

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

451 Seventh Street, SW Washington, DC 20410 www.hud.gov 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-03531

HEROS Number: 900000010439976

Start Date: 11/22/2024

State / Local Identifier:

Project Location: , Guanica, PR 00698

Additional Location Information:

Location centroid: Latitude 18.0179587, longitude -66.884635 at the address given above. Cadastral:

384-000-010-16-000

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

The project business is MS PRODUCE LLC located at CARRETERA 332, KM 0.1, Guanica, PR 00698. Project includes the purchase of farm equipment including new affixed refrigerated ceiling panels, new affixed refrigerated wall panels, new affixed Rolling door, new Cistern and filter system (new above ground pvc plumbing connections), tractor, large cargo van, and a floor grill.

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-	Community Planning and	Community Development Block Grants	\$0.00
0001	Development (CPD)	(Disaster Recovery Assistance)	
B-18-DE-72-	Community Planning and	Community Development Block Grants	\$0.00
0001	Development (CPD)	(Disaster Recovery Assistance)	
B-18-DP-72-	Community Planning and	Community Development Block Grants	
0001	Development (CPD)	(Disaster Recovery Assistance)	
B-19-DP-78-	Community Planning and	Community Development Block Grants	\$0.00
0002	Development (CPD)	(Disaster Recovery Assistance)	

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$150,000.00

Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.2 (a) (5)]: \$150,000.00

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
Floodplain	Mitigation/minimization measures not	N/A	
Management	required as the project activities are not		
	substantial improvement and the building		
	footprint is not being increased.		

Determination:

	This categorically excluded activity/project converts to EXEMPT 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; Funds may be committed and drawn down after
	certification of this part 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, publish NOI/RROF and obtain "Authority to Use Grant Funds" (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)).
Prepai	rer Signature:
Name	/ Title/ Organization: Ianmario Heredia / / Department of Housing - Puerto Rico
Respo	nsible Entity Agency Official Signature: Date: Date:
Name	/ Title: Priscilla M. Toro Rivera/ Environmental Specialist

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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).

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

Pro	ıect	Inforn	nation

Project Name: PR-RGRW-03531

HEROS Number: 900000010439976

Start Date: 11/22/2024

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

Juan PR, 00928

State / Local Identifier:

RE Preparer: Ianmario Heredia

Certifying Office Priscilla Toro

r:

Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Ent

ity):

Point of Contact:

Point of Contact: Paige Pilkinton
Consultant (if applicable): HORNE LLP

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

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

Project Location: , Guanica, PR 00698

Additional Location Information:

Location centroid: Latitude 18.0179587, longitude -66.884635 at the address given

above. Cadastral: 384-000-010-16-000

Direct Comments to: environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov

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

The project business is MS PRODUCE LLC located at CARRETERA 332, KM 0.1, Guanica, PR 00698. Project includes the purchase of farm equipment including new affixed refrigerated ceiling panels, new affixed refrigerated wall panels, new affixed Rolling door, new Cistern and filter system (new above ground pvc plumbing connections), tractor, large cargo van, and a floor grill.

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

PR-RGRW-03531 Site Map.pdf PR-RGRW-03531 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 EXEMPT 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; Funds may be committed and drawn down after certification of this part 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, publish NOI/RROF and obtain "Authority to Use Grant Funds" (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:

05637-SIG-PAGE.pdf

7015.15 certified by Certifying Officer

on:

7015.16 certified by Authorizing Officer

on:

Funding Information

Grant / Project Identification Number	HUD Program	Program Name	Funding Amount
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:

\$150,000.00

Estimated Total Project Cost:

\$150,000.00

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

Compliance Factors: 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)
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STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORE	STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 & § 58.6				
Airport Hazards Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	□ Yes ☑ No	The nearest airport RPZ/CZ is approximately 104,257.6 feet away. The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.			
Coastal Barrier Resources Act Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	□ Yes ☑ No	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is 23,252 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.			
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001- 4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	□ Yes ☑ No	Flood Map Number 72000C1595H, 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.			
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORD	DERS, AND REGULATION	ONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 & § 58.5			
Air Quality Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	□ Yes ☑ 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.			
Coastal Zone Management Act Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	□ Yes ☑ No	This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 6,934.9 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.			
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]	□ Yes ☑ 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			

	1	T
		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.
Endangered Species Act Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	□ Yes ☑ 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.
Explosive and Flammable Hazards Above-Ground Tanks)[24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	□ Yes ☑ 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.
Farmlands Protection Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	□ Yes ☑ 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.
Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	☑ Yes □ No	This project is located in the FFRMS floodplain. The 8-Step or 5-Step Process is required. With the 8-Step or 5-Step Process the project will be in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690. PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Guanica; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review.
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	□ Yes ☑ No	Circa 2021, based on the project description the project is covered by a Programmatic Agreement that includes an applicable exemption that exempts this project from the requirements of Section 106. The project is in compliance with Section 106.

Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	□ Yes ☑ No	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.		
Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	□ Yes ☑ No	Based on the project description, the project consists of activities that are unlikely to have an adverse impact on groundwater resources. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements. According to EPA, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico.		
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	□ Yes ☑ No	Based on the project description this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. This project does not involve new construction, so a visual wetlands survey was not conducted.		
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	□ Yes ☑ No	This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located X feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.		
HUD HOUSING ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS				
	ENVIRONMENTAL J	USTICE		
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	□ Yes ☑ No	No adverse environmental impacts were identified in the project's total environmental review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898.		

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,	Mitigation Measure or	Comments on	Mitigation	Complete
Authority, or	Condition	Completed	Plan	
Factor		Measures		
Floodplain	Mitigation/minimization	N/A		
Management	measures not required as the			
	project activities are not			
	substantial improvement and the			
	building footprint is not being			
	increased.			

Project Mitigation Plan

Should new ground disturbance occur the Karst zone must be evaluated and when necessary DNER must be consulted prior to construction activities.

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		24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D
prevent incompatible development		
around civil airports and military airfields.		

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 nearest airport RPZ/CZ is approximately 104,257.6 feet away. The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.

Supporting documentation

PR-RGRW-03531 Airports.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

√ No

Coastal Barrier Resources

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

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 23,252 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-03531 CBRS.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Flood Insurance

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

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

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-03531 Flood Map.pdf

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The <u>FEMA Map Service Center</u> 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 72000C1595H, 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

Air Quality

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
The Clean Air Act is administered	Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et	40 CFR Parts 6, 51
by the U.S. Environmental	seq.) as amended particularly	and 93
Protection Agency (EPA), which	Section 176(c) and (d) (42 USC	
sets national standards on	7506(c) and (d))	
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.		

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

Coastal Zone Management Act

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 6,934.9 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

Supporting documentation

PR-RGRW-03531 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		24 CFR
proposed for use in HUD programs be free of		58.5(i)(2)
hazardous materials, contamination, toxic		24 CFR 50.3(i)
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.		
Reference		
https://www.onecpd.info/environmental-review/site-contamination		

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

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.

^{*} 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.

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:

- * 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 RGRW HORNE Radon Memo PR-RGRW-03531.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

Toxics Table PR-RGRW-03531.xlsx PR-RGRW-03531 Toxics Map.pdf PR-RGRW-03531 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)	The Endangered	50 CFR Part
mandates that federal agencies ensure that	Species Act of 1973	402
actions that they authorize, fund, or carry out	(16 U.S.C. 1531 et	
shall not jeopardize the continued existence of	seq.); particularly	
federally listed plants and animals or result in	section 7 (16 USC	
the adverse modification or destruction of	1536).	
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").		

