

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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

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

Project Information

Project Name: PR-SBF-03878-E-Re-evaluation

HEROS Number: 900000010461757

Start Date: 03/28/2025

State / Local Identifier:

Project Location: 940 Ave Hostos, Ponce, PR 00716

Additional Location Information:

The project is located at latitude 17.987323, longitude -66.617763 at the address given above. Tax ID

Number: 412-032-567-02-001

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

This project entails the award of a small business recovery grant to Centro de Terapia Amor Inc., a therapy center for children, at 940 Ave. Hostos, Playa, Ponce, PR 00716. The specific scope of work for this project includes payment of rent/mortgage, utilities, employee salaries, and the purchase of equipment including a laptop, iPad, two HP desktops with monitors, affixed interactive flat panel 4k, IMC2510 printer, 1,200 gallon cistern, two 36"x72" storage cabinets, two executive high back chairs, two black task chairs, a desk with bookcase, mobile file, micro cut shredder, adjustable desk, L-shaped desk, crash pit dust cover, crash pit floor mat, crash pit steps, crash pit slide, jungle gym cutout climber, IN-FUN-ITY brick wall ladder, IN-FUN-ITY metal wall ladder, IN-FUN-ITY wall ladder wood studs, IN-FUN-ITY climbing wall, two IN-FUN-ITY expansion kits, IN-FUN-ITY jungle gym extender, IN-FUN-ITY crash mat, and IN-FUN-ITY climbing net. The interactive display and parts of the IN-FUN-ITY climbing equipment will be affixed to an interior wall inside the business. A 5'x7' concrete pad will be constructed to accommodate the cistern and associated water pump. The structure was built ca. 1980.

Level of Environment Review Determination:

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

Funding Information

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

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

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$90,074.05

Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.2 (a) (5)]: \$90,874.05

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

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

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

Determination:

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

Name / Title/ Organization: Ianmario Heredia / / Department of Housing - Puerto Rico

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Responsible Entity Agency Official Signature:

Date: 6/25/2025

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

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

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Washington, DC 20410 www.hud.gov espanol.hud.gov

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

Project Information

Project Name:	PR-SBF-03878-E-Re-evaluation
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HEROS Number: 900000010461757

Start Date: 03/28/2025

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

Juan PR, 00928

State / Local Identifier:

RE Preparer: Ianmario Heredia

Certifying Office

r:

Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Ent

ity):

Point of Contact:

Point of Contact: Blas Guernica
Consultant (if applicable): HORNE LLP

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

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

Project Location: 940 Ave Hostos, Ponce, PR 00716

Additional Location Information:

The project is located at latitude 17.987323, longitude -66.617763 at the address given above. Tax ID Number: 412-032-567-02-001

Direct Comments to: environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov

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

This project entails the award of a small business recovery grant to Centro de Terapia Amor Inc., a therapy center for children, at 940 Ave. Hostos, Playa, Ponce, PR 00716. The specific scope of work for this project includes payment of rent/mortgage, utilities, employee salaries, and the purchase of equipment including a laptop, iPad, two HP desktops with monitors, affixed interactive flat panel 4k, IMC2510 printer, 1,200 gallon cistern, two 36"x72" storage cabinets, two executive high back chairs, two black task chairs, a desk with bookcase, mobile file, micro cut shredder, adjustable desk, L-shaped desk, crash pit dust cover, crash pit floor mat, crash pit steps, crash pit slide, jungle gym cutout climber, IN-FUN-ITY brick wall ladder, IN-FUN-ITY metal wall ladder, IN-FUN-ITY wall ladder wood studs, IN-FUN-ITY climbing wall, two IN-FUN-ITY expansion kits, IN-FUN-ITY jungle gym extender, IN-FUN-ITY crash mat, and IN-FUN-ITY climbing net. The interactive display and parts of the IN-FUN-ITY climbing equipment will be affixed to an interior wall inside the business. A 5'x7' concrete pad will be constructed to accommodate the cistern and associated water pump. The structure was built ca. 1980.

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

PR-SBF-03878-E Re-evaluation Form.pdf

PR-SBF-03878-E Site Map.pdf

PR-SBF-03878-E IUGF.pdf

PR-SBF-03878-E EFOR.pdf

Level of Environmental Review Determination:

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

58.35(a)(3)(iii)

Determination:

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

Approval Documents:

03878-SIG-PAGE.pdf

7015.15 certified by Certifying Officer

on:

7015.16 certified by Authorizing Officer

on:

Funding Information

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

PR-SBF-03878-E-Re- Ponce, PR 90000010461757

Estimated Total HUD Funded, Assisted or Insured Amount:

evaluation

\$90,074.05

\$90,074.05

Estimated Total Project Cost:

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

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §50.4, §58.5, and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determination (See Appendix A for source determinations)		
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORE	DERS, AND REGULATION	ONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 & § 58.6		
Airport Hazards Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	□ Yes ☑ No	The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest airport RPZ/CZ is approximately 15,039 feet away. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.		
Coastal Barrier Resources Act Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	□ Yes ☑ No	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is 11,917 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.		
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001- 4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	□ Yes ☑ No	Flood map number 72000C2030J, effective on 11/28/2009" The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.		
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 & § 58.5				
Air Quality Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	☐ Yes ☑ No	Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under the Clean Air Act. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.		

Coastal Zone Management Act Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	☐ Yes ☑ No	The Puerto Rican Planning Board (PRPB) determined the Small Business Financing (SBF) program will have no significant impact on Puerto Rican Coastal Resources and does not require a Federal Consistency Review (see attached resolution JP-2024-004). Based on the project description the project does not include any activities that would affect a Coastal Zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]	□ Yes ☑ No	Site contamination was evaluated as follows: None of the above. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. A review of science-based radon data offered a lack of data for the project site and radon testing was determined to be infeasible or impracticable. The project is in compliance with contamination and toxic substances requirements.
Endangered Species Act Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	□ Yes ☑ No	This project will have No Effect on listed species based on a letter of understanding, memorandum of agreement, programmatic agreement, or checklist provided by local HUD office. This project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.
Explosive and Flammable Hazards Above-Ground Tanks)[24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	□ Yes ☑ No	Based on the project description the project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with explosive and flammable hazard requirements.
Farmlands Protection Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	□ Yes ☑ No	This project does not include any activities that could potentially convert agricultural land to a non-agricultural use. The project is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.

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Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	☑ Yes □ No	FIRM Flood Map Number 72000C2030J, effective on 11/18/2009: PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Ponce; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and not considered in the review. This project is located in the FFRMS floodplain. The 8-Step or 5-Step Process is required. With the 8-Step or 5-Step Process the project will be in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690.
Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	☑ Yes □ No	(ca. 1980) Based on Section 106 consultation the project will have No Adverse Effect on historic properties. Conditions: None. Upon satisfactory implementation of the conditions, which should be monitored, the project is in compliance with Section 106.
Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	□ Yes ☑ No	Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under HUD's noise regulation. The project is in compliance with HUD's Noise regulation.
Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	☐ Yes ☑ No	Based on the project description, the project consists of activities that are unlikely to have an adverse impact on groundwater resources. According to EPA, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	□ Yes ☑ No	The project will not impact on- or off- site wetlands. This project does not involve new construction, so a visual wetlands survey was not conducted. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990.
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	☐ Yes ☑ No	This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 302,685 feet from the nearest Wild and

HUD HO	Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.	
	ENVIRONMENTAL J	IUSTICE
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	□ Yes ☑ No	On January 21, 2025, President Donald Trump issued the Executive Order titled "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity", which revoked Executive Order 12898 and eliminated federal mandates requiring agencies to assess environmental justice impacts. Consequently, there is no longer a federal requirement to address environmental justice concerns in the environmental compliance review process.

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

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

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

Project Mitigation Plan

The structure is located in the ABFE Zone A (100 yr floodplain), but mitigation/minimization measures not required as the project activities are not substantial improvement, and the building footprint is not being increased. The 5-step process is required. Should new ground disturbance occur the Karst zone must be evaluated and when necessary DNER must be consulted prior to construction activities.

Supporting documentation on completed measures

APPENDIX A: Related Federal Laws and Authorities

Airport Hazards

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest airport RPZ/CZ is approximately 15,039 feet away. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-03878-E Airport.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Coastal Barrier Resources

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

1. Is the project located in a CBRS Unit?

√ No

Document and upload map and documentation below.

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is 11,917 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-03878-E CBRS.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Flood Insurance

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

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

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

✓ Yes

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

PR-SBF-03878-E FIRM.pdf

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

4. While flood insurance is not mandatory for this project, HUD strongly recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance

Program (NFIP). Will flood insurance be required as a mitigation measure or condition?

Yes

✓ No

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Flood map number 72000C2030J, effective on 11/28/2009" The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Air Quality

evaluation

PR-SBF-03878-E-Re-

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

Coastal Zone Management Act

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

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

✓	Yes
	No

2. Does this project include new construction, conversion, major rehabilitation, or substantial improvement activities?

Yes

✓ No

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

The Puerto Rican Planning Board (PRPB) determined the Small Business Financing (SBF) program will have no significant impact on Puerto Rican Coastal Resources and does not require a Federal Consistency Review (see attached resolution JP-2024-004). Based on the project description the project does not include any activities that would affect a Coastal Zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

Supporting documentation

Resolution JP-2024-004.pdf PR-SBF-03878-E CZM.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Contamination and Toxic Substances

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

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

ASTM Phase I ESA

ASTM Phase II ESA

Remediation or clean-up plan

ASTM Vapor Encroachment Screening.

✓ None of the above.

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

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

^{*} HUD regulations at 24 CFR § 58.5(i)(2)(ii) require that the environmental review for multifamily housing with five or more dwelling units or non-residential property include the evaluation of previous uses of the site or other evidence of contamination on or near the site. For acquisition and new construction of multifamily and nonresidential properties HUD strongly advises the review include an ASTM Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) to meet real estate transaction standards of due diligence and to help ensure compliance with HUD's toxic policy at 24 CFR §58.5(i) and 24 CFR §50.3(i). Also note that some HUD programs require an ASTM Phase I ESA.

✓ No

Explain:

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

Yes

- * This question covers the presence of radioactive substances excluding radon. Radon is addressed in the Radon Exempt Question.
- ** Utilize EPA's Enviromapper, NEPAssist, or state/tribal databases to identify nearby dumps, junk yards, landfills, hazardous waste sites, and industrial sites, including EPA National Priorities List Sites (Superfund sites), CERCLA or state-equivalent sites, RCRA Corrective Action sites with release(s) or suspected release(s) requiring clean-up action and/or further investigation. Additional supporting documentation may include other inspections and reports.
- 3. Evaluate the building(s) for radon. Do all buildings meet any of the exemptions* from having to consider radon in the contamination analysis listed in CPD Notice CPD-23-103?

Yes

Explain:

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

- Buildings tested within five years of the submission of application for HUD assistance: test results document indoor radon levels are below current the EPA's recommended action levels of 4.0 pCi/L. For buildings with test data older than five years, any new environmental review must include a consideration of radon using one of the methods in Section A below.
- 4. Is the proposed project new construction or substantial rehabilitation where testing will be conducted but cannot yet occur because building construction has not been completed?

Yes

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

✓ No

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

Yes

✓ No

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

Explain:

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

File Upload:

PR-SBF-03878-E Radon Memorandum.pdf

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

Non-radon contamination was found in a previous question.

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-03878-E Toxics.pdf PR-SBF-03878-E Toxic Sites.xlsx PR-SBF-03878-E EFOR(1).pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Endangered Species

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

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

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

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

Explain your determination:

This project clears via the project criteria 25 and 14 of the USFWS Blanket Clearance Letter. See attached Endangered Species Act self-certification form.

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

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-03878-E USFWS Self-Certification Form (1).pdf

IPaC 03878.pdf

PR-SBF-03878-E Site Photos.pdf

USFWS End Species Blanket Clearance Letter 2025.pdf

PR-SBF-03878-E Wetlands.pdf

PR-SBF-03878-E Site Map(1).pdf

PR-SBF-03878-E Endangered.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Explosive and Flammable Hazards

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

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

✓	No
	Vec

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

✓	No

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

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Farmlands Protection

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

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

Yes



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

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-03878-E Farmlands.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes



Floodplain Management

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

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

Yes

- (a) HUD-assisted activities described in 24 CFR 58.34 and 58.35(b).
- (b) HUD-assisted activities described in 24 CFR 50.19, except as otherwise indicated in § 50.19.
- (c) The approval of financial assistance for restoring and preserving the natural and beneficial functions and values of floodplains and wetlands, including through acquisition of such floodplain and wetland property, where a permanent covenant or comparable restriction is place on the property's continued use for flood control, wetland projection, open space, or park land, but only if:
- (1) The property is cleared of all existing buildings and walled structures; and
- (2) The property is cleared of related improvements except those which:
- (i) Are directly related to flood control, wetland protection, open space, or park land (including playgrounds and recreation areas);
- (ii) Do not modify existing wetland areas or involve fill, paving, or other ground disturbance beyond minimal trails or paths; and
- (iii) Are designed to be compatible with the beneficial floodplain or wetland function of the property.
- (d) An action involving a repossession, receivership, foreclosure, or similar acquisition of property to protect or enforce HUD's financial interests under previously approved loans, grants, mortgage insurance, or other HUD assistance.

- (e) Policy-level actions described at 24 CFR 50.16 that do not involve site-based decisions.
- (f) A minor amendment to a previously approved action with no additional adverse impact on or from a floodplain or wetland.
- (g) HUD's or the responsible entity's approval of a project site, an incidental portion of which is situated in the FFRMS floodplain (not including the floodway, LiMWA, or coastal high hazard area) but only if: (1) The proposed project site does not include any existing or proposed buildings or improvements that modify or occupy the FFRMS floodplain except de minimis improvements such as recreation areas and trails; and (2) the proposed project will not result in any new construction in or modifications of a wetland.
- (h) Issuance or use of Housing Vouchers, or other forms of rental subsidy where HUD, the awarding community, or the public housing agency that administers the contract awards rental subsidies that are not project-based (i.e., do not involve site-specific subsidies).
- (i) Special projects directed to the removal of material and architectural barriers that restrict the mobility of and accessibility to elderly and persons with disabilities.

