



**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**  
 451 Seventh Street, SW  
 Washington, DC 20410  
[www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov)  
[espanol.hud.gov](http://espanol.hud.gov)

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

**Project Information**

**Project Name:** PR-RGRW-03911

**HEROS Number:** 900000010389862

**State / Local Identifier:**

**Project Location:** , Jayuya, PR 00664

**Additional Location Information:**

Location centroid: Latitude 18.210048, longitude -66.598671 at the address given above. Cadastral: 242-000-002-43-000

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

The project business is D'ORIGEN CAFE CORP. located at Carr 144 km 4.2 Bo Veguita Zamas, Jayuya, PR 00664. Project includes the purchase of farm equipment including an affixed industrial coffee machine, cacao trees (area previously used for planting trees), and G110D Tractor/accessories. New electrical and gas lines will be installed for the industrial coffee machine. A new gas tank will be installed on an existing concrete slab adjacent to the structure. The cacao trees fall under 24 CFR 58.35(b)(4) as inventory but were submitted to SHPO for an archeological review due to the extensive ground disturbance.

**Level of Environment Review Determination:**

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

**Funding Information**

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

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$45,198.67

**Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.2 (a) (5)]:** \$45,198.67

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure or Condition	Comments on Completed Measures	Complete
Wetlands Protection	To mitigate direct and indirect impacts, best management practices, such as proper site management, implementation and maintenance of erosion and sedimentation control measures, and soil stabilization will be followed to minimize potential impacts to wetlands.	N/A	

**Determination:**

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

Preparer Signature:  Date: November 1, 2024

Name / Title/ Organization: Ricardo Espiet Lopez / / Department of Housing - Puerto Rico

Responsible Entity Agency Official Signature:  Date: 11/1/2024

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

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

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

**Project Information**

**Project Name:** PR-RGRW-03911

**HEROS Number:** 900000010389862

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

**State / Local Identifier:**

**RE Preparer:** Ricardo Espiet Lopez

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

**Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Ent  
ity):**

**Point of Contact:**

**Consultant (if applicabl HORNE LLP  
e):**

**Point of Contact:** Paige Pilkinton

**Project Location:** , Jayuya, PR 00664

**Additional Location Information:**

Location centroid: Latitude 18.210048, longitude -66.598671 at the address given  
above. Cadastral: 242-000-002-43-000

**Direct Comments to:**



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

The project business is D'ORIGEN CAFE CORP. located at Carr 144 km 4.2 Bo Veguita Zamas, Jayuya, PR 00664. Project includes the purchase of farm equipment including an affixed industrial coffee machine, cacao trees (area previously used for planting trees), and G110D Tractor/accessories. New electrical and gas lines will be installed for the industrial coffee machine. A new gas tank will be installed on an existing concrete slab adjacent to the structure. The cacao trees fall under 24 CFR 58.35(b)(4) as inventory but were submitted to SHPO for an archeological review due to the extensive ground disturbance.

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

[PR-RGRW-03911 Site Map.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-03911 Planting Area.png](#)

[PR-RGRW-03911 IUGF.pdf](#)

**Level of Environmental Review Determination:**

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

**Determination:**

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

**Approval Documents:**

[03911-SIG-PAGE.pdf](#)

**7015.15 certified by Certifying Officer on:**

**7015.16 certified by Authorizing Officer on:**

**Funding Information**

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

**Estimated Total HUD Funded, Assisted or Insured Amount:** \$45,198.67

**Estimated Total Project Cost:** \$45,198.67

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

<b>Compliance Factors:</b> Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §50.4, §58.5, and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determination (See Appendix A for source determinations)
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 &amp; § 58.6</b>		
<b>Airport Hazards</b> Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest airport RPZ/CZ is approximately 70,125.1 feet away. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.
<b>Coastal Barrier Resources Act</b> Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is at 84,786.3 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit

Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]		and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.
<b>Flood Insurance</b> Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Flood Map Number 72000C1105H, effective on 4/19/2005: The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 &amp; § 58.5</b>		
<b>Air Quality</b> Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under the Clean Air Act. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.
<b>Coastal Zone Management Act</b> Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	The project is located 73,996.7 feet from the coastal zone. This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.
<b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b> 24 CFR 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Site contamination was evaluated as follows: None of the above. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. A review of science-based radon data offered a lack of data for the project site and radon testing was determined to be infeasible or impracticable. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements.
<b>Endangered Species Act</b> Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project will have No Effect on listed species based on a letter of understanding, memorandum of agreement, programmatic agreement, or checklist provided by local HUD

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

<p><b>Wetlands Protection</b> Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>The project results will impact on- or off-site wetlands. An 8 Step Process has been completed. With mitigation, identified in the mitigation section of this review, the project will be in compliance with Executive Order 11990. The 8-step process was initiated on April 2, 2024. The process was completed on October 2, 2024.</p>
<p><b>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act</b> Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 282,364.2 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.</p>
<p><b>HUD HOUSING ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS</b></p>		
<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b></p>		
<p><b>Environmental Justice</b> Executive Order 12898</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>No adverse environmental impacts were identified in the project's total environmental review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898.</p>

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure or Condition	Comments on Completed Measures	Mitigation Plan	Complete
Wetlands Protection	To mitigate direct and indirect impacts, best management practices, such as proper site management, implementation and maintenance of erosion and sedimentation control measures, and soil stabilization will be followed to minimize potential impacts to wetlands.	N/A		

**Project Mitigation Plan**

To mitigate direct and indirect impacts, best management practices, such as proper site management, implementation and maintenance of erosion and sedimentation control measures, and soil stabilization will be followed to minimize potential impacts to wetlands. Should new ground disturbance occur the Karst zone must be evaluated and when necessary DNER must be consulted prior to construction activities.

**Supporting documentation on completed measures**

## APPENDIX A: Related Federal Laws and Authorities

### Airport Hazards

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

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

No

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

Yes

### Screen Summary

#### Compliance Determination

The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest airport RPZ/CZ is approximately 70,125.1 feet away. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.

#### Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-03911 Airports.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

## Coastal Barrier Resources

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

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

No

Document and upload map and documentation below.

Yes

### Screen Summary

#### **Compliance Determination**

This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is at 84,786.3 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.

#### **Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-03911 CBRS.pdf](#)

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

Yes

No



## Flood Insurance

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

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

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

✓ Yes

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

[PR-RGRW-03911 Flood Map.pdf](#)

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

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

Yes

✓ No

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

Flood Map Number 72000C1105H, effective on 4/19/2005: The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.

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

Yes

✓ No

## Air Quality

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

### Screen Summary

#### **Compliance Determination**

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

#### **Supporting documentation**

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

Yes

✓ No

## Coastal Zone Management Act

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

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

Yes

No

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

### Screen Summary

#### **Compliance Determination**

The project is located 73,996.7 feet from the coastal zone. This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

#### **Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-03911 CZM.pdf](#)

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

Yes

No

## Contamination and Toxic Substances

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

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

ASTM Phase I ESA

ASTM Phase II ESA

Remediation or clean-up plan

ASTM Vapor Encroachment Screening.

None of the above

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

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

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

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

No

Explain:

Based on ECHO reports for the facilities, there is no impact for the intended use of this project. See attached table. The environmental field observation did not note any items of concern. See the attached environmental field observation report. A google earth review of the area shows no visible hazards. The past land use for the last 10-15 year is agricultural.

Yes

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

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

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

Yes

Explain:

✓ No

\* Notes:

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

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

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

Yes

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

No

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

Yes

No

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

Explain:

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

File Upload:

[Radon Attachements- Agency Correspondences.pdf](#)  
[PR-RGRW-03911 Radon Memo.docx](#)

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

Non-radon contamination was found in a previous question.

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

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

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-03911 Toxics.pdf](#)

[Toxics Table PR-RGRW-03911.xlsx](#)

[PR-RGRW-03911 EFOR.docx](#)

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

Yes

✓ No



**Endangered Species**

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

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

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

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

Explain your determination:

This project clears via the project criteria 4 of the USFWS Blanket Clearance Letter. See attached Endangered Species Act self-certification form.

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

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

**Screen Summary**

**Compliance Determination**

This project will have No Effect on listed species based on a letter of understanding, memorandum of agreement, programmatic agreement, or checklist provided by local HUD office. This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

**Supporting documentation**

[USFWS Self-Certification Form PR-RGRW-03911 \(1\).pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-03911 Site Map\(1\).pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-03911 Endangered Species.pdf](#)

[USFWS Letter UPDATED.pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

## Explosive and Flammable Hazards

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

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

No

Yes

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

No

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

Yes

### Screen Summary

#### **Compliance Determination**

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

#### **Supporting documentation**

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

Yes

No

## Farmlands Protection

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

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

Yes

No

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

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

### Screen Summary

#### Compliance Determination

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

#### Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-03911 Farmlands.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

## Floodplain Management

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

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

Yes

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Describe:

No

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

Yes

Describe:

No

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

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

Select one of the following three options:

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

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

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

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

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

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

5. Does your project occur in the FFRMS floodplain?

Yes

No

### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

This project does not occur in the FFRMS floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690. PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto and Rio Grande. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Jayuya; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review.

#### **Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-03911 Flood Map\(1\).pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-03911 ABFE.pdf](#)

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

Yes

No



**Historic Preservation**

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

**Threshold**

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

No, because the project consists solely of activities listed as exempt in a Programmatic Agreement (PA ). (See the PA Database to find applicable PAs.)  
 No, because the project consists solely of activities included in a No Potential to Cause Effects memo or other determination [36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)].

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

**Step 1 – Initiate Consultation**

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

- ✓ State Historic Preservation Offer (SHPO) Completed

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

Other Consulting Parties

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

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

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

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

- Yes
- No

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

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

Carr 144 km 4.2 Bo Veguita Zamas, Sector Las Arenas Jayuya, PR 00664

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

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

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

**Additional Notes:**

No historic properties within the APE.

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

- Yes
- ✓ No

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

Only properties that are listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places receive further consideration under Section 106. Assess the effect(s) of the project by applying the

Criteria of Adverse Effect. (36 CFR 800.5)] Consider direct and indirect effects as applicable as per guidance on direct and indirect effects.

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

No Historic Properties Affected

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

**Document reason for finding:**

No historic properties present.

