



**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

451 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20410

[www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov)  
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**Environmental Review for Activity/Project that is  
Categorically Excluded Subject to Section 58.5  
Pursuant to 24 CFR 58.35(a)**

**Project Information**

**Project Name:** PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE

**HEROS Number:** 900000010377538

**Start Date:** 01/26/2024

**State / Local Identifier:**

**Project Location:** , Yauco, PR 00698

**Additional Location Information:**

Location centroid: Latitude 18.143047, longitude -66.898970 at the address given above. Cadastral: 287-000-003-22-000

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

This project (PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE) entails the award of a grant to Eliezer Castillo Morales, an agricultural business, at Carretera 3365 km 8.2 barrio rubias sector Santa, Yauco, PR 00698. Tax ID Number: 287-000-003-22-000. Coordinates (18.143047, -66.898970). This project had an original CENST review which included the purchase of farm equipment including a small pickup vehicle for project cost of \$49,156.64. See attached CENST environmental review. This review includes a scope item previously considered as an EA level of review (storage warehouse) which is now evaluated as CEST level of review in accordance with FR-6492-N-01 with a project cost of \$5,930.00. The proposed project includes the construction of a storage warehouse. The new warehouse will be approximately 200 square feet (sq. ft) in size (20 feet [ft] by 10 ft). There are two optional locations for the warehouse: Option 1 is located in the eastern portion of the parcel; Option 2 is located approximately 15 ft southeast of Option 1. The warehouse will have a galvanized steel roof and will be constructed out of concrete, with a foundation extending a maximum of 3 ft into the ground. The warehouse will require above-ground water connections, originating at a water spigot located to the west of both locations. The water spigot is connected to municipal water, and the applicant will receive the necessary authorizations and permits prior to expanding the connections. The warehouse will not be connected to electricity. Both sites will require grading to level the ground prior to construction. Vegetation removal will be required for both warehouse locations. Location Option 1 will require approximately 10-15 trees to be removed prior to construction and Option 2 will require 0-5 trees to be removed. The applicant owns the property and currently uses it for agricultural use; therefore, no acquisition or conversion is required. The project Eliezer Castillo Morales, PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #7 - 7. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (iii): Construction of a new farm storage facility. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Construction of a new farm storage facility with ground disturbance has been classified as CEST under the waiver.

**Level of Environment Review Determination:**

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

**Funding Information**

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

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$5,930.00

**Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.2 (a) (5)]:** \$5,930.00

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure or Condition	Comments on Completed Measures	Complete
Endangered Species Act	<p>In accordance with the 2024 Puerto Rican Boa General Project Design Guidelines, if a Puerto Rican Boa (PR Boa) is found in the project action site, work shall cease until the individual moves off on its own. If the PR 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 PR Boa.</p> <p>The PR harlequin butterfly was federally listed as threatened on January 3, 2023 (87 FR 73655), due to threats related to habitat modification and loss, its small populations</p>	N/A	



	size, and because of analyses of projected effects on the species resulting from relevant factors like increment of urban development rate and climate changes, which may negatively influence the continued existence of the species in the foreseeable future. The Service has developed the following conservation measures with the purpose of assisting others to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the PR harlequin butterfly and its habitat. These recommendations may be incorporated into new project plans and under certain circumstances into existing projects. Depending on the project, additional recommendations can be made besides the ones presented in this document. (See attached General Project Design Guidelines)			
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**Determination:**

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

Preparer Signature:  Date: June 12, 2025

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

Responsible Entity Agency Official Signature:  Date: 8/7/2025

Name/ Title: Pedro A. de León Rodríguez, MSEM/Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist

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

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

**Project Information**

**Project Name:** PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE

**HEROS Number:** 900000010377538

**Start Date:** 01/26/2024

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

**State / Local Identifier:**

**RE Preparer:** Ricardo Espiet Lopez

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

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

**Point of Contact:**

**Point of Contact:** Justin Neely  
**Consultant (if applicable):** HORNE LLP

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

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

**Project Location:** , Yauco, PR 00698

**Additional Location Information:**

Location centroid: Latitude 18.143047, longitude -66.898970 at the address given above. Cadastral: 287-000-003-22-000

**Direct Comments to:** environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov

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

This project (PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE) entails the award of a grant to Eliezer Castillo Morales, an agricultural business, at Carretera 3365 km 8.2 barrio rubias sector Santa, Yauco, PR 00698. Tax ID Number: 287-000-003-22-000. Coordinates (18.143047, -66.898970). This project had an original CENST review which included the purchase of farm equipment including a small pickup vehicle for project cost of \$49,156.64. See attached CENST environmental review. This review includes a scope item previously considered as an EA level of review (storage warehouse) which is now evaluated as CEST level of review in accordance with FR-6492-N-01 with a project cost of \$5,930.00. The proposed project includes the construction of a storage warehouse. The new warehouse will be approximately 200 square feet (sq. ft) in size (20 feet [ft] by 10 ft). There are two optional locations for the warehouse: Option 1 is located in the eastern portion of the parcel; Option 2 is located approximately 15 ft southeast of Option 1. The warehouse will have a galvanized steel roof and will be constructed out of concrete, with a foundation extending a maximum of 3 ft into the ground. The warehouse will require above-ground water connections, originating at a water spigot located to the west of both locations. The water spigot is connected to municipal water, and the applicant will receive the necessary authorizations and permits prior to expanding the connections. The warehouse will not be connected to electricity. Both sites will require grading to level the ground prior to construction. Vegetation removal will be required for both warehouse locations. Location Option 1 will require approximately 10-15 trees to be removed prior to construction and Option 2 will require 0-5 trees to be removed. The applicant owns the property and currently uses it for agricultural use; therefore, no acquisition or conversion is required. The project Eliezer Castillo Morales, PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #7 - 7. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (iii): Construction of a new farm storage facility. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Construction of a new farm storage facility with ground disturbance has been classified as CEST under the waiver.

**Maps, photographs, and other documentation of project location and description:**[ReEvaluation Memo .docx](#)[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE Site Map.pdf](#)[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE IUGF CEST.pdf](#)[PR-RGRW-00487 CENST\\_ERR.pdf](#)[PRDOH Regrow Puerto Rico Program - 5836 Waiver \(002\).pdf](#)[Farm Service Agency Adopted Categorical Exclusions Identified in FR-6492-N-01.pdf](#)[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE EFOR.pdf](#)**Level of Environmental Review Determination:**

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

**Determination:**

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

**Approval Documents:**[00487-SIG-PAGE\(1\).pdf](#)

**7015.15 certified by Certifying Officer**  
**on:**

**7015.16 certified by Authorizing Officer**  
**on:**

**Reevaluation of a Completed Review**

The environmental findings of a completed environmental review were re-evaluated to determine if the original findings are still valid for all of the three scenarios below:

- a. Substantial changes in the nature, magnitude, or extent of the project, including adding new activities not anticipated in the original scope of the project are proposed.
- b. There are new circumstances and environmental conditions which may affect the project or have a bearing on its impact, such as concealed or unexpected conditions discovered during the implementation of the project, or
- c. The selection of an alternative not in the original finding is proposed.

It was determined that the original findings were still valid.

**Statement or memo documenting determination:**

The project Eliezer Castillo Morales, PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #7 - 7. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (iii): Construction of a new farm storage facility. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Construction of a new farm storage facility with ground disturbance has been classified as CEST under the waiver.

[ReEvaluation Memo \(1\).docx](#)

[PR-RGRW-00487 CENST\\_ERR\(1\).pdf](#)

[PRDOH Regrow Puerto Rico Program - 5836 Waiver \(002\)\(1\).pdf](#)

[Farm Service Agency Adopted Categorical Exclusions Identified in FR-6492-N-01\(1\).pdf](#)

**Funding Information**

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

**Estimated Total HUD Funded,  
Assisted or Insured Amount:** \$5,930.00

**Estimated Total Project Cost:** \$5,930.00

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

<b>Compliance Factors:</b> Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §50.4, §58.5, and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determination (See Appendix A for source determinations)
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 &amp; § 58.6</b>		
<b>Airport Hazards</b> Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest civil primary or commercial service airport, Eugenio Maria De Hostos, is located 93,811 ft from the project site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport], is located 324,610 ft from the project site. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.
<b>Coastal Barrier Resources Act</b> Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is at 68,910 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.
<b>Flood Insurance</b> Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Flood Map Number 72000C1045H, effective on 4/19/2005: The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 &amp; § 58.5</b>		

<b>Air Quality</b> Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under the Clean Air Act. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.
<b>Coastal Zone Management Act</b> Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 50,899 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.
<b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b> 24 CFR 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Site contamination was evaluated as follows: None of the above. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements. At the time of this review, this section has not been updated in HEROS to include questions regarding radon. A review of science-based radon data offered a lack of data for the project site and radon testing was determined to be infeasible or impracticable. See attached radon documents.
<b>Endangered Species Act</b> Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	This project May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect, listed species, and informal consultation was conducted. With mitigation, identified in the mitigation section of this review, the project will be in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.
<b>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</b> Above-Ground Tanks)[24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description the project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements.
<b>Farmlands Protection</b> Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural



		use. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.
<b>Floodplain Management</b> Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Flood Map Number 72000C1045H, effective on 4/19/2005: This project does not occur in a floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. PFIRMS in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Yauco; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review. At the time of this review, this section has not been updated in HEROS to include questions regarding FFRMS. This project does not occur in the FFRMS floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690.
<b>Historic Preservation</b> National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on Section 106 consultation there are No Historic Properties Affected because there are no historic properties present. The project is in compliance with Section 106.
<b>Noise Abatement and Control</b> Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under HUD's noise regulation. The project is in compliance with HUD's Noise regulation.
<b>Sole Source Aquifers</b> Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	The project is not located on a sole source aquifer area. According to EPA, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.
<b>Wetlands Protection</b> Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. This project does not involve new construction, so a visual wetlands survey was not conducted.

<b>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act</b> Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 388,100 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.
<b>HUD HOUSING ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS</b>		
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b>		
<b>Environmental Justice</b> Executive Order 12898	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	No adverse environmental impacts were identified in the project's total environmental review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898. On January 21, 2025, President Donald Trump issued the Executive Order 14173 titled "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity", which revoked Executive Order 12898 and eliminated federal mandates requiring agencies to assess environmental justice impacts. Consequently, there is no longer a federal requirement to address environmental justice concerns in the environmental compliance review process.

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure or Condition	Comments on Completed Measures	Mitigation Plan	Complete
Endangered Species Act	In accordance with the 2024 Puerto Rican Boa General Project Design Guidelines, if a Puerto Rican Boa (PR Boa) is found in the project action site, work shall cease until the individual moves off on its own. If the PR Boa does	N/A		

	<p>not move off, the construction manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the PR Boa.</p> <p>The PR harlequin butterfly was federally listed as threatened on January 3, 2023 (87 FR 73655), due to threats related to habitat modification and loss, its small populations size, and because of analyses of projected effects on the species resulting from relevant factors like increment of urban development rate and climate changes, which may negatively influence the continued existence of the species in the foreseeable future. The Service has developed the following conservation measures with the purpose of assisting others to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the PR harlequin butterfly and its habitat. These recommendations may be incorporated into new project plans and under certain circumstances into existing projects. Depending on the project, additional recommendations can be made besides the ones presented in this document. (See attached General Project Design Guidelines)</p>			
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**Project Mitigation Plan**

Should new ground disturbance occur the Karst zone must be evaluated and when necessary DNER must be consulted prior to construction activities. In accordance with the 2024 Puerto Rican Boa General Project Design Guidelines, if a Puerto Rican Boa (PR Boa) is found in the project action site, work shall cease until the individual moves off on its own. If the PR 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 PR Boa. The PR harlequin butterfly was federally listed as threatened on January 3, 2023 (87 FR 73655), due to threats related to habitat modification and loss, its small populations size, and because of analyses of projected effects on the species resulting from relevant factors like increment of urban development rate and climate changes, which may negatively influence the continued existence of the species in the foreseeable future. The Service has developed the following conservation measures with the purpose of assisting others to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the PR harlequin butterfly and its habitat. These recommendations may be incorporated into new project plans and under certain circumstances into existing projects. Depending on the project, additional recommendations can be made besides the ones presented in this document. (See attached General Project Design Guidelines)

**Supporting documentation on completed measures**

**APPENDIX A: Related Federal Laws and Authorities****Airport Hazards**

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

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

The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest civil primary or commercial service airport, Eugenio Maria De Hostos, is located 93,811 ft from the project site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport], is located 324,610 ft from the project site. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE Airports.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

**Coastal Barrier Resources**

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

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

☒ No

Document and upload map and documentation below.

Yes

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

This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is at 68,910 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE CBRS.pdf](#)

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

Yes

☒ No

**Flood Insurance**

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

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

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

✓ Yes

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

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE FIRM.pdf](#)

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

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

Yes

✓ No

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

Flood Map Number 72000C1045H, effective on 4/19/2005: The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.

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

Yes

✓ No



**Air Quality**

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

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

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

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

Yes

✓ No

**Coastal Zone Management Act**

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

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

Yes

☒ No

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

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

This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 50,899 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE CZM.pdf](#)

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

Yes

☒ No

## Contamination and Toxic Substances

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

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

ASTM Phase I ESA

ASTM Phase II ESA

Remediation or clean-up plan

ASTM Vapor Encroachment Screening.

☒ None of the above

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

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

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

☒ No

Explain:

There are no toxic sites within 3,000 feet of the applicant location. The environmental field observation did not note any items of concern. See the attached environmental field observation report. A google earth review of the area shows no visible hazards. The past land use for the last 10-15 year is agricultural.

Yes

### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

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

#### **Supporting documentation**

[Radon Attachments.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE Toxics.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE Radon Memo.docx](#)

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE EFOR\(1\).pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

## Endangered Species

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

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

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

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

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

**2. Are federally listed species or designated critical habitats present in the action area?**

No, the project will have No Effect due to the absence of federally listed species and designated critical habitat

- ✓ Yes, there are federally listed species or designated critical habitats present in the action area.

**3. What effects, if any, will your project have on federally listed species or designated critical habitat?**

No Effect: Based on the specifics of both the project and any federally listed species in the action area, you have determined that the project will have absolutely no effect on listed species or critical habitat. in the action area.

- ✓ May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect: Any effects that the project may have on federally listed species or critical habitats would be beneficial, discountable, or insignificant.

Likely to Adversely Affect: The project may have negative effects on one or more listed species or critical habitat.

**4. Informal Consultation is required**

Section 7 of ESA (16 USC. 1536) mandates consultation to resolve potential impacts to endangered and threatened species and critical habitats. If a HUD-assisted project may affect any federally listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat, then compliance is required with Section 7. See 50 CFR Part 402 Subpart B Consultation Procedures.

**Did the Service(s) concur with the finding that the project is Not Likely to Adversely Affect?**

- ✓ Yes, the Service(s) concurred with the finding.

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload the following below:

- (1) A biological evaluation or equivalent document
- (2) Concurrence(s) from FWS and/or NMFS
- (3) Any other documentation of informal consultation

Exception: If finding was made based on procedures provided by a letter of understanding, memorandum of agreement, programmatic agreement, or checklist provided by local HUD office, provide whatever documentation is mandated by that agreement.

No, the Service(s) did not concur with the finding.

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

✓ Mitigation as follows will be implemented:

In accordance with the 2024 Puerto Rican Boa General Project Design Guidelines, if a Puerto Rican Boa (PR Boa) is found in the project action site, work shall cease until the individual moves off on its own. If the PR 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 PR Boa. The PR harlequin butterfly was federally listed as threatened on January 3, 2023 (87 FR 73655), due to threats related to habitat modification and loss, its small populations size, and because of analyses of projected effects on the species resulting from relevant factors like increment of urban development rate and climate changes, which may negatively influence the continued existence of the species in the foreseeable future. The Service has developed the following conservation measures with the purpose of assisting others to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the PR harlequin butterfly and its habitat. These recommendations may be incorporated into new project plans and under certain circumstances into existing projects. Depending on the project, additional recommendations can be made besides the ones presented in this document. (See attached General Project Design Guidelines)

No mitigation is necessary.