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✓ No

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

Yes

Describe:

✓ No

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

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

Select one of the following three options:

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

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

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

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

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

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

5.	Does your project occur in the FFRMS floodplain?		
	✓ Yes		
	No		
6.	Is your project located in any of the floodplain categories below?		
	Select all that apply:		
	Floodway.		
	Do the floodway exemptions at 55.8 or 55.21 apply?		
	Yes		
	No		
	Coastal High Hazard Area (V Zone) or Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA).		
	Yes		
	No		
	✓ None of the above.		
7.	Does the 8-Step Process apply? Select one of the following options:		
	8-Step Process is inapplicable per 55.13.		
	(a) IIIIDia mantagana ingunanga actions and athor financial assistance f		

- (a) HUD's mortgage insurance actions and other financial assistance for the purchasing, mortgaging, or refinancing of existing one- to four-family properties in communities that are in the Regular Program of the NFIP and in good standing (i.e., not suspended from program eligibility or placed on probation under 44 CFR 59.24), where the action is not a critical action and the property is not located in a floodway, coastal high hazard area, or LiMWA;
- (b) Financial assistance for minor repairs or improvements on one- to four-family properties that do not meet the thresholds for "substantial improvement" under § 55.2(b)(12);

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

- (c) HUD's or the recipient's actions under any HUD program involving the repair, rehabilitation, modernization, weatherization, or improvement of existing multifamily housing projects, hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, board and care facilities, intermediate care facilities, and one- to four-family properties, in communities that are in the Regular Program of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and are in good standing, provided that the number of units is not increased more than 20 percent, the action does not involve a conversion from nonresidential to residential land use, the action does not meet the thresholds for "substantial improvement" under § 55.2(b)(10), and the footprint of the structure and paved areas is not increased by more than 20 percent.
- √ (d) HUD's (or the recipient's) actions under any HUD program involving the repair, rehabilitation, modernization, weatherization, or improvement of existing nonresidential buildings and structures, in communities that are in the Regular Program of the NFIP and are in good standing, provided that the action does not meet the thresholds for "substantial improvement" under § 55.2(b)(10) and that the footprint of the structure and paved areas is not increased by more than 20 percent.
 - (e) HUD's or the recipient's actions under any HUD program involving the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of existing nonstructural improvements including streets, curbs and gutters, where any increase of the total impervious surface area of the facility is de minimis. This provision does not include critical actions, levee systems, chemical storage facilities (including any tanks), wastewater facilities, or sewer lagoons.

8-Step Process applies.

8. Mitigation

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

Explain:

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

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

Buyout and demolition or other supported clearance of floodplain structures.

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

Permeable surfaces.

Natural landscape enhancements that maintain or restore natural hydrology.

Planting or restoring native plant species.

Bioswales.

Stormwater capture and reuse.

Green or vegetative roofs with drainage provisions.

Natural Resources Conservation Service conservation easements or similar easements.

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

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

Levee or structural protection from flooding.

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

FIRM Flood Map Number 72000C2030J, effective on 11/18/2009: PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the

municipality of Ponce; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and not considered in the review. This project is located in the FFRMS floodplain. The 8-Step or 5-Step Process is required. With the 8-Step or 5-Step Process the project will be in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690.

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-03878-E 5-Step.docx PR-SBF-03878-E FIRM(1).pdf PR-SBF-03878-E ABFE.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

✓ Yes

No

Historic Preservation

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

Threshold

Is Section 106 review required for your project?

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

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

Step 1 – Initiate Consultation Select all consulting parties below (check all that apply):

✓ State Historic Preservation Offer (SHPO) Completed

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

Other Consulting Parties

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

Only SHPO was consulted as No Adverse Effect was determined and no Tribal Lands were identified.

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

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

Yes

No

Step 2 – Identify and Evaluate Historic Properties

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

940 Ave. Hostos, Playa, Ponce, PR 00716 Adjacent buildings in the Playa de Ponce Historic District

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

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

Address / Location / District	National	SHPO	Sensitive
	Register Status	Concurrence	Information
Carretera Central	Eligible	Yes	✓ Not Sensitive
Edificio Empresas Ferre	Eligible	Yes	✓ Not Sensitive
Edificio Municipal de la Playa de	Eligible	Yes	✓ Not Sensitive
Ponce			
Iglesia Metodista Unida de la	Eligible	Yes	✓ Not Sensitive
Playa de Ponce			

Additional Notes:

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

project?

Yes

√ No

Step 3 -Assess Effects of the Project on Historic Properties

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

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

No Historic Properties Affected

✓ No Adverse Effect

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

Document reason for finding:

The subject building is within the Barrio Playa de Ponce Historic Dristrict, but does not contribute to the district. The climbing system and the interactive display will be installed the building's interior. The addition of the new cistern will not have an adverse effect on the adjacent historic properties nor the Playa de Ponce Historic District, as it will be placed on the rear elevation and will not be visible from the street.

Does the No Adverse Effect finding contain conditions?

Yes (check all that apply)

✓ No

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

concurrence(s) or objection(s) below.

Adverse Effect

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

(ca. 1980) Based on Section 106 consultation the project will have No Adverse Effect on historic properties. Conditions: None. Upon satisfactory implementation of the conditions, which should be monitored, the project is in compliance with Section 106.

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-03878-E SHPO Consultation Package.pdf PR-SBF-03878-E Historic Properties.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

✓ Yes

No

Noise Abatement and Control

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

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

New construction for residential use

Rehabilitation of an existing residential property

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

An interstate land sales registration

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

✓ None of the above

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Sole Source Aquifers

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

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



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

No

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Based on the project description, the project consists of activities that are unlikely to have an adverse impact on groundwater resources. According to EPA, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-03878-E SSA.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Wetlands Protection

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

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

No

✓ Yes

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

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

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

Based on the response, the review is in compliance with this section. Document and upload a map or any other relevant documentation below which explains your determination

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

The project will not impact on- or off-site wetlands. This project does not involve new construction, so a visual wetlands survey was not conducted. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990.

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-03878-E Wetlands(1).pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

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

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

✓ No

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

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 302,685 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Supporting documentation

PR-SBF-03878-E WSR.pdf

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

Environmental Justice

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

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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



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

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

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

Dear Mr. Maldonado:

On January 14, 2013, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in coordination with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), signed the Blanket Clearance Letter (BCL) to expedite the consultation process, for federally sponsored projects. On March 20, 2025, the USFWS and the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) acting as the responsible entity designated by HUD decided to review and update the BCL to ensure that new available information regarding the consultation process is included. This letter replaces the January 14, 2013, Blanket Clearance Letter for HUD sponsored projects.

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

The USFWS issued regulations in 1986 detailing the consultation process. As part of this consultation process, the USFWS reviews development projects to assist Federal agencies on the compliance of the ESA. Since HUD typically allocate grant funds for rural and urban development projects, obligations under the ESA, as well as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), require HUD to perform consultation and an environmental impact review prior to the project's

authorization. Primarily, these projects involve repair or reconstruction of existing facilities associated with developed land.

In order to expedite the consultation process, the Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office (CESFO) has developed this BCL to cover for activities and projects that typically result in no adverse effects to federally-listed species under our jurisdiction. The proposed project criteria discussed below are subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The project is located within an urban or developed area.
 - An urban or developed area is defined as an area that 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 neighborhood 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 applicant¹.
- 2. If the project is located in a rural area, and the project is located within a disturbed area that does not require additional clearing of forested (trees) areas.
- 3. The project is not located within (or adjacent to) drainages, rivers, streams, wetlands, aquatic systems, or coastal areas.
- 4. If the project is located in a rural area, and the project is not located immediately adjacent to forested areas (e.g., rock walls and haystack hills ("mogotes"); wet montane forest; lowland wet forest; remnant coastal; mangrove forest; damp and dry limestone karst forests; pastureland with patches of exotic trees²).
- 5. The lighting associated to the facilities is not visible directly or indirectly from the shoreline or beach area.

Proposed projects that **do not** meet the above conditions **Do Not Qualify** for review under the Blanket Clearance Letter developed for compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

Last Revised: April 2025

¹ This is the definition used by the USFWS in IPaC.

¹ Ibid.

Project Criteria:

1. Activities related to the resurfacing existing streets or roads; maintenance of existing upland gabion or reinforced concrete retention walls; construction, reconstruction or repair of gutters and sidewalks along existing roads.

- 2. Repair, replace, improve, reconstruct and/or rehabilitate facilities in already established public transportation systems (Signs, sidewalks and ramps, bus stops and existing routes).
- 3. Repair, replace, improve, reconstruct, rehabilitate and/or expanding existing public transportation facilities located in urban or developed areas.
- 4. Construction of new facilities for public transportation systems (e.g. School bus stops, city buses, trolleybuses, public car stops, Public car terminal) in urban or developed areas.
- 5. Repair, replace, improve, reconstruct, or rehabilitate existing bridges or rip-rap. (follow FWS rip-rap guidance for design).
- 6. Reconstruction, or emergency repairs, of existing structures, including but not limited to buildings, facilities and homes.
- 7. Demolition of dilapidated single-family homes or buildings.
- 8. Rebuilding of demolished single-family homes or buildings.
- 9. Retrofitting existing buildings.
- 10. Construction of residential and/or commercial facilities.
- 11. Construction, repair, replace, improve, reconstruct, and/or rehabilitate recreational facilities.
- 12. Addition of concrete pads to the existing footprint of a residential and/or commercial structure, provided that the resulting addition is less than 20% of the size of the existing structure.
- 13. Improvement or renovations to existing structures (exterior and interior) renovations resulting in an exterior increase greater than 20%.
- 14. Improvements or renovations to existing structures (exterior and interior renovations) resulting in an exterior increase of less than 20%.
- 15. Acquisition of residential and/or commercial properties in urban or developed areas for the relocation of families and/or activities.
- 16. Construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation and/or expansion of cemeteries.

17. Installation/drilling of new water well and associated utility infrastructure, either above ground or underground.

- 18. Establishment of power facilities, including but not limited to associated aboveground and/or underground infrastructure.
- 19. Construction of electrical system infrastructure and associated components, including but not limited to associated aboveground and/or underground infrastructure.
- 20. Construction of land based small electric generating facilities, including those fueled with wind, sun, or biomass, capable of producing no more than 10 MW. *
- 21. Activities within existing Right of Ways (ROWs) related to water and sanitary infrastructure; communication infrastructure; roads, bridges and highways without the removal of native vegetation and/or major earth movement.
- 22. Construction of rooftop or urban telecommunications systems and associated components, including but not limited to associated aboveground and/or underground infrastructure.
- 23. Establishment of temporary debris storage (TDS) facilities.
- 24. Establishment and/or closure of solid waste management facilities. But not new landfills.
- 25. Installation of water storage systems (cisterns) and associated infrastructure, either above ground or underground, including but not limited to installations on existing or new concrete pads, or existing or new roofs.
- 26. Installation of solar panels, battery storage systems and/or associated utility infrastructure, either above ground or underground, on existing or new concrete pads, existing or new roofs, ground or pole mounted.
- 27. Installation of generators on existing or new concrete slabs, and associated utility infrastructure, either above ground or underground.
- 28. Repair of existing agricultural structures including but not limited to greenhouses, warehouses, canopies, fences, corrals, and shade structures with less than 20% expansion of footprint.
- 29. New construction of agricultural structures in established farms including but not limited to greenhouses, warehouses, canopies, fences, corrals, and shade structures with or without underground and/or aboveground infrastructure utility connections.
- 30. Construction of fences, cattle corrals, concrete slabs.
- 31. Installation of storage containers on new concrete slab.

32. New construction or work which expands the footprint of an existing structure and occurs entirely on disturbed, regularly maintained, upland property, including the staging of equipment.

*Comply with USFWS wind energy guidelines if more than one wind turbine, consider painting one blade black to help birds see the blades. https://www.fws.gov/media/land-based-wind-energy-guidelines

Determination:

Based on the nature of the projects described above and habitat characteristics described on project criteria, we have determined that the actions and type of projects described above may be conducted within this BCL without adversely affecting federally-listed species under our jurisdiction. Thus, consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is not required.

For all projects, HUD and its funded partners (municipalities) are expected to implement Best Management Practices to enhance the conservation of our trust resources (i.e.; listed species, wetlands, aquatic habitats, migratory birds and marine mammals) and avoid impacts from project development to aquatic habitat such as erosion and stream sedimentation. The Service provides the following recommendations that have proven to help achieve this effort.

Water Crossing Structures:

- 1. Use of bottomless culverts or single span bridges instead of traditional box or RCP culverts or any other water crossing structure that impacts the stream bottom, particularly in streams which support native fish. The use of bottomless culverts or a short span bridge would provide a more stable crossing and would not alter the stream habitat. However, if bottomless structures or bridges are not feasible due to cost or engineering constraints, we recommend the following criteria be used to maintain good habitat in the streams:
 - **a.** The stream should not be widened to fit the bridge since this can lead to sedimentation during low flows and possible bank erosion during high flows. Rather, the bridge should be designed to fit the stream channel at the point of crossing. Culverts should be sized to carry natural bank full flow. Additional flow can be capture by culverts placed at a higher elevation so as not to impact bank full flows.
 - **b.** Bridge abutments, wing walls or any other structures should not intrude into the active stream channel.
 - c. All culvert footings must be countersunk into the stream channel at both the invert and outlet ends at a minimum of 10% of the culvert height. This will align the water crossing structure with the slope of the stream.
 - **d.** Waterways must not be blocked as to impede the free movement of water and fish. Materials moved during construction, such as grubbing, earth fills, and earth cut

Last Revised: April 2025

materials must not be piled where they can fall back into the stream and block the drainage courses.

- e. Appropriate erosion and/or sedimentation controls measures are to be undertaken to protect water quality until riverbanks are re-vegetated. It has been our experience that appropriate erosion and/or sedimentation control measures are not implemented properly by project contractors. In order to function properly, silt fences need to be buried 6" (proper depth is marked by a line on the silt fence) and suppolted at regular intervals by wood stakes. For that reason we are recommending that the enclosed drawing of proper silt fence installation is included in all final project construction plans.
- **f.** Upon completion of a water crossing construction, any temporary fill, must be removed from the construction area and disposed in a landfill.

For a detailed guide to water crossing structures, the Service developed a detailed guide to water crossing structures for regulatory review by permitting agencies, protect damaged structures, reduce future damages, and prevent or minimize damage to natural resources. The document is titled "Guidance for Repair, Replacement, and Clean-up Projects in Streams and Waterways of Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands" and is available at:

 $\underline{https://www.fws.gov/media/guidance-repair-replacement-and-clean-structures-streams-and-waterways-puerto-rico-and-us}$

Limitations:

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

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

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

To obtain additional information on threatened and endangered species, you may visit our website https://www.fws.gov/office/caribbean-ecological-services where you will also find the Map of the Species by Municipality and the Map of Critical Habitat. These maps provide information on the species/habitat relations within a municipality and could provide the applicants an insight if the proposed action is covered under this BCL or may affect a species, thus requiring individual review

The USFWS has also developed a web based tool called the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Please visit https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/ and familiarize yourself with the features we offer. We encourage you to begin your project planning process by requesting an Official Species List for your individual project that will include all species that may occur in the vicinity of the action area and includes a map of the action area. The site will also identify designated critical habitat, or other natural resources of concern that may be affected by your proposed project. Best management practices or conservation measures are available at the site for some species, but we expect the site to continue growing in its offering.

