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00359 Street Address: Carretera PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4 Sec. Pajonal, Bo.Florida Adentro Municipality: Florida

#### Subject – Endangered Species Concurrence for PR-RGRW-00359 Site #2

TetraTech conducted a site specific review of endangered species 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 located at Carretera PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4 Sec. Pajonal, Bo.Florida Adentro, in the Municipality of Florida, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 079-000-002-24-001).

The proposed project is for the location and drilling of a ground water well with an adjacent pump for the irrigation for plantain cultivation and purchase and installation of an electric generator to power the pump at one of two possible locations. Potential Well Site #1 is located at coordinates 18.39319, -66.54383. Potential Well Site #2 is located at coordinates 18.39419, -66.54355. This review is for Potential Well Site #2.

Potential Well Site #2 measures 20-foot by 20-foot and encompasses the area of disturbance associated with the drilling of the well, and installation of the pump and generator. The parcel was previously used for livestock, and the location of Potential Well Site #2 is currently being used to grow plantains and is frequently disturbed.

Surrounding landscape includes relatively flat pastureland and garden plots within the center of the parcel, with forest surrounding the outer circle of the parcel but is not located within the area of Potential Well Site #2 (Figure 1a, 1b). No trees are located within Potential Well Site #2 and therefore is not sufficient habitat for nesting birds, nor arboreal snakes. Trees will not be removed during this project.

The National Wetlands Inventory indicated that no wetlands are located within the parcel, nor Potential Well Site #2 (Figure 14).

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

Species	Status
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (Buteo platypterus brunnescens)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot (Amazona vittata)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)	Endangered
Cordia bellonis	Endangered



Palo De Ramon (Banara vanderbiltii) Endangered
--

Potential Well Site #2 is not suitable for the listed endangered plants, as these areas are frequently disturbed and already in use as plantain gardens.

No Critical Habitats were noted within the project area (Figure 10). Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, we have made the following effects determinations:

Species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures to be implemented (if needed)
Puerto Rican Broad- winged Hawk (Buteo platypterus brunnescens)	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Parrot (Amazona vittata)	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Boa (Chilabothrus inornatus)	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Cordia bellonis	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Palo De Ramon (Banara vanderbiltii)	No Effect	No Conservation Measures

Attached to this letter, are the supplemental documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species.

#### Attachments:

Site Photos IPaC Resource List

Shelby McDowell

B.S. Biologist, TetraTech







Back of Structure





Photo Direction: Northeast

Photo Direction: Southwest

Side #2 of Structure





Streetscape #1





Photo Direction: Northeast

Address





Structural Details

#### Photo Description: Architectural details

#### Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

#### Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North





Structural Details

# Photo Description: Architectural details Photo Direction: Northeast Structural Details Photo Description: Architectural details Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

#### Photo Description: Architectural details

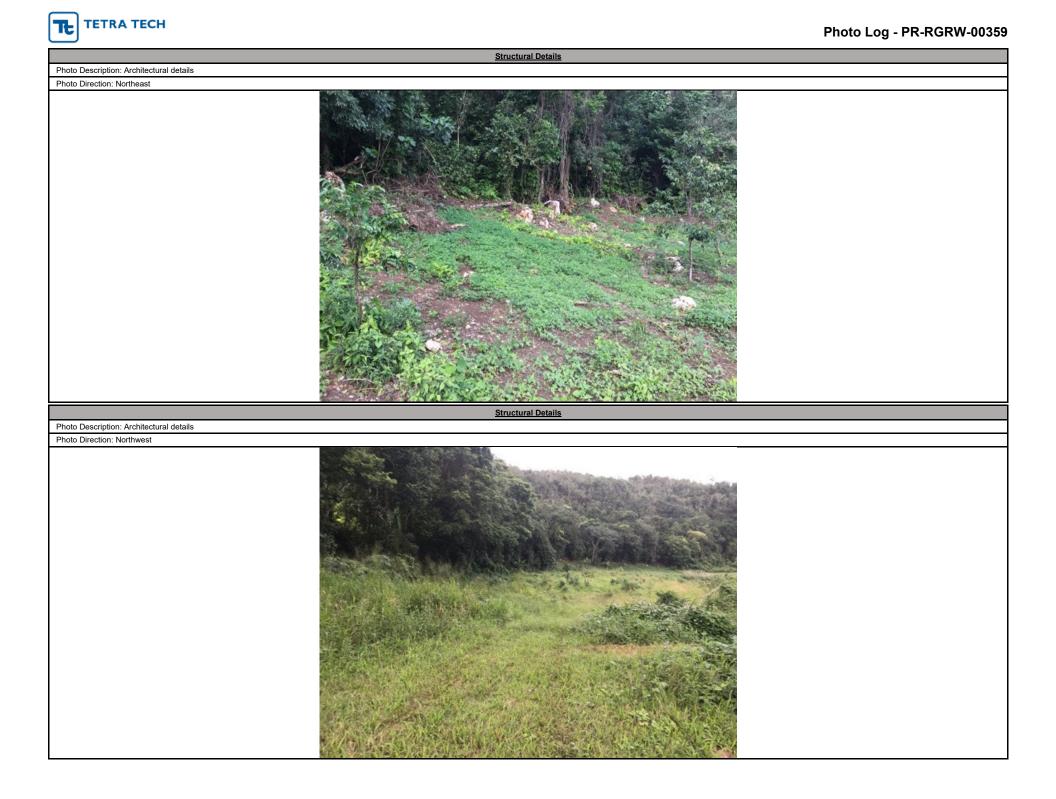
#### Photo Direction: North



Photo Direction: Northeast

Photo Description: Architectural details









Structure Occupied

#### Photo Description: Platains plantation

#### Photo Direction: North



Structure Occupied

#### Photo Description: Scope of work area 1

Photo Direction: South





Structure Occupied

#### Photo Description: Scope of work area 1

Photo Direction: Southwest

Photo Direction: Southeast





# IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

### Location

Florida County, Puerto Rico



### Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

**\$** (787) 834-1600

- (787) 851-7440
- ✓ <u>CARIBBEAN ES@FWS.GOV</u>

NOTFORCONSULTATIO

MAILING ADDRESS Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

PHYSICAL ADDRESS Office Park I State Road #2 Km 156.5, Suite 303} Mayaguez, PR 00680

https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/location/SAR6YP6QGFCTHLEFXASINGHB6M/resources

# Endangered species

# This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

- 1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
- 2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
- 3. Log in (if directed to do so).
- 4. Provide a name and description for your project.
- 5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the <u>Ecological Services Program</u> of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact <u>NOAA Fisheries</u> for <u>species under their jurisdiction</u>.