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

No Adverse Effect

Adverse Effect

**Screen Summary**

**Compliance Determination**

Circa 2005, based on Section 106 consultation there are No Historic Properties Affected because there are no historic properties present. The project is in compliance with Section 106.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-03911 SHPO package.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-03911 Historic.pdf](#)

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

Yes

No

## Noise Abatement and Control

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

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

New construction for residential use

Rehabilitation of an existing residential property

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

An interstate land sales registration

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

None of the above

### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

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

#### **Supporting documentation**

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

Yes

No



## Sole Source Aquifers

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

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

Yes

No

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

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

< No

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

Yes

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

Yes

No

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

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

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-03911 Sole Source Aquifers.pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

## Wetlands Protection

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

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

No

Yes

**2. Will the new construction or other ground disturbance impact an on- or off-site wetland? The term "wetlands" means those areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances does or would support, a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas such as sloughs, potholes, wet meadows, river overflows, mud flats, and natural ponds.**

**"Wetlands under E.O. 11990 include isolated and non-jurisdictional wetlands."**

No, a wetland will not be impacted in terms of E.O. 11990's definition of new construction.

Yes, there is a wetland that be impacted in terms of E.O. 11990's definition of new construction.

You must determine that there are no practicable alternatives to wetlands development by completing the 8-Step Process.

Document and upload the completed 8-Step Process as well as all documents used to



make your determination, including a map below. Be sure it includes the early public notice and the final notice with your documentation.

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

To mitigate direct and indirect impacts, best management practices, such as proper site management, implementation and maintenance of erosion and sedimentation control measures, and soil stabilization will be followed to minimize potential impacts to wetlands.

**Which of the following mitigation actions have been or will be taken? Select all that apply:**

Permeable surfaces

Natural landscape enhancements that maintain or restore natural hydrology through infiltration

Native plant species

Bioswales

Evapotranspiration

Stormwater capture and reuse

Green or vegetative roofs with drainage provisions

Natural Resources Conservation Service conservation easements

Compensatory mitigation

Other

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

### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

The project results will impact on- or off-site wetlands. An 8 Step Process has been completed. With mitigation, identified in the mitigation section of this review, the

project will be in compliance with Executive Order 11990. The 8-step process was initiated on April 2, 2024. The process was completed on October 2, 2024.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-03911 Wetlands.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-03911 8 Step FINAL.pdf](#)

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

Yes

No

## Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

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

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

No

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

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

### Screen Summary

#### **Compliance Determination**

This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 282,364.2 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

#### **Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-03911 W S Rivers.pdf](#)

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

Yes

No

**Environmental Justice**

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

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

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

Yes

No

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

**Screen Summary**

**Compliance Determination**

No adverse environmental impacts were identified in the project's total environmental review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898.

**Supporting documentation**

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

Yes

No



**DEPARTAMENTO DE LA VIVIENDA**  
**PROGRAMA RENACER AGRÍCOLA DE PUERTO RICO – AGRICULTURA**  
**URBANA Y RURAL**  
**FORMULARIO SOBRE USO PREVISTO DE LOS FONDOS**

Yo, Katiria Martinez Rivera, representante autorizado/a para el negocio D'ORIGEN CAFE CORP., con el Caso Número PR-RGRW-03911 para el Programa Renacer Agrícola de Puerto Rico – Agricultura Urbana y Rural (**Programa Renacer Agrícola**), por la presente reconozco que fondos de subvención por la suma de \$45,198.67 se usarán de conformidad con el uso de fondos descrito a continuación.

Además, reconozco que, como parte del proceso de revisión de recibos, el Formulario sobre Uso Previsto de los Fondos será comparado con los recibos recopilados para verificar el cumplimiento con la información provista en dicho formulario.

Item	Equipment Expense Type RGRW	Unmet Need	Initials
Cacao tree	Production Supplies (Regrow Only)	\$7,350.00	KAR
G110D Tractor/accessories	Farm Equipment (Regrow Only)	\$10,759.75	KAR
INDUSTRIAL COFFE MACHINE	Farm Equipment (Regrow Only)	\$27,088.92	KAR

\$45,198.67

Total de Uso Previsto de los  
Fondos

Además, reconozco y entiendo que:

- El incumplimiento con el uso previsto de los fondos descrito en este Formulario podría requerir el pago de los fondos a Departamento de la Vivienda.
- Los fondos del Programa Renacer Agrícola solo pueden ser utilizados para actividades elegibles y el uso permitido de los fondos, según se establece en las Guías del Programa Renacer Agrícola.
- El Formulario sobre Uso Previsto de los Fondos será revisado por el equipo del Programa Renacer Agrícola y, **si es aprobado**, será el formulario oficial que se utilizará durante el proceso de revisión de los recibos.

Katiria Martinez Rivera

05/01/2023



## Memorandum to File

**Date:** 9-30-24

**From:** Paige Pilkinton  
Environmental Supervisor  
CDBG-DR Program  
Regrow Puerto Rico Program  
Puerto Rico Department of Housing

**Application Number:** PR-RGRW-03911

**Project:** D'ORIGEN CAFE CORP.

### **Re: Justification for the Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing**

After reviewing Application Number PR-RGRW-03911 under the Regrow Puerto Rico Program, administered by the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (**PRDOH**), to complete the property's contamination analysis in accordance with 24 C.F.R. § 50.3(i) and 24 C.F.R. § 58.5(i), we have determined that testing the property's radon levels is infeasible and impracticable.

Per the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (**HUD**) CPD Notice 23-103, the recommended best practices and alternative options for radon testing are infeasible and impracticable in this case due to the following reasons:

- As required by the CPD Notice 23-103, the scientific data reviewed in lieu of testing must consist of a minimum of ten documented test results over the previous ten years. If there are less than ten documented results over this period, it is understood that there is a lack of scientific data. The latest report for radon testing in Puerto Rico was prepared in 1995 by the U.S. Department of the Interior in Cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. No other completed studies and reports on radon testing are available in Puerto Rico.
- There is no available science-based or state-generated information for Puerto Rico for the last ten years that can be used to determine whether the project site is in a high-risk area. The Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (**CDC**), National Environmental Public Health Tracking, and Radon Testing map do not include Puerto Rico data.
- There are only two (2) licensed professionals in Puerto Rico who can conduct radon testing using the American National Standards Institute/American

Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (**ANSI/AARST**) testing standards, which makes it difficult, time-consuming, and highly expensive to coordinate and secure a site visit for the contamination evaluation.

- Do-it-yourself (**DIY**) radon test kits are known to be unreliable in assuring and controlling the quality of the test results; they are not readily available in Puerto Rico, and the cost and time required for purchasing and sending them for analysis are unreasonable when weighed against the results' reliability and the need for prompt results.
- Local authorities in Puerto Rico do not have the specialized radon monitoring equipment or trained staff needed to conduct the radon testing analysis and ensure proper quality control and quality assurance practices are adhered to. We also do not have a radiation laboratory certified for radon testing.

As part of the evaluation for this determination, PRDOH sent information requests to six (6) local agencies at the state and federal levels. We received responses from the following agencies:

- United States Geological Survey;
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- Puerto Rico Department of Health; and
- United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The agencies mentioned above confirmed the lack of scientific data on Radon testing for Puerto Rico and the technical difficulties that we face to comply with HUD's Radon testing requirement. For the above-mentioned reasons, Radon testing is infeasible and impracticable for this property, and no further consideration of Radon is needed for the environmental review.

Signature: 

Date: 10-3-24

**Radon**  
**Attachments**





GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

August 20, 2024

Mrs. Carmen R. Guerrero Pérez  
Director  
Caribbean Environmental Protection Division  
City View Plaza II – Suite 7000  
#48 Rd. 165 km 1.2  
Guaynabo, PR 00968-8069

Via email: [guerrero.carmen@epa.gov](mailto:guerrero.carmen@epa.gov)

**RE: Request for information regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico**

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) kindly requests your assistance in gathering data, information, or reports related to radon testing in Puerto Rico, as this information is crucial for our compliance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Planning and Development (CPD) Notice CDP-23-103.

This Notice emphasizes the importance of radon testing and mitigation in ensuring safe living environments, particularly in HUD-assisted properties. PRDOH, as the grantee of the Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery and Mitigation (CDBG-DR/MIT), is responsible for ensuring compliance with environmental requirements under CDBG-DR/MIT programs. To fulfill our obligations under this Notice, we must compile comprehensive and up-to-date information on radon levels, testing practices, and any mitigation efforts within the islands of Puerto Rico.

Specifically, we are seeking for possible availability of the following information:

**Radon testing data** – Results from radon testing conducted within your agency's purview, including details on location, testing methods, and recorded radon levels.

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Dávila, Río Piedras, PR 00918 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365  
Tel: (787) 274-2527 | [www.cuarenda.pr.gov](http://www.cuarenda.pr.gov)

CDBG-DR/MIT Program  
Request for information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Rico  
Page 2 / 2

**Reports and assessments** – Any reports, studies, or assessments your agency has produced or commissioned that address radon testing or mitigation.

**Policies and guidelines** – Information or any policy, guideline, or protocol your agency follows concerning radon testing, exposure limits, or mitigation.

**Historical data** – If available, historical data or trends in radon levels within the regions you monitor that may impact HUD-assisted housing.

This information is vital to ensure that our radon management strategies are practical and compliant with federal requirements. If some of this information may be sensitive or confidential, we are prepared to discuss any necessary agreements or protocols for sharing this data securely.

Please let us know if you require additional details or have any questions regarding this request. We would greatly appreciate your response by September 15, 2024, so we can incorporate this data into our ongoing compliance efforts.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support. We look forward to working together on this critical initiative.

Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.  
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Oleg Povelko, [Povelko.Oleg@epa.gov](mailto:Povelko.Oleg@epa.gov)  
Mr. Matthew Lantia, [lantia.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:lantia.matthew@epa.gov)



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

August 20, 2024

Dr. Silvina Cancelos  
Professor  
College of Engineering  
University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez Campus  
259 Norte Blvd. Alfonso Valdés Cobián  
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico

Via email: [silvina.cancelos@upr.edu](mailto:silvina.cancelos@upr.edu)

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CDBG-DR/MIT Program  
Request for information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Rico  
Page 2 / 2

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Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.  
Secretary

Cc: Dr. Carlos Marín, [carlos.marin3@upr.edu](mailto:carlos.marin3@upr.edu)



August 20, 2024

Dr. Jessica Izarry  
Director  
Office of Island Affairs  
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
1324 CII Canada, San Juan, 00920  
Guaynabo, PR 00968-8069

Via email: [OIA@cdc.gov](mailto:OIA@cdc.gov)

**RE: Request for Information regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico**

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) kindly requests your assistance in gathering data, information, or reports related to radon testing in Puerto Rico, as this information is crucial for our compliance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Planning and Development (CPD) Notice CDP-23-103.

