



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
Development
451 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410
www.hud.gov
espanol.hud.gov

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

Project Information

Project Name: PR-RGRW-02623-W

HEROS Number: 900000010459664

Start Date: 03/18/2025

State / Local Identifier:

Project Location: , Arecibo, PR 00688

Additional Location Information:

The project is located at latitude 18.3948, longitude -66.607819 at the address given above. Tax ID Number: 078-033-011-15-000

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

This project (PR-RGRW-02623-W) entails the award of a grant to Los Surcos, an agricultural business, at Carretera 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int Riachuelo, Arecibo, PR 00688. Tax ID Number: 078-033-011-15-000. Coordinates (latitude 18.3948, longitude -66.607819). The proposed project includes the purchase of materials and equipment (tables, cilantro seeds, peat foam, calcium, magnesium, fans, lettuce, romaine lettuce, neem oil, and insecticide) the construction and installation of a new greenhouse, and the installation of a new irrigation system which includes the purchase of three (3) water pumps and (3) 250-gallon cisterns. While the SHPO consultation includes both a van and a concrete platform for the greenhouse, the scope has been refined since the consultation was sent and no longer includes those items. Since it is a reduction in the scope sent to SHPO, additional consultation was not required. The new greenhouse is approximately 1,920 square feet (ft) in size (80 ft by 24 ft). The greenhouse will be secured by concrete footers extending 2 ft deep into the ground. There is only one location being evaluated for the new greenhouse on the west portion of the parcel boundaries, near the western parcel boundary. The potential location area is currently undeveloped. The project will include minor ground disturbance associated with the installation of concrete footers and cistern platforms. No tree clearing is required for construction. Water will be provided by existing potable water connections from Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewers Authority (PRASA), (Autoridad de Acueductos y Alcantarillados [AAA] in Spanish). The water utilities are underground with an above-ground spigot. Above ground extensions will be added to allow the hose to reach inside the greenhouse from the existing spigot. Three new cisterns will be installed adjacent to the greenhouse to reduce potable water usage. They will be placed on concrete platforms approximately 25 square ft (5 ft by 5 ft) and approximately 3 to 6 inches thick. If the ground is not level, up to 6 inches of ground disturbance may be required for the concrete platforms. The new cisterns will each be connected to water pumps to distribute collected rainwater in the greenhouse. Electricity lines will need to be connected to the new greenhouse. Electricity

will come from the applicant's primary residence, which comes from solar panels. The new electrical lines will be aboveground through a cable and metal posts to the greenhouse. The applicant owns the property and currently uses it for residential use; therefore, no acquisition or conversion is required. The project Los Surcos, PR-RGRW-02623-W has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #7 - 7. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (iii): Construction of a new farm storage facility. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Construction of a new farm storage facility with ground disturbance, and CE: #10 - 10. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (xxxvii): Watering tank or trough installation, if in areas not previously disturbed. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Agricultural watering tank or trough installation that includes new ground disturbance have been classified as CEST under the waiver.

Level of Environment Review Determination:

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

Funding Information

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

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$38,590.61

Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.2 (a) (5)]: \$38,590.61

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

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

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure or Condition	Comments on Completed Measures	Complete
Endangered Species Act	The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified	N/A	

	<p>immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4) if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Conservation Measures. Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action.</p> <p>In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.</p>		
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Determination:

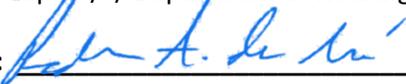
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>This categorically excluded activity/project converts to EXEMPT per Section 58.34(a)(12), because it does not require any mitigation for compliance with any listed statutes or authorities, nor requires any formal permit or license; Funds may be committed and drawn down after certification of this part for this (now) EXEMPT project; OR</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>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</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>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)).</p>

Preparer Signature: _____



Date: March 24, 2025

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

Responsible Entity Agency Official Signature:  **Date:** 3/28/2025

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

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

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

Project Information

Project Name: PR-RGRW-02623-W

HEROS Number: 900000010459664

Start Date: 03/18/2025

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

State / Local Identifier:

RE Preparer: Ricardo Espiet Lopez

**Certifying Office
r:**

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

Point of Contact:

Point of Contact: Justin Neely

Consultant (if applicable): HORNE LLP

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

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

Project Location: , Arecibo, PR 00688

Additional Location Information:

The project is located at latitude 18.3948, longitude -66.607819 at the address given above. Tax ID Number: 078-033-011-15-000

Direct Comments to: environmentcdbg@vivienda.pr.gov

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

This project (PR-RGRW-02623-W) entails the award of a grant to Los Surcos, an agricultural business, at Carretera 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int Riachuelo, Arecibo, PR 00688. Tax ID Number: 078-033-011-15-000. Coordinates (latitude 18.3948, longitude -66.607819). The proposed project includes the purchase of materials and equipment (tables, cilantro seeds, peat foam, calcium, magnesium, fans, lettuce, romaine lettuce, neem oil, and insecticide) the construction and installation of a new greenhouse, and the installation of a new irrigation system which includes the purchase of three (3) water pumps and (3) 250-gallon cisterns. While the SHPO consultation includes both a van and a concrete platform for the greenhouse, the scope has been refined since the consultation was sent and no longer includes those items. Since it is a reduction in the scope sent to SHPO, additional consultation was not required. The new greenhouse is approximately 1,920 square feet (ft) in size (80 ft by 24 ft). The greenhouse will be secured by concrete footers extending 2 ft deep into the ground. There is only one location being evaluated for the new greenhouse on the west portion of the parcel boundaries, near the western parcel boundary. The potential location area is currently undeveloped. The project will include minor ground disturbance associated with the installation of concrete footers and cistern platforms. No tree clearing is required for construction. Water will be provided by existing potable water connections from Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewers Authority (PRASA), (Autoridad de Acueductos y Alcantarillados [AAA] in Spanish). The water utilities are underground with an above-ground spigot. Above ground extensions will be added to allow the hose to reach inside the greenhouse from the existing spigot. Three new cisterns will be installed adjacent to the greenhouse to reduce potable water usage. They will be placed on concrete platforms approximately 25 square ft (5 ft by 5 ft) and approximately 3 to 6 inches thick. If the ground is not level, up to 6 inches of ground disturbance may be required for the concrete platforms. The new cisterns will each be connected to water pumps to distribute collected rainwater in the greenhouse. Electricity lines will need to be connected to the new greenhouse. Electricity will come from the applicant's primary residence, which comes from solar panels. The new electrical lines will be aboveground through a cable and metal posts to the greenhouse. The applicant owns the property and currently uses it for residential use; therefore, no acquisition or conversion is required. The project Los Surcos, PR-RGRW-02623-W has been evaluated in accordance with FR-6492-N-01. The activities identified CE: #7 - 7.7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (iii): Construction of a new farm storage facility. HUD Level of

Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Construction of a new farm storage facility with ground disturbance, and CE: #10 - 10. 7 CFR 799.32(e) (2) (xxxvii): Watering tank or trough installation, if in areas not previously disturbed. HUD Level of Review: CEST. Potential application to HUD activities: Agricultural watering tank or trough installation that includes new ground disturbance have been classified as CEST under the waiver.

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

[PR-RGRW-02623-W Site Map.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-02623-W IUGF.pdf](#)

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

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

[PR-RGRW-02623-W EFOR\(1\).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:

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

Approval Documents:

[02623-SIG-PAGE.pdf](#)

7015.15 certified by Certifying Officer

on:

7015.16 certified by Authorizing Officer

on:

Funding Information

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

Estimated Total HUD Funded, Assisted or Insured Amount: \$38,590.61

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$38,590.61

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 ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR §50.4 & § 58.6		
Airport Hazards Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest civil primary or commercial service airport, Mercedita, is located 139,327 ft (26 miles [mi]) from the project site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin international Airport, is located 205,748 ft (39 miles) from the project site. 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]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is 42,476 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]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Flood Map Number 72000C0265H, effective on 4/19/2005: The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE 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	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Based on the project description, this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under the Clean Air Act. The project is in compliance with the Clean Air Act.
Coastal Zone Management Act Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 26,290 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.
Contamination and Toxic Substances 24 CFR 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Site contamination was evaluated as follows: None of the above. On-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances that could affect the health and safety of project occupants or conflict with the intended use of the property were not found. 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.

<p>Endangered Species Act Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>This project May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect, listed species, and informal consultation was conducted. With mitigation, identified in the mitigation section of this review, the project will be in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.</p>
<p>Explosive and Flammable Hazards Above-Ground Tanks)[24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>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.</p>
<p>Farmlands Protection Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>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.</p>
<p>Floodplain Management Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Flood Map Number 72000C0265H, effective on 4/19/2005: This project does not occur in the FFRMS floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690. PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Arecibo; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review.</p>
<p>Historic Preservation National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>(Owner's house: ca. 2006, Shed in yard ca. 2019) Based on Section 106 consultation there are No Historic Properties Affected because there are no historic properties present. The project is in compliance with Section 106.</p>
<p>Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>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.</p>

<p>Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>The project is not located on a sole source aquifer area. According to EPA, there are no sole source aquifers in Puerto Rico. The project is in compliance with Sole Source Aquifer requirements.</p>
<p>Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>Based on the project description this project includes no activities that would require further evaluation under this section. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 11990. This project does not involve new construction, so a visual wetlands survey was not conducted.</p>
<p>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 285,718 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.</p>
HUD HOUSING ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS		
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
<p>Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>No adverse environmental impacts were identified in the project's total environmental review. The project is in compliance with Executive Order 12898. On January 21, 2025, President Donald Trump issued the Executive Order 14173 titled "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity", which revoked Executive Order 12898 and eliminated federal mandates requiring agencies to assess environmental justice impacts. Consequently, there is no longer a federal requirement to address environmental justice concerns in the environmental compliance review process.</p>

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

Summarized below are all mitigation measures adopted by the Responsible Entity to reduce, avoid or eliminate adverse environmental impacts and to avoid non-compliance or non-conformance with the above-listed authorities and factors. These measures/conditions must be

incorporated into project contracts, development agreements and other relevant documents. The staff responsible for implementing and monitoring mitigation measures should be clearly identified in the mitigation plan.

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure or Condition	Comments on Completed Measures	Mitigation Plan	Complete
Endangered Species Act	<p>The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4) if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Conservation Measures.</p> <p>Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action.</p> <p>In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA</p>	N/A		

	determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.			
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Project Mitigation Plan

Should new ground disturbance occur the Karst zone must be evaluated and when necessary DNER must be consulted prior to construction activities. The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4) if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Conservation Measures. Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.

Supporting documentation on completed measures

APPENDIX A: Related Federal Laws and Authorities

Airport Hazards

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

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

No

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

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

The project site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport. The nearest civil primary or commercial service airport, Mercedita, is located 139,327 ft (26 miles [mi]) from the project site. The nearest military airport, Luis Munoz Marin international Airport, is located 205,748 ft (39 miles) from the project site. The project is in compliance with Airport Hazards requirements.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-02623-W Airports.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

Coastal Barrier Resources

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

1. Is the project located in a CBRS Unit?

No

Document and upload map and documentation below.

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

This project is not located in a CBRS Unit. It is 42,476 feet from a protected area. Therefore, this project has no potential to impact a CBRS Unit and is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-02623-W CBRS.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

Flood Insurance

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

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

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

✓ Yes

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

[PR-RGRW-02623-W FIRM.pdf](#)

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

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

Yes

✓ No

Screen Summary**Compliance Determination**

Flood Map Number 72000C0265H, effective on 4/19/2005: The structure or insurable property is not located in a FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area. While flood insurance may not be mandatory in this instance, HUD recommends that all insurable structures maintain flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The project is in compliance with flood insurance requirements.

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

Yes

✓ No

Air Quality

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

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

Yes

✓ No

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Coastal Zone Management Act

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

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

Yes

No

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

This project is not located in or does not affect a Coastal Zone as defined in the state Coastal Management Plan. The project is located 26,290 feet from the coastal zone. The project is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-02623-W CZM.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

Contamination and Toxic Substances

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

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

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

2. Were any on-site or nearby toxic, hazardous, or radioactive substances* (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.

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 did not note any items of concern. See the attached environmental field observation report. A google earth review of the area shows no visible hazards. The past land use for the last 10-15 year is rustic agricultural land.

Yes

* This question covers the presence of radioactive substances excluding radon. Radon is addressed in the Radon Exempt Question.

** Utilize EPA's Enviromapper, NEPAAssist, 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:

✓ No

* Notes:

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

levels of 4.0 pCi/L. For buildings with test data older than five years, any new environmental review must include a consideration of radon using one of the methods in Section A below.

4. Is the proposed project new construction or substantial rehabilitation where testing will be conducted but cannot yet occur because building construction has not been completed?

Yes

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

No

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

Yes

No

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

Explain:

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

File Upload:

[PR-RGRW-02623-W Radon Memo.docx](#)
[Radon Attachments.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-RGRW-02623-W Toxics\(1\).pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-02623-W Toxics Table.pdf](#)

[PR-RGRW-02623-W EFOR.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Endangered Species

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4. Informal Consultation is required

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

✓ Mitigation as follows will be implemented:

The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4) if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Conservation Measures. Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action. In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.

No mitigation is necessary.