#### **Screen Summary**

##### **Compliance Determination**

This project May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect, listed species, and informal consultation was conducted. With mitigation, identified in the mitigation section of this review, the project will be in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

##### **Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE USFWS Consutation Package.pdf](#)  
[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE USFWS Concurrence Letter.pdf](#)

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

☒ Yes

☐ No



**Explosive and Flammable Hazards**

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

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

☒ No

Yes

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

☒ No

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

Yes

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

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

**Supporting documentation**

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

Yes

☒ No

**Farmlands Protection**

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

The project site is not designated as farmland of statewide importance or prime farmland.

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

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

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

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE Farmlands.pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

## Floodplain Management

General Requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, requires federal activities to avoid impacts to floodplains and to avoid direct and indirect support of floodplain development to the extent practicable.	Executive Order 11988	24 CFR 55

**1. Do any of the following exemptions apply? Select the applicable citation? [only one selection possible]**

- 55.12(c)(3)
- 55.12(c)(4)
- 55.12(c)(5)
- 55.12(c)(6)
- 55.12(c)(7)
- 55.12(c)(8)
- 55.12(c)(9)
- 55.12(c)(10)
- 55.12(c)(11)

☒ None of the above

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

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE FIRM.pdf](#)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designates floodplains. The FEMA Map Service Center provides this information in the form of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). For projects in areas not mapped by FEMA, use **the best available information** to determine floodplain information. Include documentation, including a discussion of why this is the best available information for the site.

**Does your project occur in a floodplain?**

☒ No

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

Yes

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

Flood Map Number 72000C1045H, effective on 4/19/2005: This project does not occur in a floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Yauco; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review. At the time of this review, this section has not been updated in HEROS to include questions regarding FFRMS. This project does not occur in the FFRMS floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE ABFE.pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

## Historic Preservation

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

### Threshold

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

No, because the project consists solely of activities listed as exempt in a Programmatic Agreement (PA ). (See the PA Database to find applicable PAs.)

No, because the project consists solely of activities included in a No Potential to Cause Effects memo or other determination [36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)].

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

### Step 1 – Initiate Consultation

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

- ✓ State Historic Preservation Offer (SHPO) Completed

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

Other Consulting Parties

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

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

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

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

Yes

No

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

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

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

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

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

**Additional Notes:**

No Historic Properties present within the APE

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

Yes

✓ No

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

Only properties that are listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places receive further consideration under Section 106. Assess the effect(s) of the project by applying the Criteria of Adverse Effect. (36 CFR 800.5)] Consider direct and indirect effects as applicable as

per guidance on direct and indirect effects.

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

☒ No Historic Properties Affected

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

**Document reason for finding:**

☒ No historic properties present.

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

No Adverse Effect

Adverse Effect

**Screen Summary**

**Compliance Determination**

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

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE SHPO Consultation Package.pdf](#)

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

Yes

☒ No

## Noise Abatement and Control

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

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

New construction for residential use

Rehabilitation of an existing residential property

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

An interstate land sales registration

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

☒ None of the above

### **Screen Summary**

#### **Compliance Determination**

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

#### **Supporting documentation**

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

Yes

☒ No





**Sole Source Aquifers**

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

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

< No

✓

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

Yes

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

Yes

No

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

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

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE Sole Source Aquifers.pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

**Wetlands Protection**

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

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

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

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE Wetlands.pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

**Wild and Scenic Rivers Act**

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

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

✓ No

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

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

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

This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 388,100 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

**Supporting documentation**

[PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE Wild and Scenic.pdf](#)

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

Yes

✓ No

**Environmental Justice**

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

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

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

No adverse environmental impacts were identified in the project's total environmental review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898. On January 21, 2025, President Donald Trump issued the Executive Order 14173 titled "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity", which revoked Executive Order 12898 and eliminated federal mandates requiring agencies to assess environmental justice impacts. Consequently, there is no longer a federal requirement to address environmental justice concerns in the environmental compliance review process.

**Supporting documentation**

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

Yes

✓ No





DEPARTMENT OF

# HOUSING

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO



## Memorandum to File

**Date:** 4/22/2025

**From:** Justin Neely  
Environmental Manager  
CDBG-DR Program  
Regrow Puerto Rico Program  
Puerto Rico Department of Housing

**Application Number:** PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE

**Project:** Eliezer Castillo Morales

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

After reviewing Application Number PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE under the Regrow Puerto Rico Program, administered by the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (**PRDOH**), to complete the property's contamination analysis in accordance with 24 C.F.R. § 50.3(i) and 24 C.F.R. § 58.5(i), we have determined that testing the property's radon levels is infeasible and impracticable.

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

- As required by the CPD Notice 23-103, the scientific data reviewed in lieu of testing must consist of a minimum of ten documented test results over the previous ten years. If there are less than ten documented results over this



period, it is understood that there is a lack of scientific data. The latest report for radon testing in Puerto Rico was prepared in 1995 by the U.S. Department of the Interior in Cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. No other completed studies and reports on radon testing are available in Puerto Rico.

- There is no available science-based or state-generated information for Puerto Rico for the last ten years that can be used to determine whether the project site is in a high-risk area. The Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (**CDC**), National Environmental Public Health Tracking, and Radon Testing map do not include Puerto Rico data.
- There are only two (2) licensed professionals in Puerto Rico who can conduct radon testing using the American National Standards Institute/American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (**ANSI/AARST**) testing standards, which makes it difficult, time-consuming, and highly expensive to coordinate and secure a site visit for the contamination evaluation.
- Do-it-yourself (**DIY**) radon test kits are known to be unreliable in assuring and controlling the quality of the test results; they are not readily available in Puerto Rico, and the cost and time required for purchasing and sending them for analysis are unreasonable when weighed against the results' reliability and the need for prompt results.
- Local authorities in Puerto Rico do not have the specialized radon monitoring equipment or trained staff needed to conduct the radon testing analysis and ensure proper quality control and quality assurance practices are adhered to. We also do not have a radiation laboratory certified for radon testing.

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

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

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



OFICINA ESTATAL DE

# CONSERVACIÓN HISTÓRICA

GOBIERNO DE PUERTO RICO

Executive Director | Carlos A. Rubio Cancela | [carubio@prshpo.pr.gov](mailto:carubio@prshpo.pr.gov)

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

**Lauren B Poche**

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

SHPO-CF-04-24-25-03 PR-RGRW-00487-W-RE (Yauco), Eliezer Castillo Morales

Dear Ms. Poche,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer  
CARC/GMO/ EVR



OFICINA ESTATAL DE  
CONSERVACIÓN HISTÓRICA  
OFICINA DEL GOBERNADOR  
  
STATE HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION OFFICE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 24, 2025

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-00487-W-RE –  
ELIEZER CASTILLO MORALES – CARRETERA 3365 KM 8.2 BARRIO RUBIAS SECTOR SANTA,  
YAUCO, PUERTO RICO – *NO HISTORIC PROPERTIES AFFECTED*

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

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

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, HORNE is submitting documentation for activities proposed by Eliezer Castillo Morales located at Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio Rubias sector Santa, in the municipality of Yauco. The undertaking for this project consists of the construction of a new storage warehouse of 200 square feet (sq. ft) (20 feet [ft] by 10 ft). There are two proposed locations for the warehouse: Option 1 is located in the eastern portion of the parcel, and Option 2 is located approximately 15 ft southeast of Option 1. The warehouse will have a galvanized steel roof and will be constructed out of concrete, with a foundation extending a maximum of 3 ft into the ground. The warehouse will require

above-ground water connections, originating at a water spigot located to the west of both locations. The water spigot is connected to municipal water, and the applicant will receive the necessary authorizations and permits prior to expanding the connections. The warehouse will not be connected to electricity. Both sites will require grading to level the ground prior to construction.

Vegetation removal will be required for both warehouse locations. Location Option 1 will require approximately 10-15 trees to be removed prior to construction, and Option 2 will need 0-5 trees to be removed. The applicant owns the property and currently uses it for agricultural use; therefore, no acquisition or conversion is required.

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

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


Kindest regards,



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

Architectural Historian, EHP Senior Manager  
LBP/JCO

Attachments

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION		
<b>Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales</b>		
<b>Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487</b>		<b>City: Yauco</b>


<b>PROJECT LOCATION:</b> Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio Rubias Sector Santa Cruz, Yauco Puerto Rico 00698	
<b>PROJECT COORDINATES:</b> (as provided by the applicant during the field visit) Area of Potential Water Connection (Option 1): 18.142711, -66.899105 Area of Potential Water Connection (Option 2): 18.142745, -66.89914 Warehouse (Option 1): 18.142722, -66.89904 Warehouse (Option 2): 18.142773, -66.899094	
<b>TPID (NÚMERO DE CATASTRO):</b> 287-000-003-22-000	
<b>TYPE OF UNDERTAKING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair/Improvements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE (AH EST.):</b> n/a	<b>PROPERTY SIZE (ACRES): 12.364 acres total</b> Area of Potential Water Connection (Option 1): 0.004 acres (166 sq. ft.) Area of Potential Water Connection (Option 2): 0.003 acres (137 sq. ft.) Warehouse (Option 1) 0.005 acres (200 sq. ft.) Warehouse (Option 2) 0.005 acres (200 sq. ft.)

<b>SOI-QUALIFIED ARCHITECT/ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN:</b>
<b>DATE REVIEWED:</b>
<b>SOI-QUALIFIED ARCHAEOLOGIST:</b> Delise Torres Ortiz, M. A.; Jennifer Ort, M.S.
<b>DATE REVIEWED:</b> January 28, 2025; March 6, 2025

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 project includes the construction of a new 200 square feet (sq. ft) (20 feet [ft] by 10 ft) storage warehouse. There are two proposed locations for the warehouse:

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION	
<b>Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales</b>	
<b>Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487</b>	<b>City: Yauco</b>

Option 1 is located in the eastern portion of the parcel, and Option 2 is located approximately 15 ft southeast of Option 1. The warehouse will have a galvanized steel roof and will be constructed out of concrete, with a foundation extending a maximum of 3 ft into the ground. The warehouse will require above-ground water connections, originating at a water spigot located to the west of both locations. The water spigot is connected to municipal water, and the applicant will receive the necessary authorizations and permits prior to expanding the connections. The warehouse will not be connected to electricity. Both sites will require grading to level the ground prior to construction.


Vegetation removal will be required for both warehouse locations. Location Option 1 will require approximately 10-15 trees to be removed prior to construction, and Option 2 will need 0-5 trees to be removed. The applicant owns the property and currently uses it for agricultural use; therefore, no acquisition or conversion is required.

#### 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 two proposed locations of the warehouse with utilities plus a 15-meter horizontal buffer to allow for some variation in final placement during construction and the visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project.

#### IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES - ARCHAEOLOGY

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) who searched the records at the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña (ICP), which shows that there are no previously recorded archaeological sites within a half-mile (mi) radius of the project location. No

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION	 DEPARTMENT OF <b>HOUSING</b> <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO</small>
<b>Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales</b>	
<b>Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487</b>	<b>City: Yauco</b>

archaeological evaluations or Section 106 studies have been conducted within the 0.5-mi review radius.

The proposed project is located in a rural, mountainous area in the southwest portion of the island at an elevation of 2,710 ft (826 meters [m]) above mean sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses one (1) mapped soil series: MkF (Maricao clay, 20 to 60 percent slopes). The project area APE is in the northwest portion of the municipality of Yauco. The general project area is located on ridgetops and summits from north to south, with steep side slopes towards the riverine valleys southeast and northwest, surrounded by dense vegetation, agricultural fields northeast, and residences along the main roads. The closest freshwater source is an unnamed tributary of Río Chiquito, located 0.1 mi (0.2 kilometers [km]) southeast of the project area. The south coast is approximately 13 mi (22 km) from the project area.

#### IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES - ARCHITECTURE

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) shows that the project area is not within the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible, listed Traditional Urban Center, or Historic District.


#### DETERMINATION

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:


- Direct Effect:
  - None
- Indirect Effect:
  - None

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that 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



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION	
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<b>Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487</b>	<b>City: Yauco</b>

Center. There are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile radius of the proposed project location. 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-00487 is located. The closest freshwater body is approximately 0.1 mi (0.2 km) of the project area. The size of the proposed project activities is small (0.02 acres or 703 sq. ft.), and the construction of public roads, residential structures, agricultural infrastructure, and practices has 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	
<b>Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales</b>	
<b>Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487</b>	<b>City: Yauco</b>

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

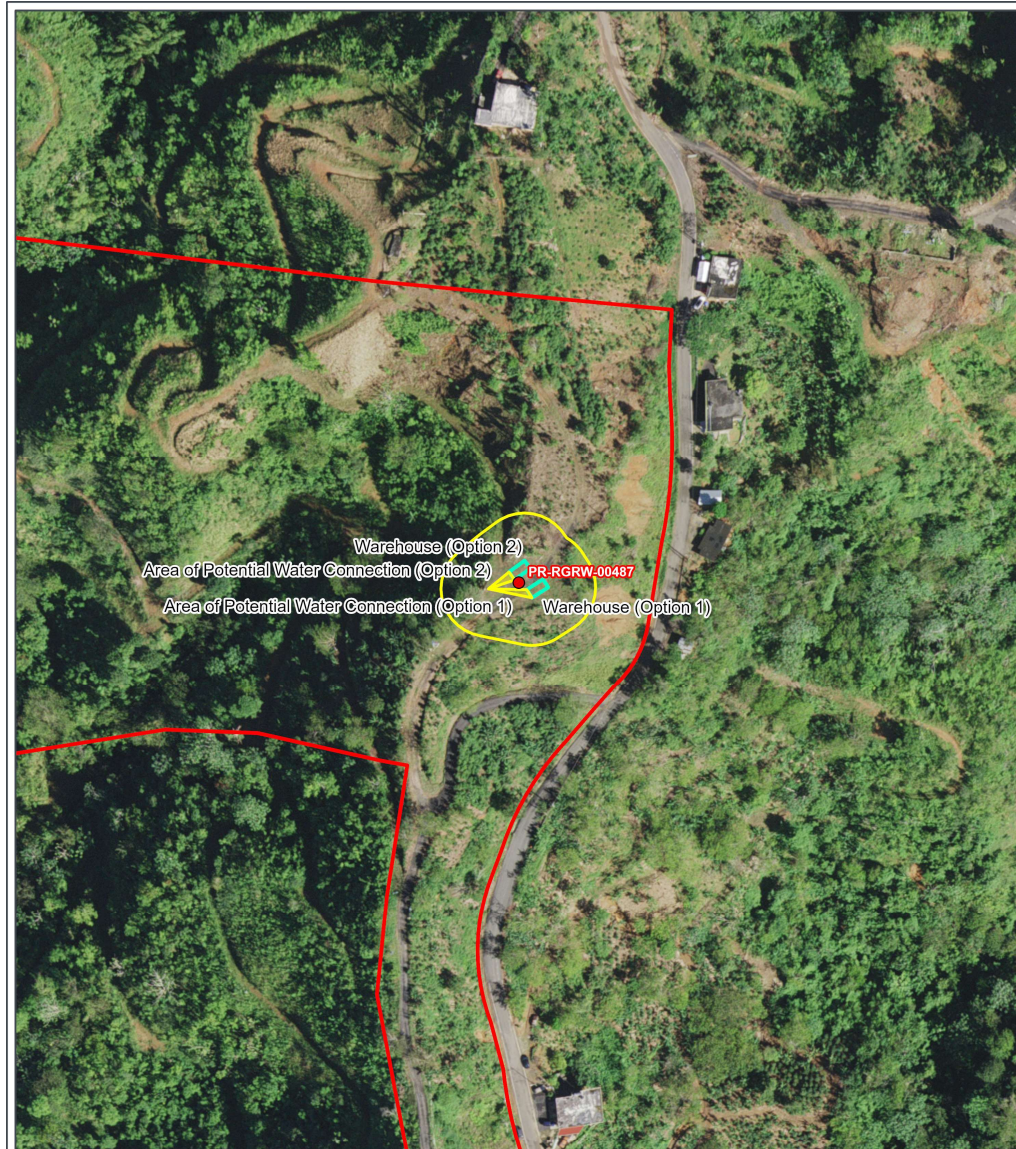
The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the above information and:	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Concurs</b> with the information provided. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Does not concur</b> with the information provided.	
<b>Comments:</b>	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela State Historic Preservation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