This Notice emphasizes the importance of radon testing and mitigation in ensuring safe living environments, particularly in HUD-assisted properties. PRDOH, as the grantee of the Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery and Mitigation (CDBG-DR/MIT), is responsible for ensuring compliance with environmental requirements under CDBG-DR/MIT programs. To fulfill our obligations under this Notice, we must compile comprehensive and up-to-date information on radon levels, testing practices, and any mitigation efforts within the islands of Puerto Rico.

Specifically, we are seeking for possible availability of the following information:

**Radon testing data** – Results from radon testing conducted within your agency's purview, including details on location, testing methods, and recorded radon levels.

**Reports and assessments** – Any reports, studies, or assessments your agency has produced or commissioned that address radon testing or mitigation.

**Policies and guidelines** – Information or any policy, guideline, or protocol your agency follows concerning radon testing, exposure limits, or mitigation.

**Historical data** – if available, historical data or trends in radon levels within the regions you monitor that may impact HUD-assisted housing.

This information is vital to ensure that our radon management strategies are practical and compliant with federal requirements, if some of this information may be sensitive or confidential, we are prepared to discuss any necessary agreements or protocols for sharing this data securely.

Please let us know if you require additional details or have any questions regarding this request. We would greatly appreciate your response by September 15, 2024, so we can incorporate this data into our ongoing compliance efforts.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support. We look forward to working together on this critical initiative.

Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.  
Secretary



August 20, 2024

Mrs. Anais Rodríguez  
Secretary  
Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources  
Carretera 8838, km. 6.3, Sector El Cinco,  
Río Piedras San Juan, PR 00926

Via email: [anais.rodriguez@dma.pr.gov](mailto:anais.rodriguez@dma.pr.gov)

**RE: Request for Information regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico**

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Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.  
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Luis Márquez, [secretariogaire@dma.pr.gov](mailto:secretariogaire@dma.pr.gov)  
Eng. Amarilys Rosario, [aire@dma.pr.gov](mailto:aire@dma.pr.gov)  
Mrs. Elid Ortegá, [ortega@dma.pr.gov](mailto:ortega@dma.pr.gov)



August 20, 2024

Dr. Carlos R. Mellado López  
Secretary  
Puerto Rico Department of Health  
PO Box 70184  
San Juan, PR 00936-8184

Via email: [drCarlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov](mailto:drCarlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov)

**RE: Request for Information regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico**

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Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.  
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Raúl Hernández Dabla, [rahernandez2@salud.pr.gov](mailto:rahernandez2@salud.pr.gov)



August 20, 2024

Mrs. Holly Weyers  
Regional Director, Southeast – Puerto Rico  
US Geological Survey  
3916 Sunset Ridge Road  
Raleigh, NC 27607

Via email: [hswyers@usgs.gov](mailto:hswyers@usgs.gov)

**RE: Request for Information regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico**

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) kindly requests your assistance in gathering data, information, or reports related to radon testing in Puerto Rico, as this information is crucial for our compliance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Planning and Development (CPD) Notice CDP-23-103.

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Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.  
Secretary

Cc: Mr. R. Randall Schumann, [rschumann@usgs.gov](mailto:rschumann@usgs.gov)

**From:** Charp, Paul (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP) <pac4@cdc.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 3, 2024 6:36 AM  
**To:** Miranda, Sandra (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Irizarry, Jessica (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Rzeszotarski, Peter (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP); Vinson, D. Aaron (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP)  
**Cc:** Kostak, Liana (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Vazquez, Germaine (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP)  
**Subject:** RE: REHi: Puerto Rico Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Good morning, Sandra and others,

In response to the request from Mr. William Rodriguez of the Department of Housing, Government of Puerto Rico, I have reviewed all the available data within the CDC National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network system for data related to radon in Puerto Rico. In addition to the tracking data available on the internet, I also reached out to Mr. Aaron Vinson of the NCEH Tracking Branch.

I was not able to find any data in the CDC systems and this was confirmed by Mr. Vinson. We also reached out the US Environmental Protection Agency who indicated they had no radon data in their systems. Please relay this information to Mr. Rodriguez in your response to his requests

If you have any additional questions, please contact me.

Thank you and best regards,

Paul A. Charp, Ph.D., Fellow, HPS  
Senior Health Physicist  
Emerging Environmental Hazards and Health Effects Branch (EEHHEB)  
Division of Environmental Health Science and Practice (DEHSP)  
National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH)  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
pcharp@cdc.gov  
770-488-0723 office  
404.388.0614 Cell





**From:** Schumann, R. Randall <rschumann@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 21, 2024 4:39 PM  
**To:** Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>; Weyers, Holly S <hsweyers@usgs.gov>  
**Cc:** Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for Information- Radon testing and levels

Dear Ms. Medina Smaine,

In the early 1990s the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) conducted geologic assessments of radon potential for all 50 states and the territories of Guam and Puerto Rico, in collaboration with the U.S. EPA. I conducted the geologic radon potential assessment for Puerto Rico. The PDF file of the report is too large to attach to this message but it can be obtained at <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/1993/0292k/report.pdf>. The USGS did not conduct indoor radon testing and we did not conduct field studies associated with this assessment; it was based on existing data. Mr. David Saldana of the Puerto Rico Department of Health kindly provided us with data for 610 homes that were tested for indoor radon by his agency between 1993 and 1995, which are summarized in the report. I am not aware of any other radon-related geologic studies conducted in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico by the U.S. Geological Survey.

Best regards,

R. Randall Schumann  
Scientist Emeritus  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Geosciences and Environmental Change Science Center  
Denver, Colorado, USA  
[rschumann@usgs.gov](mailto:rschumann@usgs.gov)  
<https://www.usgs.gov/staff-profiles/r-randall-schumann>

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**From:** Raul Hernandez Doble <rhernandez2@salud.pr.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 21, 2024 2:13:31 PM  
**To:** Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>; Dr. Carlos Mellado <drcarlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov>  
**Cc:** Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Mayra Toro Tirado <mtoro@salud.pr.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL]Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Good afternoon. Ms. Medina

I regret to inform that we do not have any recent information on radon testing, since we do not have a certified radiation laboratory certified for radon testing. There are companies that sell test kits available online that can be done and mailed to a testing laboratory. There are also lists of radon contractors and these companies that process radon testing cartridges with instructions, on the Environmental Protection Agency Indoor air Quality web page. The last radon study in Puerto Rico done by the PR Department of Health was done on the year 1993.

Raul Hernandez Doble  
Director, Seccion Salud Radiologica  
Division de Salud Ambiental  
Secretaria Auxiliar para la Vigilancia y la Proteccion de la Salud Publica  
[rhernandez2@salud.gov.pr](mailto:rhernandez2@salud.gov.pr)  
Phone: (787)765-2929 ext. 3210

---

**From:** Reyes, Brenda <Reyes.Brenda@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2024 11:48 AM  
**To:** Cesar O Rodriguez Santos <cesarrodriguez@drna.pr.gov>; Maritza Rosa Olivares <maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov>; Silvana Cancelos Mancini <silvana.cancelos@upr.edu>; Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>  
**Cc:** Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Povetko, Oleg (he/him/his) <Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Saludos.

La EPA esta trabajando una respuesta a su petición. Se sometió borrador a la directora y el subdirector para su aprobación y firma.

Brenda Reyes Tomassini  
Public Affairs  
U.S. EPA  
Region 2  
Caribbean Environmental Protection Division  
(787) 977-5869/(787) 977-5865  
Mobile: 202-834-1290

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**From:** Silvana Cancelos Mancini <[silvana.cancelos@upr.edu](mailto:silvana.cancelos@upr.edu)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 6, 2024 15:04  
**To:** Melanie Medina Smaine <[mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov)>  
**Cc:** Elaine Dume Mejia <[Edume@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:Edume@vivienda.pr.gov)>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <[Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov)>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <[aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov)>; Maritza Rosa Olivares <[maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov](mailto:maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov)>; Reyes, Brenda <[Reyes.Brenda@epa.gov](mailto:Reyes.Brenda@epa.gov)>; Povetko, Oleg <[Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov](mailto:Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Estimada Melanie Medina  
Quería dejarte saber que recibimos su correo el 21 de agosto al igual que el de Maritza Rosa el pasado 4 de septiembre. Ya las personas involucradas de EPA, junto conmigo y el Dr. Marín estamos al tanto del asunto y estamos trabajando para poder enviarles la información.

Atentamente

Silvana Cancelos  
Professor  
Associate Director  
Mechanical Engineering Department  
University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez  
Call BOX 9000 Mayaguez PR 00680  
Tel: 787-832-4040 ext 5956  
email: [silvana.cancelos@upr.edu](mailto:silvana.cancelos@upr.edu)



Bubble Dynamics Lab  
University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez



EPA REGION 2  
CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

September 23, 2024

**VIA EMAIL**

William O. Rodriguez Rodriguez, Esq.  
Secretary  
Puerto Rico Department of Housing  
Barbosa Ave. 606 Building Juan C. Cordero  
San Juan, PR 00917  
Email: W.Rodriguez@vivienda.pr.gov

**RE: EPA Response to August 20, 2024 request for information of data on radon testing and levels in Puerto Rico**

Dear Honorable Secretary Rodriguez Rodriguez:

This communication is in response to your letter of August 20, 2024 addressed to the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) and referred to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding available data on radon testing and levels within Puerto Rico.

EPA's National Radon Action Plan 2021–2025 sets a goal for the nation to find, fix and prevent high indoor radon levels in 8 million buildings by 2025 and prevent 3,500 lung cancer deaths per year. Under this Plan, leaders from across multiple sectors are working together to plan, guide, and sustain nationwide action to prevent exposure to radon.

Due to the lack of data in Puerto Rico, EPA undertook an investigation in collaboration with the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez (UPRM) Campus, Departments of Civil Engineering and Surveying and Mechanical Engineering, to find out if radon presented a problem in Puerto Rico. Up until 2021, the only data we had for Puerto Rico was a 1993-1995 mail-in radon screening study referred to by the U.S. Geological Survey report (USGS, 1995) in which the USGS concluded that several areas of Puerto Rico have the geologic potential to generate indoor radon levels exceeding the EPA Action Level of 4 pCi/L (picocuries per liter), perhaps locally reaching very high levels above 50 pCi/L, if a house construction and

ventilation allow for soil-gas radon to enter and concentrate within the structure.<sup>1</sup> According to the USGS report, most of these areas are located in the northwest part of the island. Please note that the actual 1993-1995 study documentation is not available to the EPA.

