

# **Environmental Assessment**

## **Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects**

### **24 CFR Part 58**

#### **Project Information**

**Project ID:** PR-RGRW-02233

**Project Name:** Pala y Pico Inc.

**Responsible Entity:** Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

**State/Local Identifier:** Puerto Rico/Mayagüez, PR

**Preparer:** Shelby McDowell, revised by Gabriela Rodríguez

**Certifying Officer Name and Title:** Permit and Compliance Officers: Sally Acevedo Cosme, Pedro De León Rodríguez, María T. Torres Bregón, Ángel G. López-Guzmán, Ivelisse Lorenzo Torres, Santa Damarys Ramírez Lebrón, Janette I. Cambrelén, Limary Vélez-Marrero, Javier Mercado Barrera, Abdul Feliciano Plaza, Priscilla Toro Rivera, Juan Carlos Perez Bofill, and Mónica Machuca Ríos.

**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 7.78-acre site located at Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector) in the Municipality of Mayagüez, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 261-000-001-21-000). The coordinates of the project site are 18.179582, -67.059794.

The land has been used for agricultural purposes in the past with the planting of coffee and bananas, currently for the growing of avocado and guanabanas.

The intent use of funds for the proposed project includes the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two water tanks. Within the farm equipment the applicant plans to buy some shovels, pick mattock, shear, sprayers, power pole and multi-material saws, trimmer, cutters, well jet pump, pruner, hoe, grinder, chainsaws and replacement or batteries needed for the operation of the new equipment.

The Scope of work 1 (SOW-1) is the purchase and installation of a greenhouse at coordinates 18.179957, -67.059168. The proposed greenhouse is an 18-foot (ft) x 30 ft metal structure with Saran and plastic cover. Structure post consists of 2 inched diameter pillars with 1.5 inches arcs to be anchored to the ground at an approximate depth of 3 ft. Lateral and central pillar spacing varies depending on the greenhouse size. In average, lateral pillar spacing is 8 ft and central pillar spacing is 15 ft. The proposed greenhouse will require at least 10 posts. The greenhouse will be installed on bare soil, no ground cover or concrete pad is included as part of the SOW. The greenhouse will be supplied with rainwater harvested and stored in proposed water tanks, delivered through an aboveground PVC pipeline system.

The Scope of work 2 (SOW-2) is the purchase and installation of two water tanks, 1,000 gallon each, at coordinates 18.179838, -67.059101. The tanks are part of a rain harvesting system to collect water from the greenhouse with an aboveground PVC piping system. No concrete pad is proposed as part of the SOW-2.

The Scope of work 3 (SOW-3) is the purchase and planting of fruit (avocado and guanabana) trees at coordinates 18.179582, -67.059794. The mini excavator is planned to be used for the clearing and maintenance of internal paths and access to operational areas of the farm. All new equipment is planned to be stored near the greenhouse location area ta coordinates 18.179957, -67.059168.

No water (PRASA) or power connection (PREPA/LUMA) is needed as part of the proposed SOWs. The potential impacts from the proposed actions are included in the analyses below and it is contained within the delimited Area of Potential Effect (APE). The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project. The APE for the proposed construction project is approximately 0.54 acres.

The project site will require clearing, grading, vegetation and/or underbrush removal, cutting of some tree branches and/or shrubs, and trees removal.

Site photos are included in **Appendix A**. A site map (Figure 1) is included in **Appendix B**.

**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 purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two water tanks is 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 the greenhouse, two water tanks, and planting of avocado and guanabana trees is used for agricultural purposes. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with the project. Some ground disturbance will be required. Project site will require clearing, grading, vegetation and/or underbrush removal, cutting of some tree branches and/or shrubs, and trees removal.

The proposed project is located in a rural, sloped terrain with dense vegetation surrounding the property that lies west of Camino La Margarita in Mayaguez.

**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**

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

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$45,476.71

**Estimated Total Project Cost** (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$45,476.71

**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
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6</b>		
<b>Airport Hazards</b>  24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. The nearest civil airport, “Aeropuerto Eugenio María de Hostos”, is approximately 39,958 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport, “Aeropuerto Internacional Luis Muñoz Marín”, is approximately 374,035 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>
<b>Coastal Barrier Resources</b>  Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Puerto Rico has various Coastal Barrier Resources Systems (CBRS). The project is in western Puerto Rico. The distance to the nearest CBRS unit is 38,915 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>
<b>Flood Insurance</b>  Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Project site is located in Zone X, area of minimal flood hazard, as per Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) 72000C1020H, effective date April 19, 2005. This project is in compliance with Flood Insurance requirements. (See Figures 4 and 5 in <b>Appendix B.</b> )



**STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5**

<p><b>Clean Air</b></p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) &amp; (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Project site is located in the Municipio of Mayagüez. The Project site is not located in a county or air quality management district that is in non-attainment status for any criteria pollutants. The list of Municipios located with non-attainment status includes Arecibo, Bayamon, Catano, Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan and Toa Baja. The Municipio of Mayagüez is not listed in the EPA Green Book “Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for all Criteria Pollutants”. The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. Project would have no impact on air quality. The project is in compliance with Clean Air Act. Refer to EPA listing in <b>Appendix C</b>.</p>
<p><b>Coastal Zone Management</b></p> <p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) &amp; (d)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located 29,899 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the PR Coastal Zone Management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See Figure 7 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b></p> <p>24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>A site visit conducted on January 3, 2024, no debris or rubbish or visible signs vegetative stress, contamination, or toxic substances were identified at the project site. The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks.</p> <p>Site contamination was evaluated through online data searches to determine if toxic sites are located within 3,000-feet of the proposed project.</p> <p>There are no sites of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet of the project site. The land has been used for agricultural purposes</p>

		<p>in the past with the planting of coffee and bananas.</p> <p>Refer to Figures 8 and 9 in <b>Appendix B</b> and the Site inspection report and photos in <b>Appendix A</b>. The project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances.</p>
<p><b>Endangered Species</b></p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. The proposed location of project is an area that has been used for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>According to EPA NEPAassist Enviromapper, the nearest critical or proposed critical habitat is 2,448 feet to the south-southeast of the project location. The Official Species List from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website lists the Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Boa, and the following plants: Cordia bellonis, Generia pauciflora, and Crescentia portoricensis as being able to be found in the area, but there are no critical habitats for them at this location.</p> <p>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.) (See <b>Appendix D</b>).</p> <p>The project “May affect, but not likely to adversely affect (NLAA)” the Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Parrot, Puerto Rican Boa, and the following plants: Cordia bellonis, Generia pauciflora, and Crescentia portoricensis, provided conservation measures are implemented as part of the project.</p> <p>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</p>

animal, in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures.

If a Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #s: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124).

If a Puerto Rican Parrot is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #s: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124).

As for the plant species (*Cordia bellonis*, *Generia pauciflora*, and *Crescentia portoricensis*), the USFWS recommends PRDOH that before initiating any work within the range of listed plant species and in areas with suitable habitat, the applicant must conduct plant surveys. In the event that listed species are discovered at the project site, the Service must be notified. The Applicant must develop conservation measures to minimize or avoid impacts on those species and share those measures with the Service for evaluation and approval. If no listed plants are found during surveys, no further action is required. However, if a listed plant species is found while the project is being conducted, project personnel shall stop work, and the Service should be contacted for further technical assistance. Service's point of contacts: José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Program Coordinator, Mobile: 305-304-1386, Office: 786-244-0081, jose\_cruz-burgos@fws.gov. Omar Monsegur, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Mobile: (305) 304-0292, omar\_monsegur@fws.gov.

		Refer to Figures 10 and 11 in <b>Appendix B</b> and the Endangered Species Package in <b>Appendix D</b> . This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.
<p><b>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</b></p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks.</p> <p>The project does not include development, construction, or rehabilitation of a hazardous site or any construction that will increase residential density.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable Hazard requirements.</p> <p>Refer to site visit report in <b>Appendix A</b>.</p>
<p><b>Farmlands Protection</b></p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. The project site mostly is not designated as farmland of statewide importance or prime farmland. A small section at the northwest portion of the parcel, where the avocado and guayaba will be planted is designated as Farmland of Statewide Importance. The project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to nonagricultural use. Although the project includes new construction, the project is exempt from review under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FFPA) as the project is limited to construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations. No further review is required.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. Refer to Figure 12 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Floodplain Management</b></p> <p>Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks.</p>

<p>Order 13690, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>		<p>The proposed project is not located in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain. FFRMS was determine using the 0.2-Percent-Annual-Chance (PAC) (500- Year) Flood Approach.</p> <p>The Project site is not located in an Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) Map special flood hazard area as per ABFE Map 72000C1020H, effective date April 13, 2018. Since the project site does not lies within the 1 percent (100-year), nor within the 0.2 PAC floodplain on the ABFE, it is not within the FFRMS.</p> <p>PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canóvanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Mayaguez; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988 and Order 13690. See Figure 6 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Historic Preservation</b></p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site was evaluated on February 14, 2024, by an SOI Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian. Additionally, the site was evaluated on February 21, 2024, by an SOI Qualified Archaeologist. SHPO concurred with a finding of <b>No Historic Properties Affected</b> within the project’s Area of Potential on Effects on March 20, 2024.</p> <p>Refer to Figure 13 in <b>Appendix B</b> and the Section 106 Consultation Package in <b>Appendix E</b>. This project is in compliance with Historic Preservation requirements.</p>
<p><b>Noise Abatement and Control</b></p> <p>Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. HUD’s noise regulations protect residential properties from excessive noise exposure. HUD noise regulations do not apply as the project does not include new construction for residential</p>

		use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The proposed project is in compliance with Noise Abatement and Control.
<p><b>Sole Source Aquifers</b></p> <p>Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The nearest Sole Source Aquifer is 5,191,883 feet to the northwest of the project site. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.</p> <p>Refer to Figure 17 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Wetlands Protection</b></p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. The west coast is 33,248.77 feet west of the property. The closest fresh-water bodies include an unnamed creek 908 ft east of parcel boundary and an unnamed creek 982 ft to the west of parcel boundary. The Rio Rosario is approximately 1,954 ft south of the project area.</p> <p>The NWI maps show no wetlands on the or 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.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. Refer to Figure 14 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Wild and Scenic Rivers</b></p> <p>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project is not within proximity of a National Wild and Scenic River (WSR). The distance to the nearest WSR is approximately 441,213 feet. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Refer to Figure 15 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>

<b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b>		
<p><b>Environmental Justice</b></p> <p>Executive Order 12898</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>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 Executive Order 12898.</p>

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

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

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

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>LAND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. The proposed project is located on a private farm. The project site is zoned as "Preservacion de Recursos (PR)". The proposed action is compliant with the current agricultural land use of the project area and will not contribute to urban sprawl.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. The proposed project is located in a rural, sloped terrain

		<p>previously used for agricultural purposes, and now used for growing avocado and guanabanas.</p> <p>Soils in the proposed project area are classified into two categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consumo clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes (CoF2), found in SOWs 1 &amp; 3, consists of very deep, moderately well-drained soils on steep slopes on summits and side slopes.</li> <li>2. Quebrada silty clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded (QuF2), found in SOW-2, consists of shallow, well-drained, moderately permeable soils on summits, shoulders, and back slopes.</li> </ol> <p>The parcel is surrounded by dense forest vegetation cover on all sides and sits 205 meters above mean sea level.</p> <p>Projects larger than 1 acre must comply with the CWA and develop a SWPPP with the NPDES. The proposed construction project area is approximately 0.54 acres.</p> <p>The project site will require clearing, grading, vegetation and/or underbrush removal, cutting of some tree branches and/or shrubs, and trees removal. Activities involving clearing, excavation or movement of more than 40 cubic meters of any component of the terrestrial cortex material and activities involving cutting, pruning, removal or transplant of trees with 4 inches diameter or more require the submittal and approval of permits by the PRDNER. The applicant is responsible for any permits or actions to ensure legalization of proposed activities.</p> <p>The project site area is rated "Very high to moderate" for landslide susceptibility. There will be no human habitation associated with the structure and therefore extensive mitigation measures will not be required, such as retaining walls or special engineering design. (see Figure 16 in <b>Appendix B</b>).</p> <p>Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction.</p> <p>There will be little to no additional runoff associated with the project.</p>
Hazards and Nuisances	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. During implementation of the project, construction</p>



including Site Safety and Noise		activities may result in temporary elevation of ambient noise levels in immediate areas around active construction areas. The only nearby receptors are the residents of the farm. There is no access to the project area by the public.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC</b>		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. Temporary employment of workers related to construction 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.</p> <p>The proposed project would not negatively impact employment or income patterns.</p>
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. 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.</p>
Environmental Justice	1	<p>In the area (one mile radius) in which project will occur.</p> <p>97% are people of color compared to PR average of 96%</p> <p>68% are low income compared to PR average of 70%</p> <p>20% are unemployed compared to PR average of 15%</p> <p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. This project will result in restoration and increase in income and potential employment opportunities in the local area. The impacts would be beneficial.</p> <p>See EJSscreen Report in <b>Appendix C</b></p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES</b>		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. 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 project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. 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	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. 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	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. Waste vegetation from clearing activities 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, structural materials, greenhouse covering fabrics) 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. Other waste components related to the operation of the proposed project includes recyclable materials such as plastics and cardboard. Recyclables will be set aside and dispose according to the local recycling management plan. The remaining municipal solid waste would be collected for the transport to the local landfill.

Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. The proposed project would not include any bathrooms, wastewater, or sewage facilities. Current farm conditions would remain unchanged.
Water Supply	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. The SOW does not involve water connections or use water from local utility provider (PRASA) for operational purposes. Greenhouse will be supplied from the rainwater harvested and stored in the proposed storage tanks via an aboveground PVC pipeline system. The proposed project does not represent an increase in current water demand.
Public Safety – Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. The proposed project would not create any new demand for emergency or health services.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. 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 project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. 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
<b>NATURAL FEATURES</b>		

Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. The proposed project will be situated on land previously used for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>The proposed project will have no impact to unique natural features or water resources.</p>
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. The proposed project will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity.</p> <p>Waste vegetation from clearing activities will either be composted on site or at regional composting centers. Soil from grading would be recycled on the farm as fill. The proposed project will have minimal impact on vegetation and wildlife.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>CLIMATE AND ENERGY</b>		
Climate Change Impacts	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. The project area is rural and does not have urban heat island effects. There would be no changes to the site configuration or structure that would specifically address the possibility and uncertainty of rising sea levels or the possibility of increases in rainfall intensity. Proposal includes a 2,000 gallons water storage capacity. Water will be used on an "as needed" basis to minimize the possible impact of drought. However, due to the location of project in an area of a mature secondary wet forest, drought is not expected. This is a small agricultural project with no measurable impact on climate change factors.</p>

Energy Efficiency/Energy Consumption	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks.</p> <p>The proposed project is an agricultural project that does not involve energy use. The project would not be connected to the local electricity provider (PREPA/LUMA).</p> <p>There would be no change in energy demand in the area.</p>
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**Additional Studies Performed:** None required.

**Field Inspection** (Date and completed by):

Site inspection was conducted on January 3, 2024 by Javier Ramos.

**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/npas/reports/NPIAS-Report-2017-2021-Appendix-B-Part6.pdf](http://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/npas/reports/NPIAS-Report-2017-2021-Appendix-B-Part6.pdf)

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, Puerto Rico [map](#).

[www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf)

National Wild and Scenic Rivers System: [www.rivers.gov/puerto-rico.php](http://www.rivers.gov/puerto-rico.php)

Puerto Rico Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Action Plan, July 2018. [www.cdbg-dr.pr.gov/en/action-plan/](http://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](http://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo_pr.html)

US EPA, Environmental Topics, Air Topics: [www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/air-topics](http://www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/air-topics)

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

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetlands Inventory:  
[www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html](http://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](http://www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/59de6459e4b05fe04ccd39d8)

#### **List of Permits Obtained:**

None

#### **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 will include a FONSI / NOI-RROF in compliance with NEPA regulations for HUD.

#### **Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]:**

In accordance with 24 CFR 58.32 (Aggregation), there are no cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project. The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks.

The project would allow more space for the storage of agricultural products and equipment leading to a more efficient processing and growing of the agricultural products. The SOW does not involve the connection of the greenhouse to electric or water utilities. Therefore, water and power use would not increase with the installation of the greenhouse and should have no impact on the local utilities supply or demand.

#### **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, processing, and delivery of agricultural products through the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks.

Among the reasonable courses of action, other uses of the subject site, alternative locations (on and off property), and design modifications, were the analyzed alternatives. The actions are proposed in an area that has been used for agricultural purposes. The alternative to give another use to the subject site could potentially convert agricultural land to nonagricultural use, could delay current agricultural production, and would not increase, enhance or expand agricultural production. This action is not consistent with the Program's goal, the alternative to give another use to the subject site was not selected.

Among the possible impacts of alternative location, the location of the proposed SOW's off property will require transportation of equipment and products in and out of the property creating an increase in traffic and other vital impacts due to the transportation of materials and heavy equipment. Any alternative that would involve an off-property or give other uses to the site might require the relocation of current agricultural activities, purchase of land, the need for storage area, the movement of products, equipment, infrastructure, water and power utility connections, the preparation of cropping areas, among others, representing an additional cost. Given the above-mentioned possible impacts of an alternative location, an off-property alternative was not selected. Alternative locations off and on property, and design modifications to the proposed scopes of works may also represent an impact to undisturbed and/or uneven ground, sloped terrain or within heavier forested areas, which could require heavier clearing and grading activities.

To give other uses to subject site, an alternative on and off property location, and design modifications to proposed scopes of works, will not enhance and expand agricultural production or allow for the economic development for this applicant. Given the above-mentioned possible impacts of the presented courses of action to give other uses to the subject site, an alternative location off and on the property, and design modifications to the proposed scopes of works or were not the selected alternatives.

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

The project consists of the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and two 1,000-gallon water tanks. Under the No Action Alternative, the applicant would not receive federal funding for the proposed action, which would inhibit the economic growth opportunity that the applicant would not otherwise have under the PRDOH Re-Grow Puerto Rico program. As a result, these owners may not be able to experience the growth needed

to recover and expand their agriculture activities. A provision of the grant allows for economic development for businesses. The No-Action alternative would not allow for the economic development for this applicant.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusions:**

The proposed activity has been found to not have any adverse effects on the environment nor is there the requirement for further consultation with 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. For example, permits may be required from PRDNER for any water or other utility connections and the Office of Permit Management (OGPe) is responsible for granting permits, licenses, certifications, consultations, construction, and any other procedure necessary for business development and land use in Puerto Rico. The appropriate and necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor, from the appropriate Department or concerned agency, prior to construction activities.

**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.

The environmental review topics addressed in this environmental review include all formal compliance steps with federal agencies and mitigations (listed in table below) needed for compliance with 24 CFR 58.

Any permits or approvals that have been issued during the preparation of this environmental review have been included in the evaluation of impacts and mitigations. Any special permit conditions or requirements associated with these permits are listed in the Mitigation Measures and Conditions table below.

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	Standard construction BMPs would be used to control erosion and runoff during construction.
Endangered 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 USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures.



	<p>If a Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #s: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124).</p> <p>If a Puerto Rican Parrot is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded. Designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for additional directions (PRDNER phone #s: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124).</p> <p>As for the plant species (<i>Cordia bellonis</i>, <i>Generia pauciflora</i>, and <i>Crescentia portoricensis</i>), the USFWS recommends PRDOH that before initiating any work within the range of listed plant species and in areas with suitable habitat, the applicant must conduct plant surveys. In the event that listed species are discovered at the project site, the Service must be notified. The Applicant must develop conservation measures to minimize or avoid impacts on those species and share those measures with the Service for evaluation and approval. If no listed plants are found during surveys, no further action is required. However, if a listed plant species is found while the project is being conducted, project personnel shall stop work, and the Service should be contacted for further technical assistance. Service's point of contacts: José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Program Coordinator, Mobile: 305-304-1386, Office: 786-244-0081, jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov. Omar Monsegur, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Mobile: (305) 304-0292, omar_monsegur@fws.gov.</p>
<b>Permits or Agency Approvals Required</b>	
Permit or Approval	Permit Conditions
Ground disturbance	Projects whose earthworks are more than 40 m <sup>3</sup> must submit an Incidental Permit. The permit must be submitted via the Single Business Portal to the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by the Water Quality Division of the PRDNER. Any necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor prior to construction activities.
Clearing activities	Activities involving the excavation or movement of any component of the terrestrial cortex material that exceeds five hundred (500) cubic meters and up to a maximum of five thousand (5,000) cubic meters require the submittal and

	<p>approval of a Simple Terrestrial Cortex Removal Permit. Applications are submitted via the Single Business Portal of the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by terrestrial Cortex Extraction Permit Division of the PRDNER.</p> <p>Waste vegetation from clearing activities will either be composted on site or at regional composting centers. Soil from grading would be recycled on the farm as fill. The proposed project will have minimal impact on vegetation and wildlife.</p>
<p>Cutting, Pruning, Transplanting and Planting of Trees</p>	<p>The cutting or transplanting of trees with a trunk diameter greater than or equal to 4 inches (DAP, by its acronym in Spanish) requires the submittal of a “Permiso Único Incidental (PUI)”, including an “Autorización de Corte, Poda, Trasplante y Siembra de Arboles (ACP)”. The ACP contains the plan of transplanting, cutting and the proposed mitigation measures. Mitigation measures varies depending on the activity and the DAP of trees. Mitigation can be achieved by on-site, off-site, a combination of on-site/off-site planting and/or monetary compensation. Plan must be developed by an Arborist certified by the PRDNER and be submitted via the Single Business Portal to the OGPe to be evaluated, approved and physicalized by PRDNER.</p>
<p>Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff</p>	<p>All construction or demolition of structures, which do not contain asbestos or lead-containing paint, in surface areas of project of nine hundred (900) square meters or more, in which the total volume of the components of the earth's that are to be used as filler or extracted, stored, disposed, disassembled, piled up or removed exceed forty (40) cubic meters, requires the submittal of a “Permiso Único Incidental (PUI)”, including an Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan (Plan CES, by its acronym in Spanish). A Plan CES must be developed by a Professional Engineer and be submitted via the Single Business Portal to the OGPe to be evaluated, approved and physicalized by PRDNER.</p>
<p>Utility Connections- Water supply- (PRASA)</p>	<p>The project does not involve new connections to the local utility services provided by PRASA. Facilities have local water utility services connections. However, the applicant is responsible for any permits or actions to ensure legalization of utility connections (if needed) prior to construction activities.</p>
<p>Utility Connections- PREPA/LUMA</p>	<p>The project does not involve new utility connections provided by PREPA/LUMA. Facilities have local utility services connections. However, the applicant is responsible for any permits or actions to ensure legalization of utility connections (if needed) prior to construction activities.</p>


**Determination:**

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

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

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

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

Preparer Signature:  Date: 9/16/2024

Name/Title/Organization: Shelby McDowell, Environmental Scientist, Tetra Tech Inc.  
revised by Gabriela Rodríguez, Senior Environmental Scientist, Tetra Tech Inc.