1. Species listed under the <u>Endangered Species Act</u> are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the <u>listing status page</u> for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ). 2. 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.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Birds	
NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk Buteo platypterus brunnescens Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot Amazona vittata Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067</u>	Endangered
Reptiles	
NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa Chilabothrus inornatus Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628</u>	Endangered
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### **Critical habitats**

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

# Bald & Golden Eagles

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- 3. "Non-BCC Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the <u>Eagle Act</u> requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

#### Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the <u>Northeast Ocean Data</u> <u>Portal</u>. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the <u>NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird</u> <u>Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf</u> project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the <u>Diving Bird Study</u> and the <u>nanotag studies</u> or contact <u>Caleb Spiegel</u> or <u>Pam Loring</u>.

#### What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to <u>obtain a permit</u> to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

#### Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there,

and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

# Facilities

### National Wildlife Refuge lands

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

There are no refuge lands at this location.

### Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

# Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

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

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

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

**NOTE:** This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

#### Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

#### Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tuberficid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

#### **Data precautions**

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

# Appendix E



# GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

February 2, 2023

# Lauren Bair Poche

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

SHPO: 01-04-23-08 PUERTO RICO DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR RE-GROW PR URBAN-RURAL AGRICULTURAL RE-GROW PROGRAM, PR-RGRW-00359, ANIBAL SEOANE D/B/A., PR-667 KM 1.4, SECTOR PAJONAL, BO. FLORIDA ADENTRO, FLORIDA, PUERTO RICO

Dear Ms. Poche,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

any antubi

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



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



January 5, 2023

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela Director Ejecutivo Oficina Estatal de Conservación Histórica 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-00359 – Anibal Seoane D/B/A – Carr. PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4, Sector Pajonal, Bo. Florida Adentro, Florida, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected* 

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800, HORNE is providing information for your review and requesting your concurrence regarding the above-referenced projects on behalf of the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) and the Home Repair, Reconstruction, or Relocation (R3) Program. On February 9, 2018, an allocation of Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds 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, we are submitting documentation for activities proposed by Anibal Seoane D/B/A in Bo. Florida Adentro at Carr. PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4, Sector Pajonal in the municipality of Florida. This undertaking will involve the drilling of a well for extracting ground water for irrigation purposes; the well will be approximately 500' feet deep with an electric generator power pump. Based on the submitted documentation prepared by SOI-qualified Archaeologist Jesus E. Vega, Ph.D., the Program requests a concurrence that a determination of No Historic Properties Affected is appropriate for this proposed project.

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

Kindest regards,

fauen D. Yoche

Lauren Bair Poche, M.A. Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Senior Manager Enclosures



Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359

City: Florida

Project Location: Carr. PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4 Sec. Pajonal, Bo. Florida Adentro, Florida, PR			
Project Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938			
<b>TPID</b> (Número de Catastro): 079-000-002-24-001			
Type of Undertaking:			
🗆 Substantial Repair			
☑ New Construction			
Construction Date (AH est.): c2005	Property Size (acres): 19.17		

SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian: n/a
Date Reviewed: n/a
SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jesus E. Vega, Ph.D.
Date Reviewed: January 3, 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 activity at the farm of Aníbal Seoane is the drilling of a well for extracting ground water, for the irrigation for plantain cultivation, in compliance with Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination. This activity will require ground disturbance. The applicant intends to contact a drilling company to evaluate the area and obtain the permits. The well is approximately 500' feet depth with an electric generator power pump. The property is located at Carr. PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4 Sec. Pajonal, Bo. Florida Adentro in the Municipality of Florida. This land was previously used for growing livestock, and is currently used for plantain cultivation. After the evaluation and permits approval of the work performed by the drilling company, the water pump will be used with a power generator.

### 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 includes two possible areas for locating the well, depending on the final evaluation of the drill company. The scope of work of Area 1 is approximately 20' x 20' at

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	GOVERNMENT OF PUEKTO RICO	
Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A	,	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359	City: Florida	

coordinates 18.39319, -66.54383. This is the first recommended drill area under evaluation by the drilling company. The scope of work of Area 2 is approximately 20' x 20' at coordinates 18.39419, -66.54355. This is the second area recommended for drilling under evaluation by the drilling company. The direct APE includes a 15-meter buffer to all sides of both areas. The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

### Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that there are no reported archaeological sites and/or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties within a half-mile radius of the property. "No data" in Table 1 denotes no corresponding Institute of Puerto Rican Culture (IPRC), State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), or National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) identification was found. The proposed project is located in rural, irregular terrain, on soil classified as Espinosa clay (EcC), with 5 to 12 percent slopes, surrounded by secondary forest vegetation cover, 135 meters above mean sea level. The north coast is approximately 6.33 miles northeast of the property. The closest fresh-water bodies are Quebrada Cimarrona, 1.65 miles northwest, and Río Grande de Manatí, 2.97 miles northeast of the property. A Phase 1A-1B archaeological study by Daubón Vidal (1996), within a half-mile radius of the APE, does not report any sites at or adjacent to the APE.