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-02623-W USFWS Consultation Package.pdf](#)
[PR-RGRW-02623-W USFWS Conservation Measures.pdf](#)
[PR-RGRW-02623-W USFWS Concurrence Letter.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

Explosive and Flammable Hazards

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

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

No

Yes

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

No

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

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

Farmlands Protection

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

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

Yes

No

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

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-02623-W Farmland.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

Floodplain Management

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

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

Yes

(a) HUD-assisted activities described in 24 CFR 58.34 and 58.35(b).

(b) HUD-assisted activities described in 24 CFR 50.19, except as otherwise indicated in § 50.19.

(c) The approval of financial assistance for restoring and preserving the natural and beneficial functions and values of floodplains and wetlands, including through acquisition of such floodplain and wetland property, where a permanent covenant or comparable restriction is place on the property's continued use for flood control, wetland projection, open space, or park land, but only if:

(1) The property is cleared of all existing buildings and walled structures; and

(2) The property is cleared of related improvements except those which:

(i) Are directly related to flood control, wetland protection, open space, or park land (including playgrounds and recreation areas);

(ii) Do not modify existing wetland areas or involve fill, paving, or other ground disturbance beyond minimal trails or paths; and

(iii) Are designed to be compatible with the beneficial floodplain or wetland function of the property.

(d) An action involving a repossession, receivership, foreclosure, or similar acquisition of property to protect or enforce HUD's financial interests under previously approved loans, grants, mortgage insurance, or other HUD assistance.

(e) Policy-level actions described at 24 CFR 50.16 that do not involve site-based decisions.

(f) A minor amendment to a previously approved action with no additional adverse impact on or from a floodplain or wetland.

(g) HUD's or the responsible entity's approval of a project site, an incidental portion of which is situated in the FFRMS floodplain (not including the floodway, LiMWA, or coastal high hazard area) but only if: (1) The proposed project site does not include any existing or proposed buildings or improvements that modify or occupy the FFRMS floodplain except de minimis improvements such as recreation areas and trails; and (2) the proposed project will not result in any new construction in or modifications of a wetland .

(h) Issuance or use of Housing Vouchers, or other forms of rental subsidy where HUD, the awarding community, or the public housing agency that administers the contract awards rental subsidies that are not project-based (i.e., do not involve site-specific subsidies).

(i) Special projects directed to the removal of material and architectural barriers that restrict the mobility of and accessibility to elderly and persons with disabilities.

Describe:

No

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

Yes

Describe:

No

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

The extent of the FFRMS floodplain can be determined using a Climate Informed Science Approach (CISA), 0.2 percent flood approach (0.2 PFA), or freeboard value approach (FVA). For projects in areas without available CISA data or without FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), Flood Insurance Studies (FISs) or Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFEs), use the best available information¹ to determine flood elevation. Include documentation and an explanation of why this is the best available information² for the site. Note that newly constructed and substantially improved³ 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 [local environmental officer](#) 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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

Flood Map Number 72000C0265H, effective on 4/19/2005: This project does not occur in the FFRMS floodplain. The project is in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 13690. PFIRMs in Puerto Rico were only developed for certain sections of the municipalities of Carolina, Canovanas, Loiza, San Juan and Trujillo Alto. The proposed project is located in the municipality of Arecibo; therefore, PFIRM information was not available for the area and therefore not considered in the review.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-02623-W ABFE.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

Historic Preservation

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

Threshold

Is Section 106 review required for your project?

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

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

Step 1 – Initiate Consultation

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

- ✓ State Historic Preservation Offer (SHPO) Completed

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

Other Consulting Parties

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

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

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

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

- Yes
- No

Step 2 – Identify and Evaluate Historic Properties

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

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

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

Address / Location / District	National Register Status	SHPO Concurrence	Sensitive Information
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Additional Notes:

No Historic Properties present within the APE

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

- Yes
- ✓ No

Step 3 –Assess Effects of the Project on Historic Properties

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

per guidance on direct and indirect effects.

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

No Historic Properties Affected

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

Document reason for finding:

No historic properties present.

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

No Adverse Effect

Adverse Effect

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

(Owner's house: ca. 2006, Shed in yard ca. 2019) Based on Section 106 consultation there are No Historic Properties Affected because there are no historic properties present. The project is in compliance with Section 106.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-02623-W SHPO Package.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

Noise Abatement and Control

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

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

New construction for residential use

Rehabilitation of an existing residential property

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

An interstate land sales registration

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

None of the above

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

Sole Source Aquifers

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

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

Yes

No

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

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

< No

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

Yes

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

Yes

No

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-02623-W Sole Source Aquifers.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Wetlands Protection

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

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

✓ No

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

Yes

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-02623-W Wetlands.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

✓ No

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

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

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

No

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

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

This project is not within proximity of a NWSRS river. The project is located 285,718 feet from the nearest Wild and Scenic River. The project is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Supporting documentation

[PR-RGRW-02623-Wild and Scenic.pdf](#)

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No

Environmental Justice

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

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

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

Yes

No

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

Screen Summary

Compliance Determination

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

Supporting documentation

Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?

Yes

No



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/72013-Gen

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

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

Re: CDBG-DR PR-RGRW-02623 Los Surcos,
Arecibo, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Pérez-Bofill

Thank you for your letter dated September 12, 2024, requesting informal consultation on the above referenced project. As per your request, our comments are provided under the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

The Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH) is proposing the construction of a new greenhouse (80 feet (Ft) x 24 Ft) and the installation of three (3) water pumps (5 Ft x 5 Ft) and three (3) cisterns (250 gallons) built on concrete platforms on a 0.84-acre property, located at State Road PR-2, R 639 Km 4.5 Int Riachuelo (18°23'41.3"N 66°36'28.2"W) in the municipality of Arecibo, Puerto Rico. According to the PRDOH there will be no tree clearing or vegetation removal.

Using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system, the PRDOH has determined that the proposed project site is located within the range of Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*), Puerto Rican parrot (*Amazona vittata*), Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*), and the plants, *Schoepfia arenaria* (no common name), *Cordia bellonis* (no common name) and *Tectaria estremarana* (no common name).

The Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) in the IPaC application was used to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project on federally listed species (Project code: 2024-0129444). Based on the answers provided, a consistency letter was obtained for the Puerto Rican boa, which determined that the proposed actions for this project may affect, but is likely to adversely affect (MLAA) this species. As for the Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk a may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) determination was obtained.

However, based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and analysis of the existing habitat (landscaped lawn surrounded by shrubs, banana trees (*Musa spp.*), and tall deciduous trees with forested areas adjacent to the southwest and west.), PRDOH has determined that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the Puerto Rican boa instead of the MLAA obtained by using the DKey. Conservation measures developed by the Service for the Puerto Rican boa will be implemented in case an encounter with this species occur. As for the Puerto Rican parrot and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, PRDOH has determined that the proposed actions will NLAA these species with the implementation of conservation measures.

As for the plant species *Schoepfia arenaria*, *Cordia alliodora* and *Tectaria estremeirana*, the PRDOH made a NE determination based on the scope of work and project location. The Service acknowledges receipt of PRDOH's NE determination for these plant species. Currently, we do not have any information to refute that determination. Because the PRDOH made a NE determination, the PRDOH is not required to conduct formal or informal section 7 consultation with the Service, and the Service is not required to concur with PRDOH's NE determination.

We have reviewed the information provided and our files, and concur with PRDOH's determination that the proposed actions may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the Puerto Rican boa, Puerto Rican parrot and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly with the implementation of the conservation measures. Also, the Service acknowledges receipt of the NLAA consistency letter for the Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk and we concur with the determination.

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

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

Sincerely,

LOURDES
MENA

Digitally signed by
LOURDES MENA
Date: 2024.10.28
12:32:08 -04'00'

Lourdes Mena
Field Supervisor

dr

cc:
HUD
SWCA



DEPARTMENT OF

HOUSING

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO



Memorandum to File

Date: 3/18/2025

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

Application Number: PR-RGRW-02623-W

Project: Los Surcos

Re: Justification for the Infeasibility and Impracticability of Radon Testing

After reviewing Application Number PR-RGRW-02623-W under the Regrow Puerto Rico Program, administered by the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (**PRDOH**), to complete the property's contamination analysis in accordance with 24 C.F.R. § 50.3(i) and 24 C.F.R. § 58.5(i), we have determined that testing the property's radon levels is infeasible and impracticable.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



March 6, 2025

TO: José M. Olmo Terrasa, Esq.

Deputy Director for Economic Recovery Grant Management
Re-Grow PR Urban Rural Agriculture Program

**RE: Endangered Species Concurrence - Conservation Measures Implementation
Los Surcos (PR-RGRW-02623)**

Dear Mr. Olmo:

This memorandum is to notify the CDBG-DR Re-Grow PR Urban-Rural Agriculture Program (Re-Grow Program) that on September 12, 2024, for the case **PR-RGRW-02623**, the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division submitted an informal consultation under Section 7 (a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) for the proposed project which consist of the construction of a new greenhouse and the installation of three water pumps and three cisterns built on concrete platforms, for Los Surcos, an agricultural business, located at PR-2 Km. 4.5, Riachuelo Ward, Arecibo, PR 00688; latitude 18.395132, longitude -66.607544.

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

Name of Species	Status
Puerto Rican Boa	Endangered
Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot	Endangered
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly	Threatened
Schoepfia Arenaria	Threatened
Cordia Bellonis	Threatened
Tectaria Estremerana	Endangered
Critical Habitat	
There were no Critical Habitats noted within the project area.	

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office reviewed the information provided and their files, and on October 28, 2024 concurred with the determination that the proposed project actions will have **May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)** the Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Parrot and Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly.

The USFWS NLAA concurrence is conditioned to the following: (1) if a Boa is encountered, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Boa Conservation Measures 2024, (2) if a Puerto Rican Parrot is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (3) if a Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk is encountered on the site, the USFWS Caribbean Office will be notified immediately, (4) if a Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly is encountered in the site, the Conservation Measures will be in accordance with the USFWS Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly Conservation Measures.

Obligations under section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner that was not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner not previously considered in this assessment; or, (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the identified action.

In conclusion, the USFWS concurred with the CDBG-DR/MIT Permits and Environmental Compliance Division NLAA determination. However, **the applicant must be informed about the conditions of the determination of concurrence and implement them as described.**

In order to facilitate the species identification, please, find attached the Caribbean Endangered and Threatened Animals Fact Sheets for: Puerto Rican Boa, Puerto Rican Broad-Winged Hawk, Puerto Rican Parrot and Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly.

USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office key contact information:

- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator
Office phone (786) 244-0081 or mobile (305) 304-1386
Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov

Sincerely,

Permits and Environmental Compliance Division Disaster
Recovery Office

Caribbean ES Puerto Rican Boa

Puerto Rican Boa

Generated August 01, 2024 02:11 PM UTC, IPaC v6.112.0-rc2



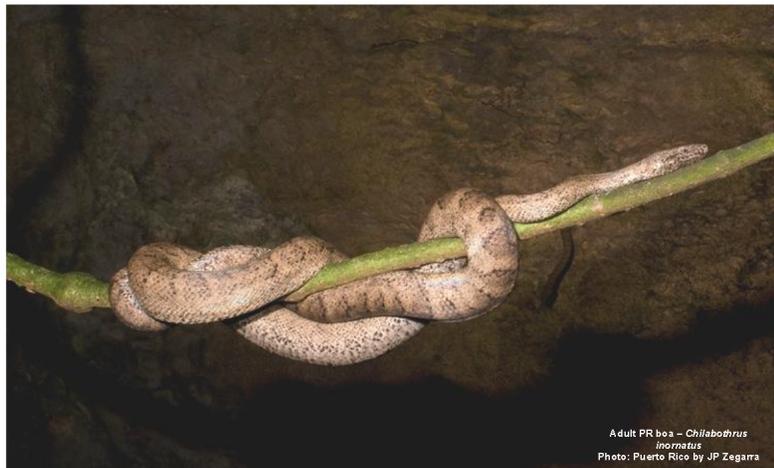


U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*)

Section 7 (a)(1) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) charges Federal agencies to aid in the conservation of listed species, and section 7 (a)(2) requires the agencies, through consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), to ensure their activities are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitats. Section 7 applies to the management of Federal lands as well as Federal actions that may affect federally listed species, such as Federal approval of private activities through the issuance of Federal funding, permits, licenses, or other actions. Any person that injures, captures, or kills a Puerto Rico boa is subject to penalties under the ESA. If Federal funds or permits are needed, the funding or permitting agency should initiate Section 7 consultation with the Service. To initiate a consultation under the Section 7 of the ESA, you must submit a project package with the established minimum requirements. These conservation measures should be incorporated into the project plans to minimize possible impacts to the species.

The endangered Puerto Rican (PR) boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*, formerly *Epicrates inornatus*) is the largest endemic snake species that inhabits Puerto Rico. The PR boa is non-venomous and does not pose any life threatening danger to humans, but some individuals may try to bite if disturbed or during capture or handling. Its body color ranges from tan to dark brown with irregular diffuse marking on the dorsum, but some individuals lack marking and are uniformly dark. Juveniles may have a reddish color with more pronounced markings. In general, as they mature, their body color tends to darken.