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: 9/18/2024

Name/Title: Javier Mercado Barrera / Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist / PRDOH

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**

## **Site Inspection and Photos**

# ENVIRONMENTAL MEMORANDUM

**Date:** 8/28/2024

**To:** Environmental Review Record (ERR) File

**Subject:** Explanation of Conflicting Information within the ERR

**Applicant Name:** Pala y Pico Inc.

**Application Number:** PR-RGRW-02233

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

Confliction Information:  Coordinates  Address  Municipio  Parcel ID/Cadaster Number  
 Construction Date  Applicant Name  Other: Scope of Work-3

Location(s) of Conflicting Information: Environmental Field Observation Report, FWS- ESA NLAA Package, Section 106 Consultation Package

Explanation: SOW-3 indicates the purchase and planting of 750 avocado and guanabana seeds.

As per Intent Use of Funds the purchase is for Fruit Trees.

Environmental Assessment Document and Maps had been corrected to:

“The Scope of work 3 (SOW-3) is the purchase and planting of avocado and guanabana trees at coordinates 18.179582, -67.059794.” and is mentioned as “the purchase of Fruit Trees”, as indicated in IUGF, along the EA document and Maps.

No corrections to related reports were made.

## Environmental Field Observation - Puerto Rico Department of Housing

APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Application ID	PR-RGRW-02233		
Applicant Name	Pala y Pico Inc.		
Property Address	Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector)		
Parcel ID	261-000-001-21-000		
Coordinates	18.179582, -67.059794		
Inspector Name	Javier Ramos		
Inspection Date	01/03/2024		
Building Type	Vacant		
Number of Units	0		
Number of Stories	0		
Year Built; Data Source	----; Historian		
ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS (attach photos and notes, as necessary, for any YES answers)			
OBSERVATION ITEMS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
A. Is the <b>structure in use</b> ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Applicant house
B. Is <b>structure a greenhouse</b> ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Green house
C. Is <b>Electricity connected</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
D. Is <b>water connected</b> ? (Utilities or Well)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
1. Are there signs of <b>poor housekeeping</b> on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Are there any <b>55-gallon drums</b> visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Are there any (or signs of any) <b>underground storage tanks</b> on the property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Are there signs of <b>ASTs</b> on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5. Is there any <b>stained soil or pavement</b> on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6. Is a water <b>drainage system</b> in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of <b>Fertilizer or Pesticides</b> ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Storage
8. Are there any <b>groundwater monitoring wells</b> on the site or adjacent parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Is there evidence of a <b>faulty septic system</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Is there <b>distressed vegetation</b> on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11. Is there any visible indication of <b>MOLD</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

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

Additional Notes:

Case: PR-RGRW-02233

Project Name: Pala y pico Inc

Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794

Is the field graded? For what purpose the field was graded? Month, Year: None

Scope of Work: The proposed scope of work includes the purchase and construction of a new greenhouse, water tank, plant pots, mini retro excavator, fruit trees and farming equipment.

Land current in use for: The farm is used for growing avocado and guanabanas.

Past Land use was: The farm was used to grow coffee and bananas.

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

Scope of work 1: 18.179957, -67.059168, The proposed project includes the purchase and installation of a greenhouse. Approximately measuring 30' X 40' in metal and saran. The plant pots will be use in the green house, over the ground with ground cover.

Scope of work 2: 18.179838, -67.059101, The proposed project includes the purchase and installation of a 2 water tanks of 1,000 gallon to collect rainwater that would be above ground, (not needed a concrete base), will be installed in the same APE area of the greenhouse location with over the ground PVC tube system.

Scope of work 3: 18.179582, -67.059794, The applicant is proposing to plant 750 of avocado and guanabana seeds. The complete parcel will be use for this scope of work, the mini retro excavator will be used to clear the different routes for the plantations.

Any new water connection or power connection? No new connections.

If the scope of work included tools, machinery or farms products, Where the applicant will be storing them? Mini Retro Excavator and farming equipment will be storage in the coordinates near the area of the greenhouse: 18.179957, -67.059168



**Front of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Facing Away From Front**

Photo Direction: Southeast





Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction: Northwest



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Back of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Facing Away From Back**

Photo Direction: Southwest





Side #2 of Structure

Photo Direction: Southeast



Facing Away From Side #2

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Streetscape #1**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Streetscape #2**

Photo Direction: Southwest





Address

Photo Direction: Northwest



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Applicant house

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

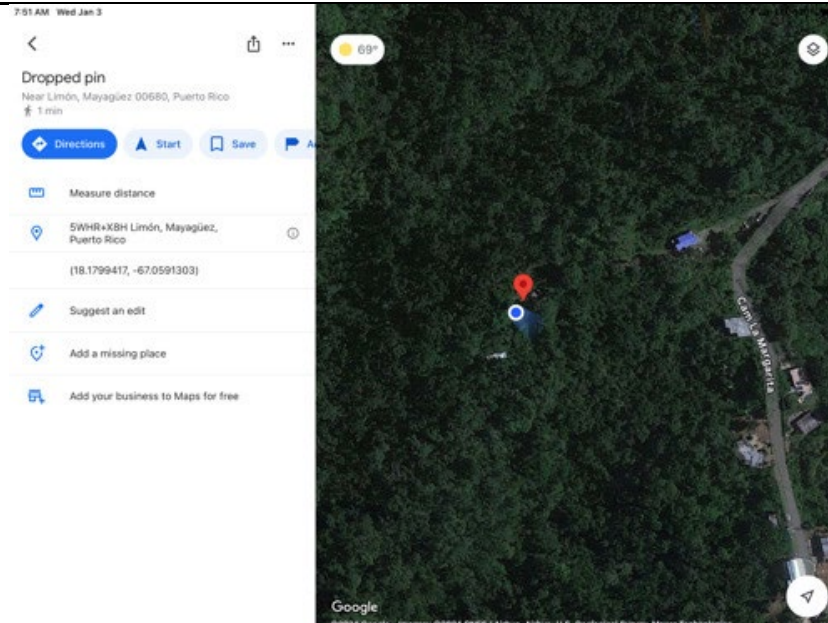
Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Applica house

Photo Direction: West





Greenhouse Photos

Photo Description: Green house

Photo Direction: Southwest





Warehouse Use

Photo Description: Pesticide storage

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Installation of a Green house

Photo Direction: West



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Installation of a Green house

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Installation of a Green house

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Installation of a Green house

Photo Direction: Southeast





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Installation of a Green house

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Installation of a water tanks

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Installation of a water tanks

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Installation of a water tanks

Photo Direction: Southwest





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Installation of a water tanks

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 3: Plantation of avocado and soursop seeds

Photo Direction: Southwest



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 3: Plantation of avocado and soursop seeds

Photo Direction: Southwest



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 3: Plantation of avocado and soursop seeds

Photo Direction: Southeast





Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 3: Plantation of avocado and soursop seeds

Photo Direction: Southeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Storage for farming equipment.

Photo Direction: Southeast





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Mini retroexcavator parking area

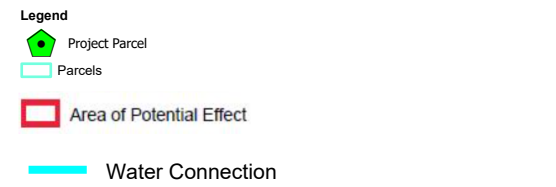
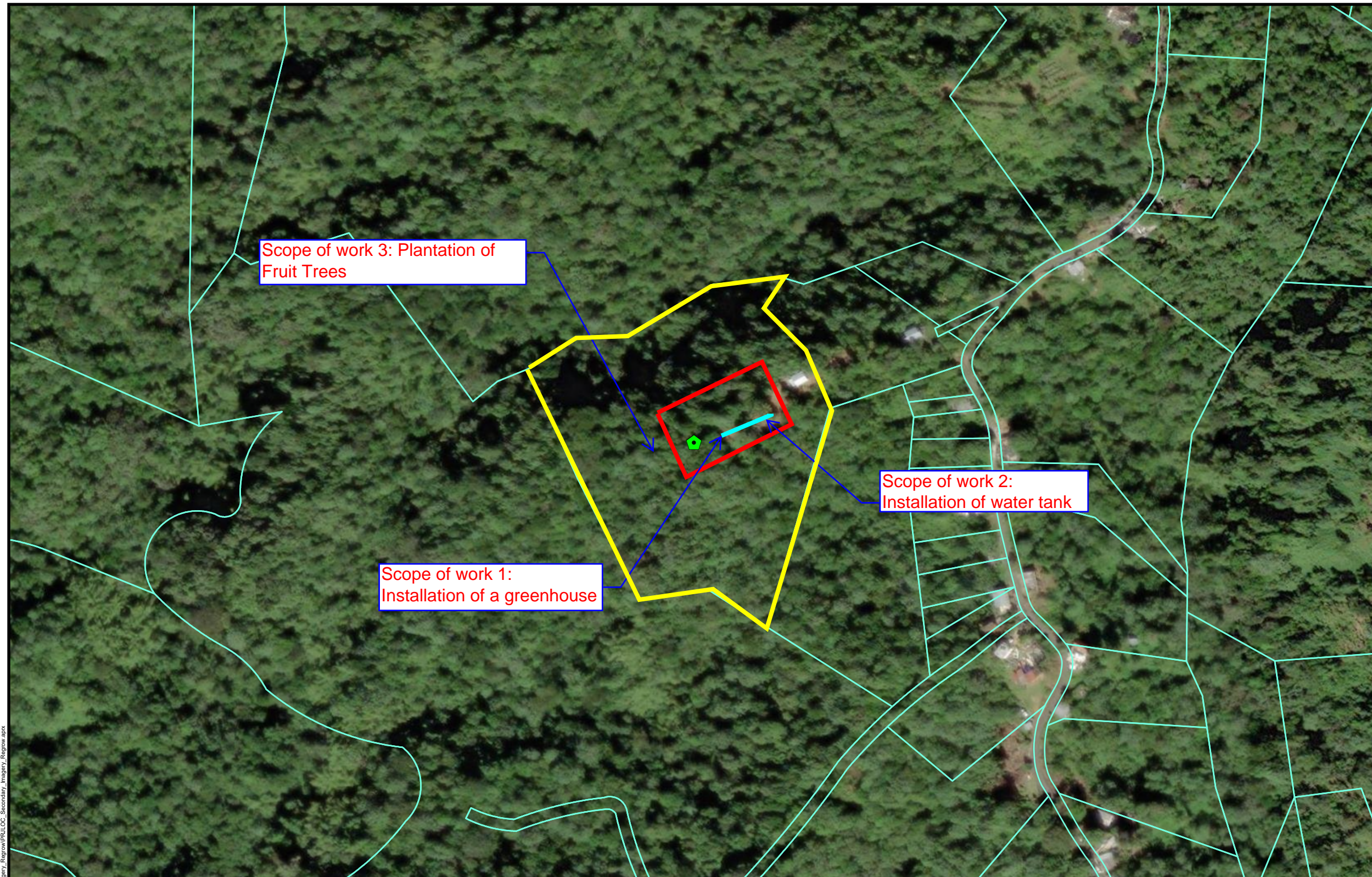
Photo Direction: Northwest



# APPENDIX B

## Maps

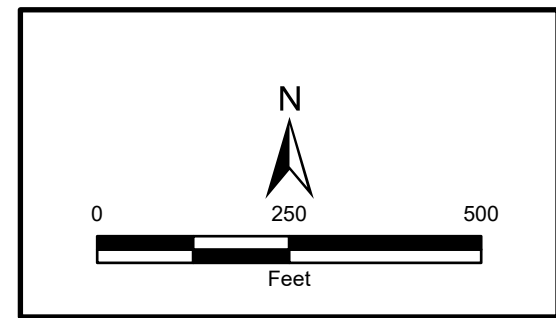




**Figure 1: PROJECT LOCATION**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**  
**ADDRESS: Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680**  
 Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582 , -67.059794



Source: CRIM  
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>  
 Author: TG Date: 2/13/2024



File Path: Z:\data\USRT\TheRGRW\pr\PR100\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\PR100\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow.apx





**Legend**

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

**Distance to Nearest Airport  
in Feet: 39,958**

**Distance to Nearest Civilian Airport  
in Feet: 39,958**

**Distance to Nearest Military Airport  
in Feet: 374,035**

**PUERTO RICO**



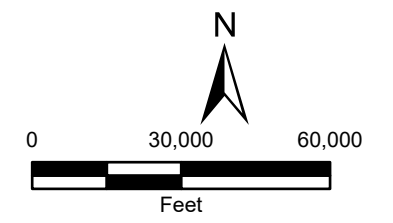
**Figure 2: AIRPORT ZONES**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680  
**Name of Development:** Pala y Pico Inc.  
**Parcel Coordinates:** 18.179582 , -67.059794



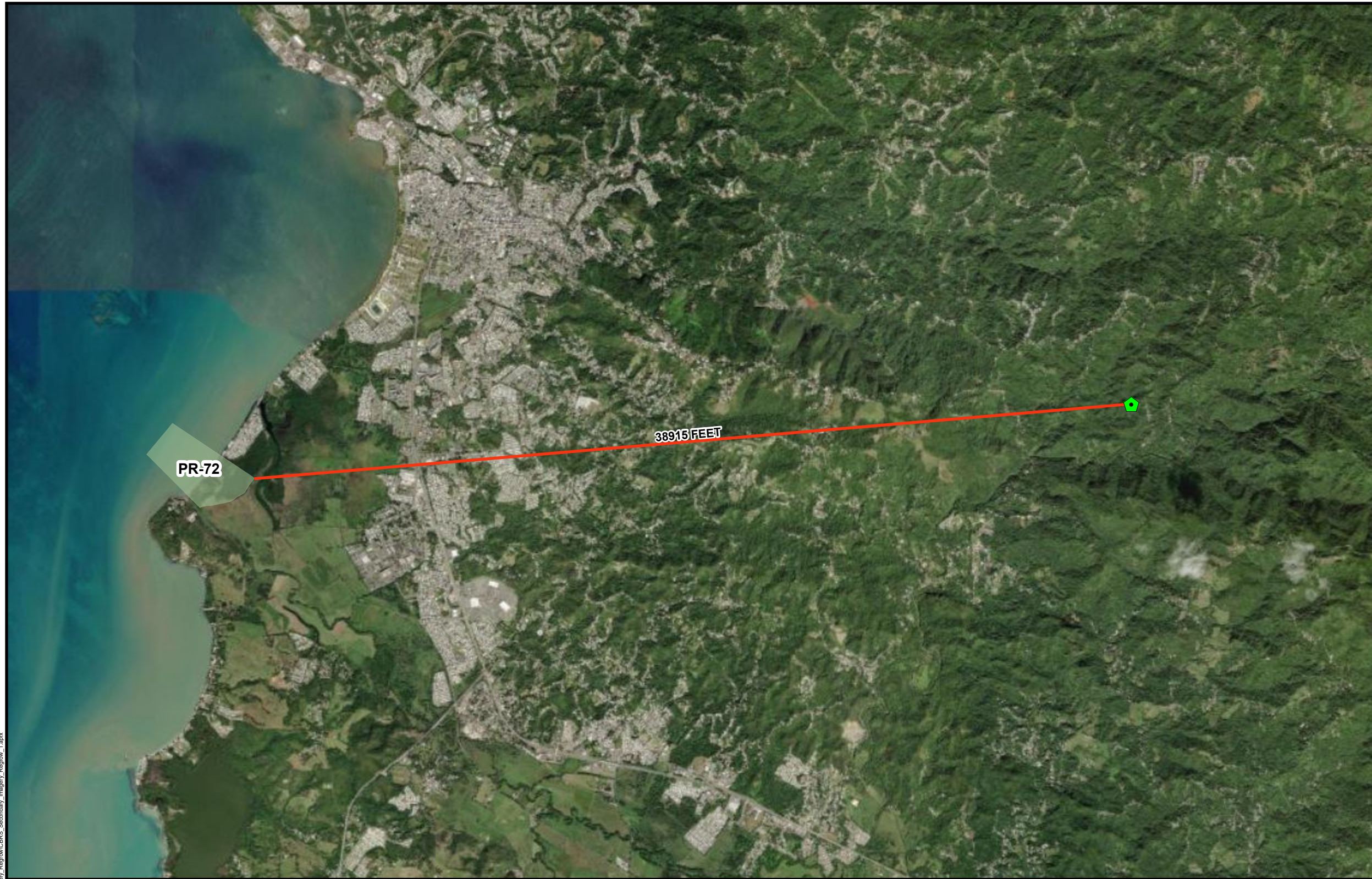
Source: USDOT  
<https://www.faa.gov>

Author: TG Date: 5/3/2024



File Path: Z:\data\USRT\Tier2\Regrow\APRZ\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\APRZ\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\_5.aprx





**Legend**

Project Parcel

**Coastal Barrier Resources System Boundary**

**Unit**

PR-72

Distance to Nearest Coastal Barrier Resources System:  
38915 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**



38915 FEET

PR-72

**Figure 3: COASTAL BARRIERS RESOURCE SYSTEM  
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.

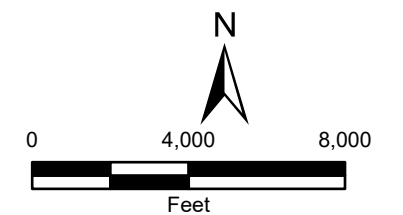
Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794



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

Author: TG

Date: 10/17/2023



File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\Tier2\Regrow\pr\CBRS\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\_L1.apr





- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Parcels
  - FIRM Panels
  - Floodway
  - 100 Yr Floodzone
  - 500 Yr Floodzone
  - Area Of Minimal Flood Hazard
  - Unmapped for Floodplain

**PUERTO RICO**



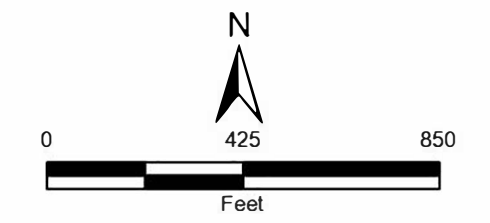
**Figure 4: FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM)  
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

ADDRESS: Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680  
 Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.  
 Parcel Coordinates :18.179582 , -67.059794



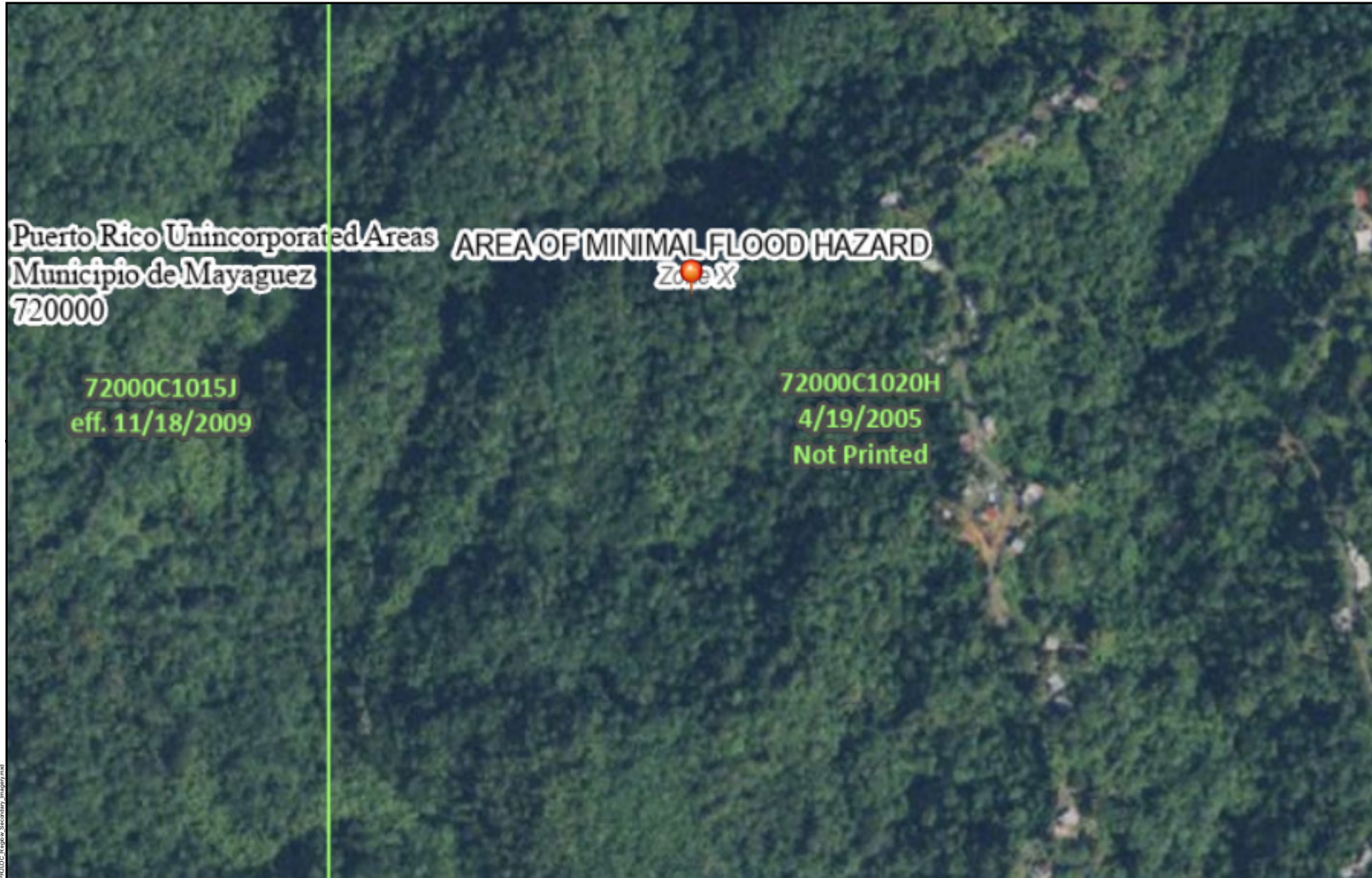
Source: FEMA  
<https://msc.fema.gov>

Author: TG Date: 8/28/2024



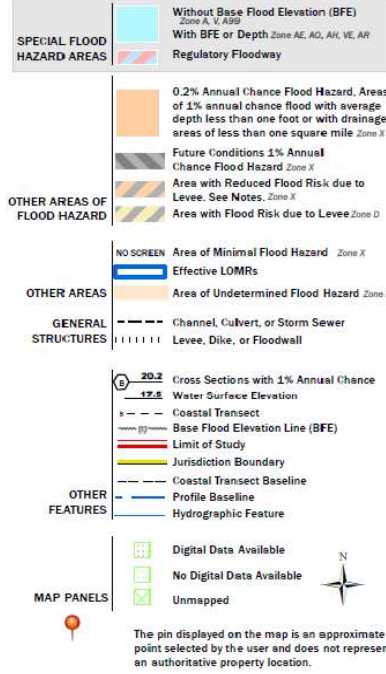
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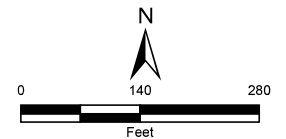


### Legend

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



### PUERTO RICO



## FIGURE 5: NATIONAL FLOOD HAZARD LAYER FIRMETTE

APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233

ADDRESS: Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.

