

Environmental Assessment

Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects

24 CFR Part 58

Project Information

Project ID: PR-RGRW-03878

Project Name: Agrícola del Montesoro

Responsible Entity: Puerto Rico Department of Housing

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

State/Local Identifier: Puerto Rico / Comerío, PR

Preparer: Patricia Carmenatty

Certifying Officer Name and Title: Permit and Environmental Compliance Officers: Sally Acevedo Cosme, Pedro de León Rodríguez, María T. Torres Bregon, Ivelisse Lorenzo, Angel Gabriel Lopez Guzman, Janette Cambrelen, Santa Ramirez, Limary Vélez Marrero, Juan Carlos Perez Bofill and Monica M. Machuca Rios.

Consultant: Behar Ybarra & Associates LLC

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

Project Location:

Bo. Palomas, Carr 779 Km 6.5, Comerío, PR 00782

Water well location: latitude 18.233074 longitude -66.236637

Water well alternate location: latitude 18.233632 longitude -66.23678

Parcel cadastral # 222-000-007-40-000

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

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-03878 consist of installing/constructing a new 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well. The installation of the water well will require ground disturbance. The well installation includes a 5hp submersible water pump that will be powered by a removable diesel generator that will be provided by the applicant. Also, a 4'x4' concrete slab will be built with the applicant's private funds. The 10" water well will also be installed following the standards and regulations of the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER). An 8-hour pumping

test and water quality analysis will be required as part of the permit granting process with the DNER. The water needed will be provided by an existing PRASA intake on the property. All water pipes will be above ground. Two locations for the well are being considered. The first location is at latitude 18.233074, longitude -66.236637. The alternative location is at latitude 18.233632, longitude -66.23678. The project area is located at Palomas Ward, PR-779, km. 6.5 within the Municipality of Comerío. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 13 years.

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

A site Map is included in Figure 1, illustrating the location of the water well on the property. Photos of the location are included in the Section 106 documentation, Appendix 1. Refer to Appendix 3 for Site Inspection Report.

Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]: The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) will increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. This agricultural project associated with the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well is in keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The existing area for which the proposed water well and water well alternate be placed has a flat topography. Both areas where the water well is proposed to be installed are covered with vegetation, grass and bushes. Therefore, there is little to no change in land use associated with these placements.

Funding Information

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

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$50,000.00

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

Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities

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

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required	Compliance determinations
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6		
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well will have no impact on any Airports. The site is located 95,261 feet from the nearest major civil airport (Fernando Luis Ribas Dominicci Airport in San Juan) and 110,971 feet from the nearest military airport (Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport in San Juan). This topic is in compliance with the HUD's Airport Hazard regulations without further evaluation. See the attached Airport map Runway Protection Zone, Figure 2.
Coastal Barrier Resources Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. The project is located 84,175 feet southwest of the nearest Coastal Barrier Resource System, PR-86P. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. See the attached CBRS map, Figure 3.

<p>Flood Insurance</p> <p>Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located in a Zone X, Panel 72000C1180H, 4/19/2005 on the FEMA FIRM. The project does not require flood insurance or is excepted from flood insurance. See attached Flood Map, Figure 4 and 4.1.</p>
<p>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5</p>		
<p>Clean Air</p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well for an agricultural site and is not located in a nonattainment municipality of Puerto Rico (Arecibo, Bayamón, Cataño, Guaynabo, Salinas, San Juan, Toa Baja). The installation and operation of this project will have no impact and is in compliance with the Clean Air Act without further evaluation. See attached published list of Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for each county by year for all criteria pollutants in Appendix 2.</p>
<p>Coastal Zone Management</p> <p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located 75,504 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management Area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See the attached CZMA map, Figure 5.</p>
<p>Contamination and Toxic Substances</p> <p>24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well for an agricultural project. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found.</p> <p>There is one site of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet near</p>

		<p>of the two locations of the proposed water well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPA Facility Interests RCRA (Hazardous Waste) 110007814801 Matos Garage – Comerío – 800 ft. Address: RD 779 KM 6.2, COMERIO, PR 00782. Coordinates: 18.23126, - 66.235558. <p>Based on EPA Enforcement and Compliance History Online (EPA ECHO), no violation identified. See Appendix 3.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements. See attached Toxics Map, Figure 6.</p>
<p>Endangered Species</p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>After reviewing data from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC) and the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) database, the PR boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>) and PR Plain Pigeon (<i>Columba inornate wetmorei</i>) could be found in the project area.</p> <p>The Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application was used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species for this project. Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa, which determined that the proposed actions for this project have no effect (NE) on this specie.</p> <p>As for the Puerto Rican plain pigeon a consultation is required. Since the land has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 13 years, nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and analysis of the IPaC lists together with field direct observations (conducted on October 16, 2023) of the area where the project will be</p>

		<p>developed, the PRDOH and USFWS has determined that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican plain pigeon.</p> <p>The project is 55,847 feet from the nearest final endangered species critical habitat. Therefore, the project has no critical habitats in the area.</p> <p>If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa. As established by the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures Guideline.</p> <p>https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/guideline/design/population/156/office/41430.pdf</p> <p>This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. See attached Endangered Species map, Figure 7. See attached USFWS Determination Letter and Consultation Package in Appendix 4.</p>
<p>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well and does not include development, construction or rehabilitation that will increase residential density. This project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable hazards without further evaluation.</p>
<p>Farmlands Protection</p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use. The water well main location es designated as prime farmland and the water well alternate location is</p>

<p>sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>		<p>designated as Not prime farmland. The scope of work includes the installation and construction of a water well and this is a construction limited to on-farm structures needed for farm operations. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. See the attached Farmlands map, Figure 8.</p>
<p>Floodplain Management</p> <p>Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located in Zone X, Panel 72000C1180H, 4/19/2005 (Figure 4). The site is not located in a Preliminary Firm or an Advisory Base Flood Elevation special flood hazard area. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Comerio; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. See attached Flood Map (Figure 9).</p>
<p>Historic Preservation</p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site was visited on October 17, 2023, by SOI-qualified archaeologist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the undertaking, the APE has been defined as the area potentially affected by ground-disturbing activities related to installation of the water well. Documentation with photographs and maps was subsequently submitted to SHPO (attached Appendix 1). In a response from PR SHPO dated November 13, 2023, SHPO concurred with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected within the project's Area of Potential Effects (see attached Appendix 1). The property is not considered historic or contributing to an historic district (See attached Historic map, Figure 10). Therefore, this activity is in compliance with Historic Preservation.</p>
<p>Noise Abatement and Control</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well for an</p>

<p>Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>		<p>agricultural site. The project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The site is rural in nature and there will be no impact to or from the surrounding area from a noise perspective. This topic is in compliance with Noise abatement and Control without further evaluation.</p>
<p>Sole Source Aquifers</p> <p>Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source aquifers without further evaluation. See the attached Sole Source Aquifers map, Figure 11.</p>
<p>Wetlands Protection</p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>There is an unnamed creek 285 feet from where the water well will be installed and 138 feet from the alternate location for the water well. However, the area of potential effect for the water well locations is outside of any creek near the project area. Furthermore, the wetland will not be affected by the project. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. See the attached Wetlands map, Figure 12.</p>
<p>Wild and Scenic Rivers</p> <p>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project is not within proximity of the NWSRS river. The project is located 155,974 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. See Map, Figure 13.</p>
<p>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</p>		
<p>Environmental Justice</p> <p>Executive Order 12898</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Based on the scope of work for this project, there will be no additional impact on low-income or minority residents. This proposed activity will not have a negative impact on Environmental Justice. Therefore, the</p>

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

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

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

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
LAND DEVELOPMENT		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well is continued agricultural use of property which is compatible with a zoning code of R-G (General Rural) and existing land use of SREP-A (Specially Protected Rustic Land-Agricultural). There is no urban design associated with this rural, agricultural site.

Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	The proposed project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well. The soil is currently being used for agriculture purposes. There is no change in land use since the land will continue to be used to agriculture purposes. In the project area the soil has been classified as Daguey clay, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded (DaD). This is a moderately steep, well-drained soil on stable side slopes, ridgetops and foot slopes of the humid volcanic uplands. Permeability and the available water capacity are moderate. The landslide data indicates moderate landslide susceptibility; therefore, no erosion is expected to occur from this project. The project will not affect the drainage in the area. See Landslide Susceptibility Map, Figure 14.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	The proposed project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well. There are no specific environmental hazards that have been identified for this site. The site is not in a high Noise Level area, nor will the project generate any additional noise. Additionally, the project does not include housing or such to where inhabitants would be affected.
Energy Consumption	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well on an existing agricultural farm and will not require any expansion to existing power facilities. The well installation includes a 5hp submersible water pump that will be powered by a removable diesel generator that will be provided by the applicant.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
SOCIOECONOMIC		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well and will result in short-term benefit to employment when contractors are hired for the construction of the water well. After construction, there may be a net positive benefit for the farm, a small business receiving this funding for economic development recovery

		purposes, which will aid in the continued operations of the intended use of the farm which products will be used by Puerto Rico population. The project is not anticipated to have a significant impact on Employment and Income Patterns, however, the project may help restore employment opportunities and income patterns.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well and will not alter the demographic characteristics of Comerío, PR. The applicant is already located at this location and the project will provide opportunities for the continuous agricultural growth of the business.
Environmental Justice	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well. In the project area within a one-mile radius:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The people of color are 99% compared to PR average of 96% • 89 % of the people are low income compared to PR average of 70% • 21% of the people are unemployed compared to PR average of 15% <p>The proposed activities of the installation of the water well will have a positive impact on creating jobs for local people. Therefore, the proposed activity complies with this section. See EJScreen Report in Appendix 3.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well for an agricultural site and will have no impact on educational and cultural facilities.
Commercial Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well and

		may aid in restoring the demand for local commercial services; however, not to the point of putting undue pressure on commercial facilities.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well for an agricultural site and will have no impact on Health Care and Social Services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well and will have no impact on Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling services. The products and by-products are agricultural, and any waste would be biodegradable. The remaining construction solid waste materials would be collected for transport to the local landfill.
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The installation and construction of the water well will not produce any wastewater. Based on the scope of work is not expected to result in any significant changes in wastewater or sanitary sewer generation. The proposed project will have no impact on Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers.
Water Supply	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well. A permit from the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) is required to be obtained for the construction of the water well. No new connections will be needed for municipal potable water.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well for an agricultural site and will have no impact on Public Safety.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well and will have no impact to Parks, Open Space and Recreation. The property being used is agricultural and it will continue as agricultural use.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well for

	an agricultural site and will have no impact on transportation and accessibility.
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Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well for an agricultural site and will be situated on previous agriculture property and will have no impact to unique natural features or water resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well for an agricultural site and will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity. There may be wildlife attracted to the new water well but no negative impact on wildlife.
Climate Change	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well for an agricultural site. The Re-Grow Program proposed project aims to increase resiliency in the agricultural industry to prepare for future climate related disasters. The project will not contribute to climate change and will provide a minor net benefit by allowing for increased food production. In terms of the project's susceptibility to climate change, the agricultural components may encounter challenges due to the potential impact of drought conditions.

Additional Studies Performed: Not applicable.

Field Inspection (Date and completed by): October 17, 2023, Jaqueline Lopez, SOI-Qualified Archaeologist

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

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems:

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

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, Puerto Rico map.

www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf

National Park Service, National Registry of Natural Landmarks.

www.nature.nps.gov/nnl/docs/NNLRegistry.pdf

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

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

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

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

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

US Environmental Protection Agency, National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Nonattainment Areas for Criteria Pollutants (Green Book):

www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo_pr.html

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Conservation Online System:

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp0/reports/species-listed-by-state-report?state=PR&status=listed>

Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Mapping Service:

<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home> (compilation of numerous maps)

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetlands Inventory:

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

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

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

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

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

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

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

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

List of Permits Obtained: None.

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

Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]: In accordance with 24 CFR 58.32 (Aggregation), there are no cumulative impacts associated with the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well for an agricultural site.

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

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

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

The 'No-Action' alternative would mean that the applicant would not receive federal funding to provide the purchase and installation of a 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well for an agricultural site which would inhibit the economic growth opportunity that the applicant would not otherwise have under the PRDOH Re-Grow Puerto Rico program. As a result, these owners may not be able to experience the growth needed to recover and expand their agriculture activities. A provision of the grant allows

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

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

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Water Supply	The regulations in Puerto Rico establish that for the construction of wells a Well Construction and Water Intake Permit must be submitted. The Applicant must obtain a permit from the DNER prior to the construction of the well.
Endangered Species Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	If a Puerto Rican Boa or a Puerto Rican plain pigeon is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until it moves off on its own. If the Boa or the pigeon does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate them.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	Soil suitability will be assessed prior to construction. Contractors will be required to use BMPs during construction if erosion impacts occur. DNER authorization may be required for any ground disturbance associated with the activities in the proposed project.

Determination:

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

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

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

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

Preparer Signature: _____  _____ Date: 3/8/2024

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

Certifying Officer Signature: _____  _____ Date: March 14, 2024

Name/Title: Sally Z. Acevedo Cosme- Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist

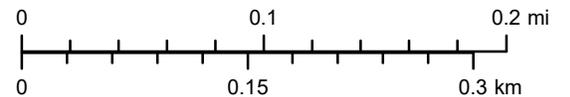
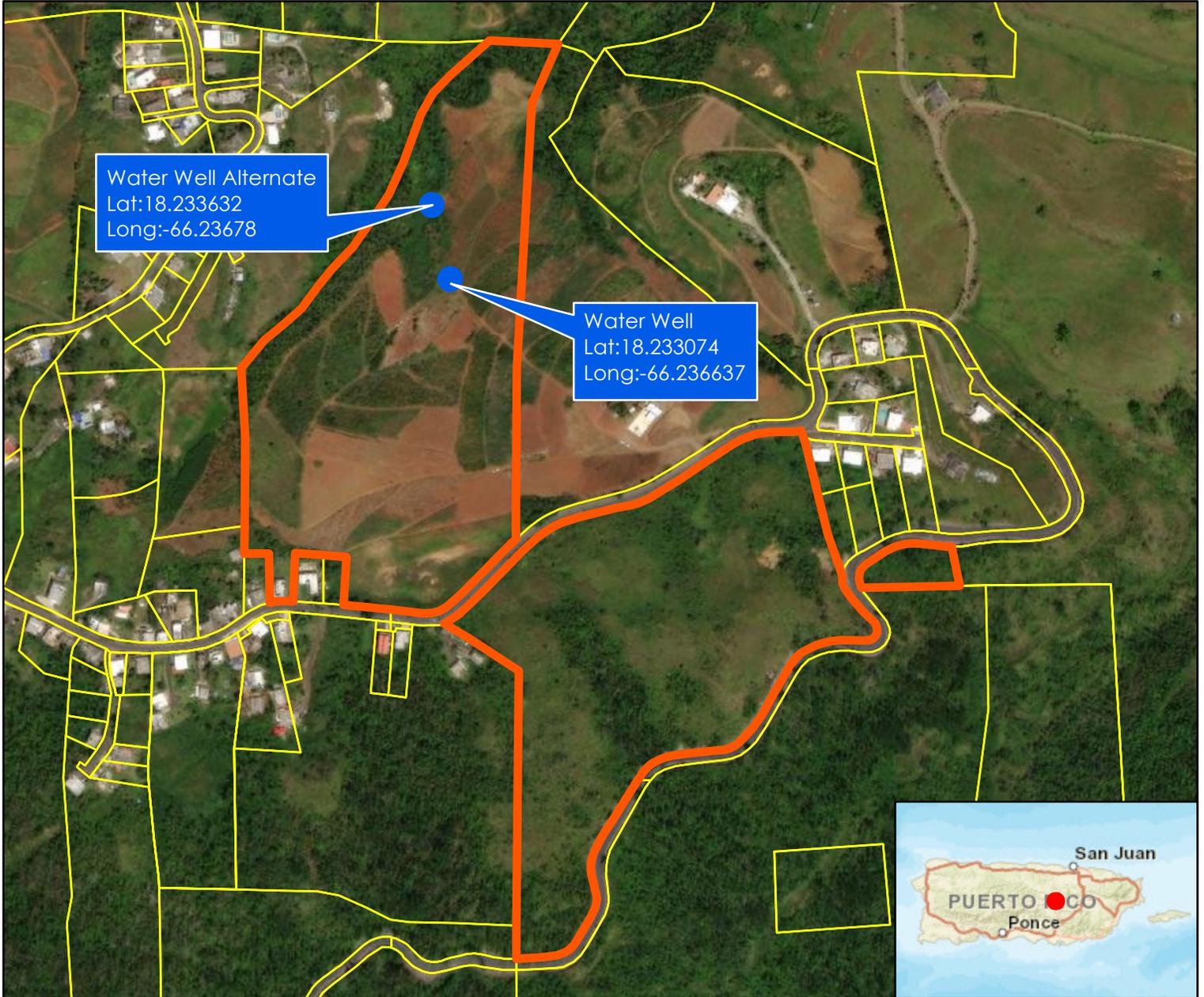
This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the activity/project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and in accordance with recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).