1. Does the project involve any activities that have the potential to affect specifies 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-03531.pdf PR-RGRW-03531 Site Map(1).pdf PR-RGRW-03531 Endangered.pdf USFWS Letter UPDATED.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Explosive and Flammable Hazards

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

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 fu	el 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
	110

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

Farmlands Protection

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

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



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-03531 Farmlands.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes



Floodplain Management

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

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 to determine flood elevation. Include documentation and an explanation of why this is the best available information for the site. Note that newly constructed and substantially improved 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.

5. Does your project occur in the FFRMS floodplain?

¹ 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.

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

³ 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).

✓ Yes

No

6. Is your project located in any of the floodplain categories below?

Select all that apply:

Floodway.

Do the floodway exemptions at 55.8 or 55.21 apply?

Yes

No

Coastal High Hazard Area (V Zone) or Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA).

Yes

No

- ✓ None of the above.
- 7. Does the 8-Step Process apply? Select one of the following options:
 - 8-Step Process is inapplicable per 55.13.
 - (a) HUD's mortgage insurance actions and other financial assistance for the purchasing, mortgaging, or refinancing of existing one- to four-family properties in communities that are in the Regular Program of the NFIP and in good standing (i.e., not suspended from program eligibility or placed on probation under 44 CFR 59.24), where the action is not a critical action and the property is not located in a floodway, coastal high hazard area, or LiMWA;
 - (b) Financial assistance for minor repairs or improvements on one- to four-family properties that do not meet the thresholds for "substantial improvement" under § 55.2(b)(12);
 - (c) HUD or a recipient's actions involving the disposition of individual

HUD or recipient held, one- to four-family properties;

- (d) HUD guarantees under the Loan Guarantee Recovery Fund Program (24 CFR part 573), where any new construction or rehabilitation financed by the existing loan or mortgage has been completed prior to the filing of an application under the program, and the refinancing will not allow further construction or rehabilitation, nor result in any physical impacts or changes except for routine maintenance;
- (e) The approval of financial assistance to lease units within an existing structure located within the floodplain, but only if;
- (1) The structure is located outside the floodway or coastal high hazard area, and is in a community that is in the Regular Program of the NFIP and in good standing (i.e., not suspended from program eligibility or placed on probation under 44 CFR 59.24); and
- (2) The project is not a critical action; and.
- (3) The entire structure is or will be fully insured or insured to the maximum extent available under the NFIP for at least the term of the lease.
- (f) Special projects for the purpose of improving efficiency of utilities or installing renewable energy that involve the repair, rehabilitation, modernization, weatherization, or improvement of existing structures or infrastructure, do not meet the thresholds for "substantial improvement" under § 55.2(b)(12), and do not include the installation of equipment below the FFRMS floodplain elevation;
- ✓ 5-Step Process is applicable per 55.14.
 - (a) HUD actions involving the disposition of HUD-acquired multifamily housing projects or "bulk sales" of HUD-acquired one- to four-family properties in communities that are in the Regular Program of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and in good standing (i.e., not suspended from program eligibility or placed on probation under 44 CFR 59.24).
 - (b) HUD's actions under the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1701) for the purchase or refinancing of existing multifamily housing projects, hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, board and care facilities, and intermediate care facilities, in communities that are in good standing under the NFIP.
 - (c) HUD's or the recipient's actions under any HUD program involving

the repair, rehabilitation, modernization, weatherization, or improvement of existing multifamily housing projects, hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, board and care facilities, intermediate care facilities, and one- to four-family properties, in communities that are in the Regular Program of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and are in good standing, provided that the number of units is not increased more than 20 percent, the action does not involve a conversion from nonresidential to residential land use, the action does not meet the thresholds for "substantial improvement" under § 55.2(b)(10), and the footprint of the structure and paved areas is not increased by more than 20 percent.

- √ (d) HUD's (or the recipient's) actions under any HUD program involving the repair, rehabilitation, modernization, weatherization, or improvement of existing nonresidential buildings and structures, in communities that are in the Regular Program of the NFIP and are in good standing, provided that the action does not meet the thresholds for "substantial improvement" under § 55.2(b)(10) and that the footprint of the structure and paved areas is not increased by more than 20 percent.
 - (e) HUD's or the recipient's actions under any HUD program involving the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of existing nonstructural improvements including streets, curbs and gutters, where any increase of the total impervious surface area of the facility is de minimis. This provision does not include critical actions, levee systems, chemical storage facilities (including any tanks), wastewater facilities, or sewer lagoons.

8-Step Process applies.

8. Mitigation

For the project to comply with this section, all adverse impacts must be mitigated. Explain in detail the measures that must be implemented to mitigate the impact or effect, including the timeline for implementation. Note: newly constructed and substantially improved structures within the FFRMS floodplain must be elevated to the FFRMS floodplain elevation or floodproofed, if applicable.

Explain:

Mitigation/minimization measures not required as the project activities are not substantial improvement and the building footprint is not being increased.

Which of the following if any mitigation/minimization measures have been identified for this project in the 8-Step or 5-Step Process?

Buyout and demolition or other supported clearance of floodplain structures.

Insurance purchased in excess of statutory requirement th eunder the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973.

Permeable surfaces.

Natural landscape enhancements that maintain or restore natural hydrology.

Planting or restoring native plant species.

Bioswales.

Stormwater capture and reuse.

Green or vegetative roofs with drainage provisions.

Natural Resources Conservation Service conservation easements or similar easements.

Floodproofing of structures as allowable (e.g. non-residential floors).

Elevating structures (including freeboard above the required base flood elevations).

Levee or structural protection from flooding.

Channelizing or redefining the floodway or floodplain through a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

This project is located in the FFRMS floodplain. The 8-Step or 5-Step Process is required. With the 8-Step or 5-Step Process the project will be in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690. PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Guanica; therefore,

PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review.

Supporting documentation

PR-RGRW-03531 Flood Map(1).pdf PR-RGRW-03531 ABFE.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

✓ Yes

No

Historic Preservation

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

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).

Threshold (a). Either upload the PA below or provide a link to it here:

https://www.hudexchange.info/sites/onecpd/assets/File/PR-FEMA-Prototype-2019-PA-Section-106.pdf

Upload exemption(s) below or copy and paste all applicable text here:

Architecture- Appendix B, Tier I, Allowance B.1: I. First Tier Allowances B. BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES 1. Repair, retrofit, and reconstruction of buildings, and structures less than forty-five (45) years old, unless located in or adjacent to a historic district.

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Circa 2021, based on the project description the project is covered by a Programmatic Agreement that includes an applicable exemption that exempts this project from the requirements of Section 106. The project is in compliance with Section 106.

Supporting documentation

PR-RGRW-03531 Historic Map.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Noise Abatement and Control

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

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

Sole Source Aquifers

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

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

\checkmark	Yes

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

No

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Based on the project description, the project consists of activities that are unlikely to have an adverse impact on groundwater resources. 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-03531 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	Executive Order	24 CFR 55.20 can be
indirect support of new construction impacting	11990	used for general
wetlands wherever there is a practicable		guidance regarding
alternative. The Fish and Wildlife Service's		the 8 Step Process.
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.		