# Table 1. Archaeological Sites and/or NRHP Listed/Eligible Historic Properties Within a Half-Mile Radius of Project Area

Name	SHPO ID	IPRC ID	Location	Description	NRHP
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data

### Table 2. Cultural Resource Studies Conducted Within a Half-Mile Radius of Project Area

Author	Title	Year	SHPO/IPRC ID	Results	Location
Antonio	Phase 1A-1B, Sistema	1996	CAT-FL-96-02-04	Negative	0.00 mi
Daubón Vidal	Sanitario Comunidad				
	Pajonal, Carr. PR-140, Km				
	56.2				

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A	,
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359	City: Florida

## Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, there are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project area. There are no known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties within or adjacent to where the direct Area of Potential Effect (APE) of case PR-RGRW-000359 is located. The proposed project area is not within the boundaries or visual APE of any NRHP listed/eligible historic properties, or to a Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. The surrounding terrain has been terraced and superficially impacted by the construction of agricultural infrastructure. There are no archaeological studies within a half-mile radius. Therefore, the Program has determined that project actions described in the undertaking will not impact any cultural properties.

Puerto Rico 2017 Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR Program	
REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359	City: Florida

#### 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):

 $\boxtimes$  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:

□ **Concurs** with the information provided.

Does not concur with the information provided.

Comments:

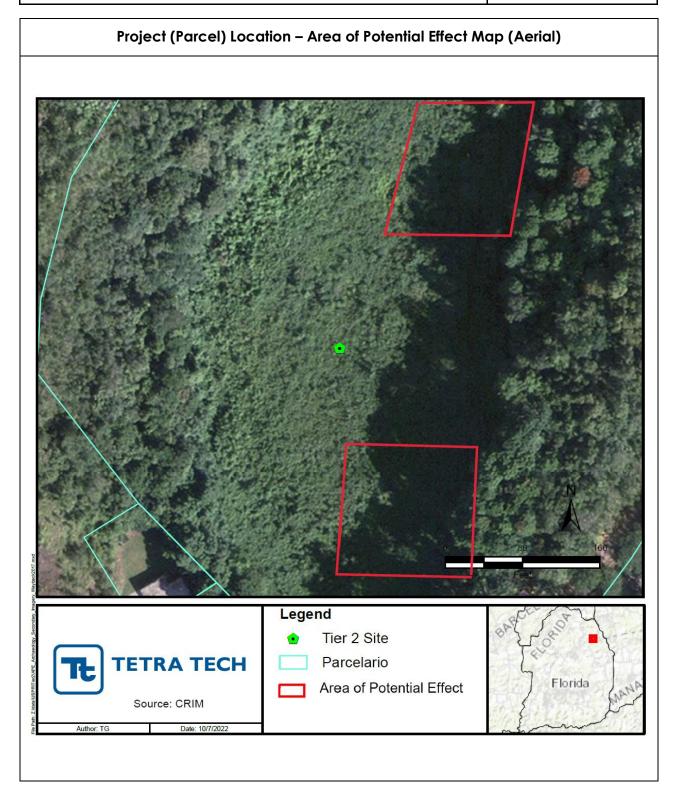
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation Officer

Date:



Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A

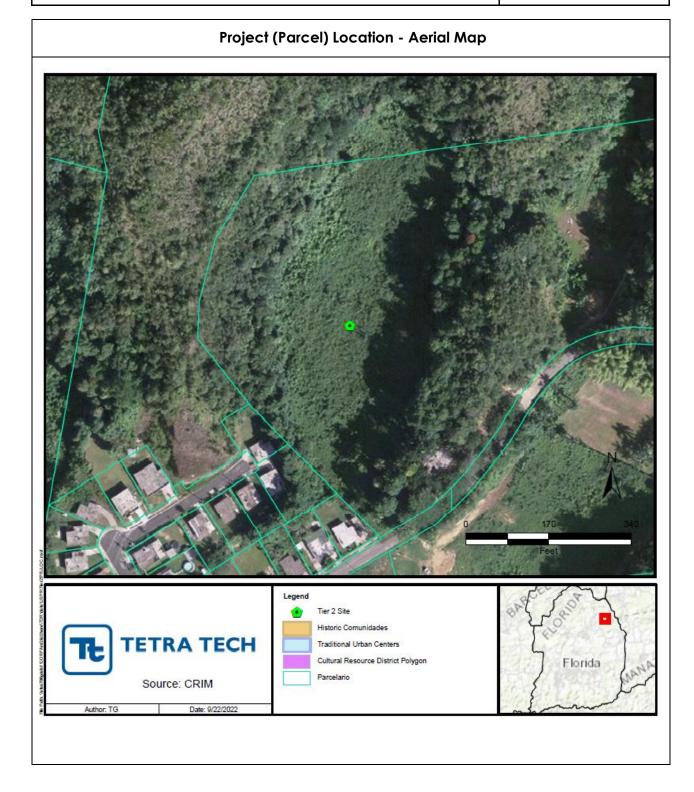
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359





Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A

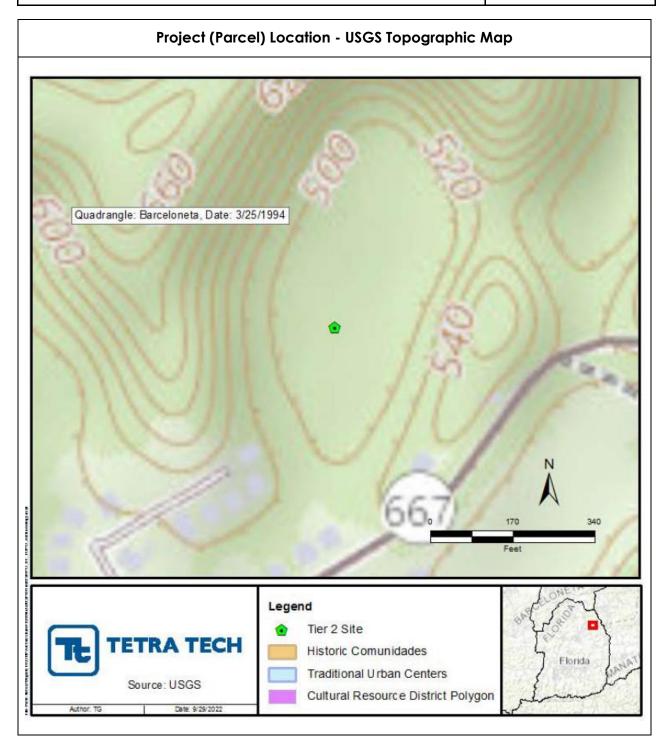
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359





Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A

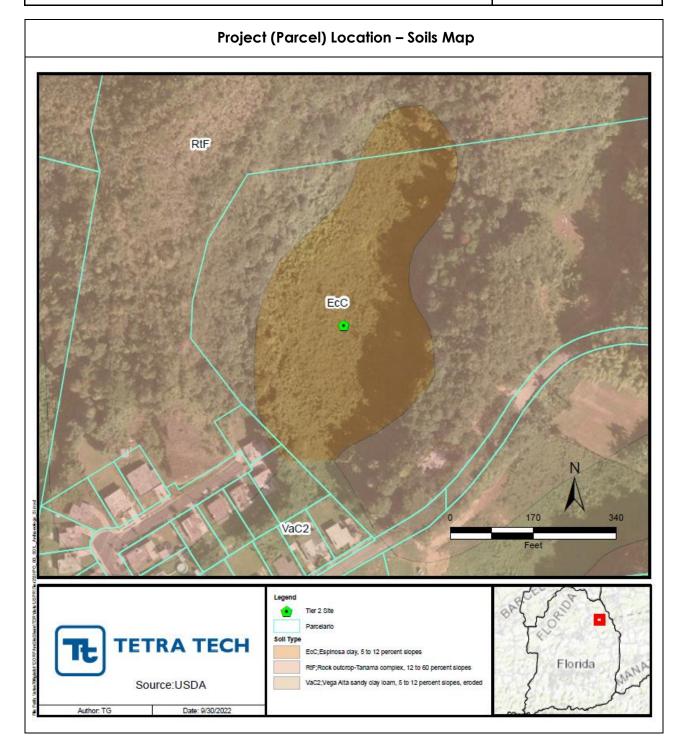
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359





Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A

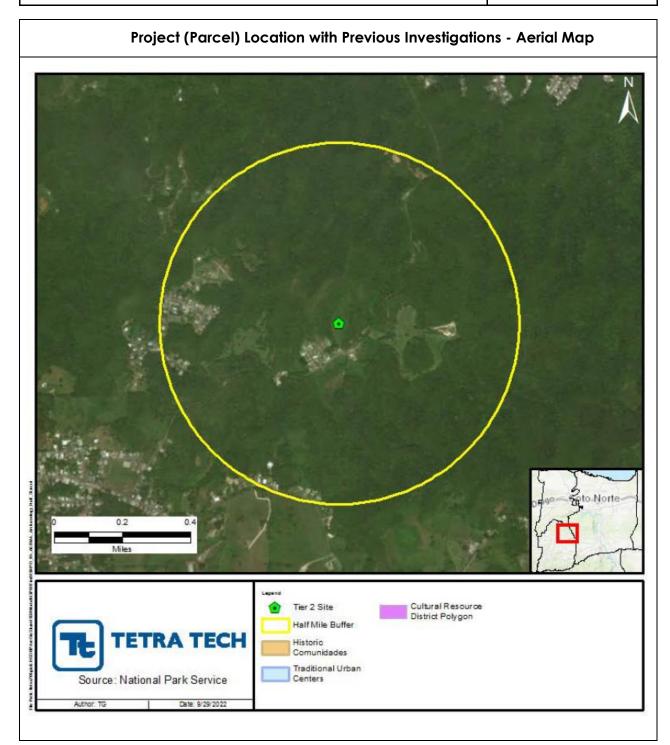
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359





Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359



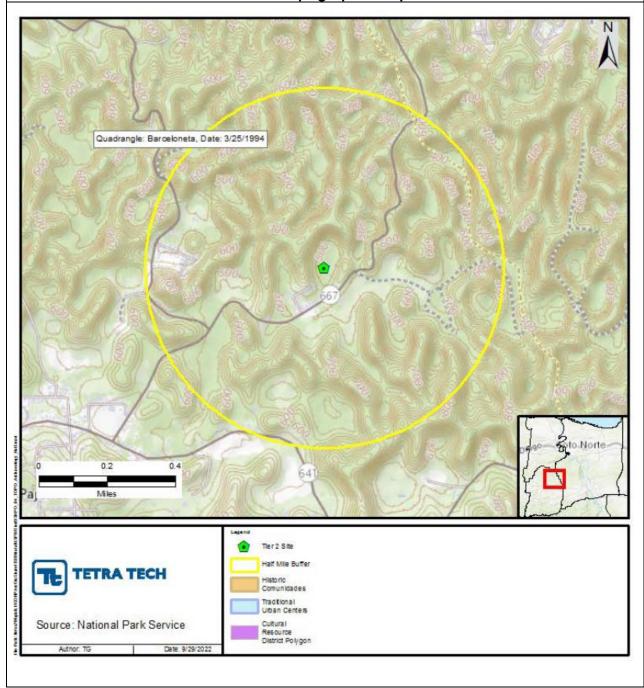


Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359

City: Florida

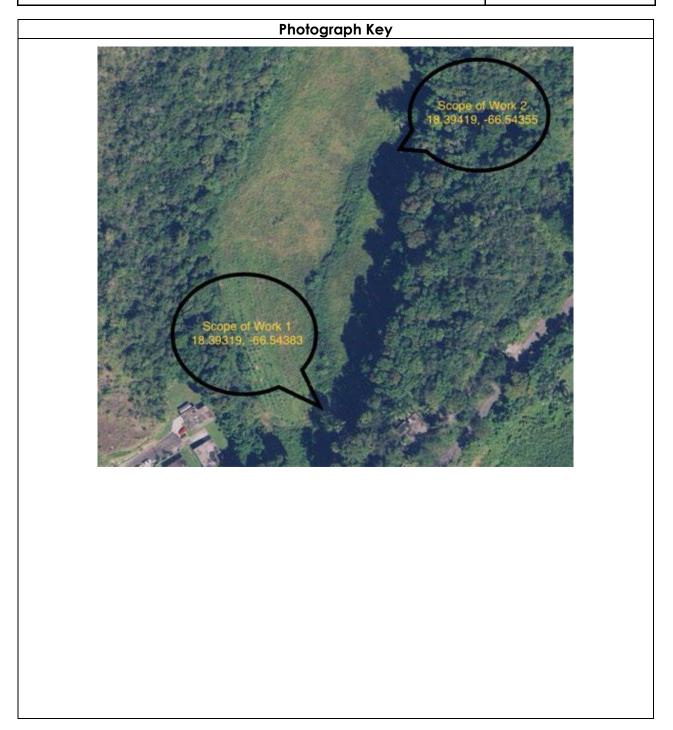
### Project (Parcel) Location with Previously Recorded Cultural Resources USGS Topographic Map





Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359



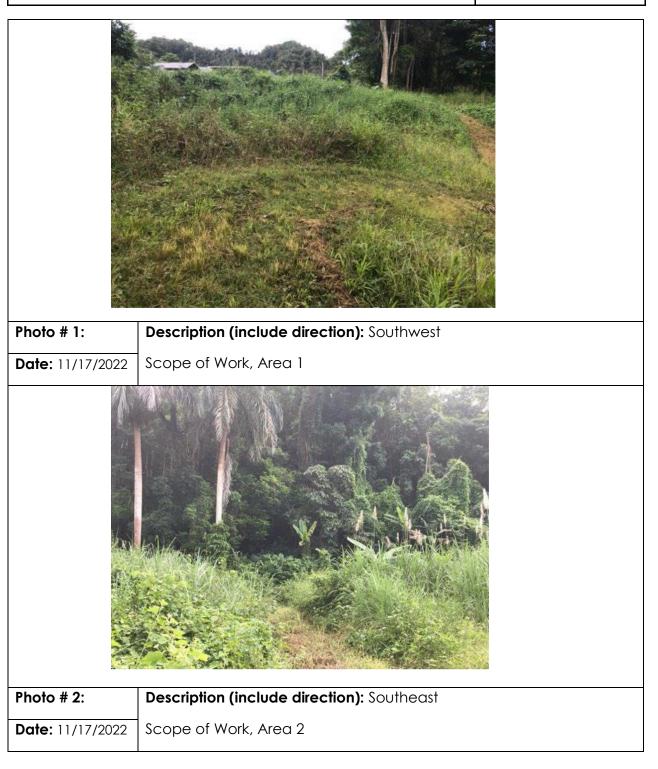




City: Florida

Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359







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.

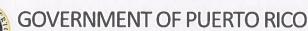
To comply with the environmental requirements established by HUD, the Department of Housing of Puerto Rico (PRDOH) contracted Horne Federal LLC to provide environmental registry review services, among others, that will support the objectives of the agenda for both CDBG-DR and CDBG -MIT Programs.

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

CDBG-DR FUNDS I HOUSING



STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

May 22, 2023

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

SHPO: 01-04-23-08 PUERTO RICO DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR RE-GROW PR URBAN-RURAL AGRICULTURAL RE-GROW PROGRAM, PR-RGRW-00359, ANIBAL SEOANE D/B/A., PR-667 KM 1.4, SECTOR PAJONAL, BO. FLORIDA ADENTRO, FLORIDA, PUERTO RICO

Dear Ms. Poche,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

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Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/LGC



OFICINA ESTATAL DE CONSERVACIÓN HISTÓRICA OFICINA DEL GOBERNADOR

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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



April 20, 2023

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela Director Ejecutivo Oficina Estatal de Conservación Histórica 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-00359 (SHPO ID: 01-04-23-08) – Anibal Seoane D/B/A – Carr. PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4, Sector Pajonal, Bo. Florida Adentro, Florida, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected* 

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800, HORNE is providing information for your review and requesting your concurrence regarding the above-referenced projects on behalf of the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) and the Home Repair, Reconstruction, or Relocation (R3) Program. On February 9, 2018, an allocation of Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds 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, we are submitting documentation for additional activities proposed by Anibal Seoane D/B/A in Bo. Florida Adentro at Carr. PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4, Sector Pajonal in the municipality of Florida. The original proposed activity at the farm of Aníbal Seoane is the drilling of a well for extracting ground water, for the irrigation for plantain cultivation. SHPO consultation for this activity was initiated on January 4, 2023, with a PRSHPO concurrence with the finding of no historic properties affected received in a letter dated February 2, 2023.

The well is approximately 500' feet depth with an electric generator power pump. This land was previously used for growing livestock and is currently used for plantain cultivation. After the evaluation and permits approval of the work performed by the drilling company, a water pump powered by an electric generator will be required to extract water from the well, as there is no current power source available at the proposed well location.

Consultation is being reinitiated due to the installation of an 8' x 8' concrete pad foundation to be constructed adjacent to the proposed well location to support the well pump, generator, and diesel fuel tank. Based on the submitted documentation, the Program requests a concurrence that a determination of No Historic Properties Affected is appropriate for this proposed project.

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



Kindest regards,

Januan B. Pocke

Lauren Bair Poche, M.A. Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Senior Manager

Attachments



Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A

Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359 (SHPO ID: Digital, 2/2/2023)

City: Florida

Project Location: Carr. PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4 Set	c. Pajonal, Bo. Florida Adentro
Project Coordinates: 18.393896, -66.543938	
<b>TPID</b> (Número de Catastro): 079-000-002-24-001	
Type of Undertaking:	
🗆 Substantial Repair	
☑ New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): c2005	Property Size (acres): 19.17

SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian:
Date Reviewed:
SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jesus E. Vega, Ph.D./ Roberto G. Munoz Pando, MA
Date Reviewed: January 3, 2023/ REVISED March 23, 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 original proposed activity at the farm of Aníbal Seoane is the drilling of a well for extracting ground water, for the irrigation for plantain cultivation, in compliance with Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination. SHPO consultation for this activity was initiated in January 2023, with a PRSHPO concurrence with the finding of no historic properties affected received in a letter dated February 02, 2023.