Figures

Agrícola Del Montesorro
Bo. Palomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
Comerio, PR 00782
Catastro:222-000-007-40
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below

Location: Aerial Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- Parcel-03878
- CRIM Parcels

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

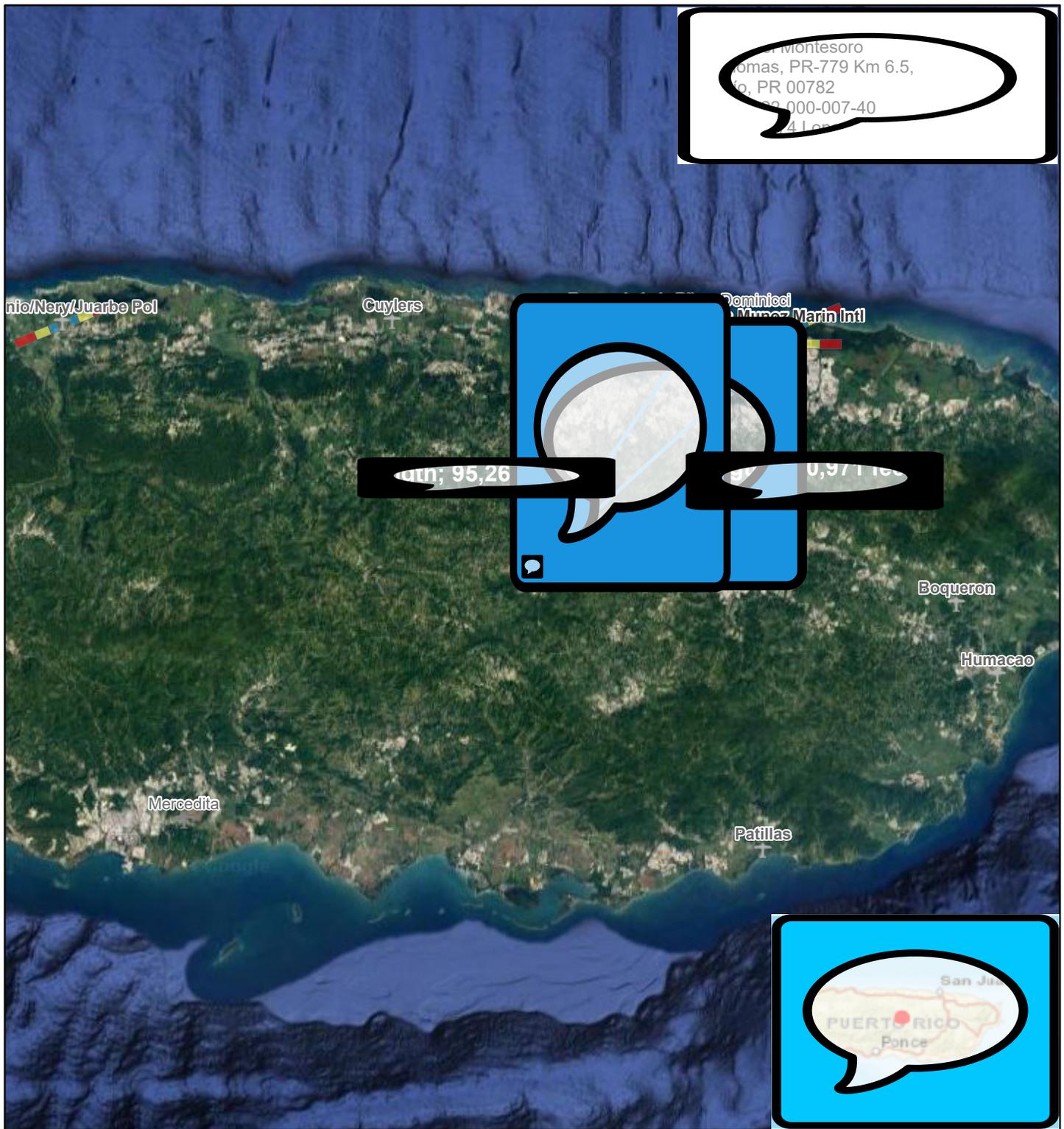


Source

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

PR-RGRW-03878 Airports

[Redacted]
Montesoro
omas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
o, PR 00782
000-007-40
410

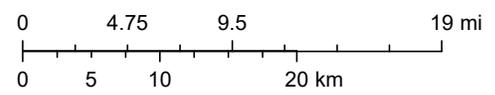


10/30/2023, 2:46:31 PM

1:577,791

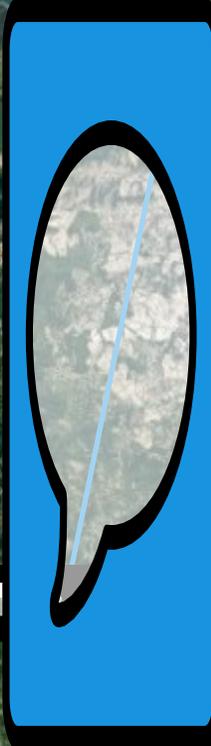
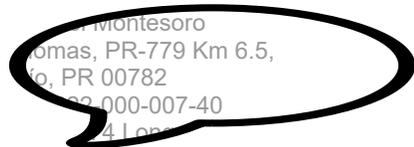
- Accident Potential Zone
- Clear Zone
 - APZ 1
 - APZ 2

- ✈ USA Civil Airports
- ✈ USA Military Airports
- 🗨 PR-RGRW-03878

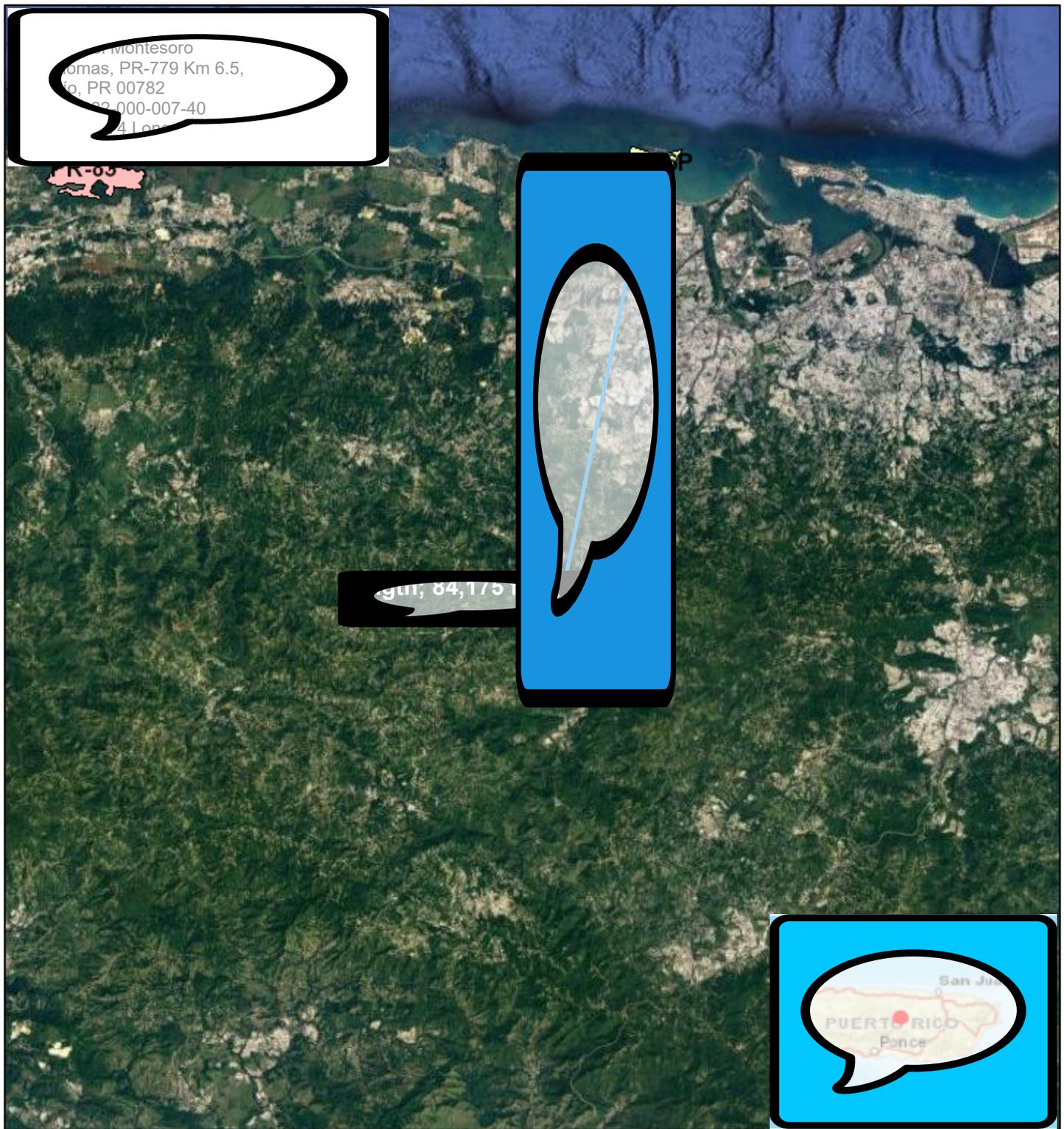


Civil and Military Airports

Montesoro
omas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
o, PR 00782
000-007-40
4100



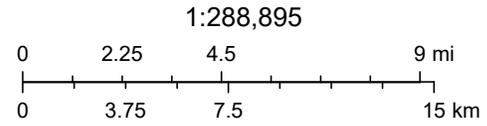
gn, 84,175



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CBRS Units

- Otherwise Protected Area
- System Unit
- PR-RGRW-03878

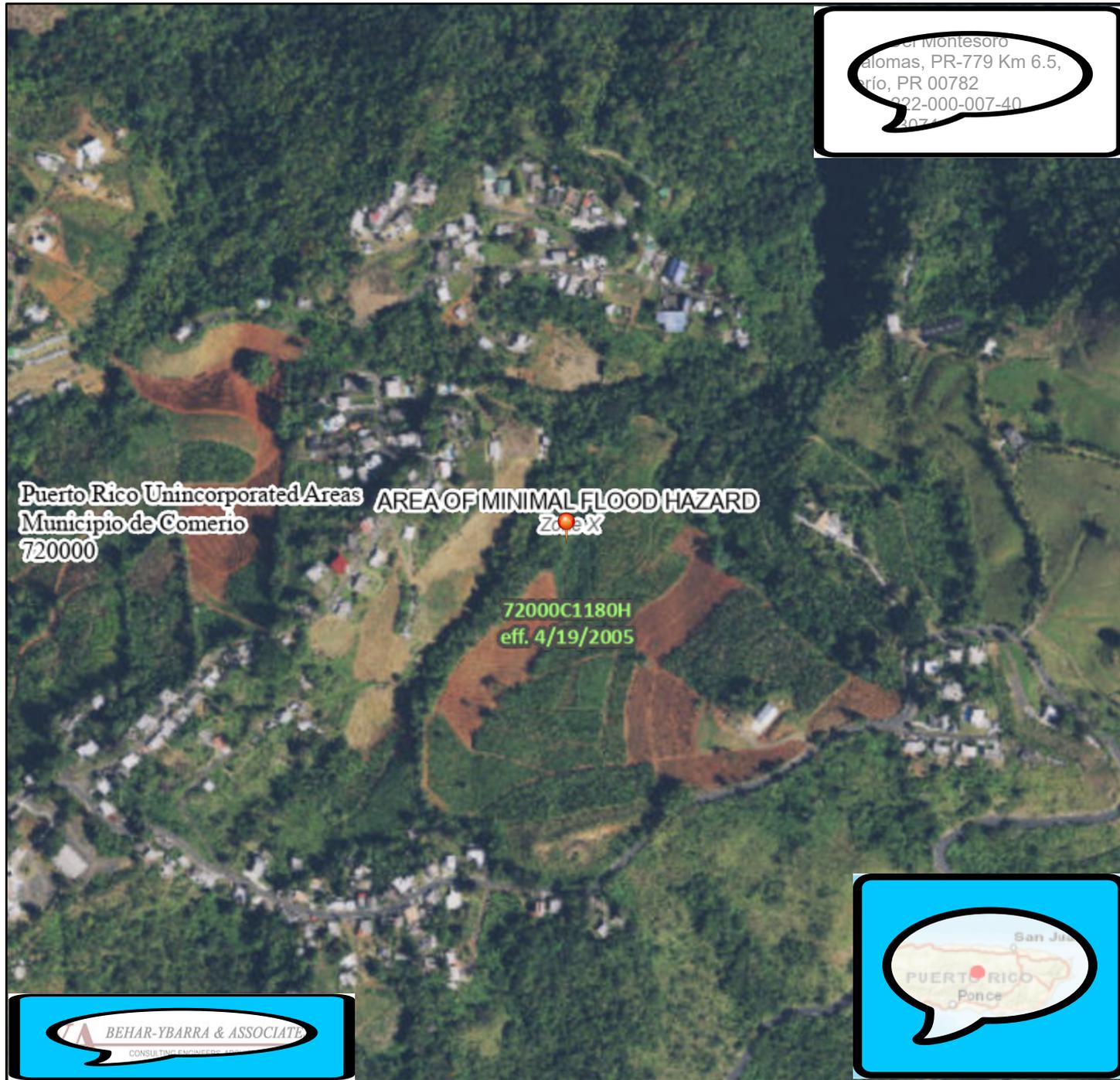


and Wildlife Service (FWS):
gov/program/assessments/

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette



66°14'32"W 18°14'18"N



Comerio, PR-779 Km 6.5,
Comerio, PR 00782
72000-000-007-40
72071

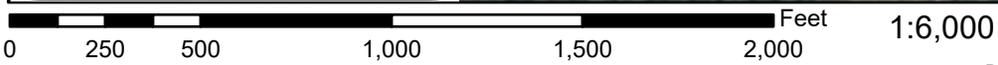
SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) <i>Zone A, V, A99</i>
		With BFE or Depth <i>Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR</i>
		Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile <i>Zone X</i>
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard <i>Zone X</i>
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. <i>Zone X</i>
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee <i>Zone D</i>
OTHER AREAS		NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard <i>Zone X</i>
		Effective LOMRs
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard <i>Zone D</i>
		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
OTHER FEATURES		20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance
		17.5 Water Surface Elevation
		Coastal Transect
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
MAP PANELS		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped
		The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

Puerto Rico Unincorporated Areas
Municipio de Comerio
720000

AREA OF MINIMAL FLOOD HAZARD
Zone X

72000C1180H
eff. 4/19/2005



66°13'54"W 18°13'44"N

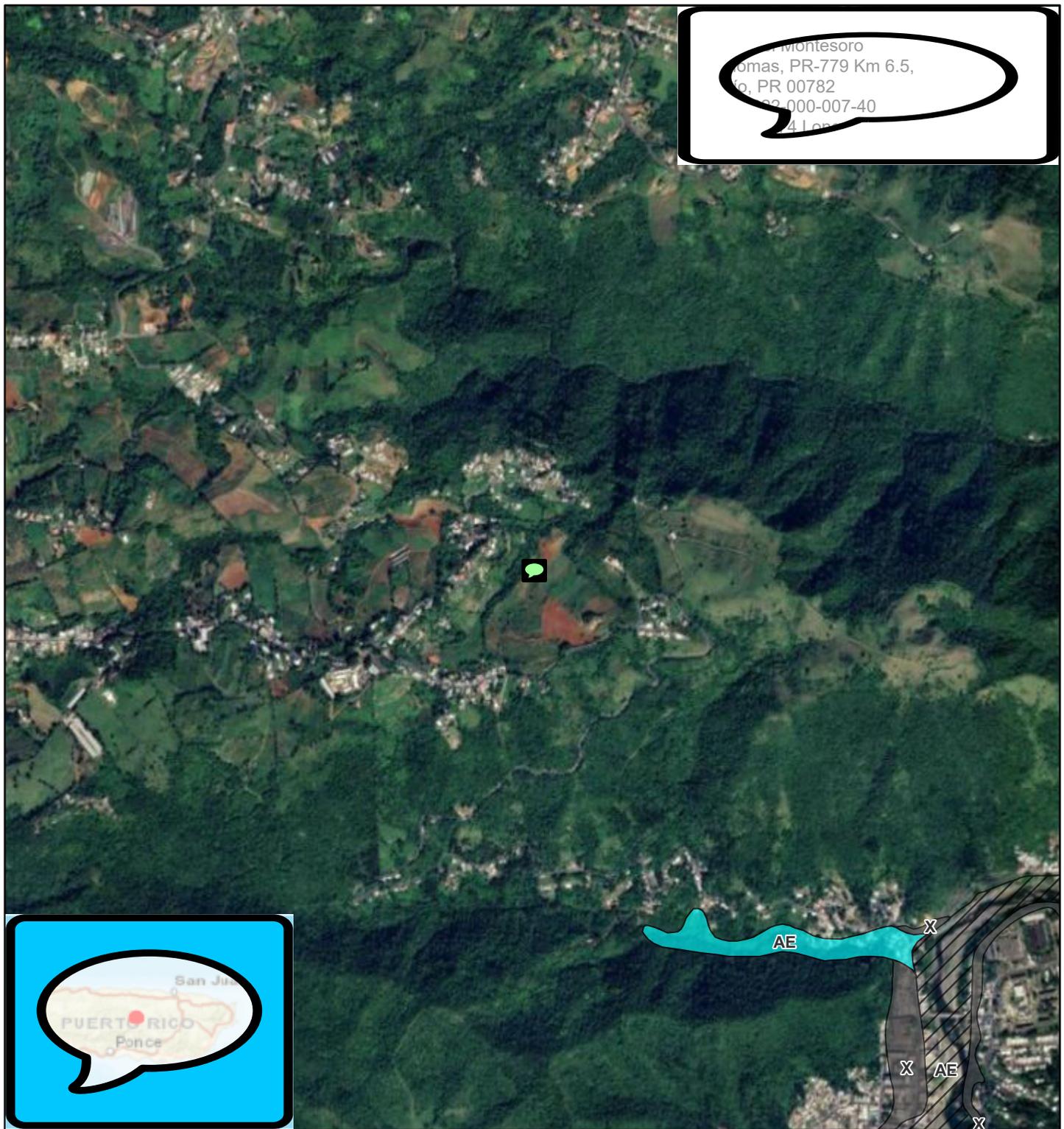
Basemap Imagery Source: USGS National Map 2023

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on **10/30/2023 at 3:06 PM** and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

Montesoro
 Tomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
 to, PR 00782
 000-007-40
 4 | on

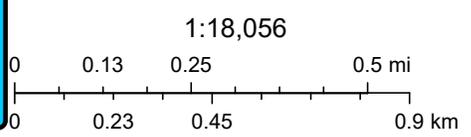


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FEMA_FIRM - FEMA_FLOOD_HAZARD_AREAS