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

✓ No

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

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

PR-RGRW-03531 Wetlands.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

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

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 X feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Supporting documentation

PR-RGRW-03531 W S Rivers.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Environmental Justice

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Determine if the project	Executive Order 12898	
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.		

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



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, Moisés Soto Echevarría, representante autorizado/a para el negocio MS PRODUCE LLC, con el Caso Número PR-RGRW-03531 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 \$150,000.00 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
Floor grill	Farm Infrastructure (Regrow Only)	\$1,025.61	MS.E.
Large cargo van	Vehicles (Regrow Only)	\$63,367.50	MSE.
Post harvest washer	Farm Equipment (Regrow Only)	\$3,231.40	MS.F.
RefrigeratedCeilingP anel	Farm Infrastructure (Regrow Only)	\$6,020.00	ms.F.
RefrigeratedWallPan el	Farm Infrastructure (Regrow Only)	\$9,900.00	MSF.
Rolling door	Farm Infrastructure (Regrow Only)	\$3,568.00	MSE.
Tractor	Farm Equipment (Regrow Only)	\$63,900.00	MS.F.

\$150,000.00

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.



Programa CDBG-DR
Programa Renacer Agrícola de PR -Agricultura Urbana y Rural
Formulario Sobre Uso Previsto de los Fondos
Page 2 / 2

 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.

Moisés Soto Echevarría	148119 Man	n 18.60	06/26/2024
Nombre	0.1 90 0 Fev 37	Firma	Fecha
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			180 + 14
		From the Thirty	Rempessor (School)



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 MS PRODUCE LLC (PR-RGRW-03531), consists of the purchase of farm equipment including new affixed refrigerated ceiling panels, new affixed refrigerated wall panels, new affixed Rolling door, new Cistern and filter system (new above ground pvc plumbing connections), tractor, large cargo van, and a floor grill. Project located at CARRETERA 332, KM 0.1, Guanica, PR 00698, complies with:

Check	Project Criteria
	1. Street resurfacing.
	2. Construction of gutters and sidewalks along existing roads.
	3. Reconstruction or emergency repairs of existing buildings, facilities and homes.
	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.
	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.

, <u> </u>	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.
	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.
	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.
	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.
	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.
	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

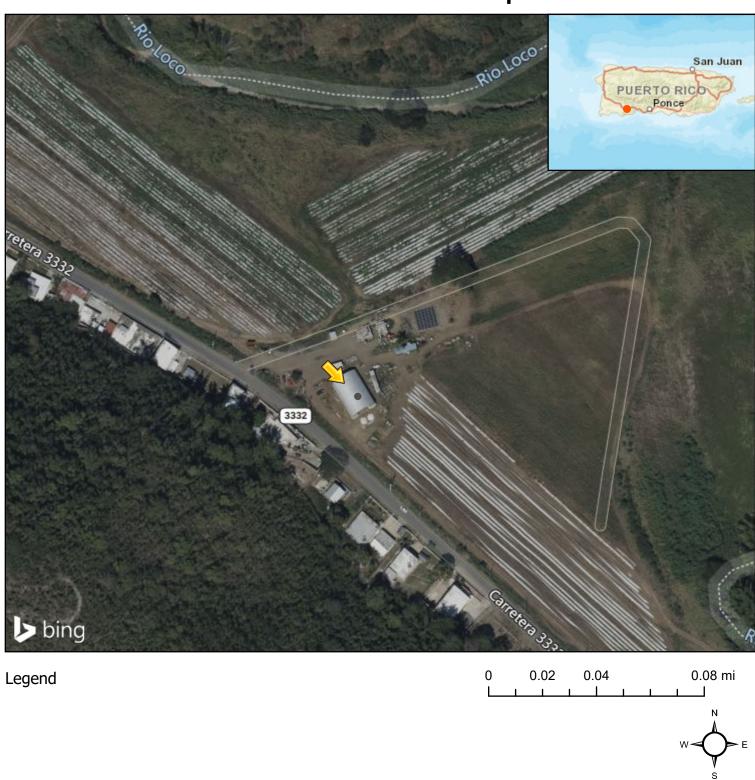
Address: P.O. Box 21365 Sqn Juan, PR 00928
Telephone and Ext: 787-274-2527 ext. 4320
Email: environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov

12/2/2024

Date



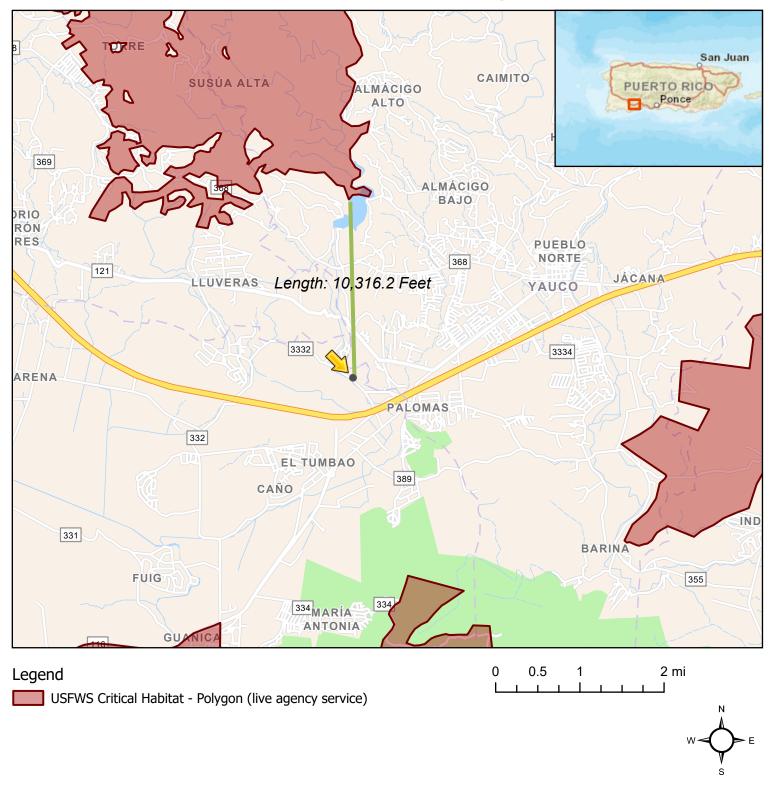
PR-RGRW-03531 Site Map







PR-RGRW-03531 Endangered Species



Endangered Species Habitat

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



CDBG-DR PROGRAM

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

ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD OBSERVATION REPORT

APPLICATION GENERAL	. Inform	ATION			
Application No.:	PR-RGR\	W-03531	Applicant Name:	MS PR	ODUCE LLC.
PROPERTY INFORMATIO	N				
Property Address: Carr. 332 Km. 0.1, Guanico	ı, PR 00698				
Latitude:		18.0179920	Longitude:		-66.8846882
Property Type:		Farm	Year Built:		2022
Number of Buildings:		1	Are Utilities Connected?		Yes
Property Remarks:					
Is there evidence of damage from a previous disaster?		No			
Damage Remarks: SIGNATURES OF INSPECT	TION REPO	DRT		10	
				1	
Environmental Inspector		Blas Guernica Printed Name	Signature		9-6-2024 Date
			-		

ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS		
Item	Observation	Remarks
Are there any signs of poor housekeeping on the site? (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)	☐ Yes ☑ No	
Are there any 55-gallon drums or containers visible on the site?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
If drums located, are they leaking?	⊠ N/A □ Yes □ No	
Are there any signs of petroleum underground storage tanks (PUSTs) on the site?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Are there any UST locations visible from the site?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Are there any signs of above-ground storage tanks (ASTs) on the site, or immediate adjacent visible sites?	⊠ Yes □ No	There is a cistern and diesel tank on the property.
Are there any signs of surface staining?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Are there any ground water monitoring or injection wells on the site?	⊠ Yes □ No	There is a septic tank.
Is there evidence of a faulty septic system on the site?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Is there any permanent standing water, such as a pond or stream, located on the site? (Do not include run-off or ponding from recent weather events.)	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Is there any distressed vegetation on the site?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Does the subject lot have water frontage?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Is there any visible apparent indication of other environmental conditions?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Is there any visible apparent evidence of deteriorated paint (chipping, peeling, cracking) present in the structure?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Are there other unusual conditions on site? (Explain in attached supporting material. Please take photographs, if possible.)	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Is the structure 45 years or older?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Is the applicant aware of any significant historical events or persons associated with the structure; or does the home have a historic marker?	☐ Yes ⊠ No	

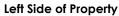
REQUIRED PHOTOS





Front of Property Rear of Property







Left Side of Property

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





Right Side of Property

Front of Property Outward





Rear of Property Outward

Left Side of Property Outward

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS (add additional pages as necessary)







Streetscape



Streetscape



AST





AST Septic Tank



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office P.O. Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622

In Reply Refer To: FWS/R4/CESFO/BKT/HUD

JAN 1 4 2013

Mr. Efrain Maldonado
Field Office Director
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
235 Federico Costa Street, Suite 200
San Juan. Puerto Rico 00918

Re: Blanket Clearance Letter for Federally sponsored projects, Housing and Urban Development

Dear Mr. Maldonado:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is one of two lead Federal Agencies responsible for the protection and conservation of Federal Trust Resources, including threatened or endangered species listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) (ESA). In the U.S. Caribbean, the USFWS has jurisdiction over terrestrial plants and animals, the Antillean manatee and sea turtles when nesting. The National Marine Fisheries Service has jurisdiction over marine species, except for the manatee. The ESA directs all Federal agencies to participate in conserving these species. Specially, section 7 of the ESA requires Federal agencies to consult with the USFWS to ensure that actions they fund authorize, permit, or otherwise carry out will not jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitat. The USFWS issued regulations in 1986 detailing the consultation process. As part of this consultation process, the USFWS review development projects to assist Federal agencies on the compliance of the ESA.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) typically allocate grant funds for rural and urban development projects. Obligations under the ESA, as well as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), require HUD to perform consultation and an environmental impact review prior to the project's authorization. Primarily, these projects involve repair or reconstruction of existing facilities associated with developed land.

In order to expedite the consultation process, the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office has developed this Blanket Clearance Letter (BCL) to cover for activities and projects that typically result in no adverse effects to federally-listed species under our jurisdiction. If projects comply with the project criteria discussed below, no further consultation with the USFWS is needed.

Project Criteria

- 1. Street resurfacing.
- 2. Construction of gutters and sidewalks along existing roads.
- Reconstruction or emergency repairs of existing buildings, facilities and homes.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Determination:

Based on the nature of the projects described above and habitat characteristics described on project criteria, we have determined that the actions and type of projects described above may be conducted within this BCL without adversely affecting federally-listed

Mr. Maldonado

species under our jurisdiction. Thus, consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is not required.

In all situations, HUD, and the municipalities are expected to implement Best Management Practices, where applicable, to ensure that impacts from erosion and stream sedimentation are appropriately minimized.

The Service encourages your agency to enhance the conservation of our trust resources (i.e.; listed species, wetlands, aquatic habitats, migratory birds and marine mammals). We therefore, provide the following recommendations that have proven to help in this way.

Water Crossing Structures:

- 1. Use of bottomless culverts or single span bridges instead of traditional box or RCP culverts or any other water crossing structure that impacts the stream bottom, particularly in streams which support native fish. The use of bottomless culverts or a short span bridge would provide a more stable crossing and would not alter the stream habitat. However, if bottomless structures or bridges are not feasible due to cost or engineering constraints, we recommend the following criteria be used to maintain good habitat in the streams:
 - a. The stream should not be widened to fit the bridge since this can lead to sedimentation during low flows and possible bank erosion during high flows. Rather, the bridge should be designed to fit the stream channel at the point of crossing. Culverts should be sized to carry natural bank full flow. Additional flow can be capture by culverts placed at a higher elevation so as not to impact bank full flows.
 - b. Bridge abutments, wing walls or any other structures should not intrude into the active stream channel.
 - c. All culvert footings must be countersunk into the stream channel at both the invert and outlet ends at a minimum of 10% of the culvert height. This will align the water crossing structure with the slope of the stream.
 - d. Waterways must not be blocked as to impede the free movement of water and fish. Materials moved during construction, such as grubbing, earth fills, and earth cut materials must not be piled where they can fall back into the stream and block the drainage courses.
 - e. Appropriate erosion and/or sedimentation controls measures are to be undertaken to protect water quality until riverbanks are re-vegetated. It has been our experience that appropriate erosion and/or sedimentation control measures are not implemented properly by project contractors. In order to function properly, silt fences need to be buried 6" (proper depth is marked by a line on the silt fence) and supported at regular intervals by wood stakes. For that reason we are recommending that

- the enclosed drawing of proper silt fence installation is included in all final project construction plans.
- f. Upon completion of a water crossing construction, any temporary fill, must be removed from the construction area and disposed in a landfill.

Limitations:

Actions that do not meet the above project criteria, such as actions requiring placement of fill, disturbance, or modification to land outside of an existing access road or ROW; actions that occur on vacant property harboring a wetland and/or forest vegetation; actions requiring excavation, clearing of native vegetation, or alteration of storm water drainage patterns; or actions that require lighting which can be directly or indirectly seen from a beach, must be individually coordinated through the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office and will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

The Service reserves the right to revoke or modify this BCL if:

- New information reveals that the categories of work covered in this BCL may affect listed or designated critical habitat in a manner, or to an extent, not previously considered.
- 2. The categories of work included in this BCL are subsequently modified to include activities not considered in this review.
- 3. New species are listed or critical habitat designated that may be affected.

It is our mission to work with others, to conserve, protect and enhance fish wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of our people.

To obtain additional information on threatened and endangered species, you may visit our website http://www.fws.gov/caribbean/ES where you will also find the Map of the Species by Municipality and the Map of Critical Habitat. The USFWS has also developed a web based tool called IPac. Please visit http://www.ecos.fws.gov/ipac and familiarize yourself with the features we offer. We encourage you to begin your project planning process by requesting an **Official Species List** for your individual project that will include all species that may occur in the vicinity of the action area and includes a map of the action area. The site will also identify designated critical habitat, or other natural resources of concern that may be affected by your proposed project. At this time, best management practices or conservation measures are not available at the site but we expect the site to continue growing in its offering.

These maps provide information on the species/habitat relations within a municipality and could provide the applicants an insight if the proposed action is covered under this BCL or may affect a species, thus requiring individual review.

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If you have any additional question regarding this BCL, please do not hesitate to contact Marelisa Rivera, Deputy Field Supervisor, at 787-851-7297 extension 206.