**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**

**PROJECT (PARCEL) LOCATION – AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT MAP (AERIAL)**



REGROW PROGRAM

**Project Location  
 Area of Potential  
 Effects (APE) Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

**SWCA**  
 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

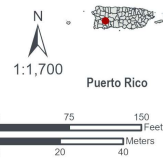
- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option)
- ▭ Potential Area of Disturbance
- ▭ APE (Buffer (15-meters))

Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio  
 Rubias Sector Santa Cruz  
 Yauco, PR 00698

Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000  
 Center of Map:  
 66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery  
 Imagery Year: 2022

Updated: 10/31/2024  
 Layout: APE  
 Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps



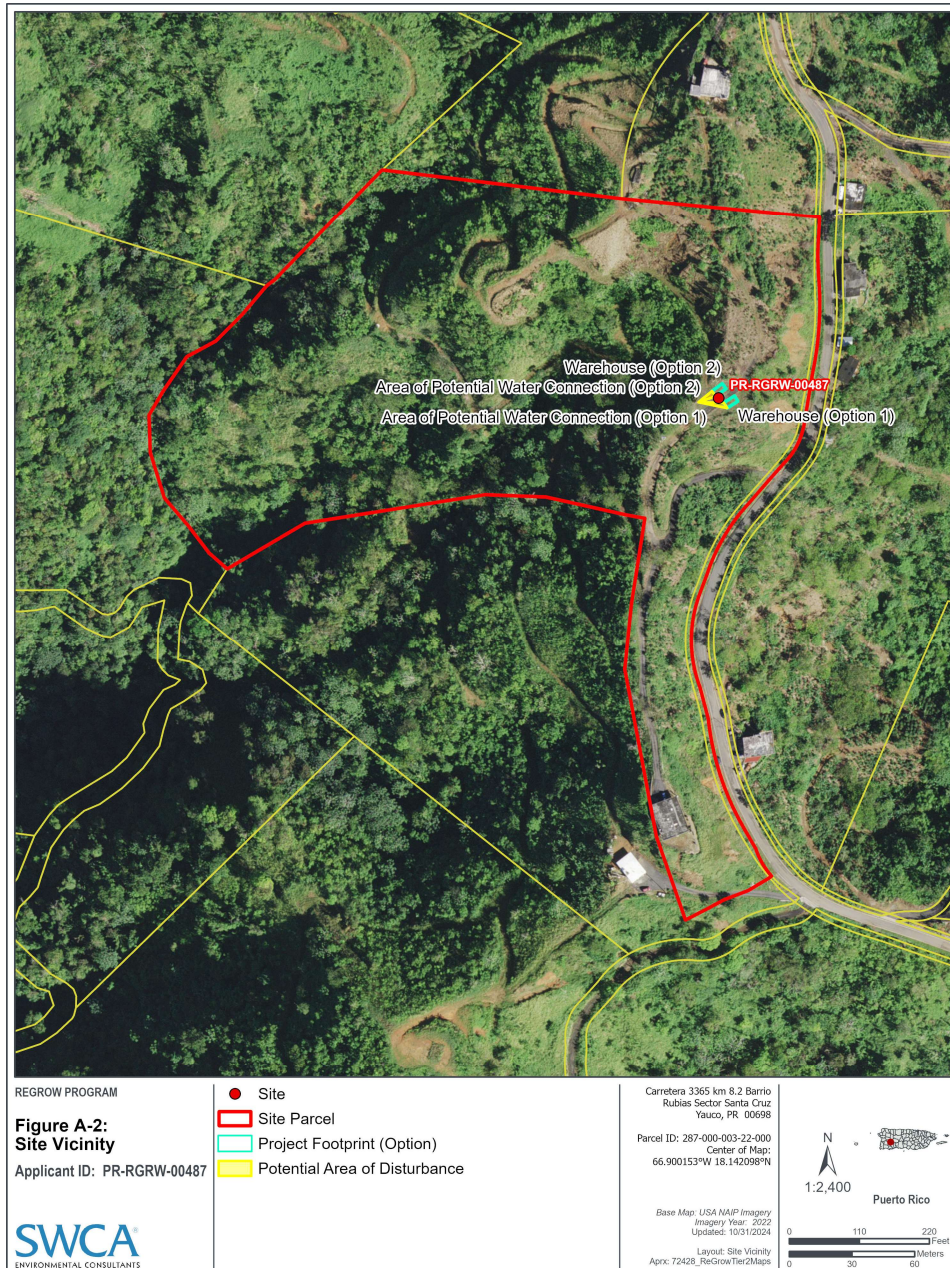


**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**

## PROJECT (PARCEL) LOCATION - AERIAL MAP

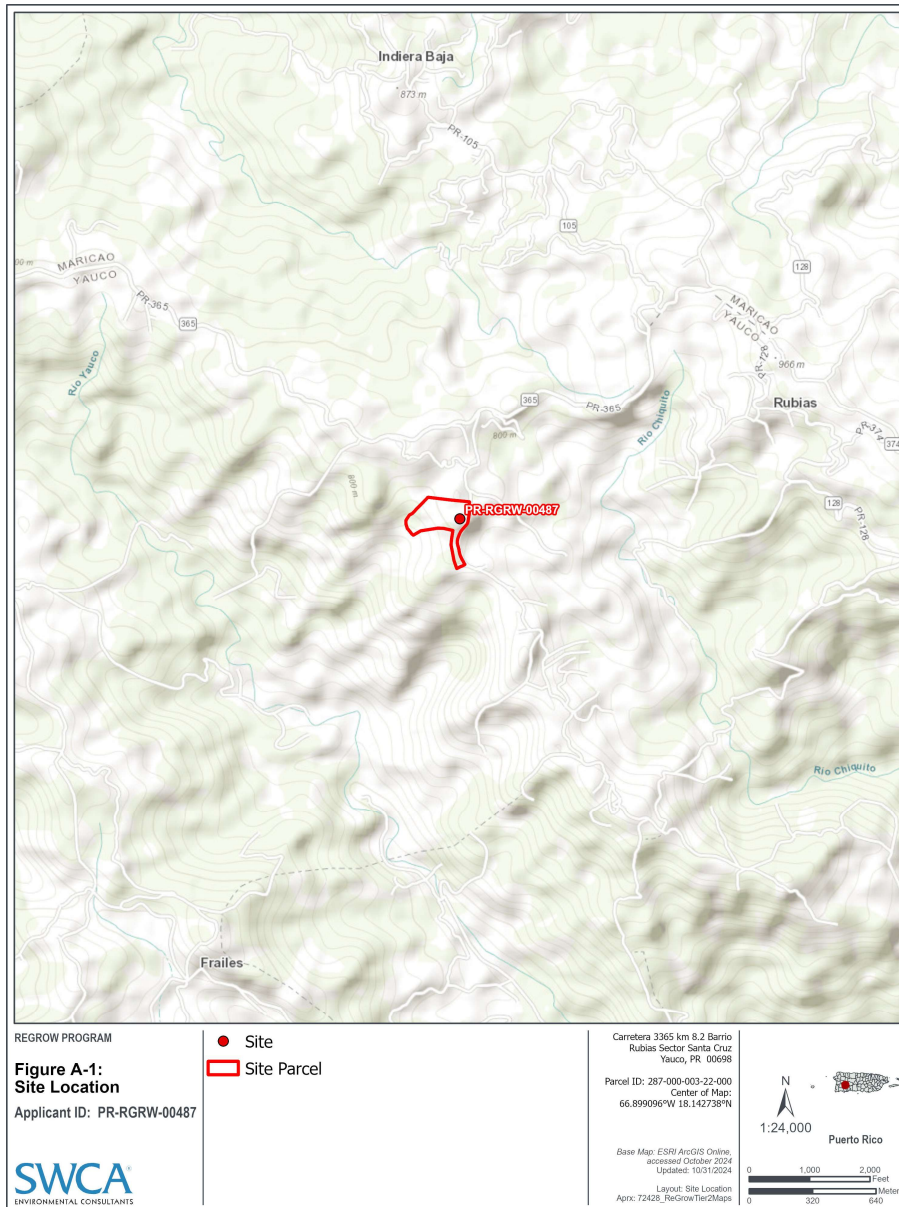


**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**

## PROJECT (PARCEL) LOCATION - USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP



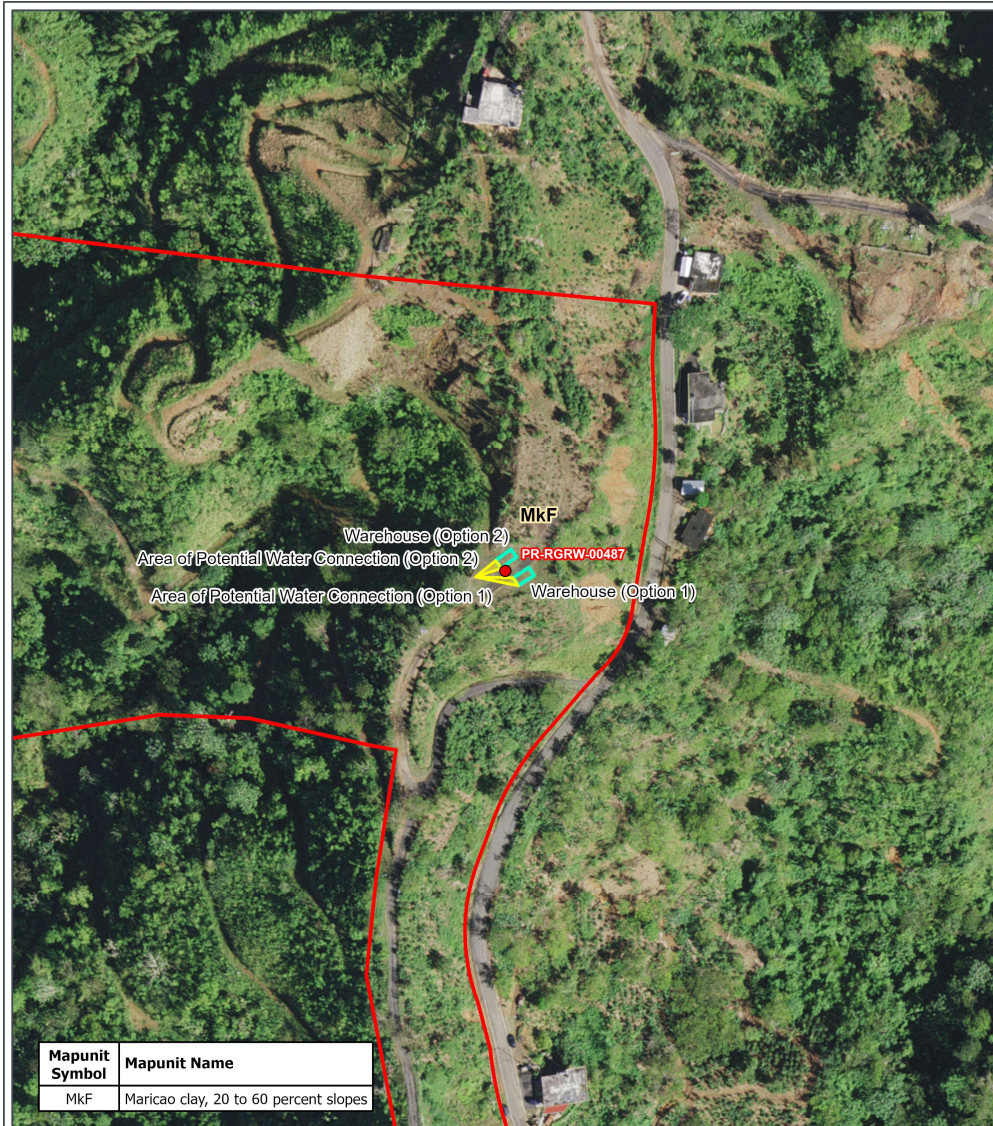


**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**

## PROJECT (PARCEL) LOCATION – SOILS MAP



Mapunit Symbol	Mapunit Name
MkF	Maricao clay, 20 to 60 percent slopes

REGROW PROGRAM

**USDA Soils Map**

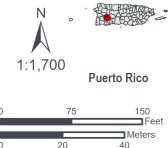
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

**SWCA**  
 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option)
- ▭ Potential Area of Disturbance
- ▭ Soil Mapunit

Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio  
 Rubias Sector Santa Cruz  
 Yauco, PR 00698  
 Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000  
 Center of Map:  
 66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Data Source: <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>  
 Base Map: USA NADIP Imagery  
 Imagery Year: 2022  
 Updated: 10/31/2024  
 Layout: Soils  
 Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps





**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**

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

Latitude: 18.142717  
 Longitude: -66.899081

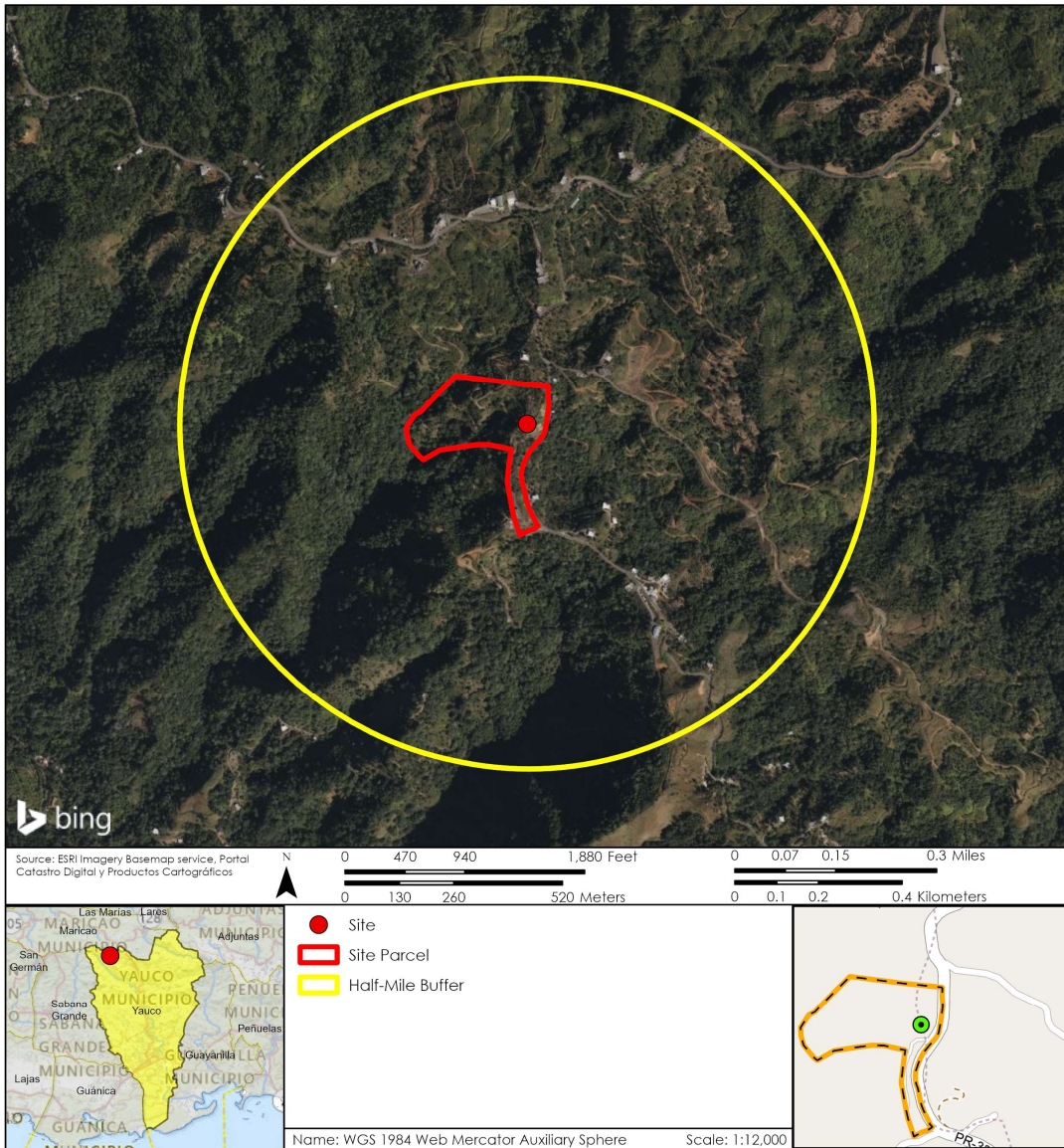


Puerto Rico Department of Housing  
 Re-Grow Program



Application ID#: PR-RGRW-00487

Address: Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio Rubias Sector Santa Cruz, Yauco, Puerto Rico