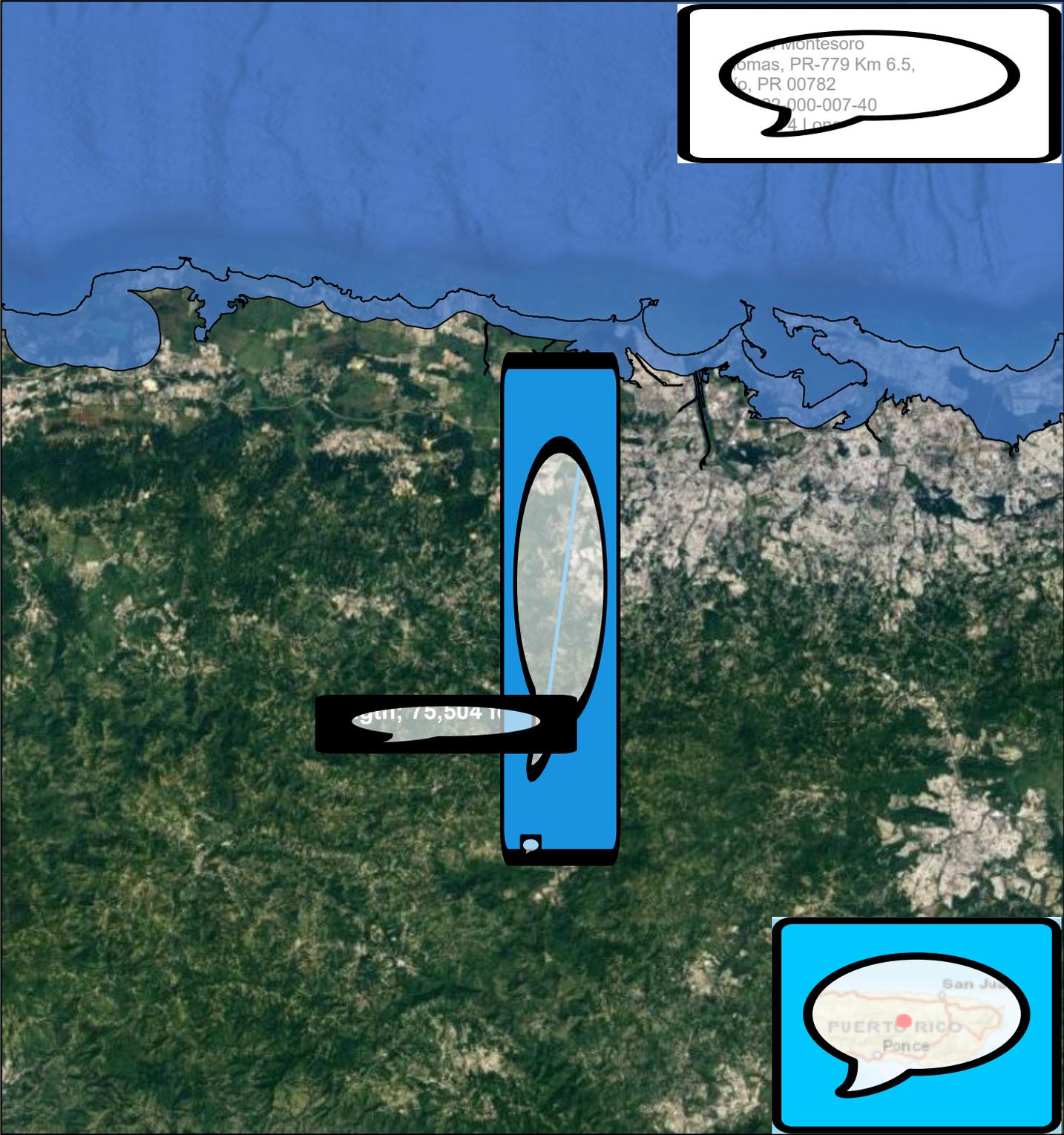
- Special Flood Hazard Areas
- Floodway Areas
- Other Flood Areas
- Other Areas

PR-RGRW-03878



Agency Management

Montesoro
Thomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
P.R. 00782
809-000-007-40
4 Lines



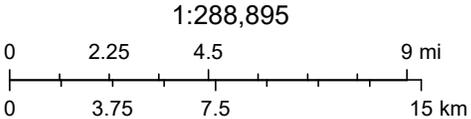
75,504 ft



10/30/2023, 3:10:06 PM

PR CoastalZoneManagementActBoundary

RGRW-038

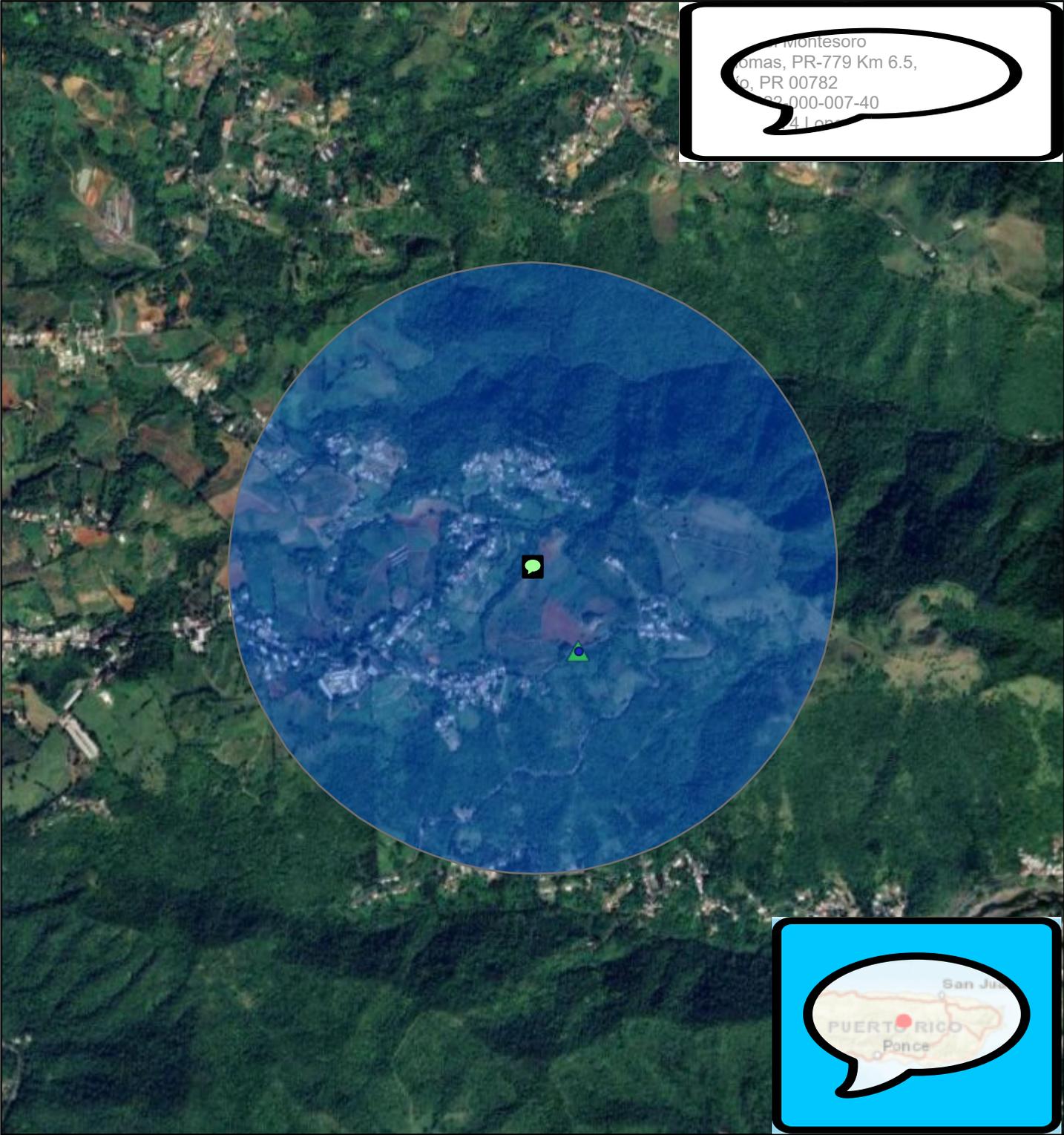


1:288,895

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office for Coastal Management (NOAA/OCM)
Series no.

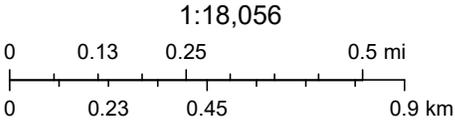
PR-RGRW-03878 Toxic

Montesoro
 Tomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
 P.R. 00782
 787-000-007-40
 41 on

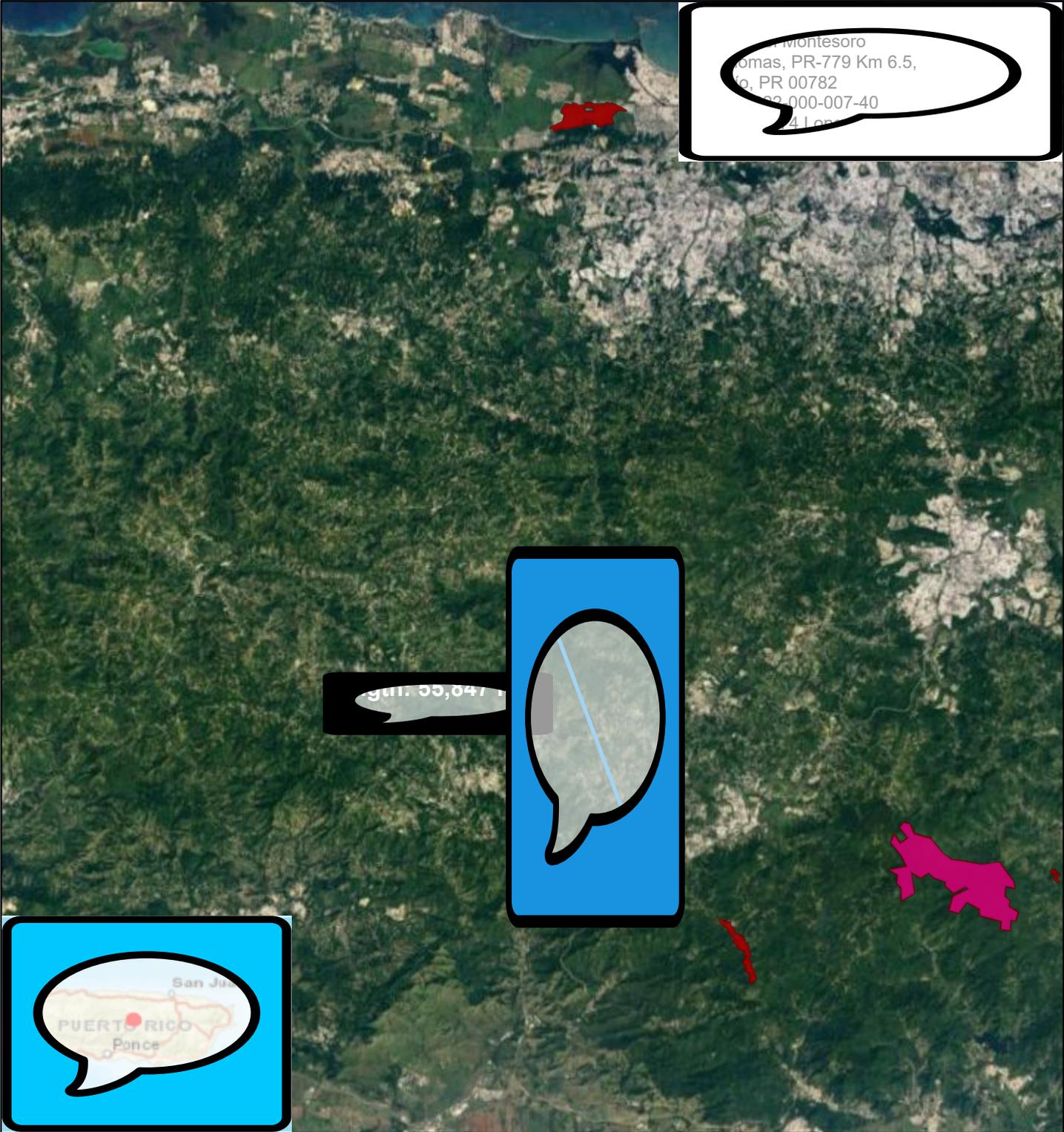


10/30/2023, 3:21:24 PM

-  Buffer 03878_3000ft
-  FACILITY INTERESTS
-  ICIS
-  NPDES
-  RCRA
-  RCRA ACTIVE
-  RCRA INACTIVE
-  RGRW-03878



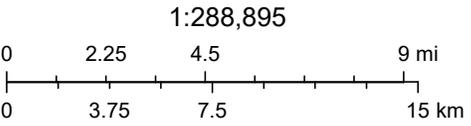
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 Registry Service (FRS)



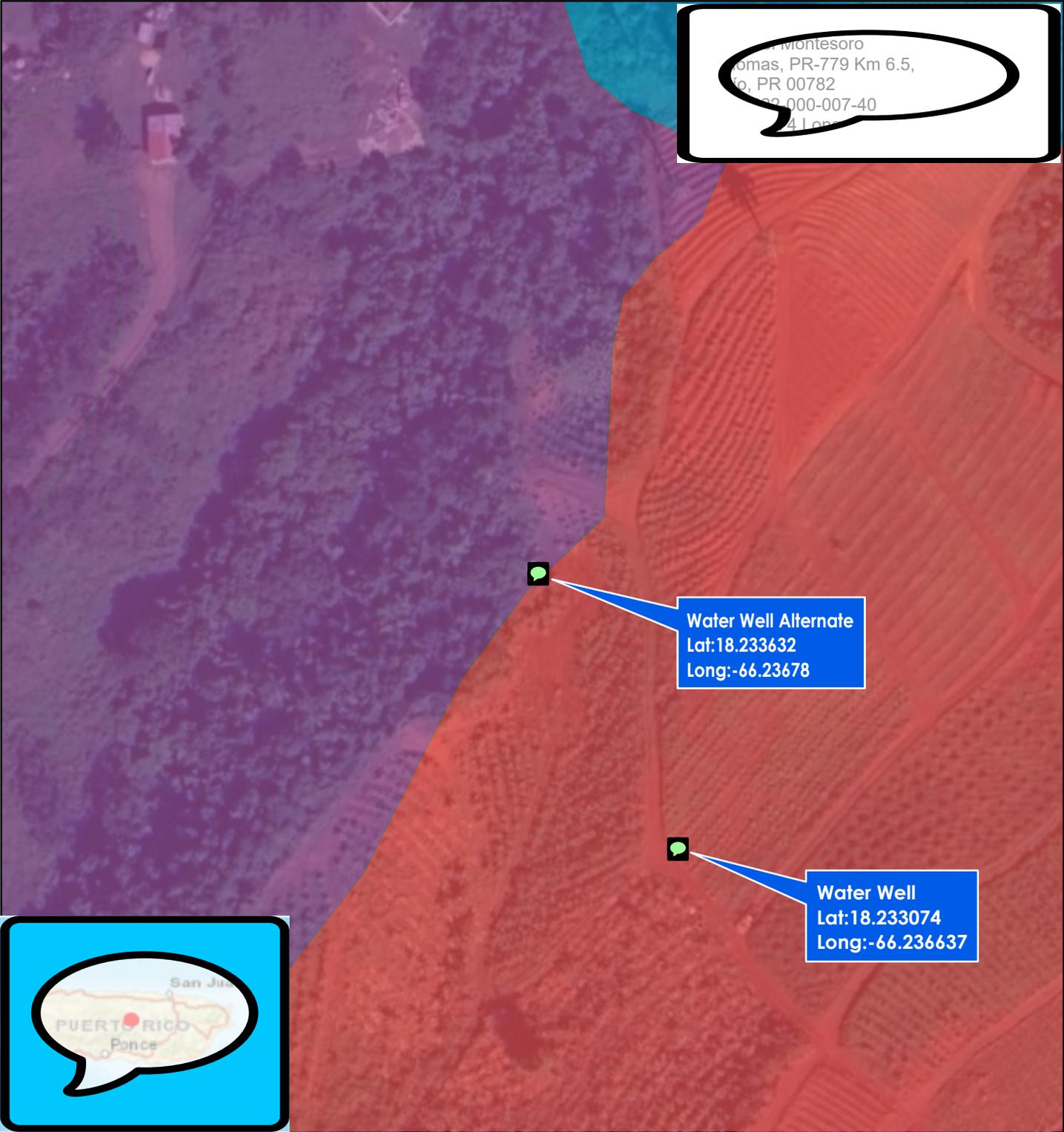
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Critical Habitat for Threatened & Endangered Species

- Final
- Proposed
- USFWS Critical Habitat - Final



Montesoro
Thomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
P.R. 00782
809-000-007-40
2410



Water Well Alternate
Lat: 18.233632
Long: -66.23678

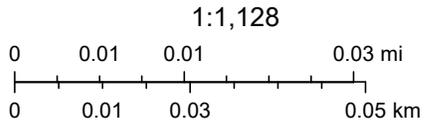
Water Well
Lat: 18.233074
Long: -66.236637