Sincerely yours,

Edwin E. Muñiz

Field Supervisor

Enclosures (Fact Sheets)

cc: OCAM, San Juan

Office of Federal Funds, 78 Municipalities of Puerto Rico

AAA

PRFAA

DNER

EXECUTIVE ORDER 11988 – FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT FIVE-STEP PROCESS AS PROVIDED BY 24 CFR §55.20 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – DISASTER RELIEF (CDBG-DR) PROGRAM

Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH)
Small Business Financing (SBF) Program Project No. PR-RGRW-03531
MS PRODUCE LLC

Step 1: Determine whether the action is located in a FFRMS floodplain

The proposed project is intended to renovate the building as part of the Economic Development portion of the CDBG-DR grant. The specific scope of work for this project includes the purchase of farm equipment including new affixed refrigerated ceiling panels, new affixed refrigerated wall panels, new affixed Rolling door, new Cistern and filter system (new above ground pvc plumbing connections), tractor, large cargo van, and a floor grill for the Business. The project is located at CARRETERA 332, KM 0.1, Guanica, PR 00698. The Tax Parcel ID of the site is 384-000-010-16-000. The Latitude is 18.0179587 and the Longitude is -66.884635. The FFRMS floodplain was determined using the 0.2-Percent-Annual-Chance (500-Year) Flood Approach. The project is located entirely within the FFRMS floodplain. The property is shown as being within the 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Zone on the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) Map.

Executive Order (EO) 11988 within HUD Regulations 24 CFR Part 55 details floodplain management. The purpose of EO 11988 is "to avoid to the extent possible the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct or indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative." The project is located within the FFRMS floodplain and for this reason, EO 11988 applies. The subject unit occupies 3,598 square feet of the FFRMS floodplain. An evaluation of direct and indirect impacts associated with the construction, occupancy, and modification of the FFRMS floodplain is required. The project does not involve new construction and is not located in a wetland as determined by the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) Mapper, thus EO 11990 does not apply.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential structure. The renovation is not considered a substantial improvement in accordance with 24 CFR 55.2 nor will the footprint be increased; therefore, per 24 CFR 55.12(a)(4), public notification of the proposed activity (Step 2), identification and evaluation of practicable alternatives (Step 3) and the determination of no practicable alternative and publication of a final notice (Step 7) do not need to be conducted.

Step 2: Notify the public for early review of the proposal and involve the affected and interested public in the decision-making process.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential building. The building renovation is not considered substantial improvement and the building footprint is not being increased; therefore, per 24 CFR 55.12(a) (4), public notification of the proposed activity (Step 2 of the 8-Step Process) does not need to be conducted.

Step 3: Identify and evaluate practicable alternatives to locating in the FFRMS floodplain.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential building. The structure is not undergoing substantial improvement nor is the footprint increasing, therefore, per 24 CFR 55.12(a)(4), identification and evaluation of practicable alternatives to the proposed activity (Step 3 of the 8-Step Process) does not need to be conducted.

Step 4: Identify Potential Direct and Indirect Impacts Associated with FFRMS Floodplain Development.

The HUD-funded SBF program is intended to provide economic stimulus to Small Businesses for economic development. HUD's regulations limit what actions can be considered under the SBF program, including the prohibition of any construction in the floodway. Descriptions of the potential impacts of the proposed action are below:

- Option A (Proposed Action) This option would involve renovation of the non-residential building. The building is not undergoing substantial improvement and the footprint is not being increased. The proposal does include a minor renovation of installing new affixed refrigerated ceiling panels, new affixed refrigerated wall panels, new affixed Rolling door, new Cistern and filter system with no ground disturbance. There will be no anticipated impacts to lives and property as this is a minor improvement to a non-residential structure. As the footprint of the structure will not change there are no anticipated impacts to floodplain characteristics or natural and beneficial values.
- Option B (No Action Alternative)- A no-action alternative would mean this applicant does not receive funding to help restore and grow their small business.

Step 5: Where practicable, design or modify the proposed action to minimize the potential adverse impacts to lives, property, and natural values within the floodplain and to restore, and preserve the values of the FFRMS floodplain.

The PRDOH and the Puerto Rico Permits Management Office requires elevation or floodproofing of all "substantially damaged or improved" structures in the FFRMS floodplain. When followed, these regulations will reduce the threat of flooding damage to properties located in the floodplain and reduce the impact of development on the floodplain. Applicants are required to adhere to the most recent FFRMS floodplain elevation levels when considering reconstruction of their "substantially damaged or improved" property. It is noted; however, that because the property is not to be substantially improved and the footprint of the structure is not increased, floodplain management options are not required. The footprint of the building will not be increased, as to minimize the potential harm to or within the FFRMS floodplain.

Step 6: Reevaluate the Proposed Action.

Option A would involve the renovation of the non-residential building. This option would not adversely impact the FFRMS floodplain and would help the small business benefit as part of the economic recovery needed because of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. This meets the program goals of revitalizing and supporting the economic development and recovery of Puerto Rico.

Option B would mean the applicant does not receive funding. Due to the great need for economic revitalization after hurricanes Irma and Maria, this would put undue hardship on the applicant. Because of this option A was selected.

Step 7: Determination of No Practicable Alternative.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential structure. The structure is not undergoing substantial improvement nor is the footprint of the structure expanding; therefore, per 24 CFR 55.12(a)(4), the determination of no practicable alternative and publication of a final notice (Step 7 of the 8-Step Process) does not need to be conducted.

Step 8: Implement the Proposed Action

Step eight is the implementation of the proposed action. The PRDOH will ensure that all measures prescribed in the steps above will be followed, as required.

Name Registry ID Address Lat

CEMEX CONCRETOS YAUCO 110042372697 PR-121 KM 12.7, YAUCO, PR 00698 18.021278

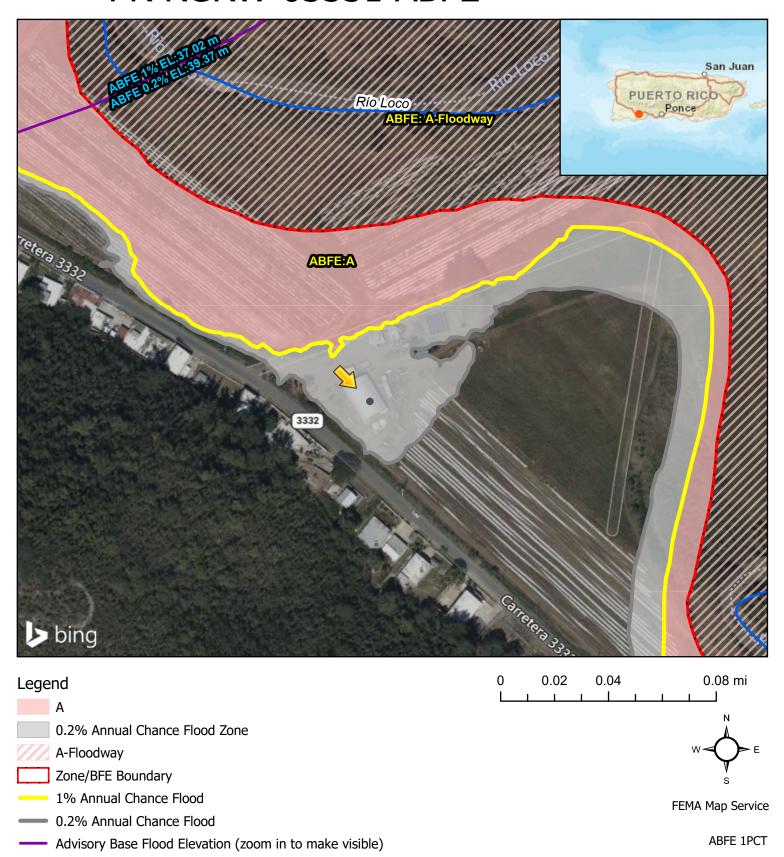
Long Type Distance (ft) Echo Report Impact?