**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**

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

Latitude: 18.142717  
 Longitude: -66.899081

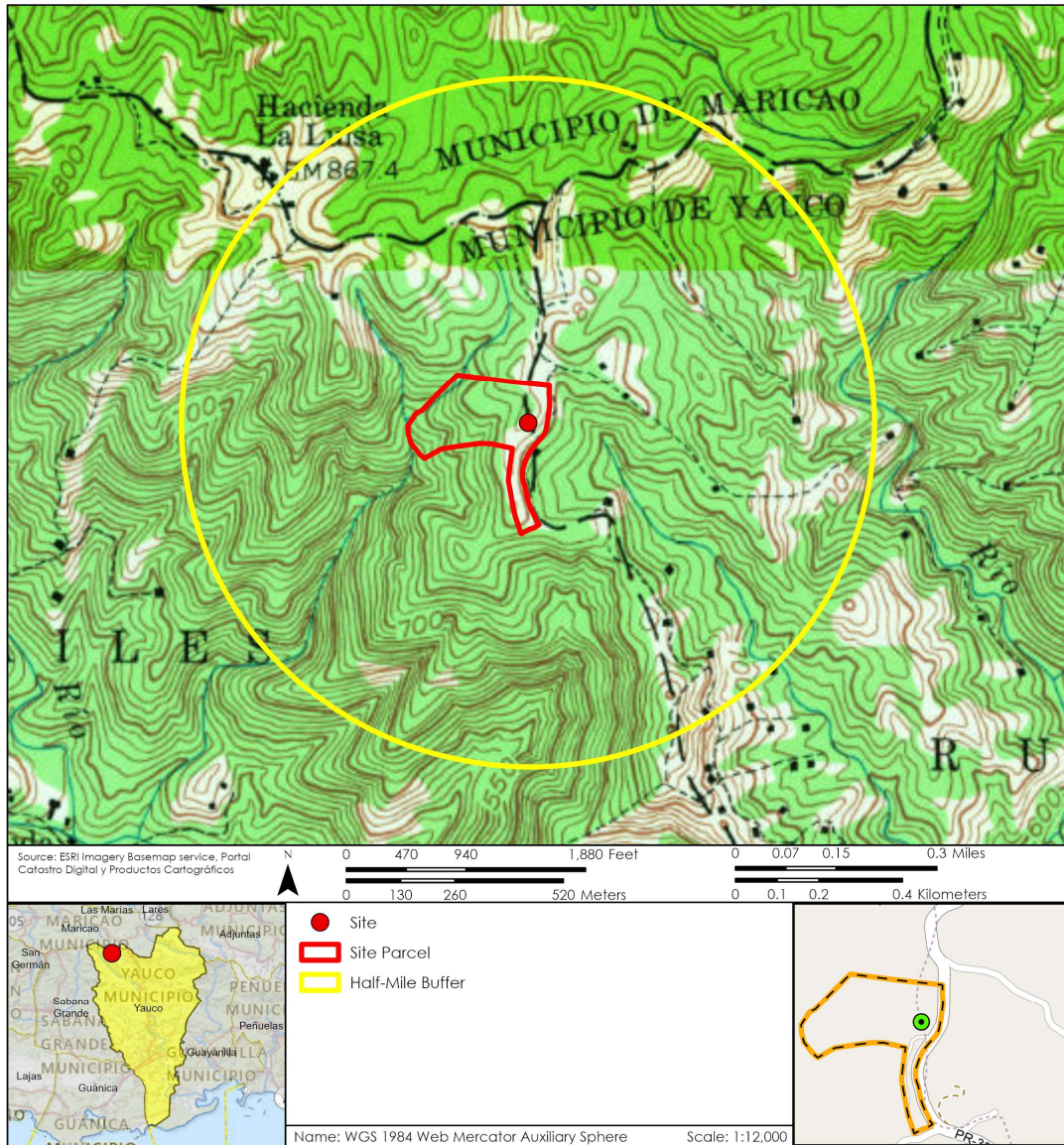


Puerto Rico Department of Housing  
 Re-Grow Program






Application ID#: PR-RGRW-00487

Address: Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio Rubias Sector Santa Cruz, Yauco, Puerto Rico





PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION		
<b>Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales</b>		
<b>Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487</b>		<b>City: Yauco</b>

	
<b>Photo #:</b> 1	<b>Description (include direction):</b> Overview of warehouse proposed location 1, looking southeast.
<b>Date:</b> 10/30/2024	
	
<b>Photo #:</b> 2	<b>Description (include direction):</b> Overview of warehouse proposed location 1, looking east.
<b>Date:</b> 10/30/2024	

**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**



**Photo #: 3**

**Description (include direction):** Overview of warehouse proposed location 1, looking north.

**Date:** 10/30/2024



**Photo #: 4**

**Description (include direction):** Overview of warehouse proposed location 1, looking west.

**Date:** 10/30/2024

**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**



**Photo #: 5**

**Description (include direction):** Overview of warehouse proposed location 1 (northern corner), looking south.

**Date:** 10/30/2024



**Photo #: 6**

**Description (include direction):** Overview of warehouse proposed location 1 (eastern corner), looking west.

**Date:** 10/30/2024



**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**



**Photo #: 7**

**Description (include direction):** Overview of warehouse proposed location 1 (southwestern corner), looking northeast.

**Date:** 10/30/2024



**Photo #: 8**

**Description (include direction):** Overview of warehouse proposed location 1 (western corner), looking east.

**Date:** 10/30/2024

**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**



**Photo #: 9**

**Description (include direction):** Overview of warehouse proposed location 2, looking west.

**Date:** 10/30/2024



**Photo #: 10**

**Description (include direction):** Overview of warehouse proposed location 2, looking north.

**Date:** 10/30/2024



**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**



**Photo #:** 11

**Description (include direction):** Overview of warehouse proposed location 2 (northeastern corner), looking southwest.

**Date:** 10/30/2024



**Photo #:** 12

**Description (include direction):** Overview of warehouse proposed location 2 (eastern corner), looking west.

**Date:** 10/30/2024

**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**



**Photo #: 13**

**Description (include direction):** Overview of warehouse proposed location 2 (southwestern corner), looking northeast.

**Date:** 10/30/2024



**Photo #: 14**

**Description (include direction):** Overview of warehouse proposed location 2 (western corner), looking east.

**Date:** 10/30/2024



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM  
 ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM  
 SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION



**Applicant: Eliezer Castillo Morales**

**Case ID: PR-RGRW-00487**

**City: Yauco**



**Photo #: 15**

**Date: 10/30/2024**

**Description (include direction):** Water source location for both proposed warehouse locations, looking north.





GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

April 30, 2024

**Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela**

Executive Director

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office

Cuartel de Ballajá, Third Floor

San Juan, Puerto Rico 00901

**Re: Authorization to Submit Documents for Consultation**

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 review services, among others, that will support the objectives of the agenda for both CDBG-DR and CDBG -MIT Programs.

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,

**Aldo A. Rivera Vázquez, PE**

Director

Division of Environmental Permitting and Compliance

Office of Disaster Recovery



## 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/72153-Gen

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

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

Re: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-00487 Eliezer  
Castillo Morales, Yauco, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

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

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is proposing the construction of a new storage warehouse (20 Ft x 10 Ft) on a 12.36 acres property located at PR-3365, Km 8.2, Rubias Ward, Santa Cruz Sector (18°08'33.7"N 66°53'56.4"W) in the municipality of Yauco. Two optional locations are being evaluated:

- Option 1: will require approximately 10-15 trees to be removed prior to construction
- Option 2 will require 0-5 trees to be removed.

According to PRDOH, ground disturbance of up to 3 ft will be required for the construction of the foundation and vegetation removal will be required for both warehouse locations.

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 Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*), Puerto Rican parrot (*Amazona vittata*), Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus venator*) and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*).

PRDOH used the Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project on federally listed species (Project code: 2025-0017072). Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk and Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk, which determined that the proposed actions for this project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) these species.

Since vegetation removal is expected, PRDOH has determined that the proposed project actions may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican parrot and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly. Conservation measures will be implemented.

We have reviewed the information provided and our files, and concur with PRDOH's determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican parrot and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly with the implementation of the conservation measures. The Service acknowledges receipt of the NLAA consistency letter for the Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk, Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk and Puerto Rican boa. Also, based on the information provided by PRDOH, we recommend option 2 since it is the least impacting option.

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 impact of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action.

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

Sincerely,

LOURDES  
MENA

Lourdes Mena  
Field Supervisor

Digitally signed by LOURDES  
MENA  
Date: 2025.02.07 13:59:43  
-04'00'

drr  
cc:  
HUD  
SWCA



# ENVIRONMENTAL SITE REVIEW AND INSPECTION FORM

## ReGrow

<b>Applicant Name:</b>	Eliezer Castillo Morales		
<b>App ID:</b>	PR-RGRW00487	<b>RFA</b>	44
<b>Project Name:</b>	Eliezer Castillo Morales	<b>Municipio:</b>	Yauco
<b>Address:</b>	BO BARINAS, SECT. RANCHO 13	<b>Zip Code:</b>	00698
<b>Parcel ID(s):</b>	60-287-000-003-22	<b>Lat:</b>	18.14267897
<b>Project Budget:</b>	\$5,930.00	<b>Long:</b>	-66.89997336

**\*\*\*Pay attention to the color coding – this will indicate what you are responsible for filling in\*\*\***

Task:	Name:	Date Completed:	Notes:
➤ <b>Pre-Site Inspector</b>	Full Name		
❖ <b>Site-Inspector</b>			
<b>Communication Log:</b> (this is used by anyone who wants to record contact with the applicant)	Staff who called or emailed	Date & Time	Form of communication (email, phone, etc.) and which email /number/etc.used)

### Canopy Document Notes/Summary:

▪ <b>EA Preparer</b>	Hannah Danek					
<b>Scope of Work from IUGE:</b>	Storage warehouse					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will there be a foundation?</li> <li>○ Does it need water or electricity?</li> <li>○ There's a wetland on the western portion of the parcel, can this be built outside it?</li> <li>○ What will it be used for?</li> </ul>						
▪ <b>GIS review Wetlands?</b>	Within parcel	Y	next to parcel	Y		
❖ <b>Were any onsite wetlands identified?</b>	Y					
❖ <b>Will project activities occur within any wetlands?</b>	N					
▪ <b>GIS review Floodplain?</b>	Floodway on/near parcel	N	100-year on/near parcel	N	500-year on/near parcel	N
❖ <b>Will project activities occur within a Floodway?</b>	N					



❖ Will project activities occur within a 100-year Floodplain?

N

**Pre-Site Environmental Questionnaire**

(when this form is PDFd please remove this questionnaire from the record)

➤ Property Information	
<b>What is the current use of the property?</b>	
<b>Is the site currently vacant/undeveloped? Are there any existing structures on the property that will be removed for the project?</b> (are there images from Canopy to help answer and clarify this?)	
<b>Potential Site Access Issues:</b>	does the site appear to have access issues based on current aerial imagery? Y/N
<b>Existing Structures</b> (e.g., residences, commercial buildings, etc.) {include the ones inside the property and in direct sight view of the site location}	
<b>Built Date</b>	<b>Type of Construction</b>
<b>Notes:</b>	
<b>Existing Other Components Related to Project</b> (e.g., gas tanks, cisterns, water tanks, abandoned vehicles, etc.)	
<b>Type</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Notes:</b>	
<b>Are there any known environmental hazards on or adjacent to the property?</b> (is the applicant aware of any illegal dumping? What do Canopy pictures show? What do the preliminary site maps show?)	
<b>Does applicant have any blueprints, sketches, or pictures of an example of any of the proposed project activities?</b>	
<b>Will any of the proposed project activities require the installation or improvement of new site infrastructure and utilities</b> (i.e, roads, water/sewer/electric utility to the unit or from the utility – ex: installing a greenhouse that needs water – where is it coming from)?	
<b>Will any of the proposed project activities require connections to water and/or electricity?</b> (If so, state which activities and provide information below regarding current water/electricity)	



Current Electricity:					
Location:	Ex: by the road, next to the house & is this the source to the activity				
Type:					
Provider:					
Above or Below ground:					
Funded by:					
Notes:					
Current Water:					
Location:	Ex: by the road, next to the house & is this the source to the activity				
Type:					
Provider:					
Above or Below ground:					
Notes:					
➤ Project Activities					
What are <u>all</u> the proposed activities for this project according to the applicant? (what does the applicant think/say is the <b>entire project</b> – to include this funding and future funding?)	<i>List of proposed activities</i>  <b>Detailed/specific info of each activity (wells, greenhouse, solar, cisterns, warehouse, etc.) in separate boxes below</b>				
What is the purpose and need for the project?					
<b>What does the applicant believe are all the proposed activities currently (CDBG) funded for this project?</b> (what does the applicant think/say the federal funding will fund?) <b>*if there are discrepancies discuss these with the applicant. Distinguish between CDBG-DR funded activities vs other activities. Have applicant call PRDOH Help Desk to discuss discrepancies.</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> <b>Do the funding activities discussed by the applicant match the IUGF/RFA?</b> </td> <td>Y/N</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"> <b>PRDOH Help Desk:</b>            PRDOH Economic Recovery Division            (787) 274-2527 ext. 4276            ecoreccdbg@vivienda.pr.gov         </td> </tr> </table>	<b>Do the funding activities discussed by the applicant match the IUGF/RFA?</b>	Y/N	<b>PRDOH Help Desk:</b> PRDOH Economic Recovery Division (787) 274-2527 ext. 4276 ecoreccdbg@vivienda.pr.gov	
<b>Do the funding activities discussed by the applicant match the IUGF/RFA?</b>	Y/N				
<b>PRDOH Help Desk:</b> PRDOH Economic Recovery Division (787) 274-2527 ext. 4276 ecoreccdbg@vivienda.pr.gov					
<b>**delete activity boxes that are not part of project**</b>					



Warehouse		
Question	➤ Pre-Site Questionnaire	❖ Site-Visit Determination
<b>Location</b> (this can be specific or "by the road/house/etc")		
<b>Dimensions</b> (LxWxH) (Height is the height of the walls and the roof/covering)		Up to 20x10ft.
<b>Will the warehouse need a foundation</b> (ex: bare ground, concrete base, pier, and beam) <b>If yes, please provide type and dimensions.</b> (LxWxD)		It will be made completely out of concrete.
<b>What other materials are anticipated to be used for the warehouse?</b> (roof, walls, how secured, etc.)		Galvanized metal roof.
<b>Were alternate locations considered?</b> (obtain details – how many, locations of each alternative, etc)		Yes.
<b>Detailed description of construction activities:</b> (this should be as technical an answer as possible)		
<b>Notes:</b>		
Total Project Summary		
Question	➤ Pre-Site Questionnaire	❖ Site-Visit Determination
<b>What are the dimensions of all project components?</b> (Total project footprint - acres, length, width, linear feet, sq ft – ex: the container is 20x8 on a foundation that is 25x10 with a water tank on a base that is 5x5 = project dimensions 25x15)		20x10ft.
<b>Will there be a need for additional workspace and construction work and where will it be located on the site?</b> (workspaces will include staging and turn around areas for deliveries – for example, a container is typically delivered on a truck with a long flatbed which requires a radius to turn and maneuver; dumpsters, even temporary ones, will need to be placed		There is sufficient space around the construction area for staging and storing construction materials.