Typical radon testing technology used in mainland United States (charcoal canisters or electric-powered devices) are impractical in Puerto Rico because of high humidity and power outages. The recovery and rebuilding of communities following the aftermath of 2017 Hurricanes Irma and Maria presented an opportunity to develop radon prevention and mitigation strategies in 2019. Initially, EPA sampled indoor radon air in over 170 single-family residences in the municipalities of San Sebastian, Lares, Ciales, Arecibo, Morovis, Camuy, and Hatillo and later expanded the project to other municipalities such as Rincon, Aguada, Aguadilla, Isabela, Quebradillas, Barceloneta and Vega Baja. The quality assurance protocols were anchored in American National Standards Institute/American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (ANSI/AARST) standards of practice (ANSI/AARS, 2019). The sampling was designed in two stages: scoping and confirmatory sampling. The scoping sampling was conducted using Corentium Home (CH) electronic monitors and E-Perm systems. Locations measuring above the EPA Action Level of 4 pCi/L with CH were measured at the second stage of the sampling using RAD7 and Corentium Pro Continuous Radon Monitors (CRMs). Nationally certified radon sampling professionals led by one such professional from the UPRM conducted confirmatory sampling in the second stage. Also, during the study, the nationally certified radon mitigation professionals inspected several homes with elevated indoor radon levels.

Mapping radon in Puerto Rico proved to be a complicated endeavor given the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. EPA and UPRM continue to work on the project, however, results have not been finalized, and no scientific report has been published yet. Unfortunately, EPA cannot share preliminary data at this time because it contains privileged information. Nevertheless, preliminary data from the study does show homes with levels over 4 pCi/L (EPA Action Level) that might need mitigation to protect the health of their inhabitants.

Although many states have developed laws and regulations governing radon disclosure, certification, and mitigation, Puerto Rico lacks legislation or mandatory radon testing provisions for new construction, remodeling, selling or buying homes. Given this loophole and aiming to answer your request, the EPA can provide information on Best Management Practices for sampling indoor radon in Puerto Rico.

<sup>1</sup> Reference: USGS. Geologic Radon Potential of Guam and Puerto Rico, Report 93-292-K. Washington, DC: USGS. Retrieved 9/11/2024, from <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/1993/0292k/report.pdf>.

CITY VIEW PLAZA II BUILDING, 7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
ROUTE 185 GUAYNABO, PR 00988

2

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me at 787-977-5865 or [guerrero.carmen@epa.gov](mailto:guerrero.carmen@epa.gov) or have your staff contact Reyes, Brenda at [reyes.brenda@epa.gov](mailto:reyes.brenda@epa.gov) or (787) 977-5869.

Sincerely,  
**CARMEN GUERRERO PEREZ**  
Carmen R. Guerrero Pérez  
Director

Digitally signed by  
CARMEN GUERRERO PEREZ  
Date: 2024.09.23 09:41:39  
-04'00'

cc: Roberto Mendez, Esq (Acting Secretary, PR Department of Natural and Env. Resources)  
Melany Medina: [mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov)  
Elaine Dume Mejia: [Edume@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:Edume@vivienda.pr.gov)  
Luz S Colon Ortiz: [Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov)  
Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez: [aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov)  
Cesar O. Rodriguez: [cesarrodriquez@drna.pr.gov](mailto:cesarrodriquez@drna.pr.gov)  
Marita Rosa Olivares: [maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov](mailto:maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov)



## CDBG-DR PROGRAM

Re-Grow PR Urban-Rural Agriculture (RGRW) Program

### ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD OBSERVATION REPORT

#### APPLICATION GENERAL INFORMATION

Application No.:	PR-RGRW-03911	Applicant Name:	D'Origen Café Corp.
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#### PROPERTY INFORMATION

Property Address:  
Carr. 144 km 4.2 Bo. Vegueta Zamas, Sector Las Arenas, Jayuya, PR 00664

Latitude:	18.21005	Longitude:	-66.59867
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Property Type:	Farm	Year Built:	2007
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Number of Buildings:	1	Are Utilities Connected?	Yes
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**Property Remarks:**

A part of the scope of the work is the planting of cacao trees in land that has historically been used for coffee trees. Photos of the area where the cacao trees will be planted have been provided.

Is there evidence of damage from a previous disaster?	Yes
---	-----

**Damage Remarks:**

Hurricanes Maria and Fiona destroyed coffee trees and left part of the farmland cropless. See photos.

#### SIGNATURES OF INSPECTION REPORT

Environmental  
Inspector:

Blas Guernica

Printed Name

Signature

04-01-2024

Date



**ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS**

Item	Observation	Remarks
<b>Are there any signs of poor housekeeping on the site?</b> <i>(mounds of rubble, garbage, or solid waste or improperly stored household quantities of petroleum products, pesticides, paints, thinners, cleaning fluids, automotive batteries, damaged, abandoned, and/or dangerous vehicles or other motorized equipment; pits, pools, lagoons, or ponds of hazardous substances or petroleum products located on the site)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Are there any 55-gallon drums or containers visible on the site?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>If drums located, are they leaking?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Are there any signs of petroleum underground storage tanks (PUSTs) on the site?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Are there any UST locations visible from the site?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Are there any signs of above-ground storage tanks (ASTs) on the site, or immediate adjacent visible sites?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Are there any signs of surface staining?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Are there any ground water monitoring or injection wells on the site?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	There is a septic tank.
<b>Is there evidence of a faulty septic system on the site?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Is there any permanent standing water, such as a pond or stream, located on the site?</b> <i>(Do not include run-off or ponding from recent weather events.)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Is there any distressed vegetation on the site?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Does the subject lot have water frontage?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Is there any visible apparent indication of other environmental conditions?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Is there any visible apparent evidence of lead-based paint or hazardous materials present in the structure?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Are there other unusual conditions on site?</b> <i>(Explain in attached supporting material. Please take photographs, if possible.)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Is the structure 45 years or older?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Is the applicant aware of any significant historical events or persons associated with the structure; or does the home have a historic marker?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

**REQUIRED PHOTOS**



**Front of Property**



**Rear of Property**



**Left Side of Property**



**Right Side of Property**



**PHOTOS OF RECOGNIZED ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS** (add additional pages as necessary)



**Front of Property Outward**



**Rear of Property Outward**



**Left Side of Property Outward**



**Right Side of Property Outward**



**ADDITIONAL PHOTOS** (add additional pages as necessary)



**Entrance to Property**



**Farmland**



**Farmland**



**Farmland**

**ADDITIONAL PHOTOS** (add additional pages as necessary)





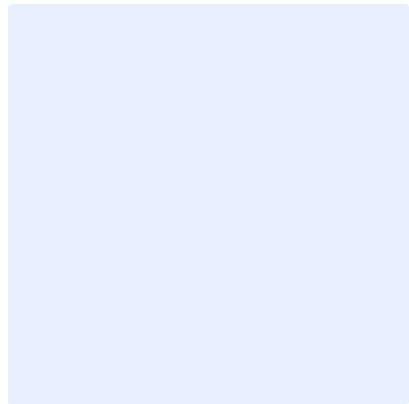
**Farmland**



**Farmland**



**Farmland**



Name	Registry ID	Address
BAXTER HEALTHCARE OF PUERTO RICO	110000580648	PR-144 KM 20.6, JAYUYA, PR 00664
PRASA JAYUYA NUEVA WWTP	110000757208	PR-144 KM 2.0, JAYUYA, PR 00664
PR PUBLIC HOUSING ADMIN LA MONTANA	110007816417	PR-144 KM 4.4, JAYUYA, PR 00664

Lat	Long	Type	Distance (ft)
18.21695	-66.599138	CAA, CWA, RCRA	2,511.57
18.215833	-66.604722	CAA, CWA, RCRA	2,970.31
18.217791	-66.598781	RCRA	2,811.99

Echo Report

[https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110000580648&ej\\_type=sup&ej\\_compare=US](https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110000580648&ej_type=sup&ej_compare=US)

[https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110000757208&ej\\_type=sup&ej\\_compare=US](https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110000757208&ej_type=sup&ej_compare=US)

[https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110007816417&ej\\_type=sup&ej\\_compare=US](https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110007816417&ej_type=sup&ej_compare=US)

Impact?

No

No

No





### Self-Certification

<http://www.fws.gov/caribbean/ES/Index.html>

#### Endangered Species Act Certification


The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office developed a Blanket Clearance Letter in compliance with Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act for federally funded projects.

The Service determined that projects in compliance with the following criteria are not likely to adversely affect federally-listed species.

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) certifies that the following project **D'ORIGEN CAFE CORP. (PR-RGRW-03911)** consists of the purchase of equipment including an affixed industrial coffee machine, cacao trees, G110D Tractor/ accessories . Project located at Carr 144 km 4.2 Bo Veguita Zamas, Sector Las Arenas, Jayuya, PR 00664, complies with:

Check	Project Criteria
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Street resurfacing.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Construction of gutters and sidewalks along existing roads.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Reconstruction or emergency repairs of existing buildings, facilities and homes.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4. Rehabilitation of existing occupied single-family homes, and buildings; provided that equipment storage or staging areas are not located on vacant property harboring a wetland and/or forested vegetation and that the lighting associated to the new facilities is not visible directly or indirectly from a beach.
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Demolition of dilapidated single-family homes or buildings; provided that the demolition debris is disposed in certified receiving facilities; equipment storage or staging areas are not located on vacant property harboring a wetland and/or forested vegetation.
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Rebuilding of demolished single-family homes or buildings, provided that the new construction is within the existing footprint of the previous

	structure and/or within pre-existing grassed or paved areas, and that the lighting associated to the new facilities are not visible directly or indirectly from a beach.
<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Activities within existing Right of Ways (ROWs) of roads, bridges and highways, when limited to actions that do not involve cutting native vegetation or mayor earth moving; and are not located within, or adjacent to, drainages, wetlands, or aquatic systems. These activities include the installation of potable water and sanitary pipelines.
<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Improvements to existing recreational facilities, including the installation of roofs to existing basketball courts, provided that the lighting associated to the facilities are not visible directly or indirectly from the beach.
<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Construction of electric underground systems in existing towns and communities, provided that the property is not a wetland area and the lighting associated to the facilities are not visible directly or indirectly from the beach.
<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Construction of facilities on vacant properties covered with grasses in urban areas, provided that the lighting associated to the facilities are not visible directly or indirectly from the beach.
<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Construction of houses, buildings or acquiring lands in urban areas covered by grass for relocation of low-income families and/or facilities that have been affected by weather conditions.