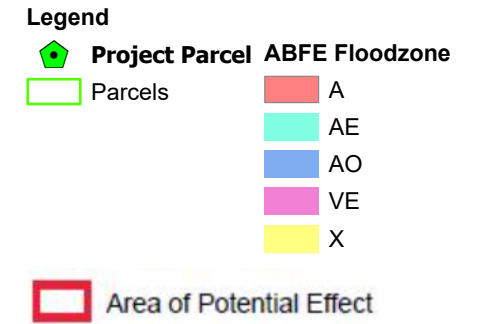
Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794



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

Author: TG Date: 5/31/2023





**PUERTO RICO**



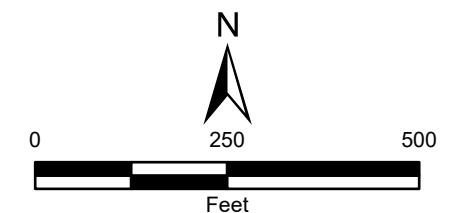
**Figure 6: ADVISORY BASE FLOOD ELEVATION (ABFE) MAP  
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

ADDRESS: Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680  
 Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.  
 Parcel Coordinates :18.179582 , -67.059794



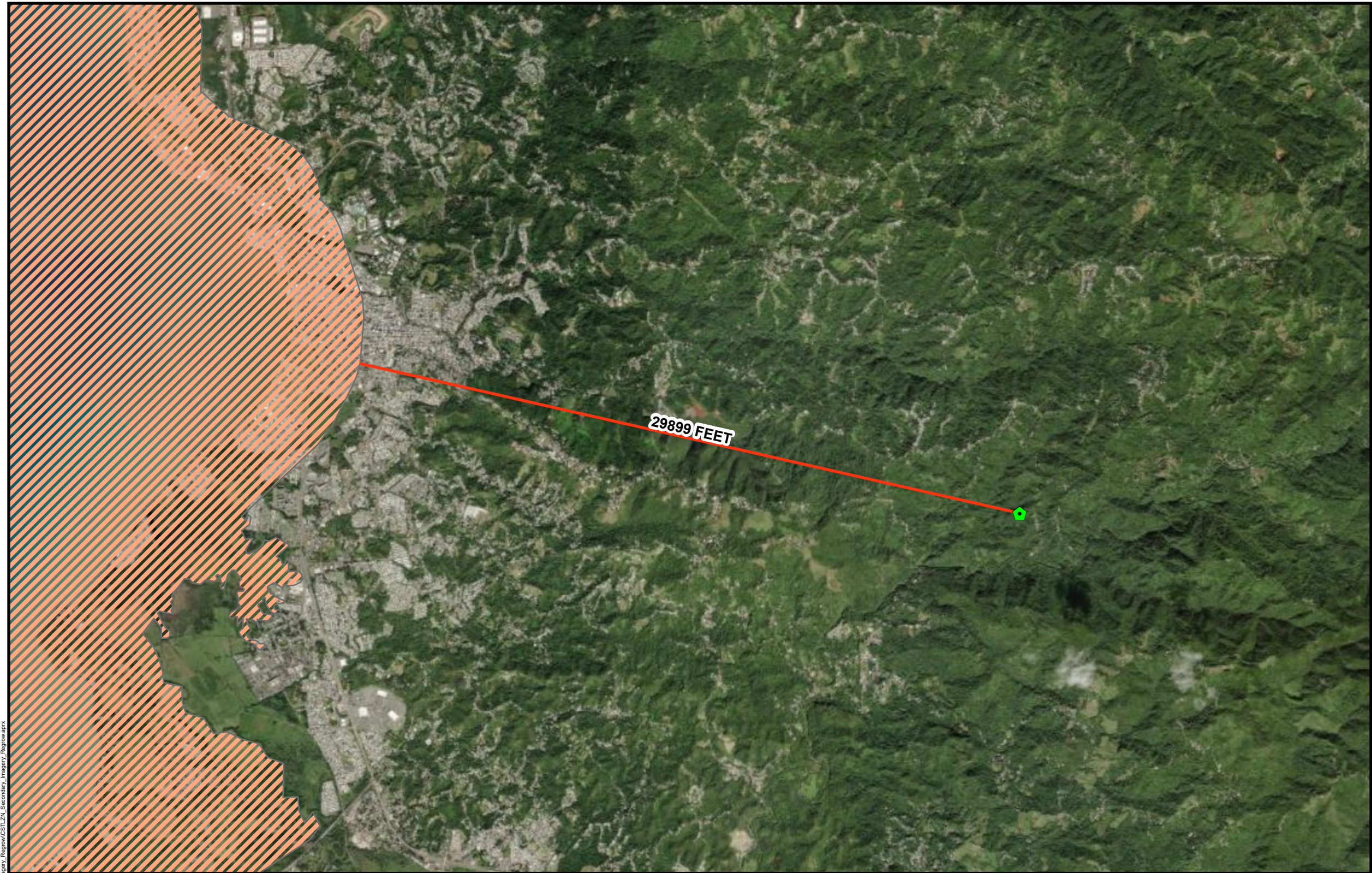
Source: FEMA  
<https://gis.fema.gov>

Author: TG Date: 2/13/2024





File Path: Z:\data\USPRTier2\Regrow\pr\ABFE\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\ABFE\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow.aprx





**Legend**

-  Project Parcel
-  Coastal Zone Management Boundary

Distance to Nearest Coastal Zone:  
29899 Feet

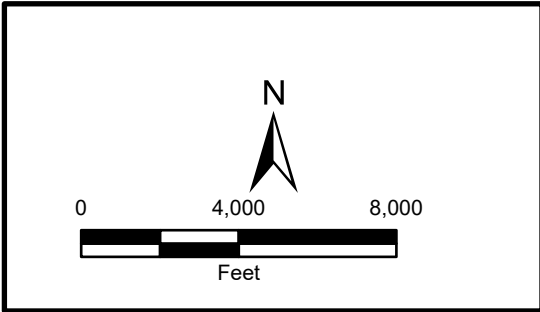
**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 7: COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT  
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.  
Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794

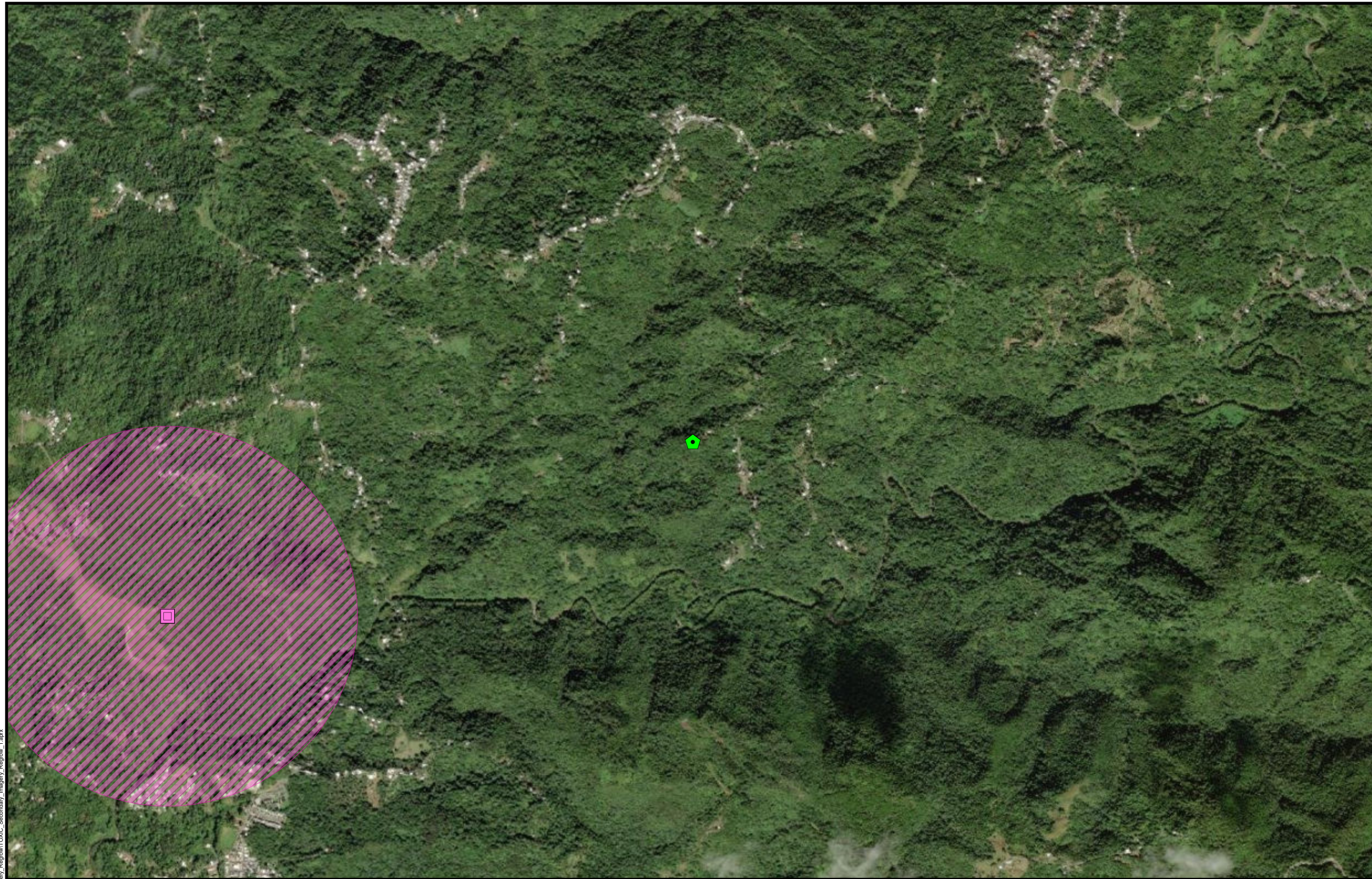


Source: NOAA's Ocean Service  
<https://data.noaa.gov>

Author: TG Date: 10/17/2023

File Path: Z:\data\USRT\Tier2\Regrow\pr\CS12LN\_Secundary\_Imagery\_Region\CS12LN\_Secundary\_Imagery\_Regrow.prx





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

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 8: TOXIC CHEMICALS AND GASES, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, CONTAMINATION, AND RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

ADDRESS: Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.

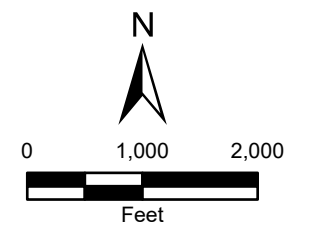
Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794



Source: E.P.A.

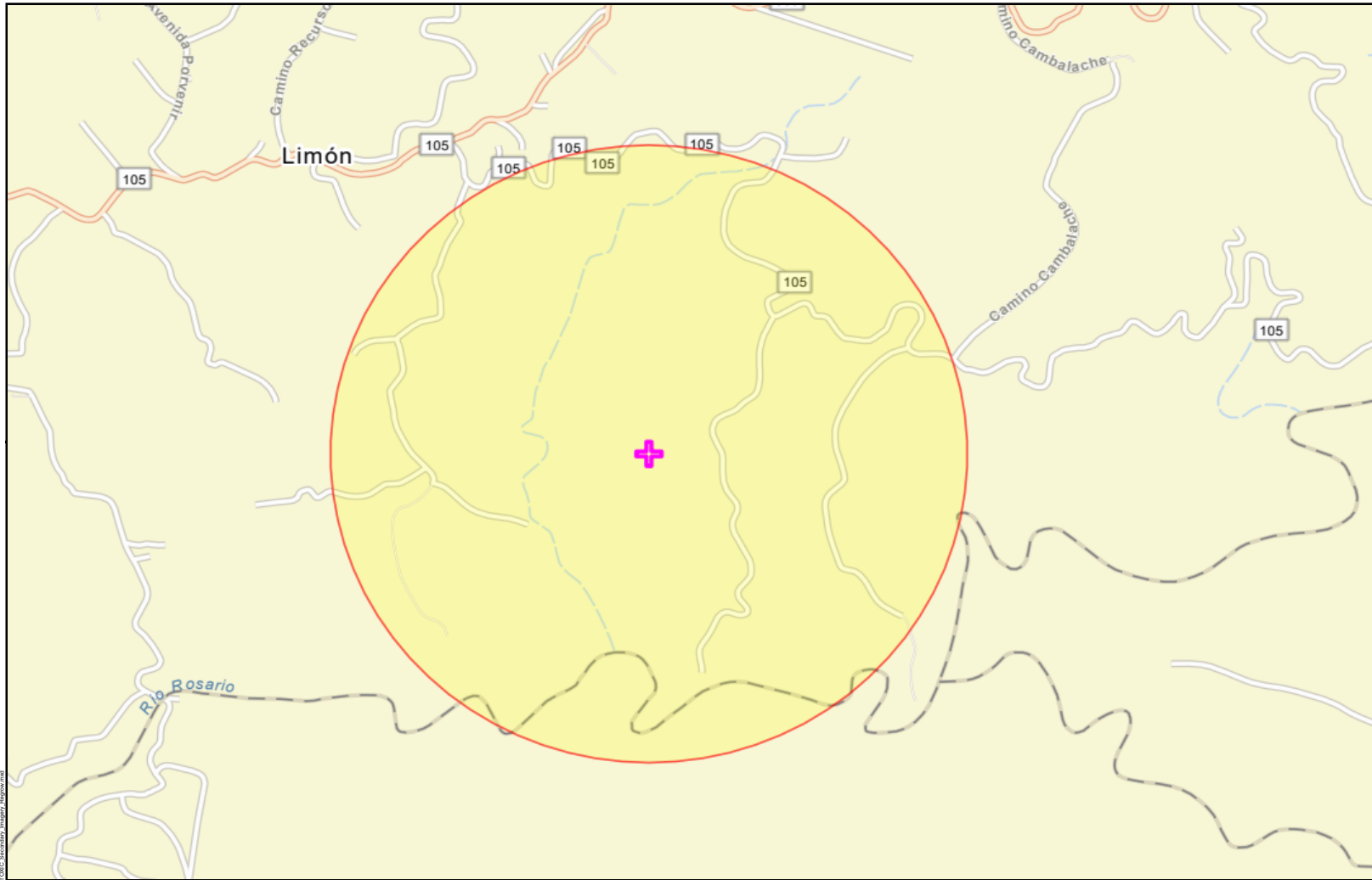
<https://www.epa.gov/frs/geospatial-data-download-service>

Author: JBI/AK Date: 4/11/2024



File Path: Z:\data\USRT\Tier2\Regrow\TOMC\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\TOMC\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\_1.aprx





- Legend**
- Superfund (NPL)
  - Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
  - Toxic Releases (TRI)
  - Brownfields (ACRES)
  - Hazardous Waste (RCRAInfo)
  - Water Dischargers (NPDES)
  - Air Pollution (ICIS-AIR)
  - + **Project Parcel**
  - 3000 Ft Buffer**

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 9: NEPA Assist Map**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

ADDRESS: Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794

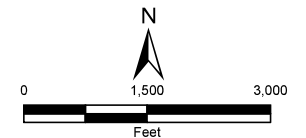


Source: E.P.A.

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

Author: JB/AK

Date: 5/18/2023







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

**PUERTO RICO**

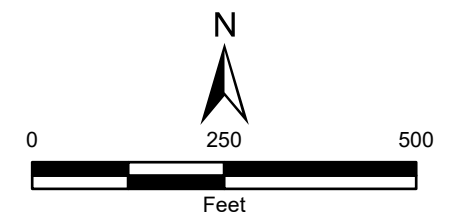


**Figure 10: ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT  
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680  
 Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794

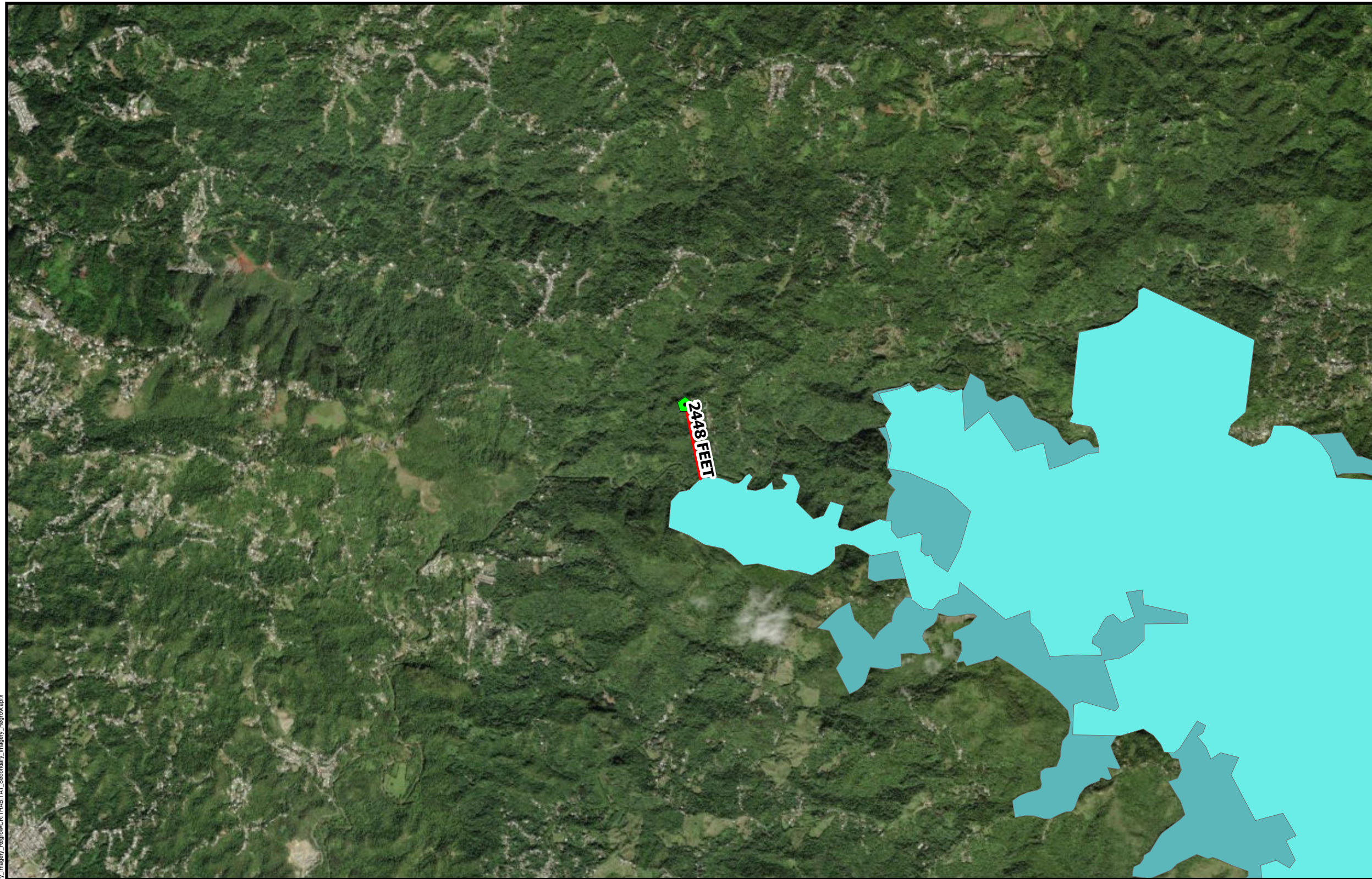





Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
 <LINK><https://ecos.fws.gov></LINK>  
 Author: TG Date: 4/11/2024



File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\Tier2\Regrow\ESA\_Secodary\_Imagery\_Regrow.aprx





- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
  - Common Name**
  -  Elfin-woods warbler
  -  Puerto Rico harlequin butterfly

**Distance to Nearest Critical Habitat:**  
2448 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 11: CRITICAL HABITATS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

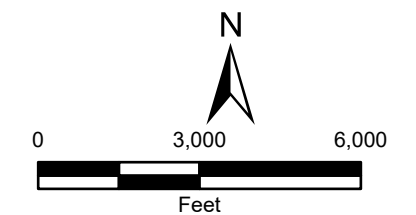
Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794



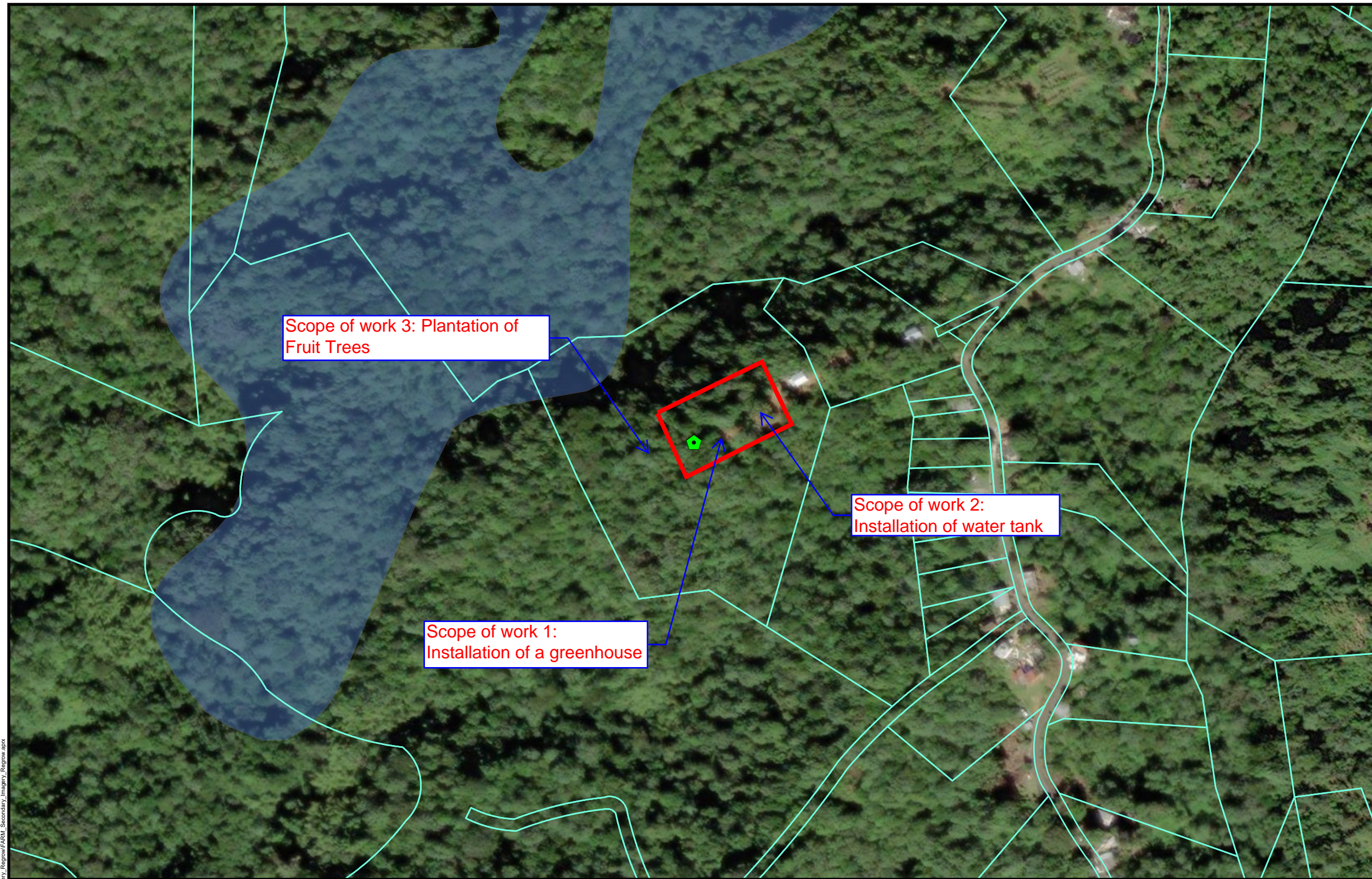
Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
<LINK><https://ecos.fws.gov></LINK>

Author: TG Date: 11/3/2023



File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\Tier2\Regrow\CRITICAL\_HABITATS\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow.aprx





- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Farm Class**
  - All areas are prime farmland
  - Farmland of statewide importance
  - Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated
  - Prime farmland if drained
  - Prime farmland if irrigated
  - Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
  - Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
  - Area of Potential Effect

**PUERTO RICO**

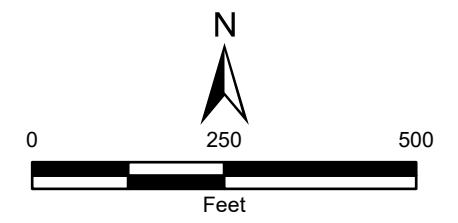


**Figure 12: FARMLAND PROTECTION**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680  
 Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794

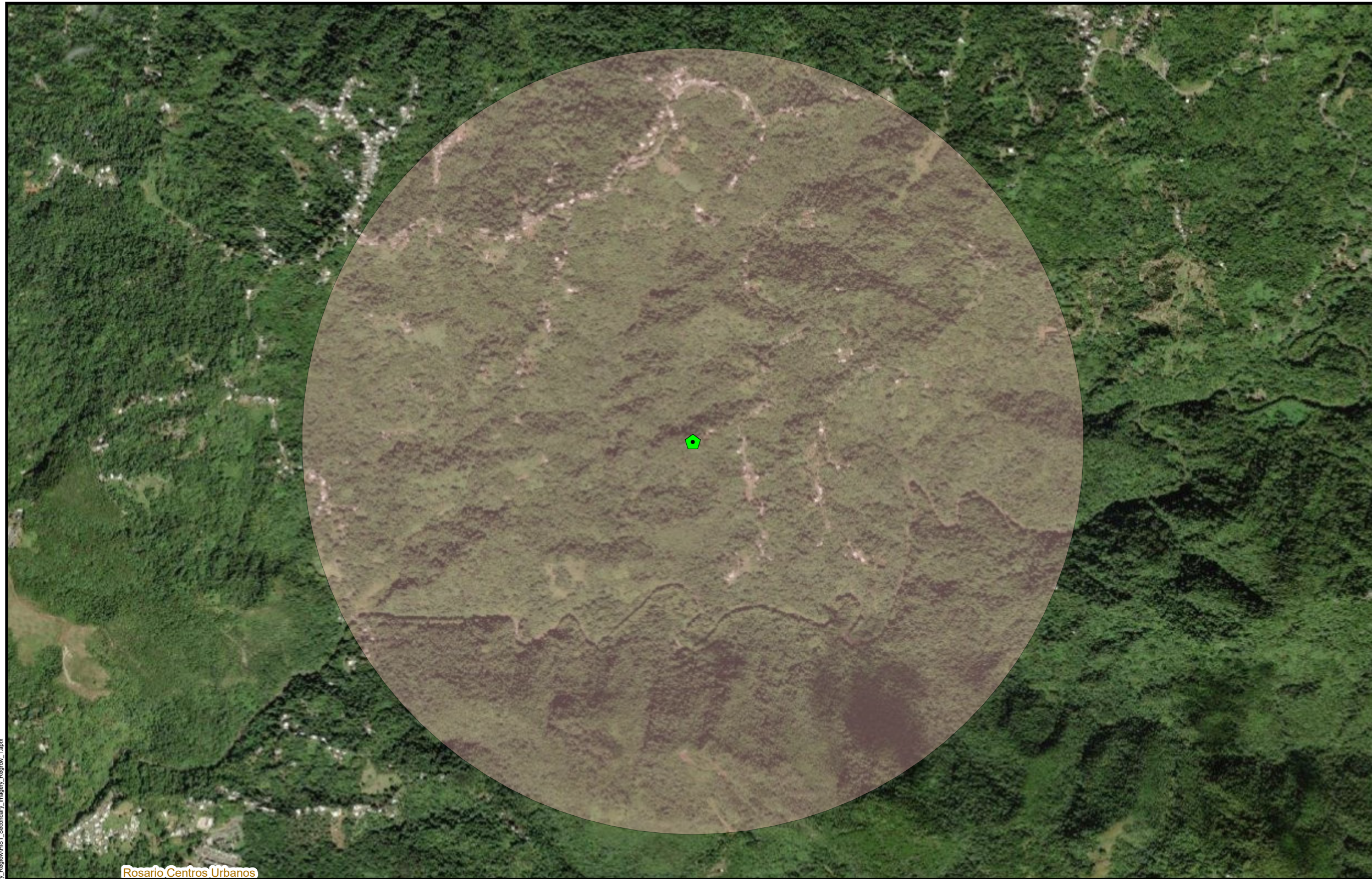


Source: USDA  
<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>  
 Author: TG Date: 11/3/2023



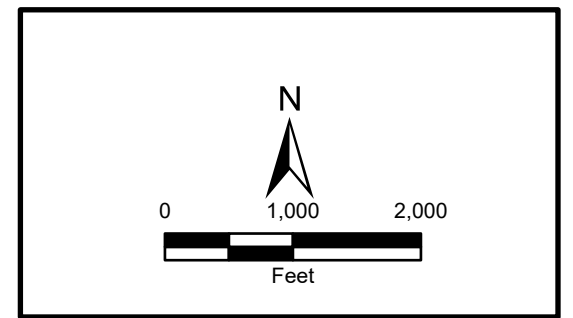
File Path: Z:\data\USRT\Tier2\Regrow\aprx\FARM\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow.aprx





- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Historic ICP Sites
  - Cultural Resource Building Point
  - Cultural Resource District Point
  - Cultural Resource Site Point
  - Cultural Resource Structure Point
  - Historic Comunidades
  - Traditional Urban Centers
  - Cultural Resource Building Polygon
  - Cultural Resource District Polygon
  - Cultural Resource Site Polygon
  - Cultural Resource Structure Polygon
  - 1 Mile Property Buffer

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 13: HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS: Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680**

Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794

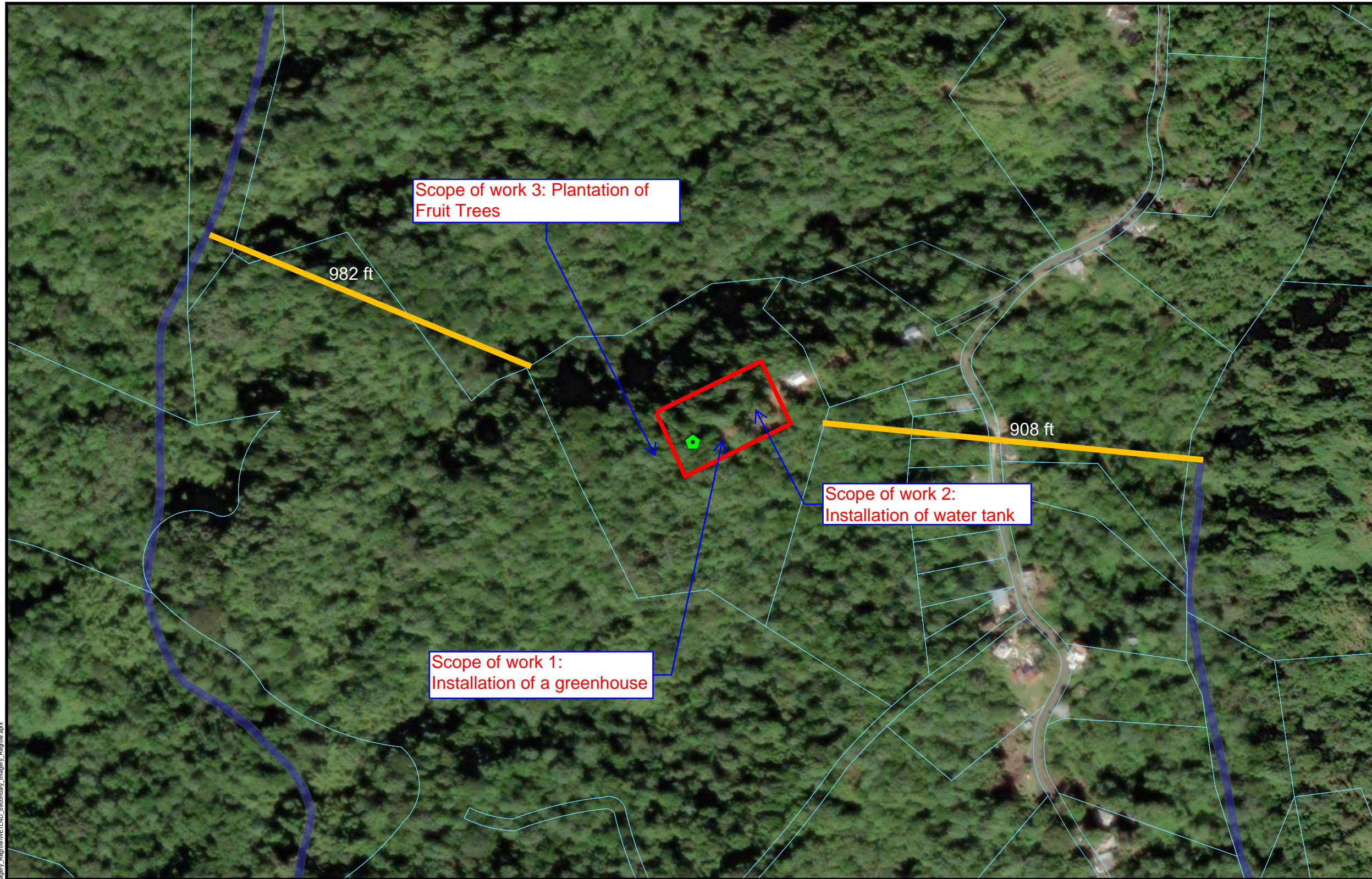


Source: National Park Service  
<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/gisandmapping/tools-and-data.htm/>

Author: TG Date: 4/11/2024

File Path: Z:\data\USPRTier2\Region\Map\Secondary\_Imagery\_Regional\_1.aprx





- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Parcels
- WETLAND TYPE**
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
  - Estuarine and Marine Wetland
  - Freshwater Emergent Wetland
  - Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
  - Freshwater Pond
  - Lake
  - Riverine
- Area of Potential Effect
  - Distance to water body

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 14: WETLANDS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

ADDRESS: Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

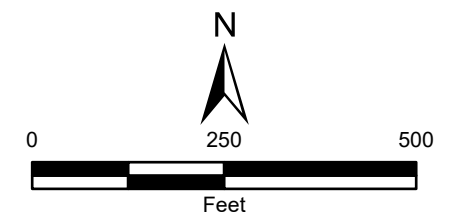
Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794



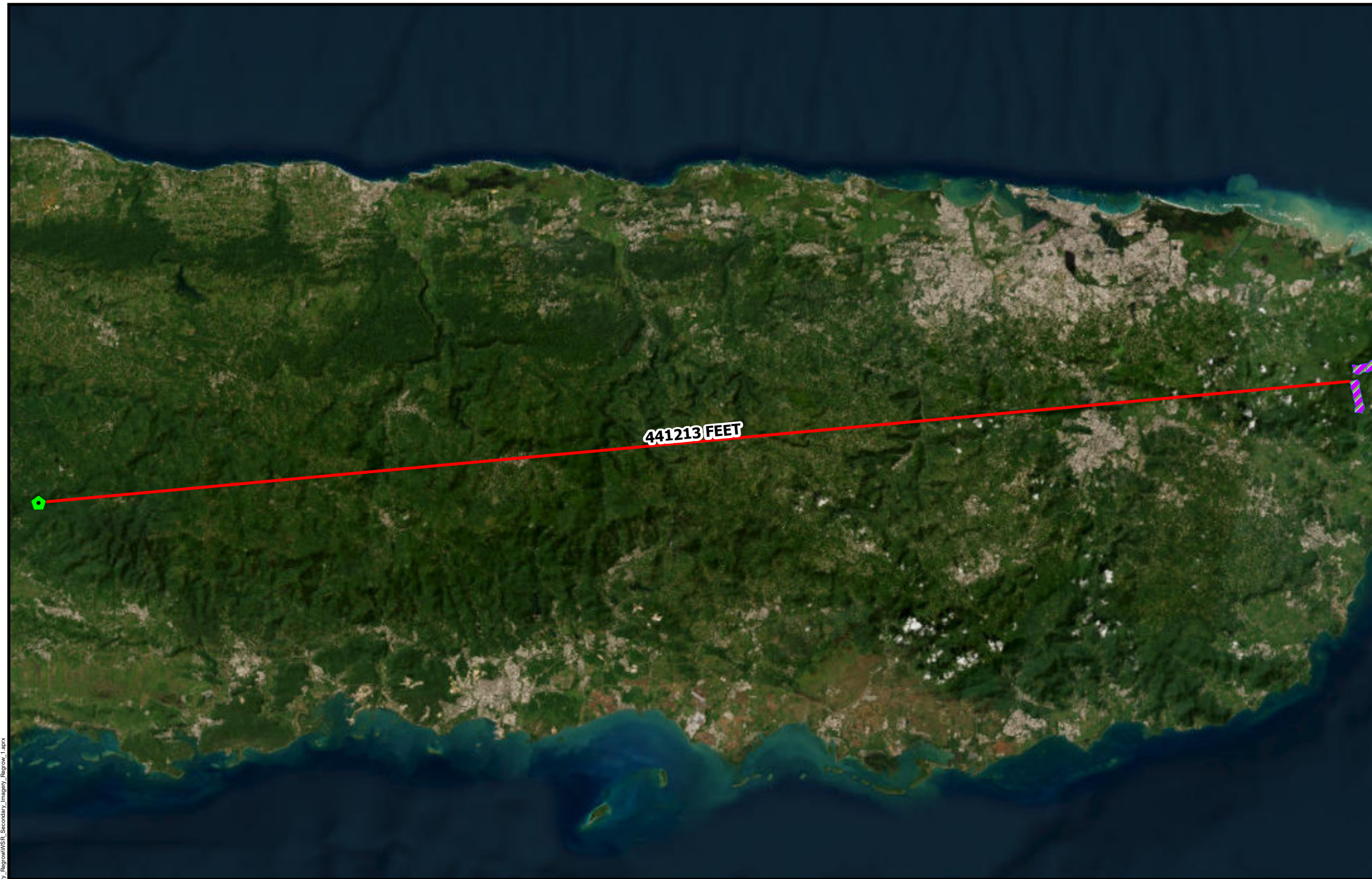
Source: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
 <LINK><https://www.fws.gov></LINK>

Author: TG Date: 4/11/2024





File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\PR\Regrow\WETLAND\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\WETLAND\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow.aprx





**Legend**

-  Project Parcel
-  Wild and Scenic Rivers

Distance to Nearest Wild and Scenic River: 441213 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 15: WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT  
APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.