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. It is our mission to work with others, to conserve, protect and enhance fish wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of our people. If you have any additional questions regarding this BCL, please do not hesitate to contact us at (786) 244-0081 or via email at caribbean_es@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

LOURDES MENA Digitally signed by LOURDES MENA Date: 2025.04.24 09:11:24 -04'00'

Lourdes Mena Field Supervisor

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO PUERTO RICO PLANNING BOARD

November 20, 2024

RESOLUTION JP-2024-004 First Amendment

Federal Consistency Certification with the
Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program
Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) and
Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT)

The United States (U.S.) Government, through Major Disaster Declarations (DR-4336 and DR-4339), declared Puerto Rico a disaster area after the devastation caused by Hurricanes Irma and María. Considering this event, the U.S. Congress approved Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds for Puerto Rico's unmet disaster recovery needs, and Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funds for the Commonwealth's long-term planning and risk mitigation activities. Moreover, the Congress approved additional CDBG-DR funds for the Commonwealth in response to Major Disaster Declarations: DR-4336, DR-4339, DR-4473, and DR-4671.

The damage caused by high-speed winds, storm surges, earthquakes, flooding, and landslides attributed to major disasters, had devastating effects on Puerto Rico's coastal areas that need to be addressed in an expeditious manner. While many of the direct emergency needs have been met, disaster recovery and mitigation need of the Commonwealth are on-going and will continue into the near future.

The Law Number 75 of June 24, 1975, as amended (Organic law of the Puerto Rico Planning Board) grants the Puerto Rico Planning Board (PRPB) the responsibility and powers to guide the comprehensive development of Puerto Rico, guaranteeing the general well-being of its current and future inhabitants.

The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq) establishes that federal agency activities including the award of Federal Assistance must be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of approved state management programs. The Puerto Rico Planning Board (PRPB) is the designated state agency to review and determine Federal Consistency with the PR Coastal Zone Management Program according to stablished procedures at 15 CFR Part 930.

The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is formally the Grantee for the CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT funds. The Governor of Puerto Rico designated the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) as the grantee for the purposes of administering these funds and executing grant agreements with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the federal oversight agency for the CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT funding.

Taking into consideration the high volume of requests for federal assistance that has been generated as part of the recovery process following the disaster declarations and the current need to expedite this process, the PRPB proceeded to carry out a review of Federal Consistency with the PMZCPR for the following federal assistance programs:

- CDBG-DR eligible activities provided in Section 105(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (HCDA), and outlined in the applicable Federal Register Notices, the CDBG-DR Action Plan and CDBG-DR Program Guidelines.
- CDBG-MIT eligible activities provided in Section 105(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (HCDA), and outlined in the applicable Federal Notices, the CDBG-MIT Action Plan and CDBG-MIT Program Guidelines.



After considering the information provided by PRDOH in relation to the eligible projects and activities to be awarded by the above-mentioned programs, the PR Planning Board (PRPB) in their meeting held on July 24, 2024, agreed the following:

- **A.** The following activities or projects to be financed under the CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT programs have no significant impact on Puerto Coastal Resources and do not require Federal Consistency review:
 - 1. Activities to be financed under the following subprograms:
 - a. <u>Community Energy and Water Resilience Installations Program</u>
 (CEWRI): The Program provide single-family homeowners energy and water efficiency improvements to promote resilience by installing PV systems with battery backup for critical loads and water storage systems.
 - b. The Workforce Training Program (WFT): supports entities throughout the Island to offer training in job skills related to the reconstruction and economic growth of Puerto Rico. Also, those skills necessary to situate the Island in the economy of the future.
 - c. <u>Small Business Financing Program (SBF):</u> will provide a Recovery Grants phase (grants awards of up to \$150,000) for working capital and movable equipment for small businesses and microenterprises that suffered physical and/or financial losses due to the Hurricanes. Start-ups created after the Hurricanes are also eligible if they can show their creation was the result of a closure of a previous business of same owner(s), after damages caused by the Hurricanes.
 - d. Re-grow PR Urban-Rural Agriculture Program: Develop, Increase and improve agricultural capacity and addresses the needs created by Hurricanes Irma and María with a substantial investment of CDBG-DR funds for a wide variety of viable and sustainable agricultural activities.
 - 2. Projects or activities that are exempt from construction permits according to Act 161-2009, as amended, known as the "Puerto Rico Permit Process Reform Act" and the "Joint Regulation for Evaluation and Expedition of Permits Related to Development, Land Use and Business Operation" (Regulation Number 9473).
- **B.** Federal assistance awarded under the CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT programs for demolition of structures with the purpose of restoring green areas, beaches, water retention areas and habitat recovery is consistent with the PRCZMP.
- C. Federal assistance awarded under the CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT programs for projects that involve demolition for reconstruction, reconstruction or construction of a new structure is consistent with the PRCZMP if the project fulfills the following requirements:
 - 1. The project must comply with land use regulations established under the PR Land Use Plan, Territorial Plans and special plans that apply according to the location of the project.
 - 2. The structure to be constructed or reconstructed must comply with applicable regulations and parameters established in the "Joint Regulation for Evaluation and Expedition of Permits Related to Development, Land Use and Business Operation" (Regulation Number 9473).



- 3. Each project must provide evidence of compliance with the PR Environmental Policy Law (Law number 416 of September 22, 2004) by providing copy of the Environmental Compliance Determination emitted by OGPe.
- 4. The structure to be built or rehabilitated must be located outside flood risk zones according to the "Recommended Base Flood Level Maps" (FEMA Advisory Maps) effective on April 13, 2018, or the most recent FEMA map that applies according to the location of the project.
- 5. Structures located within a flood hazard zone must evidence compliance with the Special Flood Hazard Zone Regulations (Planning Regulation Number 13) by providing copy of the FEMA Elevation Certificate (form ff-206-fy22-152) completed and signed by an engineer or surveyor.
- 6. In the case of projects that are located within Historic Zones designated by the PR Planning Board, or if the structure was designated as a Historic Site, the project must have the endorsement of the Puerto Rican Culture Institute and the State Historic Preservation Office.
- **D.** Federal assistance awarded under the CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT programs for infrastructure projects (sidewalks, roads, highways, service lines, public squares) are consistent with the PRCZMP with the condition that the applicant fulfill the following requirements before the construction phase of the project:
 - 1. Evidence compliance with the PR Environmental Policy Law (Law number 416 of September 22, 2004) by providing copy of the Environmental Compliance Determination emitted by the PR Permit Management Office (OGPe).
 - 2. Evidence compliance with the Special Flood Hazard Zone Regulations (Planning Regulation Number 13) when it is required depending on the nature and location of the project.
 - 3. In the case of projects that are located within Historic Zones designated by the PR Planning Board, the project must have the endorsement of the Puerto Rican Culture Institute.

The Office of Geology and Hydrogeology (OGH) of the Puerto Rico Planning Board will provide a conditioned certification letter which will allow the applicant to have access to the funds to finance the design and permitting phase. The Puerto Rico Planning Board in its meeting of November 20, 2024 determined that the applicant must fulfill the above mentioned requirements 120 days from receipt of the OGH Conditioned Certification letter. If the applicant needs additional time to fulfill the required documents, it must be justified and requested referring to the assigned case number trough comentariosjp.pr.gov.

E. Furthermore, The PR Planning Board on February 1, 2023, issued Resolution JP-339 that covers Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance Program (PA) and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). Therefore, federal assistance awarded through the "Infrastructure Coordination Program" to match the non-federal items that are required for projects under PA and HMGP programs are covered by Resolution JP-339 and will not require to be submitted to the PRPB for federal consistency review.



F. Hence, Projects for the reconstruction, repair, or rehabilitation of structures for water-dependent uses (piers, boat ramps etc.) are not covered under this Resolution and must be filed at the US Army Corps of Engineers through RSS.

This General Federal Consistency Certification will be in effect for five (5) years from the notification date of this resolution. The Certification at reference will be renewed or amended if necessary to extend its validity or address other matters.

The following parties shall be notified: William Rodríguez, Secretary, PR Department of Housing (PRDH); Angel G. López Guzmán, Permits and Environmental Compliance Division, PRDH; Juan C. Perez Bofill, PRDH; Aldo A. Rivera, PRDH; Alberto Mercado, Jose A. Cedeño Maldonado, US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Donna M. Mahon, HUD and Magaly Massanet Rodríguez, Director, Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program, DNER.

ADOPTED in San Juan, Puerto Rico on July 24, 2024.

Amended today, November 20, 2024.

Plan. Julio Lassús Ruiz, LLM, MP, PPL

President

Lemuel Rivera Rivera, BSEE, CAPM

Associate Member

Ing. José Díaz Díaz, MEM, BSIE

Associate Member

Plan. Rebecca Rivera Torres, MPR, PPL

Alternate Member

Certify:

That this Resolution is copy of the agreement adopted by Puerto Rico Planning Board in its meeting of **November 20, 2024**. I expedite and notify this copy to the parties under my sign and official stamp of the Puerto Rico Planning Board stamp, for general use and knowledge.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today,

DEC 2 3 2024

Edgardo Vázquez

Secretary



X

IPac recource list

Migratory bird information is currently unavailable. We are aware of the problem and working on a solution. In the meantime, you can obtain similar project-specific bird occurrence results using the <u>AKN RAIL tool</u>.

below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

Ponce County, Puerto Rico



Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

(939) 320-3135

(787) 851-7440

✓ CARIBBEAN ES@FWS.GOV

MAILING ADDRESS Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

PHYSICAL ADDRESS
Office Park I
State Road #2 Km 156.5, Suite 303}
Mayaguez, PR 00680



Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

- 1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
- 2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
- 3. Log in (if directed to do so).
- 4. Provide a name and description for your project.
- 5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the <u>Ecological Services Program</u> of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact <u>NOAA Fisheries</u> for <u>species under their jurisdiction</u>.

- 1. Species listed under the <u>Endangered Species Act</u> are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the <u>listing status page</u> for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
- 2. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Reptiles

NAME STATUS

Puerto Rican Boa Chilabothrus inornatus

Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

Bald & Golden Eagles

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act ² and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their nests, should follow appropriate regulations and implement required avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

The <u>data</u> in this location indicates that no eagles have been observed in this area. This does not mean eagles are not present in your project area, especially if the area is difficult to survey. Please review the 'Steps to Take When No Results Are Returned' section of the <u>Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles document</u> to determine if your project is in a poorly surveyed area. If it is, you may need to rely on other resources to determine if eagles may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys).

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
 https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory

birds

- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds
 https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

Bald and Golden Eagle information is not available at this time

Bald & Golden Eagles FAQs

What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u> and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are an eagle (<u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> requirements may apply).

Proper interpretation and use of your eagle report

On the graphs provided, please look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical line) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal line). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort line or no data line (red horizontal) means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list and associated information help you know what to look for to confirm presence and helps guide you in knowing when to implement avoidance and minimization measures to eliminate or reduce potential impacts from your project activities or get the appropriate permits should presence be confirmed.

How do I know if eagles are breeding, wintering, or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating, or resident), you may query your location using the RAIL Tool and view the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If an eagle on your IPaC migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it (indicated by yellow vertical bars on the phenology graph in your "IPaC PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY" at the top of your results list), there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

Interpreting the Probability of Presence Graphs

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.

To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.

The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season ()

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort ()

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data ()

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

Migratory birds

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹ prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior <u>authorization</u> by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The incidental take of migratory birds is the injury or death of birds that results from, but is not the purpose, of an activity. The FWS interprets the MBTA to prohibit incidental take.

- 1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
- The <u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management

- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
 https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

Migratory bird information is not available at this time

Migratory Bird FAQs

Tell me more about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

Nationwide Avoidance & Minimization Measures for Birds describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year-round. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is one of the most effective ways to minimize impacts. To see when birds are most likely to occur and breed in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. Additional measures or permits may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of <u>Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC)</u> and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location, such as those listed under the Endangered Species Act or the <u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> and those species marked as "Vulnerable". See the FAQ "What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?" for more information on the levels of concern covered in the IPaC migratory bird species list.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) with which your project intersects. These species have been identified as warranting special attention because they are BCC species in that area, an eagle (Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, and to verify survey effort when no results present, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

Why are subspecies showing up on my list?

Subspecies profiles are included on the list of species present in your project area because observations in the AKN for **the species** are being detected. If the species are present, that means that the subspecies may also be present. If a subspecies shows up on your list, you may need to rely on other resources to determine if that subspecies may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. This data is derived from a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u>.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go to the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating, or resident), you may query your location using the RAIL Tool and view the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your IPaC migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it (indicated by yellow vertical bars on the phenology graph in your "IPaC PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY" at the top of your results list), there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

- 1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
- 2. "BCC BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
- 3. "Non-BCC Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the <u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially BCC species. For more information on avoidance and minimization measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts, please see the FAQ "Tell me more about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds".

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the <u>Northeast Ocean Data Portal</u>. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project

review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the <u>NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf project webpage.</u>

Proper interpretation and use of your migratory bird report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical line) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal line). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list does not represent all birds present in your project area. It is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list and associated information help you know what to look for to confirm presence and helps quide implementation of avoidance and minimization measures to eliminate or reduce potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about avoidance and minimization measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds".

Interpreting the Probability of Presence Graphs

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.

To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.

The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season ()

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort ()

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data ()

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the <u>National Wildlife Refuge</u> 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 at this location.

Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to <u>NWI wetlands</u> 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>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District</u>.

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

NOTE: This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tuberficid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

X

IPac recource list

Migratory bird information is currently unavailable. We are aware of the problem and working on a solution. In the meantime, you can obtain similar project-specific bird occurrence results using the <u>AKN RAIL tool</u>.

below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

Ponce County, Puerto Rico



Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

(939) 320-3135

(787) 851-7440

✓ CARIBBEAN ES@FWS.GOV

MAILING ADDRESS Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

PHYSICAL ADDRESS
Office Park I
State Road #2 Km 156.5, Suite 303}
Mayaguez, PR 00680



Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

- 1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
- 2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
- 3. Log in (if directed to do so).
- 4. Provide a name and description for your project.
- 5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the <u>Ecological Services Program</u> of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact <u>NOAA Fisheries</u> for <u>species under their jurisdiction</u>.

- 1. Species listed under the <u>Endangered Species Act</u> are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the <u>listing status page</u> for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
- 2. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Reptiles

NAME STATUS

Puerto Rican Boa Chilabothrus inornatus

Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

Bald & Golden Eagles

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act ² and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their nests, should follow appropriate regulations and implement required avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

The <u>data</u> in this location indicates that no eagles have been observed in this area. This does not mean eagles are not present in your project area, especially if the area is difficult to survey. Please review the 'Steps to Take When No Results Are Returned' section of the <u>Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles document</u> to determine if your project is in a poorly surveyed area. If it is, you may need to rely on other resources to determine if eagles may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys).

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
 https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory

birds

- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds
 https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

Bald and Golden Eagle information is not available at this time

Bald & Golden Eagles FAQs

What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u> and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are an eagle (<u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> requirements may apply).

Proper interpretation and use of your eagle report

On the graphs provided, please look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical line) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal line). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort line or no data line (red horizontal) means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list and associated information help you know what to look for to confirm presence and helps guide you in knowing when to implement avoidance and minimization measures to eliminate or reduce potential impacts from your project activities or get the appropriate permits should presence be confirmed.

How do I know if eagles are breeding, wintering, or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating, or resident), you may query your location using the RAIL Tool and view the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If an eagle on your IPaC migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it (indicated by yellow vertical bars on the phenology graph in your "IPaC PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY" at the top of your results list), there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

Interpreting the Probability of Presence Graphs

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.