The PR boa was federally listed in 1970. Currently, the species has an island-wide distribution and occurs in a wide variety of habitat types, ranging from wet montane to subtropical dry forest and can be found from mature forest to areas with different degrees of human disturbance such as roadsides or houses, especially if near their habitat in rural areas. The PR boa is considered mostly nocturnal, remaining less active, concealed or basking under the sun during the day.

The Service has developed the following conservation measures with the purpose of assisting others to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the PR boa and its habitat. These recommendations may be incorporated into new project plans and under certain circumstances into existing projects. Depending on the project, additional conservation measures can be implemented besides the ones presented in this document.

Conservation Measures:

1. Inform all project personnel about the potential presence of the PR boa in areas where the proposed work will be conducted. A pre-construction meeting should be conducted to inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming the species as well as penalties for harassing or harming PR boas. An educational poster or sign with photo or illustration of the species should be displayed at the project site.
2. Prior to any construction activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movements, the boundaries of the project and areas to be excluded and protected should be clearly marked in the project plan and in the field in order to avoid further habitat degradation into forested and conservation areas.
3. Once areas are clearly marked, and prior to the use of heavy machinery and any construction activity (including removal of vegetation and earth movement), a biologist or project personnel with experience on this species should survey the areas to be cleared to verify the presence of any PR boa within the work area.
4. If a PR boa is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded (see #5). **Do not capture the boa.** If boas need to be moved out of harm's way, designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (PRDNER phone #: (787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124). **If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities at that area must stop until the boa moves out of harm's way on its own.** Activities at other work sites, where no boas have been found after surveying the area, may continue.
5. For all boa sightings (dead or alive), record the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where it was found. PR boa data should also include a photo of the animal (dead or alive), site GPS coordinates, the time and date, and comments on how the animal was detected and its behavior.

6. If a PR boa is captured by PRDNER personnel, record the name of that person and information on where the PR boa will be taken. This information should be reported to the Service.
7. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize PR boa casualties by heavy machinery or motor vehicles being used on site. Any heavy machinery left on site (staging) or near potential PR boa habitat (within 50 meters of potential boa habitat), needs to be thoroughly inspected each morning before work starts to ensure that no boas have sheltered within engine compartments or other areas of the equipment. If PR boas are found within vehicles or equipment, do not capture the animal, and let it move on its own or call PRDNER Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (see #4). If not possible, the animal should be left alone until it leaves the vehicle on its own.
8. PR boas may seek shelter in debris piles. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize boa casualties associated with sheltering in debris piles as a result of project activities. Debris piles should be placed far away from forested areas. Prior to moving, disposing or shredding, debris piles should be carefully inspected for the presence of boas. If debris piles will be left on site, we recommend they be placed in areas that will not be disturbed in the future.
9. If a dead PR boa is found, immediately cease all work in that area and record the information accordingly (see #5). If the PR boa was accidentally killed as part of the project actions, please include information on what conservation measures had been implemented and what actions will be taken to avoid further killings. A dead boa report should be sent by email (see contacts below) to the Service within 48 hours of the event.
10. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact the PRDNER for further guidance.

If you have any questions regarding the above conservation measures, please contact the Service:

- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Program Coordinator
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov
 - Office phone (305) 304-1386
- Jan Zegarra, Fish and Wildlife Biologist
 - Email: jan_zegarra@fws.gov
 - Office phone (786) 933-1451



Puerto Rican Harlequin Conservation Measures

1. The contractor must inform all personnel about the potential presence of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly or its occupied host plant "prickly bush" (*Oplonia spinosa*) in the project areas. A pre-work meeting should inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming this butterfly and its occupied host plant. Educational material (e.g., posters, flyers or signs with photos or illustrations of all the life stages of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (i.e., eggs, caterpillar, chrysalids and adult, and its host plant) should be prepared and available to all personnel for reference.
2. Before starting any project activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movement, the contractor must clearly delineate the boundaries of the working area in the field to avoid unnecessary habitat impacts. Once the project areas are clearly marked, and before any work activity, including site preparation, personnel with knowledge and ability to identify the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (all life stages) and the "prickly bush" must survey the areas where the work will be performed for the presence of the species and its host plant. It is important to note that the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly can be observed year-round in all its life stages; thus, oviposition (egg-laying) may occur at any time during the year.
3. If the "prickly bush" is present on the project site, try to avoid cutting it off, even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
4. If there is no prickly bush within the project area, and the butterfly is observed flying within the project area, do not harass, harm, pursue, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct, the species.
5. Adult butterflies are often observed flying near the host plant as part of their mating behavior and laying eggs. Project-related activities must stop if the prickly bush is found in the project area and the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly is observed flying in that same area. A temporary 50-meter (164 feet) buffer zone of no activity or human disturbance should be established and clearly marked around that prickly bush until the butterfly moves out on its own.
6. Once the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly has moved away, within a period of 24 to 36 hours, a search of the prickly bush that has been buffered should be conducted to determine the presence of any eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids of the butterfly on the plant. The contractor or the Applicant should send a report of the observation and its findings to caribbean_es@fws.gov after the 36-hour search is concluded.
7. If, after the initial search or after the 24 to 36-hour search, any life stage of the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly is found in the prickly bush, take the following actions:
 - o Clearly mark the host plant with flagging tape.
 - o Establish a 10-meter (32-foot) buffer zone around the bush to protect it.

- Eggs are typically found on the prickly bush's newly grown, tender branches. Once an egg hatches, the caterpillar moves and feeds throughout the bush. Therefore, avoid cutting off the prickly bush within the project site even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
 - Work within the 10-meter buffered area may resume when no signs of any live life stage of the butterfly are detected, which usually takes approximately 60 to 120 days.
8. For all Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly sightings (all life stages), the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where the butterfly was found must be recorded. Data should also include a photo of the butterfly (if possible) and the habitat where it was observed, site GPS coordinates, and comments on how the butterfly was detected and its behavior. All Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly sighting reports should be sent to the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Service Field Office at caribbean_es@fws.gov.
9. For questions regarding the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, the Point of Contacts are:
José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Coordinator:
- Mobile: 305-304-1386
 - Office phone: 786-244-0081
 - Office Direct Line: 939-320-3120
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov

Guaraguao de bosque

Buteo platypterus brunnescens



Distribución ■

Información biológica

Reproducción

Esta especie anida en bosques secundarios maduros y plantaciones antiguas. En el Bosque Estatal de Río Abajo (RACF, por sus siglas en inglés), los sitios de anidación están caracterizados por la presencia de árboles tales como el palo María (*Calophyllum antillanum*), la teca (*Tectona grandis*), la caoba hondureña (*Swietenia macrophylla*) y la majagua (*Hibiscus elatus*). Los guaraguao de bosque colocan sus nidos en la parte superior de árboles grandes que sobrepasan la cubierta forestal. Información recientemente recopilada sobre la abundancia y características demográficas del guaraguao de bosque en RACF indica un alto nivel de fidelidad entre parejas; una tasa de sobrevivencia en nidos de 0.67 a través de la temporada de reproducción; y una productividad de 1.1 crías por nido. Entre los años 2001 a 2003, se marcaron con radio transmisores y se colocaron bandas en las patas a varias crías de guaraguao en el RACF. En 2013, al visitar el área donde se marcaron, se documentó que seguían vivas (Llerandi-Román and Ríos-Cruz pers. comm.). Por ejemplo, una hembra joven que fue marcada entre el 2001 al 2003 en el RACF fue documentada anidando exitosamente entre los años 2007 al 2009. (Ríos-Cruz pers. comm.)

Hábitat

Esta especie habita en bosques enanos, bosques de palmas de sierra, de caimitillo-granadillo y de tabonuco. Estos bosques se encuentran en las reservas forestales del Bosque Estatal de Carite, Bosque Estatal Toro Negro, Bosque Los Tres Picachos y el Bosque Nacional El Yunque. También habita en

Familia: Accipitridae
Orden: Falconiformes

Descripción

El guaraguao de bosque de Puerto Rico o guaraguaito es de color marrón oscuro con barras blancas y rojizas en la parte ventral. Es una subespecie endémica de Puerto Rico de tamaño mediano, que mide aproximadamente 39 centímetros (15.5 pulgadas). Es más pequeño que el *Buteo platypterus platypterus* pero más grande que la subespecie que ocurre en las Antillas Menores. El guaraguao de bosque es la subespecie de halcón de ala ancha más oscuro. En los adultos, la cola es de un color negro claro con bandas blancas horizontales en la base, medio y extremo de la cola, y esto, junto con el pecho rojizo, caracteriza a la especie. Los machos y las hembras son muy similares en apariencia, pero las hembras son un poco más grandes. Las aves juveniles tienen barras oscuras en el pecho y no tienen las bandas distintivas en la cola. La población del guaraguao de bosque de Puerto Rico oscila cerca de los 125 individuos.

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plantaciones madereros maduros, en cafetales bajo sombra y en bosques secundarios maduros del área de carso al norte-central de Puerto Rico dentro y cerca del Bosque Estatal de Río Abajo y el área de Río Encantado entre los pueblos de Florida y Ciales. La topografía húmeda de los bosques del carso le provee al guaraguao de bosque otra alternativa como área para anidar. En estudios recientes, se han documentado miembros de una especie similar de guaraguao (guaraguao de cola roja; *Buteo jamaicensis jamaicensis*) anidando en las laderas del carso adyacentes al RACF.

Distribución

El guaraguao de bosque es un ave de rapiña poco común y extremadamente localizado, que se encuentra en los bosques montañosos de tierra alta de Puerto Rico. Las poblaciones existentes se hallan principalmente dentro de cinco bosques: el RACF, el Bosque Estatal Carite, el Bosque Estatal Toro Negro, el Bosque Los Tres Picachos y el Bosque Nacional El Yunque. Llerandi-Román (2006) halló trece territorios de guaraguao de bosque justo fuera de los límites de RACF, en seis sitios diferentes con hábitat apropiado para los guaraguao de bosque. Los territorios se encuentran a lo largo del valle del Río Tanamá, al noroeste del RACF

Amenazas

La abundancia y la distribución del guaraguao de bosque es limitada. Cualquier amenaza que atente contra su población y su hábitat puede resultar en detrimento para esta especie. De forma natural, los huracanes constituyen una amenaza ya que destruyen su hábitat debido a las intensas lluvias y a los fuertes vientos. No obstante, existe una gran variedad de actividades humanas que también amenazan las poblaciones de esta especie. La construcción de instalaciones recreativas, de estructuras para energía y comunicaciones y de carreteras contribuye a la destrucción y fragmentación de su hábitat. De igual manera, la caza ilegal, las malas prácticas de manejo y la carencia de planes de manejo para los bosques públicos también afectan las poblaciones del guaraguao de bosque. Los bajos números poblacionales de esta especie pueden, por sí mismos, estar afectando la población ya que se pierde la variación genética de esta.

Medidas de conservación

El guaraguao de bosque está incluido en la lista de especies amenazadas desde el 1994. La Ley Federal de Especies en Peligro de Extinción de 1973, según enmendada, prohíbe matar, dañar, molestar, atrapar, comprar o vender una especie, así como partes o productos derivados de ellas. El tener la especie en la lista federal fomenta y ayuda a crear acciones de conservación por las agencias federales, estatales, privadas, y por grupos e individuos particulares. La Ley de Especies En Peligro fomenta la compra de terrenos y la cooperación con el Estado, y requiere que se ejecuten acciones de recuperación en relación a todas las especies listadas. Entre las medidas esenciales para proteger el hábitat y fomentar el crecimiento de las poblaciones existentes están: la protección de los sitios de anidamiento y alimento en las áreas públicas y privadas, el mejoramiento de los hábitats, la reforestación en áreas abiertas, la actualización de la información acerca de la distribución y la identificación o creación de corredores biológicos entre poblaciones cercanas (tales como RACF, Los Tres Picachos y Toro Negro) con tal de facilitar el movimiento de los guaraguao de bosque entre los bosques.

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Información adicional

Oficina de Servicios Ecológicos del Caribe
Dirección: PO Box 491, Boquerón, PR 00622
Teléfono: 787-851-7297 / Fax: 787-851-7440
Internet: www.fws.gov/caribbean



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Cotorra puertorriqueña

Amazona vittata vittata



Distribución ■

Familia: Psittacidae
Orden: Psittaciformes

Descripción

La cotorra puertorriqueña o Iguaca, como la llamaban los indios taínos, es un ave verde brillante con una mancha roja en la frente, un anillo blanco alrededor del ojo y plumas primarias azules. Su pico es color marfil y el borde de su cola es redondo. Los juveniles son bastante parecidos a los adultos. Tanto hembras como machos son parecidos y miden cerca de doce pulgadas (aprox. 30 centímetros). A veces, la franja roja en la frente es más ancha en los machos que en las hembras. Mientras vuela emite un fuerte y ruidoso “kar...kar.” Este sonido se escucha a gran distancia. Emite otros sonidos para comunicarse con otras cotorras y para defender su territorio.