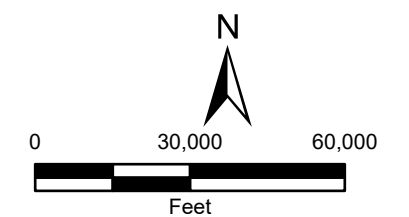
Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794



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

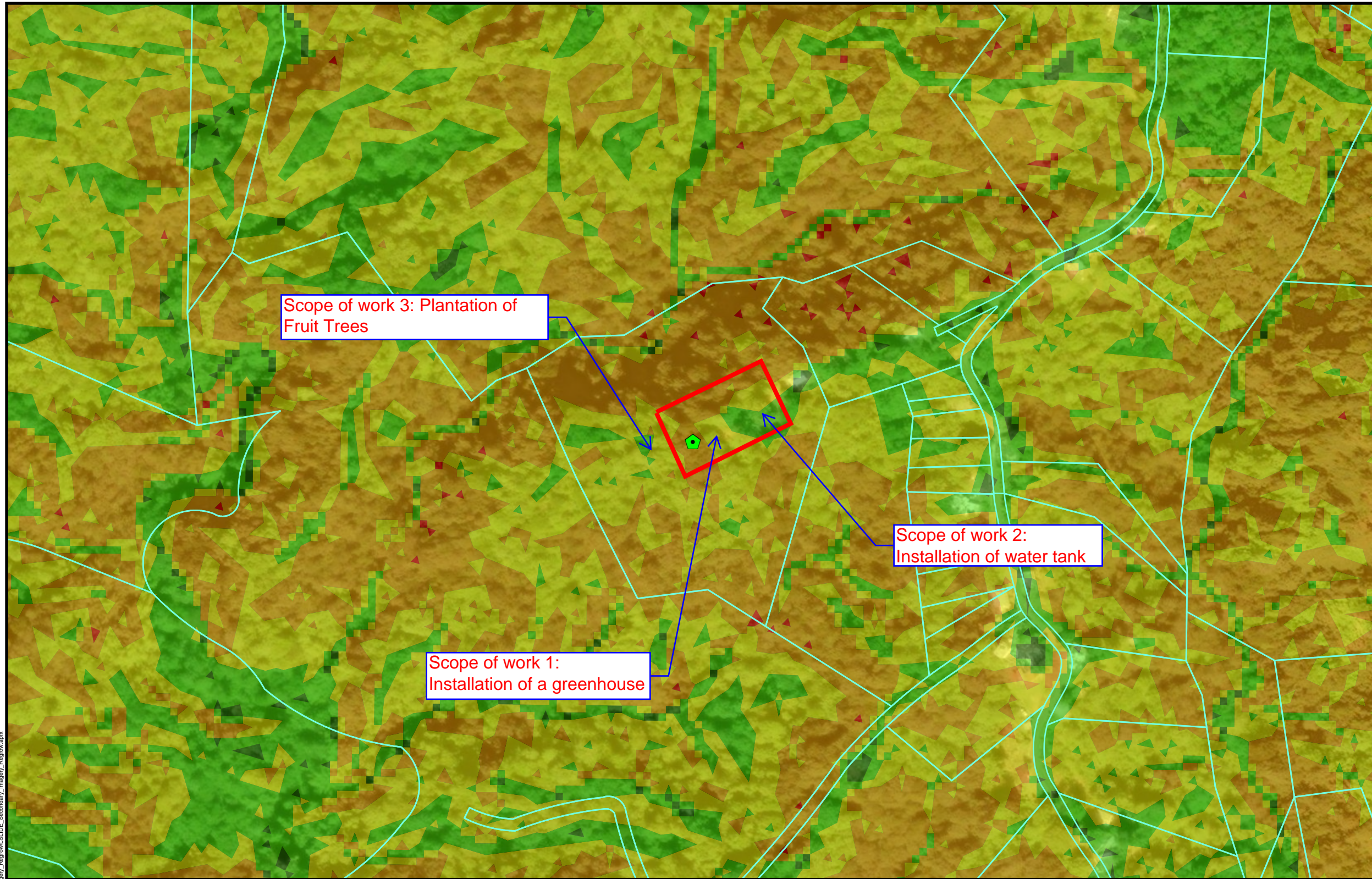
Author: TG

Date: 10/23/2023



File Path: Z:\data\USFR\Tier2\Regrow\pala\SR\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\_1.aprx





**Legend**

- ◆ Project Parcel
- Parcels

**Landslide Susceptibility**

- Extremely High
- Very High
- High
- Moderate
- Low

□ Area of Potential Effect

**PUERTO RICO**



File Path: Z:\data\USRT\Tier2\Rgrw\pr\SLIDE\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\SLIDE\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow.aprx

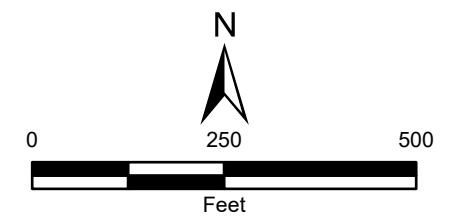


Source: PRDOH  
<https://usgs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=10506ecc7f15491daee17647f19248ee>  
 Author: TG Date: 4/11/2024

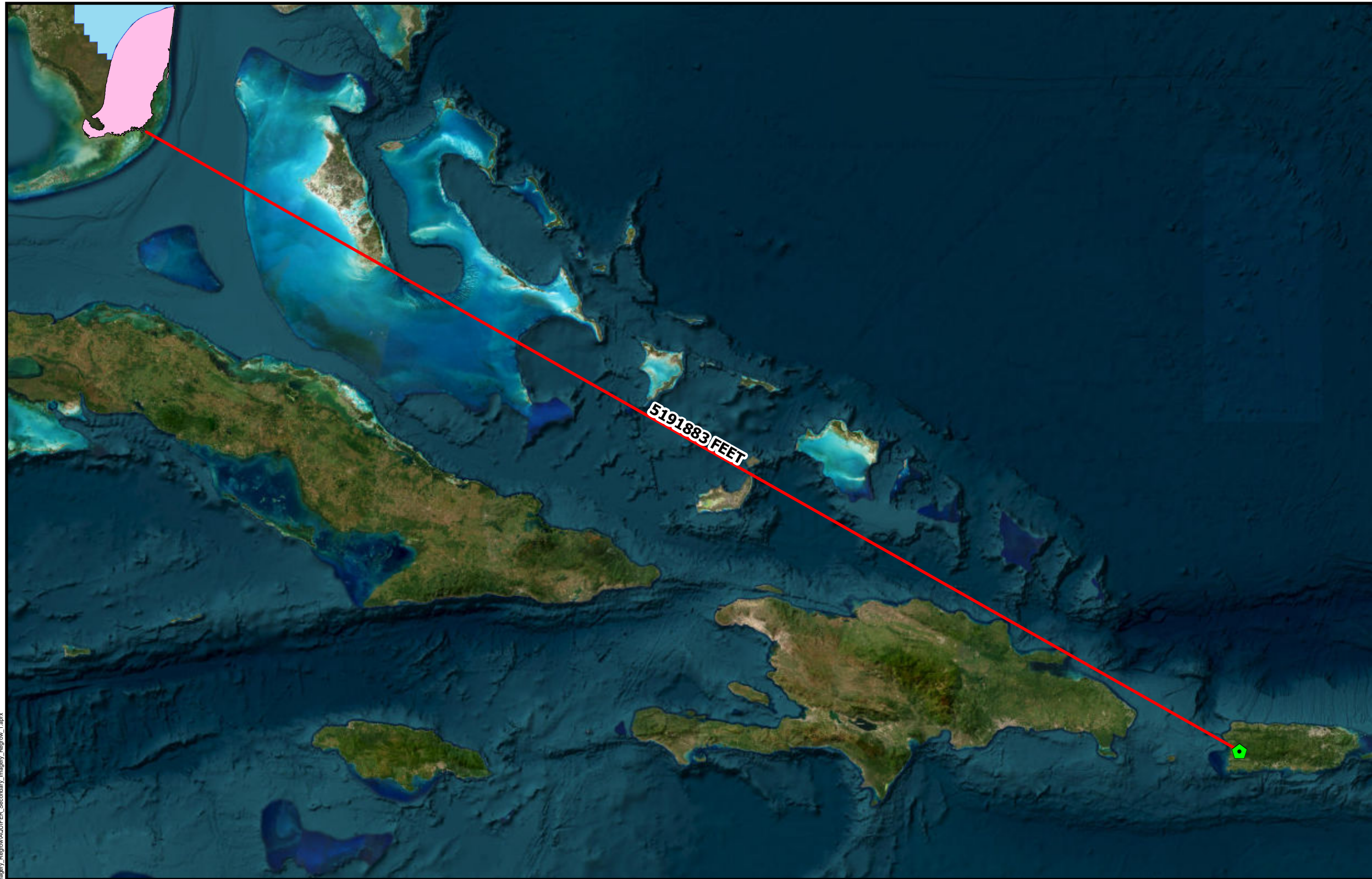
**Figure 16: SLOPE AND EROSION  
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794







- Legend**
- ◆ Project Parcel
  - Biscayne Aquifer SSA Streamflow and Recharge Source Zones
  - Sole Source Aquifer
  - Biscayne Aquifer SSA

Distance to Nearest Aquifer:  
5,191,883 FT

**PUERTO RICO**



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

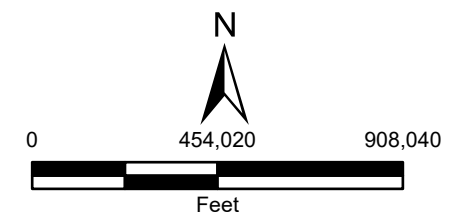
Author: TG Date: 2/21/2024

**FIGURE 17: SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794



File Path: Z:\data\USPR\Tier2\Regrow\SSA\QUIFER\_Secundary\_Imagery\_Regrow\_Laprx

# APPENDIX C

## Additional Information





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

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

Data is current as of February 29, 2024

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

\* The 1997 Primary Annual PM-2.5 NAAQS (level of 15 µg/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:

PUERTO RICO

Important Notes

Download National Dataset: dbf | xls | Data dictionary (PDF)

County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or/Part County	Population (2010)	State/County FIPS Codes
<b>PUERTO RICO</b>								
Arecibo Municipio	Lead (2008)	Arecibo, PR	1112131415161718192021222324	//		Part	32,185	72/013
Bayamon Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	22,921	72/021
Catano Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Whole	28,140	72/033
Guaynabo Municipio	PM-10 (1987)	Mun. of Guaynabo, PR	929394959697989900010203040506070809	02/11/2010	Moderate	Part	90,470	72/061
Guaynabo Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	23,802	72/061
Salinas Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Guayama-Salinas, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	23,401	72/123
San Juan Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	147,963	72/127
Toa Baja Municipio	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	San Juan, PR	18192021222324	//		Part	52,441	72/137

Important Notes

# EJScreen Community Report

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

## Mayagüez Municipio, PR

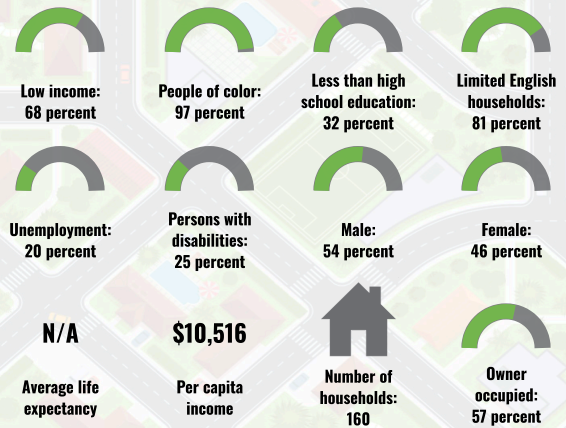
1 mile Ring around the Area  
Population: 431  
Area in square miles: 3.44

Dynamic map initially showing the user-selected area

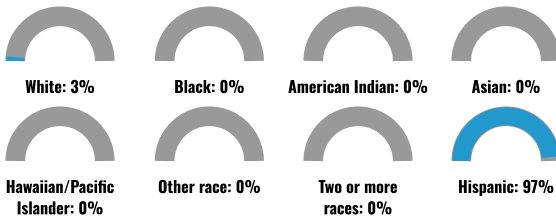
### COMMUNITY INFORMATION

#### LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	3%
Spanish	97%
Total Non-English	97%



#### BREAKDOWN BY RACE



#### BREAKDOWN BY AGE



#### LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



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



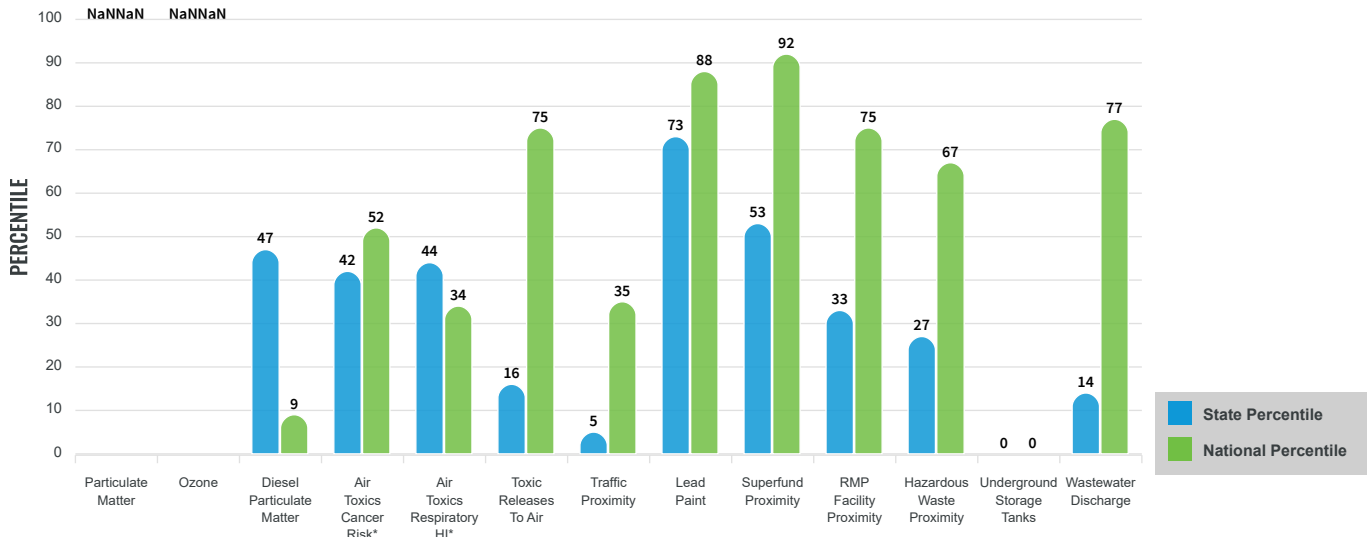
# Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

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

## EJ INDEXES

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

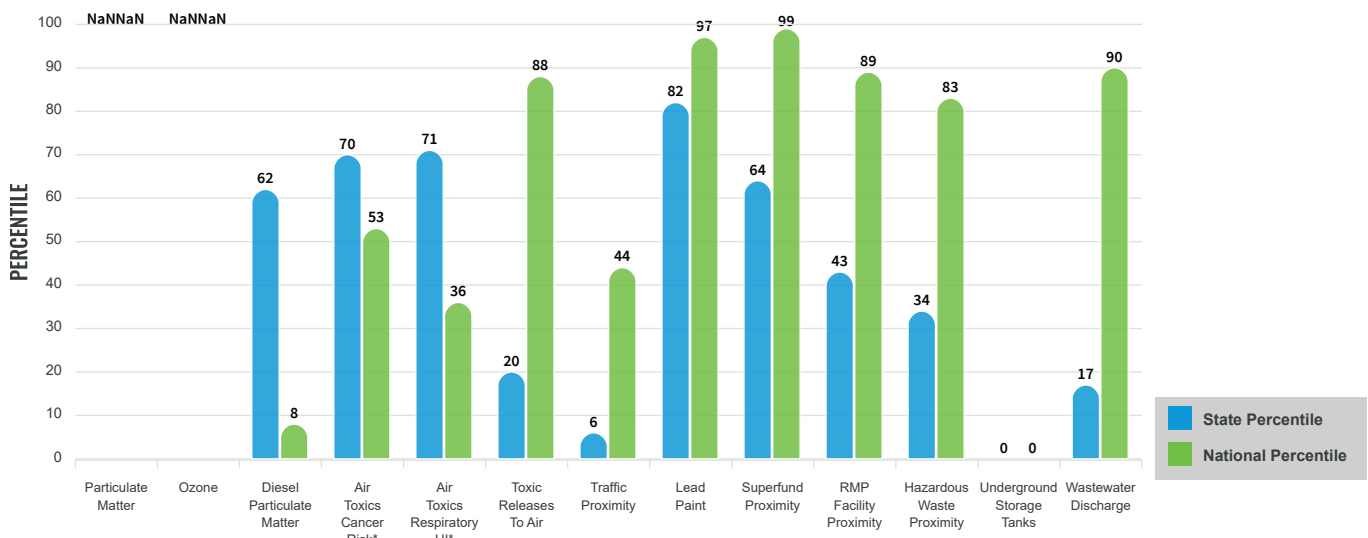
### EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



## SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

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

### SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



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

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area

# EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
<b>POLLUTION AND SOURCES</b>					
Particulate Matter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.08	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.6	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	0.037	0.0667	48	0.261	2
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	20	15	25	5
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.2	0.19	17	0.31	4
Toxic Releases to Air	180	4,300	15	4,600	31
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	4	180	5	210	10
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.24	0.16	78	0.3	52
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.089	0.15	56	0.13	63
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.11	0.47	33	0.43	34
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.15	0.76	27	1.9	27
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km <sup>2</sup> )	0	1.7	0	3.9	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.00017	2.3	14	22	34
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS</b>					
Demographic Index	82%	83%	32	35%	96
Supplemental Demographic Index	50%	43%	67	14%	99
People of Color	97%	96%	10	39%	93
Low Income	68%	70%	36	31%	93
Unemployment Rate	20%	15%	70	6%	95
Limited English Speaking Households	81%	67%	77	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	32%	21%	79	12%	92
Under Age 5	5%	4%	71	6%	50
Over Age 64	20%	22%	42	17%	66
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A%	N/A	20%	N/A

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

### Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

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

### Other community features within defined area:

Schools .....	0
Hospitals .....	0
Places of Worship .....	0

### Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment .....	No
Impaired Waters .....	Yes

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

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area



# EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

## HEALTH INDICATORS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A	N/A	20%	N/A
Heart Disease	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Asthma	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	N/A
Cancer	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Persons with Disabilities	25.4%	21.6%	70	13.4%	95

## CLIMATE INDICATORS

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

## CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	34%	32%	58	14%	91
Lack of Health Insurance	1%	7%	0	9%	5
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area

**APPENDIX D**  
Endangered Species





## United States Department of the Interior

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



In Reply Refer to:  
FWS/R4/CESFO/72097-Gen

Submitted Via Electronic Mail: [jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:jcperez@vivienda.pr.gov)

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

Re: CDBG-DR-PR-RGRW-02233 Pala y Pico Inc.,  
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated July 24, 2024, requesting informal consultation on the above referenced project. As per your request, our comments are provided under the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is proposing the purchase and installation of a greenhouse (18 feet (FT) x 30 FT), two water tanks (1,000 gallons each) and the purchase and planting of approximately 750 avocado seeds and soursop seeds. The proposed project will be located at State Road PR-105, Km. 12.3, Camino Margarita, Limón Ward (18°10'46.9"N 67°03'34.2"W) in the municipality of Mayagüez. The land has been used for agricultural purposes in the past with the planting of coffee and bananas and is currently used for growing avocado and soursop. A mini excavator is planned to be used for the clearing and maintenance of internal paths and access to operational areas of the farm.

Using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system, the PRDOH has determined that the proposed project site is located within the range of Puerto Rican boa (*Epicrates inornatus* now known as *Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*), Puerto Rican parrot (*Amazona vittata*) and the plants, *Cordia alliodora* (no common name), *Gesneria pauciflora* (no common name) and higüero de sierra (*Crescentia portoricensis*).

The PRDOH used the Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project on federally listed species (Project code: 2024-0050340). Based on the answers provided, a concurrence letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa and Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk, which determined that the proposed actions for this project may

affect but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) these species. Conservation measures developed by the Service will be implemented.

Based on the nature of the project, scope of work and information available, the PRDOH has determined that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican parrot, and the listed plants *Cordia alliodora*, *Gesneria pauciflora* and higüero de sierra. Conservation measures for these species will be implemented in case an encounter occur.

We have reviewed the information provided and our files and concur with PRDOH's determination that the proposed actions may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the above mentioned species with the implementation of the conservation measures. Also, the Service acknowledges receipt of the NLAA concurrence letter for the Puerto Rican boa and Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk.

As for the plant species, the Service recommends PRDOH that before initiating any work within the range of listed plant species and in areas with suitable habitat, applicants must conduct plant surveys. In the event that listed species are discovered at the project site, the Service must be notified. The Applicant must develop conservation measures to minimize or avoid impacts on those species and share those measures with the Service for evaluation and approval. If no listed plants are found during surveys, no further action is required. However, if a listed plant species is found while the project is being conducted, project personnel shall stop work, and the Service should be contacted for further technical assistance. Service's point of contacts:

- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Program Coordinator, Mobile: 305-304-1386, Office: 786-244-0081, [jose\\_cruz-burgos@fws.gov](mailto:jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov).
- Omar Monsegur, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Mobile: (305) 304-0292, [omar\\_monsegur@fws.gov](mailto:omar_monsegur@fws.gov).

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

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

Sincerely,

Lourdes Mena  
Field Supervisor

DRR

cc:  
HUD  
DRNA





July 24, 2024

Lourdes Mena  
Field Supervisor  
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Office Park I, Suite 303  
State Road #2 Km 156.5  
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico 00680  
Email: [Caribbean\\_es@fws.gov](mailto:Caribbean_es@fws.gov); [Lourdes.Mena@fws.gov](mailto:Lourdes.Mena@fws.gov)

**RE: Puerto Rico Department of Housing / Re-Grow Program  
PR-RGRW-02233 – Pala y Pico Inc.  
Endangered Species Concurrence for NLAA Determination**

Dear Mrs. Mena:

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is requesting an informal consultation under Section 7 (a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) for the proposed project PR-RGRW-02233, located on PR-105 Road Km 12.3, camino Margarita, Limón Ward, Mayagüez, PR 00680; coordinates 18.179582, -67.059794 (Parcel ID# 261-000-001-21-000).

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

The proposed project, PR-RGRW-02233, has three separate scopes of work (SOW). SOW #1 is the purchase and installation of a greenhouse at coordinates 18.179957, -67.059168. The proposed greenhouse is an 18-foot x 30-foot metal structure with Saran and plastic cover. Structure post consists of 2-inch diameter pillars with 1.5-inch arcs to be anchored to the ground at an approximate depth of 3 feet. SOW #2 is the purchase and installation of two water tanks, 1,000 gallons each, at coordinates 18.179838, -67.059101. The tanks are part of a rain harvesting system to collect water for the greenhouse with an aboveground PVC piping system. No concrete pad is proposed as part of the SOW #2. SOW #3 is for the purchase and planting of approximately 750 avocado seeds and guanabana seeds at coordinates 18.179582, -67.059794. A mini excavator is planned to

be used for the clearing and maintenance of internal paths and access to operational areas of the farm.

The area of potential effect for the proposed project is approximately 7.78 acres. At the center of the planned planting area is an already disturbed area with a makeshift greenhouse, farm building, and garden plots. The land has been used for agricultural purposes in the past with the planting of coffee and bananas and is currently used for growing avocado and guanabanas. The parcel is located in a rural, sloped terrain with mature vegetation surrounding the property. Surrounding landscape includes sloped, forested terrain on all sides of the parcel. The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) indicated that no wetlands are located within the parcel.

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

Name of the species	Threatened/Endangered/Candidate
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk ( <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> )	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot ( <i>Amazona vittata</i> )	Endangered
Puerto Rican Boa ( <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> )	Endangered
<i>Cordia bellonis</i>	Endangered
<i>Generia pauciflora</i>	Threatened
Higuero De Sierra ( <i>Crescentia portoricensis</i> )	Endangered
<b>Critical Habitat</b>	
There are no critical habitats at this location.	

The Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk habitat requirements per the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1997 Recovery plan are as follows: "In the Caribbean National Forest, Puerto Rican broad-winged hawks were more often seen on the eastern side, and the tabonuco and palo colorado forest types were reported as preferred habitats for the species (Wiley and Bauer 1985). Delannoy (1992) reported that broad-winged hawks were observed to be clustered in the north-central part of the forest within the subtropical wet forest and subtropical rain forest life zones, where the tabonuco is the dominant forest type. In the Carite Commonwealth Forest the species has been reported from the elfin, caimitillo, granadillo, tabonuco, and slope forest types (Hermindez 1980, Delannoy 1992). Delannoy (1992) reported Puerto Rican broad-winged hawks sighted in the northeastern corner and west-central parts of the Rio Abajo forest within the subtropical moist forest and subtropical wet forest life zones (Ewel and Whitmore 1973). Limestone hillside, sinkholes, and narrow valleys or ravines between haystack hills or "mogotes" are the dominant habitats within these life zones (Department of Natural Resources 1976)."



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

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

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service does not list specific habitat requirements for the listed plants.

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

Name of the species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures that will be implemented
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk ( <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> )	Not Likely to Adversely Affect	Conservation Measures for the Broad-winged Hawk
Puerto Rican Parrot ( <i>Amazona vittata</i> )	Not Likely to Adversely Affect	Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican Amazon (Parrot)
Puerto Rican Boa ( <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> )	Not Likely to Adversely Affect	Caribbean ES Puerto Rican Boa 2024
<i>Cordia bellonis</i>	Not Likely to Adversely Affect	Nationwide Standard Conservation Measures
<i>Generia pauciflora</i>	Not Likely to Adversely Affect	Nationwide Standard Conservation Measures
Higuero De Sierra ( <i>Crescentia portoricensis</i> )	Not Likely to Adversely Affect	Nationwide Standard Conservation Measures

Upon review of iNaturalist.com, no sighting of either of the listed birds, nor Boa have been recorded within a 3-mile radius of the parcel in the last three years. Additionally, none of the listed plants have been listed within a 3-mile radius of the parcel. Given the current land use, previous ground disturbance, previous and current vegetation disturbance, and lack of sightings of the listed species within the vicinity, we have determined that the project is "Not Likely to Adversely Affect" the listed species provided the attached Conservation Measures are implemented as part of the proposed project.

The automated informal consultation process was completed on July 7<sup>th</sup> through USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation website (<https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/>). Attached to this letter, we are including the documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species.

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NLAA determinations included in this letter. Attached to this letter, we are including the documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species.

For any questions or clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact us at the information below.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,



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

**Attachments:**

Appendix A:

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

Appendix B: Species List Caribbean Ecological Services and Consistency Letter SOW-1 & SOW-2

Appendix C: Species List Caribbean Ecological Services and Consistency Letter SOW-3

Appendix D: Site Photos

Appendix E: Conservation Measures for the Broad-winged Hawk

Appendix F: Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican Amazon (Parrot)

Appendix G: USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024

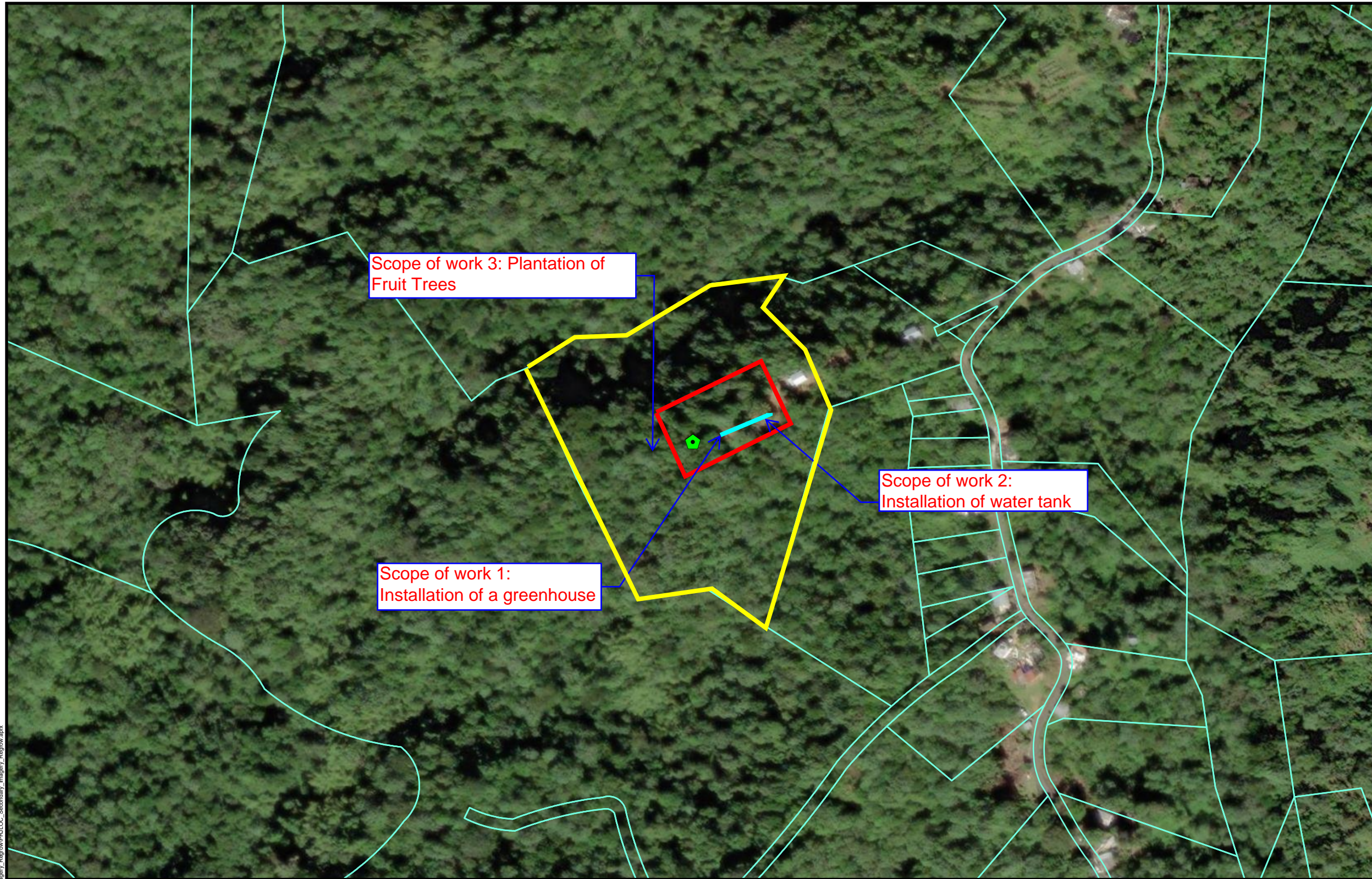
C: Angel G. López-Guzmán, MSEM  
Deputy Director  
Permits and Environmental Compliance Division

**CDBG-DR FUNDS**



## Appendix A: Figures





- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Parcels
  - Area of Potential Effect
  - Water Connection

**PUERTO RICO**



**PROJECT LOCATION**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS: Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680**

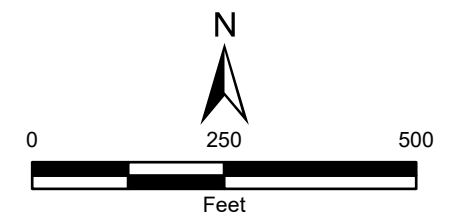
Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582 , -67.059794



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

Author: TG Date: 2/13/2024



File Path: Z:\data\USRT\TheRGRW\pr\PRLOC\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\PRLOC\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow.aprx



Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez

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






Source: CRIM

Author: TG

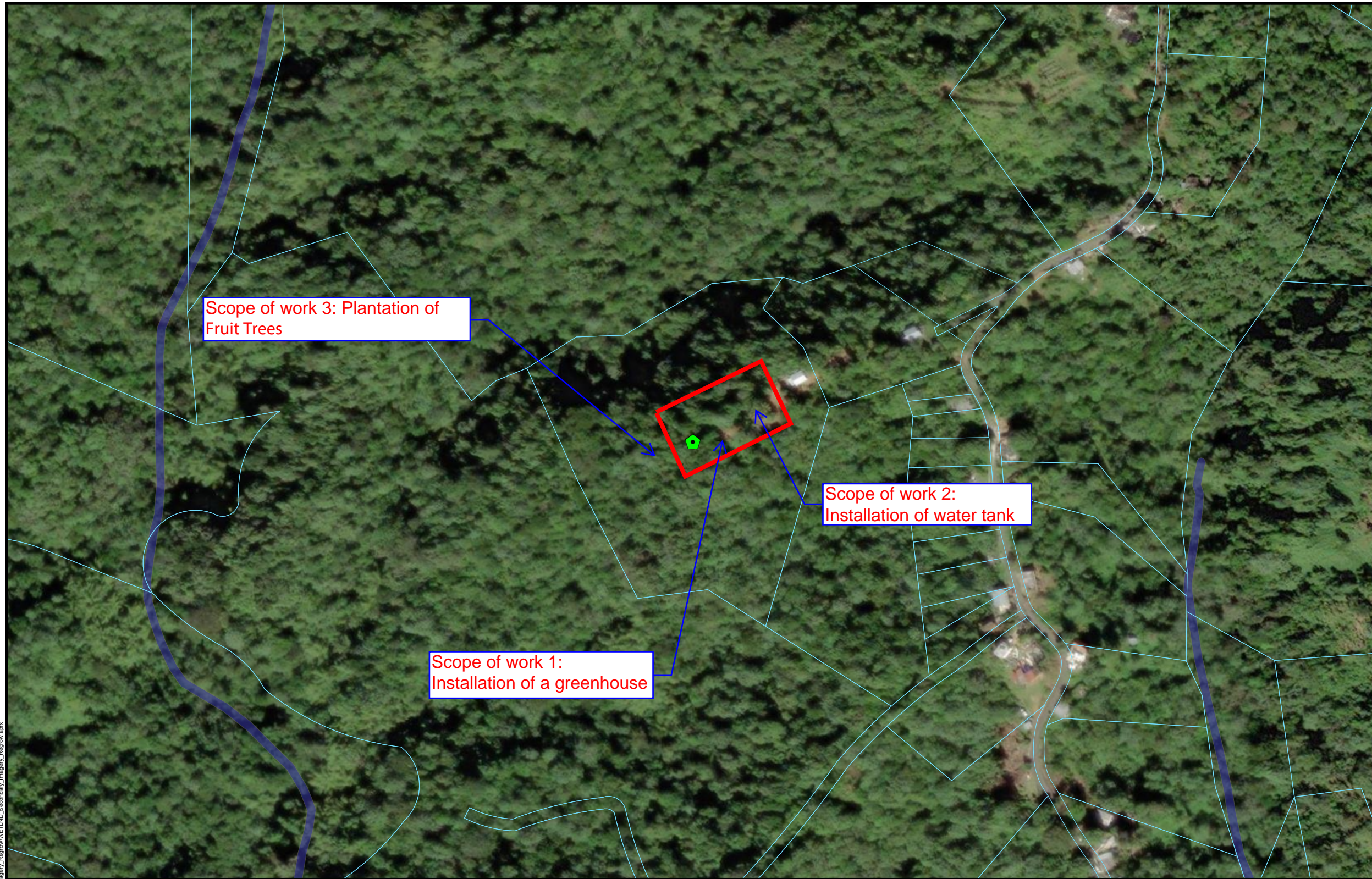
Date: 1/5/2024

#### Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Area of Potential Effect
-  Parcelario







- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Parcels
- WETLAND TYPE**
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
  - Estuarine and Marine Wetland
  - Freshwater Emergent Wetland
  - Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
  - Freshwater Pond
  - Lake
  - Riverine
- Area of Potential Effect

**PUERTO RICO**



**TETRA TECH**

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

Author: TG      Date: 4/11/2024

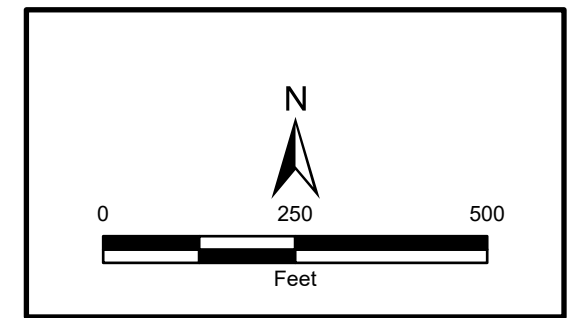
**WETLANDS**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

ADDRESS: Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794







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**Legend**

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

**PUERTO RICO**



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

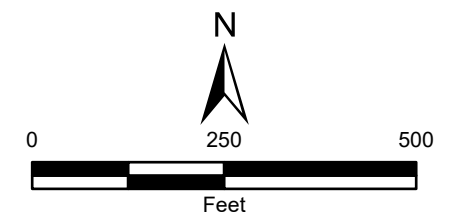
Author: TG Date: 4/11/2024

**ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

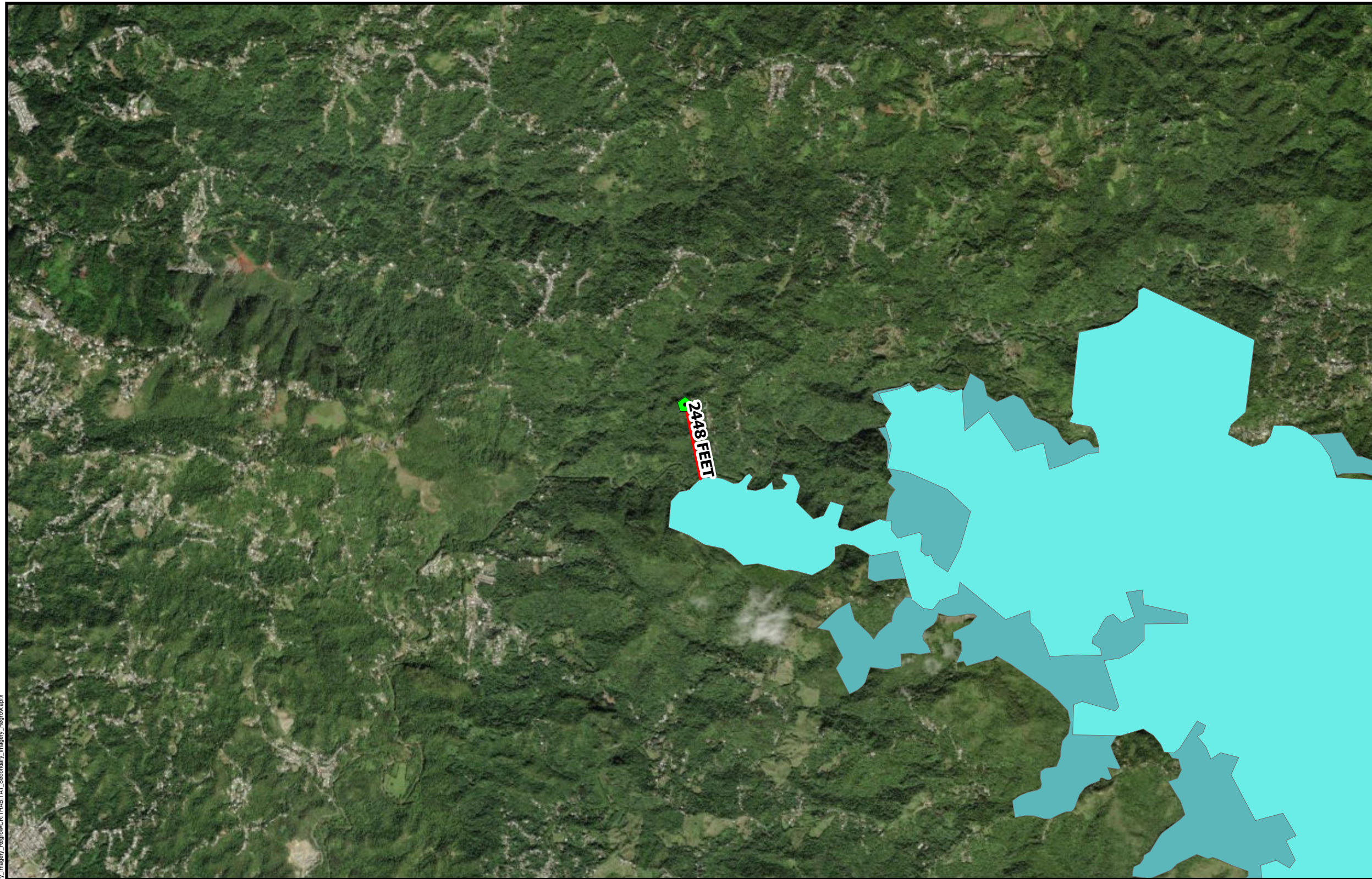
**ADDRESS: Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680**




Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794







- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
  - Common Name**
  -  Elfin-woods warbler
  -  Puerto Rico harlequin butterfly

**Distance to Nearest Critical Habitat:**  
2448 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**



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

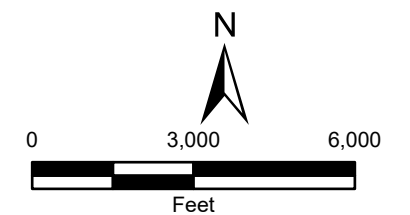
Author: TG Date: 11/3/2023

**CRITICAL HABITATS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

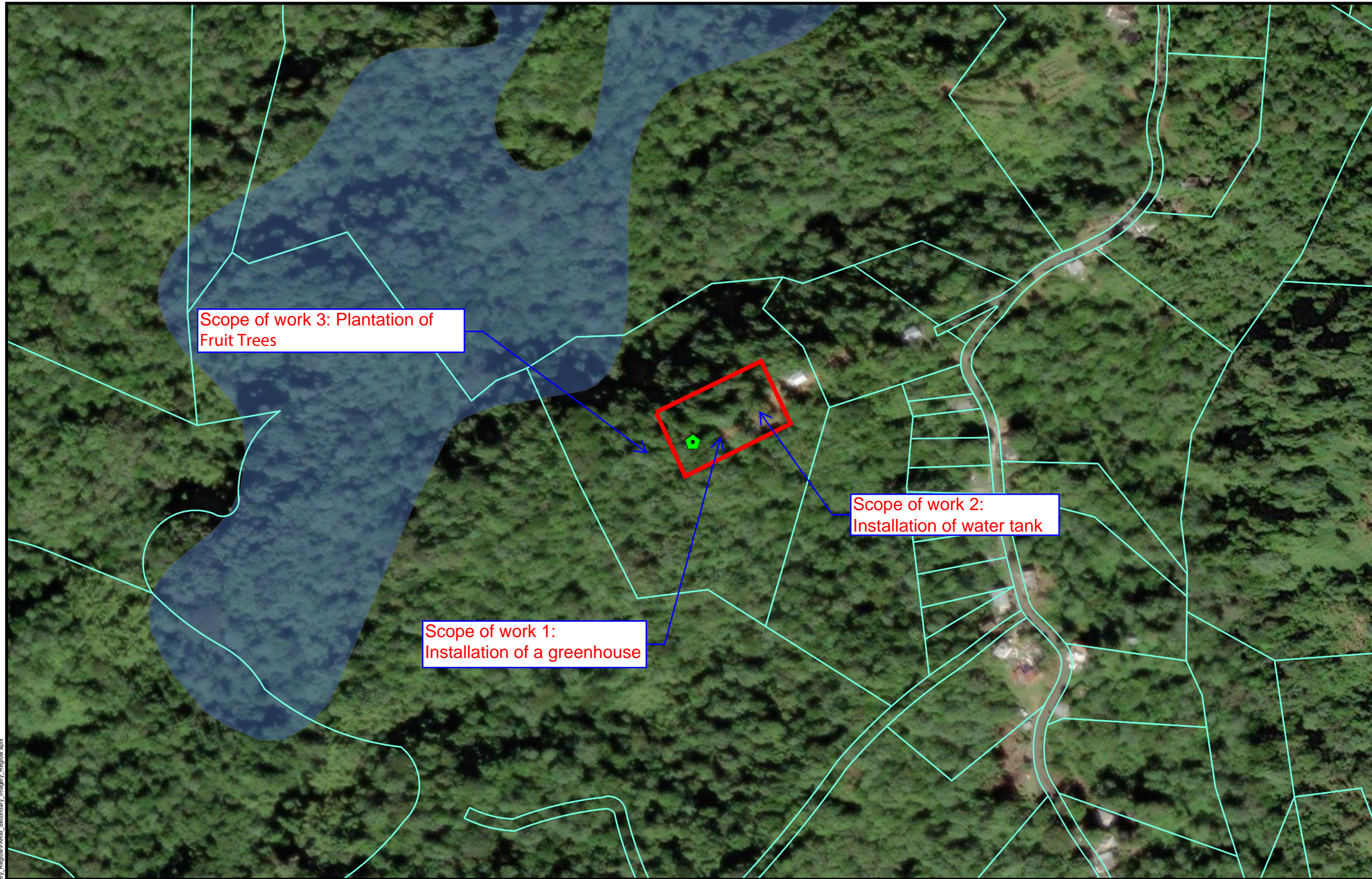
Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794



File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\Tier2\Regrow\CRITICAL\_HABITATS\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow.aprx





**Legend**

Project Parcel

**Farm Class**

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

Area of Potential Effect

**PUERTO RICO**



File Path: Z:\data\USRT\Tier2\Regrow\aprx\FARM\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow.aprx



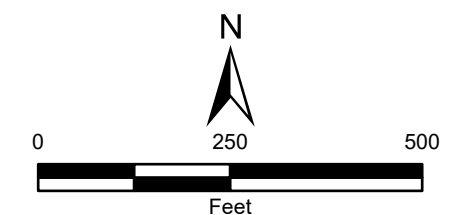
Source: USDA  
<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>

Author: TG Date: 11/3/2023

**FARMLAND PROTECTION**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-02233**

**ADDRESS:** Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR 00680

Name of Development: Pala y Pico Inc.  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.179582, -67.059794





Appendix B:  
Species List Caribbean Ecological Services and Consistency  
Letter SOW-1 & SOW-2





## United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:

07/03/2024 20:46:36 UTC

Project Code: 2024-0050340

Project Name: PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 1 & 2

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

To Whom It May Concern:

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

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

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

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

to [caribbean\\_es@fws.gov](mailto:caribbean_es@fws.gov). To obtain guidance for completing this process and the minimum requirements for project packages, please visit:

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

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

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

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

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

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

This species list is provided by:



Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

[caribbean\\_es@fws.gov](mailto:caribbean_es@fws.gov)

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

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

## OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

**Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office**

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(939) 320-3135

## PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0050340

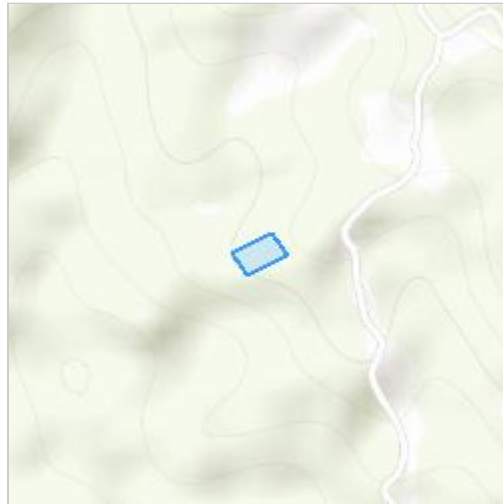
Project Name: PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 1 & 2

Project Type: Restoration / Enhancement - Agricultural

Project Description: The Scope of work 1 (SOW-1) is the purchase and installation of a greenhouse at coordinates 18.179957, -67.059168. The proposed greenhouse is an 18-foot (ft) x 30 ft metal structure with Saran and plastic cover. Structure post consists of 2 inched diameter pillars with 1.5 inches arcs to be anchored to the ground at an approximate depth of 3 ft. The Scope of work 2 (SOW-2) is the purchase and installation of two water tanks, 1,000 gallon each, at coordinates 179838, -67.059101. The tanks are part of a rain harvesting system to collect water from the greenhouse with an aboveground PVC piping system. No concrete pad is proposed as part of the SOW-2. No water or power connection Is needed as part of the proposed SOWs. The potential impacts from the proposed actions are included in the analyses below and it is contained within the delimited Area of Potential Effect (APE). The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project. The APE for the proposed project is approximately 7.78 acres. Field is not graded.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.179719650000003,-67.05954380172614,14z>



Counties: Mayagüez County, Puerto Rico



## ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 6 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

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

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

**BIRDS**

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512</a>	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot <i>Amazona vittata</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067</a>	Endangered

**REPTILES**

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628</a> General project design guidelines: <a href="https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/DNW5UFPBL5FVHB3RCH6NWIYL44/documents/generated/7159.pdf">https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/DNW5UFPBL5FVHB3RCH6NWIYL44/documents/generated/7159.pdf</a>	Endangered

**FLOWERING PLANTS**

NAME	STATUS
Cordia bellonis No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7228">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7228</a>	Endangered
Gesneria pauciflora No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7349">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7349</a>	Threatened
Higuero De Sierra <i>Crescentia portoricensis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6800">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6800</a>	Endangered

**CRITICAL HABITATS**

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

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



# USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

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

## BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

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

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

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

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

## MIGRATORY BIRDS

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

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

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

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

## WETLANDS

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

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

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

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.



## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

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



## United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:

07/03/2024 20:49:22 UTC

Project code: 2024-0050340

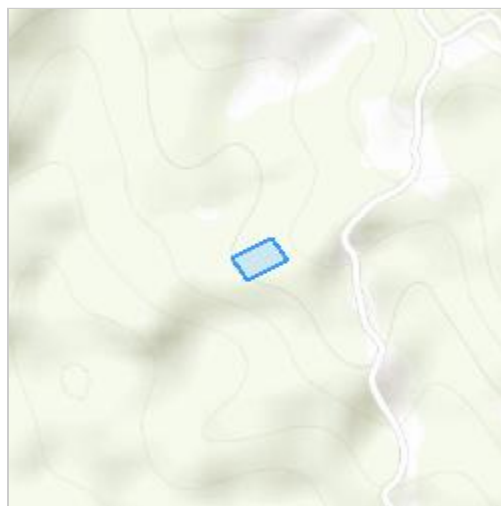
Project Name: PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 1 & 2

Subject: Concurrence letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 1 & 2' for specified threatened and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On July 03, 2024, Shelby McDowell used the Caribbean DKey; dated April 03, 2024, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 1 & 2'. The project is located in Mayagüez County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.179719650000003,-67.05954380172614,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 1 & 2':



The Scope of work 1 (SOW-1) is the purchase and installation of a greenhouse at coordinates 18.179957, -67.059168. The proposed greenhouse is an 18-foot (ft) x 30 ft metal structure with Saran and plastic cover. Structure post consists of 2 inched diameter pillars with 1.5 inches arcs to be anchored to the ground at an approximate depth of 3 ft.

The Scope of work 2 (SOW-2) is the purchase and installation of two water tanks, 1,000 gallon each, at coordinates 179838, -67.059101. The tanks are part of a rain harvesting system to collect water from the greenhouse with an aboveground PVC piping system. No concrete pad is proposed as part of the SOW-2.

No water or power connection Is needed as part of the proposed SOWs. The potential impacts from the proposed actions are included in the analyses below and it is contained within the delimited Area of Potential Effect (APE). The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project. The APE for the proposed project is approximately 7.78 acres. Field is not graded.

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

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

Based on the answers provided in IPaC, the proposed project is consistent with a “may affect but is not likely to adversely affect” (NLAA) for the species listed above because your project impacts to the species will be avoided or minimized using the **Conservation Measures** you agreed to implement. These conservation measures must be implemented during the project development to ensure compliance with Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA.

No further action is required for the species listed above. However, be aware that reinitiation of consultation may be necessary if later modifications are made to the project so that it no longer meets the criteria or outcome described above, or if new information reveals effects of the action that could affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered, or if a new species is listed.

The Service will notify you within 30 calendar days if we determine that this proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a “may affect, not likely to adversely affect” (NLAA) determination for federally listed species in the Caribbean. If we do not notify you within that timeframe, you may proceed with the Action under the terms of the NLAA concurrence provided here. This verification period allows the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office to apply local knowledge to evaluate the Action, as we may identify a small subset of actions having unanticipated impacts. In such instances, the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office may request additional information to verify the effects determination reached through the DKey.

**Note:** Projects located within the range of the Puerto Rican boa or the Virgin Islands tree boa might encounter these species during project activities. **This letter does not provide take to handle or move these species.** If relocation of the species is needed, please contact either the

Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources (DNER) at 787-724-5700, 787-230-5550, or 787-771-1124 for projects in Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) at 340-775-6762 for projects in the Virgin Islands. Otherwise, contact the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office (caribbean\_es@fws.gov) to determine whether the consultation needs to be reinitiated.

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

- *Cordia bellonis* Endangered
- *Gesneria pauciflora* Threatened
- Higuero De Sierra *Crescentia portoricensis* Endangered
- Puerto Rican Parrot *Amazona vittata* Endangered

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

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



## Action Description

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

### 1. Name

PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 1 & 2

### 2. Description

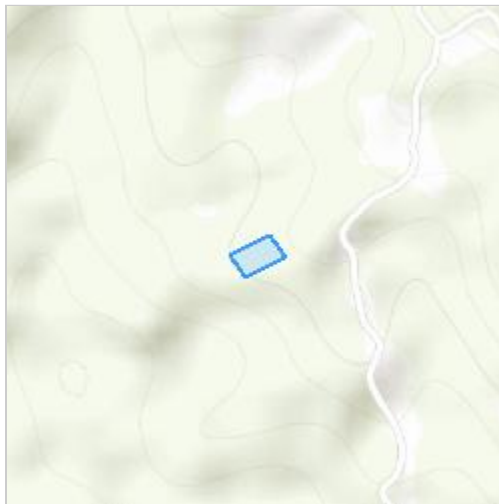
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The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.179719650000003,-67.05954380172614,14z>



## QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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

*No*

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

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

*No*



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

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

Yes

11. Is the project area more than 1 acre?

Yes

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

Yes

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

**Automatically answered**

Yes

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

Yes

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

No

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

Yes

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

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

**Automatically answered**

Yes

20. Are you the Federal agency or designated non-federal representative for the proposed action?

*Yes*



## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

Appendix C:  
Species List Caribbean Ecological Services and Consistency  
Letter SOW-3





## United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:  
Project Code: 2024-0050344  
Project Name: PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 3

07/03/2024 20:55:35 UTC

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

To Whom It May Concern:

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

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

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

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

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This species list is provided by:



Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

[caribbean\\_es@fws.gov](mailto:caribbean_es@fws.gov)

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

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

## OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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(939) 320-3135

## PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0050344  
Project Name: PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 3  
Project Type: Restoration / Enhancement - Agricultural  
Project Description: As part of the intent use of funds the applicants propose planting around 750 avocado and guanabana seeds at coordinates 18.179582, -67.059794 as part of the Scope of work 3 (SOW-3) for this project. The mini excavator is planned to be used for the clearing and maintenance of internal paths and access to operational areas of the farm. All new equipment is planned to be stored near the greenhouse location area at coordinates 18.179957, -67.059168. No water or power connection is needed as part of the proposed SOWs. The APE for the proposed project is approximately 7.78 acres. Field is not graded.

**Project Location:**

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.17920495,-67.05957420703851,14z>



Counties: Mayagüez County, Puerto Rico



## ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 6 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

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

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

**BIRDS**

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512</a>	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot <i>Amazona vittata</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067</a>	Endangered

**REPTILES**

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628</a> General project design guidelines: <a href="https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/XBR6B6OTZND7DIVLOFJUWYHVAI/documents/generated/7159.pdf">https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/XBR6B6OTZND7DIVLOFJUWYHVAI/documents/generated/7159.pdf</a>	Endangered

**FLOWERING PLANTS**

NAME	STATUS
Cordia bellonis No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7228">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7228</a>	Endangered
Gesneria pauciflora No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7349">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7349</a>	Threatened
Higuero De Sierra <i>Crescentia portoricensis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6800">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6800</a>	Endangered

**CRITICAL HABITATS**

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

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



# USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

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

## BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

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

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

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

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

## MIGRATORY BIRDS

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

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

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

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

## WETLANDS

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

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

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

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.



## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

## **LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

Lead Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development



## United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:

07/03/2024 21:01:15 UTC

Project code: 2024-0050344

Project Name: PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 3

Subject: Concurrence letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 3' for specified threatened and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On July 03, 2024, Shelby McDowell used the Caribbean DKey; dated April 03, 2024, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 3'. The project is located in Mayagüez County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.17920495,-67.05957420703851,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 3':



As part of the intent use of funds the applicants propose planting around 750 avocado and guanabana seeds at coordinates 18.179582, -67.059794 as part of the Scope of work 3 (SOW-3) for this project. The mini excavator is planned to be used for the clearing and maintenance of internal paths and access to operational areas of the farm. All new equipment is planned to be stored near the greenhouse location area at coordinates 18.179957, -67.059168. No water or power connection is needed as part of the proposed SOWs. The APE for the proposed project is approximately 7.78 acres. Field is not graded.

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

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

Based on the answers provided in IPaC, the proposed project is consistent with a "may affect but is not likely to adversely affect" (NLAA) for the species listed above because your project impacts to the species will be avoided or minimized using the **Conservation Measures** you agreed to implement. These conservation measures must be implemented during the project development to ensure compliance with Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA.

No further action is required for the species listed above. However, be aware that reinitiation of consultation may be necessary if later modifications are made to the project so that it no longer meets the criteria or outcome described above, or if new information reveals effects of the action that could affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered, or if a new species is listed.

The Service will notify you within 30 calendar days if we determine that this proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" (NLAA) determination for federally listed species in the Caribbean. If we do not notify you within that timeframe, you may proceed with the Action under the terms of the NLAA concurrence provided here. This verification period allows the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office to apply local knowledge to evaluate the Action, as we may identify a small subset of actions having unanticipated impacts. In such instances, the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office may request additional information to verify the effects determination reached through the DKey.

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

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

- *Cordia bellonis* Endangered
- *Gesneria pauciflora* Threatened
- Higuero De Sierra *Crescentia portoricensis* Endangered
- Puerto Rican Parrot *Amazona vittata* Endangered

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

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



**Action Description**

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

**1. Name**

PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 3

**2. Description**

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-02233 SOW 3':

As part of the intent use of funds the applicants propose planting around 750 avocado and guanabana seeds at coordinates 18.179582, -67.059794 as part of the Scope of work 3 (SOW-3) for this project. The mini excavator is planned to be used for the clearing and maintenance of internal paths and access to operational areas of the farm. All new equipment is planned to be stored near the greenhouse location area at coordinates 18.179957, -67.059168. No water or power connection is needed as part of the proposed SOWs. The APE for the proposed project is approximately 7.78 acres. Field is not graded.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.17920495,-67.05957420703851,14z>



## QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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

*No*

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

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

*No*



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

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

Yes

11. Is the project area more than 1 acre?

Yes

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

Yes

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

**Automatically answered**

Yes

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

Yes

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

No

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

Yes

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

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

**Automatically answered**

Yes

20. Are you the Federal agency or designated non-federal representative for the proposed action?

*Yes*



## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

## **LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

Lead Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development

## Appendix D: Site Photos

**Front of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Facing Away From Front**

Photo Direction: Southeast





Side #1 of Structure

Photo Direction: Northwest



Facing Away From Side #1

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Back of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Facing Away From Back**

Photo Direction: Southwest





**Side #2 of Structure**

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Facing Away From Side #2**

Photo Direction: Northwest





**Streetscape #1**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Streetscape #2**

Photo Direction: Southwest



Address

Photo Direction: Northwest



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Applicant house

Photo Direction: Northeast





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: East





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

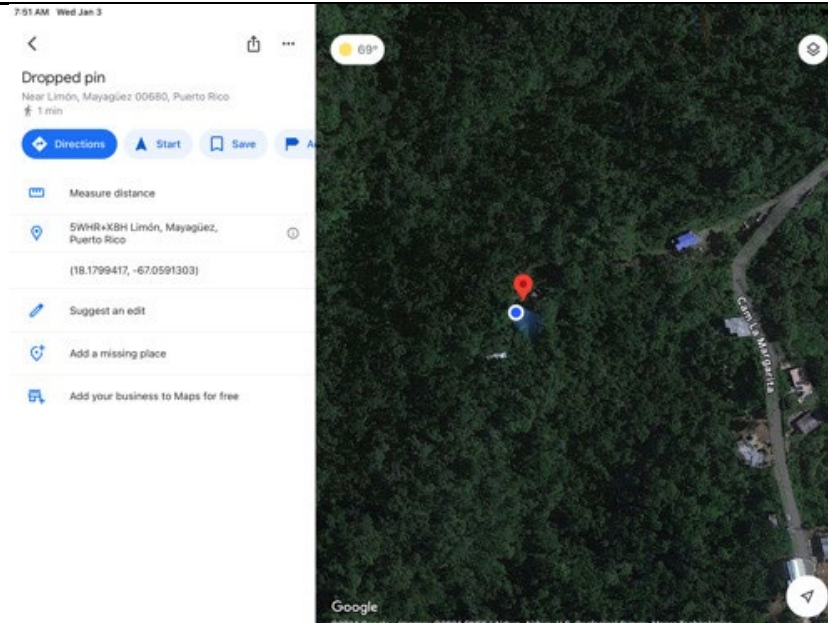
Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: North



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Applica house

Photo Direction: West





Greenhouse Photos

Photo Description: Green house

Photo Direction: Southwest



Warehouse Use

Photo Description: Pesticide storage

Photo Direction: Southeast





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Installation of a Green house

Photo Direction: West



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Installation of a Green house

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Installation of a Green house

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Installation of a Green house

Photo Direction: Southeast





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 1: Installation of a Green house

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Installation of a water tanks

Photo Direction: Northwest





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Installation of a water tanks

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Installation of a water tanks

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 2: Installation of a water tanks

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work 3: Plantation of avocado and soursop seeds

Photo Direction: Southwest





Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 3: Plantation of avocado and soursop seeds

Photo Direction: Southwest



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 3: Plantation of avocado and soursop seeds

Photo Direction: Southeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Scope of work 3: Plantation of avocado and soursop seeds

Photo Direction: Southeast



Scope Of Work

Photo Description: Storage for farming equipment.

Photo Direction: Southeast





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Mini retroexcavator parking area

Photo Direction: Northwest



Appendix E:  
Conservation Measures for the Broad-winged Hawk



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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

Appendix F:  
Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican Amazon (Parrot)

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

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

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



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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Appendix G:  
USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024





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

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

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

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



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

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

#### Conservation Measures:

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

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

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

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



# **APPENDIX E**

## **Section 106 Consultation**



# GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

## STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

### Lauren B Poche

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

SHPO-CF-03-18-24-07 PR-RGRW-02233 (Mayagüez), Pala y Pico Inc.

Dear Ms. Poche,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/MB



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

March 18, 2024

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

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

**Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-02233 – Pala y Pico Inc. – Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected***

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

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

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, HORNE is submitting documentation for activities proposed by Pala y Pico Inc. located at Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon, in the municipality of Mayagüez. The undertaking for this project includes the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and water tanks. The proposed greenhouse is an 18-foot (ft) x 30 ft metal structure with Saran and plastic cover. Structure post consists of 2 inched diameter pillars with 1.5 inches arcs to be anchored to the ground at an approximate depth of 3 ft. The water tanks will be installed on bare earth adjacent to the new greenhouse; some ground leveling may be required. Additional ground disturbance is anticipated for the planting of avocado and guanabana seeds due to necessary vegetation removal and access road clearing. The land has been used for agricultural purposes in the past with the planting of coffee and bananas, currently for the growing of avocado and guanabanas.

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



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


Kindest regards,



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

Architectural Historian, EHP Senior Manager  
LBP/JLE

Attachments

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b>		
<b>REgROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b>		
<b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>		
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Pala y Pico Inc.		
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-02233	<b>City:</b> Mayagüez	

<b>Project Location:</b> Carr 105 KM 12.3 Camino Margarita, Barrio Limon (sector), Mayaguez PR. 00680	
<b>Project Coordinates:</b> 18.179582, -67.059794	
<b>TPID (Número de Catastro):</b> 261-000-001-21-000	
<b>Type of Undertaking:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
<b>Construction Date (AH est.):</b> c2000	<b>Property Size (acres):</b> 7.78

<b>SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian:</b> Maria F. Lopez Schmid, MAHP
<b>Date Reviewed:</b> 2/14/2024
<b>SOI-Qualified Archaeologist:</b> Pollyanna Clark, MA, RPA
<b>Date Reviewed:</b> 2/21/2024


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

### Project Description (Undertaking)

The intent use of funds for the proposed project includes the purchase of farm equipment, fruit trees, a mini-excavator, plant pots, and the purchase and installation of a new greenhouse and water tanks. The purchase and installation of the greenhouse and water tanks will require ground disturbance. Additional ground disturbance is anticipated for the planting of avocado and guanabana seeds due to necessary vegetation removal and access road clearing. The land has been used for agricultural purposes in the past with the planting of coffee and bananas, currently for the growing of avocado and guanabanas.

The Scope of work 1 (SOW-1) is the purchase and installation of a greenhouse at coordinates 18.179957, -67.059168. The proposed greenhouse is an 18-foot (ft) x 30 ft metal structure with Saran and plastic cover. Structure post consists of 2 inched diameter pillars with 1.5 inches arcs to be anchored to the ground at an approximate depth of 3 ft.

The Scope of work 2 (SOW-2) is the purchase and installation of two water tanks, 1,000 gallon each, at coordinates 179838, -67.059101. The tanks are part of a rain harvesting system to collect water from the greenhouse with an aboveground PVC piping system. No concrete pad is proposed as part of the SOW-2; however, some clearing and leveling may be required.

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Pala y Pico Inc.	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-02233	<b>City:</b> Mayagüez

As part of the intent use of funds the applicants propose planting around 750 of avocado and guanabana seeds at coordinates 18.179582, -67.059794 as part of the Scope of work 3 (SOW-3) for this project. The mini excavator is planned to be used for the clearing and maintenance of internal paths and access to operational areas of the farm. All new equipment is planned to be stored near the greenhouse location area at coordinates 18.179957, -67.059168.

No water or power connection is needed as part of the proposed SOWs. The potential impacts from the proposed actions are included in the analyses below and it is contained within the delimited Area of Potential Effect (APE). The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project. The APE for the proposed project is approximately 7.78 acres. Field is not graded.


**Area of Potential Effects**

As defined in 36 CFR §800.16(d), the area of potential effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the location of the proposed greenhouse and water tanks, as well as farm road clearing and vegetation removal within the limits of the property boundaries and the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

**Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology**

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review 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 one archaeological site has been identified within the half-mile radius from the APE (**Table 1**). The SHPO database reports Garrow Site #25 (MY0100007) at 0.53 miles southeast, while the IPRC database (MY-99) pinpoint the site at 0.46 miles southeast. The site contains a multicomponent deposit dating from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century; however, it is reported by Garrow and Associates (1987) (Garrow) to be previously impacted.



<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>		
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Pala y Pico Inc.		
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-02233		<b>City:</b> Mayagüez

Name	SHPO id #	IPRC id #	Distance/Direction	Description	NRHP (listed, eligible, non-eligible, no data)
Garrow Site #25	MY0100007	MY-99	0.46 mi southeast	Residuario de los siglos XVI-XIX. Multicomponente. Reported to be affected (Inpactado).	No data

**Table 1. Archaeological Sites Located Within a Half-Mile Radius of Project Area**

Additionally, a cultural resource survey conducted by Garrow (1987) lies within the half-mile radius from the APE (Table 2). Garrow performed a walkover survey at 50-meter intervals, excluding areas with steep slopes, poor drainage, and dense sugarcane fields. These excluded areas were deemed to have low potential for archaeological deposits.