Ángel G. López-Guzmán  
Deputy Director

Permits and Environmental Compliance Division

Office of Disaster Recovery

**Address:** P.O. Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928

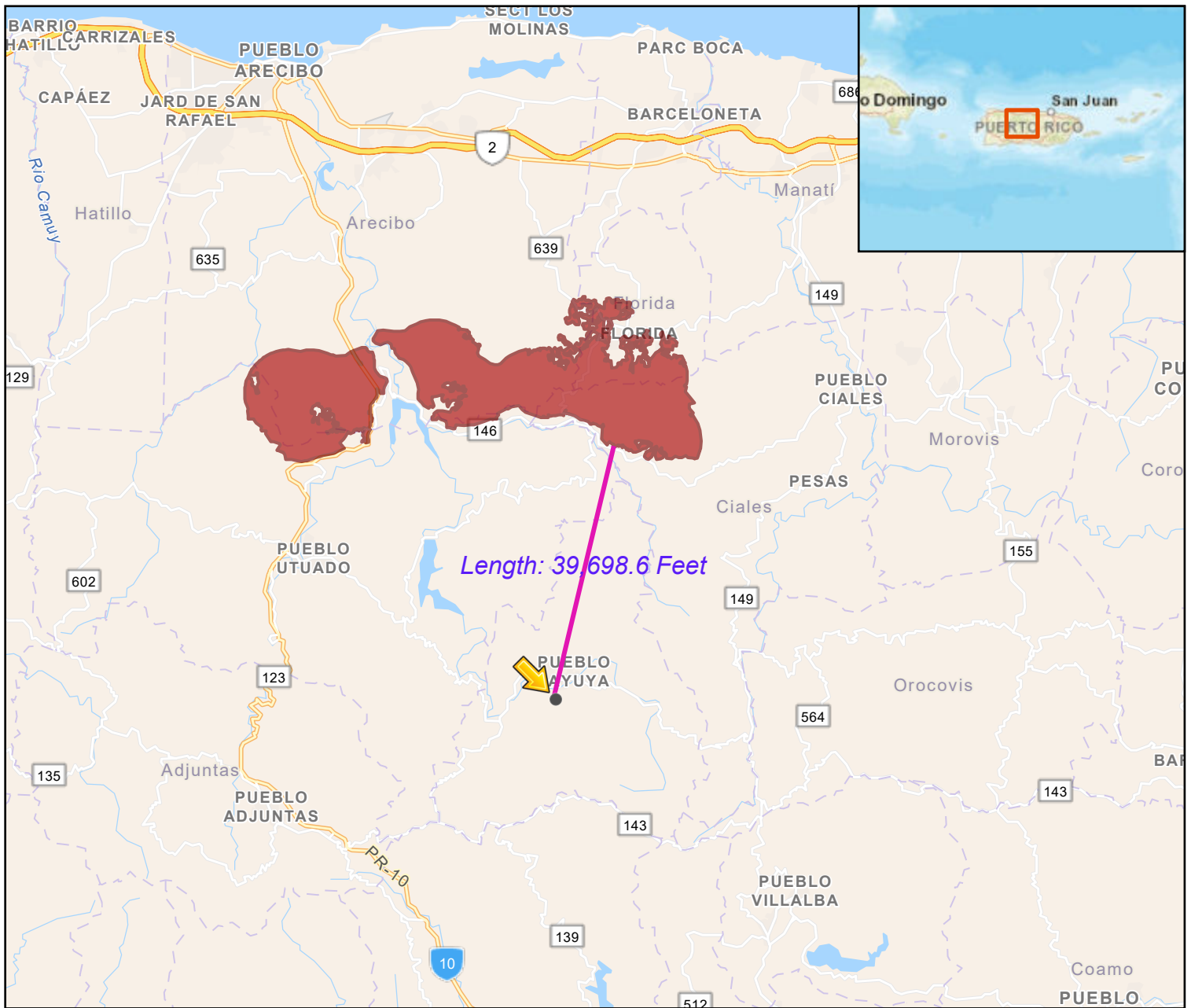
**Telephone and Ext:** 787-274-2527 ext. 4320

**Email:** [environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov](mailto:environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov)

*Oct. 8, 2024*

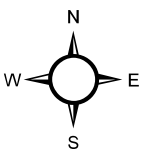
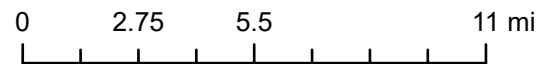
Date

# PR-RGRW-03911 Endangered Species



**Legend**

USFWS Critical Habitat - Polygon Features - Final (agency service)

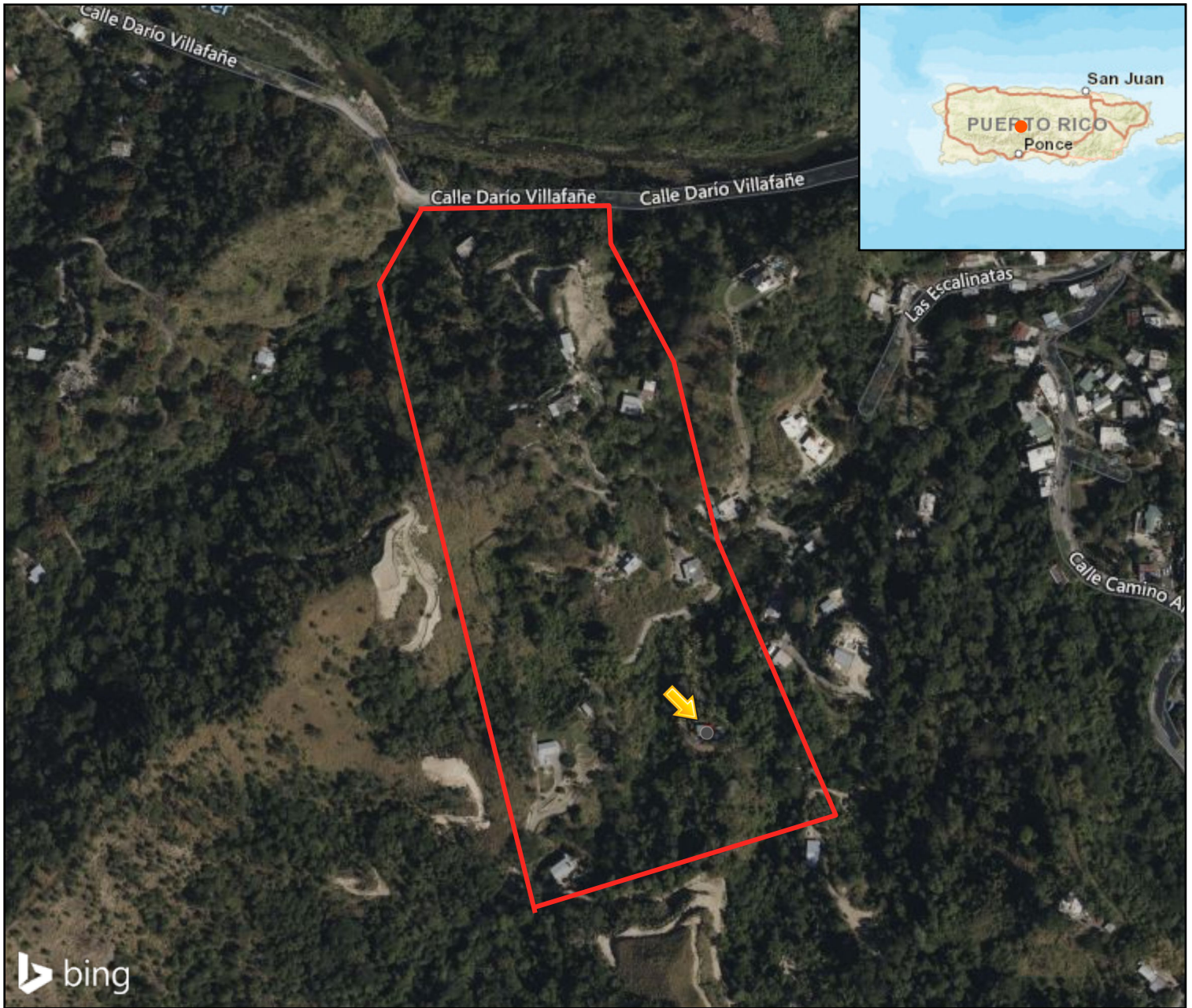


Endangered Species Habitat

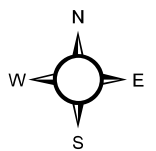
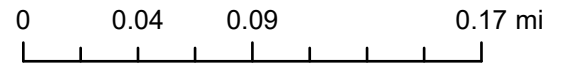
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



# PR-RGRW-03911 Site Map



Legend



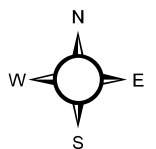
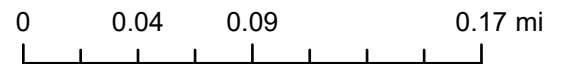


# PR-RGRW-03911 Wetlands



Legend

Riverine



National Wetlands Inventory

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

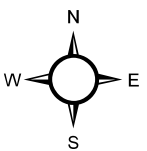
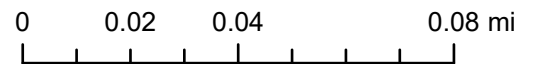


# PR-RGRW-03911 ABFE



Legend

- A
- AO
- AE
- Coastal A Zone
- VE
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Zone
- A-Floodway
- AE-Floodway
- Coastal A Zone and Floodway
- Zone/BFE Boundary
- 1% Annual Chance Flood
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood
- Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA)
- Advisory Base Flood Elevation (zoom in to make visible)
- Streamline (zoom in to make visible)