10/30/2023, 3:47:28 PM

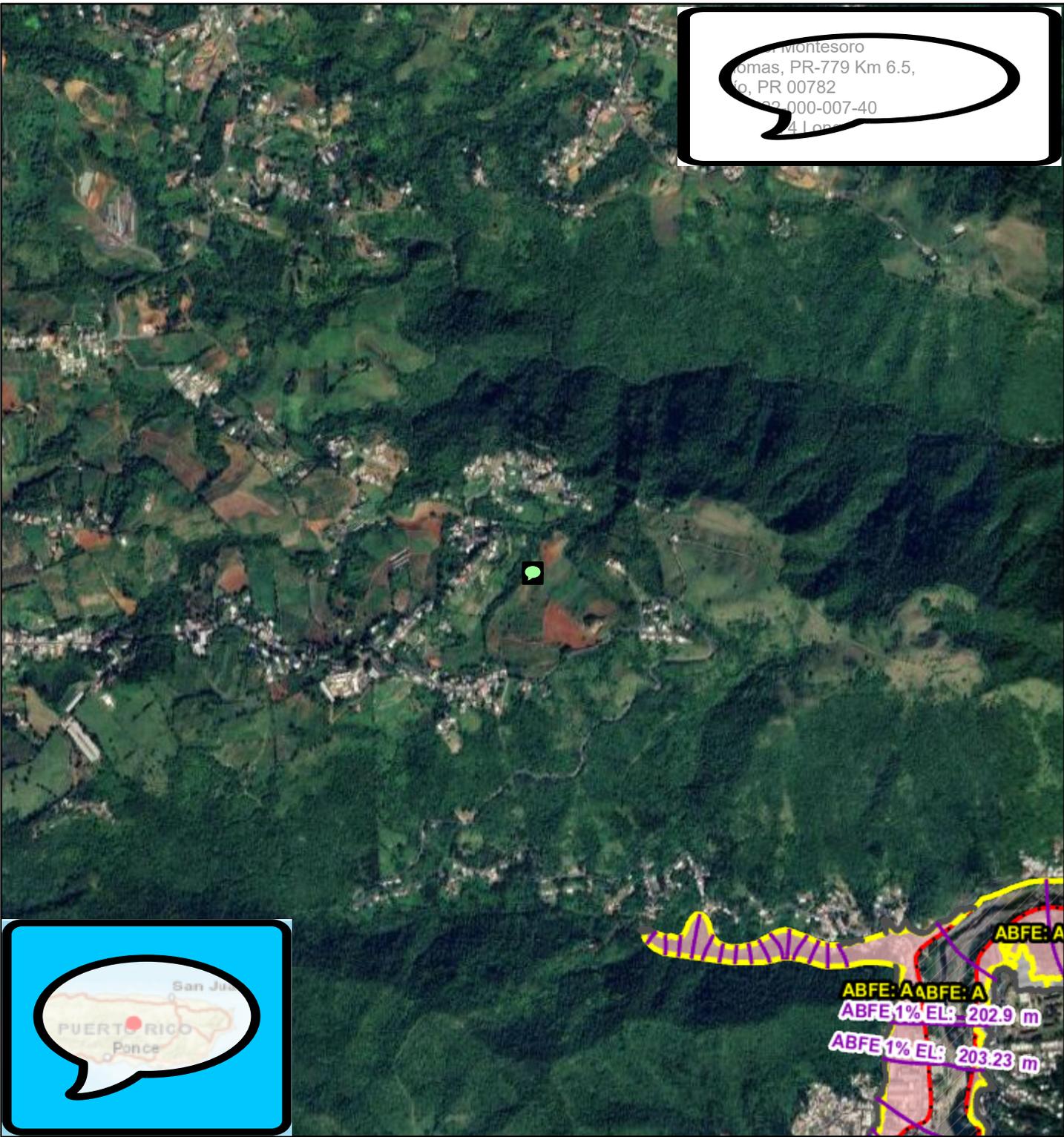
Farmland Protection

- All areas are prime farmland
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Not prime farmland



Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Survey Geographic Database (gSSURGO)

Montesoro
 Tomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
 P.R. 00782
 809-000-007-40
 4 Lora



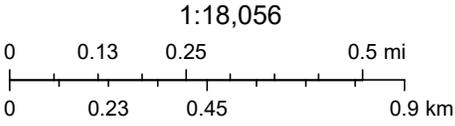
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Flood Hazard Zone

- A
- X 0.2% Annual Chance Flood
- A-Floodway
- Zone/BFE Boundary

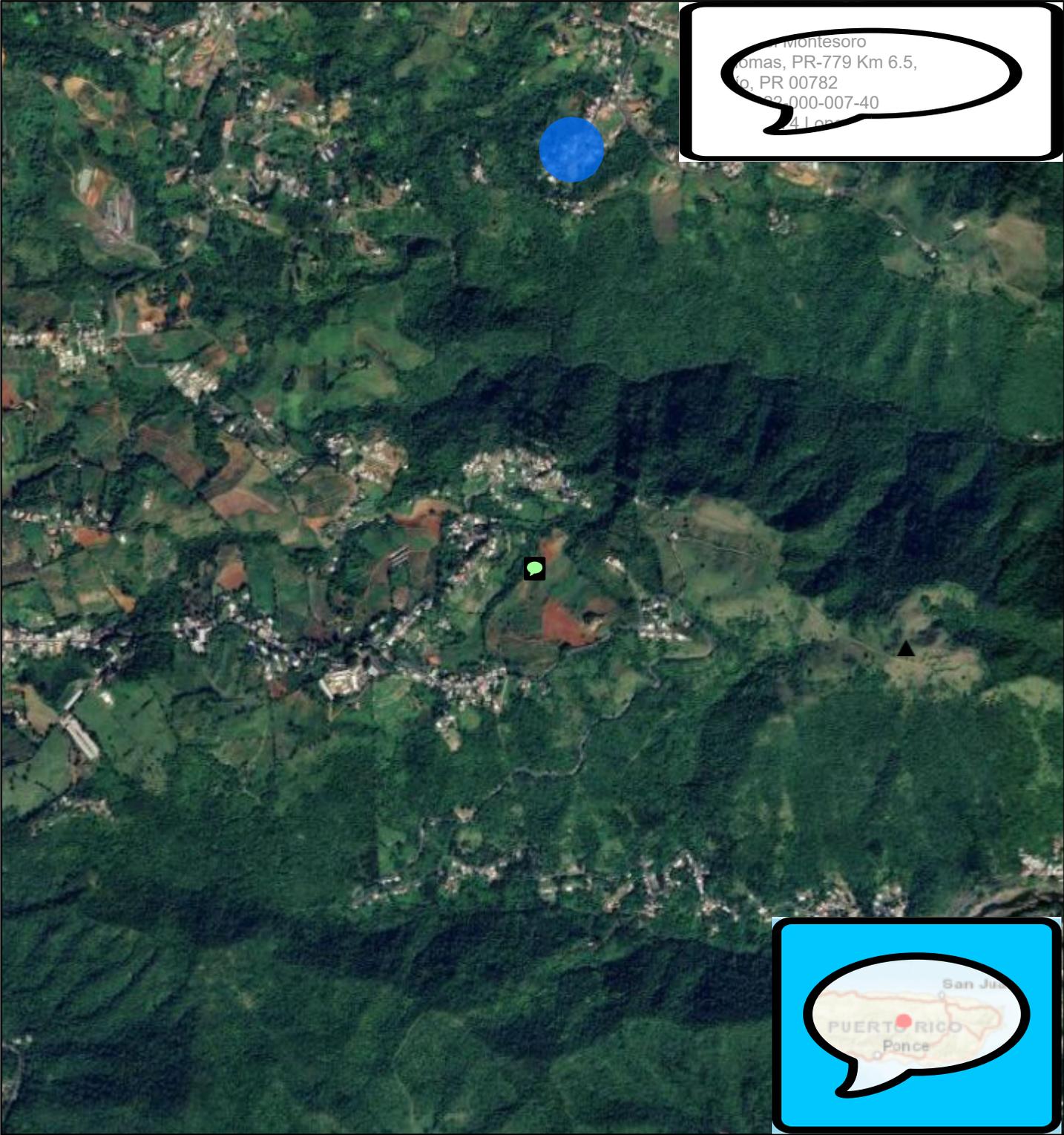
Flood Hazard Extent

- 1% Annual Chance Flood
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood
- Advisory Base Flood Elevation (zoom in to make visible)



1:18,056

Estatal sobre Deficiencias en el Desarrollo (C...
 Agency Management Agency (FEMA)

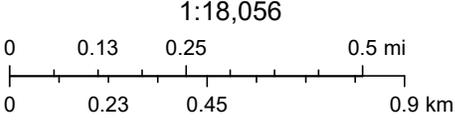


Montesoro
 Tomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
 P.R. 00782
 787-000-007-40
 41 on



10/30/2023, 3:48:50 PM

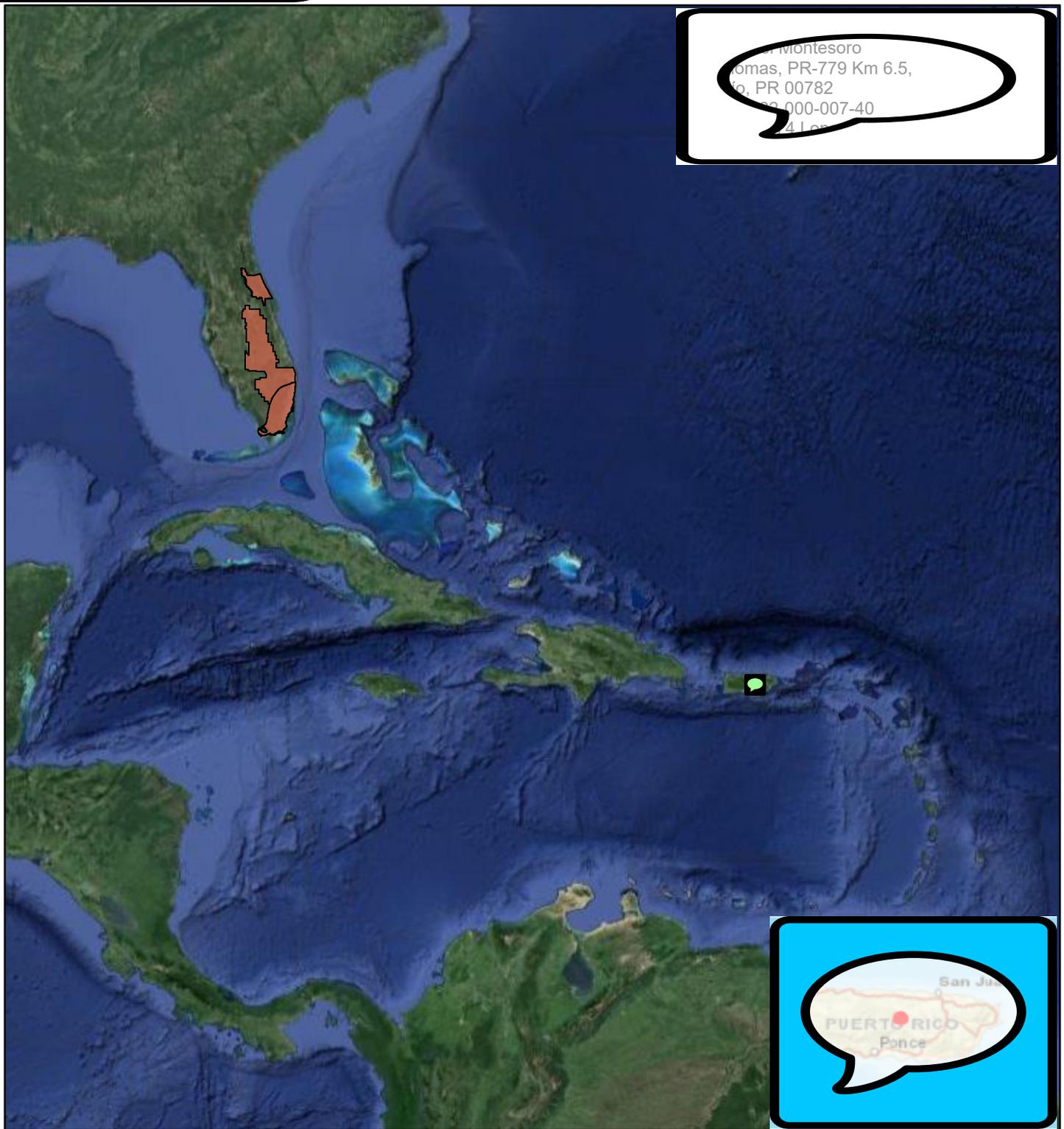
- P Cultural_Resources - Public Plaza
- ▲ Cultural_Resources - Scenic Places
- Cultural_Resources - Cultural Value Places
- Cultural_Resources - Archeological Resources
- RGRW-038



National Park Service (NPS) - National Register of Historic Places
<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm>
 National Office

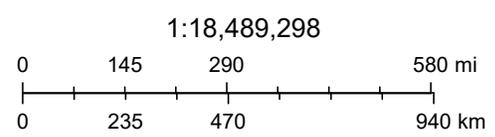
EPA Sole Source Aquifers

San Juan, P.R. 00725
 Ponce, PR-779 Km 6.5,
 Ponce, PR 00782
 (787) 200-007-40
 1000 1st St



 EPA_Sole_Source_Aquifers

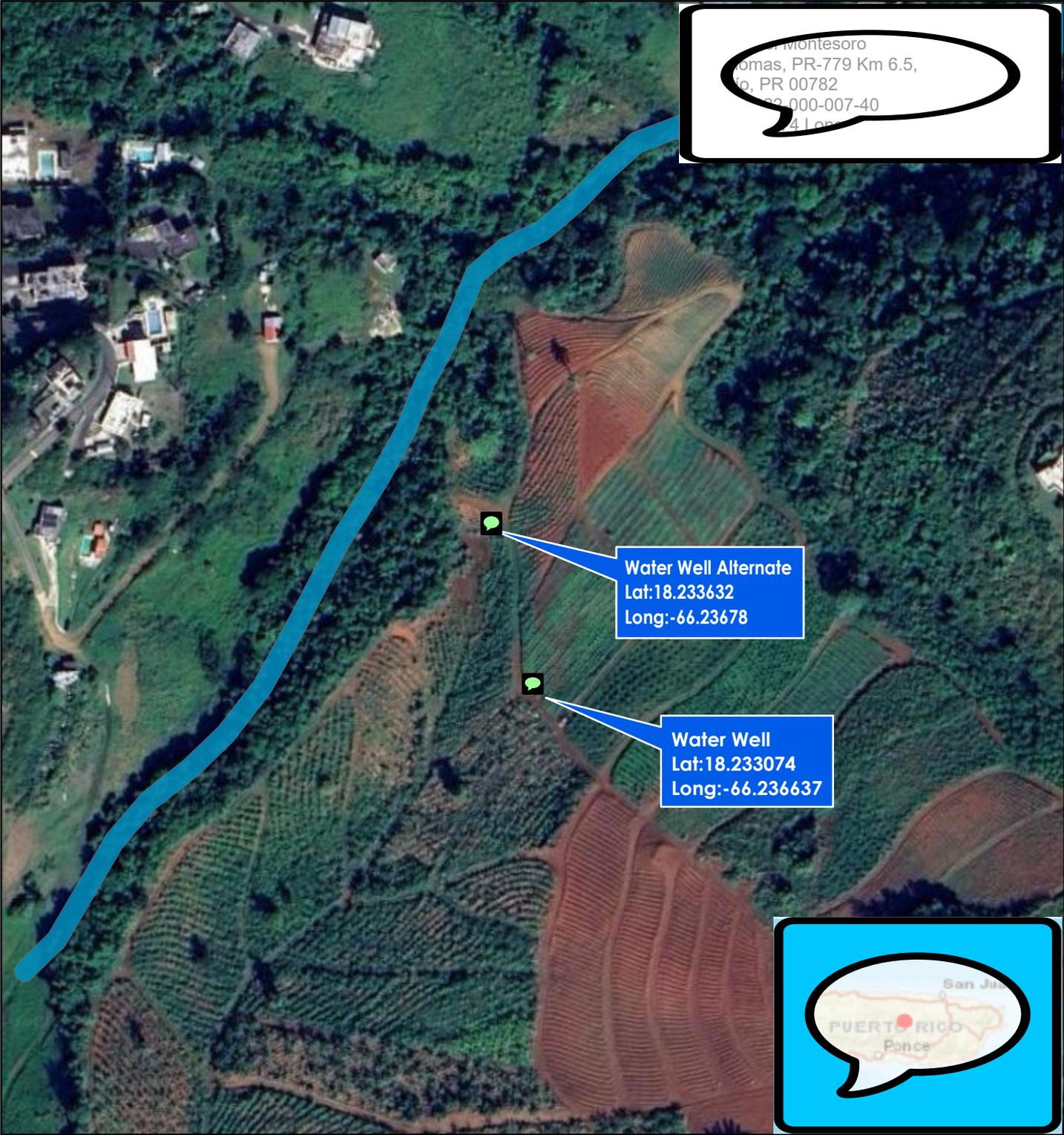
 



Source Aquifers Web App Viewer
maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1ada18774556210558

PR-RGRW-03878 Wetland

Montesoro
Thomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
P.R. 00782
787-000-007-40
24 L...

