

# **Environmental Assessment**

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

### **24 CFR Part 58**

#### **Project Information**

**Project ID:** PR-RGRW-01055

**Project Name:** Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

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

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

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

**Preparer:** Gabriela Rodríguez

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

**Consultant** (if applicable): Tetra Tech, 251 Calle Recinto Sur, Ste. 202, San Juan, PR 00091

**Direct Comments to:** PRDOH (environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov)

#### **Project Location:**

The property is a 30.0-acre site located at Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, in the Municipality of Guayanilla, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 362-000-001-12-998). The coordinates of the project site are 18.046216, -66.803845.

This land has been used for agricultural purposes with cattle raising in the past and is currently in use for agricultural purposes with the raising of cattle, sheep and goats, the cultivation of grapes, and is used as an activity center for the celebration of private events.

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

The intent use of funds for the proposed project includes the purchase and installation of a solar power system (PV System).

The scope of work (SOW) for the proposed project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system at coordinates 18.046216, -66.803845. The proposed system is an estimated 12.3 Kilowatts (kW) system that includes 35 x Hanwha Q-Cell Q Peak 350 solar panels and 2 x Tesla Powerwall 2.0 batteries for a capacity of 28 kW. The

applicant plans to install the solar system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design), to be constructed with an approximate height of 8 feet (ft) and an approximate footprint of 20' X 45'. The purpose of the solar system is to provide power to the existing warehouse located at coordinates 18.046237, -66.803939. The battery station and transfer switch will be installed in the warehouse and will be connected to the solar panels via an aboveground electrical conduit from the panels to the transfers switch, inverter, and batteries. No water connection is anticipated as part of the SOW.

The construction of the elevated design will require the posts (at least 6) of the structure to be installed at a depth of approximately 3 ft for anchoring of the structure. While it is unclear if the installation and construction of the pergola structure is included as part of the installation works offered with the purchase of the solar system or if the applicant plans to pay for the pergola installation themselves and no HUD funds would be utilized for this portion of work, the potential impacts from this action are included in the analyses below and it is contained within the delimited Area of Potential Effect (APE). This APE has been extended to the existing warehouse structure to allow for electrical connection. The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project. The APE for the proposed project is approximately 0.22 acres.

The project site will require clearing, grading, and vegetation removal. However, proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees.

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

#### **Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal** [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:

The Re-Grow Puerto Rico Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (RGRW) will increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island wide. This Program will enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. The purpose of this project is to increase the productivity of the farm. This agricultural project associated with the installation of a solar power system (PV System) is keeping with the overall objectives of the Economic Development Program.

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

The land proposed for the installation of the PV System is used for agricultural purposes with the raising of cattle, sheep and goats, the cultivation of grapes, and is use as an activity center for the celebration of private events. Therefore, there is no change in land use associated with the project. Some ground disturbance will be required. The project contemplates the installation of a PV system on a metal high-rise design structure to be installed next to the existing storage structure and the grapes plantation. The area is clear form shrubs and brushes and has a concrete pad of approximately 8 ft (wide). Area of installation will require clearing, grading, and vegetation removal. However, proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees or grapes plantation.

**Structure of this Environmental Review Report (ERR).**

This ERR discusses the Funding Information immediately below. The environmental impacts of the proposed action are discussed in the Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities checklist and Environmental Factors checklist. The listing of Additional Studies Performed, and Sources, Agencies and Persons Consulted follows the checklists. The discussions of Public Outreach, Cumulative Impacts, Alternatives, and Summary of Findings and Conclusions are presented at the end of the ERR, before the listing of Mitigation Measures and Determination signatures. The appendices contain detailed information.

- Appendix A – Site Inspection
- Appendix B – Maps
- Appendix C – Additional Documentation
- Appendix D – Endangered Species
- Appendix E – SHPO Consultation

**Funding Information**

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

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$ 56,650.00

**Estimated Total Project Cost** (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$ 56,650.00

**Compliance with 24 CFR 58.5 and 58.6 Laws and Authorities**

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

<b>Compliance Factors:</b> Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
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<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.6</b>		
<p><b>Airport Hazards</b></p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The nearest civil airport, Mercedita Airport (PSE), is approximately 80,040 feet from the proposed site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin International Airport (SJU), is approximately 308,312 feet from the proposed site. The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements. Refer to Figure 2 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Coastal Barrier Resources</b></p> <p>Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Puerto Rico has various Coastal Barrier Resources Systems (CBRS). The project is in the southern coast Puerto Rico. The distance to the nearest CBRS unit is 28,649 feet. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. Refer to Figure 3 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Flood Insurance</b></p> <p>Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Project site is located in Zone X, area of minimal flood hazard, as per Floodplain Insurance Map 72000C1620J, effective date November 18, 2009.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with Floodplain Insurance requirements. See Figures 4 and 5 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>

<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 58.5</b>		
<p><b>Clean Air</b></p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) &amp; (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Project site is not located in a county or air quality management district that is non-attainment status for any criteria pollutants. The Municipio of Guayanilla is not listed in the EPA Green Book "Puerto Rico Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for all Criteria Pollutants". The non-attainment areas are in the municipalities of Arecibo, Bayamón, Cataño, Guaynabo, Toa Baja, Guayama-Salinas, San Juan. The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal</p>



		<p>high-rise design structure (pergola design). Project would have no impact on air quality.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Clean Air Act. Refer to EPA listing in <b>Appendix C</b>.</p>
<p><b>Coastal Zone Management</b></p> <p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) &amp; (d)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project is located 15,286 feet from the nearest Coastal Zone Management area and does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the PR Coastal Zone Management Plan. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. See Figure 7 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b></p> <p>24 CFR Part 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>A site visit conducted on December 26, 2023, no debris or rubbish or visible signs vegetative stress, or contamination, were identified at the project site. The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design).</p> <p>Site contamination was evaluated through online data searches to determine if toxic sites are located within 3,000-feet of the proposed project. There are no sites of environmental concern identified within 3,000 feet of the project site.</p> <p>Refer to Figures 8 and 9 in <b>Appendix B</b> and the Site inspection report and photos in <b>Appendix A</b>. The project is in compliance with Contamination and Toxic Substances.</p>
<p><b>Endangered Species</b></p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The proposed location of project is an area that has been and is currently in use for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>According to EPA NEPAassist Enviromapper, the nearest critical or proposed critical habitat is 5,532 feet to the south of the project location. The Official Species List from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website lists the Puerto Rican Boa and the Bariaco as being able to be found in the area, but there are no critical habitats for them at this location.</p>

		<p>A site-specific review of endangered species was conducted in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended: 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) (See <b>Appendix D</b>).</p> <p>The proposed project will have No Effect on listed species or habitats. Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, it was determined that there would be No Effect for any of the listed species.</p> <p>If a Puerto Rican Boa is encountered, work will cease until it moves off the site or, failing that, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers will be notified for safe capture and relocation of the animal, in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures guidelines.</p> <p>Refer to Figures 10 and 11 in <b>Appendix B</b> and the Endangered Species Package in <b>Appendix D</b>. This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.</p>
<p><b>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</b></p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project does not include development, construction, or rehabilitation that will increase residential density.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Explosive and Flammable Hazard requirements.</p> <p>Refer to site visit report in <b>Appendix A</b>.</p>
<p><b>Farmlands Protection</b></p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The project site is designated as farmland of statewide importance. The project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to nonagricultural use. Although the project includes new construction, the project is exempt from review under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FFPA) as the project is limited to construction of on-farm structures needed for</p>

		<p>farm operations. No further review is required.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act. Refer to Figure 12 in <b>Appendix B.</b></p>
<p><b>Floodplain Management</b></p> <p>Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The Project site is not located in a 100-year floodplain per Floodplain Insurance Rate Map 72000C1620J, effective date November 18, 2009. The project site is not located in an Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) special flood hazard area.</p> <p>PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canóvanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Guayanilla; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review.</p> <p>This project is in compliance with Executive Order 11988. See Figures 4, 5, and 6 in <b>Appendix B.</b></p>
<p><b>Historic Preservation</b></p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The site was evaluated on February 13, 2024, by an SOI Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian. Additionally, the site was evaluated on February 7, 2024, by an SOI Qualified Archaeologist. SHPO concurred with a finding of <b>No Historic Properties Affected</b> within the project's Area of Potential on Effects on March 20, 2024.</p> <p>Refer to Figure 13 in <b>Appendix B</b> and the Section 106 Consultation Package in <b>Appendix E.</b> This project is in compliance with Historic Preservation requirements.</p>
<p><b>Noise Abatement and Control</b></p> <p>Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). HUD's noise regulations protect residential properties from excessive noise exposure. HUD noise regulations do not apply as the project does not include new construction for residential use or rehabilitation of an existing residential property. The proposed project is in compliance with Noise Abatement and Control.</p>

<p><b>Sole Source Aquifers</b></p> <p>Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>There are no EPA sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The nearest Sole Source Aquifer is 5,293,075 feet to the northwest of the project site. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.</p> <p>Refer to Figure 17 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Wetlands Protection</b></p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design).</p> <p>The south coast is 18,675 feet southeast of the property. The closest fresh-water bodies include the Guayanilla River 297 feet west of the APE.</p> <p>The Guayanilla River is identified as a riverine wetland in the NWI map. Due to distance and proposed location of the PV System the proposed activities would not impact the wetlands and includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. Refer to Figure 14 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>
<p><b>Wild and Scenic Rivers</b></p> <p>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>This project is not within proximity of a National Wild and Scenic River (WSR). The distance to the nearest WSR is approximately 361,188 feet. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Refer to Figure 15 in <b>Appendix B</b>.</p>

<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b></p>		
<p><b>Environmental Justice</b></p> <p>Executive Order 12898</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>No adverse environmental impacts were identified in any other compliance review portion of this project that may disproportionately be high for low-income and/or minority communities. Therefore, this topic complies with Executive Order 12898.</p>

**Environmental Assessment Factors** [24 CFR 58.40; Ref. 40 CFR 1508.8 & 1508.27] Recorded below is the qualitative and quantitative significance of the effects of the proposal on the character, features, and resources of the project area. Each factor has been evaluated and documented, as appropriate and in proportion to its relevance to the proposed action. Verifiable source documentation has been provided and described in

support of each determination, as appropriate. Credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority has been provided. Where applicable, the necessary reviews or consultations have been completed and applicable permits of approvals have been obtained or noted. Citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references are clear. Additional documentation is attached, as appropriate. **All conditions, attenuation or mitigation measures have been clearly identified.**

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

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

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>LAND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The proposed project is located on a private farm. The project site is zoned as "Agrícola Productivo (A-P)". The proposed action is compliant with the current agricultural land use of the Project area and will not contribute to urban sprawl.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The proposed project is located in a rolling terrain, used for agricultural purposes, with the raising of cattle, sheep and goats, the cultivation of grapes, and is used as an activity center for the celebration of private events.</p> <p>Soils in the proposed project area are classified as Quebrada silty clay loam (QeD2), 12 to 20 percent slopes, surrounded by farmland, 50 meters above mean sea level.</p> <p>Projects larger than 1 acre must comply with the CWA and develop a SWPPP with the NPDES. The proposed project area is approximately 0.22 acres.</p>

		<p>The project site will require clearing, grading, and vegetation removal. However, proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees.</p> <p>The project site area is rated “low” for landslide susceptibility (see Figure 16 in <b>Appendix B</b>).</p> <p>There will be little to no additional runoff associated with the project.</p>
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). During implementation of the project, construction activities may result in temporary elevation of ambient noise levels in immediate areas around active construction areas. The only nearby receptors are the residents of the farm. There is no access to the project area by the public.</p>
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC</b>		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). Temporary employment of workers related to construction activities would result, but no new permanent jobs would be created as a result of this project. These workers are expected to come from the local region. However, since the project will include an economic component, it may aid in restoring some employment opportunities and increase income.</p> <p>The proposed project would not negatively impact employment or income patterns.</p>
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The proposed project would not result in demographic character changes or displacement. Given the nature of the project area, no relocations or demolition of residential structures or businesses would occur as part of this project.</p>
Environmental Justice	1	<p>In the area (one mile radius) in which project will occur. 100% are people of color compared to PR average of 96%</p>

		<p>91% are low income compared to PR average of 70%</p> <p>21% are unemployed compared to PR average of 15%</p> <p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). This project will result in restoration and increase in income and potential employment opportunities in the local area. The impacts would be beneficial.</p> <p>See EJSscreen Report in <b>Appendix C</b></p>
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Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES</b>		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The project would not result in any change to regional or local area educational and cultural facilities or increase demand for them.
Commercial Facilities	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The agricultural activity of the project property will improve. Other commercial facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). Health care and social services facilities would not be impacted by the proposed project. The project would not increase demand for health care and social services facilities.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	<p>The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design).</p> <p>Waste vegetation from clearing activities will either be composted on site or at regional composting centers. Soil from grading would be recycled on the farm as fill. Left over construction materials that could be reused on the farm (e.g., piping, structural materials, others) would be stored for later use. The remaining construction solid waste materials would be collected for transport to the local landfill. The amount of impact of solid waste resulting from the construction of the proposed</p>

		project would be minor. During operations, the products and by-products would be agricultural, which waste would be biodegradable. Other waste components related to the operation of the proposed project includes recyclable materials such as plastics and cardboard. Recyclables will be set aside and dispose according to the local recycling management plan. The remaining municipal solid waste would be collected for the transport to the local landfill.
Wastewater / Sanitary Sewers	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The proposed project would not include any bathrooms, wastewater, or sewage facilities. Current farm conditions would remain unchanged.
Water Supply	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The SOW does not involve water connections or use water for operational purposes. The proposed project does not represent an increase in current water demand.
Public Safety – Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The proposed project will have no impact to public safety, fire and emergency medical.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The proposed project would not create or destroy any new parks, open space, or recreational activities. It also would not increase use of those facilities.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The proposed project would not involve the creation of new roads nor any increase in long-term traffic on existing roads. There would be some minor use of the existing road during construction. All residents and businesses would retain access to their properties during and after the project.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>NATURAL FEATURES</b>		



Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The proposed project will be situated on land previously used for agricultural purposes. The proposed project will have no impact to unique natural features or water resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The proposed project will occur on land previously used for agricultural purposes and will continue in that capacity.  Waste vegetation from clearing activities will either be composted on site or at regional composting centers. Proposal does not contemplate cutting, pruning or transplanting of trees. The proposed project will have minimal impact on vegetation and no impact on wildlife.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>CLIMATE AND ENERGY</b>		
Climate Change Impacts	2	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). There would be no changes to the site configuration or structure that would specifically address the possibility and uncertainty of rising sea levels or the possibility of increases in rainfall intensity. This is a small agricultural project with no measurable impact on climate change factors.
Energy Efficiency/Energy Consumption	1	The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). The addition of a PV system to supply/reduce energy requirements represent a beneficial impact and resilience measure for the operations of the farm.

**Additional Studies Performed:** None required.

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

Site inspection was conducted on December 26, 2023 by Javier Ramos.