Información biológica

Reproducción

La cotorra puertorriqueña alcanza su edad reproductiva entre los 3 a 5 años. Las cotorras usualmente forman

parejas que perduran por mucho tiempo, normalmente de por vida. Las parejas permanecen juntas casi todo el año, excepto cuando la hembra está incubando y el macho asume la responsabilidad de proveer alimento. La cotorra usa como nido las cavidades que se encuentran en árboles de gran tamaño como el palo colorado (*Cyrilla racemiflora*), entre otros. De ser necesario, también podría anidar en las cavidades de roca caliza. El anidamiento comienza en los meses de febrero y marzo, hasta junio. Tradicionalmente, la anidación coincide con el período más seco del año y durante el período de fructificación (producir frutos) de plantas cuyas semillas, frutas y hojas le sirven de alimento.

Dieta

La cotorra come plantas tales como: palma de sierra, palma real, maricao, maria, guaba, cupey, guaraguao y yagrumo, entre otros árboles.

Distribución

La cotorra puertorriqueña, ave endémica a Puerto Rico fue abundante en Puerto Rico, incluyendo las islas de Culebra, Vieques y Mona. Esta cotorra es la última especie de psitácidos existentes y originaria en territorio de los Estados Unidos. Los psitácidos son la familia de aves, en su mayoría tropicales, con plumas de colores vivos y pico corto, alto y muy encorvado (ej. guacamayo y cotorra). La población silvestre de cotorras puertorriqueñas se limita actualmente a la Sierra de Luquillo, mayormente en el Bosque Nacional El Yunque, al este de Puerto Rico y en el Bosque Estatal de Río Abajo, en el norte central de Puerto Rico, entre Arecibo y Utuado. Al menos tres de las cotorras liberadas en Río Abajo se han dispersado y en 2012 fueron vistas entre Morovis, Vega Baja y Manatí.

EN PELIGRO

Amenazas

Además de tener una población pequeña y una distribución limitada, la especie también se ve afectada por el zorzal pardo (*Margarops fuscatus*) quien mata los huevos y pichones de la cotorra para usar el nido. El guaraguao colirojo (*Buteo jamaicensis*), el guaraguaito de bosque (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*) y las ratas (*Rattus rattus* y *R. norvegicus*) son depredadores mortales de cotorras juveniles y adultas. Las moscas parasíticas (*Philornis pici*) depositan sus larvas en los pichones de aves para completar su ciclo de desarrollo. Estas moscas enferman y matan a los pichones. Las abejas europeas y africanas (*Apis mellifera*) invaden los nidos de la cotorra para formar adentro sus colmenas. También pueden matar a los pichones. Los huracanes y otros eventos climatológicos pueden afectar la estabilidad de la especie en su estado natural. La pérdida de hábitat por la deforestación es una amenaza que siempre está presente y limita las opciones de lugares aptos para reintroducir la cotorra a la vida silvestre.

Medidas de conservación

La cotorra puertorriqueña fue designada como especie en peligro de extinción en el año 1967, antes de que la Ley de Especies en Peligro de Extinción de 1973 entrara en vigor. Existe un Acuerdo Cooperativo entre el Servicio Federal de Pesca y Vida Silvestre, el Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales y el Servicio Forestal de los Estados Unidos para manejar de forma conjunta la recuperación de la cotorra puertorriqueña. Las tres agencias constituyen el Comité de Recuperación de la Cotorra Puertorriqueña. Inicialmente, se estableció un programa de propagación en cautiverio que, con el tiempo, ha crecido para incluir liberaciones de cotorras al estado silvestre, monitoreo de las poblaciones silvestres, manejo del hábitat e investigación. Otras entidades privadas y académicas se han unido a los esfuerzos para realizar investigaciones y educar.

El Comité realiza censos de cotorras periódicamente y estima que existen entre 18 a 22 cotorras en El Yunque y cerca de 60 a 70 en Río Abajo. Los biólogos de campo utilizan múltiples estrategias para manejar el hábitat. La escasez de árboles maduros con cavidades

requiere que se construyan e instalen nidos artificiales para que la cotorra puertorriqueña anide. También, los expertos controlan las poblaciones de las especies depredadoras, cuando es necesario, para asegurar el desarrollo normal de los huevos y de los pichones.

La población en cautiverio se mantiene para varios propósitos: reproducir cotorras y aumentar su número, asegurar poblaciones adicionales, particularmente en el caso de una catástrofe natural tal como un huracán, y para, eventualmente, poder proveer aves para reintroducirlas a los bosques donde habitaban. En los aviarios, se utilizan técnicas avanzadas para diagnosticar enfermedades y proveer tratamiento. Actualmente, hay cerca de 350 cotorras entre el Aviario Iguaca, manejado por el Servicio Federal de Pesca y Vida Silvestre en El Yunque, y en el Aviario José L. Vivaldi, manejado por el Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales de Puerto Rico, en el Bosque Estatal Río Abajo.

La Ley Federal de Especies en Peligro de Extinción de 1973, según enmendada, prohíbe matar, dañar, molestar, atrapar, comprar o vender una especie, así como partes o productos derivados de ellas

Referencias

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Thomas H. White, Jr. and Fernando Núñez-García. "From Cage to Rainforest" U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2008-06-04

Información adicional

Oficina de Servicios Ecológicos del Caribe
Dirección: PO Box 491, Boquerón, PR 00622
Teléfono: 787-851-7297 / Fax: 787-851-7440
Internet: www.fws.gov/caribbean



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September 9, 2024

Lourdes Mena
Field Supervisor
Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office Park I, Suite 303
State Road #2 Km 156.5
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico 00680
Email: [Caribbean es@fws.gov](mailto:Caribbean_es@fws.gov); Lourdes Mena@fws.gov

Re: Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species Evaluation for the Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow PR-RGRW-02623 Project/ SWCA Project No. 72428

Dear Ms. Mena:

SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA), on behalf of the Puerto Rico Department of Housing, is requesting informal consultation under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 United States Code 1531 *et seq.*), and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (47 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*) for the proposed ReGrow PR-RGRW-02623 Project (project). The Project is located on 0.84 acre at Carretera 2 R 639 Km 4.5 Int Riachuelo, Arecibo, PR 00688 (18.394800, -66.607819).

The proposed Project involves the construction of a new greenhouse and the installation of three (3) water pumps and three (3) cisterns built on concrete platforms. No tree clearing or vegetation removal will be required.

Using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system, we have determined that the proposed project lies within the range of the following federally listed species:

Species	Listing Status
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>)	Endangered
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (<i>Atlantea tulita</i>)	Threatened
<i>Cordia bellonis</i>	Endangered
<i>Schoepfia arenaria</i>	Threatened

<i>Tectaria estremerana</i>	Endangered
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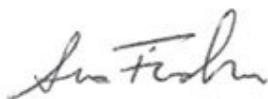
No designated or proposed critical habitat for any listed species was identified within the project area. Based on the nature of the project, scope of work, information available, and a careful analysis of the existing habitat, we have made the following effects determinations:

Species	Effect Determination	Conservation Measures to be Implemented
Puerto Rican Boa <i>(Chilabothrus inornatus)</i>	Not likely to adversely affect (NLAA)	Puerto Rican Boa General Project Design Guidelines
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk <i>(Buteo platypterus brunnescens)</i>	Not likely to adversely affect (NLAA)	Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Parrot <i>(Amazona vittata)</i>	Not likely to adversely affect (NLAA)	Puerto Rican Parrot Conservation Measures
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly <i>(Atlantea tulita)</i>	Not likely to adversely affect (NLAA)	Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly General Project Design Guidelines
<i>Cordia bellonis</i>	No effect (NE)	Preconstruction Surveys
<i>Schoepfia arenaria</i>	No effect (NE)	Preconstruction Surveys
<i>Tectaria estremerana</i>	No effect (NE)	Preconstruction Surveys

In accordance with the 2024 Puerto Rican Boa General Project Design Guidelines, if a Puerto Rican Boa (PR Boa) is found in the project action site, work shall cease until the individual moves off on its own. If the PR Boa does not move off, the construction manager shall contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and ask for them to relocate the PR Boa.

In order to complete the informal consultation process, we are requesting your concurrence for the NLAA determinations included in this letter. Attached to this letter, we are including the documents used to reach our effect determinations for the listed species. If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me at (346) 388-1157 or susan.fischer@swca.com.

Sincerely,



Susan Fischer
Wildlife Ecologist
SWCA Environmental Consultants

Attachments: Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Memorandum

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

To: Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 491
Boquerón, Puerto Rico 00622

From: Susan Fischer, Project Biologist on behalf of the Puerto Rico Department of Housing

Date: August 23, 2024

Re: **Threatened and Endangered Species Evaluation for the Puerto Rico Department of Housing ReGrow PR-RGRW-02623 Project/ SWCA Project No. 72428**

Project Description

Los Surcos, the applicant, is proposing to construct a new greenhouse and the installation of three (3) water pumps and three (3) cisterns built on concrete platforms on a 0.84-acre property in the Municipio of Arecibo, Puerto Rico (project) (Appendix A, Figure 1). The project is located at Carretera 2 R 639 Km 4.5 Int Riachuelo, Arecibo, PR 00688, in a rural area. The estimated dimensions of the greenhouse will be approximately 80 feet by 24 feet (1,920 square feet), the three (3) concrete platforms for the 250-gallon cisterns and the three (3) water pumps will be approximately 5 feet by 5 feet (25 square feet) (Appendix A, Figure 2).

Existing conditions

The existing habitat conditions at the proposed project area consists of landscaped lawn surrounded by shrubs, banana trees (*Musa spp.*), and tall deciduous trees. The project location is in a rural residential zone, with forested areas adjacent to the southwest and west. There are no wetlands or waterbodies mapped within the subject property (Appendix A, Figure 3). Construction of the greenhouse and the concrete platform for the water pumps and the cisterns would not require vegetation removal. Representative photographs of the proposed locations are provided in Appendix B.

Federally Protected Species

SWCA obtained a federal threatened and endangered species list from the USFWS (2024) Information for Planning and Consultation (“IPaC”) website for a 100-foot buffer around the new greenhouse, the three (3) water pumps, and three (3) cisterns built on concrete platforms (review area) (Appendix C). The IPaC automatically generates a list of species and other resources of concern, such as critical habitat, that are known or expected to be in the specified area and could potentially be directly or indirectly affected. According to the IPaC query for the project, seven federally listed endangered species has the potential to occur in the review area; the Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (*Buteo platypterus brunnescens*), Puerto Rican parrot (*Amazona vittata*), the Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*), Puerto Rican harlequin

butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*), *Cordia bellonis*, *Schoepfia arenaria*, and *Tectaria estremarana*. SWCA also evaluated the review area for potential habitat for bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) and golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*) as they are protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (“BGEPA”).

The bald and golden eagle’s range do not extend into Puerto Rico (Cornell Lab of Ornithology 2024); therefore, these species were eliminated from further analysis for this project. Table 1 identifies the species carried forward for further evaluation and summarizes each species’ habitat requirements, potential for occurrence in the project area, and determination of effects.

Table 1. Federally Listed Species Range and/or Habitat Requirements

Common Name (Scientific Name)	Status*	Range or Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence in Project Area	Determination of Effects/Impacts
Birds				
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	FE	The Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk occurs in elfin woodland, sierra palm, caimitillo-granadillo, and tabonuco forest types of the Río Abajo Commonwealth Forest, Carite Commonwealth Forest, and El Yunque National Forest as well as within hardwood plantations, shade coffee plantations, and mature secondary forests (USFWS 2019).	<i>Unlikely to occur.</i> Although forested areas are located on the periphery of the review area, there are no forested areas within the project area.	<i>May affect, but not likely to adversely affect.</i> See discussion below.
Puerto Rican Parrot (<i>Amazona vittata</i>)	FE	The Puerto Rican parrot is a frugivorous cavity nester. It depends on mature forests with large cavity forming trees. (USFWS 2009). It is currently confined to the Maricao Forest, El Yunque National Forest, and the Río Abajo Forest (USDA Forest Service 2024).	<i>Unlikely to occur.</i> The project area is not located within the Maricao Forest, El Yunque National Forest, or the Río Abajo Forest. Additionally, there are no forested areas within the project area.	<i>May affect, but not likely to adversely affect.</i> See discussion below.
Reptiles				
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	FE	Considered to be a habitat generalist, the Puerto Rican boa tolerates a wide variety of terrestrial and arboreal habitats, including rocky areas, haystack hill, trees and branches, rotting stumps, caves, plantations, various types of forested areas such as karst and mangrove forests, forested urban and rural areas, and along streams and road edges (USFWS 2011).	<i>May occur.</i> The project area is located adjacent to forested areas.	<i>May affect, but not likely to adversely affect.</i> See discussion below.
Insects				
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly (<i>Atlantea tulita</i>)	FT	This species inhabits areas with moderately dense to dense canopy cover and dense vegetation and a source of water within a kilometer. Eggs and larvae are found only on the prickly bush (<i>Oplonia spinosa</i>), while adult butterflies feed on the nectar of several tree species and drink water (USFWS 2019).	<i>Unlikely to occur.</i> There are no prickly bush plants or forested areas within the project area.	<i>May affect, but not likely to adversely affect.</i> See discussion below.