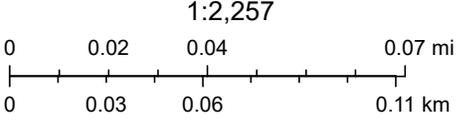


11/27/2023, 1:42:32 PM

WETLANDS - National Wetlands Inventory

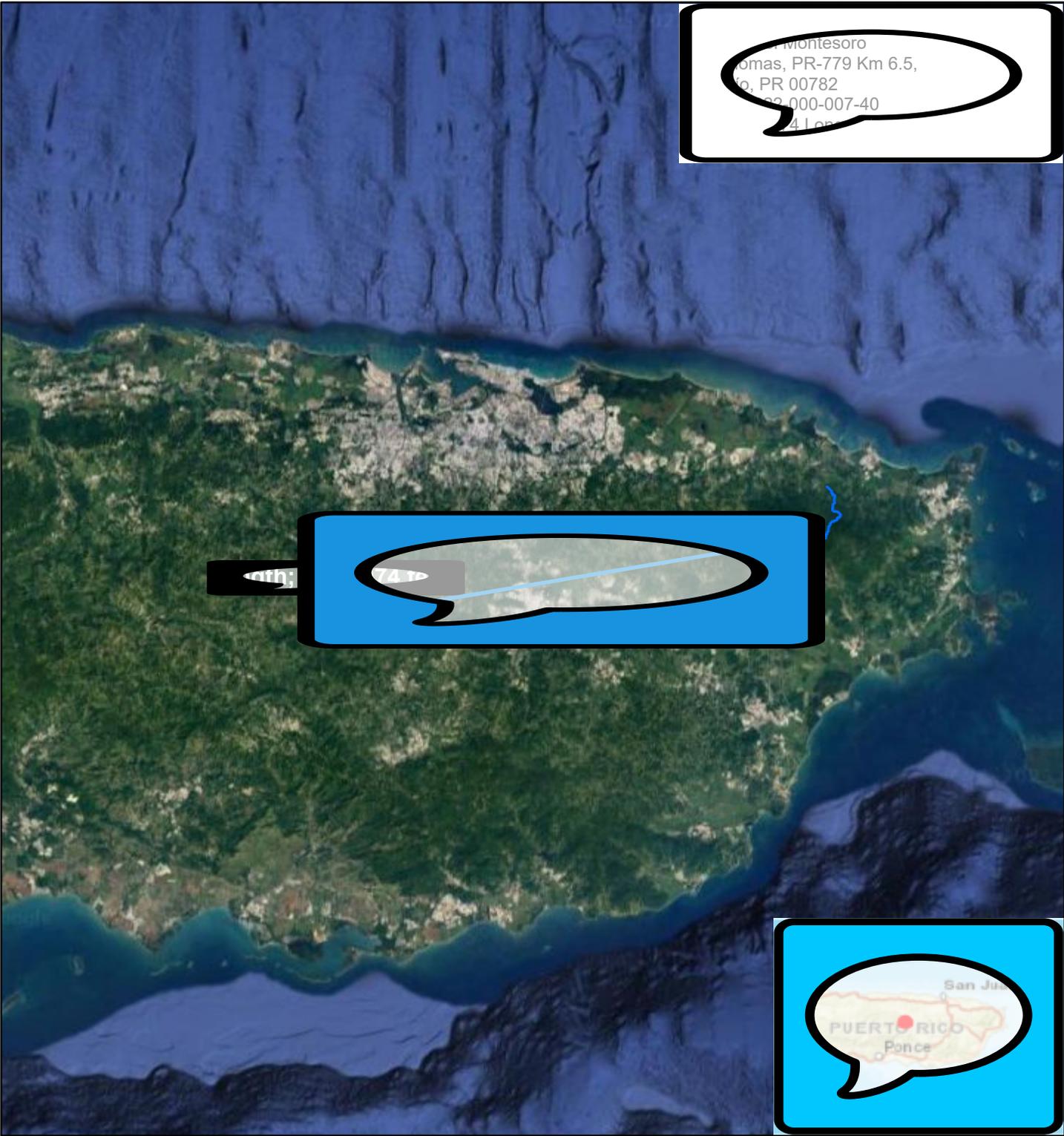
Riverine

PR-RGRW-03878



PR-RGRW-03878 Wild and Scenic River

San Juan, P.R. 779 Km 6.5,
P.R. 00782
Tel: 787-000-007-40
Fax: 787-000-007-40



74



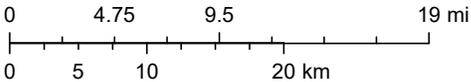
10/30/2023, 3:04:33 PM

— National Wild and Scenic River Line

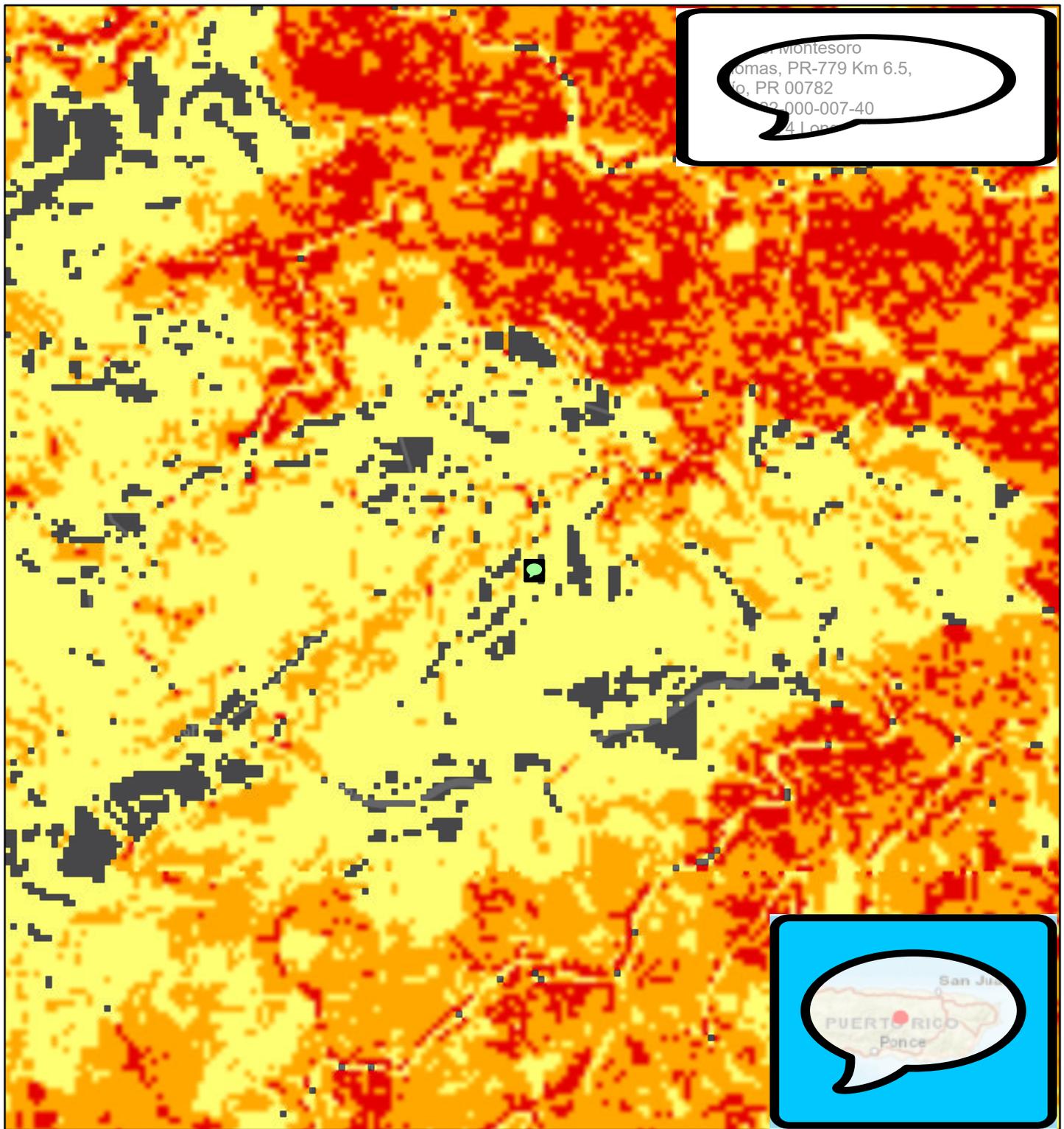
RGRW-038



1:577,791



Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
National Wild and Scenic Rivers System



Montesoro
 Ponce, PR-779 Km 6.5,
 P.R. 00782
 787-000-007-40
 4100

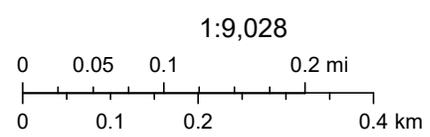


30/10/2023, 15:59:19

Landslide Susceptibility

Low
 Moderate

High
 Very High
 Extremely High



Emergency Basemap service.

Appendix 1



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

November 13, 2023

Lauren Bair Poche

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

**SHPO 10-27-23-14 SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION SUBMITTAL:
PR-RGRW-03878 – AGRÍCOLA DEL MONTESORO / JOSÉ MARRERO – BO.
PALOMAS, CARR. 779, KM 6.5, COMERÍO, PUERTO RICO**

Dear Ms. Bair,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela
State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/MB



October 27, 2023

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

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

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-03878 – Agrícola del Montesoro / José Marrero – Bo. Palomas, Carr 779 Km. 6.5, Comerío, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected*

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

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

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, HORNE is submitting documentation for activities proposed by Agrícola del Montesoro/ José Marrero located at Bo. Palomas, Carr 779 Km. 6.5, in the municipality of Comerío. The undertaking for this project includes the construction of a new 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well. The installation of the water well will require ground disturbance. The well installation includes a 5hp submersible water pump that will be powered by a diesel generator that will be provided by the applicant. The well will also be installed following the standards and regulations of the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER). Two locations for the well are being considered: a preferred and alternate location.

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

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

Kindest regards,



Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.

Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Senior Manager

Attachments

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Applicant: Agrícola del Montesoró/ José Marrero		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-03878	City: Comerío	

Project Location: Bo. Palomas, Carr 779 Km. 6.5	
Project Coordinates: 18.233074 -66.236637, 18.233632 -66.23678	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 222-000-007-40-000	
Type of Undertaking: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair/Improvements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): n/a	Property Size (acres): 37.6

SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jaqueline López Meléndez
Date Reviewed: October 17, 2023

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

Project Description (Undertaking)

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-03878 consist of installing/constructing a new 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well. The installation of the water well will require ground disturbance. The well installation includes a 5hp submersible water pump that will be powered by a diesel generator that will be provided by the applicant. The 10" water well will also be installed following the standards and regulations of the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER). Two locations for the well are being considered. The first location is at latitude 18.233074, longitude -66.236637. The alternative location is at latitude 18.233632, longitude -66.23678. The project area is located at Bo. Palomas, PR-779, km. 6.5 within the Municipality of Comerío. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 13 years.

Area of Potential Effects

As defined in 36 CFR §800.16(d), the area of potential effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the direct APE for this project is the water well main and alternate location plus a 15-meter buffer and the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
Applicant: Agrícola del Montesoró/ José Marrero	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-03878	City: Comerío

Identification of Historic Properties - Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that there are no reported archaeological sites, archaeological materials of significant cultural properties within a half-mile (0.50 miles) radius of the project location. The closest reported archaeological site to the PR-RGRW-03878 project area is the Antiguo Casino de Comerío (SHPO: CM0200002) located 1.24 miles southeast. The proposed project is located in Comerío, at an elevation of 1,689 feet above sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area is within mapped soil series: Daguet clay. The project area APE is in DaD. The nearest bodies of water are an unnamed creek, located 0.03 miles northwest and Higüero creek located 0.39 miles northeast. The coast is approximately 16.08 miles north from the project area.

There are four (4) archaeological studies within 0.50 miles radius of the project area, all with negative results (see table).

The soil in the area has been classified as Daguet clay, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded (DaD). This is a moderately steep, well drained soils on stable side slopes, ridgetops and foot slopes of the humid volcanic uplands. Permeability and the available water capacity are moderate. Runoff is rapid, and erosion is a hazard. Natural fertility is medium.

The project area does not have cultural resources that are listed either on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or in a Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. On October 16, 2023, we visually inspected the project area. The area where the water well and water well alternate be placed has a flat topography.

Determination

The project area is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed historic district or Traditional Urban Center. There are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project location. There are no known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the Area of Potential Effect of case PR-RGRW-03878 is located. The construction of public roads and agricultural infrastructure has minimally impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project activities.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
Applicant: Agrícola del Montesoro/ José Marrero		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-03878		City: Comerío

Recommendation (Please keep on same page as SHPO Staff Section)

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

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

This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

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

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGrow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Applicant: Agrícola del Montesoró/ José Marrero		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-03878	City: Comerío	

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

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

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

Author	Phase/Title	Year	SHPO / IPRC code	Results	Distance/Direction
Marisol Martínez	IA/ Mejoras al Sistema de Agua Potable del Municipio de Comerío	2000	ICP/CAT-CM-00-03-07	Negative	0.14 mi SE
Marisol Martínez	IA/ Adendum al Proyecto Mejoras al Sistema de Agua Potable del Municipio de Comerío	2003	ICP/CAT-CM-03-03-08	Negative	0.14 mi SE
Adalberto Maurás	IA/IB Addendum/ Mejoras al Sistema de Acueductos del Barrio Palomas	1995	ICP/CAT-CM-95-03-02	Negative	0.48 mi S
Adalberto Maurás	IA/IB/ Mejoras al Sistema de Acueductos del Barrio Palomas	1995	ICP/CAT-CM-95-03-04	Negative	0.48 mi S

Applicant: Agrícola del Montesoró/ José Marrero

Case ID: PR-RGRW-03878

City: Comerío

Project (PR-RGRW-03878) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)

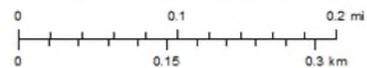
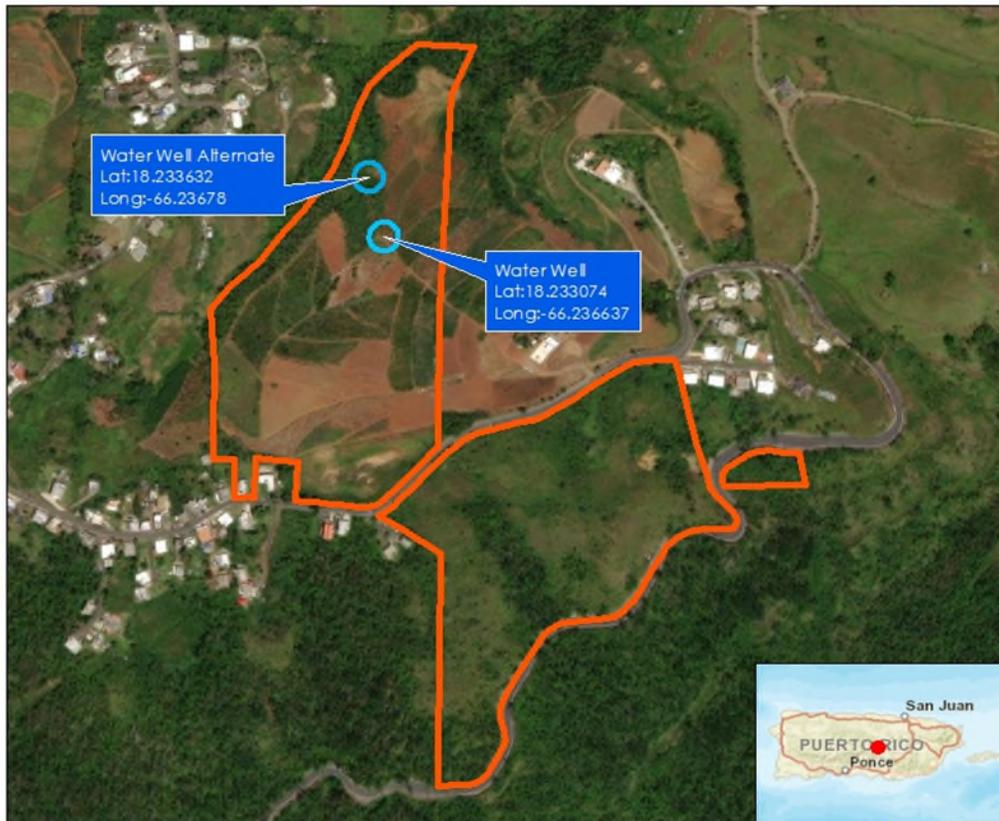
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERING ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Carretera, Avenida 1 Suite J-3, Calle Ponce 854, Arroyo, San Juan, PR 00959 Tel: (787) 963-3230

Application ID: PR-RGRW-03878

Agrícola Del Montesoró/ José Romero Marrero
Bo. Palmas, PR-779 Km. 6.5,
Comerío, PR 00782
Catastro: 222-000-007-40
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below

Area of Potential Effect

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Area of Potential Effect
- Parcel-03878

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

Source

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

Project (PR-RGRW-03878) Location - USGS Topographic Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Corbalá, Avenida 9 de Julio # 3, Calle Ponce 954, Comerío, San Juan, PR 00929 Tel: (787) 762-2030

Application ID: PR-RGRW-03878

Agrícola Del Montessoro/ José Romero Marrero
Bo. Palomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
Comerio, PR 00782
Catastro: 222-000-007-40
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below

Location: USGS Topographic Map

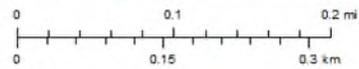
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- Parcel-03878
- Contour Interval 20 Feet

Quadrangle: Comerío



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



Source

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

Project (PR-RGRW-03878) Location – Soils Map

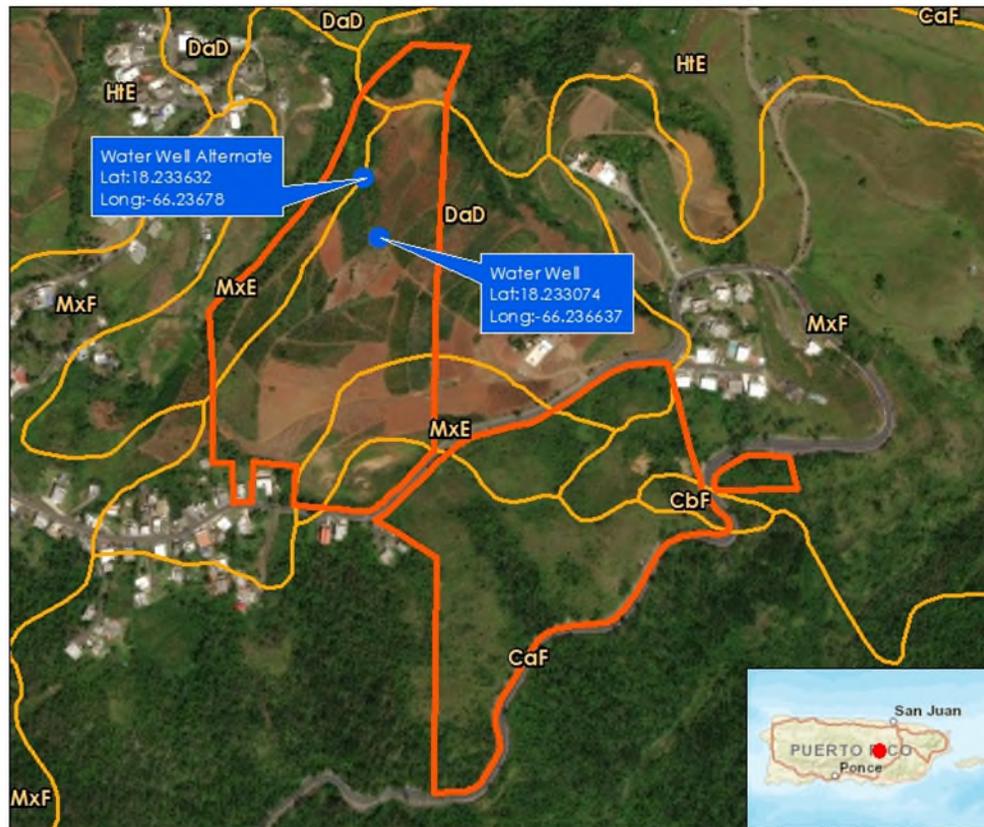
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Carroll, Suite 100, P.O. Box 10000, San Juan, PR 00908 Tel: (787) 450-3230