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

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office

FAA, National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems:

[www.faa.gov/airports/planning\\_capacity/npias/reports/NPIAS-Report-2017-2021-Appendix-B-Part6.pdf](http://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/npias/reports/NPIAS-Report-2017-2021-Appendix-B-Part6.pdf)

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, Puerto Rico [map](#).  
[www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/CBRA/Maps/Locator/PR.pdf)

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

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

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

US Environmental Protection Agency, National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Nonattainment Areas for Criteria Pollutants (Green Book):  
[www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo\\_pr.html](http://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo_pr.html)

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

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

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

US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetlands Inventory:  
[www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html](http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html) (compilation of numerous maps)

Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program Plan, September 2009.

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

US Geological Survey, Data Release of May Showing Concentration of Landslides Caused by Hurricane Maria,  
[www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/59de6459e4b05fe04ccd39d8](http://www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/59de6459e4b05fe04ccd39d8)

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

None

#### **Public Outreach [24 CFR 58.43]:**

The local community has been very proactive in the recovery process. Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture has worked closely with the agricultural community. The project will include a FONSI / NOI-RROF in compliance with NEPA regulations for HUD.

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

In accordance with 24 CFR 58.32 (Aggregation), there are no cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project. The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design).

The project would supply/reduce energy requirements of the operations and offer a resilience measure for the operations of the farm. No water connection is anticipated as part of the SOW. Therefore, water and power use would not increase with the installation of the PV System and should have no impact on the local utilities supply or demand.

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

The RGRW Program's goal is to increase agricultural capacity while promoting and increasing food security island-wide. This Program seeks to enhance and expand agricultural production related to economic revitalization and sustainable development activities. Alternative locations off and on property may represent an impact to undisturbed and/or uneven ground, sloped terrain or within forested areas, which could require heavier clearing and grading activities. Any alternative that would involve an off-property location might require the purchase of land, the need for storage area, the movement of products, equipment, infrastructure, water and power utility connections, among others, representing an additional cost. An off-property alternative will not enhance and expand agricultural production or allow for the economic development for this applicant. Given the above-mentioned possible impacts of an alternative location, an off-property alternative was not selected.

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

The project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design). Under the No Action Alternative, the applicant would not receive federal funding for the proposed action, which would inhibit the economic growth opportunity that the applicant would not otherwise have under the PRDOH Re-Grow Puerto Rico program. As a result, these owners may not be able to experience the growth needed to recover and expand their agriculture activities. A provision of the grant allows for economic development for businesses. The No-Action alternative would not allow for the economic development for this applicant.

**Summary of Findings and Conclusions:**

The proposed activity has been found to not have any adverse effects on the environment nor is there the requirement for further consultation with federal agencies associated with the topics evaluated above. There are no environmental review topics addressed above that result in the need for additional formal compliance steps with federal agencies or the requirement for mitigations other than those listed below. There may be additional approvals or permits from local agencies. For example, permits may be required from PRDNER for any water or other utility connections and the Office of Permit Management (OGPe) is responsible for granting permits, licenses, certifications,

consultations, construction, and any other procedure necessary for business development and land use in Puerto Rico. The appropriate and necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor, from the appropriate Department or concerned agency, prior to construction activities.

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

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

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure
Endangered Species	Implement Puerto Rican Boa conservation measures prior to and during construction to avoid or minimize impacts to this species. If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa. PRDNER phone #: ((787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124.
<b>Permits or Agency Approvals Required</b>	
Permit or Approval	Permit Conditions
Ground disturbance	Projects whose earthworks are more than 40 m <sup>3</sup> must submit an Incidental Permit. The permit must be submitted via the Single Business Portal to the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by the Water Quality Division of the PRDNER. Any necessary permits should be obtained by the applicant and/or contractor prior to construction activities.

Clearing activities	Activities involving the excavation or movement of any component of the terrestrial cortex material that exceeds five hundred (500) cubic meters and up to a maximum of five thousand (5,000) cubic meters require the submittal and approval of a Simple Terrestrial Cortex Removal Permit. Applications are submitted via the Single Business Portal of the OGPe to be evaluated and physicalized by terrestrial Cortex Extraction Permit Division of the PRDNER.
Utility Connections- PREPA/LUMA	The project does not involve new utility connections provided by PREPA/LUMA. Facilities have local utility services connections, and the SOW is the installation of a PV System. However, the applicant is responsible for any permits or actions to ensure legalization of utility connections (if needed) prior to construction activities.

**Determination:**

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

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

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

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

Preparer Signature:  Date: 4/30/2024

Name/Title/Organization: Gabriela Rodríguez, Senior Environmental Scientist, Tetra Tech Inc.

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: May 30, 2024

Name/Title: Mónica M. Machuca Ríos / Permits and Environmental Compliance Specialist

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

# **APPENDIX A**

## **Site Inspection and Photos**

## Environmental Field Observation - Puerto Rico Department of Housing

APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Application ID	PR-RGRW-01055		
Applicant Name	Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.		
Property Address	Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas		
Parcel ID	362-000-001-12		
Coordinates	18.046216, -66.803845		
Inspector Name	Javier Ramos		
Inspection Date	12/26/2023		
Building Type	Vacant		
Number of Units	0		
Number of Stories	0		
Year Built; Data Source	----; Historian		
ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS (attach photos and notes, as necessary, for any YES answers)			
OBSERVATION ITEMS	YES	NO	COMMENTS
A. Is the <b>structure in use</b> ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Warehouse
B. Is <b>structure a greenhouse</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
C. Is <b>Electricity connected</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
D. Is <b>water connected</b> ? (Utilities or Well)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
1. Are there signs of <b>poor housekeeping</b> on site? (mounds of rubble, garbage, storm debris, solid waste, petroleum products, paint, pesticides, cleaning fluids, vehicle batteries, abandoned vehicles, pits, pools, ponds of hazardous substances, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Are there any <b>55-gallon drums</b> visible on site? If yes, are they leaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Are there any (or signs of any) <b>underground storage tanks</b> on the property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Are there signs of <b>ASTs</b> on the parcel or adjacent parcel? If yes, list approximate size and contents, if known.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3 X gas tanks 2 X gas tanks  3 X 5 Gallons 2 X 1 Gallon
5. Is there any <b>stained soil or pavement</b> on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6. Is a water <b>drainage system</b> in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is a warehouse in use for storage of <b>Fertilizer or Pesticides</b> ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pesticide storage
8. Are there any <b>groundwater monitoring wells</b> on the site or adjacent parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Is there evidence of a <b>faulty septic system</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Is there <b>distressed vegetation</b> on the parcel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

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

**Additional Notes:**

Case: PR-RGRW-01055  
Project Name: Finca Peninsula del Rio  
Coordinates: 18.046216, -66.803845

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

Scope of Work: The proposed project includes the purchase and installation of a solar panel system that will expand the footprint of the adjacent structure by more than 20%.

Land current in use for: The land is currently used for raising cattle, sheep and goats. There are also grape crops and private activities such as weddings.

Past Land use was: The land was used for cattle raising.

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

Scope of work #1: 18.046216, -66.803845, The applicant is proposing the construction of a metal pergola approximately 8 feet tall, for the installation of 26 solar panels to power the farm. With an approximate footprint of 20' X 45'. The battery station and transfer switch will be installed in the adjacent building in coordinates: 18.046237, -66.803939. An overground metal conduit will be installed for the wires system from the solar panels to the battery station and transfer switch.



Any new water connection or power connection?

No new water connection needed for the proposal Scope of Work.

For electrical system the proposed solar panel system will provide the electricity for the farm.

If the scope of work included tools, machinery or farms products, Where the applicant will be storing them? N/A

**Front of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Facing Away From Front**

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Side #1 of Structure**

Photo Direction: South



**Facing Away From Side #1**

Photo Direction: North





**Back of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Facing Away From Back**

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Side #2 of Structure**

Photo Direction: Northwest



**Facing Away From Side #2**

Photo Direction: Southeast





**Streetscape #1**

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Streetscape #2**

Photo Direction: Southwest



Address

Photo Direction: Northeast



Outbuildings

Photo Description: Storage gate

Photo Direction: Northeast





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Northeast





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: South



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast





Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southeast



Structural Details

Photo Description: Architectural details

Photo Direction: Southwest



Structure Occupied

Photo Description: Storage

Photo Direction: East



Aboveground Storage Tanks

Photo Description: Gasoline tanks

Photo Direction: Southwest



Aboveground Storage Tanks

Photo Description: Gasoline tanks

Photo Direction: Southwest



Aboveground Storage Tanks

Photo Description: Gasoline tank

Photo Direction: Northeast





Warehouse Use

Photo Description: Pesticide storage

Photo Direction: Southwest



Standing Water

Photo Description: River

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a Solar Panel System

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a Solar Panel System

Photo Direction: Northeast





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a Solar Panel System

Photo Direction: Southeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a Solar Panel System

Photo Direction: Northwest





**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a Solar Panel System

Photo Direction: Southwest



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a Solar Panel System

Photo Direction: Northeast



**Scope Of Work**

Photo Description: Scope of work: Installation of a Solar Panel System

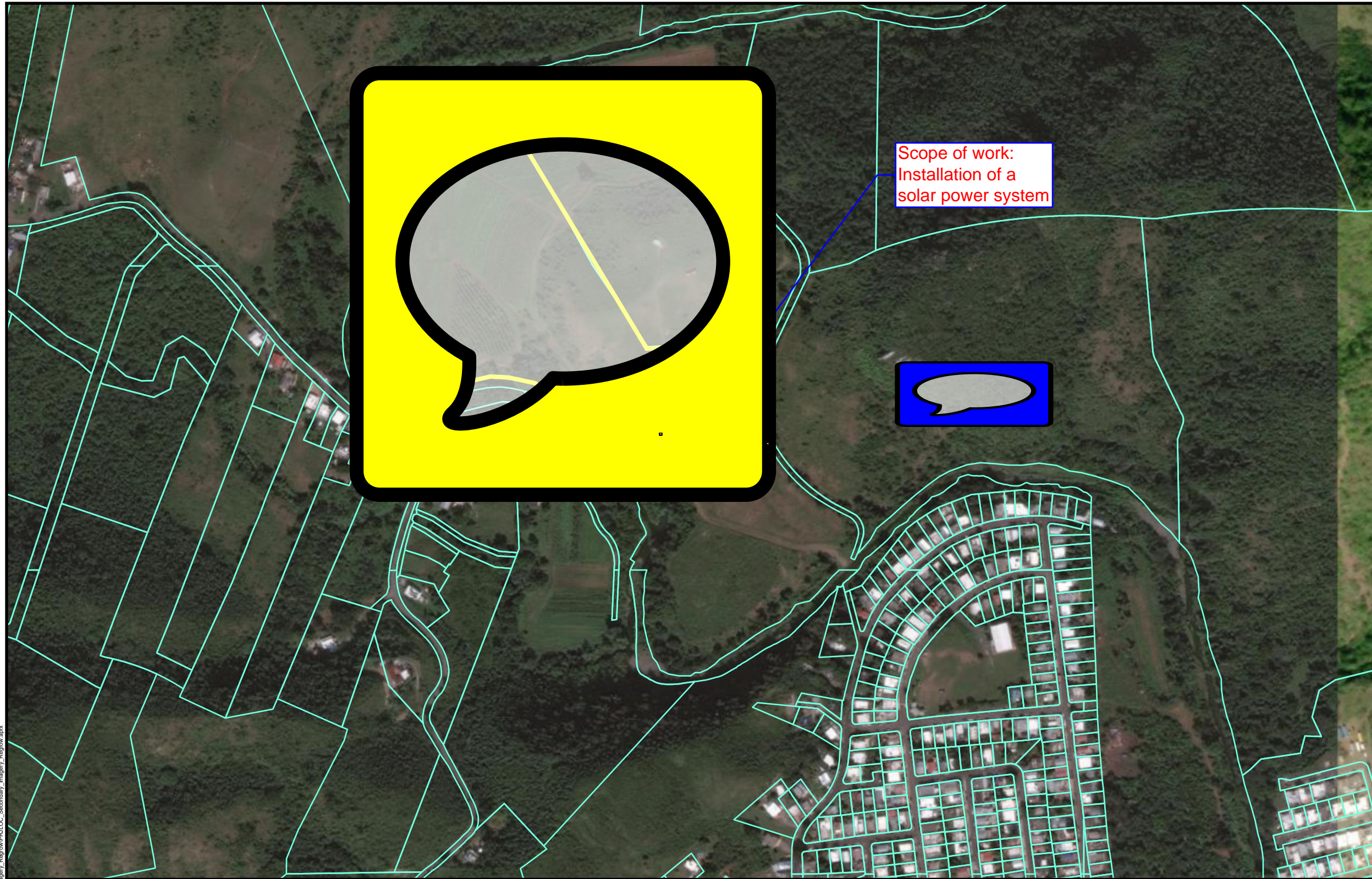
Photo Direction: Southeast








# APPENDIX B

## Maps





- Legend**
-  Project Parcel
  -  Parcels
  -  Area of Potential Effect
  -  Power connections
  -  Project Parcel Boundaries

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 1: PROJECT LOCATION**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

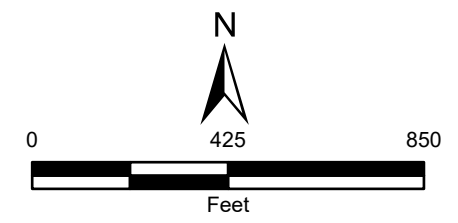
**ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656**

Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845

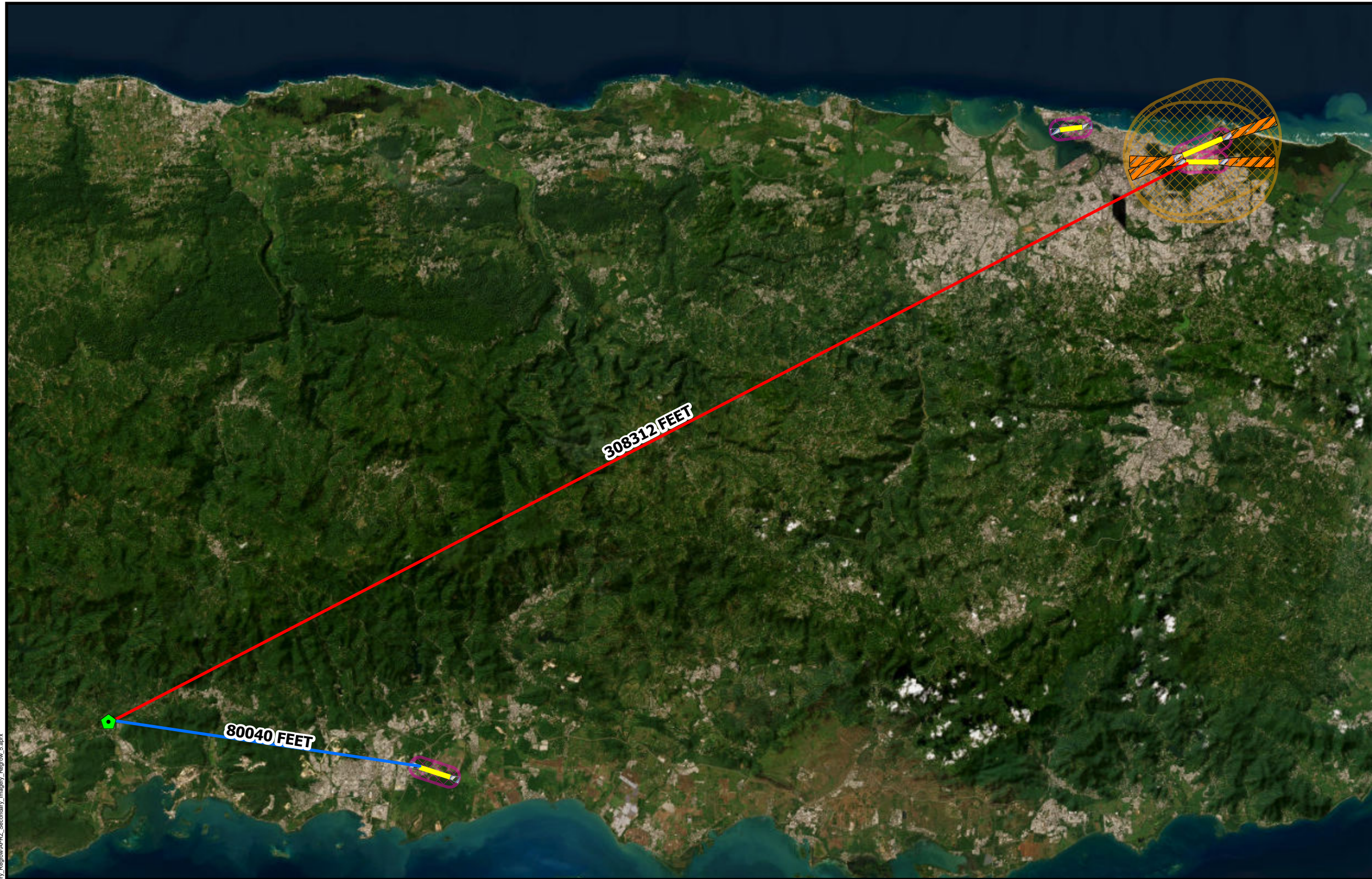


Source: CRIM  
<https://catastro.crimpr.net/cdprpc/>  
 Author: TG Date: 10/27/2023



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





**Legend**

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

**Distance to Nearest Airport  
in Feet: 80,040**

**Distance to Nearest Civilian Airport  
in Feet: 80,040**

**Distance to Nearest Military Airport  
in Feet: 308,312**

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 2: AIRPORT ZONES**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

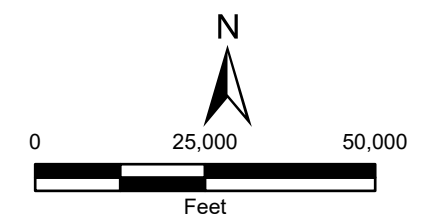
Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845



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

Author: TG Date: 3/20/2024



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





**Legend**

Project Parcel

**Coastal Barrier Resources System Boundary**

**Unit**

PR-57P

PR-58P

PR-59

Distance to Nearest Coastal Barrier Resources System:  
28649 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**



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

Author: TG

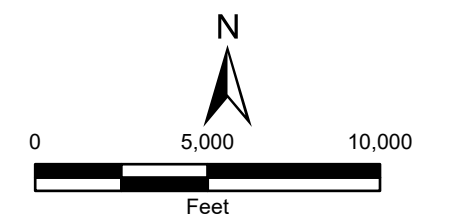
Date: 10/17/2023

**Figure 3: COASTAL BARRIERS IMPROVEMENT ACT**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

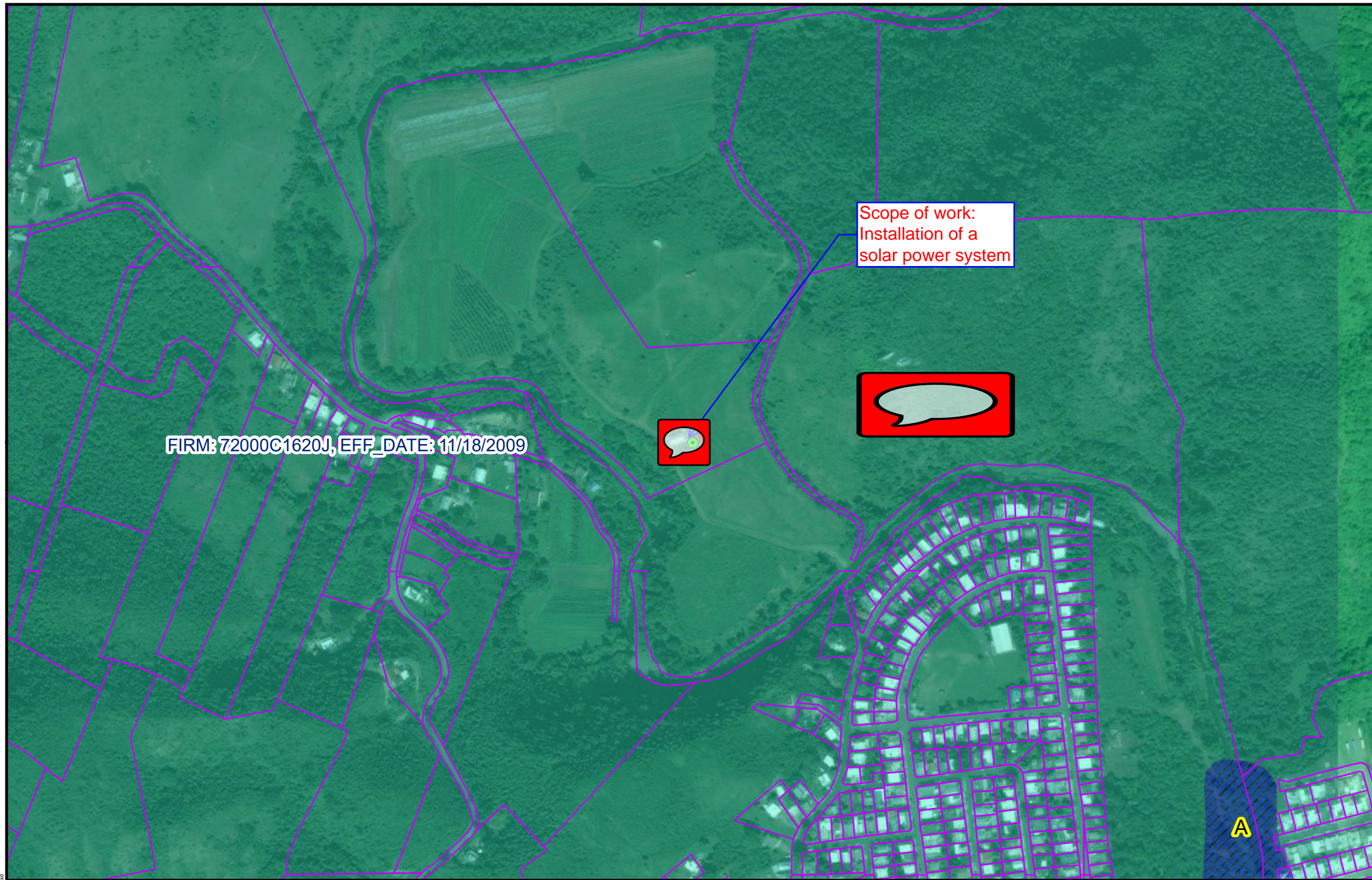
Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845



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





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

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 4: FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

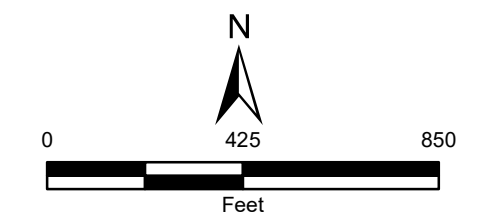
ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845



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

Author: TG Date: 3/22/2024

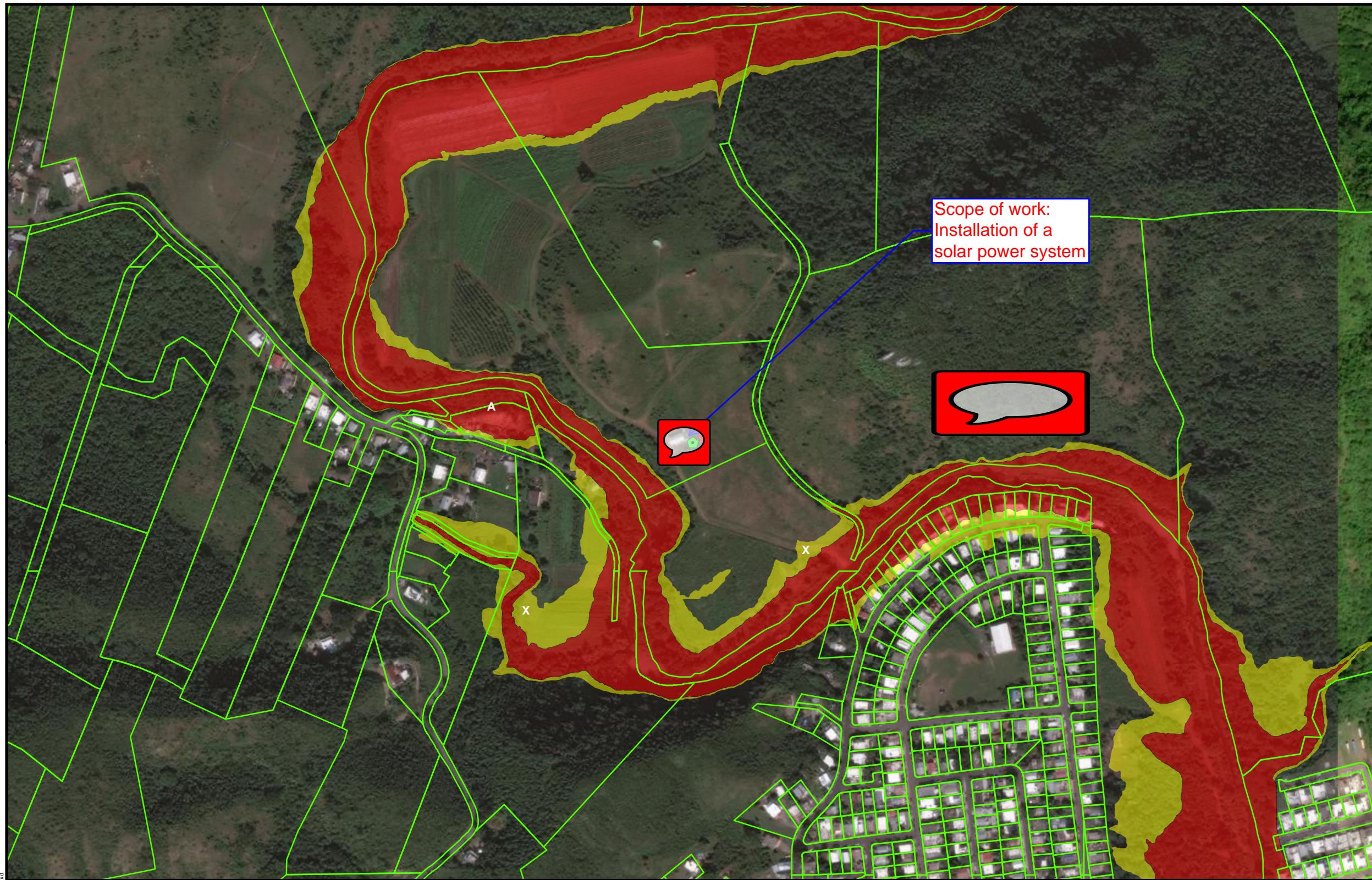


File Path: Z:\data\USPRT\Fig4\FDZ\_Secundary\_Imagery\_Regrow.mxd









- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Parcels
  - ABFE Flood Zone**
  - A
  - AE
  - AO
  - VE
  - X
  - Area of Potential Effect

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 6: ADVISORY BASE FLOOD ELEVATION  
 APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

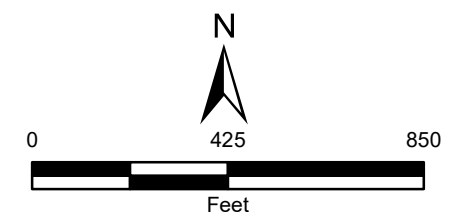
Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845



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



Author: TG Date: 3/22/2024







**Legend**

-  Project Parcel
-  Coastal Zone Management Boundary

Distance to Nearest Coastal Zone:  
15286 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 7: COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

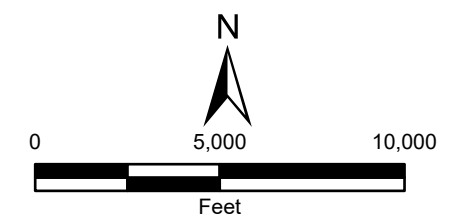
Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845

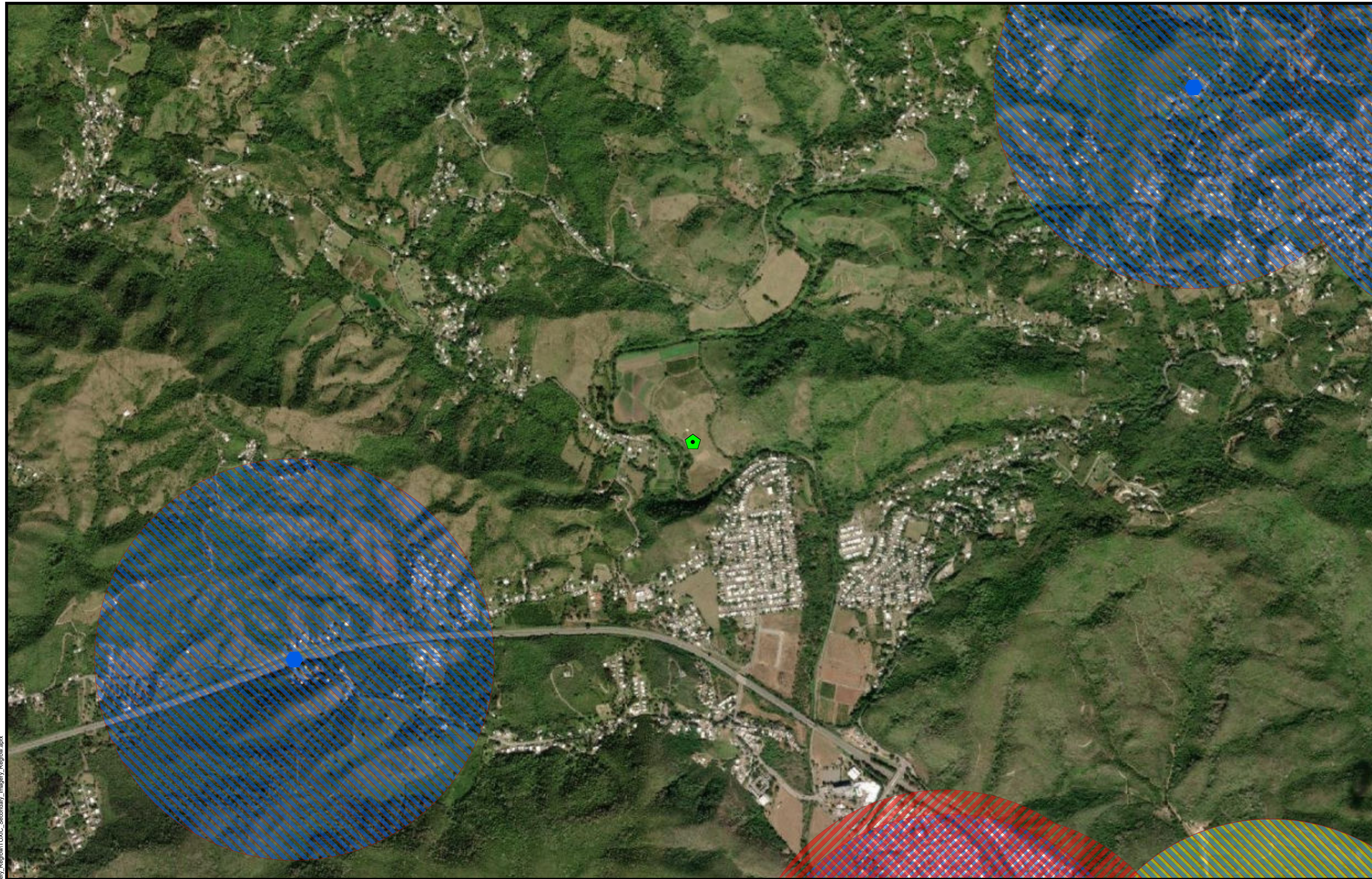


Source: NOAA's Ocean Service  
<https://data.noaa.gov>

Author: TG Date: 10/17/2023







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

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 8: TOXIC CHEMICALS AND GASES, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, CONTAMINATION, AND RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

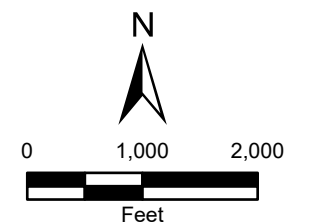
Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845



Source: E.P.A.