The property is a 19.17-acre site located at 18.393896, -66.543938. The well is approximately 500' feet depth with an electric generator power pump. The property is located at Carr. PR-667 Km 1 Hc 4 Sec. Pajonal, Bo. Florida Adentro in the Municipality of Florida. This land was previously used for growing livestock and is currently used for plantain cultivation. After the evaluation and permits approval of the work performed by the drilling company, a water pump powered by an electric generator will be required to extract water from the well, as there is no current power source available at the proposed well location.

Consultation is being reinitiated due to the installation of an 8' x 8' concrete pad foundation to be constructed adjacent to the proposed well location to support the well pump, generator, and diesel fuel tank. The revised proposed use of grant funds is for the location and drilling of a ground water well with an adjacent pump for the irrigation for plantain cultivation and purchase and installation of an electric generator to power the pump. Once the location is selected from the two options, the well would be installed with the pump and generator placed adjacent to the pump so no new utility lines or interconnections would be needed. A new 8' x 8' concrete pad would be constructed next

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359 (SHPO ID: Digital, 2/2/2023)	City: Florida

to the well for the foundation of the pump and generator. The generator would use diesel fuel from a tank also to be installed on the concrete pad.

# 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 includes two possible areas for locating the well and concrete pad to support the well pump, generator, and diesel tank. The final well location will be determined based on the final evaluation of the drill company. The scope of work of Area 1 is approximately 20' x 20' at coordinates 18.39319, -66.54383. This is the first recommended drill area under evaluation by the drilling company. The scope of work of Area 2 is approximately 20' x 20' at coordinates 18.39419, -66.54355. This is the second area recommended for drilling under evaluation by the drilling company. While the proposed 8' x 8' concrete pad is anticipated to be located within the 20' x 20' proposed work areas, the direct APE includes a 15-meter buffer to all sides of each area to allow for variation in the final well placement. The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

# Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that there are no reported archaeological sites and/or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties within a half-mile radius of the property. "No data" in Table 1 denotes no corresponding Institute of Puerto Rican Culture (IPRC), State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), or National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) identification was found. The proposed project is in rural, irregular terrain, on soil classified as Espinosa clay (EcC), with 5 to 12 percent slopes, surrounded by secondary forest vegetation cover, 135 meters above mean sea level. The north coast is approximately 6.33 miles northeast of the property. The closest fresh-water bodies are Quebrada Cimarrona, 1.65 miles northwest, and Río Grande de Manatí, 2.97 miles northeast of the property. A Phase 1A-1B archaeological study by Daubón Vidal (1996), within a half-mile radius of the APE, does not report any sites at or adjacent to the APE.

# Table 1. Archaeological Sites and/or NRHP Listed/Eligible Historic Properties Within a Half Mile Radius of Project Area

Name	SHPO ID	IPRC ID	Location	Description	NRHP
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data



Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359 (SHPO ID: Digital, 2/2/2023)

City: Florida

# Table 2. Cultural Resource Studies Conducted Within a Half-Mile Radius of Project Area

Author	Title	Year	SHPO/IPRC ID	Results	Location
Antonio	Phase 1A-1B, Sistema	1996	CAT-FL-96-02-04	Negative	0.00 mi
Daubón Vidal	Sanitario Comunidad				
	Pajonal, Carr. PR-140, Km				
	56.2				

# Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, there are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project area. There are no known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties within or adjacent to where the direct Area of Potential Effect (APE) of case PR-RGRW-000359 is located. The proposed project area is not within the boundaries or visual APE of any NRHP listed/eligible historic properties, or to a Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. The surrounding terrain has been terraced and superficially impacted by construction of agricultural infrastructure. There are no archaeological studies within a half-mile radius. Therefore, the Program has determined that project actions described in the undertaking will not impact any cultural properties.

 PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

 ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM

 Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

 Subrecipient: Anibal Secane D/B/A

 Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359 (SHPO ID: Digital, 2/2/2023)

 City: Florida

#### 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:

□ **Concurs** with the information provided.

**Does not concur** with the information provided.

Comments:

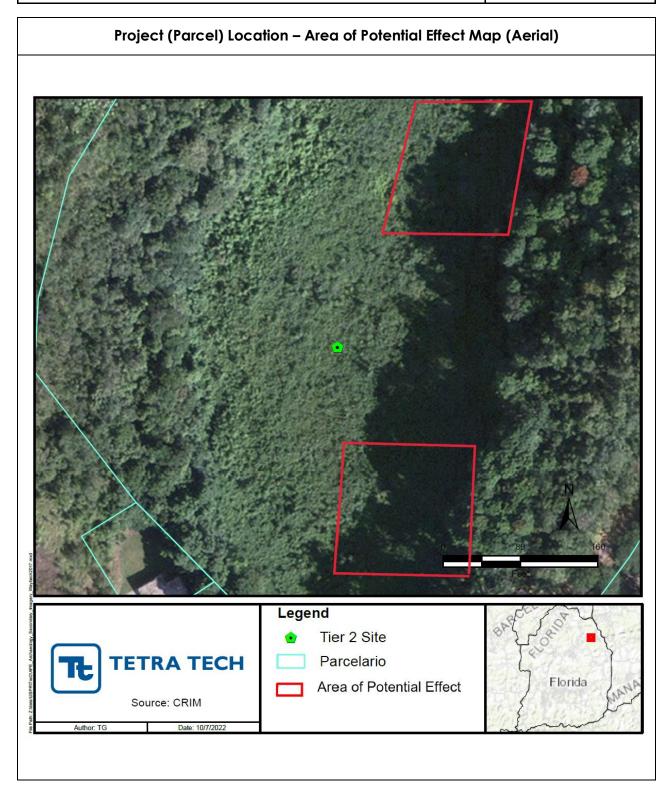
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation Officer

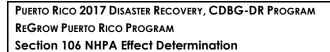
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Subrecipient: Anibal Seoane D/B/A