**ENVIRONMENTAL SITE REVIEW AND INSPECTION FORM**  
**ReGrow**

<p>somewhere outside of the project footprint; etc)</p>		
<p><b>How will each project item be connected to water and electricity? Will any of the items require new underground connections?</b></p>		<p>There will be no electric connections. Water connection will be above ground with small pipes from a source near the proposed location for the warehouse (about 20-30ft away).</p>
<p><b>Will any tree clearing be required for the construction or installation of the project?</b> (this should include the information needed for the previously mentioned staging and turn around areas)</p>		<p>Some plantain trees and orange trees will need to be cleared.</p>
<p><b>Vegetation removal</b> (cutting, clearing via prescribed burns etc.) (this should include the information needed for the previously mentioned staging and turn around areas)</p>		<p>None.</p>
<p><b>What is the extent of ground disturbances in each activity location</b> (grading, fill required – <b>questionnaire person</b> should summarize this back to the applicant)?</p>		
<p><b>Has any work been started on the project? If so, what activities have been performed, include date started and completed.</b> (Please indicate which/any of these activities are CDBG funded)</p>		<p>No work has been started.</p>
<p><b>How will construction debris from the project be disposed of?</b> (there will always be construction debris)</p>		<p>Contractor will be tasked with removing debris and taking any materials that are left over.</p>
<p><b>Notes:</b></p>		
<p>➤ <b>Additional Studies</b></p>		
<p><b>Have any additional special studies</b> (e.g., wetland delineation, cultural resources survey, asbestos, lead-based paint assessments, mold inspections, soil surveys etc.) <b>been completed? If so, please include a copy of assessment results with your response</b></p>		
<p></p>		





# ENVIRONMENTAL SITE REVIEW AND INSPECTION FORM

## ReGrow



❖ **Site-Visit Form**

❖ **General Site Conditions and Field Notes:**

Does the address match the parcel location?	Yes	Does the lat/long match the parcel location?	Yes
Comments on location:			
<b><u>Question</u></b>	<b><u>Yes /No</u></b>	<b><u>Comments:</u></b>	
<b>Was property accessible by vehicle?</b>	Yes		
<b>Were there any access issues?</b> Examples of access issues: Dogs, Locked gate, Traffic hazards, Uncooperative residents, Confrontational Neighbors, *If no access issues please indicate with "None"	No		
<b>Are water wells present?</b> *please include lat/long of water well so it can be denoted on the sitemap	No		
<b>Are creeks or ponds present?</b> *please include lat/long of water well so it can be denoted on the sitemap	No		
<b>Are any potential wetlands on-site or visible on adjacent parcel?</b> *please include lat/long of water well so it can be denoted on the sitemap			
<p align="center"><b>❖ Parcel Conditions</b></p> <p align="center">Note – for Any Yes answers specify type, contents, and location (get photo points) (These questions are mostly concerned with contamination – all HUD activities must be “free and clear of contamination” and while it’s important to be able to show there is no site-contamination we also have to keep in mind what the HUD funded project is and the regulatory requirements of the activity)</p>			
<b>Are commercial or industrial hazardous facilities at parcel or within visual sight?</b>	No		



Are there signs of underground storage tanks?	No	
Are any above-ground tanks (relevant to the activities in the IUGF *unless they are a source of contamination) >10 gallons present? If yes, what are the contents and conditions of each tank?	No	
Are 55-gallon drums present? If yes, what are the content and conditions of each tank?	No	
Are abandoned vehicles or electrical equipment present?	No	
Are there any signs of illegal dumping within or next to the applicant parcel?	No	
Is other potential environmentally hazardous debris on the parcel?	No	
Is there non-environmentally hazardous debris on the parcel?	No	
Are any leaks, soil stains, or stressed vegetation present? If yes, what is the source of the staining/stress?	No	



**ENVIRONMENTAL SITE REVIEW AND INSPECTION FORM**  
**ReGrow**

Are there any pungent, foul or noxious odors?	No	
<b>Other Components <u>Related to Project</u></b> (e.g., gas tanks, cisterns, water tanks, abandoned vehicles, etc.)		
<b>Type</b>	<b>Details</b>	
Are there any potentially hazardous trees that could fall?	No	
Are any bird nests visible?	No	
Are there any animal burrows visible?	No	
Are there any signs of potential/preferred T&E habitat in the area?	No	
<b>Natural Resources</b> (e.g., endemic plants, endangered species, water bodies, wetlands, etc.) {include the ones inside the property and in direct sight view of the site location}		
<b>Type or Species</b>	<b>Description</b>	
Are there any buildings in direct visual sight of the project locations? Take photo and ask applicant when the structure was built)	No	



**Structures** (e.g., residences, commercial buildings, etc.) {include the ones inside the property and in direct sight view of the site location}

Built Date	Type of Construction

❖ **Additional Environmental Hazards Analysis**

Based on the above findings, does additional information need to be obtained from the applicant to determine whether an environmental hazard is present?

No

☒ I verify that I have physically visited this property and that the findings outlined above are accurate.

Inspector Signature *Armando Ramos*

{Inspector Name} Armando Ramos

{Inspection Date} 10/30/2024

Following pages are used for:

Location Map with parcel boundaries and building point (Aerial base with streets labelled)

Photos taken during inspection, with Date / Type / Direction associated with the photo



**Site-Visit Tips:**

**Tips before going to the field:**

1. Confirm with the applicant the appointment the same week, the day prior, or the same day hours before leaving for the site inspection.
2. Check the vehicle, and equipment (e.g. did you download the field map)
3. Don't leave the field without the contact information of the applicant, you may need directions along the way.
4. Make sure you read the Pre-Site Environmental Questionnaire.
  - a. It is good practice to ask the EA writer and the Project Manager (PM) if they want us to pay attention or to ask something in particular.
5. The RFA document might give you what the funds were requested for, this is important because sometimes the applicants will keep talking about the projects, but not mention who's going to pay what.
6. Sign the JHA; make sure the PM has the time to prepare the document.

**For the following always take pictures:**

1. If there is a sign of site preparation, please ask when it happened and what they did (e.g. grading, filling, etc.)
2. Tree clearing – ask them about permits, and what type of tree it is.
3. When an applicant is not sure about the exact location of the project, make sure you take several overview pictures or a central point with N, E, S, and W views.
  1. Please be prepared to let the applicant know where wetlands are located within their parcel boundaries. This will help ensure they do not try and plan to locate any activities within wetlands (and/or ensure we know which permits will be required).
4. Ask about any organic debris (grasses, dirt, etc.) and other materials such as construction materials, buckets, tarps, etc., and what they plan to do to them.
5. Structures with a direct view of the project (ask when it was built).
6. Natural resources – water bodies, burrows, birds or nests, wetlands, erosion, landslides, etc.

Project #: PR-RGRW-00487	Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: BO BARINAS, SECT. RANCHO 13, Yauco, PR, 00968	Coordinates: 18.14267897, -66.89997336

Frame #	View	Description
01	SE	Overview of location for warehouse 20x10ft.
02	E	Overview of location for warehouse 20x10ft.
03	N	Overview of location for warehouse 20x10ft.
04	W	Overview of location for warehouse 20x10ft.
05	S	North corner of location for warehouse 20x10ft.
06	W	East corner of location for warehouse 20x10ft.
07	NE	Southwest corner of location for warehouse 20x10ft.
08	E	West corner of location for warehouse 20x10ft.
09	W	Overview of second location for warehouse 20x10ft.
10	N	Overview of second location for warehouse 20x10ft.
11	SW	Northeast corner of second location for warehouse 20x10ft.
12	W	East corner of second location for warehouse 20x10ft.
13	NE	Southwest corner of second location for warehouse 20x10ft.
14	E	West corner of second location for warehouse 20x10ft.
15	N	Water source for the warehouse 20x10ft.
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Project #: PR-RGRW-00487	Photographer: Armando Ramos
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Project #: PR-RGRW-00487	Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: BO BARINAS, SECT. RANCHO 13, Yauco, PR, 00968	Coordinates: 18.14267897, -66.89997336

<b>Photo #:</b> 01	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/2024
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Southeast	
<b>Description:</b> Overview of location for warehouse 20x10ft.	

A landscape photograph showing a field with several banana trees in the foreground and middle ground. The field is covered with dry, yellowish-brown grass and some green weeds. In the background, there are more trees and a distant view of hills under a cloudy sky.

<b>Photo #:</b> 02	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/2024	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> East		
<b>Description:</b> Overview of location for warehouse 20x10ft.		



Project #: PR-RGRW-00487	Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: BO BARINAS, SECT. RANCHO 13, Yauco, PR, 00968	Coordinates: 18.14267897, -66.89997336


<b>Photo #:</b> 03	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/20 24	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> North		
<b>Description:</b> Overview of location for warehouse 20x10ft.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 04	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/20 24	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> West		
<b>Description:</b> Overview of location for warehouse 20x10ft.		



Project #: PR-RGRW-00487	Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: BO BARINAS, SECT. RANCHO 13, Yauco, PR, 00968	Coordinates: 18.14267897, -66.89997336


<b>Photo #:</b> 05	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/20 24
<b>Photo Direction:</b> South	
<b>Description:</b> North corner of location for warehouse 20x10ft.	

A landscape photograph showing a field of tall, dry grass and several banana trees. The banana trees are in the foreground and middle ground, with their large, green leaves visible. In the background, there are more trees and a distant view of a body of water under a cloudy sky. The overall scene is a rural or agricultural area.

<b>Photo #:</b> 06	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/20 24	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> West		
<b>Description:</b> East corner of location for warehouse 20x10ft.		



Project #: PR-RGRW-00487	Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: BO BARINAS, SECT. RANCHO 13, Yauco, PR, 00968	Coordinates: 18.14267897, -66.89997336

<b>Photo #:</b> 07	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/20 24	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Northeast		
<b>Description:</b> Southwest corner of location for warehouse 20x10ft.		


<b>Photo #:</b> 08	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/20 24	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> East		



Project #: PR-RGRW-00487	Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: BO BARINAS, SECT. RANCHO 13, Yauco, PR, 00968	Coordinates: 18.14267897, -66.89997336

<b>Description:</b> West corner of location for warehouse 20x10ft.	
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<b>Photo #:</b> 09	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/2024
<b>Photo Direction:</b> West	
<b>Description:</b> Overview of second location for warehouse 20x10ft.	

A photograph of a white pickup truck parked on a dirt road in a field. The truck is facing right. In the background, there are large green trees and a banana plant on the right side. The sky is overcast. The foreground is a dirt road with some grass and weeds.



Project #: PR-RGRW-00487	Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: BO BARINAS, SECT. RANCHO 13, Yauco, PR, 00968	Coordinates: 18.14267897, -66.89997336

<b>Photo #:</b> 10	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/20 24	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> North		
<b>Description:</b> Overview of second location for warehouse 20x10ft.		


<b>Photo #:</b> 11	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/20 24	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Southwest		



Project #: PR-RGRW-00487	Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: BO BARINAS, SECT. RANCHO 13, Yauco, PR, 00968	Coordinates: 18.14267897, -66.89997336


<b>Description:</b> Northeast corner of second location for warehouse 20x10ft.	
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<b>Photo #:</b> 12	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/2024
<b>Photo Direction:</b> West	
<b>Description:</b> East corner of second location for warehouse 20x10ft.	

A photograph showing a white pickup truck parked on a dirt path in a field of tall, dry grass and brush. In the background, there is a large, leafy tree and a hillside covered in dense vegetation under a cloudy sky. The truck is facing right, and its shadow is cast on the ground. The overall scene appears to be a rural or undeveloped area.



Project #: PR-RGRW-00487	Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: BO BARINAS, SECT. RANCHO 13, Yauco, PR, 00968	Coordinates: 18.14267897, -66.89997336

<b>Photo #:</b> 13	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/2024	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> Northeast		
<b>Description:</b> Southwest corner of second location for warehouse 20x10ft.		

<b>Photo #:</b> 14	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/2024	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> East		
<b>Description:</b> West corner of second location for warehouse 20x10ft.		



Project #: PR-RGRW-00487	Photographer: Armando Ramos
Location Address: BO BARINAS, SECT. RANCHO 13, Yauco, PR, 00968	Coordinates: 18.14267897, -66.89997336

<b>Photo #:</b> 15	<b>Date:</b> 10/30/20 24	
<b>Photo Direction:</b> North		
<b>Description:</b> Water source for the warehouse 20x10ft.		

# **Radon Attachments**



August 20, 2024

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Davila, Rio Piedras, PR 00981 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365  
Tel: (787) 274-2527 | [www.usenda.pr.gov](http://www.usenda.pr.gov)



August 20, 2024

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.  
Secretary

Cc:

Mr. Oleg Pavetko, [Pavetko.Oleg@epa.gov](mailto:Pavetko.Oleg@epa.gov)  
Mr. Matthew Laitila, [laitila.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:laitila.matthew@epa.gov)

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William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.  
Secretary

Cc:

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



August 20, 2024

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

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

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Tel. (787) 274-2527 | [www.viviendap.rg.pr.gov](http://www.viviendap.rg.pr.gov)

CDBG-DR/MIT Program  
Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Rico  
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Sincerely,

  
William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.  
Secretary



August 20, 2024

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

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

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CDBG-DR/MIT Program  
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Sincerely,

  
William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.  
Secretary

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





GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

August 20, 2024

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

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

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

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

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

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Dávila, Río Piedras, PR 00981 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365  
Tel. (787) 274-2527 | [www.cdh.pr.gov](http://www.cdh.pr.gov)



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

August 20, 2024

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Dávila, Río Piedras, PR 00981 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365  
Tel. (787) 274-2527 | [www.cdh.pr.gov](http://www.cdh.pr.gov)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

  
William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.  
Secretary

Cc: Mr. Raúl Hernández Dabla, [rhernandez2@salud.pr.gov](mailto:rhernandez2@salud.pr.gov)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

  
William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.  
Secretary

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



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

Good morning, Sandra and others,

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

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

If you have any additional questions, please contact me.

Thank you and best regards,

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



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

Dear Ms. Medina Smaine,

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

Best regards,

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

-----

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

Good afternoon. Ms. Medina

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

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

---

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

Saludos.