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

Author: JB/AK Date: 11/27/2023

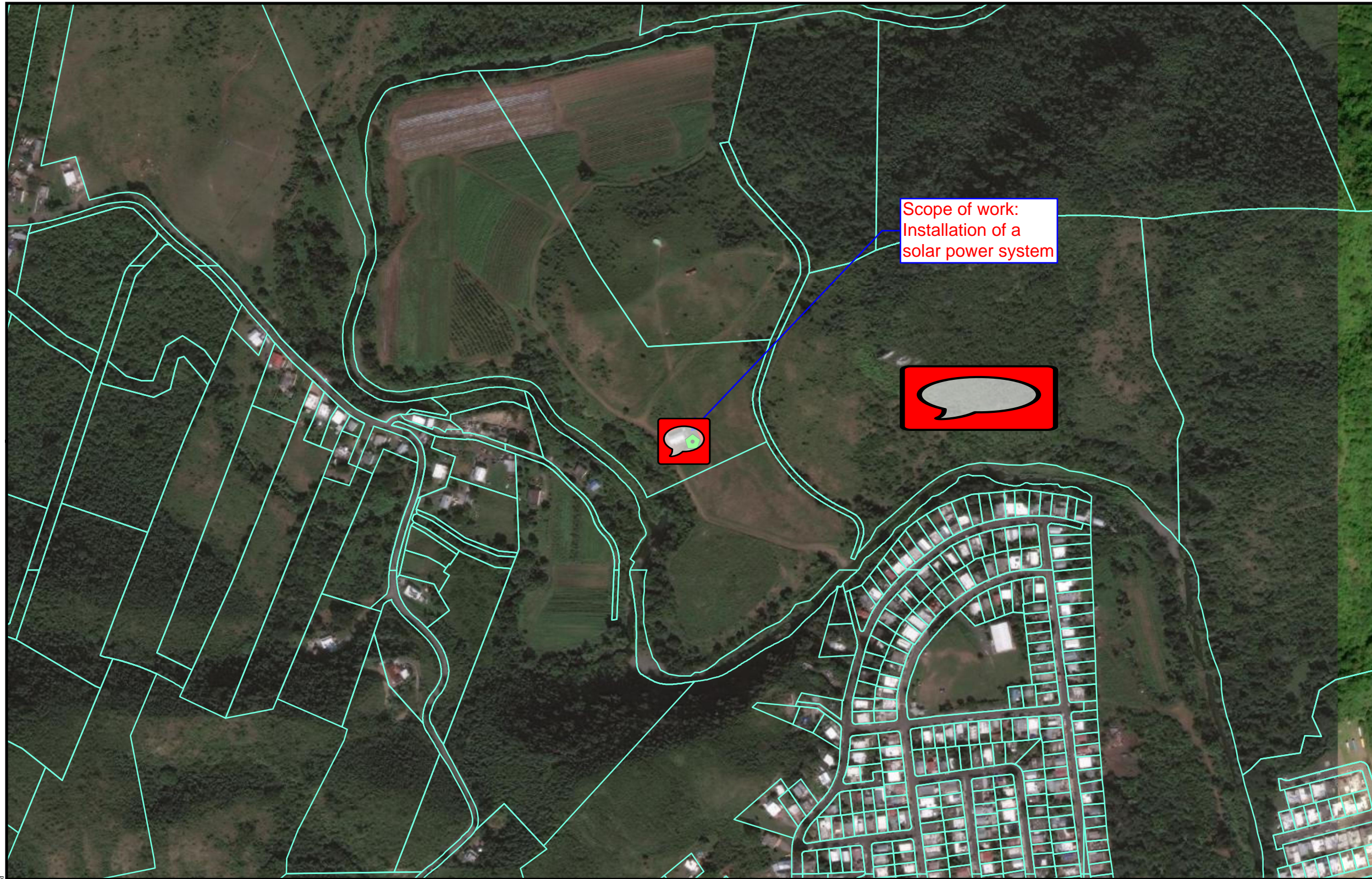


File Path: Z:\data\USRT\Tier2\Regrow\T2\OAC\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\T2OAC\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow.aprx









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

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 10: ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

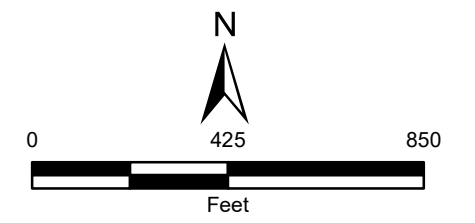
Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845

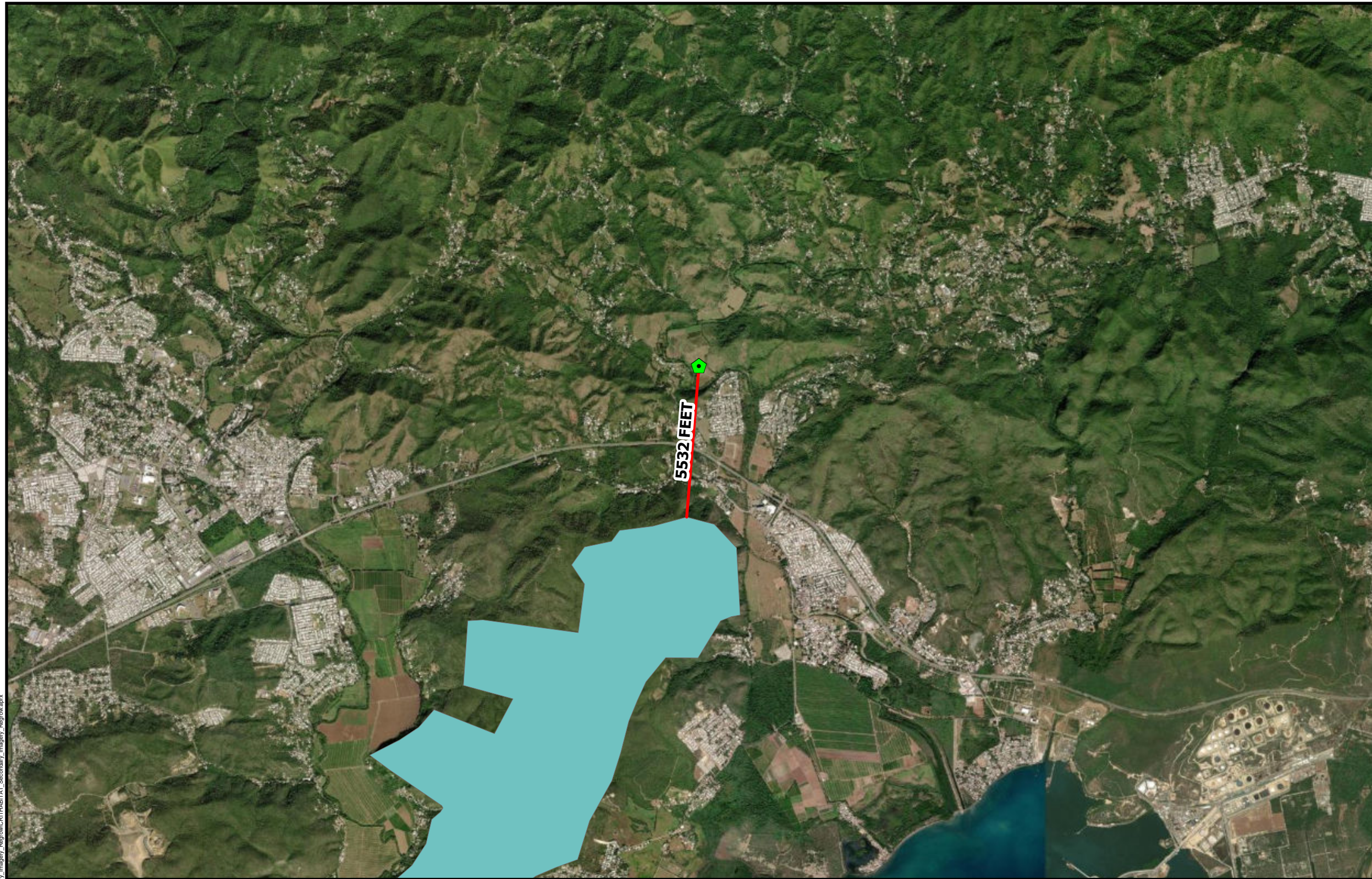


Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
<https://ecos.fws.gov>

Author: TG Date: 3/22/2024







- Legend**
- ▣ Project Parcel
  - Common Name**
  - No common name

Distance to Nearest Critical Habitat:  
5532 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 11: CRITICAL HABITATS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

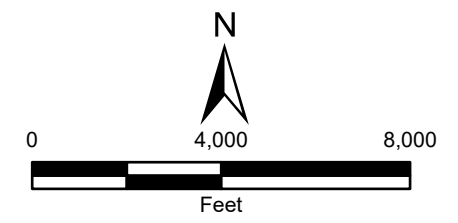
Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845



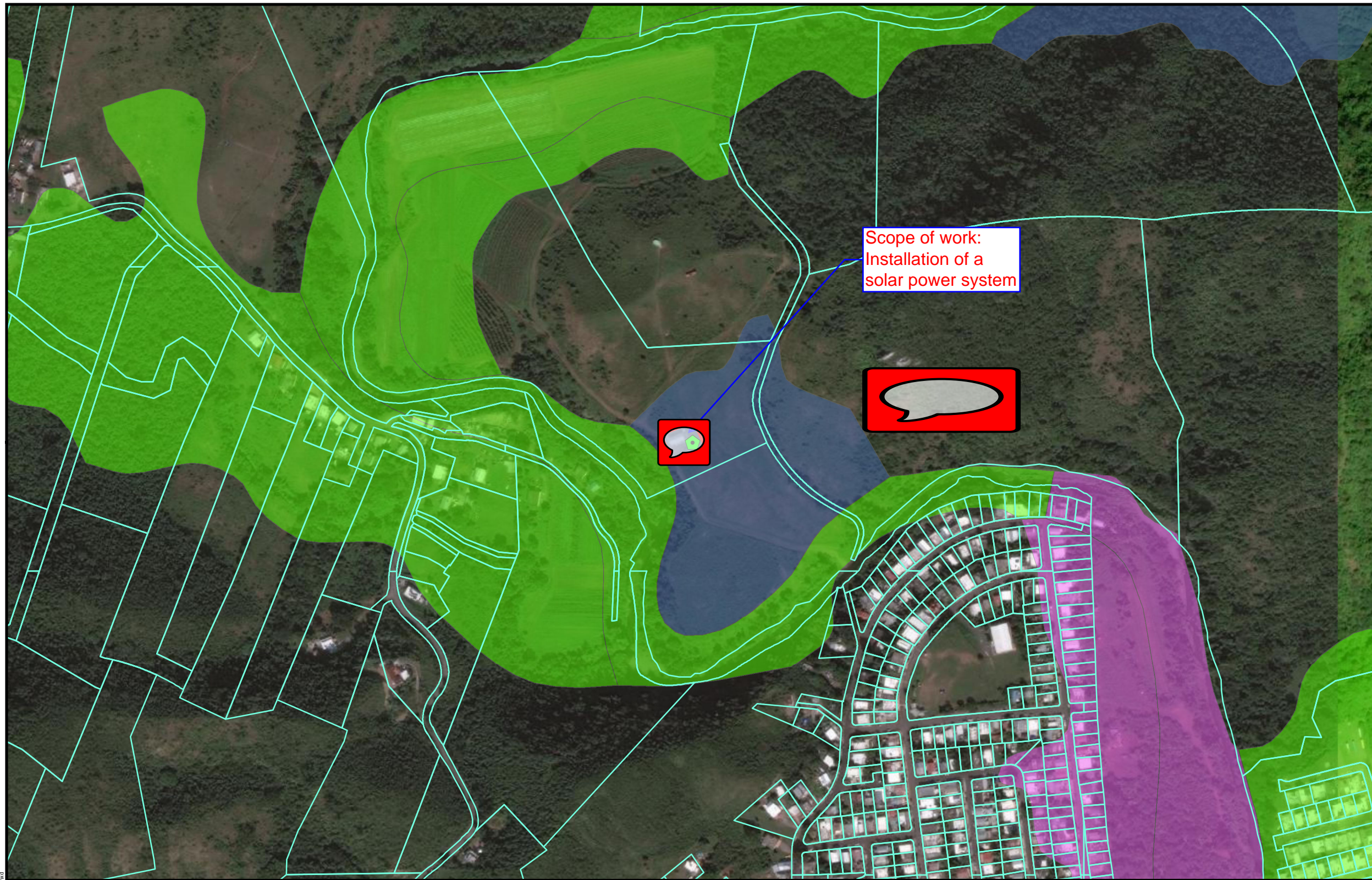
Source: U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
<https://ecos.fws.gov>

Author: TG Date: 11/3/2023












File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\Tier2\Regrow\aparc\CRITHABITAT\_Secoundary\_Imagery\_Regrow\CRITHABITAT\_Secoundary\_Imagery\_Regrow.aprx





**Legend**

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

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 12: FARMLAND PROTECTION**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

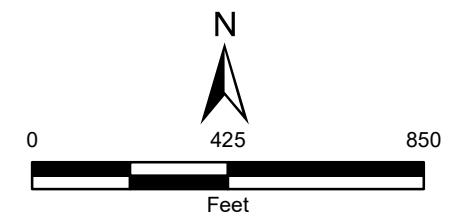
ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845