To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.

The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season ()

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort ()

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data ()

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

Migratory birds

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹ prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior <u>authorization</u> by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The incidental take of migratory birds is the injury or death of birds that results from, but is not the purpose, of an activity. The FWS interprets the MBTA to prohibit incidental take.

- 1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
- The <u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management

- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
 https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

Migratory bird information is not available at this time

Migratory Bird FAQs

Tell me more about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

Nationwide Avoidance & Minimization Measures for Birds describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year-round. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is one of the most effective ways to minimize impacts. To see when birds are most likely to occur and breed in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. Additional measures or permits may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of <u>Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC)</u> and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location, such as those listed under the Endangered Species Act or the <u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> and those species marked as "Vulnerable". See the FAQ "What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?" for more information on the levels of concern covered in the IPaC migratory bird species list.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) with which your project intersects. These species have been identified as warranting special attention because they are BCC species in that area, an eagle (Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, and to verify survey effort when no results present, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

Why are subspecies showing up on my list?

Subspecies profiles are included on the list of species present in your project area because observations in the AKN for **the species** are being detected. If the species are present, that means that the subspecies may also be present. If a subspecies shows up on your list, you may need to rely on other resources to determine if that subspecies may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. This data is derived from a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u>.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go to the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

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- 1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
- 2. "BCC BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
- 3. "Non-BCC Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the <u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially BCC species. For more information on avoidance and minimization measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts, please see the FAQ "Tell me more about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds".

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the <u>Northeast Ocean Data Portal</u>. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project

review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the <u>NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf project webpage.</u>

Proper interpretation and use of your migratory bird report

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Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the <u>National Wildlife Refuge</u> 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 at this location.

Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to <u>NWI wetlands</u> 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>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District</u>.

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

NOTE: This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tuberficid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 11988 & 13690 – FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT FIVE-STEP PROCESS AS PROVIDED BY 24 CFR §55.20 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – DISASTER RELIEF (CDBG-DR) PROGRAM

Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH)
Small Business Financing (SBF) Program Project No. PR-SBF-03878-E
Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.

STEP 1: DETERMINE WHETHER THE ACTION IS LOCATED IN A FFRMS FLOODPLAIN

The proposed project is intended to renovate the structure as part of the Economic Development portion of the CDBG-DR grant. The specific scope of work for this project includes construction of a 5'x7' concrete pad to accommodate a cistern and water pump and installation of an "IN-FUN-ITY Climbing System" and an Interactive Display for the Small Business.

The project is located at 940 Ave. Hostos, Playa, Ponce, Puerto Rico 00716. The Tax Parcel ID of the site is 412-032-567-02-001. The Latitude is 17.987323 and the Longitude is -66.617763. The FFRMS floodplain was determined using the 0.2-Percent-Annual-Chance (500-Year) Flood Approach.

The project is located partially within the FFRMS floodplain. The property is shown as being within Zone A on the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) Map.

Executive Order (EO) 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690 within HUD Regulations 24 CFR Part 55 details floodplain management. The purpose of EO 11988 and 13690 is "to avoid to the extent possible the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct or indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative." The project is located within the FFRMS floodplain and for this reason, EO 11988 applies. The subject unit occupies 6,705 square feet of the FFRMS floodplain. An evaluation of direct and indirect impacts associated with the construction, occupancy, and modification of the FFRMS floodplain is required. The project does not involve new construction and is not located in a wetland as determined by the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) Mapper, thus EO 11990 does not apply.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential structure. The renovation is not considered a substantial improvement in accordance with 24 CFR 55.2(b)(12) nor will the footprint be increased; therefore, per 24 CFR 55.14(d), public notification of the proposed activity (Step 2), identification and evaluation of practicable alternatives (Step 3) and the determination of no practicable alternative and publication of a final notice (Step 7) do not need to be conducted.

STEP 2: NOTIFY THE PUBLIC FOR EARLY REVIEW OF THE PROPOSAL AND INVOLVE THE AFFECTED AND INTERESTED PUBLIC IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential structure. The renovation is not considered a substantial improvement, and the structure footprint is not being increased; therefore, per 24 CFR 55.14(d), public notification of the proposed activity (Step 2 of the 8-Step Process) does not need to be conducted.

STEP 3: IDENTIFY AND EVALUATE PRACTICABLE ALTERNATIVES TO LOCATING IN THE FFRMS FLOODPLAIN.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential structure. The structure is not undergoing substantial improvement nor is the footprint increasing, therefore, per 24 CFR 55.14(d), identification, and evaluation of practicable alternatives to the proposed activity (Step 3 of the 8-Step Process) does not need to be conducted.

STEP 4: IDENTIFY POTENTIAL DIRECT AND INDIRECT IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH FFRMS FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT.

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

The project is a renovation of a non-residential structure. The structure is not undergoing substantial improvement, and the footprint will not increase. The proposal does include a minor renovation of construction of a 5'x7' concrete pad to accommodate a cistern and water pump and installation of an "IN-FUN-ITY Climbing System" and an Interactive Display. There will be no anticipated impacts to lives and property as this is a minor improvement to a non-residential structure. As the footprint of the structure will not change there are no anticipated impacts to floodplain characteristics or natural and beneficial values.

STEP 5: Where practicable, design or modify the proposed action to minimize the potential adverse impacts to and from the FFRMS floodplain or wetland and to restore and preserve their natural and beneficial functions and values.

The PRDOH and the Puerto Rico Permits Management Office requires elevation or floodproofing of all "substantially damaged or improved" structures in the FFRMS floodplain. When followed, these regulations will reduce the threat of flooding damage to properties located in the floodplain and reduce the impact of development on the floodplain. Applicants are required to adhere to the most recent FFRMS floodplain elevation levels when considering reconstruction of their "substantially damaged or improved" property. It is noted; however,

that because the property is not to be improved substantially and the footprint of the structure is not increased, floodplain management options are not required. The footprint of the structure will not be increased, to minimize the potential harm to or within the FFRMS floodplain.

STEP 6: HUD OR THE RESPONSIBLE ENTITY SHALL CONSIDER THE TOTALITY OF THE PREVIOUS STEPS AND THE CRITERIA IN THIS SECTION TO MAKE A DECISION AS TO WHETHER TO APPROVE, APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS, OR REJECT THE PROPOSED ACTION. ADVERSE IMPACTS TO FLOODPLAINS AND WETLANDS MUST BE AVOIDED IF THERE IS A PRACTICABLE ALTERNATIVE.

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

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

STEP 7: DETERMINATION OF NO PRACTICABLE ALTERNATIVE.

The project is a renovation of a non-residential structure. The structure is not undergoing substantial improvement nor is the footprint of the structure expanding; therefore, per 24 CFR 55.14(d), the determination of no practicable alternative and publication of a final notice (Step 7 of the 8-Step Process) does not need to be conducted.

STEP 8: IMPLEMENT THE PROPOSED ACTION

Step eight is the implementation of the proposed action. There is a continuing responsibility on HUD (or on the responsible entity authorized by 24 CFR part 58) and the recipient (if other than the responsible entity) to ensure that the mitigating measures identified in the steps above are implemented.

CaseID	Registry_ID	PGM_SYS_ID
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10012E+11	PRR000014142
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10033E+11	PRR000020206
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10005E+11	PRO007001316
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10005E+11	PRR000007914
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10005E+11	PRR000009159
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation		PRD000912246
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10005E+11	
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation		00731SRLKNAVENU
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation		PRD090526906
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10014E+11	PRN008010191
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10014E+11	PRN008010209
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10005E+11	PRR000011692
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10002E+11	PR0000007211300003
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10007E+11	PR0000007211300027
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10007E+11	PRD987367133
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10067E+11	PRR000025601
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10014E+11	PRN008010126
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation		PRN008010183
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation		110059658918
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.1006E+11	110059658909
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation		110059658892
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation		PR0000007211300090
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10012E+11	PRR000014795
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10014E+11	PRN008010118
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10038E+11	PRR000022020
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10038E+11	PRU002968
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10071E+11	PRR1000A4
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10037E+11	PRR000021709
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10071E+11	110070523766
PR-SBF-03878-E Re-Evaluation	1.10014E+11	PRN008010142

Name

R S OIL EQUIPMENT CONTRACTORS

PREPA CONSERVACION DE SUBESTACIONES SU

SERVICENTRO AUTOMOTIVE DEL SUR INC

CRIME LAB REGIONAL PONCE

CARLOS MESA TRUCK SUPPLY

TROPICAL CITY INDUSTRIES INC

TROPICAL CITY INDUSTRIES INC

HANES MENSWEAR INC PONCE TEXTILES

HANES MENSWEAR INC

NEGRO GOMAS

PROFESIONAL BODY SHOP

COMPANIA PONCENA DE TRANSPORTE

TERRAZOS PICO INC

PONCE CONCRETE BLK 1

READY MIX CONCRETE INC PLANT 11

CARIBBEAN CAN MANUFACTURING AMMONIA RELEASE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

GARAJE TOMAS SERRANO

MUEBLES COLON

HAZ102 CALLE COMERCIO 73

HAZ100 EDIFICIO VASSALLO

HAZ050 ANTIGUO COLEGIO PONCE O DE VARONES

HOMECA RECYCLING CENTER PONCE

ESSO STANDARD OIL CO PR CO 366

ENVIRONICS WAREHOUSE

HOMECA RECYCLING CENTER CO INC

HOMECA RECYCLING CENTER CO INC

PONCE HEALTH AND SCIENCES UNIVERSITY NEW ACADEMIC AND CLINIC BUILDING

GE W PT PONCE WAREHOUSE

HAZ097 HOLLYWOOD CLEANERS

GLOBAL MARINE SYSTEMS

Location	Municipio	Latitude	Longitude Type
112 HOSTOS AVE PLAYA	PONCE	17.98724	-66.618 RCRAINF(
139 HOSTOS AVE	PONCE	17.9876	-66.6178 RCRAINF(
111 B HOSTOS AVE	PONCE	17.98706	-66.6181 RCRAINF(
104 HOSTOS AVE	PONCE	17.98681	-66.6182 RCRAINF(
AVE DE HOSTOS 160	PONCE	17.98676	-66.6182 RCRAINF(
95 HOSTOS AVE	PONCE	17.98626	-66.6184 RCRAINF(
95 HOSTOS AVENUE	PONCE	17.98626	-66.6184 NPDES
84 HOSTOS AVE	PONCE	17.98615	-66.6185 TRIS
84 HOSTOS AVE	PONCE	17.98615	-66.6185 RCRAINF(
146 HOSTOS AVE	PONCE	17.98882	-66.6173 RCRAINF(
209 HOSTO ST PLAYA PONCE	PONCE	17.9898	-66.6169 RCRAINF(
67 HOSTOS AVE SECTOR PLAYA	PONCE	17.98487	-66.619 RCRAINF(
170 HOSTOS AVE		17.98995	-66.6168 AIR
HOSTOS AVE		17.98995	-66.6168 AIR
AVE HOSTOS 170	PONCE	17.98995	-66.6168 RCRAINF(
1029 HOSTOS AVE	PONCE	17.99189	-66.616 RCRAINF(
812 HOSTOS AVE PONCE BEACH	PONCE	17.98167	-66.6205 RCRAINF(
42 MORENA ST PONCE BEACH	PONCE	17.9803	-66.6192 RCRAINF(
73 CALLE COMERCIO	USA	17.98031	-66.6205 ACRES
69 CALLE COMERCIO	USA	17.98027	-66.6204 ACRES
65 CALLE COMERCIO	USA	17.98024	-66.6204 ACRES
CALLE COMERCIO 1		17.97981	-66.6194 AIR
COMERCIO ST 5 BELGICA ST	PONCE	17.97981	-66.6194 RCRAINF(
COMERCIO ST ESTE ST	PONCE	17.97981	-66.6194 RCRAINF(
CALLE SALMON 1	PONCE	17.97981	-66.6194 RCRAINF(
CALLE COMERCIO 1 PLAYA PONCE	PONCE	17.97981	-66.6194 NPDES
388 ZONA INDUSTRIAL REPARADA 2		17.9951	-66.6183 NPDES
42 SALMON CALLE AYALA WAREHOUS		17.97956	-66.6188 RCRAINF(
35 CALLE COMERCIO	PONCE	17.97956	-66.6188 ACRES
41 BONAIRE ST PONCE BEACH	PONCE	17.97994	-66.6206 RCRAINF(

Report	Distance Impact
https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110012259527	79.64564 no
https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110032659031	100.9638
https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110004890912	142.304
https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110004893624	235.676
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https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110014362046	2851.814

Update Date

9/30/2024, 8:00 PM

0/00/2021, 0.00 11

9/30/2024, 8:00 PM





Self-Certification

https://www.fws.gov/office/caribbean-ecological-services

Endangered Species Act Certification

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

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

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) certifies that the following project **Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.** (PR-SBF-03878-E), under the CDBG-DR Small Business Financing Program, consisting of construction of a 5'x7' concrete pad to accommodate a cistern and water pump and installation of an "IN-FUN-ITY Climbing System" and an Interactive Display, located at 940 Ave. Hostos, Playa, Ponce, Puerto Rico 00716, complies with:

Check	Project Criteria
	 Activities related to the resurfacing existing streets or roads; maintenance of existing upland gabion or reinforced concrete retention walls; construction, reconstruction or repair of gutters and sidewalks along existing roads.
	2. Repair, replace, improve, reconstruct and/or rehabilitate facilities in already established public transportation systems (signs, sidewalks and ramps, bus stops and existing routes).
	3. Repair, replace, improve, reconstruct, rehabilitate and/or expanding existing public transportation facilities located in urban or developed areas.
	4. Construction of new facilities for public transportation systems (e.g. school bus stops, city buses, trolleybuses, public car stops, public car terminal) in urban or developed areas.
	5. Repair, replace, improve, reconstruct, or rehabilitate existing bridges or rip-rap. We recommend following FWS rip-rap guidance for design: https://www.fws.gov/media/guidance-repair-replacement-and-clean-

	structures-streams-and-waterways-puerto-rico-and-us
	3. Reconstruction, or emergency repairs, of existing structures, including but not
	limited to buildings, facilities and homes.
	7. Demolition of dilapidated single-family homes or buildings.
	3. Rebuilding of demolished single-family homes or buildings.
	9. Retrofitting existing buildings.
	0. Construction of residential and/or commercial facilities.
	 Construction, repair, replace, improve, reconstruct, and/or rehabilitate recreational facilities.
	 Addition of concrete pads to the existing footprint of a residential and/or commercial structure, provided that the resulting addition is less than 20% of the size of the existing structure.
	3. Improvement or renovations to existing structures (exterior and interior) renovations resulting in an exterior increase greater than 20%.
\boxtimes	4. Improvements or renovations to existing structures (exterior and interior renovations) resulting in an exterior increase of less than 20%.
	Acquisition of residential and/or commercial properties in urban or developed areas for the relocation of families and/or activities.
	6. Construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation and/or expansion of cemeteries.
	Installation/drilling of new water well and associated utility infrastructure, either above ground or underground.
	8. Establishment of power facilities, including but not limited to associated aboveground and/or underground infrastructure.
	 Construction of electrical system infrastructure and associated components, including but not limited to associated aboveground and/or underground infrastructure.
	20. Construction of land based small electric generating facilities, including those fueled with wind, sun, or biomass, capable of producing no more than 10 MW.
	21. Activities within existing Right of Ways (ROWs) related to water and sanitary infrastructure; communication infrastructure; roads, bridges and highways without the removal of native vegetation and/or major earth movement.
	22. Construction of rooftop or urban telecommunications systems and associated components, including but not limited to associated aboveground and/or underground infrastructure.