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

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

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

Estimada Melanie Medina

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

Atentamente

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



Bubble Dynamics Lab  
University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez





EPA REGION 2  
CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

September 23, 2024

**VIA EMAIL**

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

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

Dear Honorable Secretary Rodriguez Rodriguez:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CITY VIEW PLAZA II BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR  
ROUTE 185 GUAYNABO, PR 00988

2

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

Sincerely,

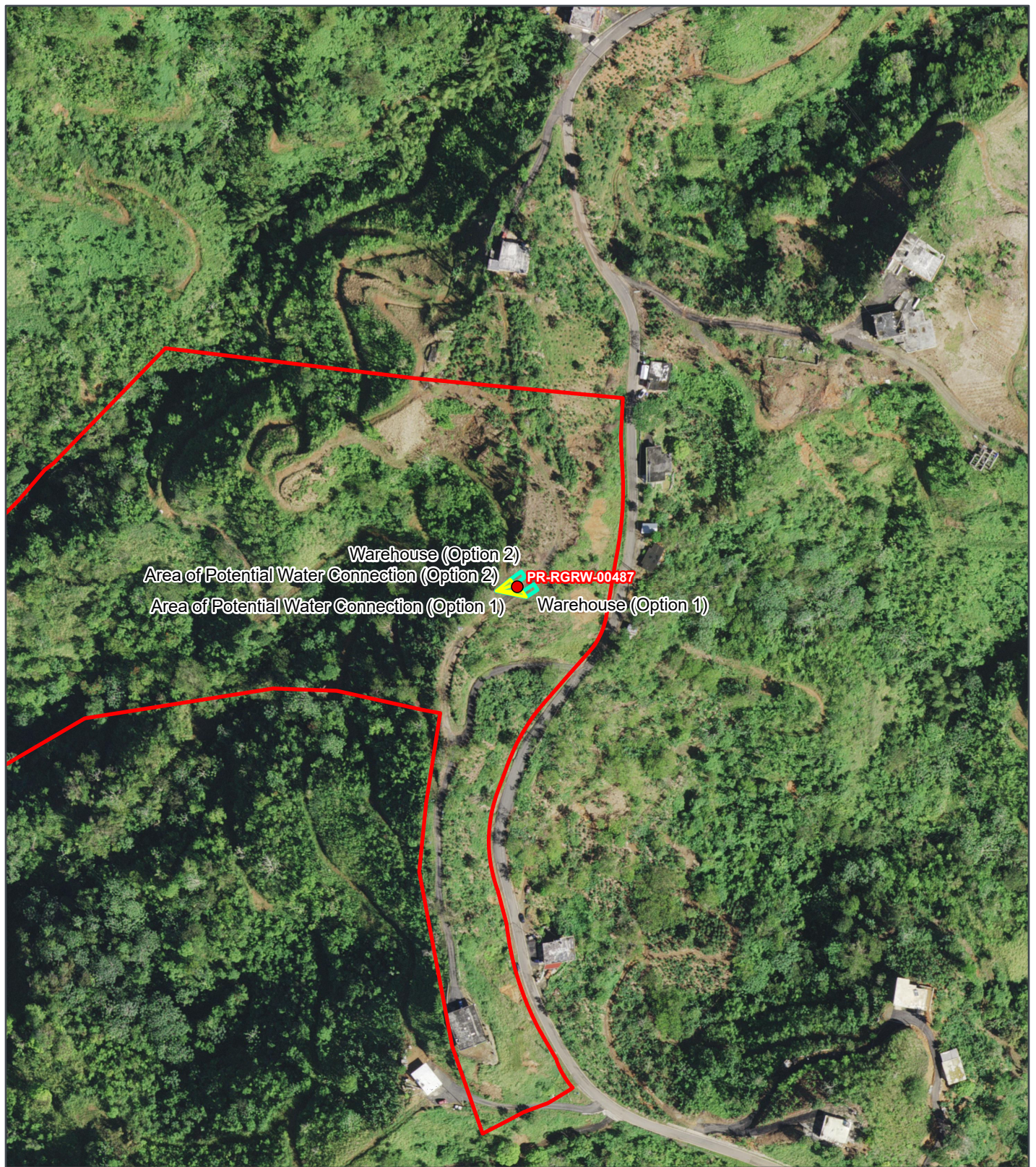
**CARMEN  
GUERRERO  
PEREZ**

Carmen R. Guerrero Pérez  
Director

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

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





REGROW PROGRAM

# **Figure B 10-1: Advisory Base Flood Elevation For 100-Year Floodplain Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

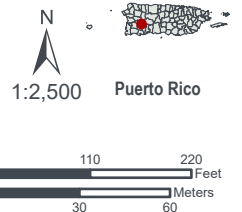
**SWCA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- Potential Area of Disturbance
- Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE)
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood
- 1% Annual Chance Flood
- Zone A
- Zone A-Floodway
- Zone AE
- Coastal A Zone
- Coastal A Zone and Floodway
- Zone AE-Floodway
- Zone AO
- Zone VE
- Zone X (500-year floodplain)
- Zone/BFE Boundary

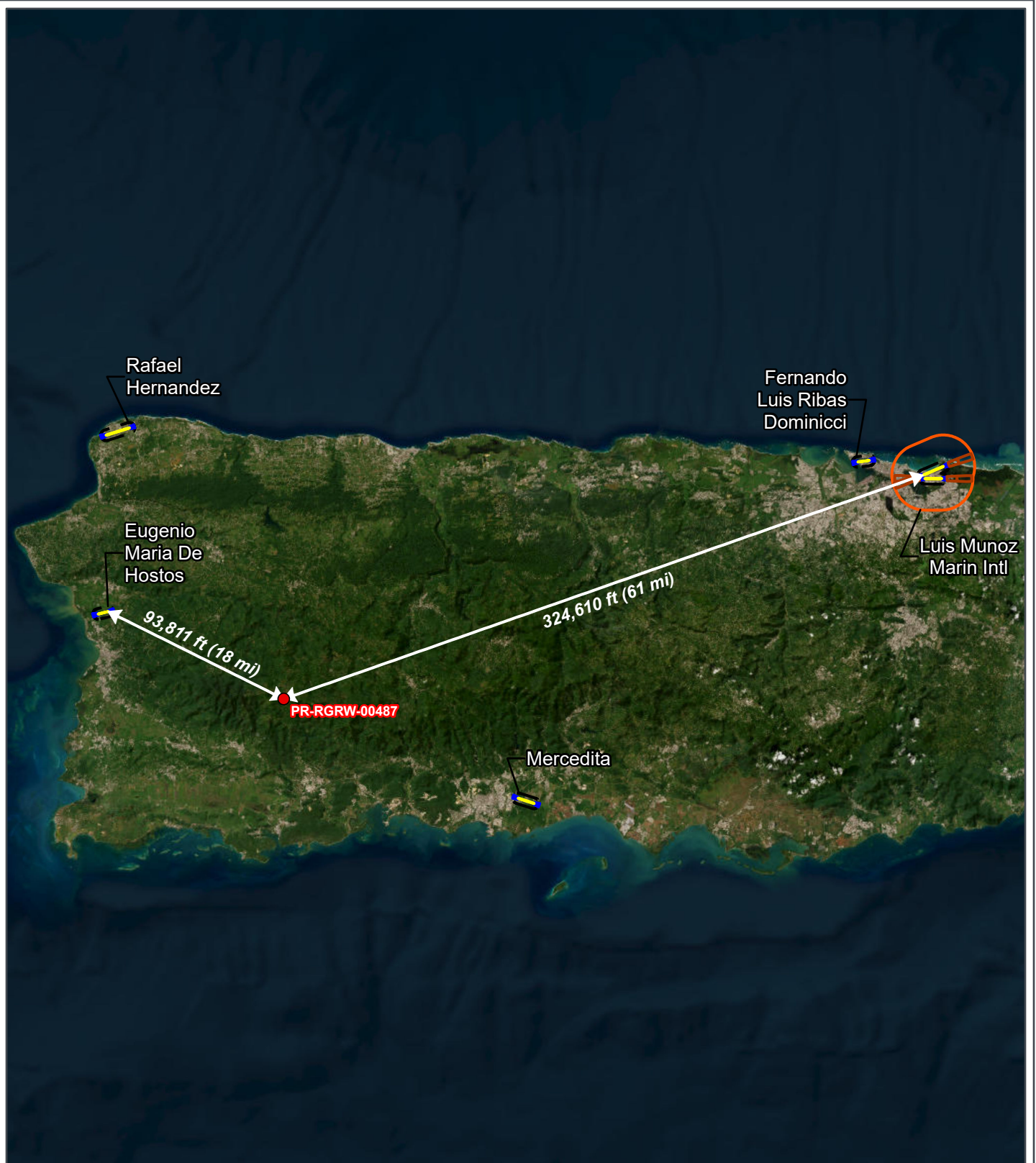
Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio Rubias  
Sector Santa Cruz  
Yauco, PR 00698

Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000  
Center of Map:  
66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Data Source: [https://gis.fema.gov/arcgis/rest/services/DR/PuertoRico\\_ABFE\\_1PCT/MapServer](https://gis.fema.gov/arcgis/rest/services/DR/PuertoRico_ABFE_1PCT/MapServer)  
Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery  
Imagery Year: 2022  
Updated: 10/31/2024  
Layout: ABFE 1Pct  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps







REGROW PROGRAM

# **Figure B 1-1: Airport Hazards Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

**SWCA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- Airport Runway
- Accident Potential Zones (APZ)
- Runway Protection Zones (RPZ)
- 2,500-FT Civil Airport Buffer
- 15,000-FT Military Airport Buffer

Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio  
Rubias Sector Santa Cruz  
Yauco, PR 00698  
Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000  
Center of Map:  
66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Data Source: <https://geodata.bts.gov/>  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed October 2024  
Updated: 10/31/2024  
Layout: Airport Hazards  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps

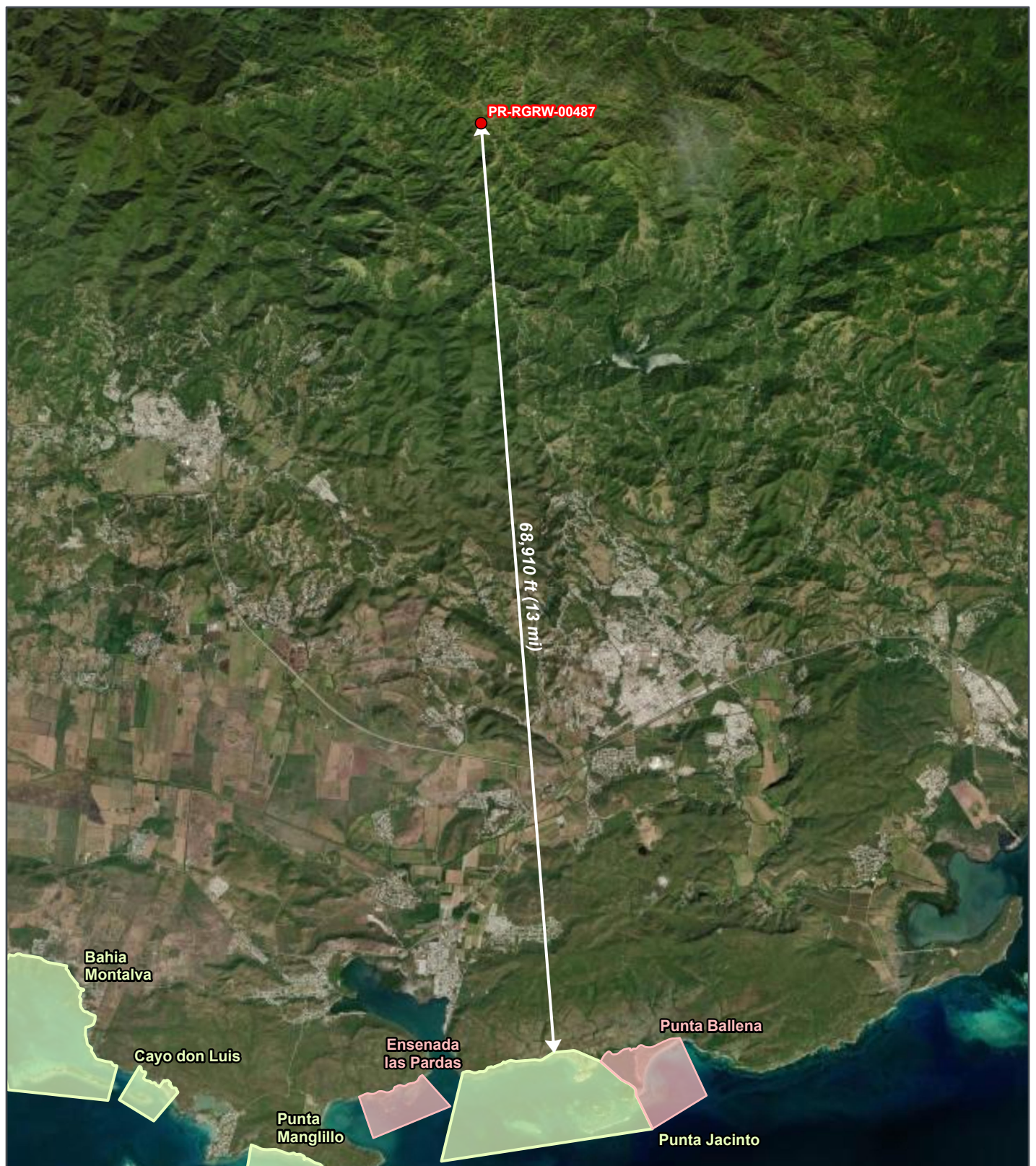
N  
1:794,000



Puerto Rico

0 37,320 74,640 Feet  
0 10,000 20,000 Meters





REGROW PROGRAM

## Figure B 2-1: Coastal Barrier Resources Map

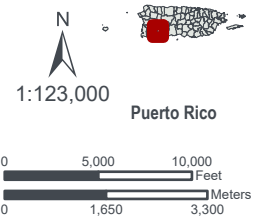
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

**SWCA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

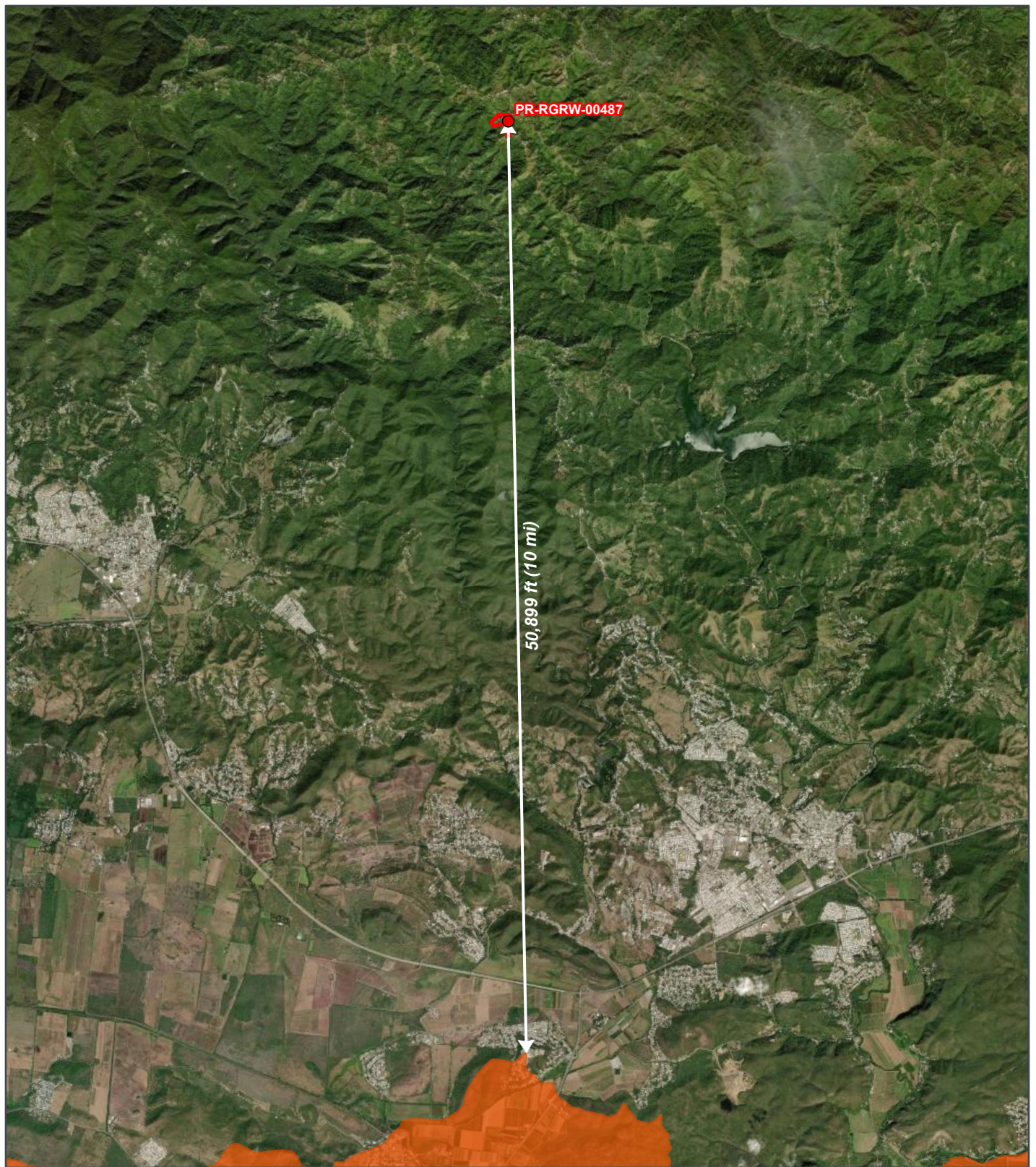
- Site
- Otherwise Protected Area
- System Unit

Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio  
Rubias Sector Santa Cruz  
Yauco, PR 00698  
Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000  
Center of Map:  
66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Data Source: <https://cbrsgis.wim.usgs.gov/arcgis/rest/services/CoastalBarrierResourcesSystem/MapServer>  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed October 2024  
Updated: 10/31/2024  
Layout: Coastal Barrier Resources  
System







REGROW PROGRAM

# **Figure B 5-1: Coastal Zone Management Map**

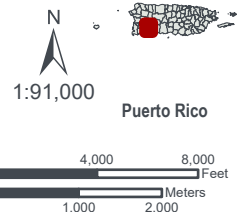
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