Application ID: PR-RGRW-03878

Agrícola Del Montessoro/ José Romero Marrero
Bo. Palomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
Comerio, PR 00782
Catastro: 222-000-007-40
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below

Soils Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

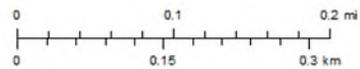


Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- Parcel-03878
- Soil Map Unit Symbol

Soil Map Unit Symbol

- CaF - Caguabo clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes
- CbF - Caguabo-Rock outcrop complex, 20 to 60 percent slopes
- DaD - Daguey clay, 12 to 20 percent slopes
- HfE - Humatas clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes
- MxE - Mucara clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes
- MxF - Mucara clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes



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

Source

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



Applicant: Agrícola del Montesoró/ José Marrero

Case ID: PR-RGRW-03878

City: Comerío

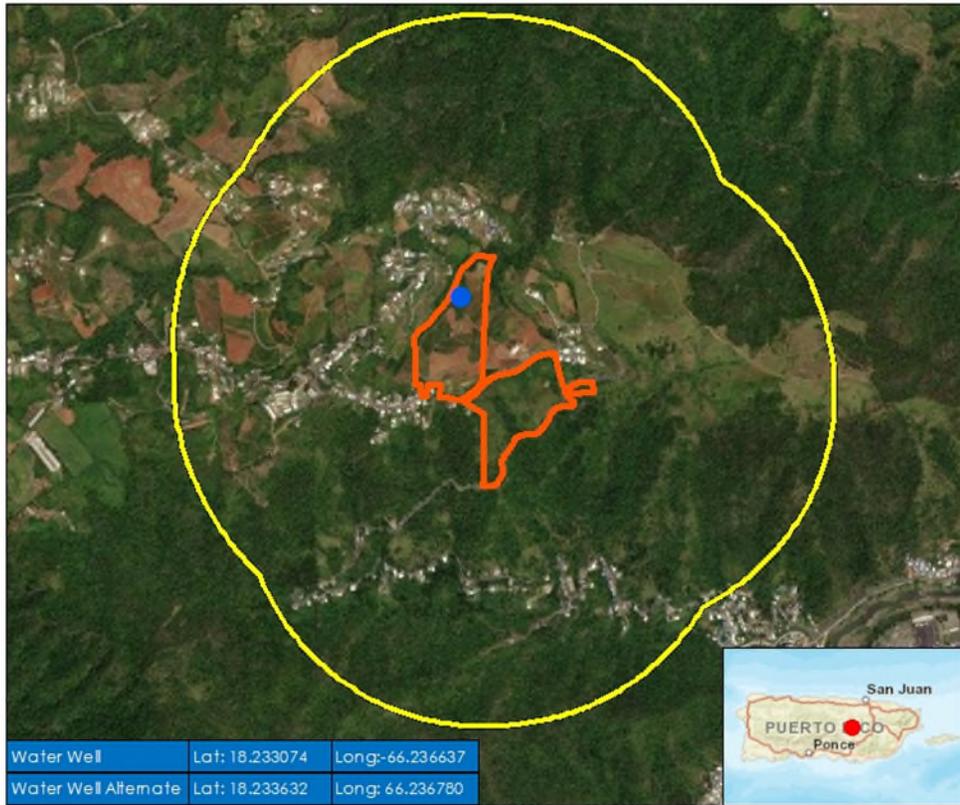
Project (PR-RGRW-03878) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map

BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
Cond. Santa Ysabel, J. B. Calle Ponce 18A, Adjuntas, San Juan, P.R. 00928 Tel: (787) 753-3220

Application ID: PR-RGRW-03878

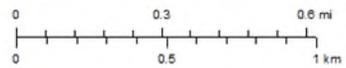
Agrícola Del Montesoró/ José Romero Marrero
Bo. Palomas, PR-779 Km. 6.5,
Comerío, PR 00782
Catastro: 222-000-007-40
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below

Previous Investigations: Aerial Map
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- 0.5 Mile (0.8Km) Buffer
- Parcel-03878



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

Source
Cento de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRIM)
<http://catastro.inm.gov.pr/pr/>

Applicant: Agrícola del Montesoró/ José Marrero

Case ID: PR-RGRW-03878

City: Comerío

Project (PR-RGRW-03878) Location with Previous Investigations - Topographic Map

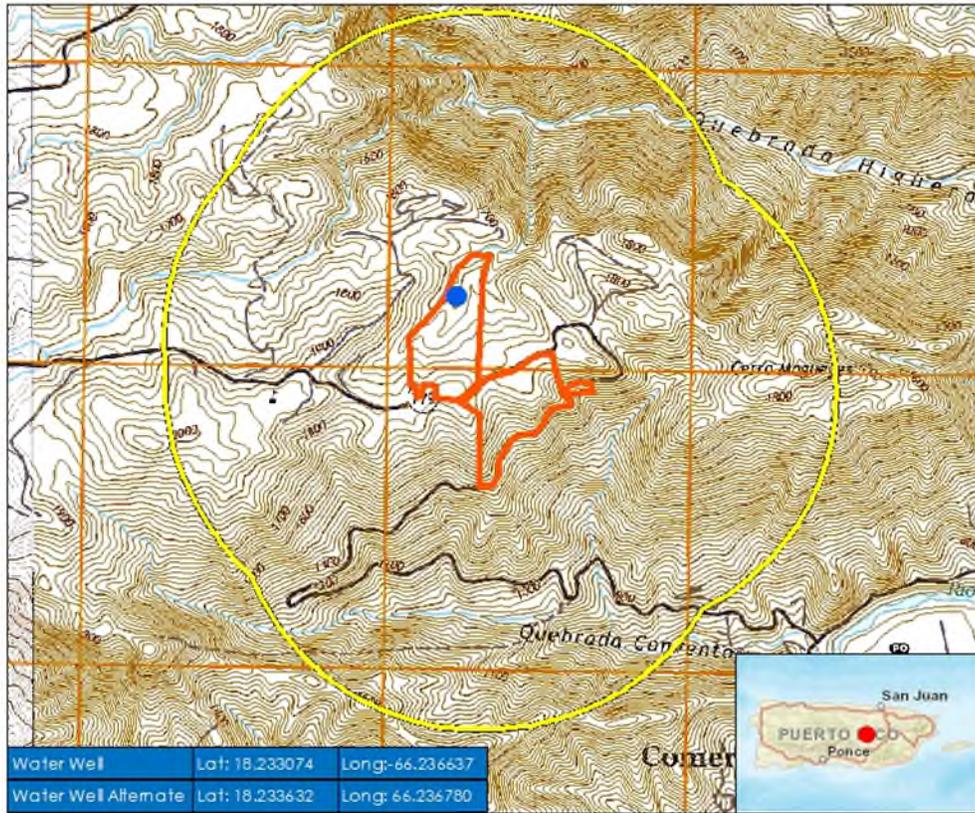
BYA BEHAR-YBARRA & ASSOCIATES LLC
CONSULTING ENGINEERING ARCHITECTS
Carretera 9000a 2.5 Carr. Ponce-SEA, Ponce, San Juan, PR 00709 Tel: (787) 845-9000

Application ID: PR-RGRW-03878

Agrícola Del Montesoró/ José Romero Marrero
Bo. Palomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
Comerío, PR 00782
Catastro: 222-000-007-40
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below

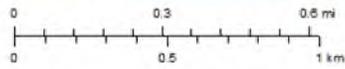
Previous Investigations: USGS Topographic Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
 - 0.5 Mile (0.8Km) Buffer
 - Parcel-03878
 - Contour Interval 20 Feet
- Quadrangle: Comerío



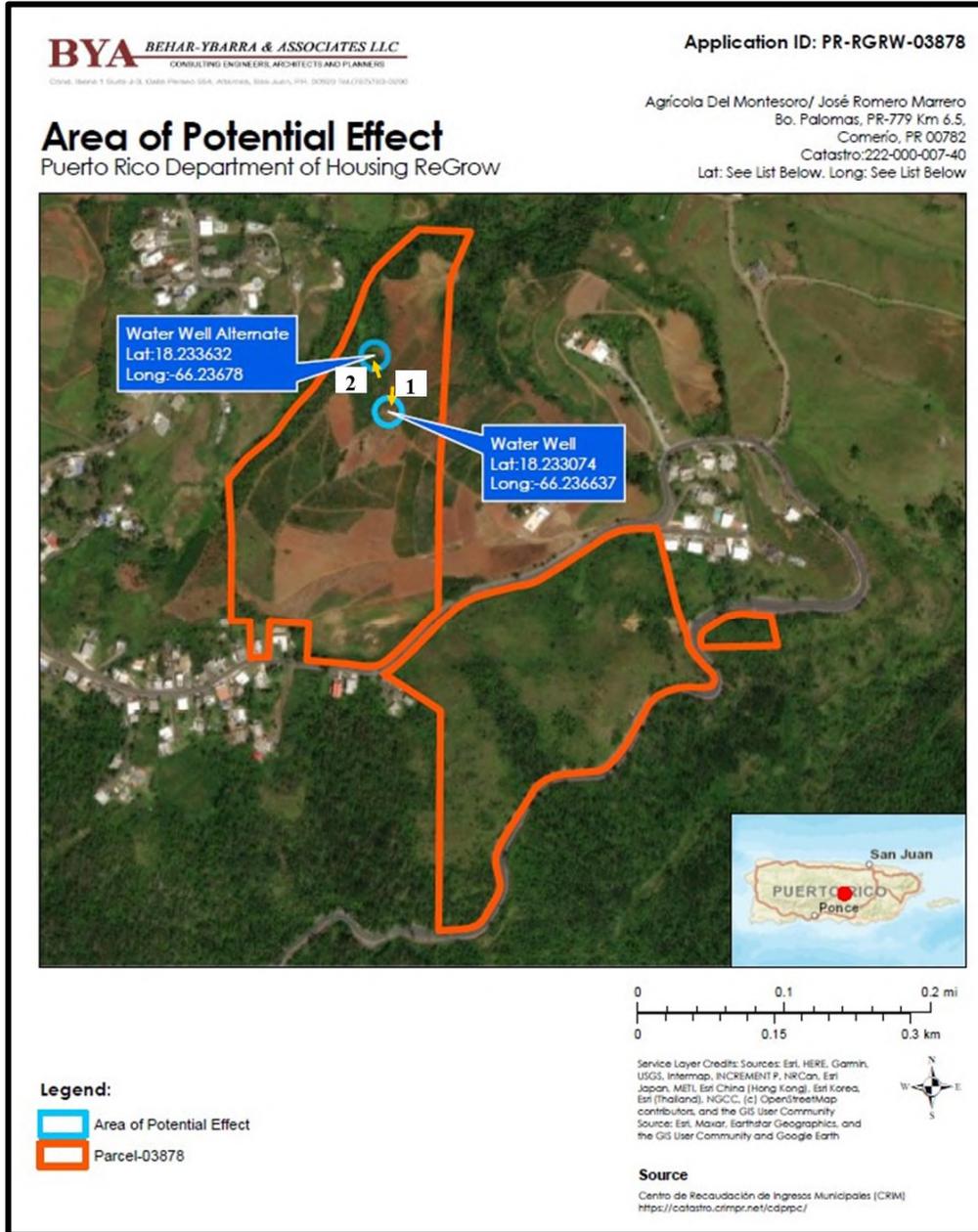
Service layer Credits Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGDC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community and Google Earth



Source

United States Geological Survey (USGS)
National Geologic Map Database
<http://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ngmdb/home.html>

Photograph Key





Applicant: Agrícola del Montesoró/ José Marrero

Case ID: PR-RGRW-03878

City: Comerío



Photo #: 1

Description (include direction): General area where the water well will be installed, looking south.

Date: October 16, 2023



Photo #: 2

Description (include direction): General area where the water well alternate be installed, looking northwest.

Date: October 16, 2023



October 20, 2022

Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

Cuartel de Ballajá Bldg.

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Re: Authorization to Submit Documents

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela:

The U.S. Department of Housing (HUD) approved the allocations of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-DR) funds on February 9, 2018. It also approved the allocation of Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funds on January 27, 2020. The purpose of these allocations is to address unsatisfied needs as a result of Hurricanes Irma and Maria in September 2017; and to carry out strategic and high-impact activities to mitigate disaster risks and reduce future losses.

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

In line to expedite the processes, Horne Federal LLC, is authorized to submit to the State Historic Preservation Officer, documentation of projects related to both the CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT on behalf of PRDOH.

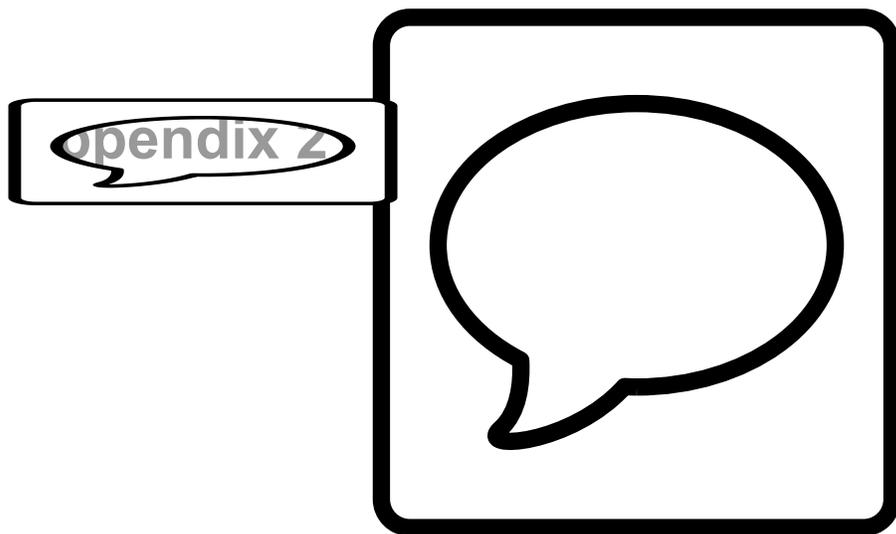
Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JB', is written over the printed name of the signatory.