Source: USDA  
<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>  
 Author: TG Date: 3/22/2024



File Path: Z:\data\USPRT\Farmland Protection\Regrow.mxd





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

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 13: HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

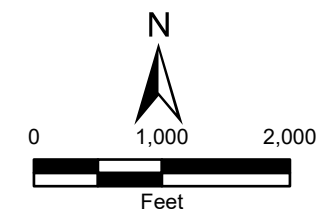
Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845



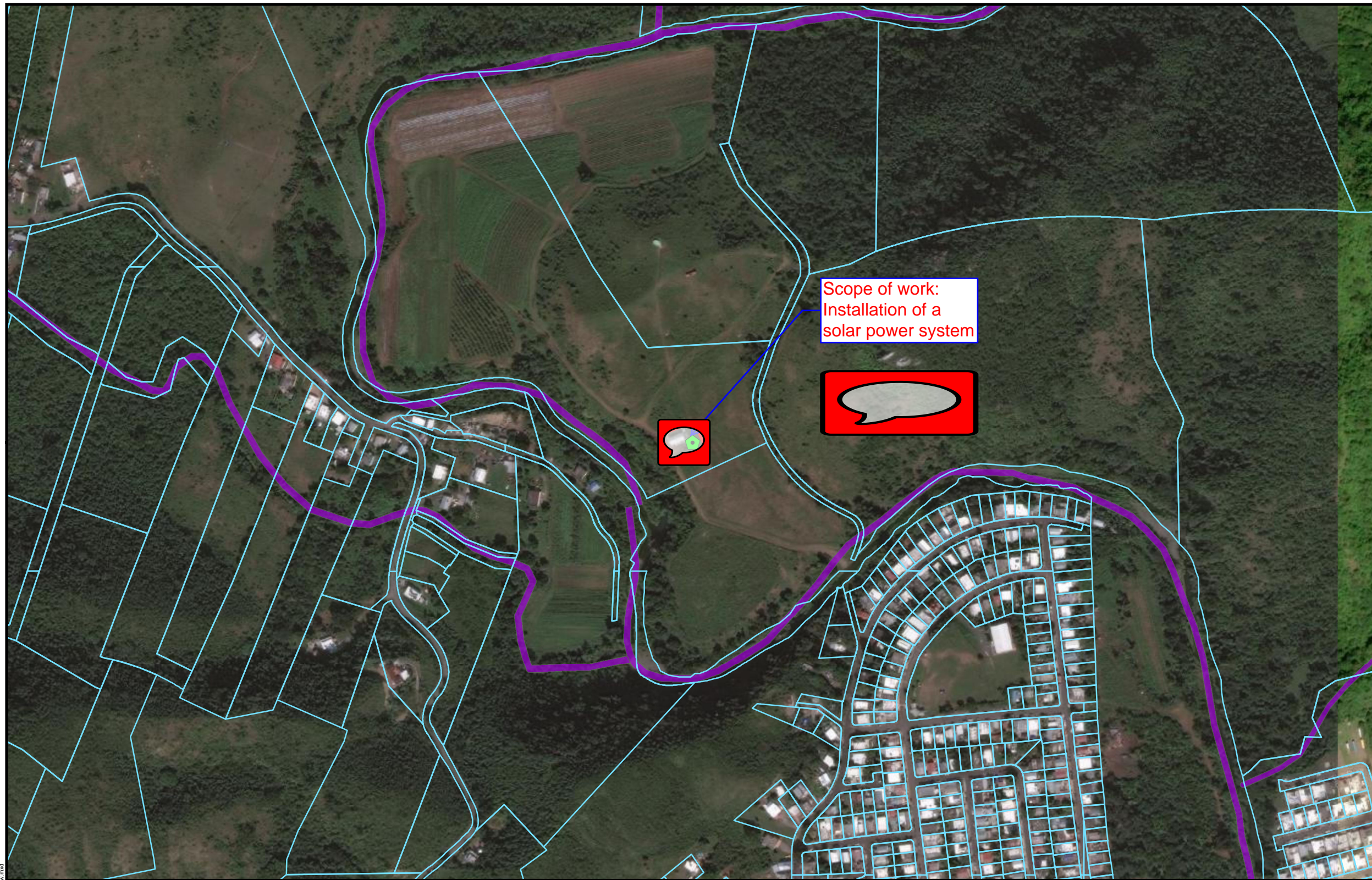
Source: National Park Service  
<https://www.nps.gov/>

Author: TG Date: 11/3/2023



File Path: Z:\data\USPRTier2\Regrow\pr\IST\_Secundary\_Imagery\_Regrow\IST\_Secundary\_Imagery\_Regrow\_1.aprx





**Legend**

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

**PUERTO RICO**

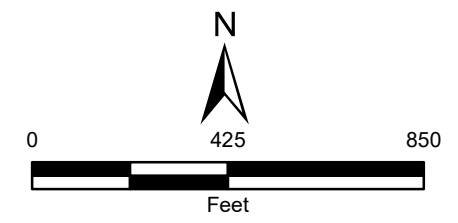


**Figure 14: WETLANDS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656  
 Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.  
 Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845

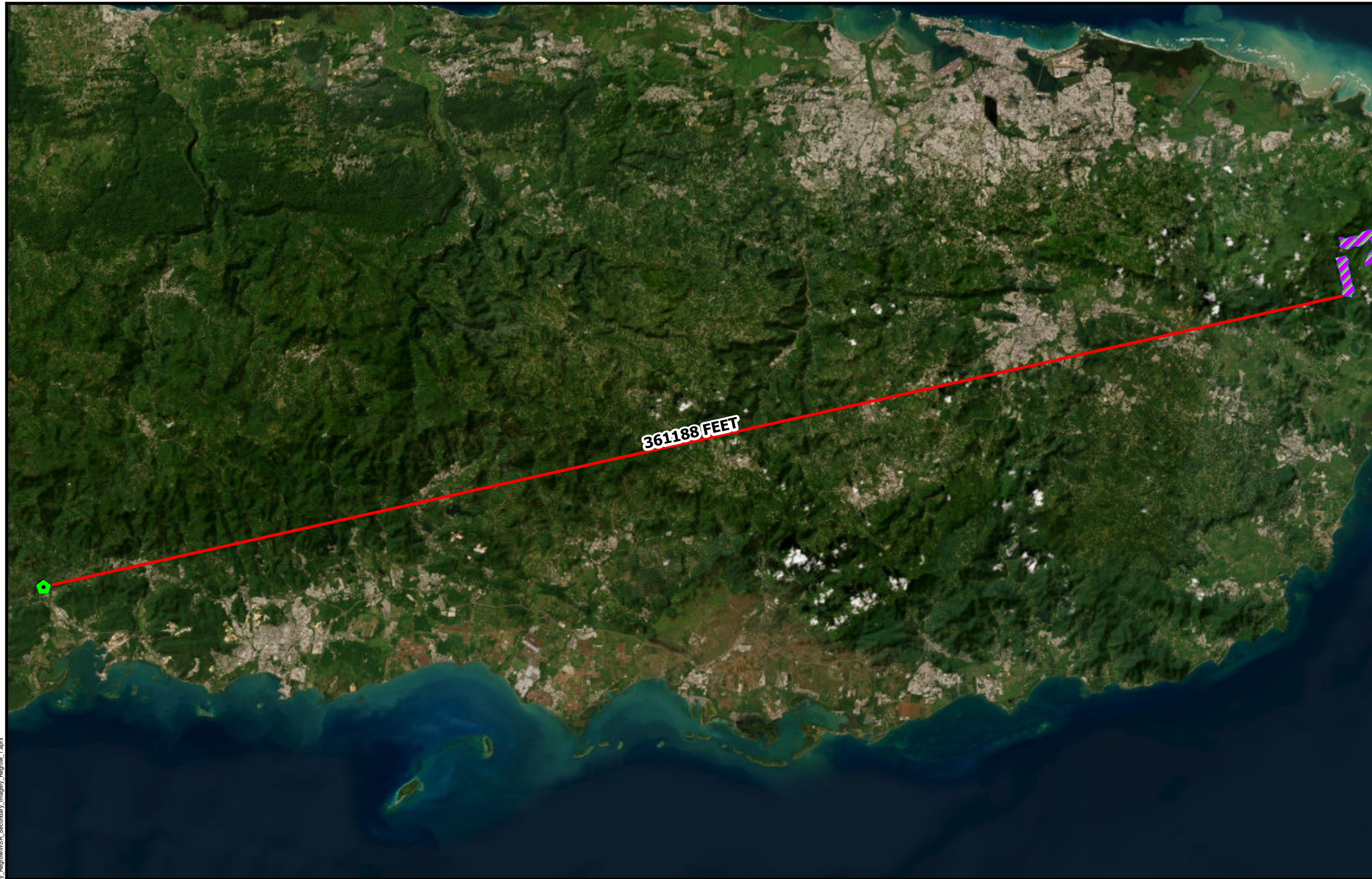


Source: U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
<https://www.fws.gov>  
 Author: TG Date: 3/22/2024



File Path: Z:\data\USFWS\PR\WETLANDS\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow.mxd





- Legend**
- ◆ Project Parcel
  - Wild and Scenic Rivers

Distance to Nearest Wild and Scenic River: 361188 Feet

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 15: WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

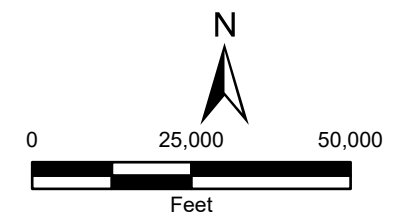
Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845



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

Author: TG

Date: 10/23/2023



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





- Legend**
- Project Parcel
  - Parcels
- Landslide Susceptibility**
- Extremely High
  - Very High
  - High
  - Moderate
  - Low
- Area of Potential Effect

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 16: SLOPE AND EROSION**

**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

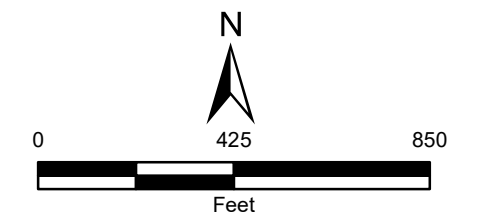
Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845



Source: PRDOH  
<https://usgs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=10506ecc7f15491daee17647f19248ee>

Author: TG Date: 3/22/2024



File Path: Z:\data\USPRT\Facil\_SUDE\_Secundary\_Imagery\2\_Region.mxd





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

Distance to Nearest Aquifer:  
5,293,075 FT

**PUERTO RICO**



**Figure 17: SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS**  
**APPLICANT ID: PR-RGRW-01055**

ADDRESS: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, PR 00656

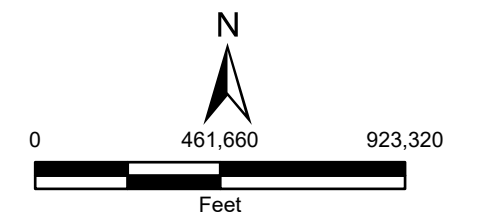
Name of Development: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Parcel Coordinates: 18.046216 , -66.803845



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

Author: TG Date: 2/21/2024



File Path: Z:\data\USRTier2\Regrow\SSA\QUIFER\_Secondary\_Imagery\_Regrow\_L1.aprx

# **APPENDIX C**

## **Additional Information**



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

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

Data is current as of February 29, 2024

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

\* The 1997 Primary Annual PM-2.5 NAAQS (level of 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) is revoked in attainment and maintenance areas for that NAAQS. For additional information see the PM-2.5 NAAQS SIP Requirements Final Rule, effective October 24, 2016. (81 FR 58009)

Change the State:

PUERTO RICO

Important Notes

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

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

Important Notes



# EJScreen Community Report

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

## Guayanilla Municipio, PR

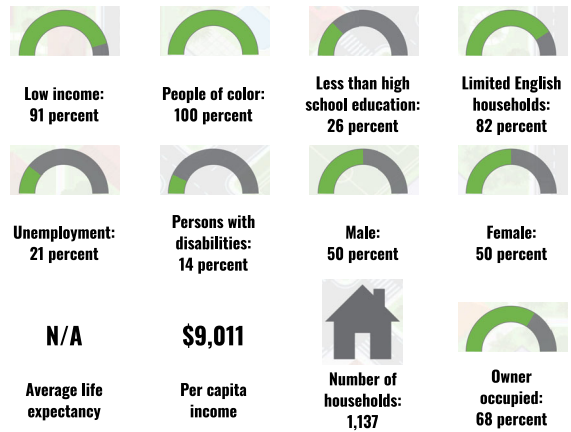
1 mile Ring around the Area  
Population: 3,108  
Area in square miles: 3.37

A3 Landscape



April 5, 2024  
PR-RGRW-01055  
Search Result (point)  
1:2,257  
0 0.03 0.06 0.1 mi  
0 0.04 0.09 0.17 km  
Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community, Esri, HERE, Garmin, ICF

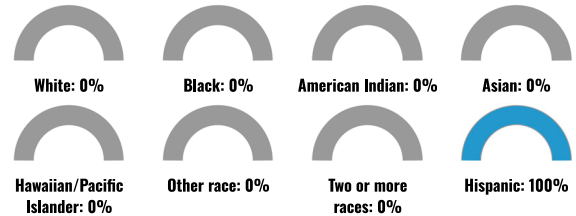
### COMMUNITY INFORMATION



### LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	4%
Spanish	96%
Total Non-English	96%

### BREAKDOWN BY RACE



### BREAKDOWN BY AGE



### LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



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



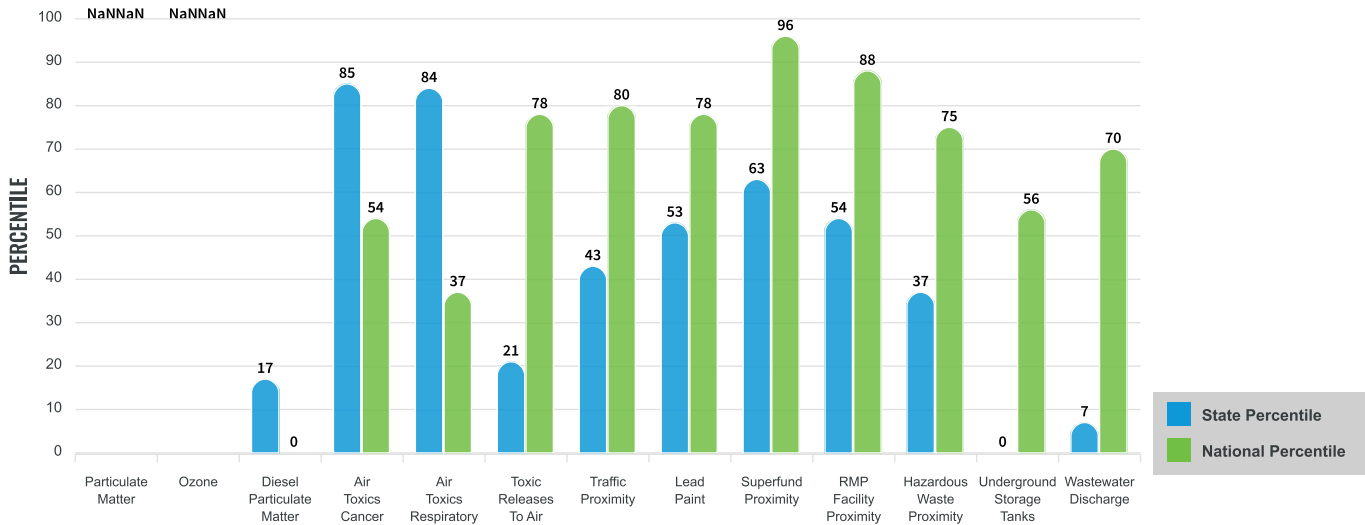
# Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