Common Name (Scientific Name)	Status*	Range or Habitat Requirements	Potential for Occurrence in Project Area	Determination of Effects/Impacts
Plants				
<i>Cordia bellonis</i>	FE	Occurs on mountain slopes and serpentine hills where it has been found in serpentine soils at road edges, on river margins, on steep slopes, on sunny banks along dirt roads growing in thickets of vegetation, and in open saddles between limestone hills. It is currently restricted to three public forests: the Maricao Commonwealth Forest in the municipality of Maricao, the Susúa Commonwealth Forest in the municipality of Susúa, and the Río Abajo Commonwealth Forest in the municipalities of Utuado and Arecibo (USFWS 1999).	<i>Unlikely to occur</i> The entire project area consists of mowed lawn.	<i>No effect.</i> There is no suitable habitat for <i>Cordia bellonis</i> in the project area.
<i>Schoepfia arenaria</i>	FT	This evergreen tree can be found at low elevation, between 150 to 350 meter in evergreen or semi-evergreen forests areas coastal and slopes of the mogote on the northern part of Puerto Rico, specifically: Aguadilla, Isabela Quebradillas, Loiza (Punta Maldonado and Piñones), Fajardo Utuado (Río Abajo Commonwealth Forest), and between Manatí y Vega Baja (Laguna Tortuguero) (Federal Register: USFWS 1991).	<i>Unlikely to occur</i> Although forested areas are located on the periphery of the review area, the project area consists of mowed lawn.	<i>No effect.</i> There is no suitable habitat for <i>Schoepfia arenaria</i> in the project area.
<i>Tectaria estremarana</i>	FE	This terrestrial fern can be found in the limestone or karst region of northwestern Puerto Rico. Occur within the semi-evergreen seasonal forests of the subtropical moist forest life zone (USFWS 1995).	<i>Unlikely to occur.</i> There are no forested areas located within the project area.	<i>No effect.</i> There is no suitable habitat for <i>Tectaria estremarana</i> within the project area.

*Status Definitions:

FE = Federally listed endangered; FT = Federally listed threatened

Due to the generalist nature of the Puerto Rican boa and forested habitat adjacent to the project area, the Puerto Rican boa may occur within the project area. Based on a site visit and habitat evaluations, all of the other federally listed species are considered unlikely to occur within the project area due to lack of suitable habitat. The Caribbean Determination Key (DKey) was completed for the project, which generated a *may affect* determination for the Puerto Rican boa and a *may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect* determination for the Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk (Appendix D).

The project area is adjacent to forested areas; therefore, the applicant will employ conservation measures for the Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk, Puerto Rican parrot, Puerto Rican boa, and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, as outlined in Appendix E, including but not limited to issuing a stop work if a Puerto Rican boa were to occur within the project area, and contacting the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources for safe capture and relocation of the individual if such action is required. Furthermore, surveys for all three plant species will be conducted by a qualified biologist or other personnel with the knowledge and ability to identify the species, prior to any vegetation or earth removal activities. If any *Cordia bellonis*, *Schoepfia arenaria*, or *Tectaria estremarana* individuals are found, the applicant will stop clearing activities and notify PRDNER. Consequently, it is anticipated that the project will have *no effect* on *Cordia bellonis*, *Schoepfia arenaria*, and *Tectaria estremarana*, and *may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect* the Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk, Puerto Rican parrot, Puerto Rican boa, and Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly.

Critical Habitat and National Wildlife Refuges

Potential effects to habitat(s) within the project area critical to endangered species must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves, while any activity proposed on National Wildlife Refuge lands must undergo a compatibility determination conducted by the Refuge. No designated critical habitats are present within 100-feet of any of the proposed project location options (Appendix A, Figure 4) (USFWS 2023).

LITERATURE CITED

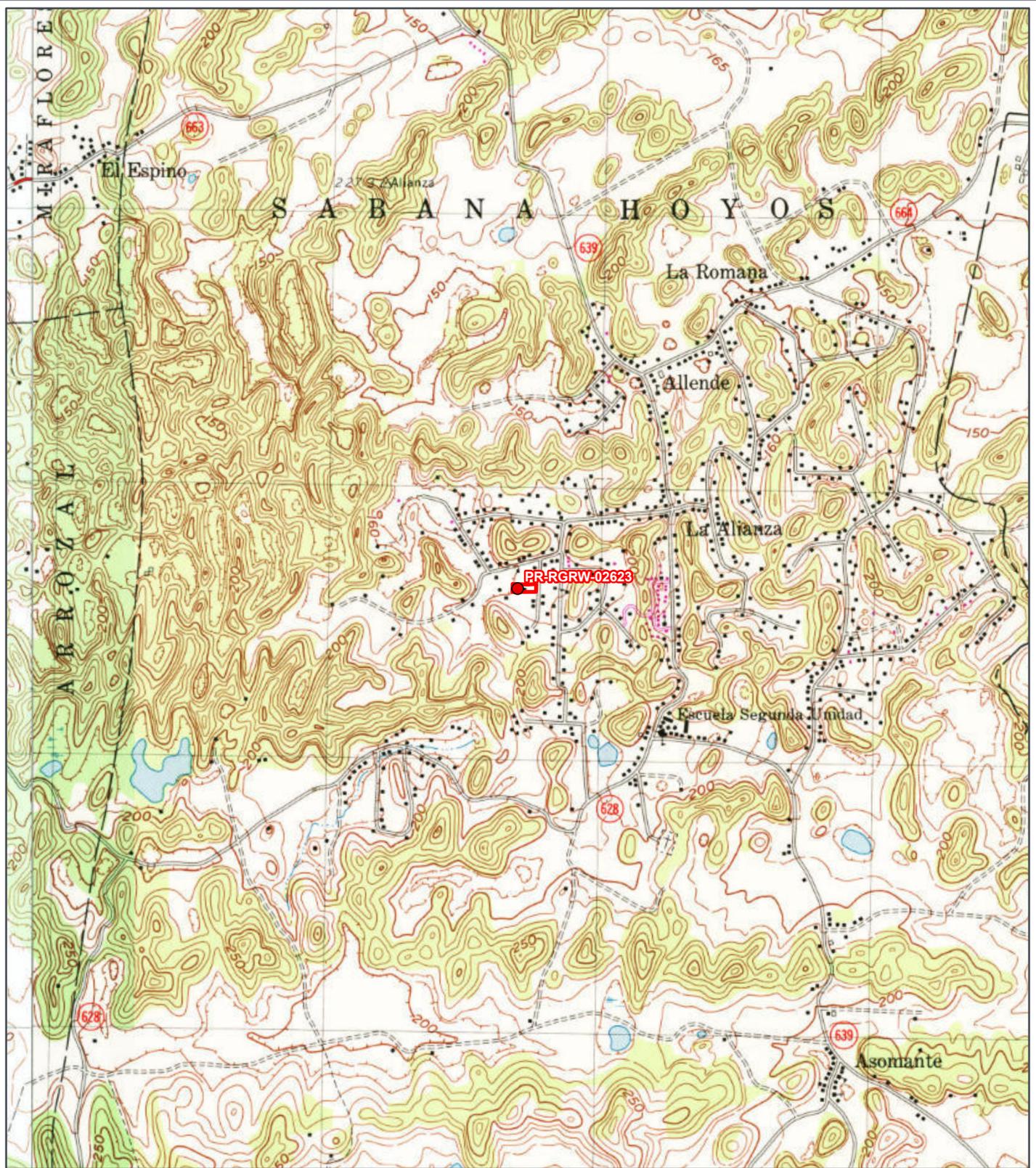
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APPENDIX A

Maps

Figure 1

USGS Topographic Map

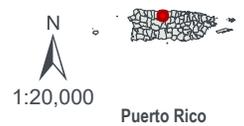


REGROW PROGRAM
USGS Topographic Map
 Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623

- Site
- Site Parcel



Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int Riachuelo
 Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
 Parcel ID: 078-023-011-15-000
 Coordinates:
 18.3948, -66.607819



Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
 accessed March 2024
 Updated: 3/27/2024
 Layout: USGS Topographic Map
 Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps



Figure 2
Site Vicinity Map



REGROW PROGRAM

Site Vicinity

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
 Riachuelo
 Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688

Parcel ID: 078-033-011-15-000
 Coordinates:
 18.3948, -66.607819

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
 accessed October 2023
 Updated: 10/10/2023

Layout: Site Vicinity
 Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps

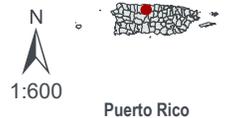
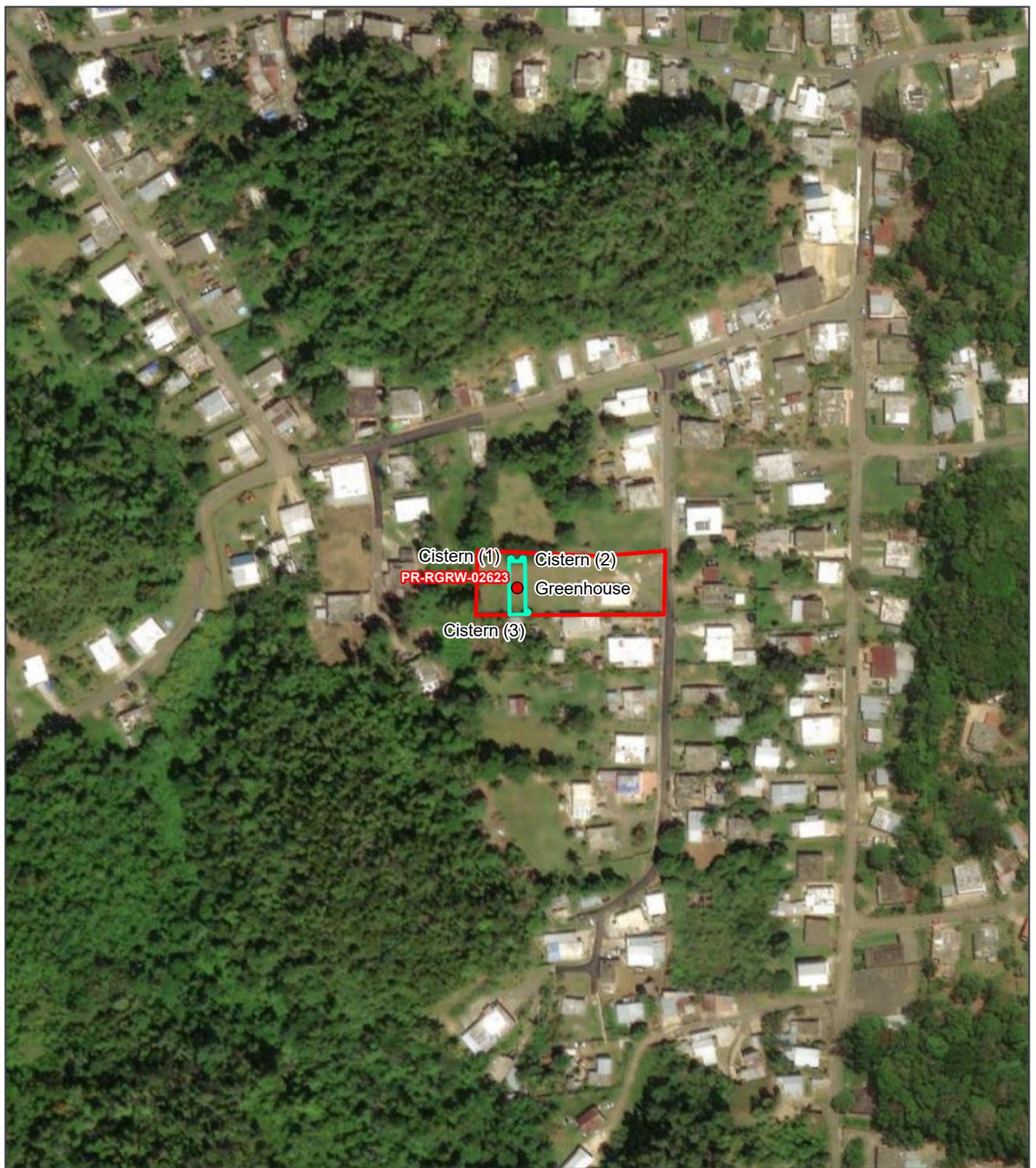


Figure 3
Wetlands Map



REGROW PROGRAM

Wetlands Protection Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- - - NHD Stream
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland

- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/ Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Riverine

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
 Riachuelo
 Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
 Parcel ID: 078-033-011-15-000
 Coordinates:
 18.3948, -66.607819

Data Source: <https://apps.nationalmap.gov/downloader/#/>
<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory/data-download>
 Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2023
 Updated: 10/10/2023
 Layout: Wetlands Protection