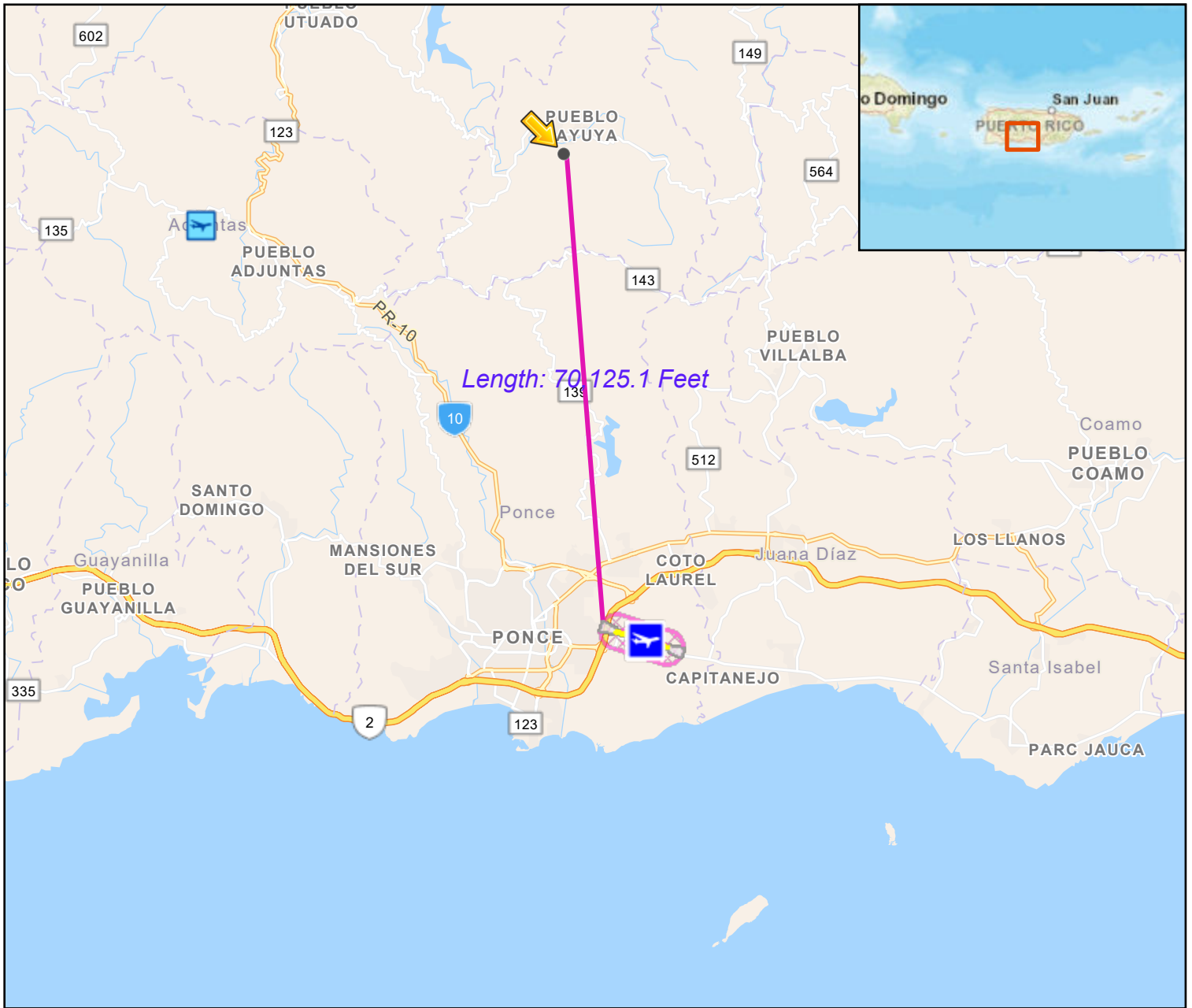


FEMA Map Service ABFE




Flood Insurance Rate Maps

5/25/2023 9:22 AM



# PR-RGRW-03911 Airports

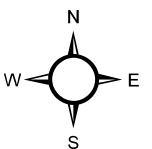
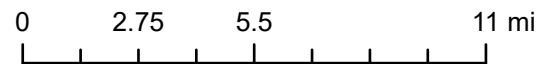


## Legend

-  Civilian Airports 2,500ft Buffer
-  Runway Protection Zones
-  Airport Runways

## Category

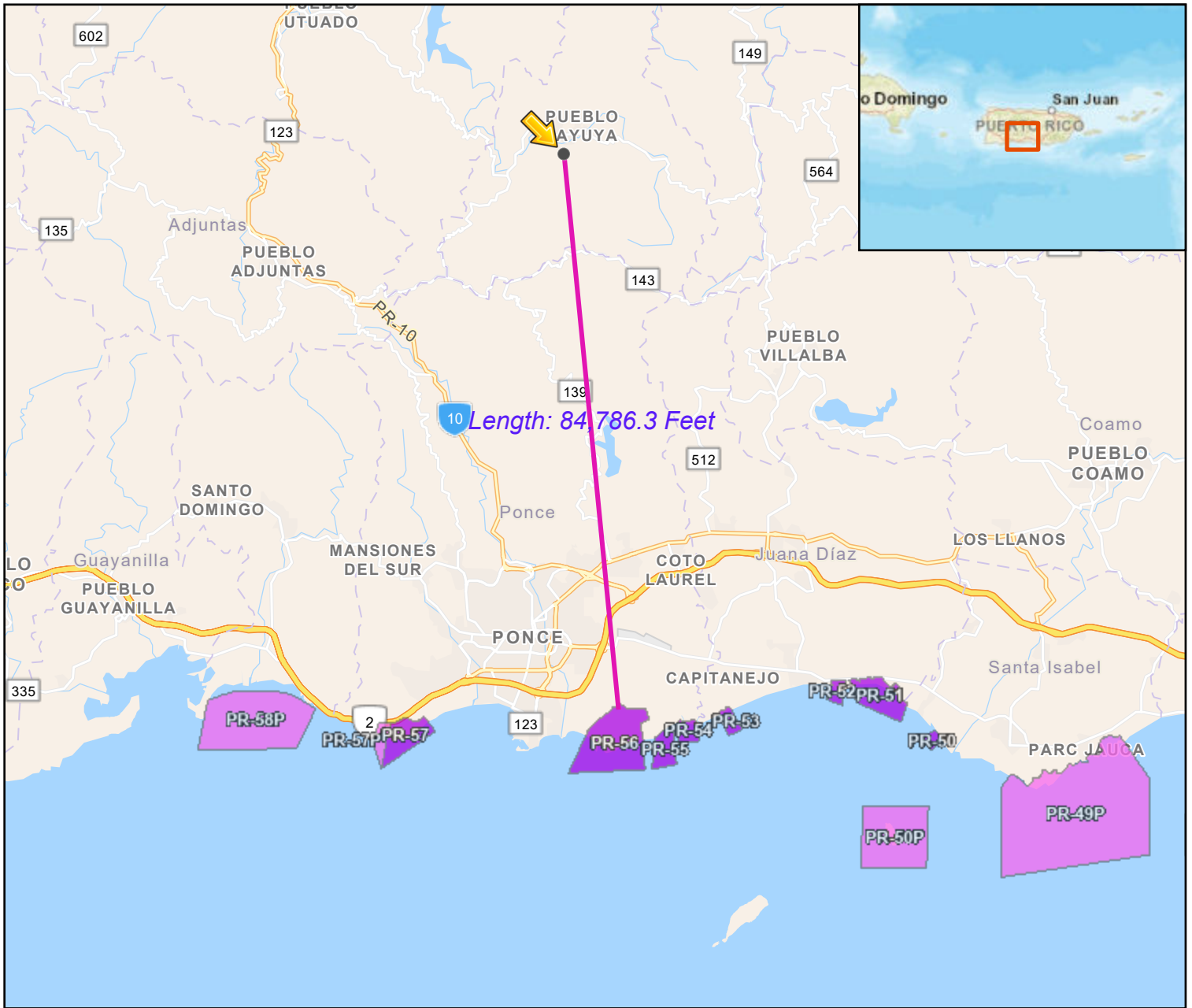
-  Major
-  Minor Airport



Runway Protection Zones

Major Civil and Military Airports

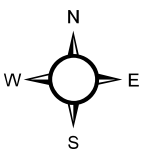
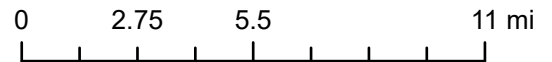
# PR-RGRW-03911 CBRS



Legend

Unit\_Type

- Otherwise Protected Area
- System Unit

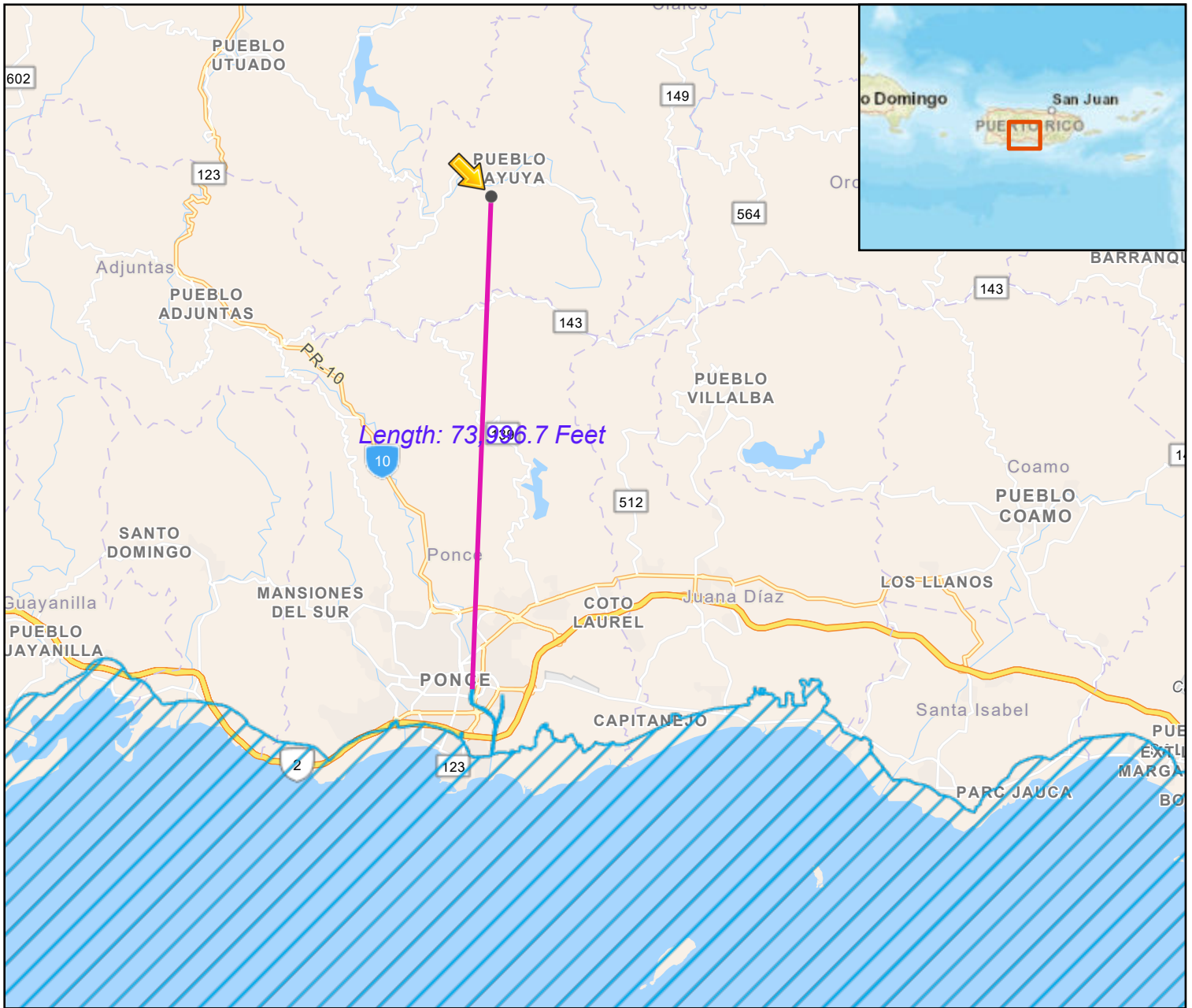


U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Coastal Barrier Resources Act Program