	23. Establishment of temporary debris storage (TDS) facilities.
	24. Establishment and/or closure of solid waste management facilities. But not new landfills .
×	25. Installation of water storage systems (cisterns) and associated infrastructure, either above ground or underground, including but not limited to installations on existing or new concrete pads, or existing or new roofs.
	26. Installation of solar panels, battery storage systems and/or associated utility infrastructure, either above ground or underground, on existing or new concrete pads, existing or new roofs, ground or pole mounted.
	27. Installation of generators on existing or new concrete slabs, and associated utility infrastructure, either above ground or underground.
	28. Repair of existing agricultural structures including but not limited to greenhouses, warehouses, canopies, fences, corrals, and shade structures with less than 20% expansion of footprint.
	29. New construction of agricultural structures in established farms including but not limited to greenhouses, warehouses, canopies, fences, corrals, and shade structures with or without underground and/or aboveground infrastructure utility connections.
	30. Construction of fences, cattle corrals, concrete slabs.
	31. Installation of storage containers on new concrete slab.
	32. New construction or work which expands the footprint of an existing structure and occurs entirely on disturbed, regularly maintained, upland property, including the staging of equipment.

Angelfh Angel G. López-Guzmán

Deputy Director

Permits and Environmental Compliance Division

Puerto Rico Department of Housing

Disaster Recovery Office, CDBG-DR/MIT

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

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

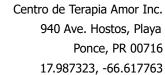
Email: environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov

Attachments:

1. Project Site Map (Location Map)

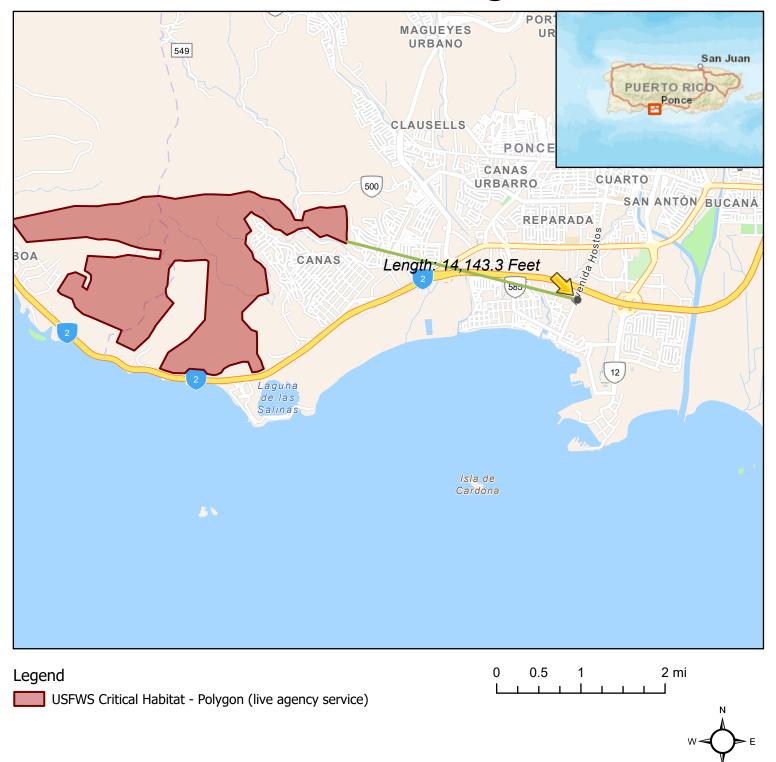
USFWS Self-Certification PR-SBF-03878-E Page 4 / 3

- 2. Project Site Photos
- 3. Copy of the Blanket Clearance Letter
- 4. Others, as necessary to demonstrate compliance with the criteria (e.g. Explanatory Memorandum, Critical Habitat Map, National Wetlands Inventory Map, etc.)





PR-SBF-03878-E Endangered

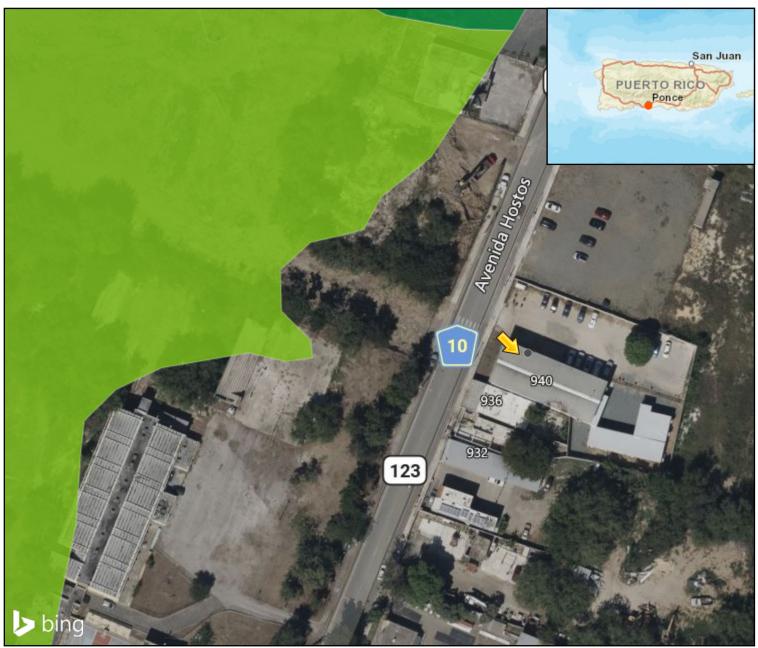


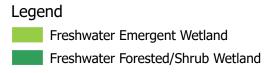
Endangered Species Habitat

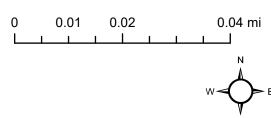
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



PR-SBF-03878-E Wetlands





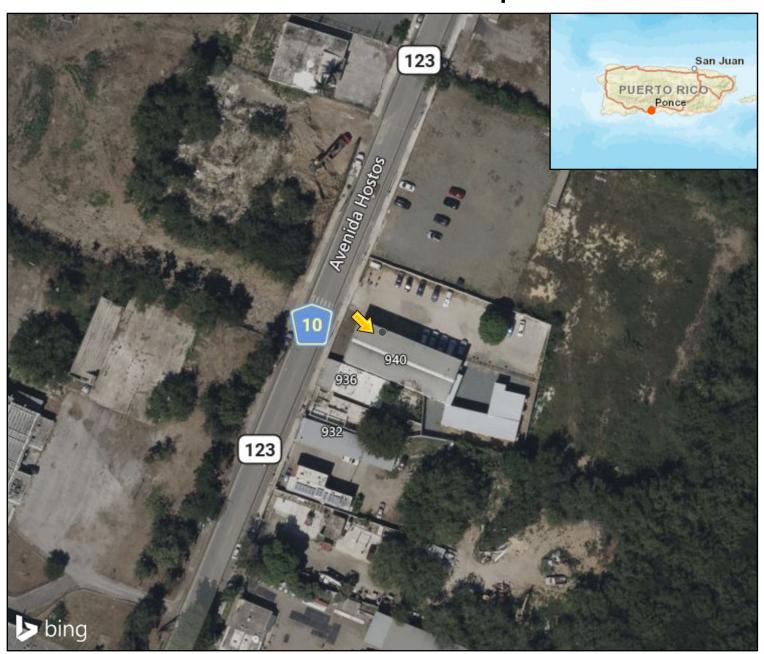


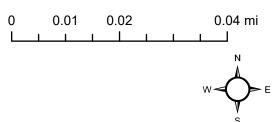
National Wetlands Inventory

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



PR-SBF-03878-E Site Map





























X

[Pac recource list

Migratory bird information is currently unavailable. We are aware of the problem and working on a solution. In the meantime, you can obtain similar project-specific bird occurrence results using the <u>AKN RAIL tool</u>.

below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

Ponce County, Puerto Rico



Local office

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

(939) 320-3135

(787) 851-7440

✓ CARIBBEAN ES@FWS.GOV

MAILING ADDRESS Post Office Box 491 Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

PHYSICAL ADDRESS
Office Park I
State Road #2 Km 156.5, Suite 303}
Mayaguez, PR 00680



Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

- 1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
- 2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
- 3. Log in (if directed to do so).
- 4. Provide a name and description for your project.
- 5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the <u>Ecological Services Program</u> of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact <u>NOAA Fisheries</u> for <u>species under their jurisdiction</u>.

- 1. Species listed under the <u>Endangered Species Act</u> are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the <u>listing status page</u> for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
- 2. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Reptiles

NAME STATUS

Puerto Rican Boa Chilabothrus inornatus

Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

Bald & Golden Eagles

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act ² and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their nests, should follow appropriate regulations and implement required avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

The <u>data</u> in this location indicates that no eagles have been observed in this area. This does not mean eagles are not present in your project area, especially if the area is difficult to survey. Please review the 'Steps to Take When No Results Are Returned' section of the <u>Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles document</u> to determine if your project is in a poorly surveyed area. If it is, you may need to rely on other resources to determine if eagles may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys).

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
 https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory

birds

- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds
 https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC
 https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

Bald and Golden Eagle information is not available at this time

Bald & Golden Eagles FAQs

What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u> and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are an eagle (<u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> requirements may apply).

Proper interpretation and use of your eagle report

On the graphs provided, please look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical line) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal line). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort line or no data line (red horizontal) means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list and associated information help you know what to look for to confirm presence and helps guide you in knowing when to implement avoidance and minimization measures to eliminate or reduce potential impacts from your project activities or get the appropriate permits should presence be confirmed.

How do I know if eagles are breeding, wintering, or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating, or resident), you may query your location using the RAIL Tool and view the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If an eagle on your IPaC migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it (indicated by yellow vertical bars on the phenology graph in your "IPaC PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY" at the top of your results list), there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

Interpreting the Probability of Presence Graphs

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.

To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.

The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season ()

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort ()

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data ()

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

Migratory birds

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹ prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior <u>authorization</u> by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The incidental take of migratory birds is the injury or death of birds that results from, but is not the purpose, of an activity. The FWS interprets the MBTA to prohibit incidental take.

- 1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
- The <u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management

- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
 https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

Migratory bird information is not available at this time

Migratory Bird FAQs

Tell me more about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

Nationwide Avoidance & Minimization Measures for Birds describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year-round. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is one of the most effective ways to minimize impacts. To see when birds are most likely to occur and breed in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary.

Additional measures or permits may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of <u>Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC)</u> and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location, such as those listed under the Endangered Species Act or the <u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> and those species marked as "Vulnerable". See the FAQ "What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?" for more information on the levels of concern covered in the IPaC migratory bird species list.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) with which your project intersects. These species have been identified as warranting special attention because they are BCC species in that area, an eagle (Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, and to verify survey effort when no results present, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

Why are subspecies showing up on my list?

Subspecies profiles are included on the list of species present in your project area because observations in the AKN for **the species** are being detected. If the species are present, that means that the subspecies may also be present. If a subspecies shows up on your list, you may need to rely on other resources to determine if that subspecies may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. This data is derived from a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u>.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go to the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating, or resident), you may query your location using the RAIL Tool and view the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your IPaC migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it (indicated by yellow vertical bars on the phenology graph in your "IPaC PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY" at the top of your results list), there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

- 1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
- 2. "BCC BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
- 3. "Non-BCC Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the <u>Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act</u> requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially BCC species. For more information on avoidance and minimization measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts, please see the FAQ "Tell me more about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds".

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the <u>Northeast Ocean Data Portal</u>. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project

review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the <u>NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf project webpage.</u>

Proper interpretation and use of your migratory bird report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical line) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal line). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list does not represent all birds present in your project area. It is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list and associated information help you know what to look for to confirm presence and helps guide implementation of avoidance and minimization measures to eliminate or reduce potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about avoidance and minimization measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about avoidance and minimization measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds".

Interpreting the Probability of Presence Graphs

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

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To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.

The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season ()

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort ()

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data ()

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the <u>National Wildlife Refuge</u> 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 at this location.

Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to <u>NWI wetlands</u> 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>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District</u>.

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

NOTE: This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tuberficid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.





MEMORANDUM TO FILE

Date: March 28, 2025

From: Blas Guernica

Senior Environmental Associate

CDBG-DR Program

Small Business Financing Program
Puerto Rico Department of Housing

Application Number: PR-SBF-03878-E **Project:** Centro de Terapia de Amor Inc.

Re: Justification for the Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing

After reviewing Application Number PR-SBF-03878-E under the Small Business Financing Program, administered by the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (**PRDOH**), to complete the property's contamination analysis in accordance with 24 C.F.R. § 50.3(i) and 24 C.F.R. § 58.5(i), we have determined that testing the property's radon levels is infeasible and impracticable.

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

 As required by the CPD Notice 23-103, the scientific data reviewed in lieu of testing must consist of a minimum of ten documented test results over the previous ten years. If there are less than ten documented results over this period, it is understood that there is a lack of scientific data. The latest report

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for radon testing in Puerto Rico was prepared in 1995 by the U.S. Department of the Interior in Cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. No other completed studies and reports on radon testing are available in Puerto Rico.

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

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

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

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

Radon Attachments



August 20, 2024

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

Vía email: guerrero.carmen@epa.gov

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

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

Community Planning and Development (CPD) Notice CDP-23-103. This Notice emphasizes the importance of radon testing and milligation in ensuring safe living environments, particularly in HUD-assited properties. PRDOH, as the grantee of the Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery and Miligation (CDBG-DR/MII), is responsible for ensuring compliance with environmental requirements under CDBG-DR/MII programs. To fulfill our obligations under this Notice, we must compile comprehensive and up-to-date information on radon levels, testing practices, and any miltigation efforts within the Islands of Puerto Rico. Rico.

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

 $\underline{Radon\ testing\ data} - Results\ from\ radon\ testing\ conducted\ within\ your\ agency's\ purview,\ including\ details\ on\ location,\ testing\ methods,\ and\ recorded\ radon\ levels.$

Barbosa Ave. #606 , Building Juan C. Cordero Davila, Rio Piedras, PR 00918 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365 Tel. (787) 274-2527 | www.nivenda.pr.gov



August 20, 2024

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

Vía email: silvina.cancelos@upr.edu

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

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

Community Planning and Development (CPD) Notice CDP-23-103. This Notice emphasizes the importance of radon testing and militigation in ensuring safe living environments, particularly in HUD-assited properties. PRDOH, as the grantee of the Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery and Militigation (CDBG-DR/MIT), is responsible for ensuring compliance with environmental requirements under CDBG-DR/MIT programs. To fulfill our obligations under this Notice, we must compile comprehensive and up-to-date information on radon levels, testing practices, and any militigation efforts within the Islands of Puerto Rico.