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

## EJ INDEXES

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

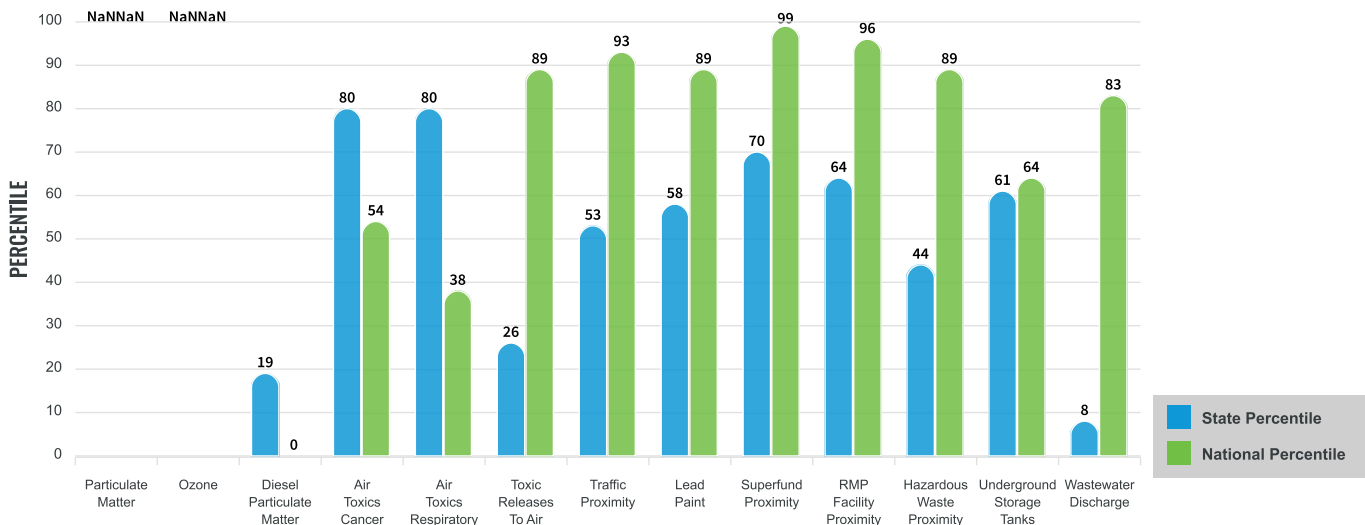
### EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



## SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

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

### SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



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

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area

# EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
<b>POLLUTION AND SOURCES</b>					
Particulate Matter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.08	N/A
Ozone (ppb)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.6	N/A
Diesel Particulate Matter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	0.0167	0.0667	15	0.261	0
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	20	15	25	5
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.2	0.19	17	0.31	4
Toxic Releases to Air	230	4,300	18	4,600	34
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	49	180	40	210	39
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.1	0.16	52	0.3	35
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.093	0.15	57	0.13	64
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.16	0.47	46	0.43	47
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.17	0.76	32	1.9	31
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km <sup>2</sup> )	0.14	1.7	0	3.9	30
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	4E-05	2.3	6	22	25
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS</b>					
Demographic Index	95%	83%	84	35%	99
Supplemental Demographic Index	54%	43%	79	14%	99
People of Color	100%	96%	31	39%	98
Low Income	91%	70%	84	31%	99
Unemployment Rate	21%	15%	71	6%	96
Limited English Speaking Households	82%	67%	79	5%	99
Less Than High School Education	26%	21%	63	12%	88
Under Age 5	5%	4%	71	6%	50
Over Age 64	20%	22%	41	17%	66
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A%	N/A	20%	N/A

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

## Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

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

## Other community features within defined area:

Schools .....	2
Hospitals .....	0
Places of Worship .....	0

## Other environmental data:

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

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

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area



# EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

## HEALTH INDICATORS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	N/A	N/A	N/A	20%	N/A
Heart Disease	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Asthma	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	N/A
Cancer	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1	N/A
Persons with Disabilities	12.6%	21.6%	10	13.4%	50

## CLIMATE INDICATORS

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

## CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	29%	32%	50	14%	88
Lack of Health Insurance	4%	7%	22	9%	29
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area

**APPENDIX D**  
Endangered Species



Date: April 26, 2024

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-01055  
Street Address: Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas  
Municipality: Guayanilla

### **Subject – Endangered Species No Effect Determination for PR-RGRW-01055**

Tetra Tech conducted a site-specific review of endangered species in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*) for the proposed project located at Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, in the Municipality of Guayanilla, Puerto Rico (Parcel ID# 362-000-001-12).

The proposed project is the construction of a metal pergola approximately 8 feet tall, for the installation of 26 solar panels to power the farm. With an approximate footprint of 20' X 45'. The battery station and transfer switch will be installed in the adjacent building in coordinates: 18.046237, -66.803939. An overground metal conduit will be installed for the wires system from the solar panels to the battery station and transfer switch. The area where the pergola and solar panels will be installed has been previously cleared and graded, no tree removal will be required for installation. The land is currently used for raising cattle, sheep and goats. There are also grape crops and the area is used for private activities such as weddings.

Surrounding landscape to the nearby project area is a cleared and graded field, to the north and east the area is forested, to the south there is a residential community. No trees are located within the area where the scope of work will take place and therefore there will be no effect to the habitat for arboreal snakes. There will be no vegetation or tree will removal in this scope of work.

The National Wetlands Inventory indicated there is one NWI mapped wetlands are located within the parcel, and approximately 182 feet away from the proposed scope of work (Figure 14). There will be no effect on the wetland, see attached wetlands memo.

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

<b>Species</b>	<b>Status</b>
Puerto Rican Boa ( <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> )	Endangered
Bariaco ( <i>Trichilia triacantha</i> )	Endangered

No Critical Habitats were noted within the project area (Figure 10). Based on site review and site photos, no suitable habitat was found within the proposed project area for the Puerto Rican Boa and there were no signs of the Bariaco shrub in the proposed area of potential effect. Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the Project Site, and IPaC species list, we have made the following effects determinations:

<b>Species</b>	<b>Effect Determination</b>	<b>Conservation Measures to be implemented (if needed)</b>
Puerto Rican Boa ( <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> )	No Effect	No Conservation Measures
Bariaco ( <i>Trichilia triacantha</i> )	No Effect	No Conservation Measures

A 'No Effect' determination has been made based on the lack of potential effect to the habitat for the Puerto Rican Boa and Bariaco as well as previous disturbance and current land use of the proposed project area. Due to the area where the proposed scope of work will take place has been previously cleared and graded there is no suitable habitat for either listed species. The proposed scope of work will require no vegetation or tree removal.

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

The Bariaco has a typical habitat that consists of dry forest habitat on limestone substrates, often near intermittent streams.

If a Puerto Rican Boa is found in the project activity site, work shall cease until the Boa moves off on its own. If the Boa does not move off, the Construction Manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the Boa.



**Attachments:**

Wetlands Memo  
IPaC Resource List

Kyle Bartelink



B.S. Biologist, Tetra Tech



## United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:  
Project code: 2024-0049749  
Project Name: PR-RGRW-01055

04/09/2024 12:55:36 UTC

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-01055' for specified threatened and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On April 09, 2024, Kyle Bartelink used the Caribbean DKey; dated April 03, 2024, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-01055'. The project is located in Guayanilla County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.04635605,-66.8039006997508,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-01055':



The proposed project is the construction of a metal pergola approximately 8 feet tall, for the installation of 26 solar panels to power the farm. With an approximate footprint of 20' X 45'. The battery station and transfer switch will be installed in the adjacent building in coordinates: 18.046237, -66.803939. An overground metal conduit will be installed for the wires system from the solar panels to the battery station and transfer switch. The area where the pergola and solar panels will be installed has been previously cleared and graded, no tree removal will be required for installation. The land is currently used for raising cattle, sheep and goats. There are also grape crops and the area is used for private activities such as weddings.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Bariaco *Trichilia triacantha* Endangered

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

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



## Action Description

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

### 1. Name

PR-RGRW-01055

### 2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-01055':

The proposed project is the construction of a metal pergola approximately 8 feet tall, for the installation of 26 solar panels to power the farm. With an approximate footprint of 20' X 45'. The battery station and transfer switch will be installed in the adjacent building in coordinates: 18.046237, -66.803939. An overground metal conduit will be installed for the wires system from the solar panels to the battery station and transfer switch. The area where the pergola and solar panels will be installed has been previously cleared and graded, no tree removal will be required for installation. The land is currently used for raising cattle, sheep and goats. There are also grape crops and the area is used for private activities such as weddings.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.04635605,-66.8039006997508,14z>



## QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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

*No*

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

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

*No*

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

*Yes*



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

**Automatically answered**

*Yes*

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Tetra Tech

Name: Kyle Bartelink

Address: 2301 Lucien Way

City: Maitland

State: FL

Zip: 32751

Email: [kyle.bartelink@tetrattech.com](mailto:kyle.bartelink@tetrattech.com)

Phone: 4072523619





## United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:  
Project Code: 2024-0049749  
Project Name: PR-RGRW-01055

February 15, 2024

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

To Whom It May Concern:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This species list is provided by:



Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

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

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

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

## OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

**Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office**

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(787) 834-1600

## PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0049749

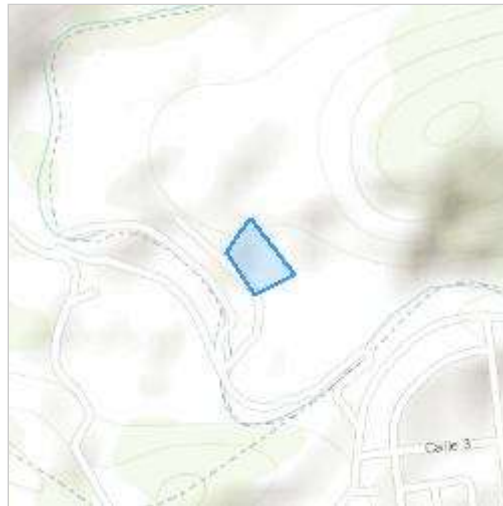
Project Name: PR-RGRW-01055

Project Type: Restoration / Enhancement - Agricultural

Project Description: The proposed project is the construction of a metal pergola approximately 8 feet tall, for the installation of 26 solar panels to power the farm. With an approximate footprint of 20' X 45'. The battery station and transfer switch will be installed in the adjacent building in coordinates: 18.046237, -66.803939. An overground metal conduit will be installed for the wires system from the solar panels to the battery station and transfer switch. The area where the pergola and solar panels will be installed has been previously cleared and graded, no tree removal will be required for installation. The land is currently used for raising cattle, sheep and goats. There are also grape crops and the area is used for private activities such as weddings.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.04635605,-66.8039006997508,14z>



Counties: Guayanilla County, Puerto Rico



## ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

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

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

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

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

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

## REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628</a> General project design guidelines: <a href="https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/VRIQFC4JNFEEJG3VNXEHO3BCVE/documents/generated/7159.pdf">https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/VRIQFC4JNFEEJG3VNXEHO3BCVE/documents/generated/7159.pdf</a>	Endangered

## FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Bariaco <i>Trichilia triacantha</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1576">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1576</a>	Endangered

## CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

# USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

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

## BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

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

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

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

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

## MIGRATORY BIRDS

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

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

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

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



## WETLANDS

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

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

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

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Tetra Tech  
Name: Kyle Bartelink  
Address: 2301 Lucien Way  
City: Maitland  
State: FL  
Zip: 32751  
Email: kyle.bartelink@tetrattech.com  
Phone: 4072523619



# **APPENDIX E**

## **Section 106 Consultation**



# GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

## STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

### Lauren B Poche

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

SHPO-CF-03-18-24-04 PR-RGRW-01055 (Guayanilla), Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Dear Ms. Poche,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/MB



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

March 18, 2024

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

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

**Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-01055 – Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc. – Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected***

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

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

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, HORNE is submitting documentation for activities proposed by Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc. located at Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, in the municipality of Guayanilla. The undertaking for this project includes the purchase and installation of a solar power system. The applicant plans to install a solar system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design), to be constructed with an approximate height of 8 foot (ft) and an approximate footprint of 20' X 45'. The purpose of the solar system is to provide power to the existing warehouse. The battery station and transfer switch will be installed in the warehouse and will be connected to the solar panels via an aboveground electrical conduit from the panels to the transfers switch, inverter, and batteries. No water connection is anticipated. The construction of the elevated design will require the posts of the elevated structure to be installed at a depth of approximately 3 ft for anchoring of the structure.



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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Lauren B. Poche'.

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

Architectural Historian, EHP Senior Manager  
LBP/JLE

Attachments

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b>		
<b>REgROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b>		
<b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>		
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.		
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01055	<b>City:</b> Guayanilla	

<b>Project Location:</b> Carr 377 Km1 Bo. Quebradas, Guayanilla PR, 00656	
<b>Project Coordinates:</b> 18.046216, -66.803845	
<b>TPID (Número de Catastro):</b> 362-000-001-12-998	
<b>Type of Undertaking:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
<b>Construction Date (AH est.):</b> c2015	<b>Property Size (acres):</b> 30.0

<b>SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian:</b> Maria F. Lopez Schmid, MAHP
<b>Date Reviewed:</b> 2/13/2024
<b>SOI-Qualified Archaeologist:</b> Pollyanna Clark, MA, RPA
<b>Date Reviewed:</b> 2/7/2024


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

### Project Description (Undertaking)

The intent use of funds for the proposed project includes the purchase and installation of a solar power system to be located in a parcel that was used for cattle raising in the past and is currently in use for agricultural purposes with the raising of cattle, sheep and goats, the cultivation of grapes, and is use as an activity center for the celebration of private events.

The Scope of work (SOW) for the proposed project consists of the purchase and installation of a solar power system at coordinates 18.046216, -66.803845. The proposed system is an estimated 12.3 Kilowatts (kW) system that includes 35 x Hanwha Q-Cell Q Peak 350 solar panels and 2 x Tesla Powerwall 2.0 batteries for a capacity of 28 kW. The applicant plans to install a solar system on a metal high-rise design structure (pergola design), to be constructed with an approximate height of 8 foot (ft) and an approximate footprint of 20' X 45'. The purpose of the solar system is to provide power to the existing warehouse located at coordinates 18.046237, -66.803939. The battery station and transfer switch will be installed in the warehouse and will be connected to the solar panels via an aboveground electrical conduit form the panels to the transfers switch, inverter, and batteries. No water connection is anticipated as part of the SOW.