**SWCA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

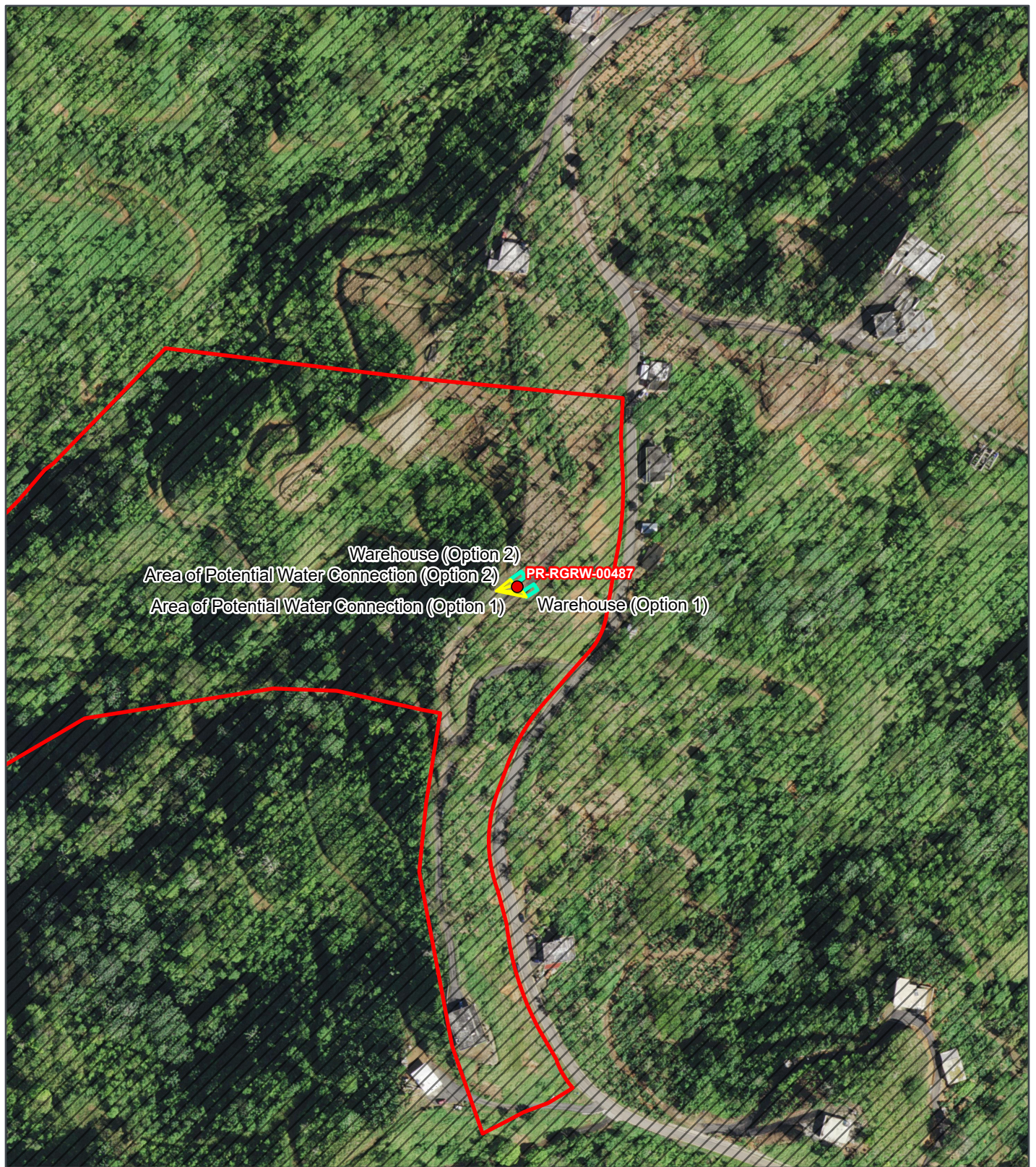
- Site
- Coastal Management Zone

Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio  
Rubias Sector Santa Cruz  
Yauco, PR 00698  
Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000  
Center of Map:  
66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Data Source: [https://coast.noaa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/Hosted/CoastalZoneManagementAct/Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online](https://coast.noaa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/Hosted/CoastalZoneManagementAct/Base%20Map%20ESRI%20ArcGIS%20Online),  
accessed October 2024  
Updated: 10/31/2024  
Layout: Coastal Zone Management  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps







REGROW PROGRAM

## Figure B 9-1: Prime Farmland Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

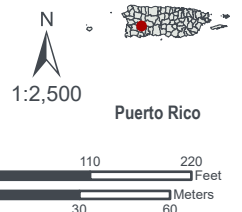
**SWCA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- Potential Area of Disturbance
- All areas are prime farmland
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

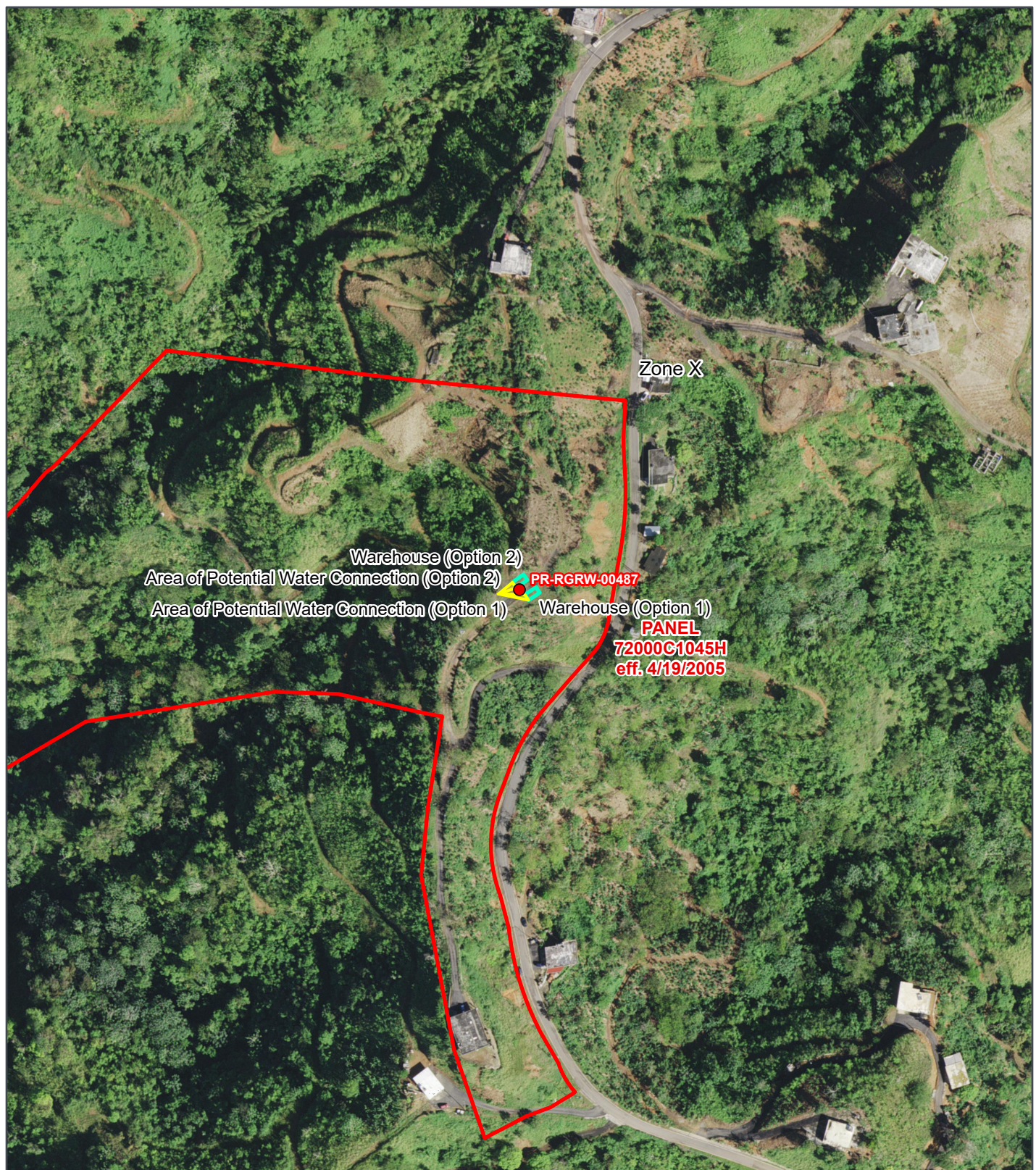
- Prime farmland if drained
- Prime farmland if irrigated
- Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
- Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
- Not prime farmland
- Not Public Information

Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio  
Rubias Sector Santa Cruz  
Yauco, PR 00698  
Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000  
Center of Map:  
66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Data Source: <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>  
Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery  
Imagery Year: 2022  
Updated: 10/31/2024  
Layout: Prime Farmland  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps







REGROW PROGRAM

# **Figure B 3-1: Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)**

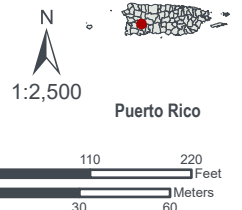
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

**SWCA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

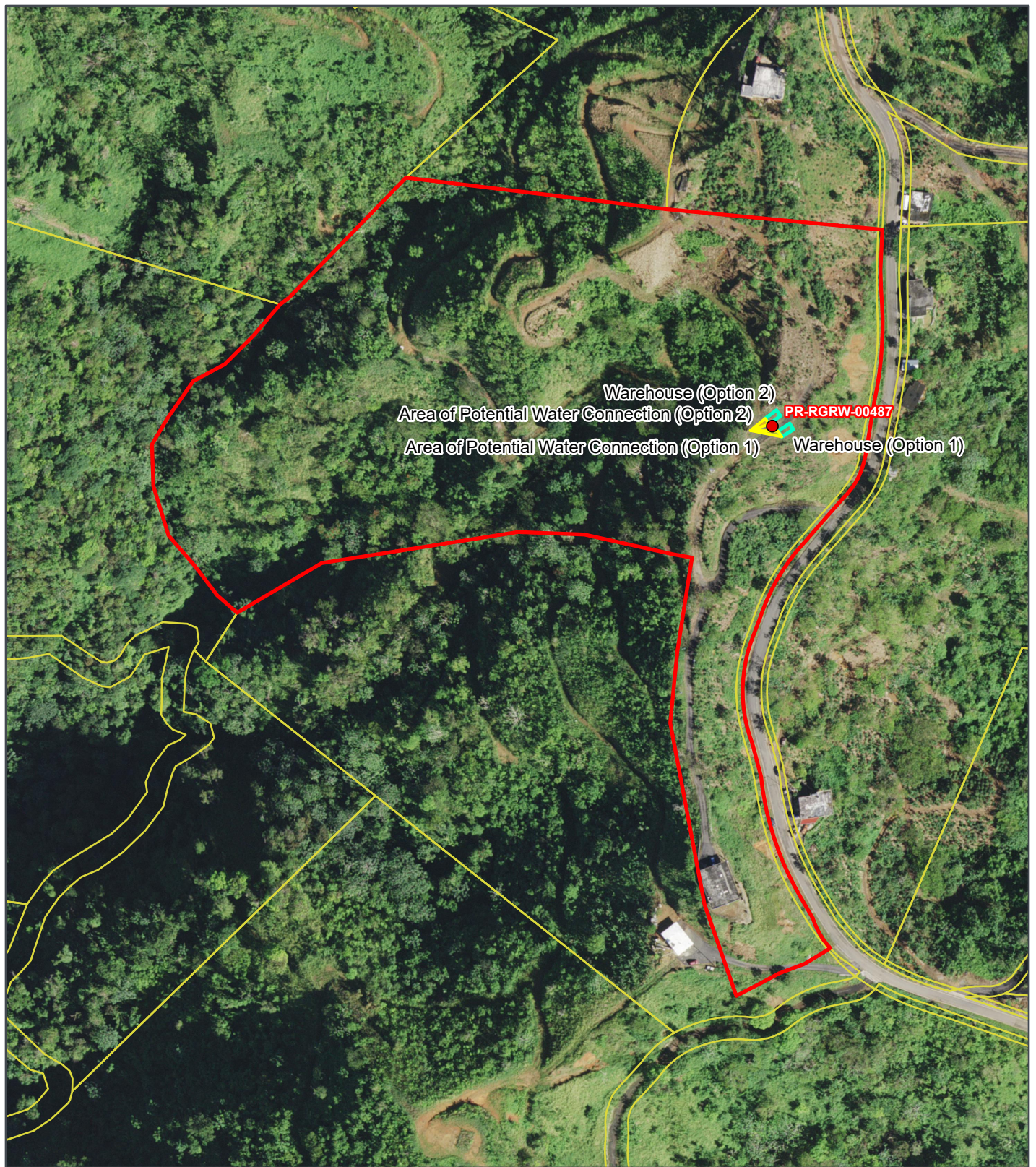
- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- Potential Area of Disturbance
- ~ Base Flood Elevations
- Zone A
- Zone AE
- Zone AH
- Zone AO
- Zone VE
- Floodway
- Zone X - Shaded (500-year floodplain)
- Zone X - Unshaded
- Area Not Included
- Open Water

Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio Rubias Sector Santa Cruz Yauco, PR. 00698  
Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000  
Center of Map: 66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Data Source: <https://hazards.fema.gov/gis/nfhl/rest/services/public/NFHL/MapServer>  
Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery  
Imagery Year: 2022  
Updated: 10/31/2024  
Layout: Effective Floodplain  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps







REGROW PROGRAM

## Figure A-2: Site Vicinity

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

**SWCA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- Potential Area of Disturbance

Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio  
Rubias Sector Santa Cruz  
Yauco, PR 00698

Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000  
Center of Map:  
66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery  
Imagery Year: 2022  
Updated: 10/31/2024  
Layout: Site Vicinity  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps

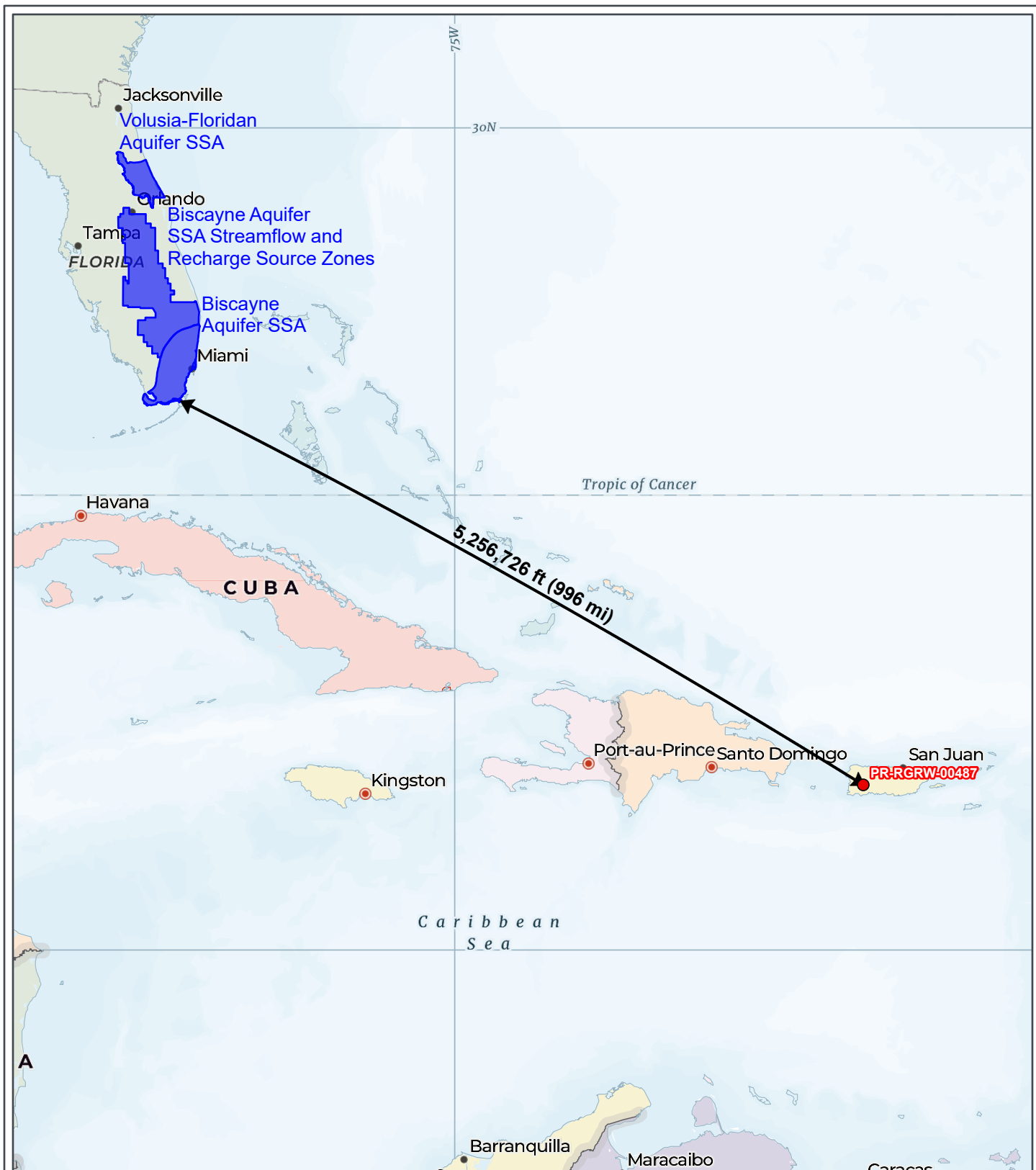
N  
1:2,400



Puerto Rico







REGROW PROGRAM

# **Figure 12-1: Sole Source Aquifers Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

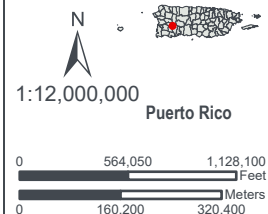
**SWCA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