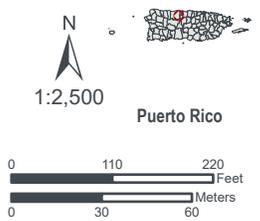
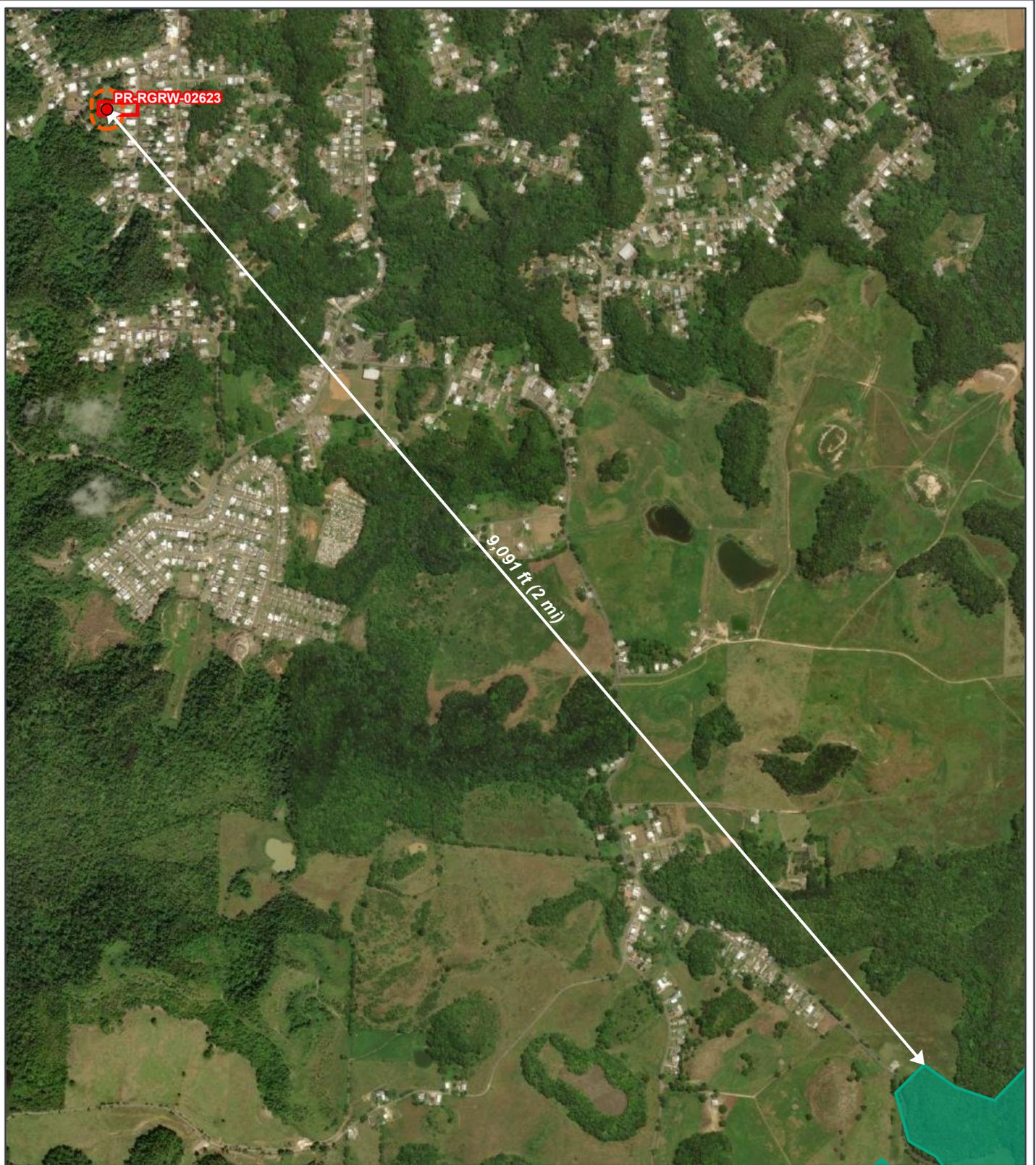


Figure 4
Critical Habitat Map



REGROW PROGRAM

Critical Habitat Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623

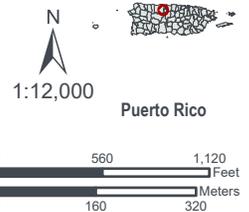


- Site
- Site Parcel
- Buffer (100-ft)
- Critical Habitat - Final
- National Wildlife Refuges

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
 Riachuelo
 Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688

Parcel ID: 078-033-011-15-000
 Coordinates:
 18.3948, -66.607819

Data Source: https://services.arcgis.com/QVENGdaPbd4LUkLV/arcgis/rest/services/USFWS_Critical_Habitat/
 Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed July 2023
 Updated: 7/28/2023
 Layout: Critical Habitat
 Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps



APPENDIX B

Photographic Log

Project #: PR-RGRW-02623	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carretera 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int Riachuelo, Arecibo, PR 00688	Coordinates: 18.394800, -66.607819

Photo #: 01	Date: 08/07/2023	
Photo Direction: West		
Description: This picture is an overview of the site location for an 80x24x8-15ft, 2ft deep, greenhouse on the ground with three (3) 250-gallon cisterns on a 5x5 concrete platform (approximately 6 inches thick) located on the northwest, northeast, and southeast corners of the structure. The picture also shows the applicant's garden with raised beds and the backyard of the property.		

Photo #: 02	Date: 08/07/2023	
Photo Direction: Southwest		
Description: This is the northeast corner of the site location for an 80x24ft greenhouse with three (3) 250-gallon cisterns on a 5x5 concrete platform (approximately 6 inches thick) and it shows the manicured lawn with some areas without grasses because it has been hard for the applicant to grow grass on those patches.		

Project #: PR-RGRW-02623	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carretera 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int Riachuelo, Arecibo, PR 00688	Coordinates: 18.394800, -66.607819

Photo #: 03	Date: 08/07/2023
Photo Direction: Northwest	
Description: This is the southeast corner of the site location for an 80x24ft greenhouse with three (3) 250-gallon cisterns on a 5x5 concrete platform (approximately 6 inches thick) and it shows the manicured lawn with some areas without grasses because it has been hard for the applicant to grow grass on those patches.	



Photo #: 04	Date: 08/07/2023
Photo Direction: Northeast	
Description: This is the southwest corner of the site location for an 80x24ft greenhouse with three (3) 250-gallon cisterns on a 5x5 concrete platform (approximately 6 inches thick) and it shows the manicured lawn with some areas without grasses because it has been hard for the applicant to grow grass on those patches and a partial view of the community.	



Project #: PR-RGRW-02623	Photographer: Delise Torres-Ortiz
Location Address: Carretera 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int Riachuelo, Arecibo, PR 00688	Coordinates: 18.394800, -66.607819

Photo #: 05	Date: 08/07/2023	
Photo Direction: Southeast		
Description: This is the northwest corner of the site location for an 80x24ft greenhouse with three (3) 250-gallon cisterns on a 5x5 concrete platform (approximately 6 inches thick) and it shows the applicant's residence with the manicured lawn and a partial view of the community (built around the 1980s to the 1990s).		

Photo #: 06	Date: 08/07/2023	
Photo Direction: West		
Description: The property does have a ditch north running from east to west and turning south (behind the property) that helps manage the overflow water; it also serves as a property line.		

APPENDIX C

USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation Species List



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2024-0129444
Project Name: PR-RGRW-02623

08/13/2024 03:57:20 UTC

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

To Whom It May Concern:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

caribbean_es@fws.gov

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(786) 244-0081

Attachment(s):

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

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

Post Office Box 491

Boqueron, PR 00622-0491

(939) 320-3135

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0129444

Project Name: PR-RGRW-02623

Project Type: Disaster-related Grants

Project Description: Construction of a new greenhouse and the installation of 3 water pumps and 3 cisterns built on concrete platforms. No tree clearing or vegetation removal will be required.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.394759049999998,-66.6075696989303,14z>



Counties: Arecibo County, Puerto Rico

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 7 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

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

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

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

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk <i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5512	Endangered
Puerto Rican Parrot <i>Amazona vittata</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3067	Endangered

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Boa <i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6628 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/ALTFNY4VJHHHKI4772UEM3QNM/documents/generated/7159.pdf	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly <i>Atlantea tulita</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9005 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/ALTFNY4VJHHHKI4772UEM3QNM/documents/generated/7168.pdf	Threatened

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Cordia bellonis No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7228	Endangered
Schoepfia arenaria No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5250	Threatened

FERNS AND ALLIES

NAME	STATUS
Tectaria estremerana No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3630	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

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

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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

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

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

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

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats³, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)".

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

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

MIGRATORY BIRDS

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

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats³ should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)".

-
1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.

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

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

WETLANDS

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

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

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

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: SWCA Environmental Consultants
Name: Susan Fischer
Address: 10245 West Little York Road
Address Line 2: Suite 600
City: Houston
State: TX
Zip: 77040
Email: susan.fischer@swca.com
Phone: 3463881157

APPENDIX D

USFWS Consistency Letter



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:
Project code: 2024-0129444
Project Name: PR-RGRW-02623

08/13/2024 04:01:33 UTC

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'PR-RGRW-02623' for specified threatened and endangered species, that may occur in your proposed project location, pursuant to the IPaC determination key titled Caribbean Determination Key (DKey).

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the assisted evaluation keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (87 Stat. 884; 16 U.S.C. 1531et seq.). On August 13, 2024, Susan Fischer used the Caribbean DKey; dated April 03, 2024, in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's online [IPaC application](#) to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed species, from a project named 'PR-RGRW-02623'. The project is located in Arecibo County, Puerto Rico (shown below).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.394759049999998,-66.6075696989303,14z>



The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-02623':

Construction of a new greenhouse and the installation of 3 water pumps and 3 cisterns built on concrete platforms. No tree clearing or vegetation removal will be required.

Based on your answers and the assistance of the Service's Caribbean DKey, you made the following effect determination(s) for the proposed Action:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Puerto Rican Boa (<i>Chilabothrus inornatus</i>)	Endangered	May affect
Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk (<i>Buteo platypterus brunnescens</i>)	Endangered	NLAA

Consultation with the Service is not complete. Further consultation with the Caribbean Ecological Services office is required for those species with a determination of "may affect" listed above. Please contact the Caribbean Ecological Services office to discuss methods to avoid or minimize potential adverse effects to those species.

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

Action Description

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

1. Name

PR-RGRW-02623

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'PR-RGRW-02623':

Construction of a new greenhouse and the installation of 3 water pumps and 3 cisterns built on concrete platforms. No tree clearing or vegetation removal will be required.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@18.394759049999998,-66.6075696989303,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

10. Is the proposed project adjacent or within a forested area?

Note: Examples of immediately adjacent to forested areas are 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 trees.

Yes

11. Is the project area more than 1 acre?

No

12. Is the proposed project an existing facility or the expansion of an existing facility within the footprint of the already developed area?

No

13. Is the proposed project a new facility which would require earth moving, vegetation clearing, or debris removal using heavy machinery, the use of staging areas, construction of temporary access roads?

No

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

Automatically answered

Yes

15. Will the proposed project be conducted during the Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk or Puerto Rican Broad-winged hawk breeding season between December and July?

Yes

16. Will daily surveys be conducted to detect breeding activities by qualified personnel?

Note: Examples of breeding activities are courtship and territoriality, re-occupancy of nesting sites, nest building, egg laying, incubation and hatching, and post-fledging.

Yes

17. Will qualified personnel conduct nest searches with the appropriate Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources (DNER) permit?

Note: We might require you to submit a copy of the DNER permits by email.

Yes

18. Will the proposed project implement a strategy to avoid disturbing detected Puerto Rican sharp-shinned hawk and Puerto Rican Broad-winged hawk nesting and breeding activities?

Note: Examples of breeding activities are courtship and territoriality, re-occupancy of nesting sites, nest building, egg laying, incubation and hatching, and post-fledging.

Yes

19. Will the avoidance strategy include protocols to create a buffer zone of 200 meters around all detected nests?

Note: A buffer zone is an area around the detected nests where no actions or activities can take place. The buffer zone should be clearly marked or delineated in the field and in the project plans.

Yes

20. If nests are detected within the project area, will the proposed project avoid any disturbance until fledging leaves the nest permanently?

Yes

21. Outside of the breeding season, in the event of a Sharp-shinned hawk nest encounter, would a buffer zone be implemented?

Note: The species or nests might be found out of the breeding season. A buffer zone is an area around the detected nests where no actions or activities can take place. The buffer zone should be clearly marked or delineated in the field and in the project plans.

Yes

22. Will the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Natural Resources be notified immediately if a nest is detected?

Yes

23. Does the proposed project intersect the Puerto Rican Broad-winged hawk area of influence?

Automatically answered

Yes

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: SWCA Environmental Consultants
Name: Susan Fischer
Address: 10245 West Little York Road
Address Line 2: Suite 600
City: Houston
State: TX
Zip: 77040
Email: susan.fischer@swca.com
Phone: 3463881157

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development

APPENDIX E

Project Design Guidelines

USFWS Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk and Puerto Rican Parrot

1. All personnel will be advised that there are civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing, or killing species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. During breeding seasons (see below), nest surveys shall be conducted if a project occurs within the range of any of the species listed above and if habitat for those species will be impacted by the proposed actions. Nest searches must be conducted by qualified personnel with the appropriate permits from the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) prior to start of work. If nesting activity is detected, all construction activities or human disturbance must be avoided within a 50-meter buffer around any nest(s) found within the project area. This avoidance strategy must be kept until fledglings successfully leave the nest(s) permanently.

- Breeding Seasons:
 - Puerto Rican parrot: February-June.
 - Puerto Rican broad-winged hawk: December-June.