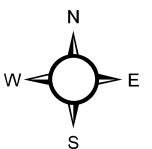
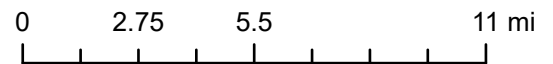


# PR-RGRW-03911 CZM



## Legend

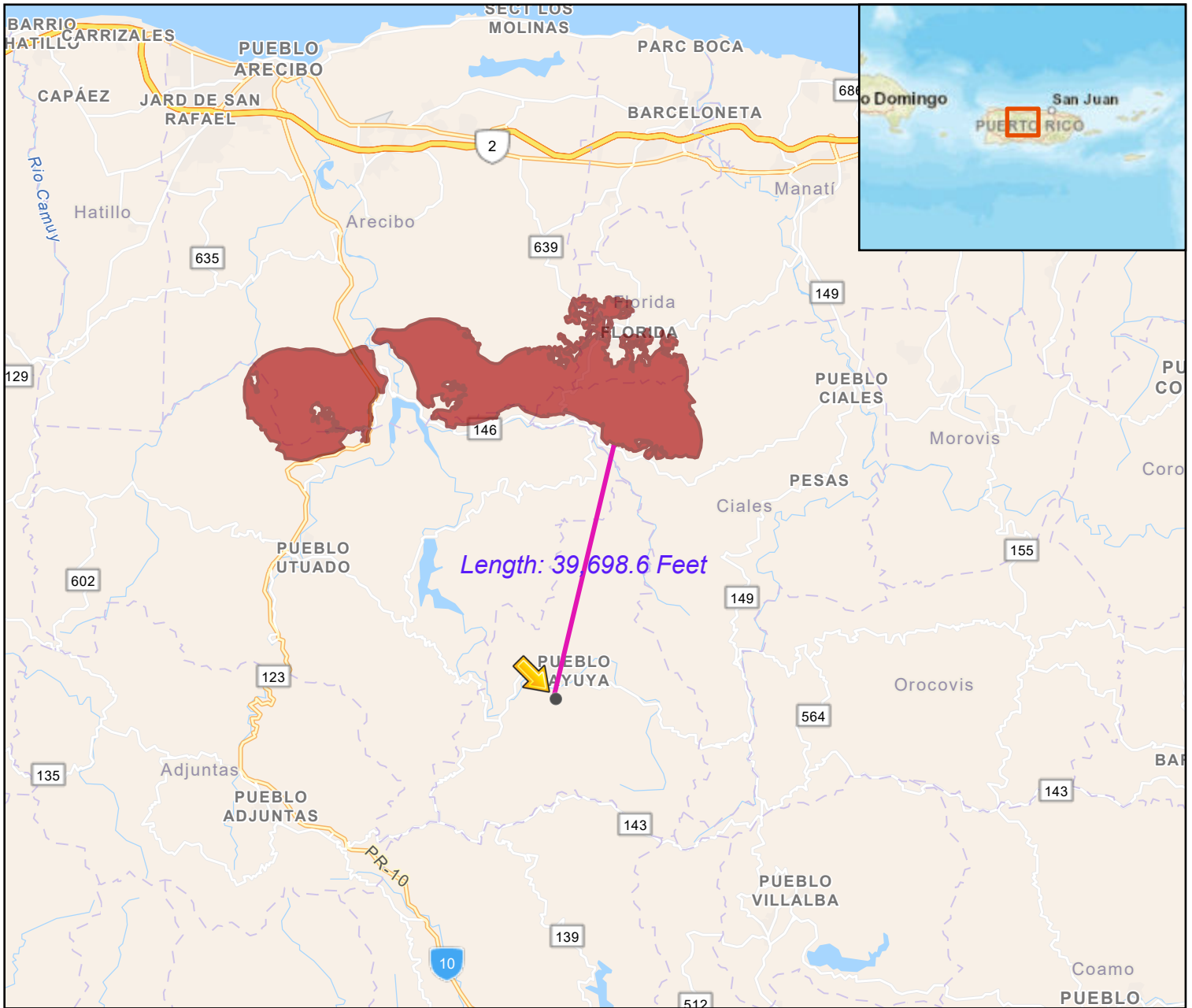
 Coastal Zone Management Act Boundary



NOAA

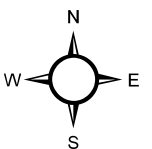
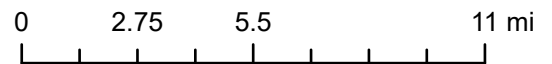
Coastal Zone Management Act

# PR-RGRW-03911 Endangered Species



**Legend**

 USFWS Critical Habitat - Polygon Features - Final (agency service)



Endangered Species Habitat

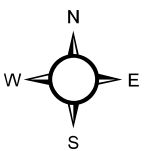
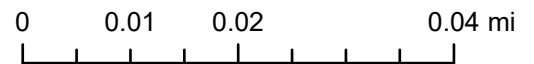
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# PR-RGRW-03911 Farmlands



### Legend

- Prime Farmland
- Farmland of Local Importance
- Farmland of Statewide Importance
- Farmland of Unique Importance
- Not Prime Farmland

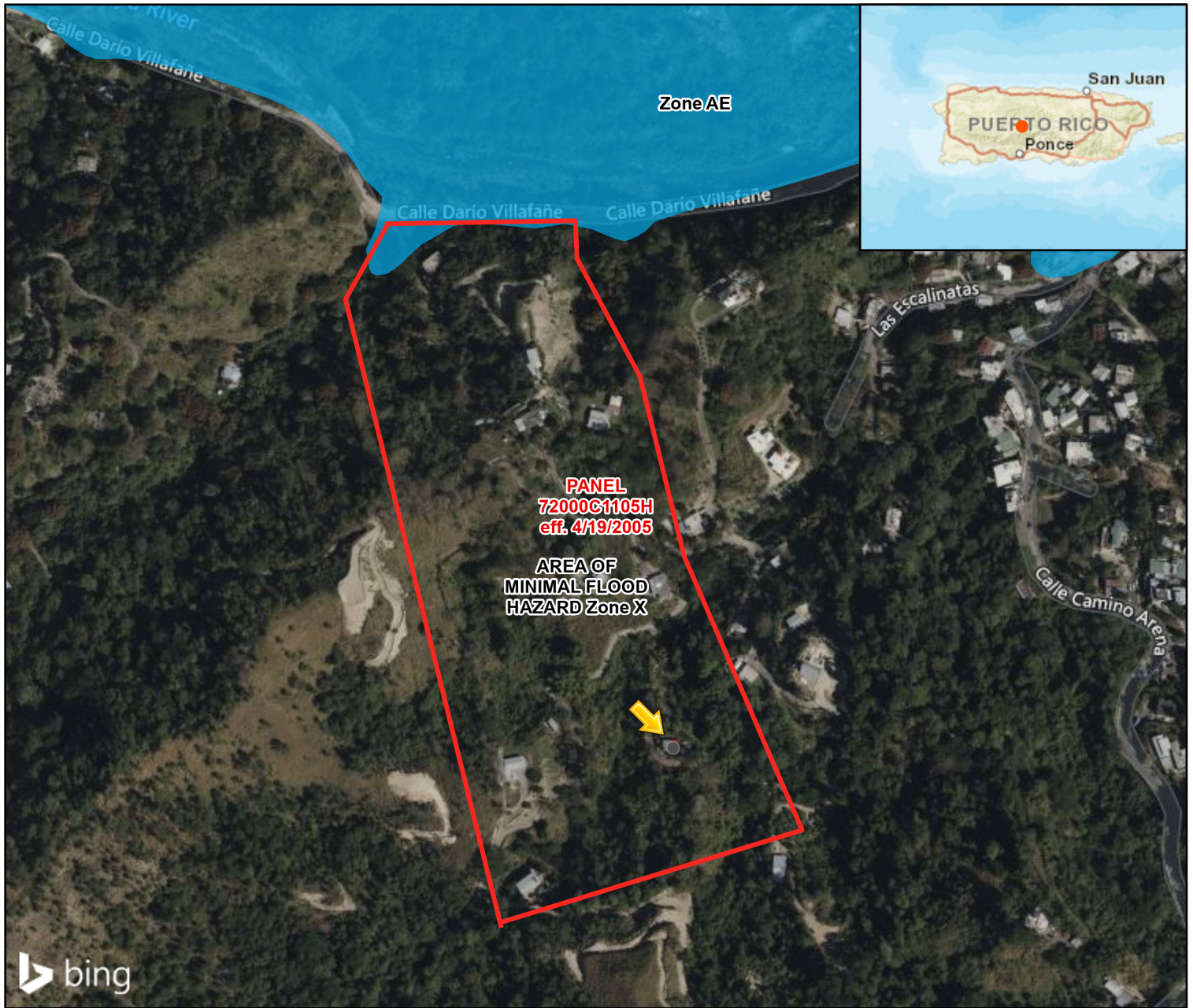


USGS USA Soils

Farmland dataset












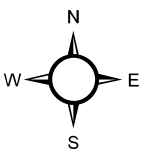
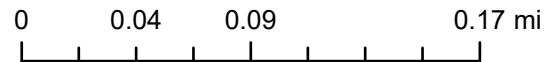
# PR-RGRW-03911 Flood Map