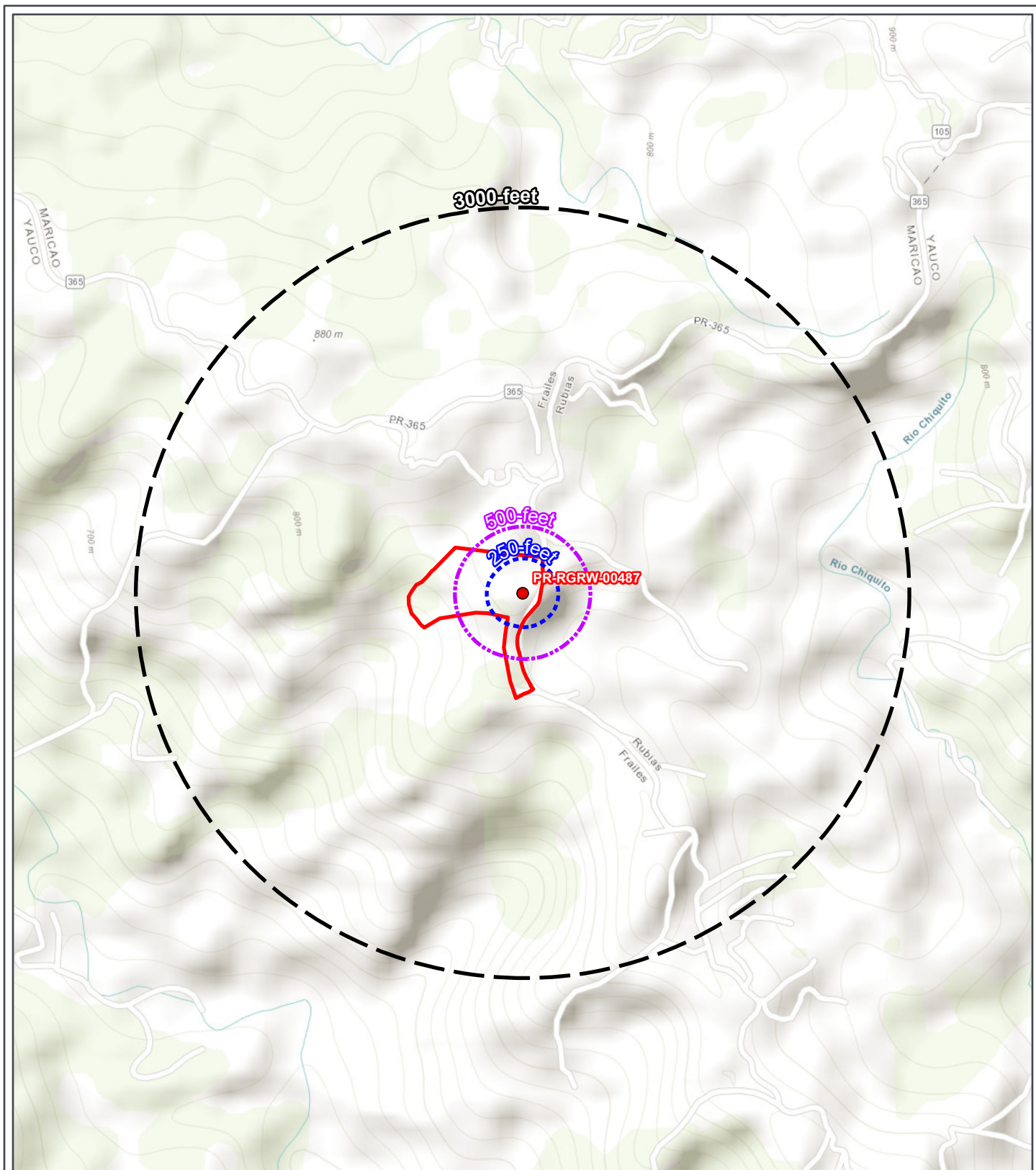
- Site
- Sole Source Aquifers

**\*There are no Sole Source Aquifers in Puerto Rico.**

Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio Rubias  
Sector Santa Cruz  
Yauco, PR 00698  
Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000  
Center of Map:  
66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Data Source: <https://services.arcgis.com/cJ9YHowT8TU7DUyn/arcgis/rest/services/SoleSourceAquifers/FeatureServer>  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2024  
Updated: 10/31/2024  
Layout: Sole Source Aquifers  
Aprx: 72428\_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

# **Figure B 6-1: Contamination and Toxic Substances Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

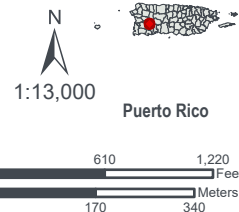
**SWCA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option)
- ▭ Buffer (250-feet)
- ▭ Buffer (500-feet)
- ▭ Buffer (3000-feet)
- ▭ Water dischargers

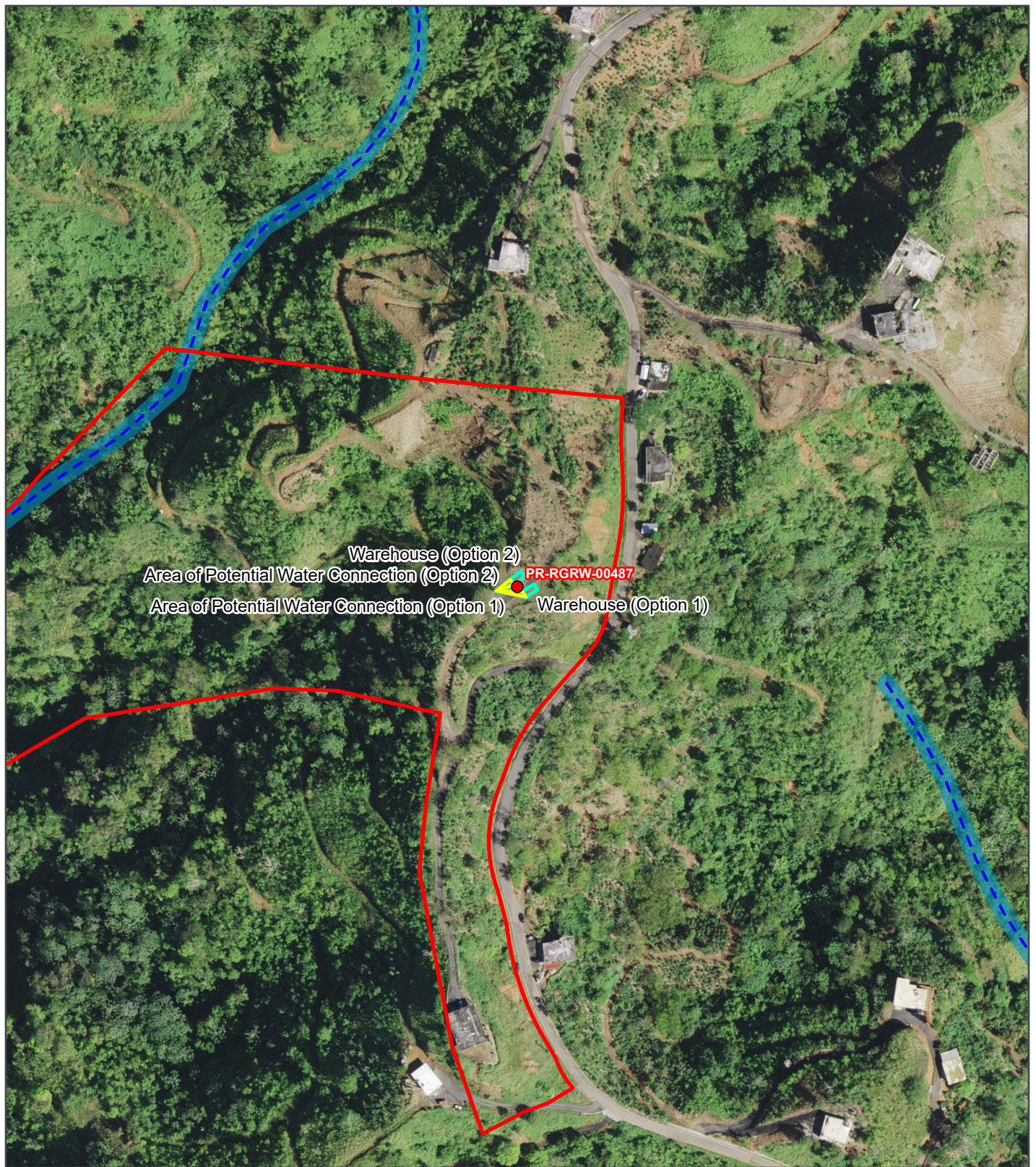
- Toxic Substances Control Act
- Toxic releases
- Superfund
- Hazardous waste
- Brownfields
- Air pollution

Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio  
Rubias Sector Santa Cruz  
Yauco, PR 00698  
Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000  
Center of Map:  
66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Data Source: <https://geopub.epa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/EMEF/MapServer>  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2024  
Updated: 10/31/2024  
Layout: Contamination and Toxic Substances







REGROW PROGRAM

# **Figure B 13-1: Wetlands Protection Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

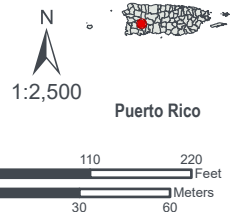


- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option)
- ▭ Potential Area of Disturbance
- - - NHD Stream
- ▭ Estuarine and Marine Deepwater

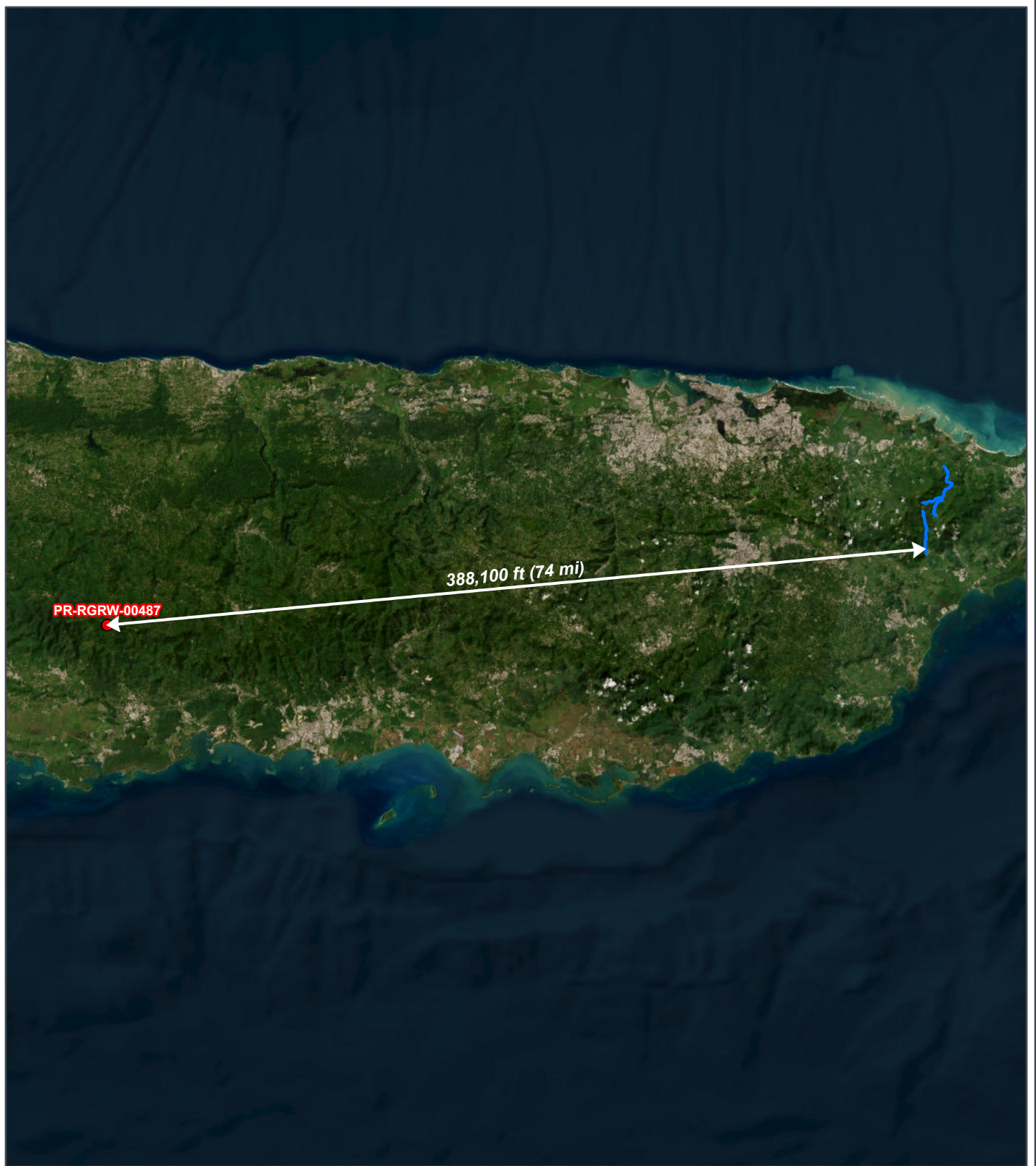
- ▭ Estuarine and Marine Wetland
- ▭ Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- ▭ Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- ▭ Freshwater Pond
- ▭ Lake
- ▭ Riverine

Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio  
Rubias Sector Santa Cruz  
Yauco, PR 00698  
Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000  
Center of Map:  
66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Data Source: <https://apps.nationalmap.gov/downloader/#/https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory/data-download>  
Base Map: USA NAIP Imagery  
Imagery Year: 2022  
Updated: 10/31/2024  
Layout: Wetlands Protection







REGROW PROGRAM

# **Figure B 14-1: National Wild and Scenic River Map**

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-00487

**SWCA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

- Site
- National Wild and Scenic River

Carretera 3365 km 8.2 Barrio  
Rubias Sector Santa Cruz  
Yauco, PR 00698  
Parcel ID: 287-000-003-22-000 Parcel Center:  
66.899096°W 18.142738°N

Data Source: [https://apps.fs.usda.gov/arcx/rest/services/EDW/EDW\\_WildScenicRiverSegments\\_01/mapserver](https://apps.fs.usda.gov/arcx/rest/services/EDW/EDW_WildScenicRiverSegments_01/mapserver)  
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,  
accessed October 2024  
Updated: 10/31/2024