https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility
-66.879139 CWA 2,258.02 report?fid=110042372697 No



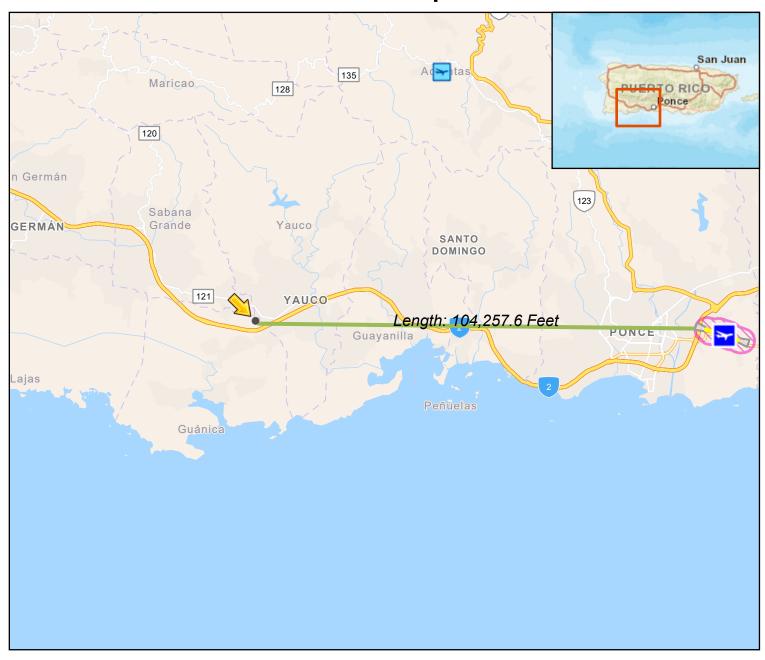
Streamline (zoom in to make visible)

PR-RGRW-03531 ABFE





PR-RGRW-03531 Airports





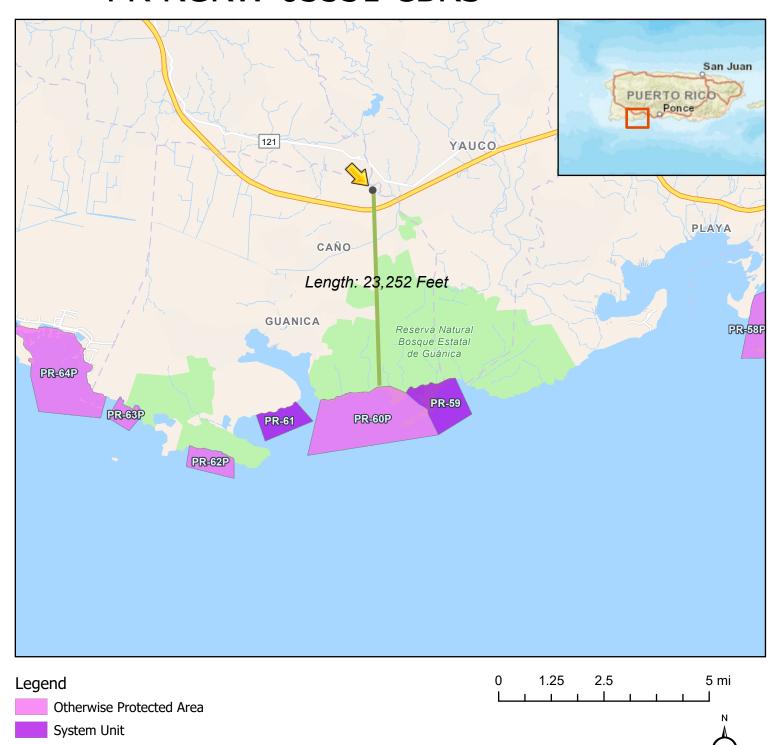
Minor Airport

Major Civil and Military Airport

Runway Protection Zones



PR-RGRW-03531 CBRS

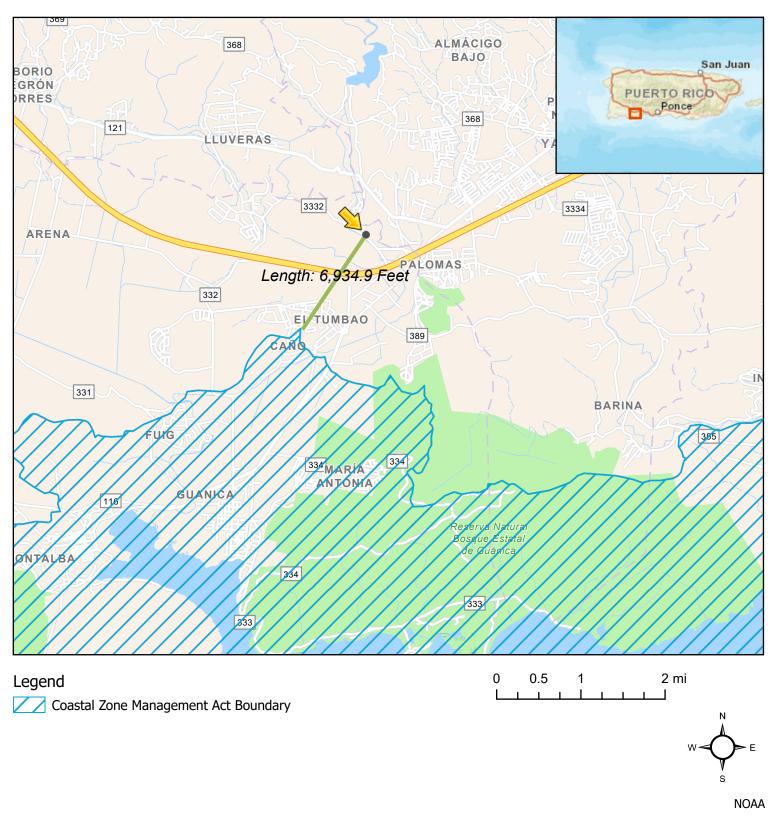


U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Coastal Barrier Resources Act Program