The construction of the elevated design will require the posts of the structure to be installed at a depth of approximately 3 ft for anchoring of the structure. While it is unclear if the installation and construction of the pergola structure is included as part of the installation works offered with the purchase of the solar system or if the applicant plans to pay for the

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>REGrow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>		
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.		
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01055		<b>City:</b> Guayanilla

pergola installation themselves and no HUD funds would be utilized for this portion of work, the potential impacts from this action are included in the analyses below and it is contained within the delimited Area of Potential Effect (APE). This APE has been extended to the existing warehouse structure to allow for electrical connection. The visual APE is the viewshed of the proposed project. The APE for the proposed project is approximately 0.22 acres.

### 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 a metal Quonset building with an approximate height of 10 ft and an approximate footprint of 20' X 45' located just north of coordinates 18.046216, -66.803845 as reported in the Project Description, 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 Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that the project area reveals no archaeological sites within a half-mile radius of the APE.

Three previous archaeological studies (**Table 1**) by Jesus Figueroa Lugo (1985), Juan Gonzalez Colon (1995) and Harry Aleman Crespo (1996) were conducted within proximity to the project area, all reporting negative results.

Author	Phase/Title	Year	SHPO / IPRC code	Results	Distance/Direction
Jesus Figueroa Lugo	Phase IA-IB / Nuevo Acuedunto Rural, Bo. Consejo, Guayanilla, PR	1985	SHPO# 07-22-85-04	Negative	0.08 mi northwest
Juan Gonzalez Colon	Phase II / Urbanizacion Industrial, Compania de Fomento industrial Reporte Final	1995	IPRC/CAT-GY-??-01-02	Negative	0.42 mi southeast



<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>ReGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>			
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.			
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01055		<b>City:</b> Guayanilla	

Harry Aleman Crespo	Phase IA-IB / Adquisicion de Terreno Para Construccion de Cancha Bajo Techo	1996	SHPO#11-28-95-02 / IPRC CAT-GY-96-04-06	Negative	0.49 mi south
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**Table 1.** Archaeological studies were conducted within a half-mile radius of the APE.

The APE is characterized by Quebrada silty clay loam (QeD2) soil type, featuring shallow, well-drained, and moderately permeable soils on summits with slopes of 12 to 20 percent, eroded shoulders, and back slopes of mountains within the Humid Mountains and Valleys of the Major Land Resource Areas (MLRAs).

The closest water source is Río Guayanilla located 0.04 miles (0.07km) to the west. The topography characterized by the steep slopes and drainage patterns of the soil, combined with the absence of archaeological sites and a lack of archaeological evidence from prior investigations, indicates a low to moderate potential for the discovery of new, well-preserved archaeological sites within the APE.

### Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture

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

The property is located in a mountainous rural area and is surrounded by planted crops to the northeast and south on the eastern bank of the Guayanilla River. A residential subdivision is to the southeast of the property and the entrance to this property is through the subdivisions Calle Del Río Street crossing the river. A circa 2015 building is inside the area of potential effect of the property. The building first appears on a 2014 aerial image, shown below right, but not a 2012 aerial image. The building lies just north of the project APE geocoordinates.



**Figure 1 & 2.** Detail of 2014 aerial image showing the building on the property and oblique view of the building to the northeast.


The metal building is a metal Quonset building with an approximate height of 10 ft and an approximate footprint of 20' X 45' and it is used for storage. The building shown above left has a metal structure, curved profile section that sits on a slab on grade concrete foundation and is enclosed by double metal sliding doors in the front elevation.



**Figure 3 & 4.** Buildings on the property, view to the northwest and southwest.

There are additional buildings on the property shown above that are of recent construction, one at the rear of the metal building has slab on grade concrete foundation, concrete walls, and corrugated metal roof. The other is a wood frame and hardboard siding with a corrugated metal roof canopy over wood frame structure.

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

<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>REGrow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01055	<b>City:</b> Guayanilla

## Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

Direct Effect:


- N/A

Indirect Effect:

- N/A

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that no previously identified historic properties are located within or adjacent to the proposed project the Area of Potential Effect. There are no reported archaeological materials or archaeological sites within a quarter-mile radius of the proposed project location. Two previous cultural resource surveys within a 0.25 miles radius of the APE have had negative results with regards to the presence of archaeological resources. The project area is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed historic district or Traditional Urban Center. Additionally, no NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the APE of case PR-RGRW-01055 is located. The closest freshwater body (Guayanilla River) is approximately 0.07 mi (0.11 km) of the project area. The construction of public roads and agricultural infrastructure has minimally impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no historic properties will be affected by the proposed project activities.



<b>PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM</b> <b>REgROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM</b> <b>Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination</b>	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
<b>Subrecipient:</b> Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.	
<b>Case ID:</b> PR-RGRW-01055	<b>City:</b> Guayanilla

**Recommendation**

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

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

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

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

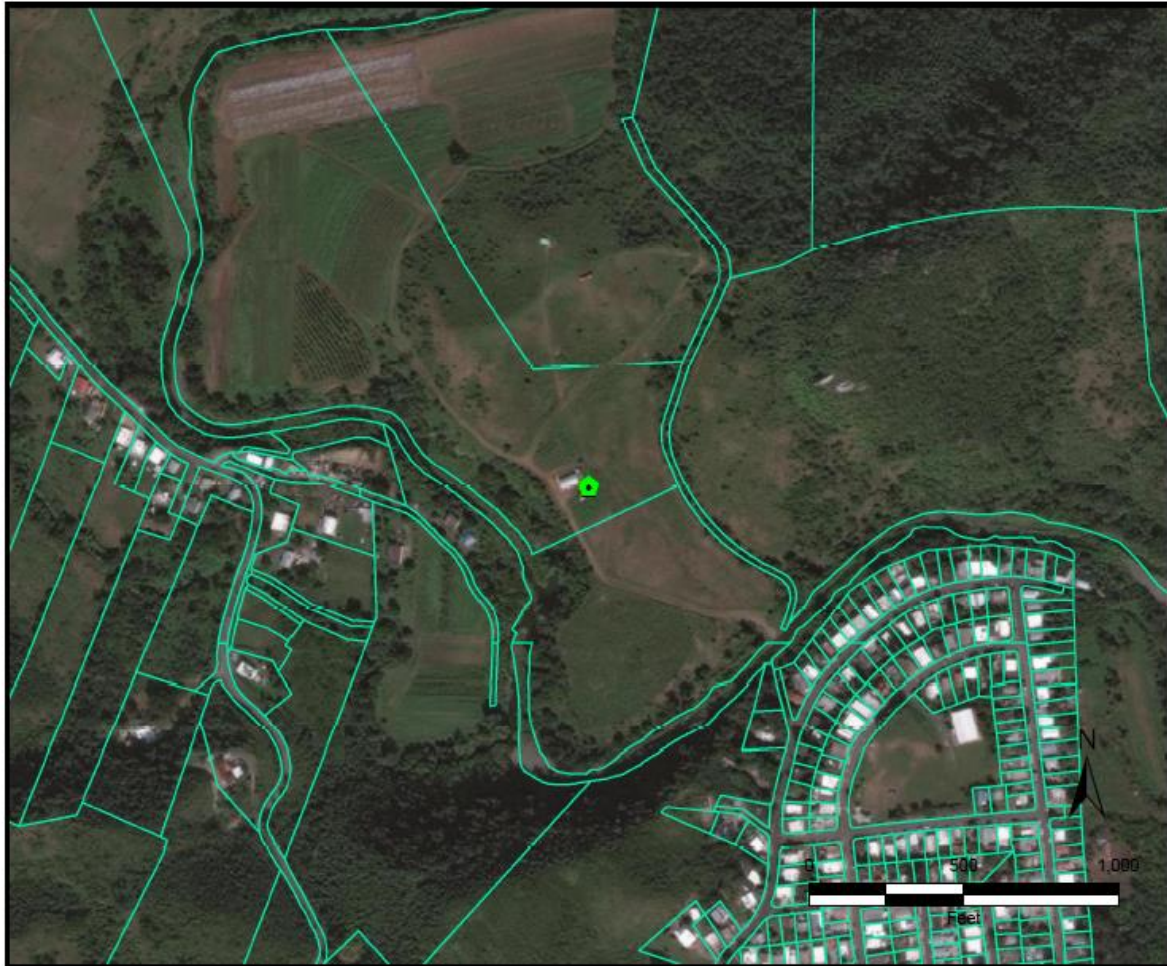


Subrecipient: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01055

City: Guayanilla

### Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map



PR-2017-2164-106-NHPA-EFFECT-DETERMINATION-001-Subrecipient: Finca








TETRA TECH

Source: CRIM

Author: TG

Date: 11/16/2023

Legend

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



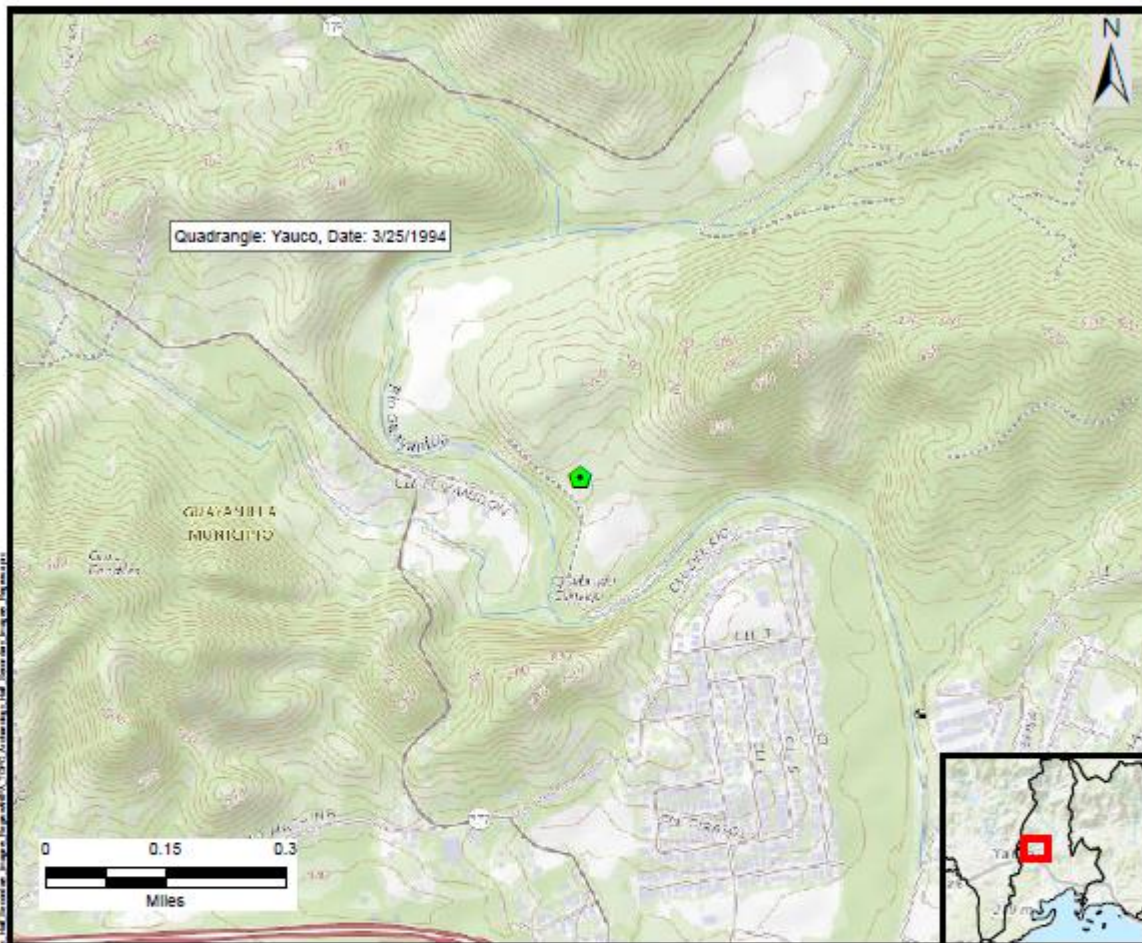


Subrecipient: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01055

City: Guayanilla

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







Source: National Park Service

Author: TG

Date: 11/17/2023

#### Legend

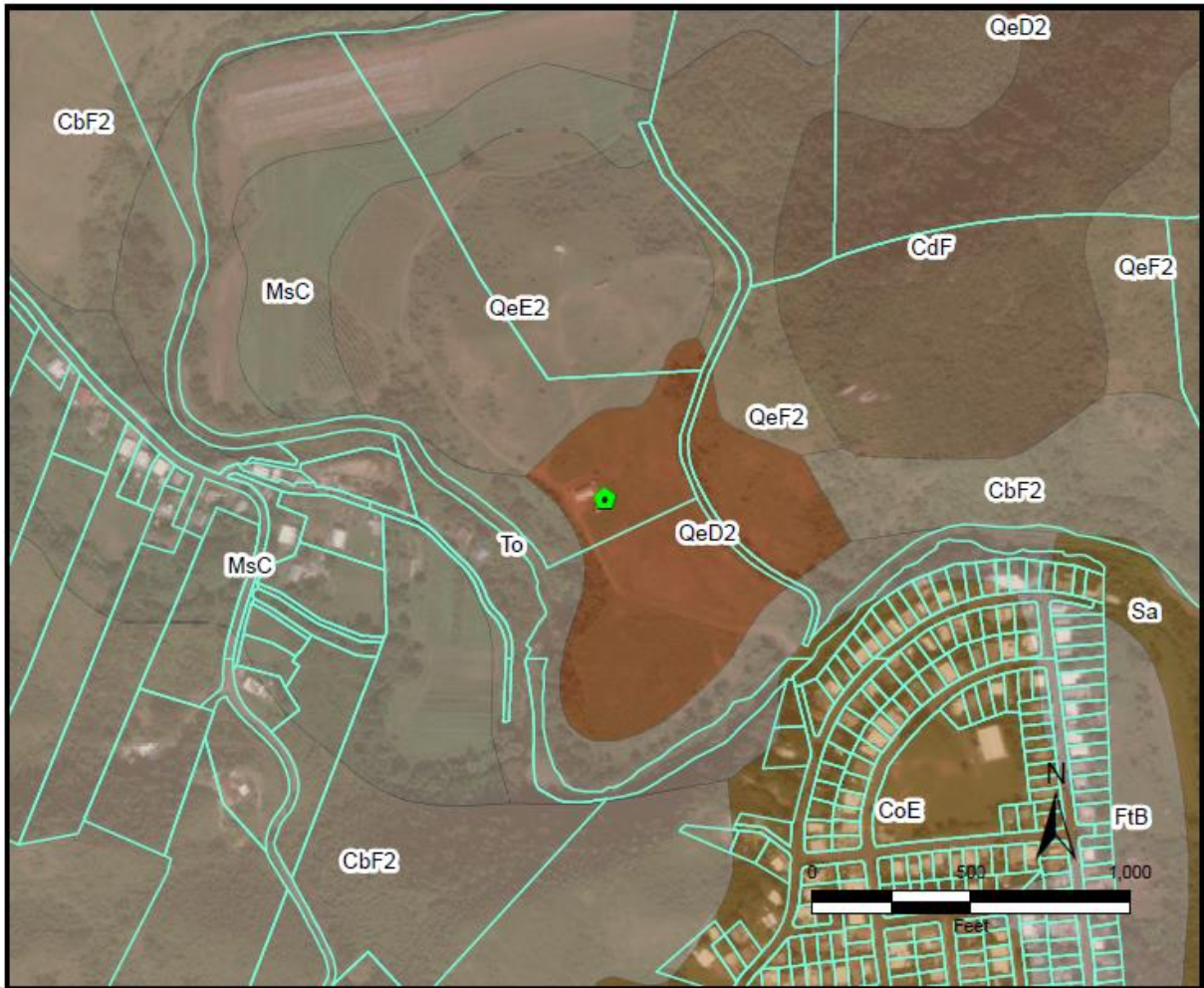
-  Tier 2 Site
-  Historic Comunidades
-  Traditional Urban Centers
-  Cultural Resource District Polygon