Author	Phase/Title	Year	SHPO / IPRC code	Results	Distance/Direction
Garrow and Associates, Inc.	Phase I / Archaeological Reconnaissance of Five Tracts in the Rio Guanajibo Basin, Puerto Rico	1987	11-26-85-01 / MY-87-10-08	Positive	0.05 mi - 0.50 mi coverage from west, south and southeast


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

The closest freshwater body (Rio Rosario) is approximately 0.37 miles (0.59 km) south of the project area.

The landscape topography and soil characteristics play a crucial role in determining the likelihood of discovering archaeological sites and the potential for site preservation in a given location. The APE consists of the following soil types:

1. Consumo clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes (CoF2), found in SOWs 1 & 3, consists of very deep, moderately well-drained soils on steep slopes on summits and side slopes.
2. Quebrada silty clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded (QuF2), found in SOW-2, consists of shallow, well-drained, moderately permeable soils on summits, shoulders, and back slopes.

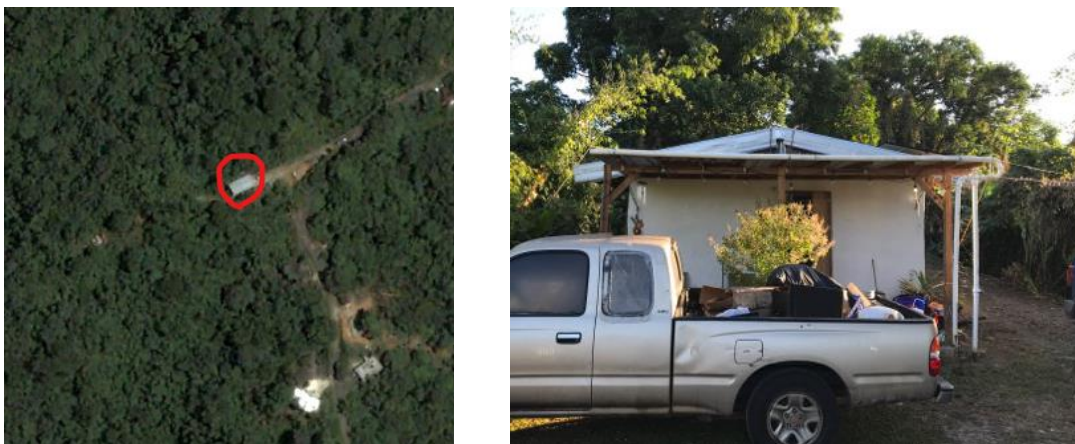
The steep topography and moderate drainage of the soil deemed a low potential area for archaeological deposits by Garrow (1987) makes the possibilities of finding new, intact, and significant archaeological deposits in the APE low to moderate.

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Pala y Pico Inc.	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-02233	<b>City:</b> Mayagüez

### Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture


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

The proposed project is located in a rural, sloped terrain with dense vegetation surrounding the property that lies west of Camino La Margarita in Mayaguez. A building c2000 is inside the property and it first appears on a 2014 aerial image shown below left but is not present on a 1994 aerial image. The building shown below right is located to the northeast of the project APE geocoordinates. This building is the applicant's house and has a slab on grade foundation, concrete walls, and a front gable corrugated metal roof over a wood frame structure. The front porch has a low profile shed roof made of corrugated metal over wood frame structure. The façade contains a front entrance wood door and the windows are plywood casement and wood and glass sash windows.



**Figures 1 & 2.** Detail of 2014 aerial image showing the property's house and front elevation, view to the west.

Another building on the property is of recent construction and is located west of the house. This agricultural building is a rectangular metal structure with a corrugated metal gabled roof that has been recently constructed c2020, shown below left in reference to the house. The

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Pala y Pico Inc.	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-02233	<b>City:</b> Mayagüez

building shown below right has a slab on grade foundation, concrete walls, and a corrugated metal gable roof over wood frame structure.



**Figures 3 & 4.** Detail of 2020 aerial image showing the property's farm building and rear elevation, view northwest.

These buildings on the property are modern and **do not** meet the requirements to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.


### Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that no previously identified historic properties are located within or adjacent to the proposed project APE. The project area is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed historic district or Traditional Urban Center. There is one archaeological site within a half-mile radius of the proposed project location that has previously been affected. No NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the Area of Potential Effect of case PR-RGRW-02233 is located. The construction of public roads and agricultural infrastructure has minimally impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project activities.



<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>REGrow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Pala y Pico Inc.	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-02233	<b>City:</b> Mayagüez

**Recommendation**

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

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

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

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

Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez

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






Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 1/5/2024

#### Legend

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Area of Potential Effect
-  Parcelario

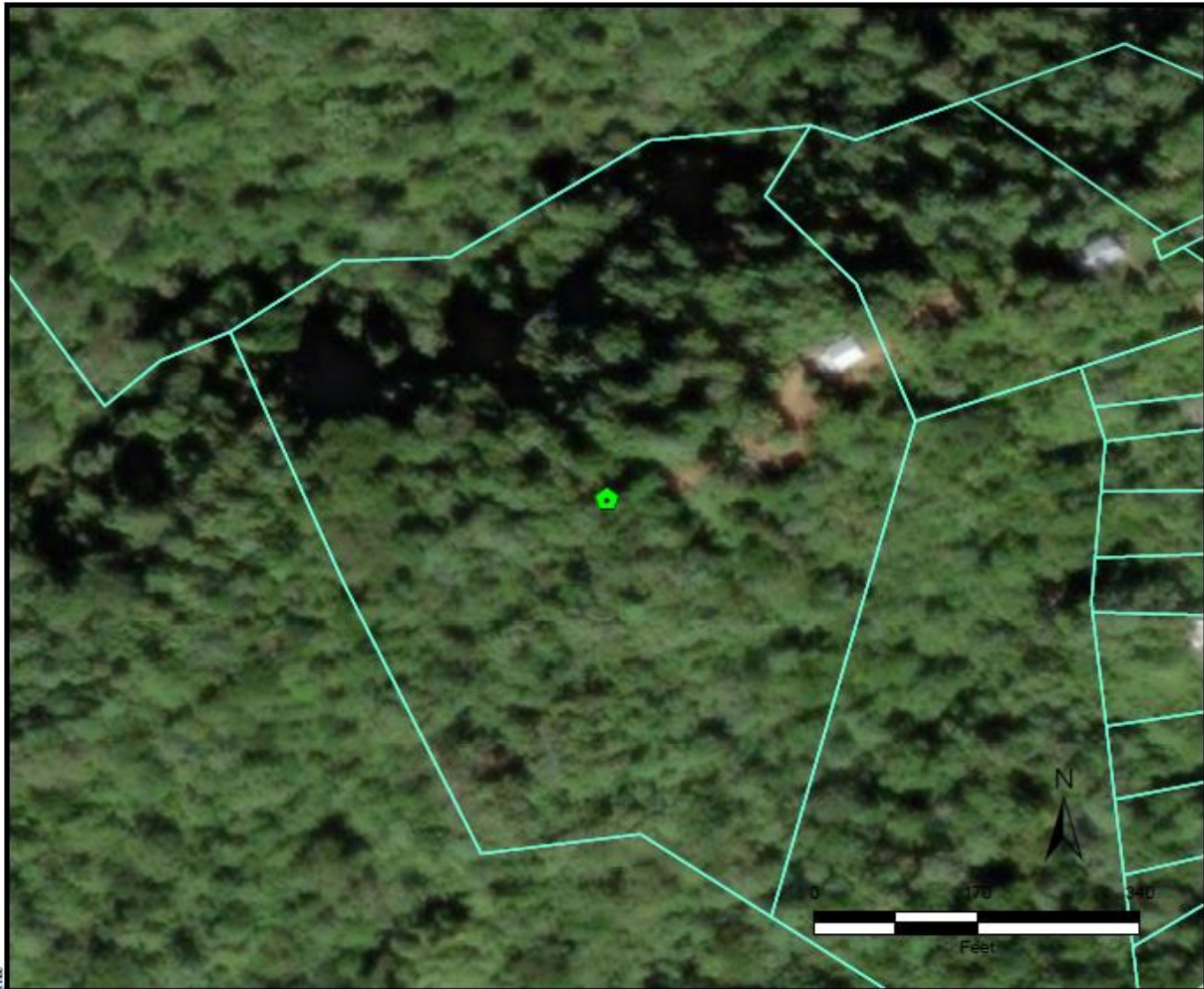


Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez

### Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map



FILE: \\P:\GIS\PROJECTS\2024\106\106\_02233\106\_02233\_Tier2\_Site\_Location.mxd



**TETRA TECH**

Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 1/5/2024

#### Legend

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





Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez

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



Reservados todos los derechos. No se permite la explotación económica ni la transformación de esta obra. Queda permitida la impresión en su totalidad.







**TETRA TECH**

Source: USGS

Author: TG

Date: 9/19/2023

#### Legend

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

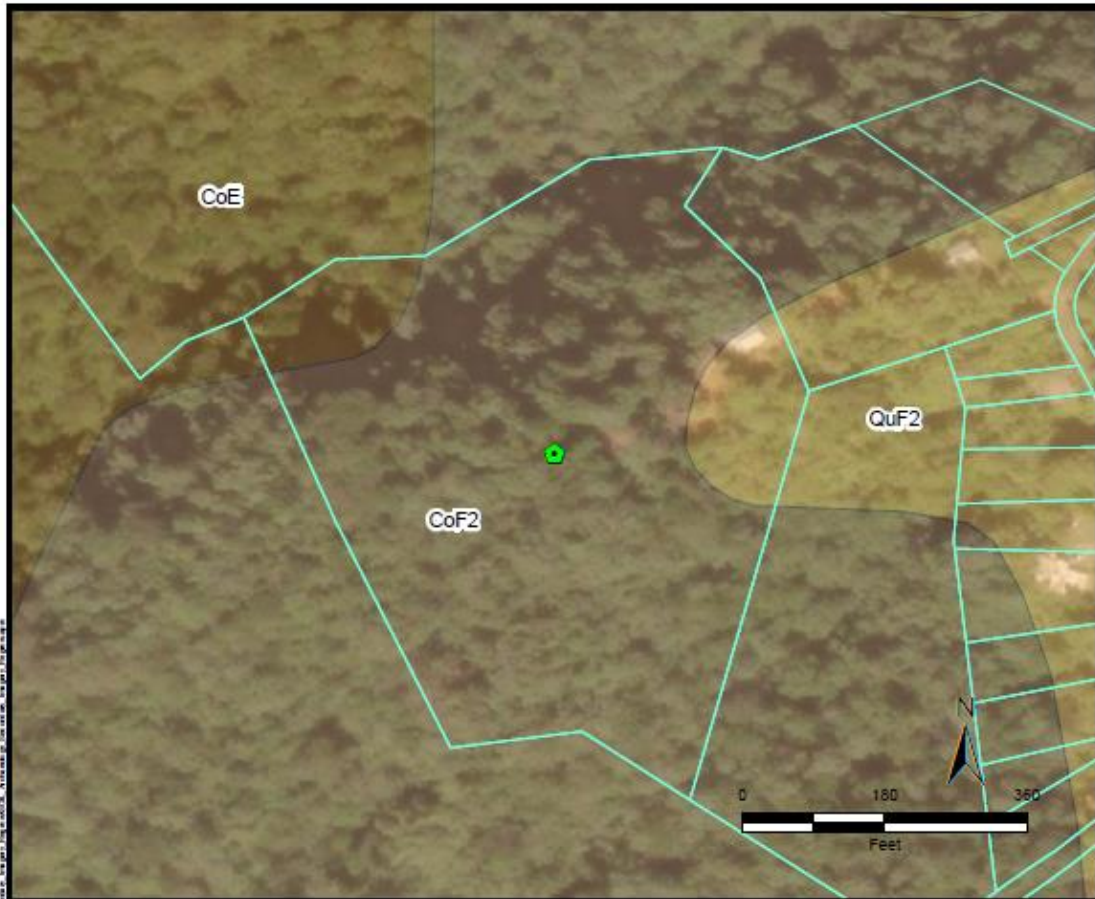


Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez

### Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map



 <p><b>TETRA TECH</b> Source:USDA</p> <p>Author: TQ      Date: 11/27/2023</p>	<p><b>Legend</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Tier 2 Site</li><li> Parcelario</li><li><b>Soil Type</b></li><li> CoE; Consensus clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes</li><li> CoF2; Consensus clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes</li><li> QuF2; Quabrada silty clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded</li></ul>	 <p>Mona Passage</p>
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Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez

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



 <b>TETRA TECH</b> Source: National Park Service	<b>Legend</b>	
	 Tier 2 Site  Half Mile Buffer  Historic Comunidades	 Traditional Urban Centers  Cultural Resource District Polygon
Author: TG	Date: 11/16/2023	

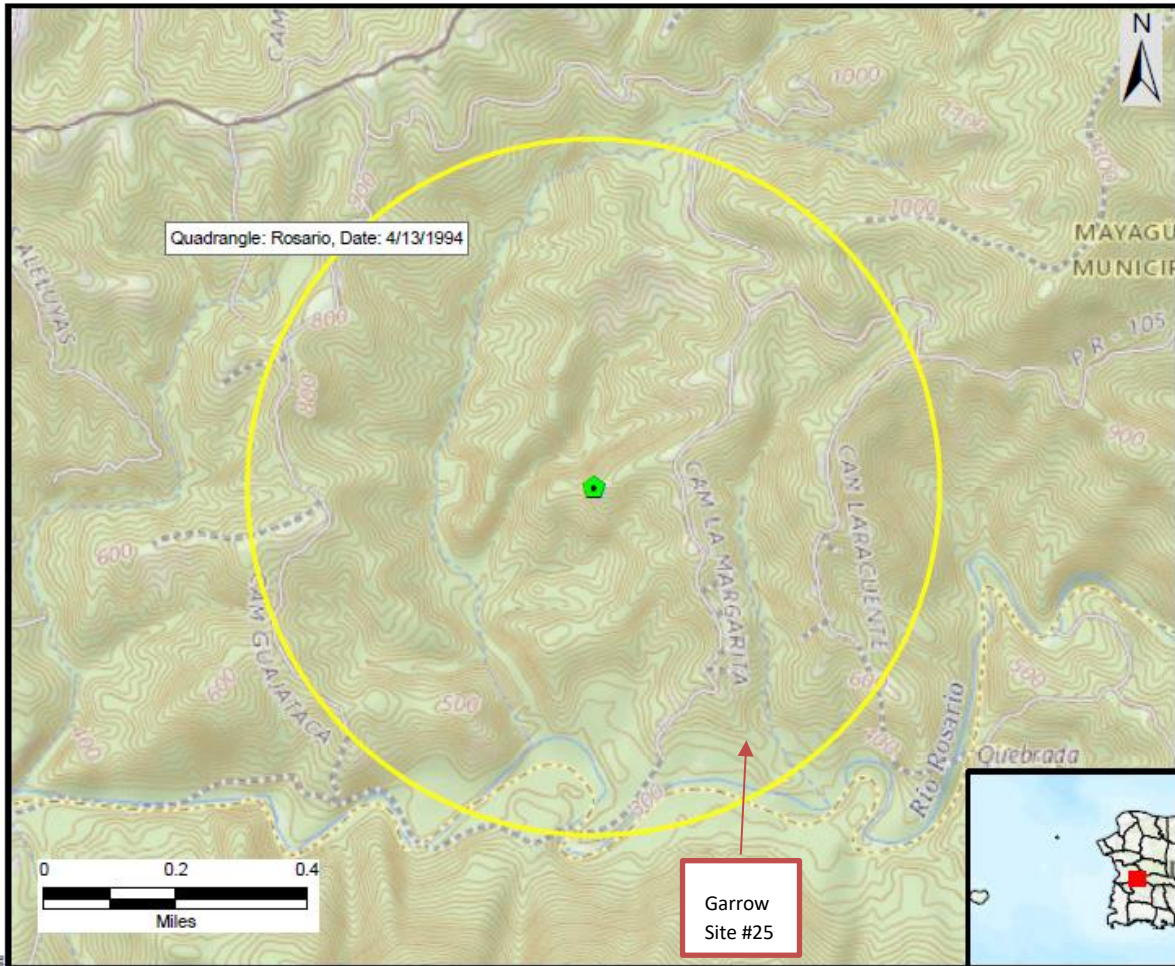


Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez

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



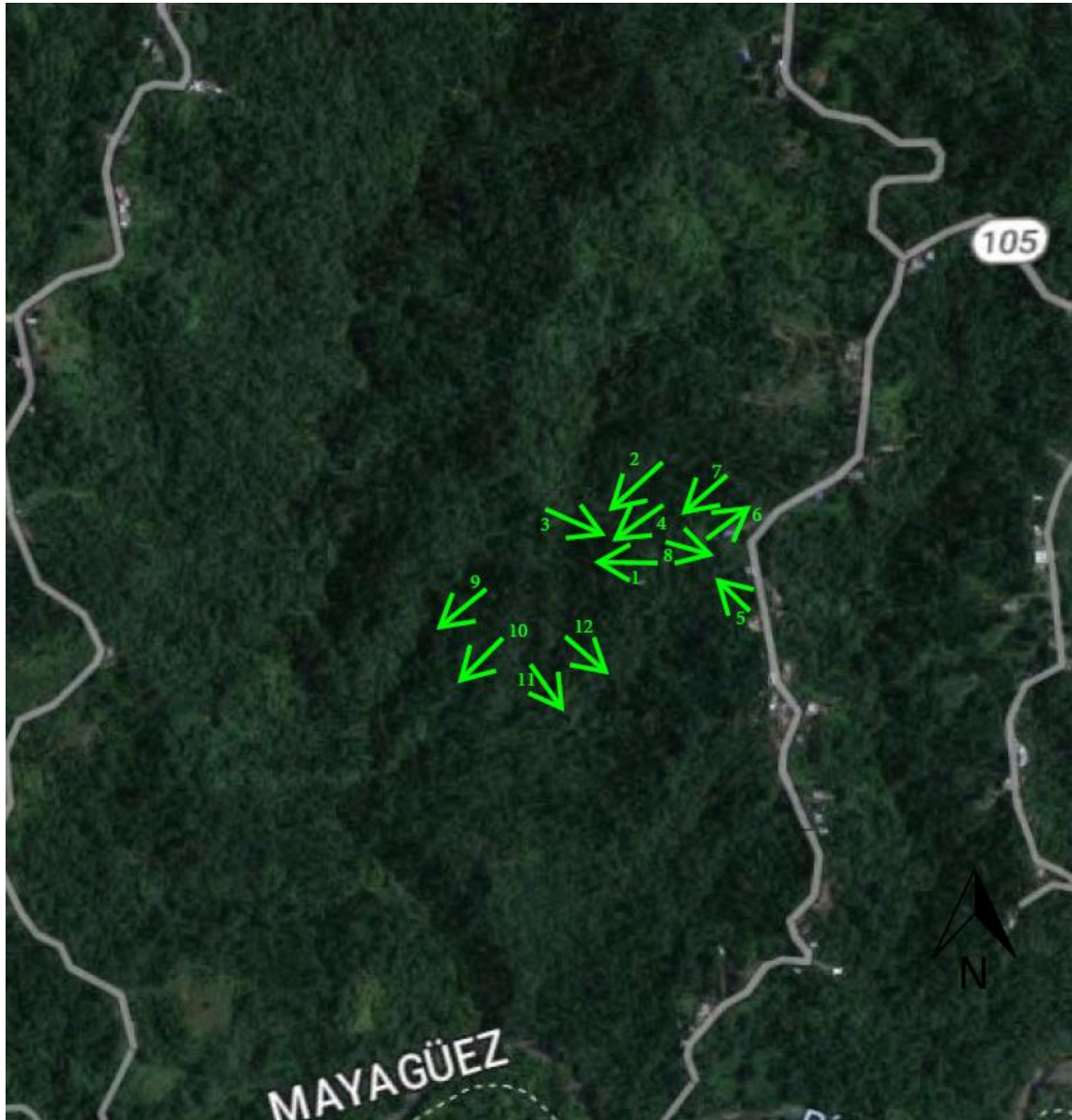
 <b>TETRA TECH</b>	<b>Legend</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Tier 2 Site</li><li> Half Mile Buffer</li><li> Historic Comunidades</li><li> Traditional Urban Centers</li><li> Cultural Resource District Polygon</li></ul>
Source: National Park Service	
Author: TG	Date: 7/21/2023

Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez

### Photograph Key





Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez



Photo #: 1

Description (include direction): Scope of work 1: Installation of a Greenhouse, view to the west.

Date: 1/3/2024



Photo #: 2

Description (include direction): Scope of work 1: Installation of a Greenhouse, view to the southwest.

Date: 1/3/2024



Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez



Photo #: 3

Description (include direction): Scope of work 1: Installation of a Greenhouse, view to the southeast.

Date: 1/3/2024



Photo #: 4

Description (include direction): Scope of work 1: Installation of a Greenhouse, view to the southwest.

Date: 1/3/2024

Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez



Photo #: 5

Date: 1/3/2024

Description (include direction): Scope of work 2: Installation of water tanks, view to the northwest.



Photo #: 6

Date: 1/3/2024

Description (include direction): Scope of work 2: Installation of water tanks, view to the northeast.



Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez



Photo #: 7

Description (include direction): Scope of work 2: Installation of water tanks, view to the southwest.

Date: 1/3/2024



Photo #: 8

Description (include direction): Scope of work 2: Installation of water tanks, view to the southeast.

Date: 1/3/2024



Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez



Photo #: 9

Description (include direction): Scope of work 3: Plantation of avocado and soursop seeds, view to the southwest.

Date: 1/3/2024



Photo #: 10

Description (include direction): Scope of work 3: Plantation of avocado and soursop seeds, view to the southwest.

Date: 1/3/2024

Subrecipient: Pala y Pico Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02233

City: Mayagüez



Photo #: 11

Description (include direction): Scope of work 3: Plantation of avocado and soursop seeds, view to the southeast.

Date: 1/3/2024



Photo #: 12

Description (include direction): Scope of work 3: Plantation of avocado and soursop seeds, view to the southeast.

Date: 1/3/2024



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