PR-RGRW-03531 CZM

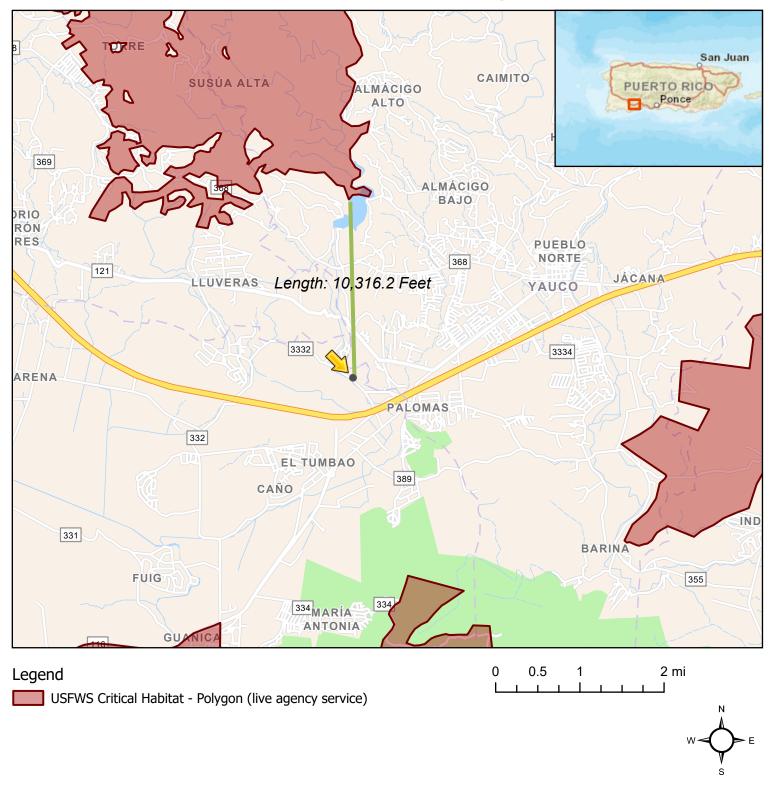


Coastal Zone Management Act





PR-RGRW-03531 Endangered Species



Endangered Species Habitat

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



PR-RGRW-03531 Farmlands



Legend

ClassName

Prime Farmland

Not Prime Farmland

USGS USA Soils

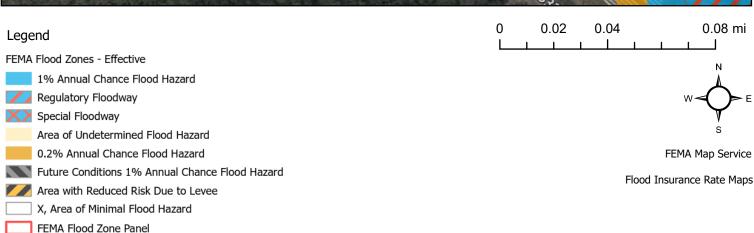
Farmland dataset



MS PRODUCE LLC CARRETERA 332, KM 0.1 Guánica, PR 00698 18.0179587, -66.884635

PR-RGRW-03531 Flood Map





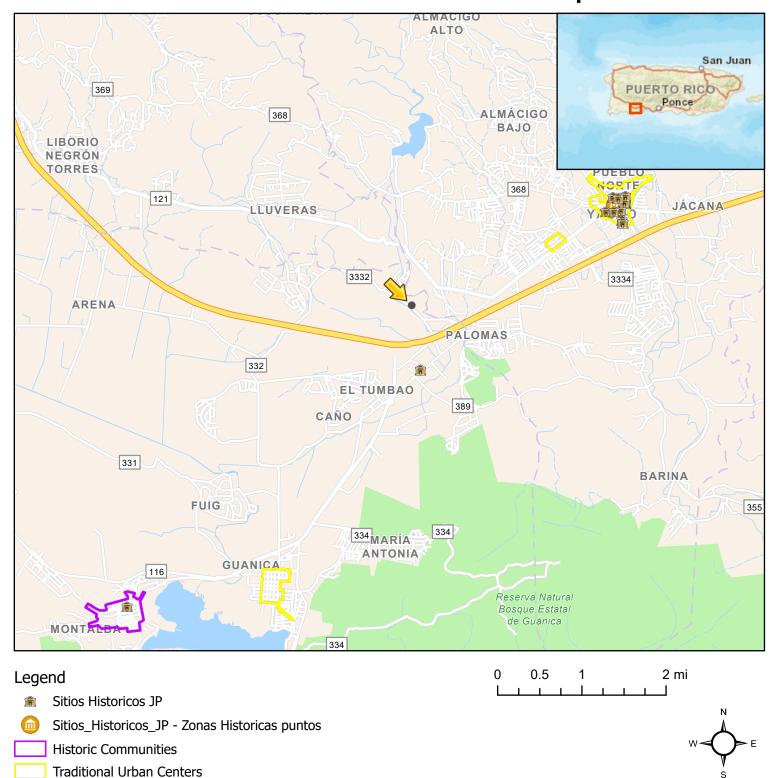
FEMA Map Service

0.08 mi





PR-RGRW-03531 Historic Map

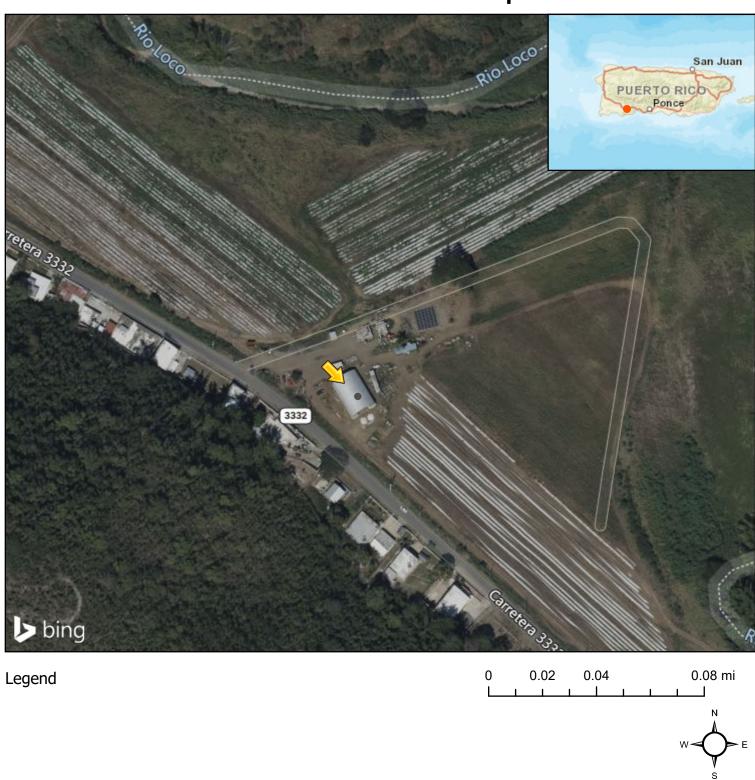


National Register of Historic Places