2. Outside the breeding season no nest surveys are required, but if a nest is encountered, all construction activities or human disturbance must be avoided within a 200-meter buffer around that nest(s). This avoidance strategy must be kept until fledglings successfully leave the nest(s) permanently. Furthermore, if any of the species indicated above is observed (e.g., foraging, resting) within the project area, avoid any disturbance to the individual(s) and do not flush the bird until it leaves on its own.

3. For all nest sightings, the Applicant must record the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where it was found. All sightings and incidental lethal take reports should be sent to the USFWS Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office at Caribbean_es@fws.gov. For questions, the Point of Contact (POC) is José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Program Coordinator, and can be contacted at:

- Mobile: 305-304-1386
- Office phone: 786-244-0081
- Office Direct Line: 939-320-3120
- Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov

General Project Design Guidelines (2 Species)

Generated August 13, 2024 04:01 AM UTC, IPaC v6.113.1-rc4



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Species Document Availability	1
Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly - Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office	2
Puerto Rican Boa - Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office	7

Species Document Availability

Species with general design guidelines

Puerto Rican Boa *Chilabothrus inornatus*

Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly *Atlantea tulita*

Species without general design guidelines available

Cordia bellonis

Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus brunnescens*

Puerto Rican Parrot *Amazona vittata*

Schoepfia arenaria

Tectaria estremerana

General Project Design Guidelines - *Cordia bellonis* and 6 more species

Published by Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office for the following species included in your project

Cordia bellonis

Schoepfia arenaria

Puerto Rican Parrot *Amazona vittata*

Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly *Atlantea tulita*

Puerto Rican Boa *Chilabothrus inornatus*

Tectaria estremerana

Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus brunnescens*



U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*)

Section 7 (a)(1) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) mandates Federal agencies to aid in the conservation of federally listed species. Section 7 (a)(2) requires the Federal agencies, through consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), to ensure their activities are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of federally listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitats. Section 7 applies to the management of Federal lands as well as Federal actions that may affect listed species, such as approval of private activities through the issuance of Federal funding, permits, licenses, or any other actions. Any person that injures, captures, or kills a Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly, or destroy its eggs or any other of its life stage (caterpillars, chrysalis) is subject to penalties under the ESA. Thus, Federal Actions agencies must initiate consultation with the Service under Section 7 of the ESA for any action that could affect the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly. To initiate a consultation under the Section 7 of the ESA, the Federal Action agency must submit a project package to the Service with the established minimum requirements (see below). The conservation measures included below should be incorporated into the project plans to minimize possible impacts to the Puerto Rican harlequin butterfly. Download the [project evaluations fact sheet](#) to learn more about the requirements or visit our [project evaluations webpage](#).



The Puerto Rican (PR) harlequin butterfly (*Atlantea tulita*), is a threatened species endemic to Puerto Rico, whose currently known range is limited to the Northern Karst

February 2024

physiographic region and the West-central Volcanic-serpentine physiographic region of the Island. Through this range, we have identified six areas occupied by the PR harlequin butterfly that we refer to as a populations: (1) along the coastal cliff in the municipalities of Isabela, Quebradillas, and Camuy; (2) Guajataca in the municipality of Isabela; (3) Río Abajo Commonwealth Forest between the municipalities of Arecibo and Utuado; (4) Río Encantado area along the municipalities of Arecibo, Florida and Ciales; (5) Maricao Commonwealth Forest in the municipality of Maricao; and (6) Susúa Commonwealth Forest between the municipalities of Sabana Grande and Yauco. In addition, adult PR harlequin butterflies have been anecdotally reported in other areas of Puerto Rico, including the municipalities of Aguadilla, Barceloneta, Ciales, Florida, Luquillo, Ceiba, Guánica, San Germán, Las Marias and Lares.

The PR harlequin butterfly is a medium sized butterfly with a life cycle includes four distinct anatomical stages: imago (adult), egg, larva (caterpillar, with several size phases called instars), and chrysalis. The species has a wingspan of about 5.1 to 6 centimeters (cm) (2 to 2.5 inches (in)) wide and is characterized by its orange, brownish-black and beige coloration patterns. The caterpillar (larva) is dark orange with a brownish black to black, thin sub-lateral line, over a thin line of white intermittent dots crossing the body from the head to the anal plate, and has spines with hairs on each body segment. The caterpillar is less than .476 centimeters (cm) (0.19 in) in the first instar (growth stage between molts) and about 3.3 cm (1.29 in) in the fifth instar. Both eggs and caterpillars have been found almost exclusively on the host plant prickly bush (*Oplonia spinosa*). The chrysalis (pupa from which the butterfly (adult, or imago) emerges) of the PR harlequin butterfly is black, with orange and white dashes, and yellow pimples. The size of chrysalis is around 3 cm (1.2 in). In the wild, the chrysalis is more often found attached to branches of plants located close to the host plant, but it has been observed attached to dried twigs of the host plant.

The PR harlequin butterfly is difficult to detect, and the species is easily misidentified with other common butterflies such as the monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus portoricensis*), Antillean crescent (*Antillea pelops*), and Gulf fritillary (*Agraulis vanilla insularis*). The PR harlequin butterfly adults seem to be more active in the morning, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, when they are often observed flying searching for food or patrolling their territory for mating or laying eggs. The species flies slowly and is weak and fragile; thus, it is considered a poor disperser. There is information that this butterfly can disperse up to 1,026 meters (m) (3366.1 feet (ft)), approximately 1 kilometer (km) (0.6 mile (mi)) from one breeding site to another. The species seems to have specific ecological requirements for reproduction and its dispersion.

The PR harlequin butterfly was federally listed as threatened on January 3, 2023 (87 FR 73655), due to threats related to habitat modification and loss, its small populations size, and because of analyses of projected effects on the species resulting from relevant factors like increment of urban development rate and climate changes, which may negatively influence the continued existence of the species in the foreseeable future.

The Service has developed the following conservation measures with the purpose of assisting others to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the PR harlequin butterfly and its

habitat. These recommendations may be incorporated into new project plans and under certain circumstances into existing projects. Depending on the project, additional recommendations can be made besides the ones presented in this document.

1. All project construction personnel must be informed about the potential presence of the PR harlequin butterfly or its occupied host plant, prickly bush (*Oplonia spinosa*), in the project areas and the need to avoid harming the species and its occupied host plant. All personnel will be advised that there are civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing, or killing species protected under the Endangered Species Act. Educational material (e.g., posters, flyers, or signs with photos or illustrations of all the life stages of the PR harlequin butterfly (i.e., eggs, caterpillar, chrysalis, and adult) as well as its host plant, should be prepared and available to all personnel for reference.
2. Before starting any project activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movement, the boundaries of the work area in the field clearly delineate to avoid unnecessary habitat impacts. Once the project areas are clearly marked, and before any work activity, including site preparation, personnel with knowledge and ability to identify the PR harlequin butterfly (all life stages) and the prickly bush must survey the areas where the work will be performed for the presence of the species and its host plant. It is important to note that the PR harlequin butterfly can be observed year-round in all its life stages; thus, oviposition (egg-laying) may occur at any time during the year.
3. If the prickly bush is present on the project site, try to avoid cutting it off, even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalis are present.
4. If there is no prickly bush within the project area, and the butterfly is observed flying within the project area, do not harass, harm, pursue, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct, the species.
5. Adult butterflies are often observed flying near the host plant as part of their mating behavior and laying eggs. Project-related activities must stop if the prickly bush is found in the project area and the PR harlequin butterfly is observed flying in that same area where the plant is located. A temporary 50-meter (164 feet) buffer zone of no activity or human disturbance should be established and clearly marked around that prickly bush until the butterfly moves out on its own.
6. Once the PR harlequin butterfly has moved away, within a period of 24 to 36 hours, a search of the prickly bush that has been buffered should be conducted to determine the presence of eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids of the butterfly on the plant. The contractor or the Applicant should send a report of the observation and its findings to caribbean_es@fws.gov after the 36-hour search is concluded.
7. If, after the initial search or after the 24 to 36-hour search, any life stage of the PR harlequin butterfly is found in the prickly bush, take the following actions:
 - Clearly mark the host plant with flagging tape.

- Establish a 10-meter (32-foot) buffer zone around the bush to protect it.
- Eggs are typically found on the prickly bush's newly grown, tender branches. Once an egg hatches, the caterpillar moves and feeds throughout the plant. Therefore, avoid cutting off the prickly bush within the project site even if no eggs, caterpillars, or chrysalids are present.
- Work within the 10-meter buffered area may resume when no signs of any live life stage of the butterfly are detected, which usually takes approximately 60 to 120 days.

8. For all PR harlequin butterfly sightings (all life stages), the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where the butterfly was found must be recorded. Data should also include a photo of the butterfly (if possible) and the habitat where it was observed, site GPS coordinates, and comments on how the butterfly was detected and its behavior. All PR harlequin butterfly sighting reports should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Caribbean Ecological Service Field Office at caribbean_es@fws.gov.

9. For questions regarding the PR harlequin butterfly, the Point of Contact is:

- José Cruz-Burgos, Threatened and Endangered Species Program Coordinator:
 - Mobile: 305-304-1386
 - Office phone: 786-244-0081
 - Office Direct Line: 939-320-3120
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov

General Project Design Guidelines - *Cordia bellonis* and 6 more species

Published by Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office for the following species included in your project

Cordia bellonis

Schoepfia arenaria

Puerto Rican Parrot *Amazona vittata*

Puerto Rican Harlequin Butterfly *Atlantea tulita*

Puerto Rican Boa *Chilabothrus inornatus*

Tectaria estremerana

Puerto Rican Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus brunnescens*

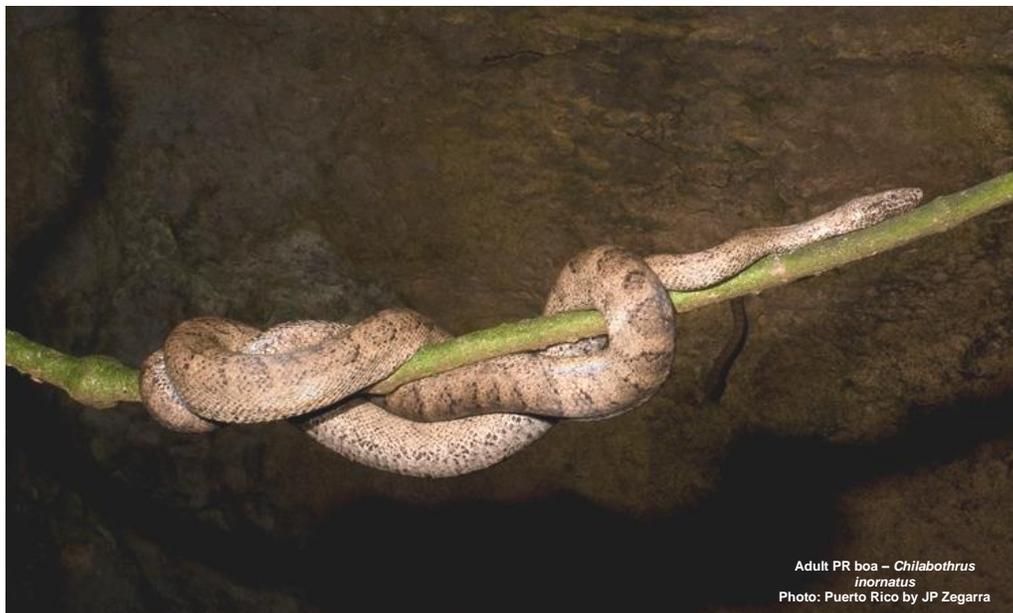


U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CARIBBEAN ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

Conservation Measures for the Puerto Rican boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*)

Section 7 (a)(1) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) charges Federal agencies to aid in the conservation of listed species, and section 7 (a)(2) requires the agencies, through consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), to ensure their activities are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitats. Section 7 applies to the management of Federal lands as well as Federal actions that may affect federally listed species, such as Federal approval of private activities through the issuance of Federal funding, permits, licenses, or other actions. Any person that injures, captures, or kills a Puerto Rico boa is subject to penalties under the ESA. If Federal funds or permits are needed, the funding or permitting agency should initiate Section 7 consultation with the Service. To initiate a consultation under the Section 7 of the ESA, you must submit a project package with the established minimum requirements. These conservation measures should be incorporated into the project plans to minimize possible impacts to the species.

The endangered Puerto Rican (PR) boa (*Chilabothrus inornatus*, formerly *Epicrates inornatus*) is the largest endemic snake species that inhabits Puerto Rico. The PR boa is non-venomous and does not pose any life threatening danger to humans, but some individuals may try to bite if disturbed or during capture or handling. Its body color ranges from tan to dark brown with irregular diffuse marking on the dorsum, but some individuals lack marking and are uniformly dark. Juveniles may have a reddish color with more pronounced markings. In general, as they mature, their body color tends to darken.



The PR boa was federally listed in 1970. Currently, the species has an island-wide distribution and occurs in a wide variety of habitat types, ranging from wet montane to subtropical dry forest and can be found from mature forest to areas with different degrees of human disturbance such as roadsides or houses, especially if near their habitat in rural areas. The PR boa is considered mostly nocturnal, remaining less active, concealed or basking under the sun during the day.

The Service has developed the following conservation measures with the purpose of assisting others to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the PR boa and its habitat. These recommendations may be incorporated into new project plans and under certain circumstances into existing projects. Depending on the project, additional conservation measures can be implemented besides the ones presented in this document.