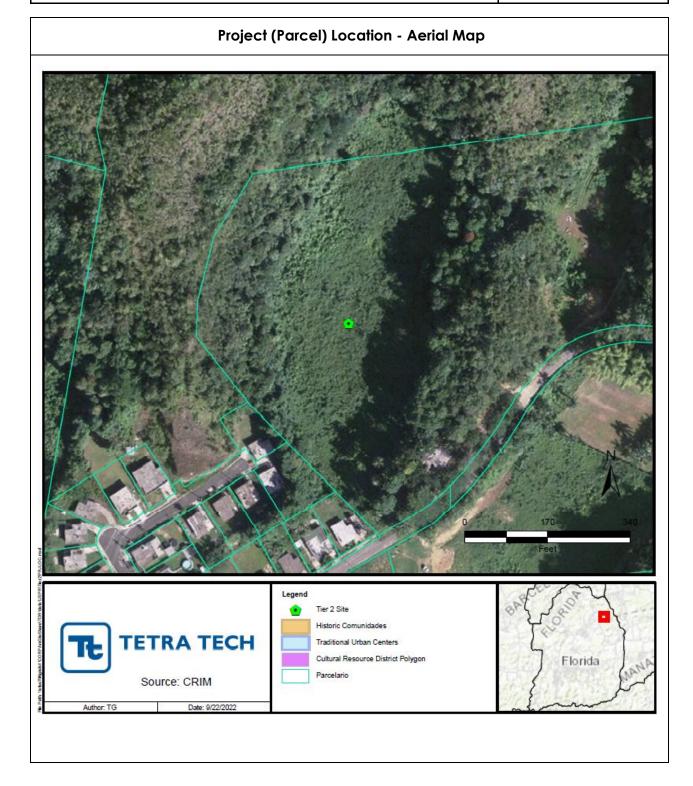
Case ID: PR-RGRW-00359 (SHPO ID: Digital, 2/2/2023)

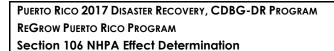






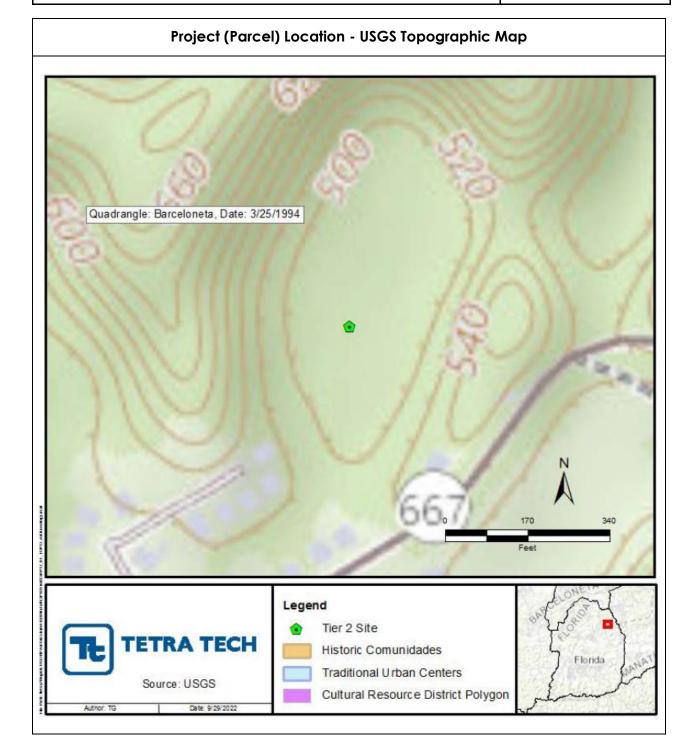
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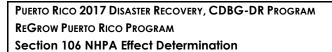






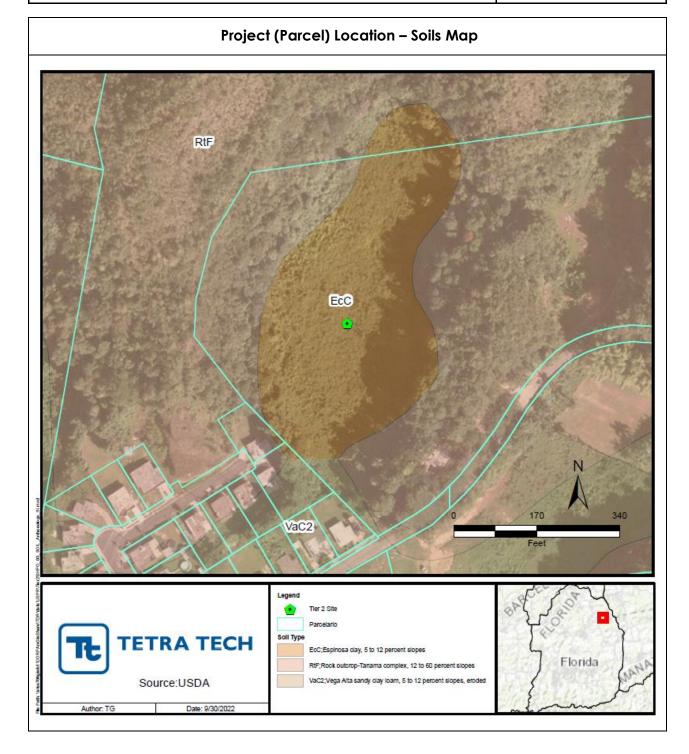
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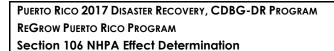