Local Historic Areas digitized by Horne

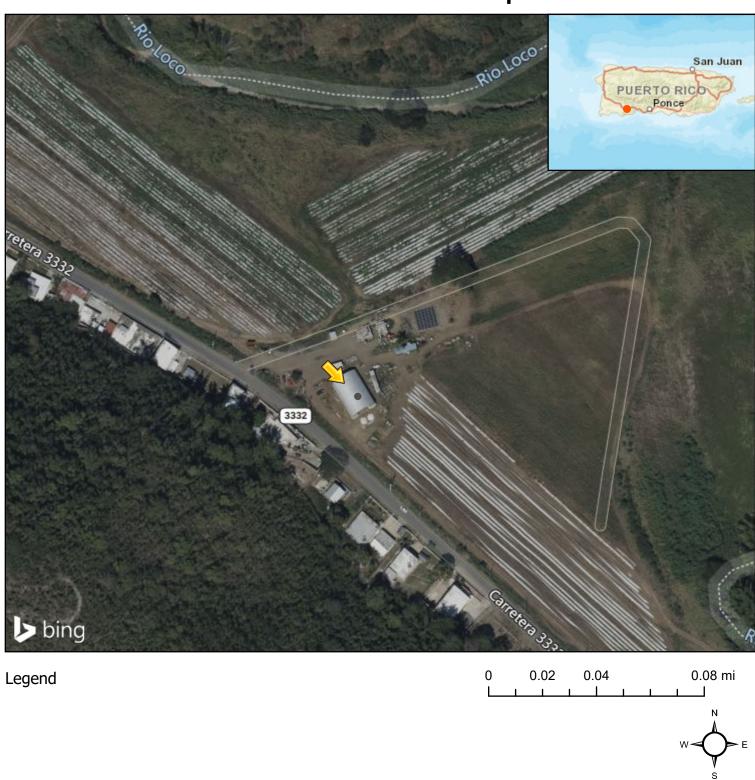


PR-RGRW-03531 Site Map





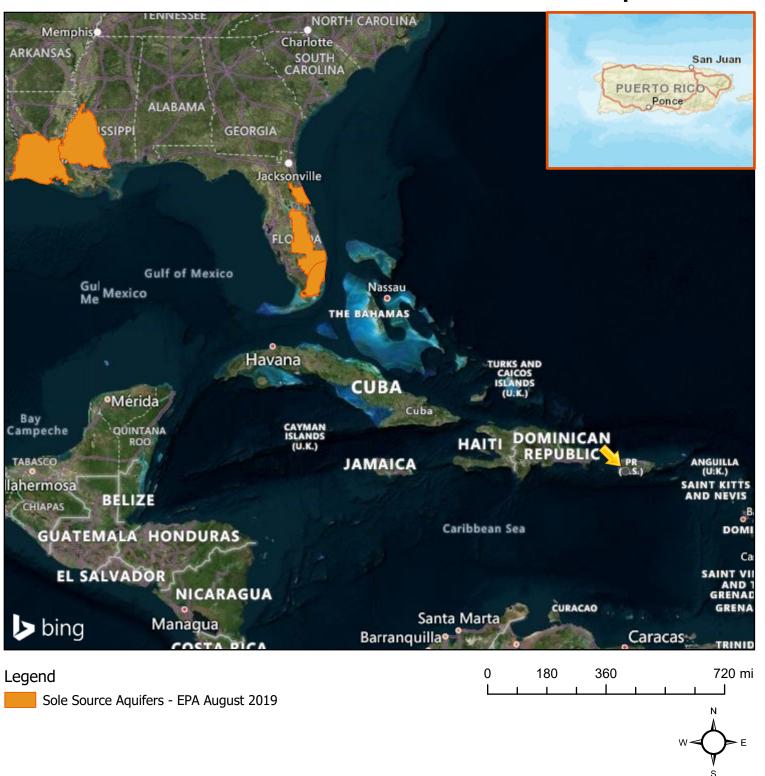
PR-RGRW-03531 Site Map





MS PRODUCE LLC CARRETERA 332, KM 0.1 Guánica, PR 00698 18.0179587, -66.884635

PR-RGRW-03531 Sole Source Aquifers

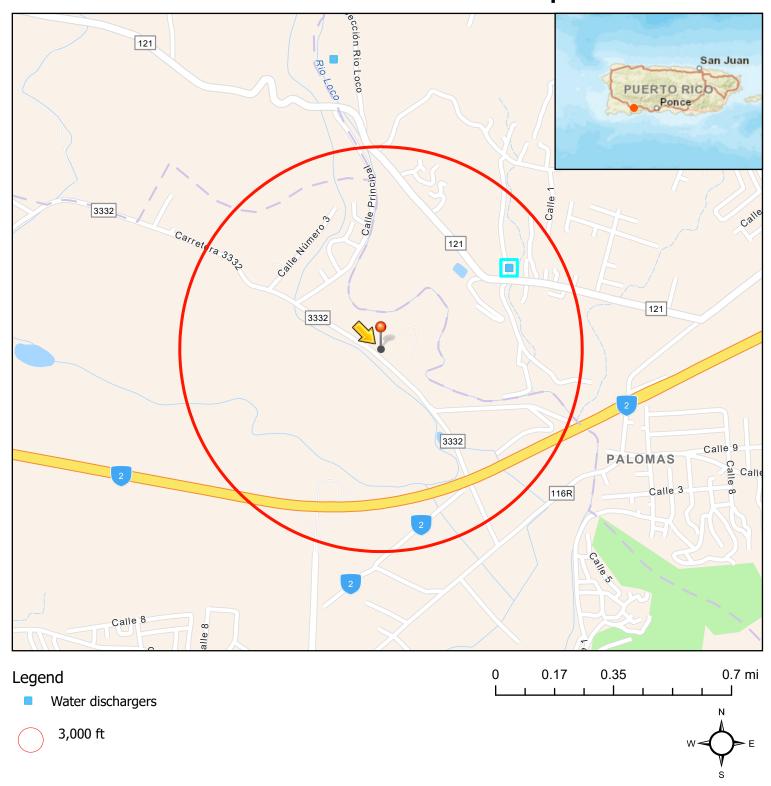


Sole Source Aquifers

EPA



PR-RGRW-03531 Toxics Map



Envirofacts Facility Locations

EPA



PR-RGRW-03531 W & S Rivers

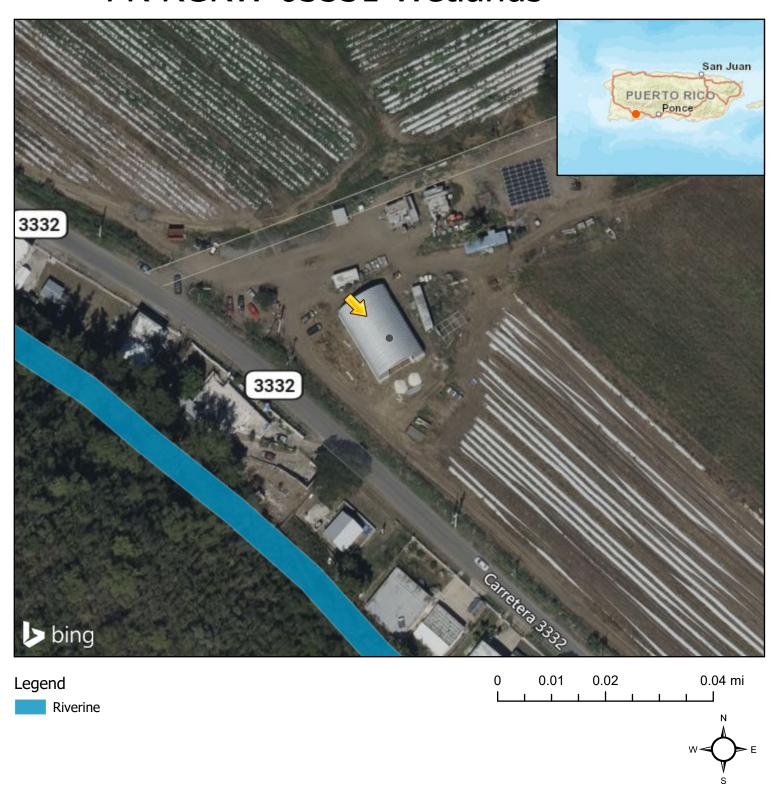


National Wild and Scenic River System

National Park Service



PR-RGRW-03531 Wetlands



National Wetlands Inventory

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service