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

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

Barbosa Ave. #606 , Building Juan C. Cordeto Dávila, Río Piedras, PR 00918 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365 Tel. (767) 274-2527 | https://www.nienda.pr.gov

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Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerto Rico
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Reports and assessments – Any reports, studies, or assessments your agency has produced or commissioned that address radon testing or miligation.

<u>Policies and quidelines</u> – Information or any policy, guideline, or protocol your agency follows concerning radon testing, exposure limits, or mitigation.

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

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

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

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

llmn (rez Rodfiguez, Esq.

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

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

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

Sincerely.

My Rodríguez, Esq.

Dr. Carlos Marín, carlos,marin3@upr.edu



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: OIA@cdc.gov

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

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

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

Specifically, we are seeking for possible availability of the following

 $\frac{Radon\ testing\ data}{Results} - Results\ from\ radon\ testing\ conducted\ within\ your\ agency's\ purview,\ including\ details\ on\ location,\ testing\ methods,\ and\ recorded\ radon\ levels.$

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



August 20, 2024

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

Via email: anais.rodriquez@drna.pr.gov

RE: Request for Information regarding available data on radon testing

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

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

Specifically, we are seeking for possible availability of the following

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

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

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

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agency has produced or commissioned that address radon testing or mitigation.

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

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

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

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

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

D. Rodríguez, Esq

CD8G-DR/MIT Pro Request for Information in relation with HUD CPD-23-103 for Puerli

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

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

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

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

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

William O. Rodríguez Rodríguez, Esq.

Secretary

Mr. Luis Márquez, <u>secretariaaire@drna.pr.gov</u> Eng. Amarilys Rosario, <u>aire@drna.pr.gov</u> Mrs. Elid Ortega, <u>eortega@drna.pr.gov</u>



August 20, 2024

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

Vía email: drcarlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov

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

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

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

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

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

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

Barbosa Ave. #606, Building Juan C. Cordero Dávila, Río Piedras, PR 00918 | PO Box 21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365 Tel. (787) 274-2527 | https://doi.org/10.1007/j.com/noses/21365 San Juan, PR 00928-1365



August 20, 2024

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

Vía email: hsweyers@usgs.gov

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely.

Ladriguez Rodriguez, Esq.

Mr. Raúl Hernández Doble, rhernandez2@salud.pr.gov

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

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

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

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

Sincerely

Ariauez Rodriguez, Esq.

Mr. R. Randall Schumann, rschumann@usgs.gov

From: Charp, Paul (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP) <pac4@cdc.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 6:36 AM

To: Miranda, Sandra (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Irizarry, Jessica (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Rzeszotarski, Peter

(CDC/NCEH/DEHSP); Vinson, D. Aaron (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP)

Cc: Kostak, Liana (CDC/PHIC/DPS); Vazquez, Germaine (CDC/NCEH/DEHSP)

Subject: RE; REHi: Puerto Rico Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Good morning, Sandra and others,

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

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

If you have any additional questions, please contact me.

Thank you and best regards,

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



From: Schumann, R. Randall <rschumann@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 4:39 PM

To: Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>; Weyers, Holly S <hsweyers@usgs.gov>
Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A.

Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>

Subject: RE: Request for Information- Radon testing and levels

Dear Ms. Medina Smaine,

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

Best regards,

R. Randall Schumann
Scientist Emeritus
U.S. Geological Survey
Geociences and Environmental Change Science Center
Denver, Colorado, USA
rschumann@usgs.gov
https://www.usgs.gov/staff-profiles/r-randall-schumann

From: Raul Hernandez Doble <rhernandez2@salud.pr.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 2:13:31 PM

To: Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>; Dr. Carlos Mellado <drcarlos.mellado@salud.pr.gov> Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez <aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Mayra Toro Tirado <mtoro@salud.pr.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Good afternoon, Ms. Medina

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

Raul Hernandez Doble
Director, Seccion Salud Radiologica
Division de Salud Ambiental
Secretaria Auxiliar para la Vigilancia y la Proteccion de la Salud Publica
rhernandez2@salud.gov.pr

Phone: (787)765-2929 ext. 3210

From: Reyes, Brenda <Reyes.Brenda@epa.gov> Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 11:48 AM

To: Cesar O Rodriguez Santos <cesarrodriguez@drna.pr.gov>; Maritza Rosa Olivares <maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov>;

Silvina Cancelos Mancini <silvina.cancelos@upr.edu>; Melanie Medina Smaine <mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>

Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia <Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz <Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez

<aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov>; Povetko, Oleg (he/him/his) <Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Saludos.

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

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

From: Silvina Cancelos Mancini <silvina.cancelos@upr.edu>

Sent: Friday, September 6, 2024 15:04

To: Melanie Medina Smaine < mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov>

Cc: Elaine Dume Mejia < Edume@vivienda.pr.gov>; Luz S Colon Ortiz < Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov>; Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez

<a href="mailto:Aarivera@vivie

<<u>Reyes.Brenda@epa.gov</u>>; Povetko, Oleg <<u>Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: Re: Request for Information- Randon testing and levels

Estimada Melanie Medina

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

Atentamente

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



Bubble Dynamics Lab



September 23, 2024

VIA EMAIL

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

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

Dear Honorable Secretary Rodríguez Rodríguez

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

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

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

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

Typical radon testing technology used in mainland United States (charcoal canisters or electric-powered devices) are impractical in Puerto Rico because of high humidity and power outages. The recovery and rebuilding of communities following the aftermath of 2017 Hurricanes Irms and Maria presented an opportunity to develop radon prevention and mitigation strategies in 2019. Initially, EPA sampled indoor radon air in over 170 single-family residences in the municipalities of San Sebastian, Lares, Ciales, Arecibo, Morovis, Camuy, and Hatillo and later expanded the project to other municipalities such as Rincon, Aguada, Aguadalli, stabela, Questradillas, Barecloneta and Vega Baja. The quality assurance protocols were anchored in American National Standards institute/American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (ANSI/AARS) standards of practice (ANSI/AARS) 1939. The sampling was designed in two stages: scoping and confirmatory sampling. The scoping sampling was conducted using Corentium Home (CH) electronic monitors and E-Perm ystems. Locations measuring above the EPA Action Level of 4 pCI/L with CH were measured at the second stage of the sampling using RAD7 and Corentium Pro Continuous Radon Monitors (CRMs). Nationally certified and on sampling professionals led by one such professional form the UPRM conducted confirmatory sampling in the second stage. Also, during the study, the nationally certified radon mitigation professionals inspected several homes with elevated indoor radon levels. Typical radon testing technology used in mainland United States (charcoal canisters or electric-powered levels.

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

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

CITY VIEW PLAZA II BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR ROUTE 165 GUAYNABO, PR 00968

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

Sincerely,

CARMEN **GUERRERO** PEREZ

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

Carmen R. Guerrero Pérez Director

Roberto Mendez, Esq (Acting Secretary, PR Department of Natural and Env. Resources)

Melany Medina: mmedina@vivienda.pr.gov Elaine Dume Mejia: Edume@vivienda.pr.gov Luz S Colon Ortiz: Lcolon@vivienda.pr.gov
Aldo A. Rivera-Vazquez: aarivera@vivienda.pr.gov Cesar O. Rodriguez: cesarrodriguez@drna.pr.gov Marita Rosa Olivares: maritzarosaolivares@drna.pr.gov

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

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

Lauren B Poche

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

SHPO-CF-02-10-25-04 PR-SBF-03878-E (Ponce), Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.,

Dear Ms. Poche,

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

After a review of all the documentation provided, the PRSHPO agrees with your finding that the proposed project will have no adverse effect upon historic properties.

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

State Historic Preservation Officer

only apartir

CARC/GMO/SG







Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

Executive Director Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office Cuartel de Ballajá, Third Floor San Juan, Puerto Rico 00901

Re: Authorization to Submit Documents for Consultation

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela,

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

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

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

Cordially,

Aldo A. Rivera Vázquez, PE

Director

Division of Environmental Permitting and Compliance

Office of Disaster Recovery



February 10, 2025

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

Puerto Rico Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR Program: Small Business Financing (SBF) Program

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal – PR-SBF-03878-E, Centro de Terapia Amor Inc., 940 Ave. Hostos, Playa, Ponce, Puerto Rico - *No Adverse Effect*

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela.

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 (PRDOH) aims to lead a comprehensive and transparent recovery for the benefit of Puerto Rico residents. To faithfully comply with HUD's environmental requirements, the PRDOH contracted Horne Federal, LLC (HORNE) to provide environmental records review services that will support their objectives for CDBG-DR.

On behalf of PRDOH, we are submitting PR-SBF-03878-E in the municipality of Ponce for Section 106 consultation. This building is located at 940 Ave. Hostos, within the National Register of Historic Places listed Playa de Ponce Historic District. The current proposed activities include the construction of a 5'x7' concrete pad to accommodate a cistern and water pump. Additionally, an "IN-FUN-ITY Climbing System" and an Interactive Display will be installed and affixed.



The subject building is within the Barrio Playa de Ponce Historic Dristrict, but does not contribute to the district. The climbing system and the interactive display will be installed in the building's interior. The addition of the new cistern will not have an adverse effect on the adjacent historic properties nor the Playa de Ponce Historic District, as it will be placed on the rear elevation and will not be visible from the street. Therefore, the Program has made a determination of **No Adverse Effect** for the proposed Undertaking.

We look forward to your response. Please contact me with any questions or concerns by email at lauren.poche@horne.com or phone at 225-405-7676.

Kindest regards,

Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.

Architectural Historian, EHP Senior Manager

LPB/KPS

Attachments

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.



Project Location: 940 Ave. Hostos, Playa, Ponce, Puerto Rico 00716

Project Coordinates: 17.987323, -66.617763

TPID (Número de Catastro): 305-000-002-35-901

Type of Undertaking:

Substantial Repair/Improvements

☐ New Construction

Construction Date (AH est.): ca. 1980/2021 | Property Size (acres): 0.52

SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian: Diane Rios, M.A.

Date Reviewed: 2/20/2025

SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Jennifer Ort, M.S.

Date Reviewed: 1/9/2025

In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Program is responsible for identifying historic properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places (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 project area involves two buildings. Building one is located at 17.9872507, -66.6177132, and building two abuts building one to the south at 17.9871132, -66.6174855. Building number one has a construction date of ca. 1980 and building number 2 has a construction date of ca. 2020. The proposed activities for Centro de Terapia Amor Inc. include installing a new cistern and water pump near building's one rear elevation and will not be visible from the streer. The applicant will be paying for a new 7-foot (ft; 2.13 meter [m]) 5 ft (1.52 m) concrete pad, which will require ground leveling. The cistern will be placed on the new pad but not affixed to it. Interior activities in building one and building two will include the installation of an IN-FUN-ITY Climbing System and an interactive projection screem, both items will be affixed to the wall.

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

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM
SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.

APE for this project is a 15-meter buffer around the proposed location of the electric line and structure for the proposed solar system. Based on this definition and the nature and scope of the Undertaking, the Program has determined that the Direct APE for this project is the project parcel. The Direct APE measures 198.8 ft (60.6 m) by 142.4 ft (43.4 m) and encompasses 0.52 acres (ac; 0.14 hectares [ha]) (see attached Area of Potential Effect map). 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 was completed by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for Archaeology (36 CFR Part 61), which shows that there are no recorded archaeological sites within a half-mile of the project area.

The proposed project is in an urban area within the Coastal Plains physiographic zone, at an elevation of 10.8 ft (3.3 m) above modern sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses one mapped soil series: Urban land (UI). However, Constancia silty clay (Ct) is mapped in the undisturbed areas to the east and west of the project area. Located within the southern coastal plains, the closest freshwater source is an unnamed intermittent stream located 0.22 mi (0.36 km) north-northwest of the project area, although a large Freshwater Emergent wetland is located 0.03 mi (0.05 km) to the west. The southern coast is approximately 12.4 mi (9.02 km) from the project area. The southern coast is approximately 0.63 mi (1.01 km) from the project area.

Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that the project area is within the boundaries of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible Playa de Ponce Historic District. Through this review, the following eligible and listed NRHP properties have been identified within a 1/5 mile radius to the project area:

• Edificio Municipal de la Playa de Ponce (13000639), listed on August 27, 2013; is located at 0.45 mi southwest of the Project being evaluated.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM
SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.

- Iglesia Metodista Unida de la Playa de Ponce (08000283), listed on April 11, 2008; is located at 0.41 mi southwest of the Project being evaluated.
- Edificio Empresas Ferré (13000638), listed on August 27, 2013; is located at 0.42 mi southwest of the Project being evaluated.
- Carretera Central, May 2, 2019; is adjacent (west) of the Project being evaluated.

The Centro de Terapia y Amor project (PR-SBF-003878-E) is located in the Playa de Ponce ward, also known as "la Playa" or "la Marina". During the XIX century the Playa the Ponce Historic District became a vital point for the municipality's economic development. The opening of its marineport in 1812 had an immediate impact not only in Ponce's finances, but also in the development of the Playa de Ponce itself. With a privileged location just two miles from the city's urban and core and its proximity to the Camino Real later named Carretera Central, made Playa the Ponce the center of Ponce's commercial activity. The mayor commercial firms established their commercial buildings, stores and wharehouses at Playa the Ponce. After 1845, a strict urban planning program was implemented that organized the ward functionality. The Camino Real was used to functionally divide Playa de Ponce into two areas. The residential area west of the Camino Real and the commercial area west of the Camino Real. It was ordered that all commercial buildings and wharehouses were to be built of solid materials (brick and masonry). No specific construction materials were imposed upon the residential section of the ward. Playa the Ponce exhibit architectural srtyles such as Art Deco, Neo Classic, Vernacular and Mid-Century modern. The methodical and strict urban planning make Playa the Ponce, most likekly, the oldest planned suburban area in Puerto Rico.

The project area is located at 940 Ave. Hostos, Playa within the Municipality of Ponce in an urban setting. Based on a review of historical aerial imagery and topographic mapping, the general area was urban along the coastline and expanding to the north; the project area was just outside the majority of the developed regions (1941 aerial imagery, the earliest available). A substantial increase in urban development is evident in imagery from the early 1960's through to the present day. A smaller building with the same orientation as building one but with a different footprint is present in 1962 aerial imagery, with building one replacing the earlier structure by 1983. Building two was constructed between 2020 and 2021, based on aerial imagery.

The main building is a one level commercial concrete building with corrugated metal gable roof with a construction date of ca. 1980. The secondary building is located behind the building number one and it's a detached L shape one level wooden structure with

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.

corrugated metal roof with a construction date of circa 2020. The proposed project is surrounded by empty lots to the leftand a non-contributing modern concrete 2-story commercial building across the street. The buildings are not fifty-years old and do not have any special historical or architectural significance. They are not individually eligible for the NRHP, nor do they contribute to the NRHP eligible Playa de Ponce Historic District.

Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

- Direct Effect:
 - o No historic properties are present within the Direct APE
- Indirect Effect:
 - o Adjacent buildings in the Playa de Ponce Historic District

Based on our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not adversely effect the historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect. The project area is within the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible Barrio Playa de Ponce historic core, within the Playa de Ponce Historic Community. No known archaeological sites are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the Area of Potential Effect of case PR-SBF-03878-E is located. The closest freshwater is 0.22 mi (0.36 km) north-northwest of the project area.

The subject building is within the Barrio Playa de Ponce Historic Dristrict, but does not contribute to the district. The climbing system and the interactive display will be installed the building's interior. The addition of the new cistern will not have an adverse effect on the adjacent historic properties nor the Playa de Ponce Historic District, as it will be placed on the rear elevation and will not be visible from the street.

Because improvements will not be visible from the street, the Program has determined that the proposed activities will result in No Adverse Effect.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM	1
SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)	
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation	
Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.	

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.	
Recommendation (Please keep on same page as SHPO Staff Sec	:tion)
The Puerto Rico Department of Housing requests that the Puerto the following determination is appropriate for the undertaking (C	
□ No Historic Properties Affected⋈ No Adverse Effect	
□ Adverse Effect Proposed Resolution (if appliable)	
This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff	Only
The Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed and:	
 □ Concurs with the information provided. □ Does not concur with the information provided. 	
Comments:	
Carlos Rubio-Cancela	Date:

State Historic Preservation Officer

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.



Project (Parcel) Location - Area of Potential Effect (APE)

Puerto Rico Department of Housing Small Business Financing Program

Application ID#: PR-SBF-03878-E

Address: 940 Ave. Hostos, Playa, Ponce, Puerto Rico







PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) **Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination**

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.



Latitude: 17.987247 Longitude: -66.617699

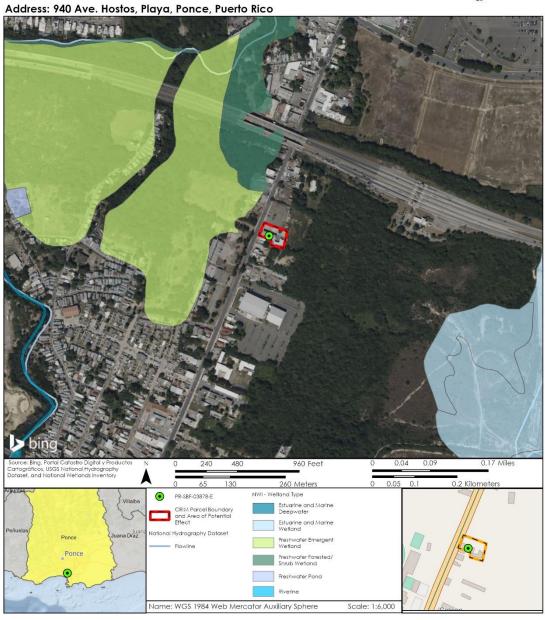


Puerto Rico Department of Housing **Small Business Financing Program**

Application ID#: PR-SBF-03878-E

Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Base





PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.

Project (Parcel) Location - Topographic Base Latitude: 17.987247 Longitude: -66.617699 Puerto Rico Department of Housing **Small Business Financing Program** (H) HORNE Application ID#: PR-SBF-03878-E Address: 940 Ave. Hostos, Playa, Ponce, Puerto Rico Source: ESRI Imagery Basemap Service, Portal Catastro Digital y Productos Cartográficos, USGS National Hydrography Dataset, and National 260 Meters PR-SBF-03878-E Estuarine and Marine Deepwater Name: WGS 1984 Web Mercator Auxiliary Sphere

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.



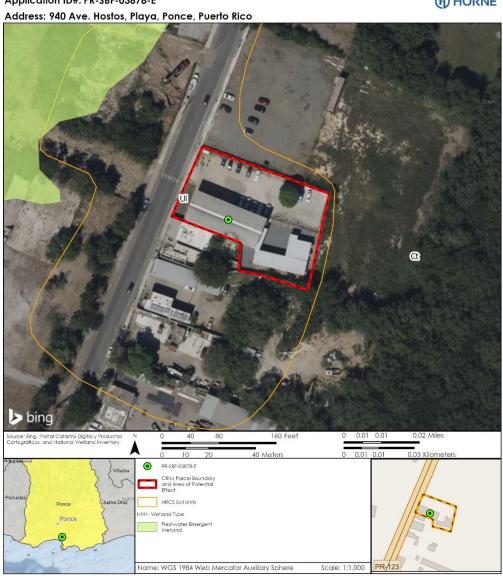
Project (Parcel) Location - Soils Map

Puerto Rico Department of Housing **Small Business Financing Program**

Application ID#: PR-SBF-03878-E







PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF) **Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination**

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.



Latitude: 17.987247 Longitude: -66.617699



(H) HORNE

Puerto Rico Department of Housing **Small Business Financing Program**

Historic Properties - Aerial Base

Application ID#: PR-SBF-03878-E

Address: 940 Ave. Hostos, Playa, Ponce, Puerto Rico

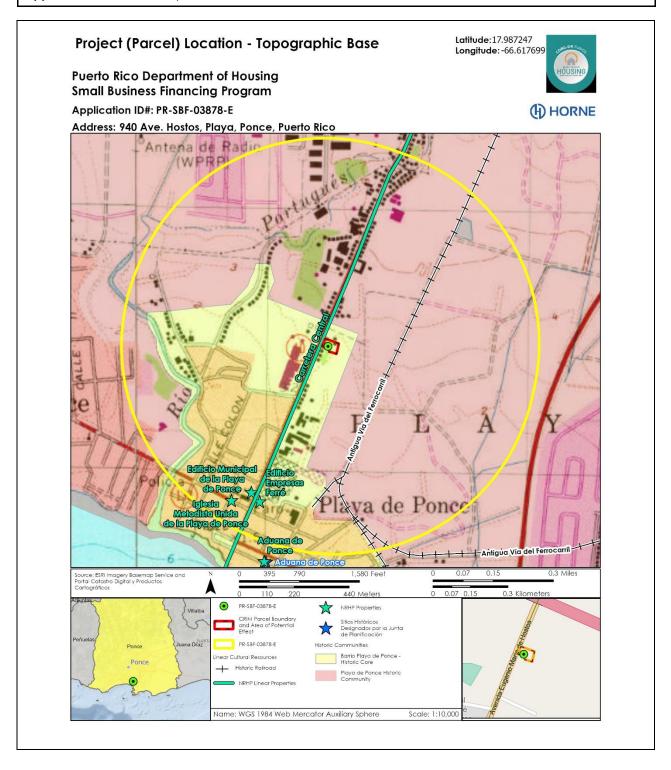


PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.



PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.



Photo #: 1

Description (include direction): Front of building 2, facing south.

Date:

7/24/2024



Photo #: 2

Description (include direction): Rear of building 2, facing north.

Date: 7/24/2024

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM
SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)
Specifican 104 NHPA Effect Determination

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.





Photo #: 3

Description (include direction): Left side of building 1, facing west.

Date: 7/24/2024



Photo #: 4

Description (include direction): Right side of building 2, facing east.

Date: 7/24/2024

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.





Photo #: 5

Description (include direction): Right side of building 1, looking out, facing southwest

Date: 7/24/2024



Photo #: 6

Description (include direction): Front of building 1, facing east.

Date: 7/24/2024

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.



Photo #: 7

Description (include direction): Rear of building 1 , facing west.

Date: 7/24/2024



Photo #: 8

Description (include direction): Left side of building 1, facing south...

Date: 7/24/2024

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM
SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination

Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.





Photo #: 9

Description (include direction): North side of building 1, facing west

Date: 7/24/2024

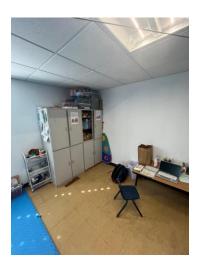


Photo #: 10

Description (include direction): Interior location for climbing equipment.

Date: 7/24/2024

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM
SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM (SBF)
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Program ID Number: PR-SBF-003878-E Re-Evaluation

Applicant: Centro de Terapia Amor Inc.

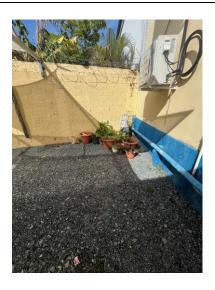


Photo #:	Description (include direction): Area for cistern.
Date:	



PR-SBF-03878-E ABFE





FEMA Map Service

ABFE 1PCT



PR-SBF-03878-E Airport

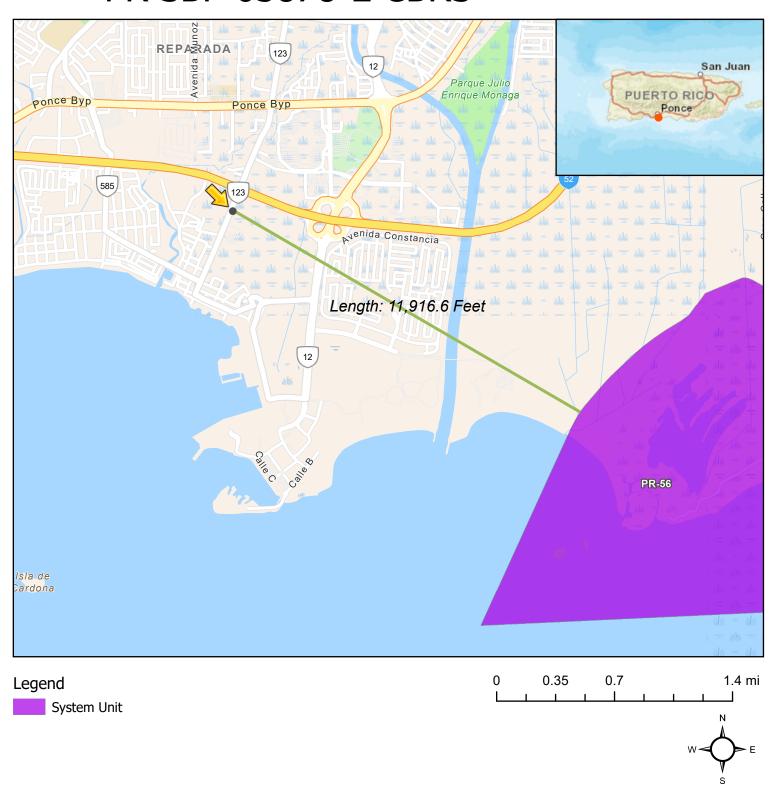


Runway Protection Zones

Major Civil and Military Airports



PR-SBF-03878-E CBRS

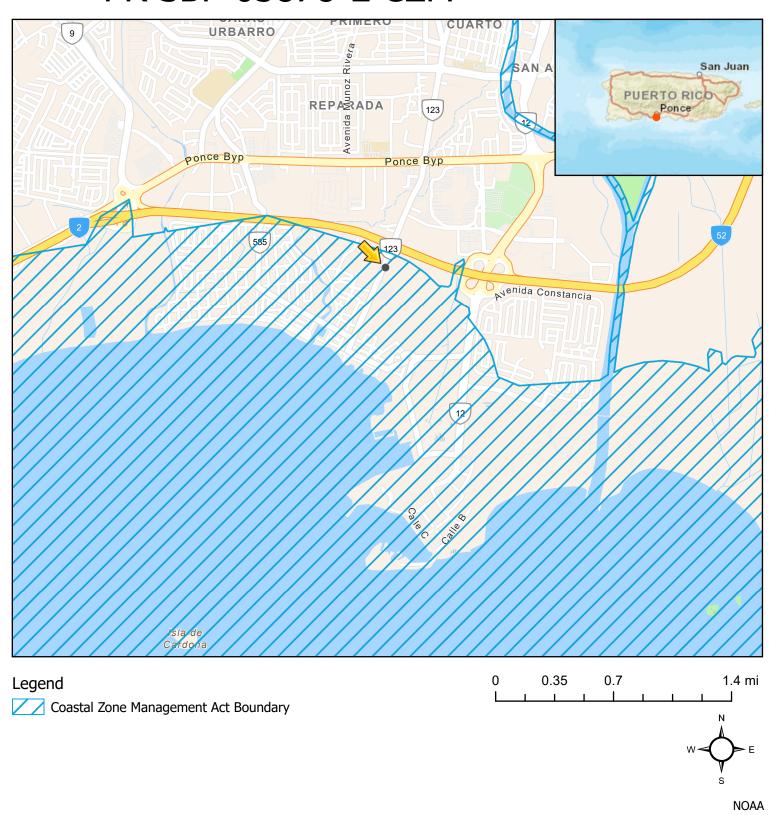


U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Coastal Barrier Resources Act Program



PR-SBF-03878-E CZM



Coastal Zone Management Act



CDBG-DR PROGRAM

Small Business Financing (SBF) Program

ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD OBSERVATION REPORT

Application No.:		ATION				
	PR-SBF-0	3878-E	Applicant Name:	Centro	Centro de Terapia de Amor Inc.	
PROPERTY INFORMAT	TION					
Property Address: 940 avenida Hostos, Plo Ponce, PR 00716	aya,					
atitude:		7.9871689	Longitude:	Longitude:		
Property Type:	C	Commercial	Year Built:		1995	
Number of Buildings:	1		Are Utilities Connected?	?	Yes	
Property Remarks:			ouildings. Photos have been pro			
		Sveteralia na dia make 2	No			
s there evidence of da	image from a	previous disaster?	No			
Damage Remarks:						
SIGNATURES OF INSPI	ECTION REPO	PRT				
Signatures of Inspi	ECTION REPC	PRT		W.		
SIGNATURES OF INSPI Environmental nspector:		ort las Guernica			12-04-202	

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

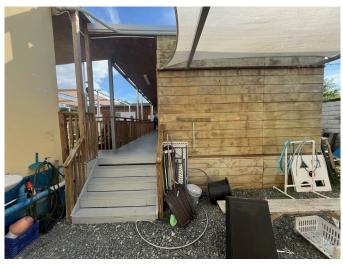
REQUIRED PHOTOS





Front of building 1 Rear of Building 1





Left Side of Building 1

Right Side of Building 1

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





Front of Building 1 Outward

Rear of Building 1 Outward





Left Side of Building 1 Outward

Right Side of Building 1 Outward

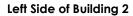
ADDITIONAL PHOTOS (add additional pages as necessary)





Front of Building 2 Rear of Building 2







Right Side of Building 2



Right Side of Building 2 (Second Angle)



Right Side of Building 2 (From the Front)





Front of Building 2 Outward

Rear of Building 2 Outward





Left Side of Building 2 Outward

Right Side of Building 2 Outward

Streetscape Streetscape

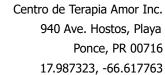




AST Area for Climbing Equipment (Furniture would be Moved)