Subrecipient: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01055

City: Guayanilla

### Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map





Source: USDA

Author: TG

Date: 11/16/2023

**Legend**

-  Tier 2 Site
-  Parcelario



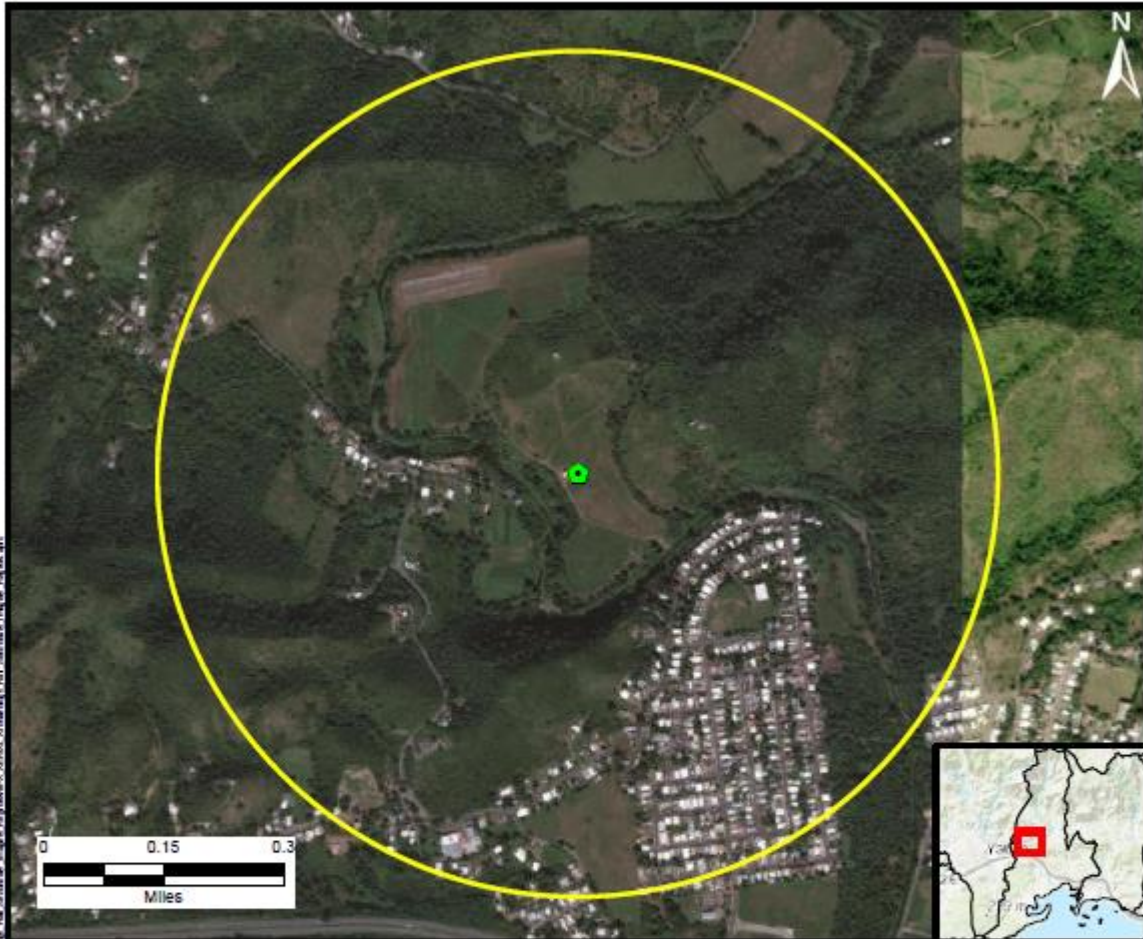








Subrecipient: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01055

City: Guayanilla

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



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

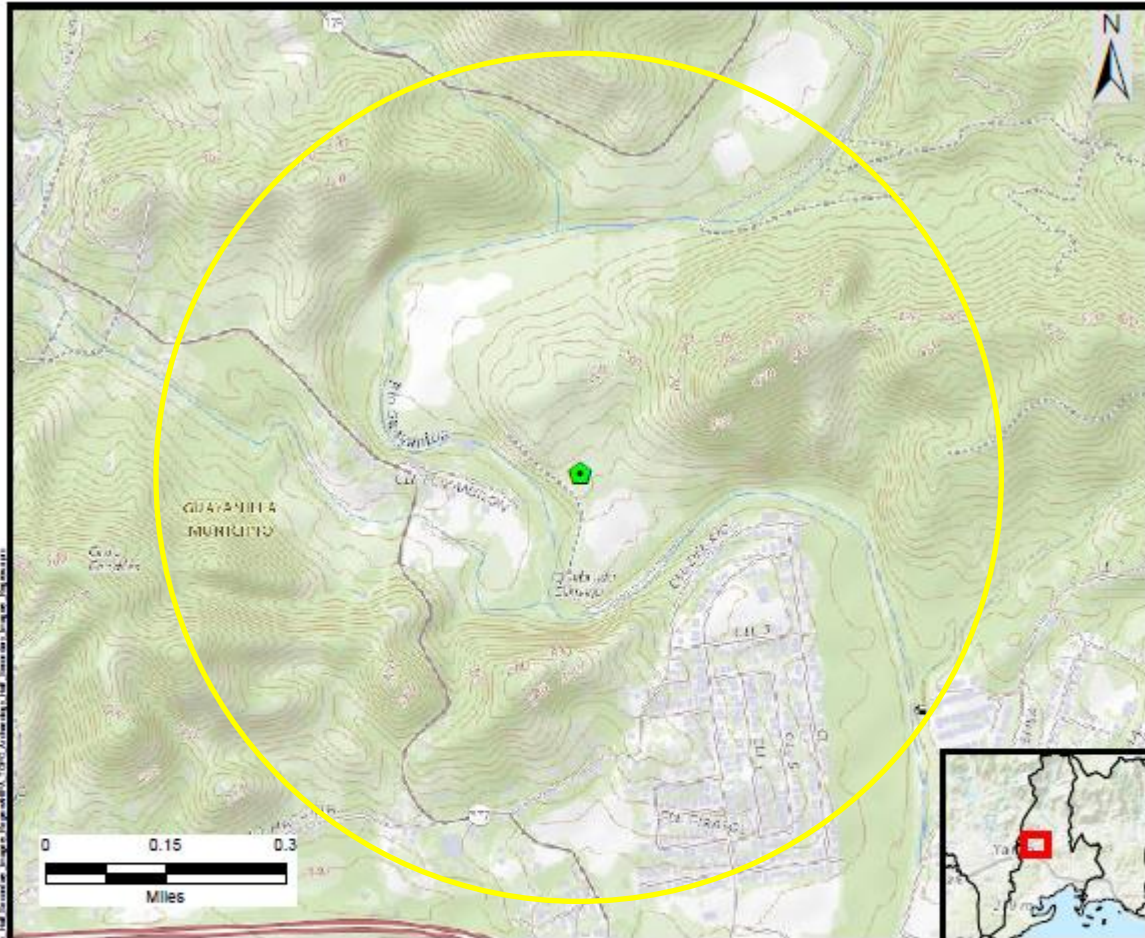


Subrecipient: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01055

City: Guayanilla

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



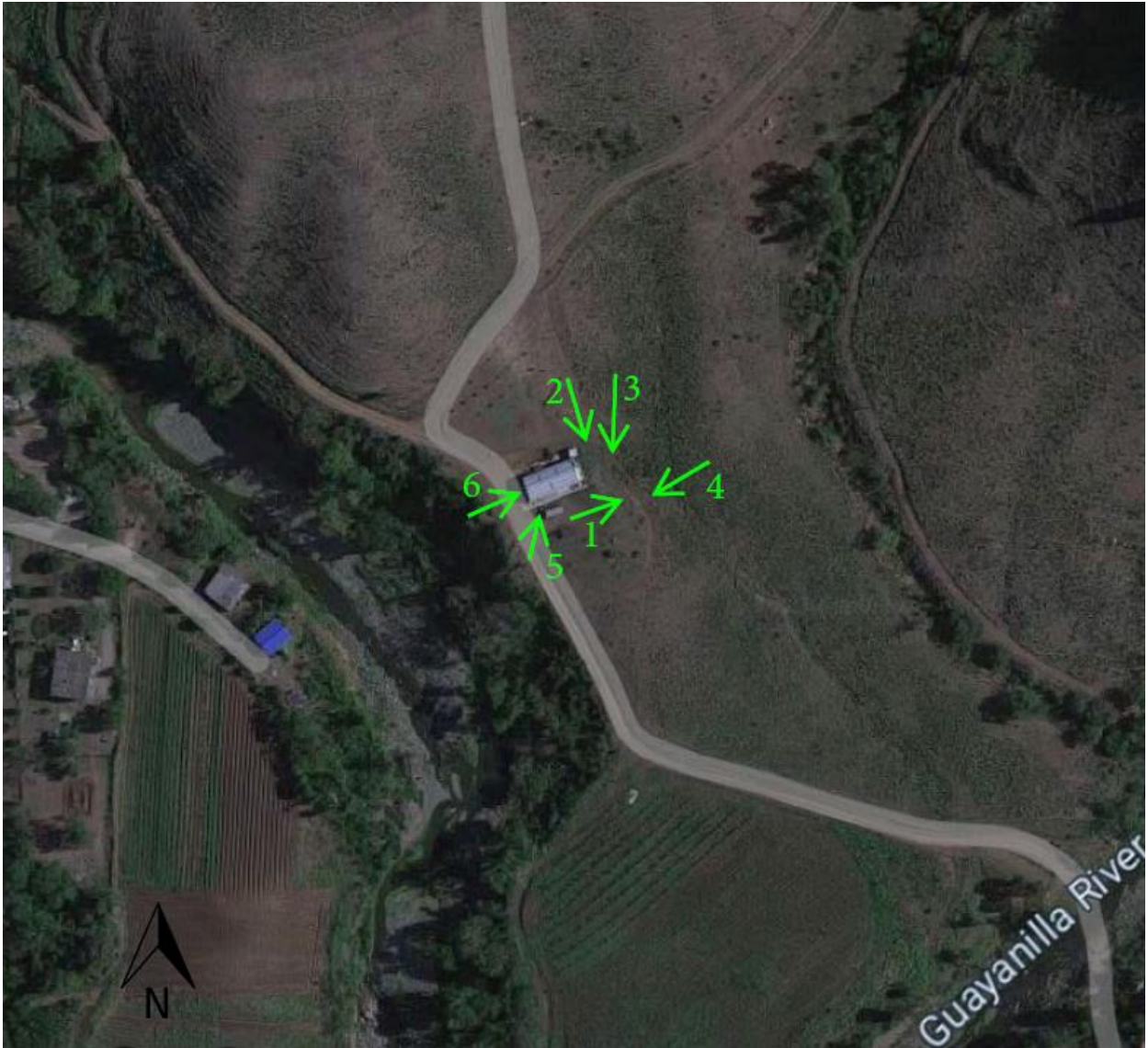
 <b>TETRA TECH</b>	<b>Legend</b>		
	 Tier 2 Site	 Historic Comunidades	 Cultural Resource District Polygon
Source: National Park Service	 Half Mile Buffer	 Traditional Urban Centers	
Author: TG	Date: 11/17/2023		

Subrecipient: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01055

City: Guayanilla

### Photograph Key





Subrecipient: Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

Case ID: PR-RGRW-01055

City: Guayanilla



Photo #: 1

Date: 12/26/2023

**Description (include direction):** Scope of work: installation of a solar panel system in a metal pergola expanding the footprint of adjacent structure, view to the northeast.



Photo #: 2

Date: 12/26/2023

**Description (include direction):** Scope of work: installation of a solar panel system in a metal pergola expanding the footprint of adjacent structure, view to the southeast.



**Subrecipient:** Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01055

**City:** Guayanilla



**Photo #:** 3

**Description (include direction):** Scope of work: installation of a solar panel system in a metal pergola expanding the footprint of adjacent structure, view to the south.

**Date:** 12/26/2023



**Photo #:** 4

**Description (include direction):** Scope of work: installation of a solar panel system in a metal pergola expanding the footprint of adjacent structure, view to the southwest.

**Date:** 12/26/2023

**Subrecipient:** Finca Peninsula del Rio Inc.

**Case ID:** PR-RGRW-01055

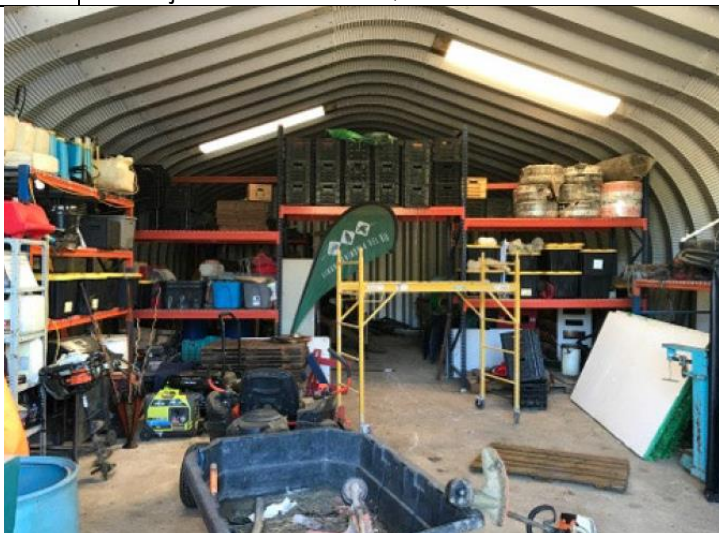
**City:** Guayanilla



**Photo #:** 5

**Date:** 12/26/2023

**Description (include direction):** Scope of work: installation of a solar panel system in a metal pergola expanding the footprint of adjacent structure, view to the northeast.



**Photo #:** 6

**Date:** 12/26/2023

**Description (include direction):** Scope of work: installation of a solar panel system in a metal pergola expanding the footprint of adjacent structure, view to the northeast.



October 20, 2022

**Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela**

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

Cuartel de Ballajá Bldg.

San Juan, Puerto Rico

**Re: Authorization to Submit Documents**

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela:

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

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

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

Cordially,

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

Juan C. Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng

Director of Disaster Recovery

CDBG DR-MIT