Juan C. Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng

Director of Disaster Recovery

CDBG DR-MIT





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

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

Data is current as of March 31, 2023

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

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

Change the State:

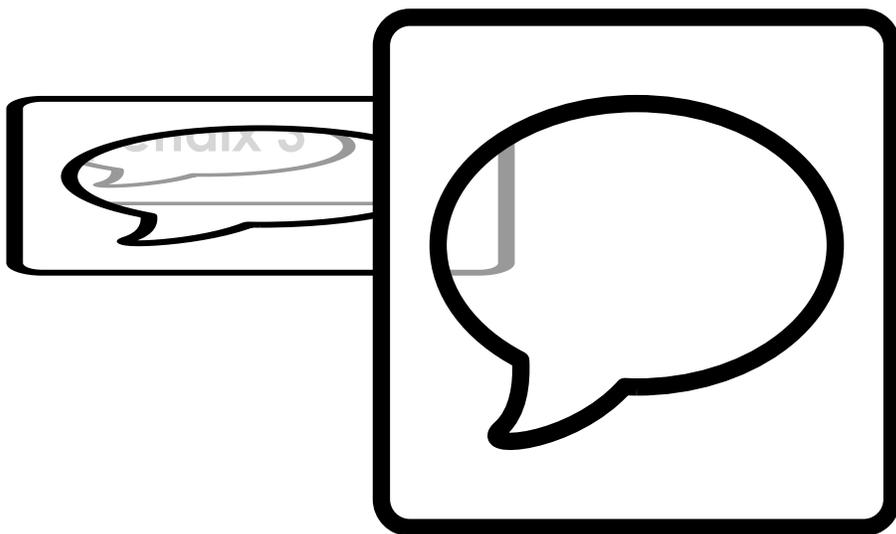
PUERTO RICO

Important Notes

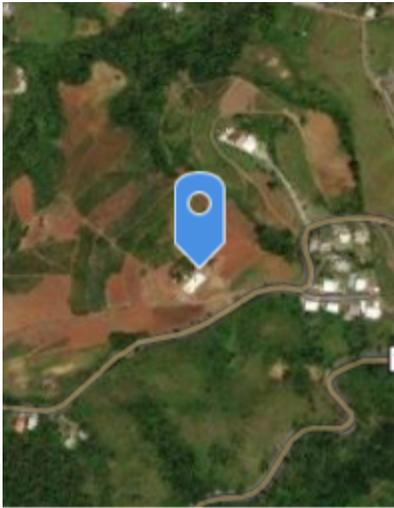
Download National Dataset: [dbf](#) | [xls](#) | [Data dictionary \(PDF\)](#)

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

Important Notes



APPLICANT/LOCATION INFORMATION

Applicant ID:	PR-RGRW-03878	 <p>Esri, HERE, Ga... Powered by Esri</p>	 <p>Esri, Maxar, Ea... Powered by Esri</p>
Applicant Name:	Agricola Del Montesoró		
Parcel ID:	222-000-007-40		
Latitude:	18.232161		
Longitude:	-66.23503		
Street Address:	Bo. Palomas, Carr 779 Km 6.5		
Municipio:	Comerio		
Zip Code:	00782		
Site Inspector:	Egon A Gonzalez		
Date of Visit:	September 29, 2023		
Time of Visit:	10:18		
Building Type:	Water well		

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

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

Streetscape #1

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Streetscape #2

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Address

Photo Direction:

Comments:



Architectural Details 1

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Storage and processing area



Architectural Details 2

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Storage and processing area



Architectural Details 3

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Ajies



Architectural Details 4

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Plantains



Architectural Details 5

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Limones Criollos



Architectural Details 6

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Water well
Coordinates: 18.233074, -66.236637



Architectural Details 7

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Water well
Coordinates: 18.233074, -66.236637



Architectural Details 8

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Water well
Coordinates: 18.233074, -66.236637



Architectural Details 9

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Water well
Coordinates: 18.233074, -66.236637



Architectural Details 10

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Water well
Coordinates: 18.233074, -66.236637



Architectural Details 11

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Water well
Alternate site Coordinates:
18.233632, -66.236780



Architectural Details 12

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Water well
Alternate site Coordinates:
18.233632, -66.236780



Architectural Details 13

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Water well
Alternate site Coordinates:
18.233632, -66.236780



Architectural Details 14

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Water well
Alternate site Coordinates:
18.233632, -66.236780



Architectural Details 15

Photo Direction:

Photo Description: Electricity provided by electric company



Architectural Details 16

Photo Direction:

Photo Description:

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES					
Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.08	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.6	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.0326	0.0667	43	0.261	2
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	20	15	25	5
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.2	0.19	17	0.31	4
Toxic Releases to Air	1,200	4,300	64	4,600	63
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	9.6	180	12	210	16
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.13	0.16	60	0.3	39
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.12	0.15	69	0.13	73
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.075	0.47	19	0.43	20
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.096	0.76	16	1.9	19
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	0	1.7	0	3.9	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.02	2.3	63	22	72
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index	94%	83%	79	35%	99
Supplemental Demographic Index	54%	43%	78	14%	99
People of Color	99%	96%	26	39%	96
Low Income	89%	70%	80	31%	98
Unemployment Rate	21%	15%	72	6%	96
Limited English Speaking Households	80%	67%	74	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	25%	21%	61	12%	87
Under Age 5	3%	4%	46	6%	27
Over Age 64	17%	22%	32	17%	57
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A%	N/A	20%	N/A

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

 An official website of the United States government

MENU

Search EPA.gov



[<https://echo.epa.gov/>](https://echo.epa.gov/)

[Search Options <https://epa.gov/>](https://epa.gov/)

[Analyze Trends <https://epa.gov/>](https://epa.gov/)

[Find EPA Cases <https://epa.gov/>](https://epa.gov/)

[Data Services <https://epa.gov/>](https://epa.gov/)

[Help <https://epa.gov/>](https://epa.gov/)

Detailed Facility Report



Detailed Facility Report

Facility Summary

MATOS GARAGE

RD 779 KM 6.2, COMERIO, PR 00782 ⓘ

FRS (Facility Registry Service) ID: 110007814801

EPA Region: 02

Latitude: 18.23126

Longitude: -66.235558

Locational Data Source: RCRAINFO

Industries: --

Indian Country: N

Enforcement and Compliance Summary

Statute	RCRA
Compliance Monitoring Activities (5 years)	--
Date of Last Compliance Monitoring Activity	05/07/1997
Compliance Status	No Violation Identified
Qtrs in Noncompliance (of 12)	0
Qtrs with Significant Violation	0
Informal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
Penalties from Formal Enforcement Actions (5 years)	--
EPA Cases (5 years)	--
Penalties from EPA Cases (5 years)	--

Regulatory Information

Clean Air Act (CAA): No Information

Clean Water Act (CWA): No Information

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): Inactive
Other, (PRO007001688)

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA): No Information

Other Regulatory Reports

Air Emissions Inventory (EIS): No Information

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (eGGRT): No Information

Toxic Releases (TRI): No Information

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

Go To Enforcement/Compliance Details

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

Facility/System Characteristics

Facility/System Characteristics

System	Statute	Identifier	Univers	Status	Area	Permit Expiration Date	Indian Country	Latitude	Longitude
FRS		110007814801					N	18.23126	-66.235558
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PRO007001688	Other	Inactive ()			N		

Facility Address

System	Statute	Identifier	Facility Name	Facility Address	Facility County
FRS		110007814801	MATOS GARAGE	RD 779 KM 6.2, COMERIO, PR 00782	Comerío Municipio
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PRO007001688	MATOS GARAGE	RD 779 KM 6.2, COMERIO, PR 00782	Comerío Municipio

Facility SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) Codes

System	Identifier	SIC Code	SIC Description
No data records returned			

Facility NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) Codes

System	Identifier	NAICS Code	NAICS Description
No data records returned			

Facility Tribe Information

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

Enforcement and Compliance

Compliance Monitoring History Last 5 Years

Statute Source ID System Activity Type Compliance Monitoring Type Lead Agency Date Finding (if applicable)

No data records returned

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

Compliance Summary Data

Statute	Source ID	Current SNC (Significant Noncompliance)/HPV (High Priority Violation)	Current As Of	Qtrs with NC (Noncompliance) (of 12)	Data Last Refreshed
RCRA	PRO007001688	No	11/18/2023	0	11/17/2023

Three-Year Compliance History by Quarter

Statute	Program/Pollutant /Violation Type	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10	QTR 11	QTR 12+
RCRA (Source ID: PRO007001688)		01/01-03 /31/21	04/01-06 /30/21	07/01-09 /30/21	10/01-12 /31/21	01/01-03 /31/22	04/01-06 /30/22	07/01-09 /30/22	10/01-12 /31/22	01/01-03 /31/23	04/01-06 /30/23	07/01-09 /30/23	10/01-12 /31/23
	Facility-Level Status	No Violation Identified											
	Violation Agency												

Informal Enforcement Actions Last 5 Years

Statute System Source ID Type of Action Lead Agency Date

No data records returned

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

Formal Enforcement Actions Last 5 Years

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

No data records returned

Environmental Conditions

Watersheds ▲

12-Digit WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) HUC (RAD (Reach Address Database)) WBD (Watershed Boundary Dataset) Subwatershed Name (RAD (Reach Address Database)) State Water Body Name (ICIS (Integrated Compliance Information System)) Beach Closures Within Last Year Beach Closures Within Last Two Years Pollutants Potentially Related to Impairment Watershed with ESA (Endangered Species Act)-listed Aquatic Species?

No data records returned

Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)

State Report Cycle Assessment Unit ID Assessment Unit Name Water Condition Cause Groups Impaired Drinking Water Use Ecological Use Fish Consumption Use Recreation Use Other Use

No data records returned

Air Quality Nonattainment Areas

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

No data records returned

Pollutants

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

TRI Facility ID Year Air Emissions Surface Water Discharges Off-Site Transfers to POTWs (Publicly Owned Treatment Works) Underground Injections Disposal to Land Total On-Site Releases Total Off-Site Transfers

No data records returned

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

Chemical Name

No data records returned

CWA (Clean Water Act) Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Pollutant Loadings DMR and TRI Multi-Year Loading Report

NPDES ID Description

No data records returned

Community

Environmental Justice

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

EJScreen Indexes Shown

Compare to US State

Index Type Environmental Justice Supplemental

Related Reports

EJScreen Community Report

Download Data

Census Block Group ID: 720459518001	US (Percentile)	
Supplemental Indexes	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Max
Count of Indexes At or Above 80th Percentile	4	7
Particulate Matter 2.5	--	--
Ozone	--	--
Diesel Particulate Matter	11	12
Air Toxics Cancer Risk	55	58
Air Toxics Respiratory Hazard Index	39	44
Toxic Releases to Air	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 99	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 99
Traffic Proximity	59	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 98
Lead Paint	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 95	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 99
Risk Management Plan (RMP) Facility Proximity	76	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 81
Hazardous Waste Proximity	77	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 90
Superfund Proximity	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 99	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 99
Underground Storage Tanks (UST)	0	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 90
Wastewater Discharge	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 99	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 99

Facility 1-mile Radius Facility Census Block Group



1 mi



Demographic Profile of Surrounding Area (1-Mile Radius)

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

General Statistics (U.S. Census)		Age Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)	
Total Persons	2,568	Children 5 years and younger	180 (7%)
Population Density	816/sq.mi.	Minors 17 years and younger	633 (25%)
Housing Units in Area	1,094	Adults 18 years and older	1,935 (75%)
		Seniors 65 years and older	332 (13%)
General Statistics (ACS (American Community Survey))		Race Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)	
Total Persons	3,516	White	1,987 (77%)
Percent People of Color	99%	African-American	215 (8%)
Households in Area	964	Hispanic-Origin	2,559 (100%)
Households on Public Assistance	47	Asian/Pacific Islander	2 (0%)
Persons With Low Income	3,149	American Indian	12 (0%)
Percent With Low Income	90%	Other/Multiracial	352 (14%)
Geography		Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Persons (%)	
Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.	Less than 9th Grade	400 (17.51%)
Center Latitude	18.23126	9th through 12th Grade	154 (6.74%)
Center Longitude	-66.235558	High School Diploma	736 (32.21%)
Land Area	100%	Some College/2-year	524 (22.93%)
Water Area	0%	B.S./B.A. (Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts) or More	240 (10.5%)
Income Breakdown (ACS (American Community Survey)) - Households (%)			
Less than \$15,000	483 (50.05%)		
\$15,000 - \$25,000	179 (18.55%)		
\$25,000 - \$50,000	231 (23.94%)		
\$50,000 - \$75,000	56 (5.8%)		
Greater than \$75,000	16 (1.66%)		

^ Top of Page



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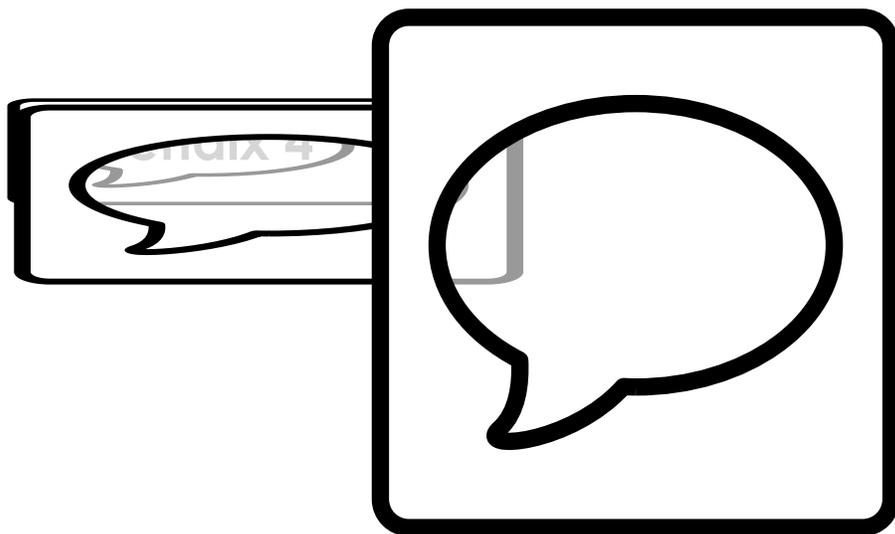
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Last updated on
September 21, 2022

Data Refresh Information

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





United States Department of the Interior

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



In Reply Refer to:
FWS/R4/CESFO/72045-Gen

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

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

Re: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-03878 Agrícola Del
Montesoro, Comerío, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated January 10, 2024, requesting consultation on the above referenced project. As per your request, our comments are provided under the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is proposing the construction of a new water well (10 inches diameter x 500 feet deep) located on State Road PR-779, Km 6.5, Palomas Ward in the municipality of Comerío, Puerto Rico. Two optional locations are being evaluated for the water well:

- Option 1: 18.233074, -66.236637
- Option 2: 18.233632, -66.23678

Using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system, the PRDOH has determined that the proposed project site is located within the range of Puerto Rican boa (*Epicrates inornatus* now known as *Chilabothrus inornatus*) and Puerto Rican plain pigeon (*Columba inornata wetmorei*).

The Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application was used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species for this project (Project code: 2024-0018061). Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa, which determined that the proposed actions for this project have no effect (NE) on this species. As for the Puerto Rican plain pigeon a consultation is required.

Since the land has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 13 years, nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and analysis of the IPaC lists together with field direct observations (conducted on October 16, 2023) of the area where the project will be developed, the PRDOH has determined that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican plain pigeon.

We have reviewed the information provided and our files, and concur with PRDOH's determination that the proposed actions may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican plain pigeon. Also, the Service acknowledge receipt of the NE DKey consistency letter for the Puerto Rican boa.

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

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

Sincerely,

Lourdes Mena
Acting Field Supervisor

drr



January 30, 2024

Edwin E Muñiz
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
PO Box 491
Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622
Email: caribbean_es@fws.gov; edwin_muniz@fws.gov

**RE: Puerto Rico Department of Housing Re-Grow Program
PR-RGRW-03878 – Agrícola Del Montesoro
Endangered Species Concurrence for NLAA Determination**

Dear Mr. Muñiz:

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is requesting an informal consultation under Section 7 (a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) for the proposed project PR-RGRW-03878, located at PR-779 Road Km 6.5, Palomas Ward, Comerío, PR 00782; coordinates for the water well alternative location 1: 18.233074, - 66.236637 and alternative location 2: 18.233632, - 66.23678 (see Appendix A: Figure 1 & Figure 2).

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

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-03878 consist of the installation/construction of a new 10" in diameter and 500-feet deep water well. The installation of the water well will require ground disturbance. The well installation includes a 5hp submersible water pump that will be powered by a diesel generator which will be provided by the applicant. The 10" water well will also be installed following the standards and regulations of the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER). Two locations for the well are being considered. The first location is at latitude 18.233074, longitude -66.236637. The alternative location is at latitude 18.233632, longitude -66.23678. The project area is located at PR-779 Road Km 6.5, Palomas Ward, within the Municipality of Comerío. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 13 years.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) has been defined as the area potentially impacted by ground disturbing activities related to the installation and construction of the water well, see Appendix A: Figure 3.

Existing Conditions and Trends:

For the proposed project parcel 222-000-007-40-000, the location 1 is located within an area not designated as prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance, however the location 2 is located within an area designated as prime farmland, see Appendix A: Figure 4. The project area is located in the rural mountainous area of Comerío. The area where the water well and water well "alternate" will be placed has a flat topography. The area where the water well will be installed is covered with vegetation, grass and bushes, refer to Appendix C. The soil in the area has been classified as Daguey clay, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded (DaD). This is a moderately steep, well-drained soil on stable side slopes, ridgetops and foot slopes of the humid volcanic uplands. The land has been used for agricultural uses for over 13 years and the proposed project will not change the land use associated with these placements. In addition, the closer Final Critical Habitat is located at 55,847 feet from the project location, see Appendix A: Figure 5. There is an unnamed creek 285 feet from where the water well will be installed and 138 feet from the alternate location for the water well. However, the area of potential effect for the water well locations are outside of any creek near the project area, see Appendix A: Figure 6.

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

Name of the Species	Threatened/Endangered/ Candidate
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon (<i>Columba inornata wetmorei</i>)	Endangered
Critical Habitats	
There are no critical habitats within the project area.	

The nature of the project, scope of work, information available, a careful analysis of the IPaC, the Puerto Rican Boa conservation measures, the Caribbean Dkey dated November 20, 2023, in the US Fish and Wildlife Service's online IPaC application, and the observations during the field visit, were used to evaluate the potential impacts to federally listed species from this project. Based on that information and the answer inputted into the Dkey, it was determined that the proposed action will have "No Effect" determination on the Puerto Rican Boa, but for the Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon it will have an "Not Likely to Adversely Affect" determination due to the plantain trees near the proposed areas for the water well, see Appendix B.

Name of the Species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures to be implemented (if needed)
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	No Effect (NE)	USFWS Puerto Rico Boa Conservation Measures 2020
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon (<i>Columba inornata wetmorei</i>)	May affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)	No Conservation Measures
Critical Habitats		
There are no critical habitats within the project area.		