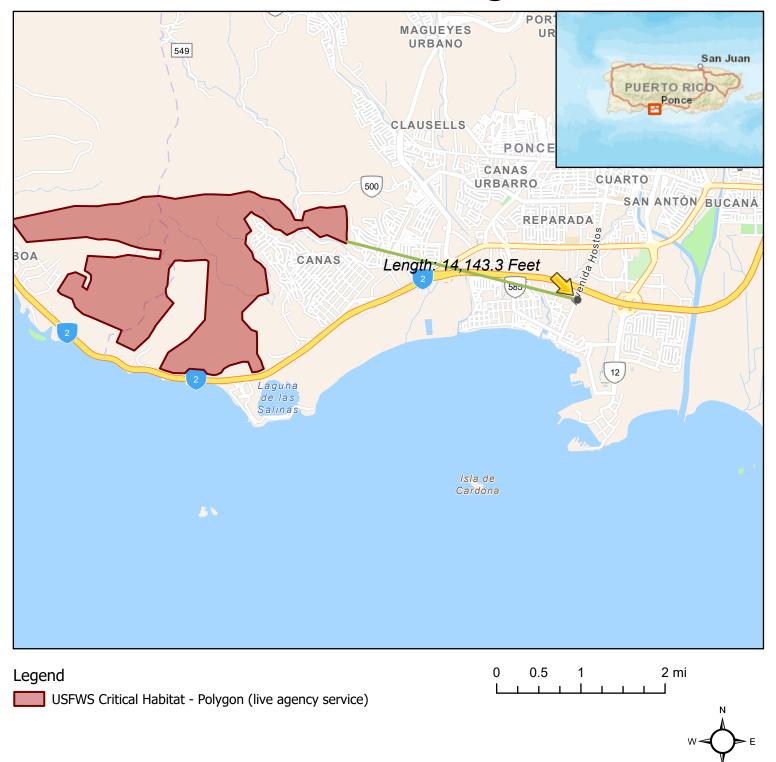


Area for Cistern





PR-SBF-03878-E Endangered



Endangered Species Habitat

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



PR-SBF-03878-E Farmlands





USGS USA Soils

Farmland dataset





Centro de Terapia Amor Inc. 940 Ave. Hostos, Playa Ponce, PR 00716 17.987323, -66.617763

PR-SBF-03878-E FIRM





X, Area of Minimal Flood Hazard

FEMA Flood Zone Panel





Centro de Terapia Amor Inc. 940 Ave. Hostos, Playa Ponce, PR 00716 17.987323, -66.617763

PR-SBF-03878-E FIRM



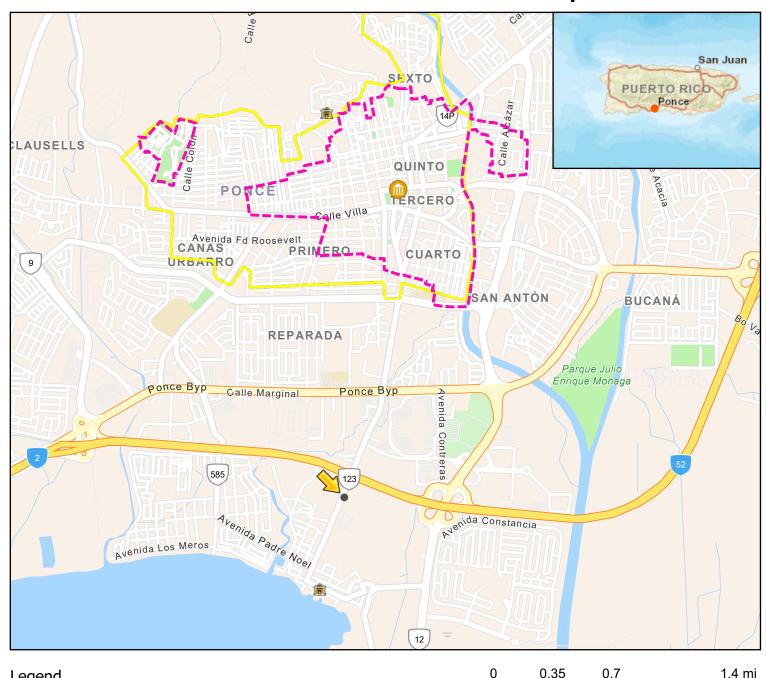


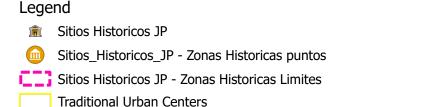
X, Area of Minimal Flood Hazard

FEMA Flood Zone Panel



PR-SBF-03878-E Historic Properties





National Register of Historic Places

0

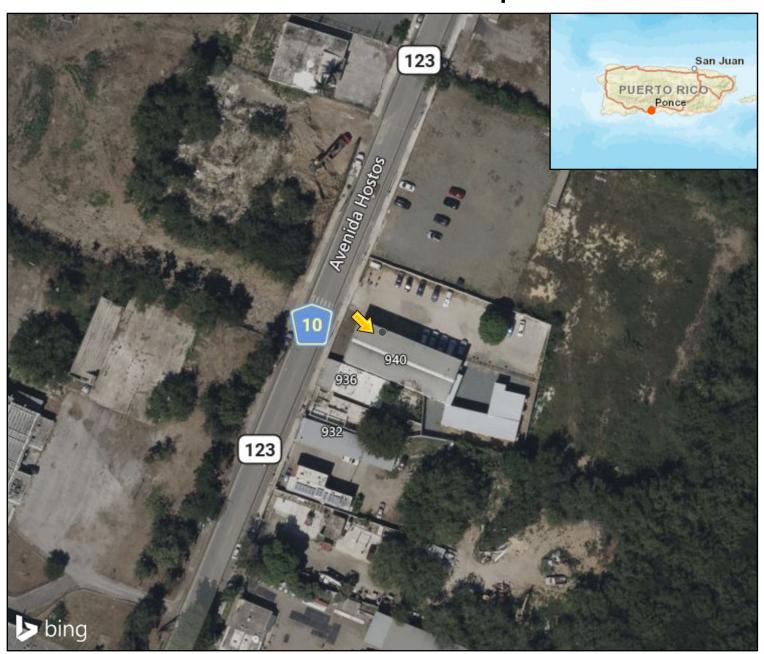
0.35

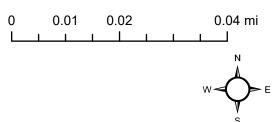
Local Historic Areas digitized by Horne

1.4 mi



PR-SBF-03878-E Site Map



















































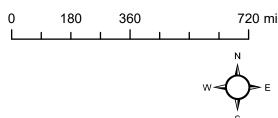




PR-SBF-03878-E SSA



Sole Source Aquifers - EPA August 2019

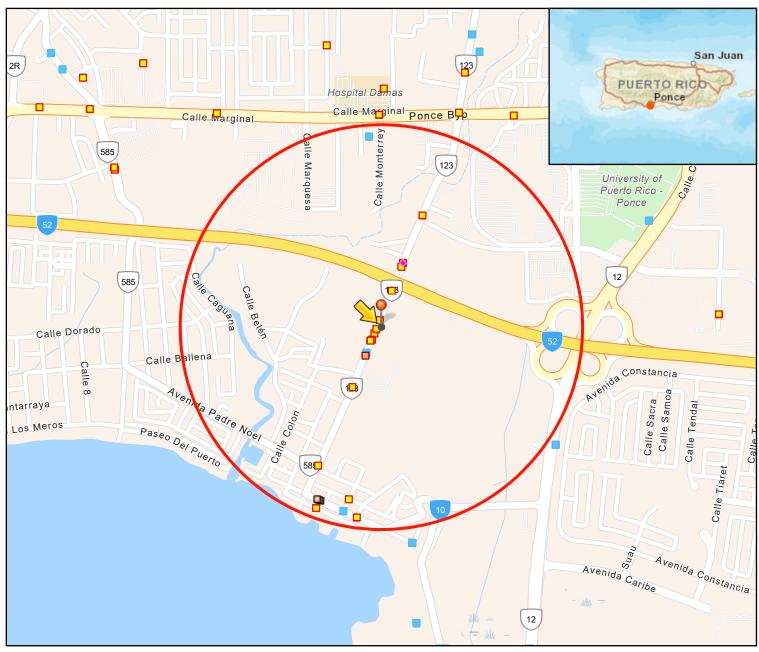


Sole Source Aquifers

EPA

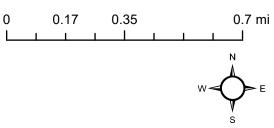


PR-SBF-03878-E Toxics



Legend

- Brownfields
- Hazardous waste
- Air pollution
- Water dischargers
- Toxic releases

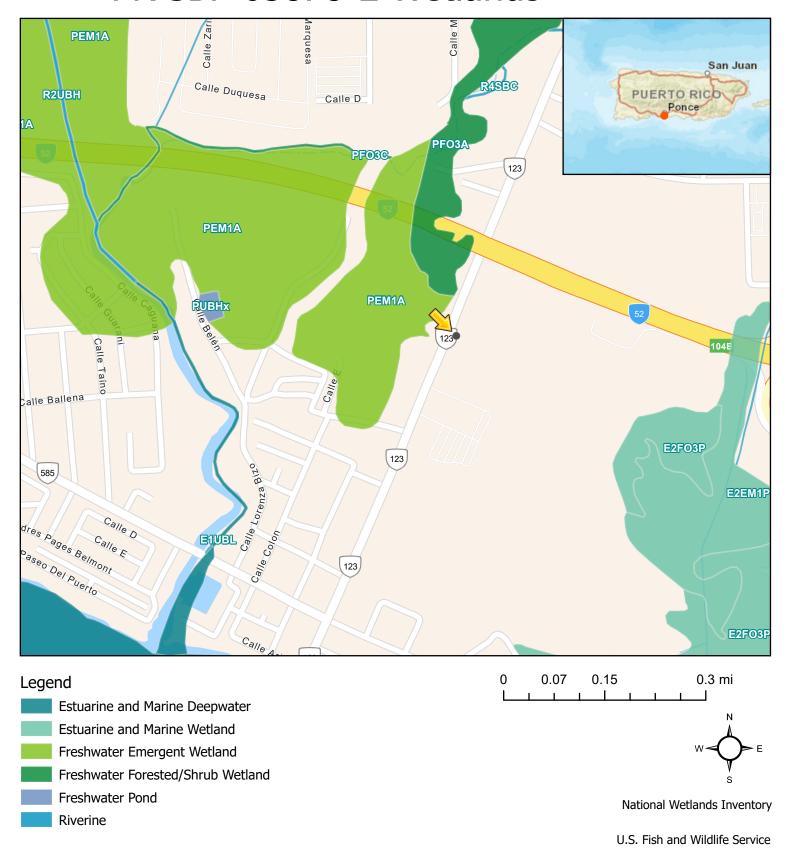


Envirofacts Facility Locations

EPA

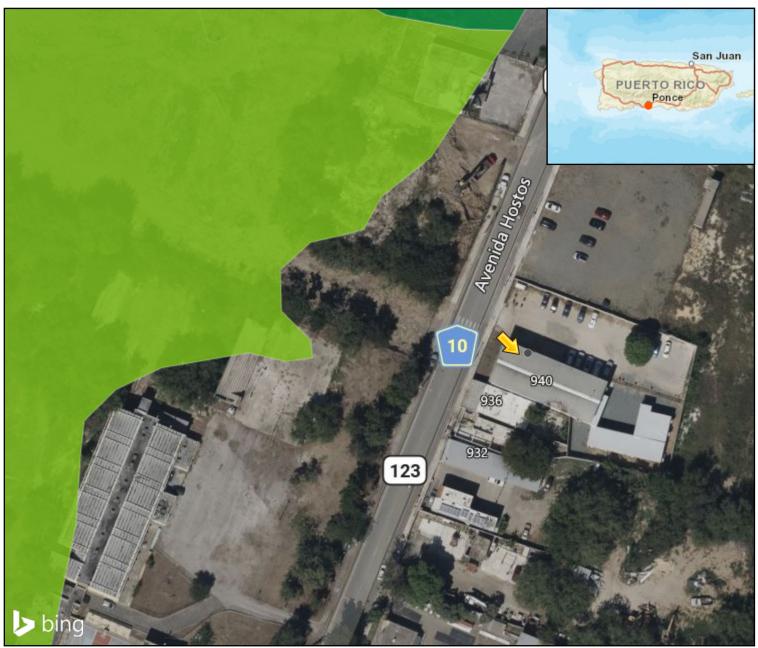


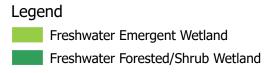
PR-SBF-03878-E Wetlands

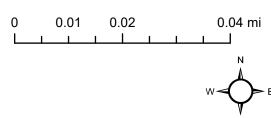




PR-SBF-03878-E Wetlands





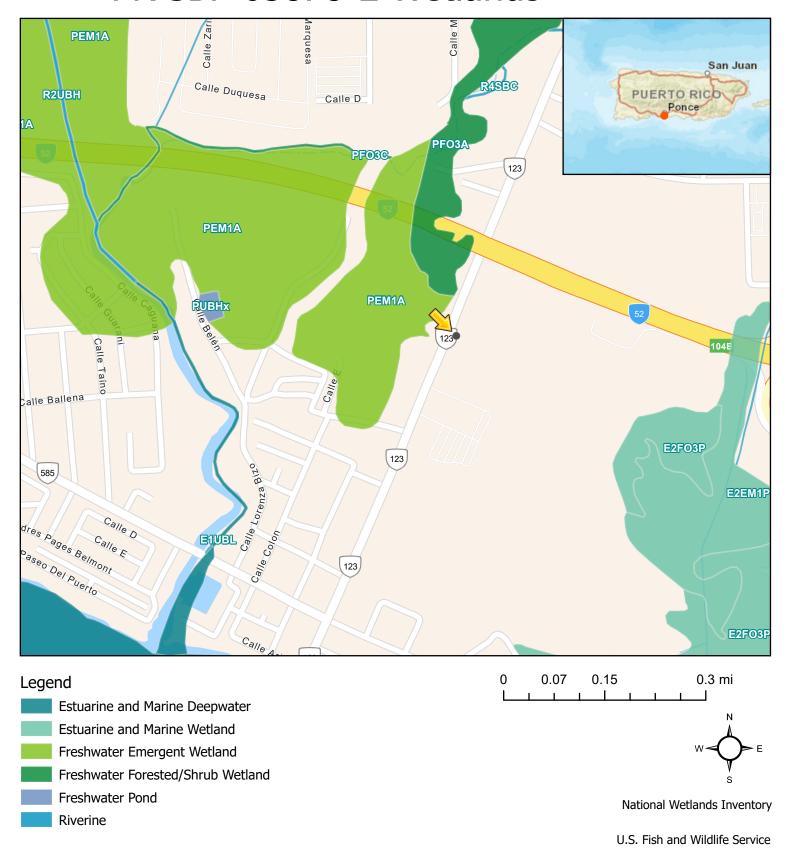


National Wetlands Inventory

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



PR-SBF-03878-E Wetlands





PR-SBF-03878-E W & S



National Wild and Scenic River System

National Park Service