Legend

FEMA Flood Zones - Effective

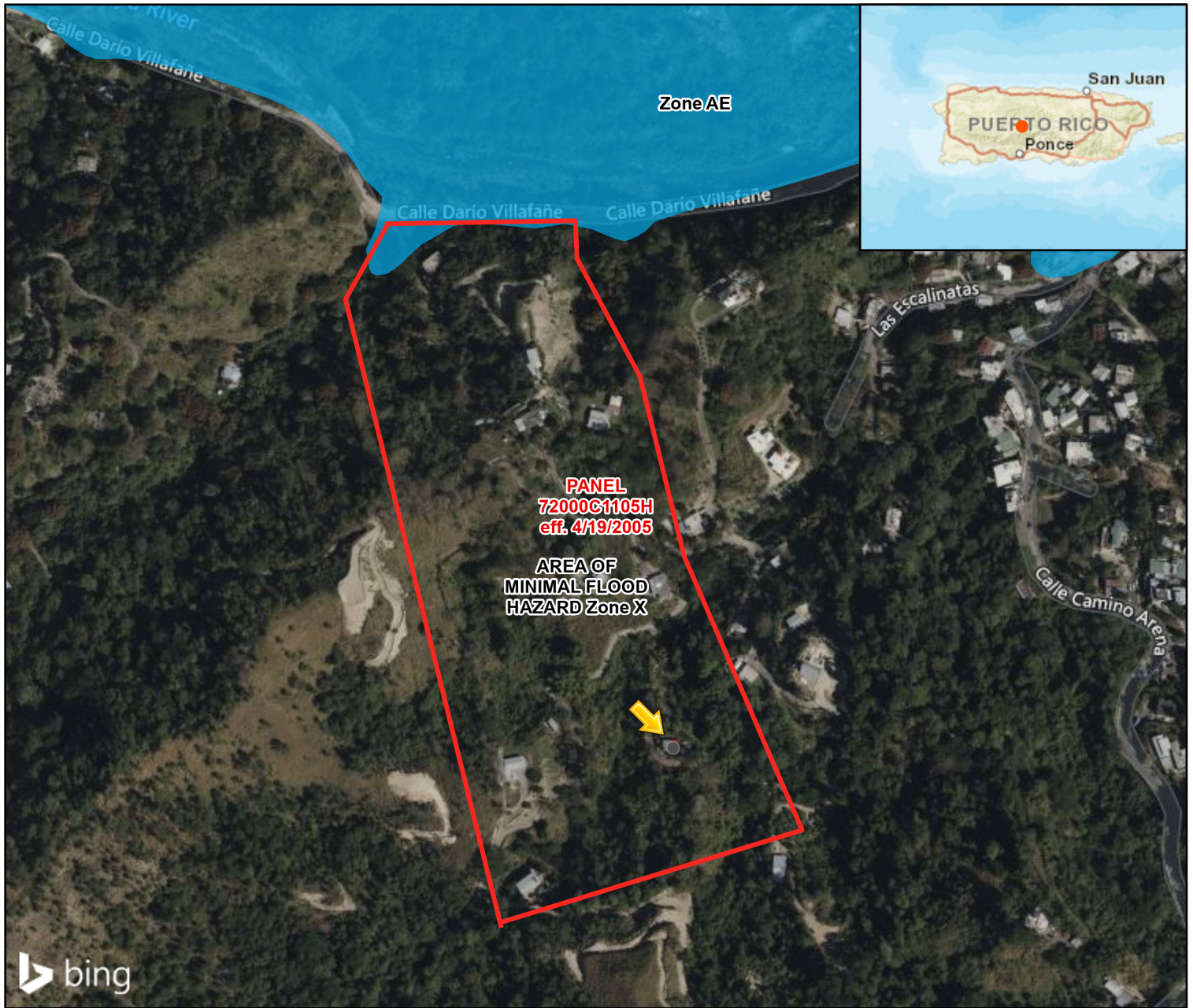
-  1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
-  Regulatory Floodway
-  Special Floodway
-  Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard
-  0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
-  Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
-  Area with Reduced Risk Due to Levee
-  X, Area of Minimal Flood Hazard
-  FEMA Flood Zone Panel



FEMA Map Service  
 Flood Insurance Rate Maps












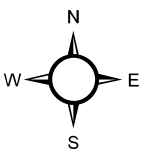
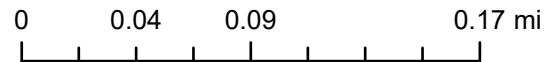
# PR-RGRW-03911 Flood Map



Legend

FEMA Flood Zones - Effective

-  1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
-  Regulatory Floodway
-  Special Floodway
-  Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard
-  0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
-  Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
-  Area with Reduced Risk Due to Levee
-  X, Area of Minimal Flood Hazard
-  FEMA Flood Zone Panel



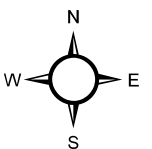
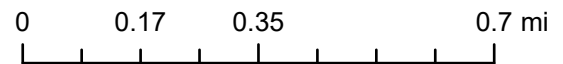
FEMA Map Service  
 Flood Insurance Rate Maps

# PR-RGRW-03911 Historic



## Legend

 Traditional Urban Centers

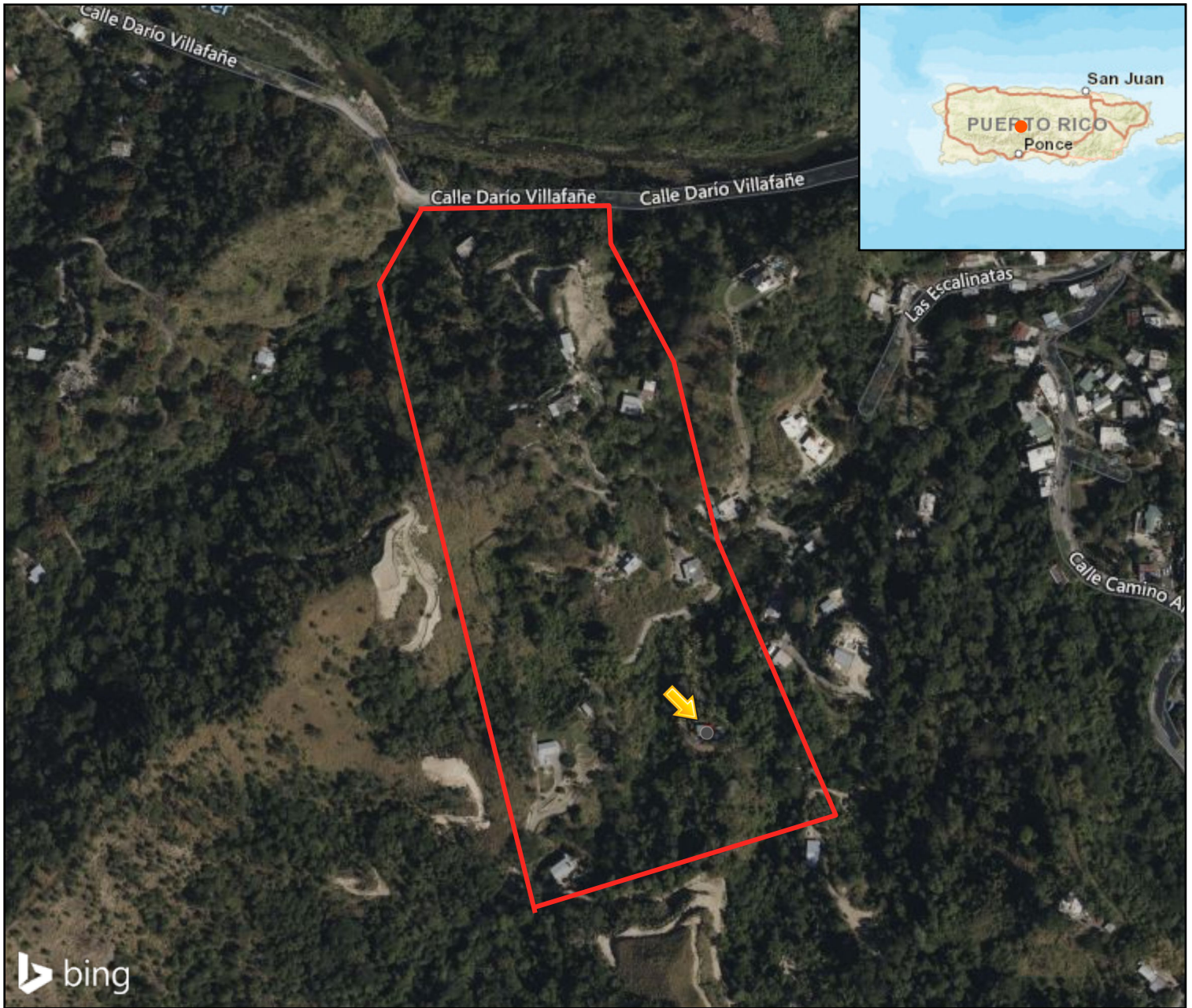


National Register of Historic Places

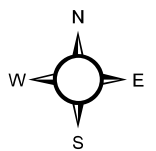
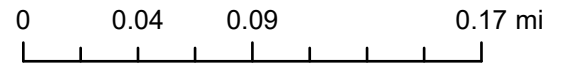
Local Historic Areas digitized by Horne



# PR-RGRW-03911 Site Map



Legend

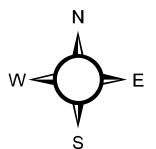
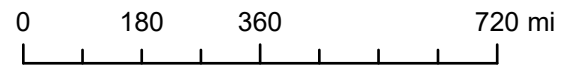


# PR-RGRW-03911 Sole Source Aquifers



**Legend**

 Sole Source Aquifers - EPA August 2019



Sole Source Aquifers

EPA

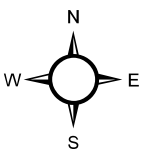
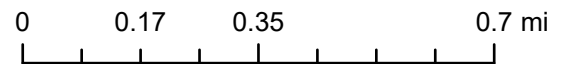


# PR-RGRW-03911 Toxics



## Legend

- Toxic Substances Control Act
- ◆ Brownfields
- Hazardous waste
- ◆ Air pollution
- Water dischargers
- Toxic releases
- ⊙ Superfund
- 3,000 ft buffer



Envirofacts Facility Locations

EPA

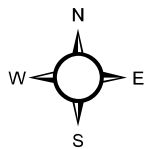
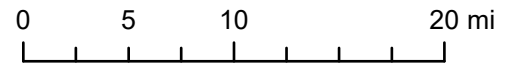
5/25/2023 9:05 AM

# PR-RGRW-03911 W & S Rivers



## Legend

— Wild and Scenic Rivers



National Wild and Scenic River System

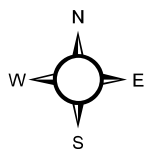
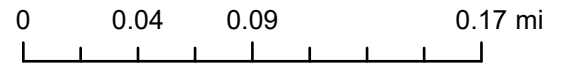
National Park Service

# PR-RGRW-03911 Wetlands



Legend

Riverine



National Wetlands Inventory

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service