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NLAA determination included in this letter. Attached to this letter, we are including the documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species. For any question or clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact us at the information below.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,



Juan Carlos Pérez Bofill, PE, MEng.
Director – Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR Program
environmentcdbq@vivienda.pr.gov | 787.274.2527 ext. 4320

Attachments:

Appendix A:

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

Appendix B: IPaC Resource List

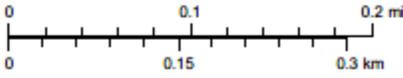
Appendix C: Field Visit Photos

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

Appendix A: Figures

Agrícola Del Montessoro/ José Romero Marrero
 Bo. Palomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
 Comerio, PR 00782
 Catastro:222-000-007-40
 Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below

Location: Aerial Map
 Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow



- Legend:**
- Applicant Structure
 - Parcel-03878
 - CRIM Parcels

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

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

Figure 1: PR-RGRW-03878 Location Map

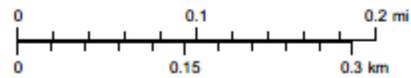
Location: USGS Topographic Map
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrícola Del Montessoro/ José Romero Marrero
Bo. Palomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
Comerio, PR 00782
Catastro:222-000-007-40
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below



Legend:

- Applicant Structure
- ▭ Parcel-03878
- Contour Interval 20 Feet



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



Source

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

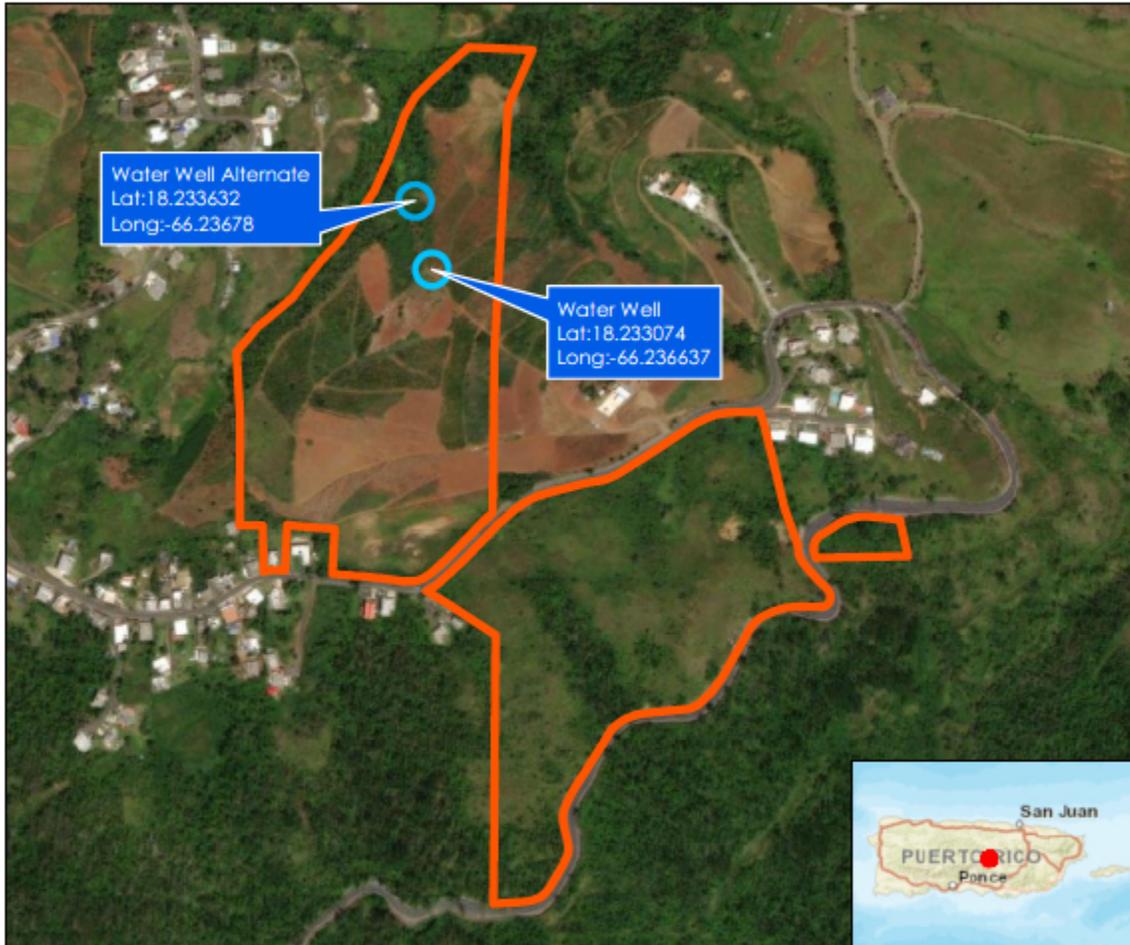
Quadrangle: Comerio

Figure 2: PR-RGRW-03878 Topographic Map

Area of Potential Effect

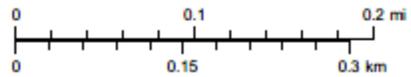
Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow

Agrícola Del Montessoro/ José Romero Marrero
Bo. Palomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
Cemerio, PR 00782
Catastro:222-000-007-40
Lat: See List Below. Long: See List Below



Legend:

-  Area of Potential Effect
-  Parcel-03878



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



Source

Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales (CRM)
<http://catastro.cimpr.net/cdpprc/>

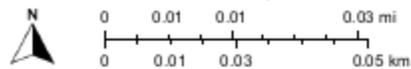
Figure 3: PR-RGRW-03878 Area of Potential Effect Map



10/30/2023, 3:47:28 PM

Farmland Protection

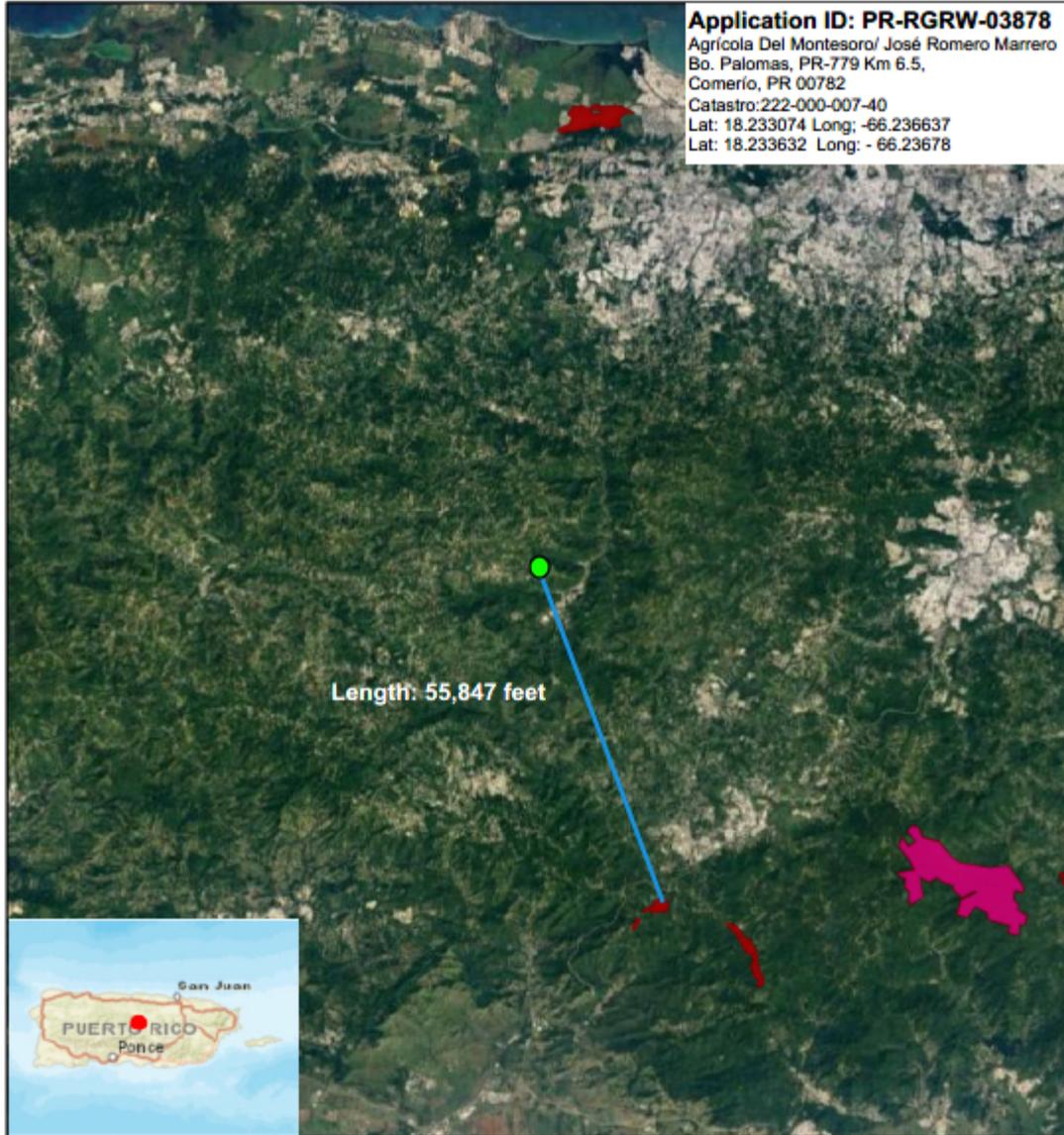
- All areas are prime farmland
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Not prime farmland
- PR-RGRW-03878



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

Figure 4: PR-RGRW-03878 Farmland Protection Map

PR-RGRW-03878 Endangered Species



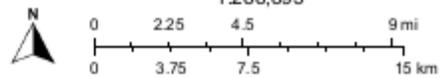
Application ID: PR-RGRW-03878
 Agricola Del Montesorro/ José Romero Marrero
 Bo. Palomas, PR-779 Km 6.5,
 Comerío, PR 00782
 Catastro: 222-000-007-40
 Lat: 18.233074 Long: -66.236637
 Lat: 18.233632 Long: -66.23678

Length: 55,847 feet

10/30/2023, 3:39:35 PM

Critical Habitat for Threatened & Endangered Species

- Final
- Proposed
- USFWS Critical Habitat - Final
- PR-RGRW-03878



Source
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
 Office of Response and Restoration
<https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/>

Figure 5: PR-RGRW-03878 Critical Habitats Map

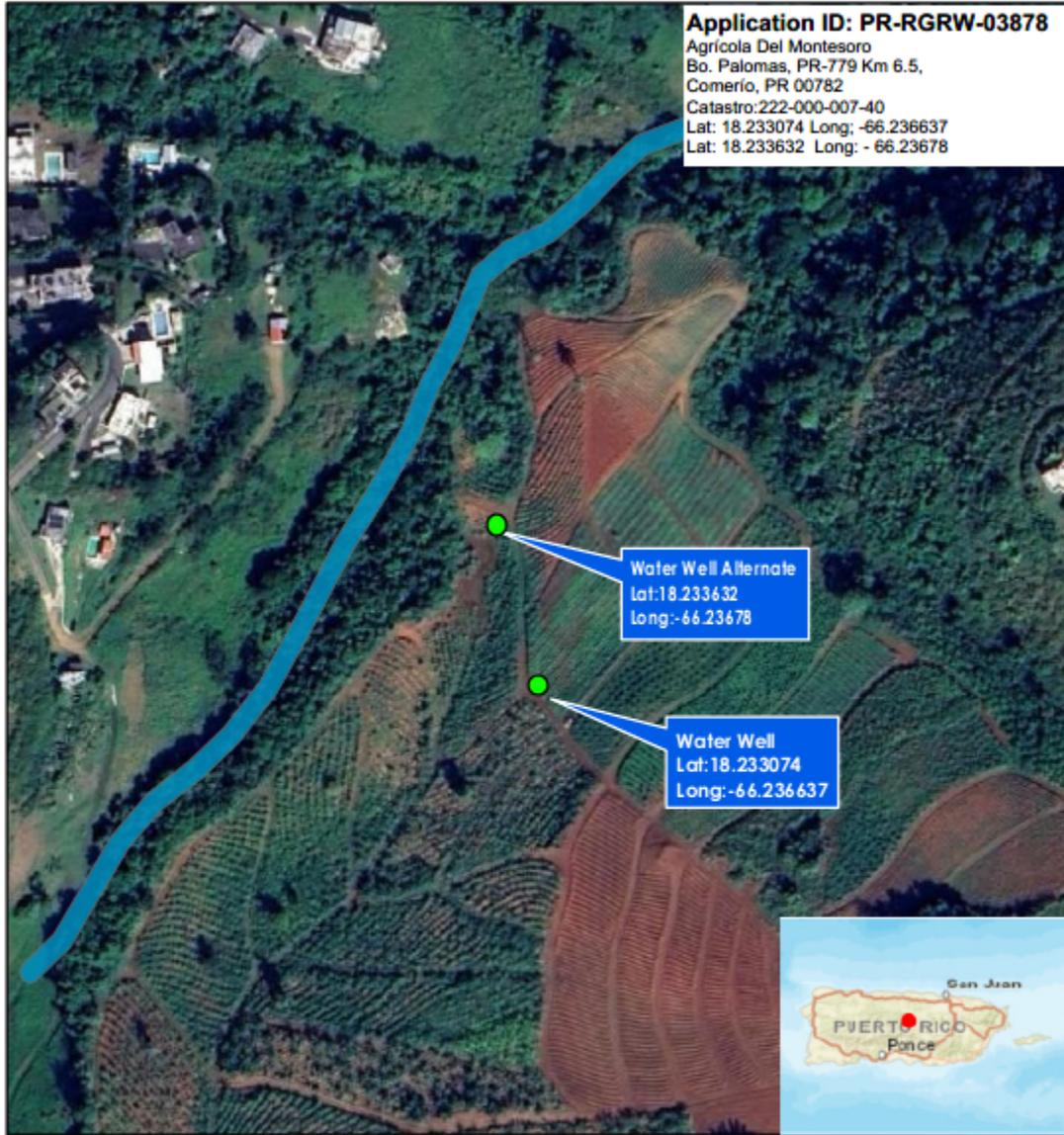


Figure 6: PR-RGRW-03878 Wetlands Map

Appendix B: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Post Office Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491
Phone: (787) 834-1600 Fax: (787) 851-7440
Email Address: CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV

In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2024-0018061
Project Name: PR-RGRW-03878

November 20, 2023

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

To Whom It May Concern:

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

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

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

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

to caribbean_es@fws.gov. To obtain guidance for completing this process and the minimum requirements for project packages, please visit:

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

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

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

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

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

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

caribbean_es@fws.gov

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

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

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(787) 834-1600

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0018061

Project Name: PR-RGRW-03878

Project Type: New Constr - Below Ground

Project Description: The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-03878 consist of installing/constructing a new 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well. The installation of the water well will require ground disturbance. The well installation includes a 5hp submersible water pump that will be powered by a diesel generator that will be provided by the applicant. The 10" water well will also be installed following the standards and regulations of the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER). Two locations for the well are being considered. The first location is at latitude 18.233074, longitude -66.236637. The alternative location is at latitude 18.233632, longitude -66.23678. The project area is located at Bo. Palomas, PR-779, km. 6.5 within the Municipality of Comerío. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 13 years.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.23330515,-66.23657453700613,14z>



Counties: Comerío County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 2 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

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

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

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

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon <i>Columba inornata wetmorei</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7955	Endangered

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/VOJPHOPTXVCBRB7SO6XG26VQFI/documents/generated/7140.pdf	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

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

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

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

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats³, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

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

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

MIGRATORY BIRDS

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

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats³ should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

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

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

WETLANDS

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

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

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

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
Post Office Box 491
Boqueron, PR 00622-0491
Phone: (787) 834-1600 Fax: (787) 851-7440
Email Address: CARIBBEAN_ES@FWS.GOV

In Reply Refer To:
Project code: 2024-0018061
Project Name: PR-RGRW-03878

November 20, 2023

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-03878' for specified threatened and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On November 20, 2023, Patricia Carmenatty used the Caribbean DKey; dated October 12, 2023, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-03878'. The project is located in Comerío County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.23330515,-66.23657453700613,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-03878':

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-03878 consist of installing/constructing a new 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well. The installation of the water well will require ground disturbance. The well installation includes a 5hp submergible water pump that will be powered by a diesel generator that will be provided by the applicant. The 10” water well will also be installed following the standards and regulations of the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER). Two locations for the well are being considered. The first location is at latitude 18.233074, longitude -66.236637. The alternative location is at latitude 18.233632, longitude -66.23678. The project area is located at Bo. Palomas, PR-779, km. 6.5 within the Municipality of Comerío. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 13 years.

Based on your answers and the assistance of the Service’s Caribbean DKey, you determined the proposed Action will have “No Effect” on the following species:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered	No effect

Thank you for informing the Service of your “No Effect” determination(s) for this project. No further consultation/coordination for this project is required for these species. However, be aware that reinitiation of consultation may be necessary if later modifications are made to the project so that it no longer meets the criteria or outcome described above, or if new information reveals effects of the action that could affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered, or if a new species is listed.

This letter serves as documentation of your consideration of the federally listed species as required under section 7 of the ESA. However, effects to the other federally listed species or critical habitat as listed below from the “IPaC print-out for the project” (see below) should be considered as part of your ESA review for the project.

The Service will notify you within 30 calendar days if we determine that this proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a “No Effect” (NE) determination for Federally listed species in the Caribbean. If we do not notify you within that timeframe, you may proceed with the Action under the terms of the NE concurrence provided here. This verification period allows the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office to apply local knowledge to evaluate the Action, as we may identify a small subset of actions having unanticipated impacts. In such instances, the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office may request additional information to verify the effects determination reached through the DKey.

Note: Projects located within the range of the Puerto Rican boa or the Virgin Islands tree boa might encounter these species during project activities. **This letter does not provide take to handle or move these species.** If relocation of the species is needed, please contact either the Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources (DNER) at 787-724-5700, 787-230-5550, or 787-771-1124 for projects in Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) at 340-775-6762 for projects in the

Virgin Islands. Otherwise, contact the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office (caribbean_es@fws.gov) to determine whether the consultation needs to be reinitiated.

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

- Puerto Rican Plain Pigeon *Columba inornata wetmorei* Endangered

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

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

Action Description

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

1. Name

PR-RGRW-03878

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-03878':

The proposed activities for PR-RGRW-03878 consist of installing/constructing a new 10 inches diameter and 500 feet deep water well. The installation of the water well will require ground disturbance. The well installation includes a 5hp submersible water pump that will be powered by a diesel generator that will be provided by the applicant. The 10" water well will also be installed following the standards and regulations of the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER). Two locations for the well are being considered. The first location is at latitude 18.233074, longitude -66.236637. The alternative location is at latitude 18.233632, longitude -66.23678. The project area is located at Bo. Palomas, PR-779, km. 6.5 within the Municipality of Comerío. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery, the general area has been used for agricultural purposes for the past 13 years.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.23330515,-66.23657453700613,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

Yes

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

Automatically answered

Yes

Appendix C: Field Visit Photos



Photo #: 1

Description (include direction): General area where the water well will be installed, looking south.

Date: October 16, 2023



Photo #: 2

Description (include direction): General area where the water well alternate be installed, looking northwest.

Date: October 16, 2023