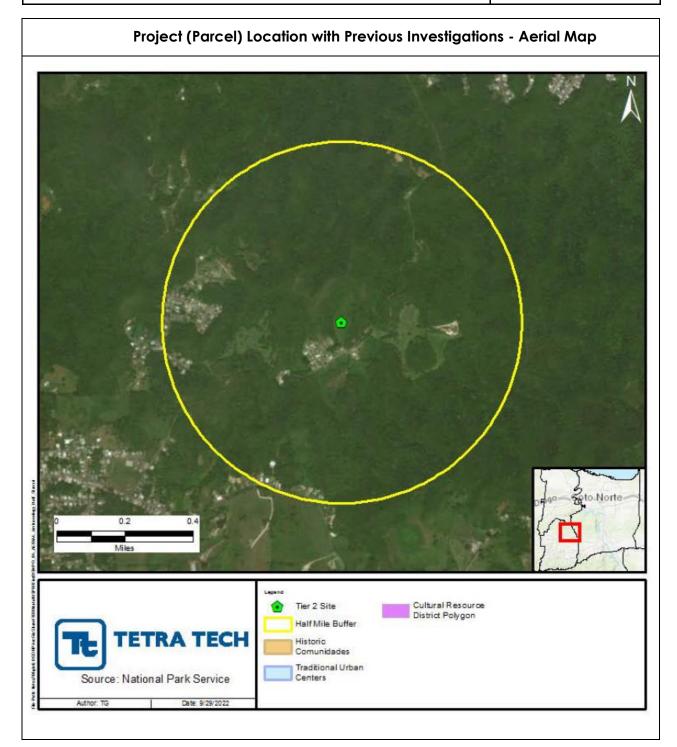
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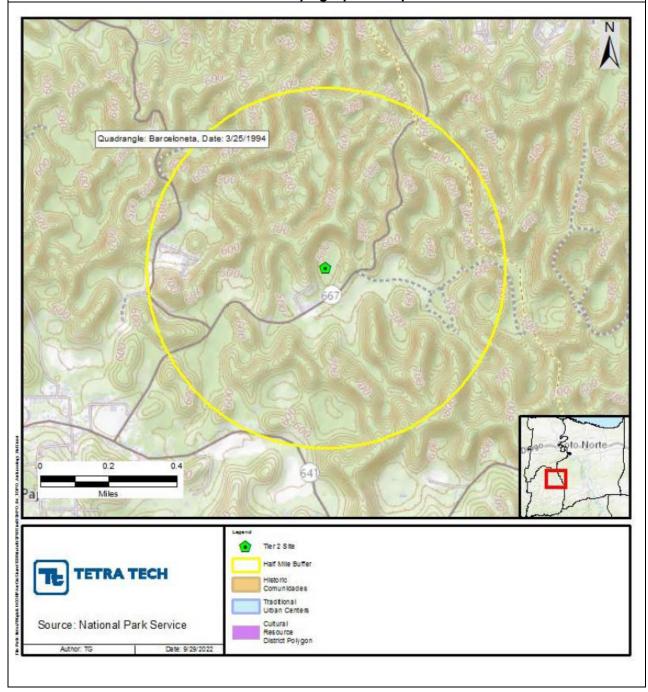


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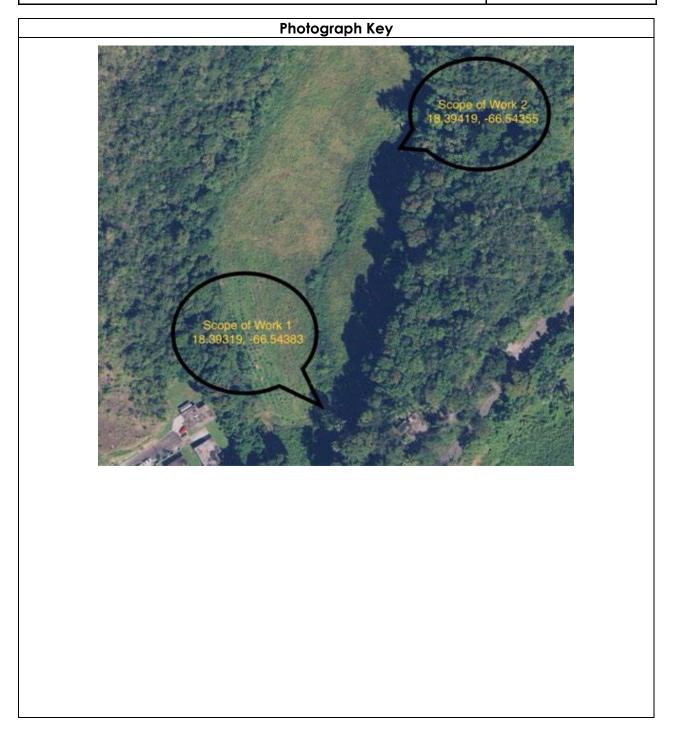
#### Project (Parcel) Location with Previously Recorded Cultural Resources USGS Topographic Map





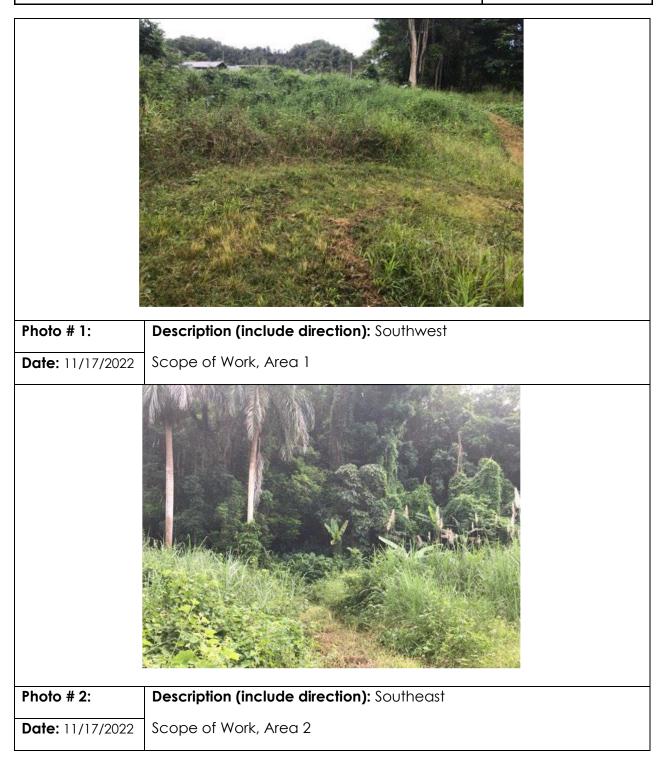
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October 20, 2022

# 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

CDBG-DR FUNDS I HOUSING