Conservation Measures:

1. Inform all project personnel about the potential presence of the PR boa in areas where the proposed work will be conducted. A pre-construction meeting should be conducted to inform all project personnel about the need to avoid harming the species as well as penalties for harassing or harming PR boas. An educational poster or sign with photo or illustration of the species should be displayed at the project site.
2. Prior to any construction activity, including removal of vegetation and earth movements, the boundaries of the project and areas to be excluded and protected should be clearly marked in the project plan and in the field in order to avoid further habitat degradation into forested and conservation areas.
3. Once areas are clearly marked, and prior to the use of heavy machinery and any construction activity (including removal of vegetation and earth movement), a biologist or project personnel with experience on this species should survey the areas to be cleared to verify the presence of any PR boa within the work area.
4. If a PR boa is found within any of the working or construction areas, activities should stop at that area and information recorded (see #5). **Do not capture the boa.** If boas need to be moved out of harm's way, designated personnel shall immediately contact the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER) Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (PRDNER phone #: (787) 724-5700, (787) 230-5550, (787) 771-1124). **If immediate relocation is not an option, project-related activities at that area must stop until the boa moves out of harm's way on its own.** Activities at other work sites, where no boas have been found after surveying the area, may continue.
5. For all boa sightings (dead or alive), record the time and date of the sighting and the specific location where it was found. PR boa data should also include a photo of the animal (dead or alive), site GPS coordinates, the time and date, and comments on how the animal was detected and its behavior.

6. If a PR boa is captured by PRDNER personnel, record the name of that person and information on where the PR boa will be taken. This information should be reported to the Service.
7. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize PR boa casualties by heavy machinery or motor vehicles being used on site. Any heavy machinery left on site (staging) or near potential PR boa habitat (within 50 meters of potential boa habitat), needs to be thoroughly inspected each morning before work starts to ensure that no boas have sheltered within engine compartments or other areas of the equipment. If PR boas are found within vehicles or equipment, do not capture the animal, and let it move on its own or call PRDNER Rangers for safe capture and relocation of the animal (see #4). If not possible, the animal should be left alone until it leaves the vehicle on its own.
8. PR boas may seek shelter in debris piles. Measures should be taken to avoid and minimize boa casualties associated with sheltering in debris piles as a result of project activities. Debris piles should be placed far away from forested areas. Prior to moving, disposing or shredding, debris piles should be carefully inspected for the presence of boas. If debris piles will be left on site, we recommend they be placed in areas that will not be disturbed in the future.
9. If a dead PR boa is found, immediately cease all work in that area and record the information accordingly (see #5). If the PR boa was accidentally killed as part of the project actions, please include information on what conservation measures had been implemented and what actions will be taken to avoid further killings. A dead boa report should be sent by email (see contacts below) to the Service within 48 hours of the event.
10. Projects must comply with all state laws and regulations. Please contact the PRDNER for further guidance.

If you have any questions regarding the above conservation measures, please contact the Service:

- José Cruz-Burgos, Endangered Species Program Coordinator
 - Email: jose_cruz-burgos@fws.gov
 - Office phone (305) 304-1386
- Jan Zegarra, Fish and Wildlife Biologist
 - Email: jan_zegarra@fws.gov
 - Office phone (786) 933-1451



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

November 10, 2023

Lauren Bair Poche

HORNE

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

SHPO 10-27-23-05 SECTION 106 NHPA EFFECT DETERMINATION SUBMITTAL:
PR-RGRW-02623 – LOS SURCOS – CARRETERA 2 R 639 KM 4.5 INT. RIACHUELO,
ARECIBO, PUERTO RICO

Dear Ms. Bair,

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio-Cancela
State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/GMO/MB



October 27, 2023

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

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

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination Submittal: PR-RGRW-02623 – Los Surcos – Carretera 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int Riachuelo, Arecibo, Puerto Rico – *No Historic Properties Affected*

Dear Architect Rubio Cancela,

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

On behalf of PRDOH and the subrecipient, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, HORNE is submitting documentation for activities proposed by Los Surcos located at Carretera 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int Riachuelo, in the municipality of Arecibo. The undertaking for this project includes the purchase of materials and equipment (one van, tables, cilantro seeds, peat foam, calcium, magnesium, fans, lettuce, romaine lettuce, neem oil, and insecticide), the construction and installation of a new greenhouse, three water pumps, and three cisterns.

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

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

Kindest regards,



Lauren Bair Poche, M.A.

Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Senior Manager

Attachments

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM		
REGrow PUERTO RICO PROGRAM		
Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination		
Applicant: Los Surcos		
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623	City: Arecibo	

Project Location: Carretera 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int Riachuelo, Arecibo, PR 00688	
Project Coordinates: (as provided by applicant during field visit) Greenhouse centerpoint: 18.3948, -66.607819 Cistern 1: 18.394918, -66.607846 Cistern 2: 18.394918, -66.607795 Cistern 3: 18.394698, -66.607774	
TPID (Número de Catastro): 078-023-011-15	
Type of Undertaking: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial Repair/Improvements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Construction	
Construction Date (AH est.): Owner's house: ca. 2006 Shed in yard ca. 2019	Property Size (acres): 0.84 acres total Greenhouse: 0.044077 acres (1920 sq. ft.) Cistern 1: 0.000646 acres (28 sq. ft.) Cistern 2: 0.000646 acres (28 sq. ft.) Cistern 3: 0.000646 acres (28 sq. ft.)

SOI-Qualified Architect/Architectural Historian: Erin Edwards, M.P.S.
Date Reviewed: September 20, 2023
SOI-Qualified Archaeologist: Delise Torres Ortiz, M/A.
Date Reviewed: September 26, 2023

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

Project Description (Undertaking)

The proposed project includes the purchase of materials and equipment (one van, tables, cilantro seeds, peat foam, calcium, magnesium, fans, lettuce, romaine lettuce, neem oil, and insecticide), the construction and installation of a new greenhouse, three water pumps, and three cisterns. The equipment purchases fall under the "categorically excluded, not subject to (CENST)" category under HUD guidelines (24 CFR 58.35(b)(4)); they will not result in any possible land disturbance.

The proposed greenhouse will be located in the western portion of the parcel, which is currently undeveloped. It is approximately 1,920 square feet (sq. ft) in size (80 feet [ft] by 24 ft). The greenhouse will be built on a concrete platform, with the posts secured by footers extending 2 ft deep into the ground.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 <small>GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING</small>
Applicant: Los Surcos	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623	City: Arecibo

No tree clearing or ground drilling is required for the greenhouse's construction. However, the project will include ground disturbance associated with minor leveling and footers for its concrete platform and posts. Water will be provided by existing potable water connections from the Autoridad de Acueductos y Alcantarillados (AAA). The water utilities are underground with an above-ground spigot. Extensions will be added to allow the hose to reach inside the greenhouse from the existing spigot. Three new cisterns will be installed adjacent to the greenhouse to reduce AAA usage. The three cisterns are each 250-gallons and will be built on concrete platforms approximately 25 square ft (5 ft by 5 ft) and approximately 3 to 6 inches thick. Up to 6 inches of ground disturbance may be required to level the concrete platforms and install footers. The new cisterns will each be connected to water pumps to distribute collected rainwater in the greenhouse. Electricity from solar panels on the applicant's primary residence will be connected to the new greenhouse. The new electrical lines will be aboveground through a cable and metal posts attached to the greenhouse. The applicant owns the property and currently uses it for residential use; therefore, no acquisition or conversion is required.

Area of Potential Effects

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

Identification of Historic Properties – Archaeology

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information by a Program contracted archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61) who searched the records at the SHPO and the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña which shows that there are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a half-mile (mi) radius of the project location. No archaeological evaluations and no studies of cultural resources have been conducted within the 0.5 mi review radius with the exception of the northern margin of SHPO 04-28-16-05 (ICP-CAT-AR-95-05-08), performed for repaving streets using CDBG funds in 2016; this just extends into the southern edge of the 0.5 mi review area.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Applicant: Los Surcos	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623	City: Arecibo

There were negative findings as a result of this study. Additional studies associated with architectural assessments are described below.

The proposed project is located in a developed suburban landscaped environment at an elevation of 555 feet (ft; 169.16 meters [m]) above mean sea level. Per the USGS/NRCS Web Soil Survey, the project area crosses one mapped soil series: Almirante clay (AnC) 5 to 12% slopes. The general project area is located on a cleared field that is populated by grasses and minor landscaping features. The closest freshwater source is an unnamed isolated stream, located 1831 ft (567.3 m) south southwest of the project area. The Atlantic coast is approximately 6.5 mi (10.46 km) north of the project area.

Identification of Historic Properties - Architecture

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been reviewed to determine if any such properties are located within the APE of this undertaking. The review of this existing information, by a Program contracted Historic Preservation Specialist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (36 CFR Part 61), shows that the project area is not within the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed Traditional Urban Center or Historic District. Several Section 106 surveys have occurred in the area, with the closest one being Código SHPO 04-29-13-02, for the rehabilitation of various houses by an unnamed agency in 2013 in which 72 houses were surveyed. All houses had a finding of No Historic Properties, except for one that had a No Adverse Effect determination returned. Houses in the 0.50 mi review area that were surveyed were 0.09 mi, 0.20 mi, 0.21 mi, 0.26 mi, 0.27 mi, 0.48 mi, and 0.70 mi away from the project site. The next survey was Código SHPO 05-07-15-01 which was for the rehabilitation of various houses in different barrios in 2015, utilizing CDBG funds. Three houses were in the 0.50 review area, and all had No Historic Properties determinations returned. The first house is 0.09 mi from the project area, the second house is 0.15 mi, and the third house is 0.31 miles from the project area. The next survey was Código SHPO 05-22-09-17 for the construction of Encintado Oralia in 2009 using CDBG funds. The only property surveyed was 0.19 mi away from the project area, and a finding of No Historic Properties was returned. The next survey was Código SHPO 10-04-11-07 which was for the rehabilitation of eleven houses in different barrios in 2011. The sponsoring agency was HUD, and a finding of No Historic Properties was returned. Properties within the 0.50-mi survey area were 0.18 mi, 0.37 mi, and 0.53 mi away from the project site. Código SHPO 01-26-16-02 was the next survey, performed in 2016 for the rehabilitation of various houses using CDBG funds. Houses within the 0.50-mi review area included structures located 0.1 mi, 0.12 mi, 0.13 mi, 0.17 mi, 0.22 mi,

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Applicant: Los Surcos	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623	City: Arecibo

and 0.51 mi from the project site. A finding of No Historic Properties was returned for these houses. The next survey was Código SHPO 02-03-14-01 had two houses within the 0.50-mi review area. The survey was for repairs of houses in cities utilizing CDBG funds in 2014. The first house was 0.19 mi from the project site, and the second house was 0.69 mi from the project site. A finding of No Historic Properties was returned. Codigo SHPO 03-02-95-02 is the next survey that was performed in the review area. The survey was for the reconstruction of various streets in the area and was conducted in 1995. Two areas were looked at, one 0.36 mi from the project site and a second 0.37 mi from the project area. The results were negative. The final survey in the area was Código SHPO 04-28-16-05 (ICP-CAT-AR-95-05-08) for repaving of streets using CDBG funds in 2016. There was one house surveyed that was 0.53 mi from the project site, but some of the archaeology survey area is inside the 0.50-mi review area. A finding of No Historic Properties was returned.

The project area is in a suburban area of Arecibo, south of Sabana Hoyos. The area is relatively flat with dense tropical vegetation. The 0.84-acre project site sits in the middle of a residential block. Vegetation is limited to trees and gardens. The building on the property dates to ca. 2006 (the owner's house), and a 2019 shed addition. These dates were determined using Google Earth (<https://www.googleearth.com>) and NETR Online (<https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer>), as well as information supplied from the owner. Buildings at the northwest corner of the top of the street date to at least 1967 (the only aerial available) and are still extant. Those buildings will be blocked from viewing the project site by tall trees. Buildings to the south of the project area that appear on 1967 aerials, are no longer standing or have been replaced.

Determination

The following historic properties have been identified within the APE:

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

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, the Program has determined that project actions will not affect historic properties that compose the Area of Potential Effect. The project area is not within or adjacent to the boundaries of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible or listed historic district or Traditional Urban Center. There are no reported archaeological materials or significant cultural properties within a

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	 GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
Applicant: Los Surcos	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623	City: Arecibo

half-mile radius of the proposed project location. No known archaeological sites or NRHP listed/eligible historic properties are within or adjacent to the property or the parcel in which the Area of Potential Effect of case PR-RGRW-02623 is located. The closest freshwater body is approximately 1831 ft (567.3 m) south southwest of the project area. The size of the proposed project activities are very small (0.044077 acres (1920 sq. ft.) and 0.000646 acres (28 sq. ft.) and construction of public roads/residential structures/agricultural infrastructure has somewhat impacted the surrounding terrain. Therefore, no impact to cultural properties is anticipated for this reconstruction project.

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM REgROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination	
Applicant: Los Surcos	
Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623	City: Arecibo

Recommendation

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

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

This Section is to be Completed by SHPO Staff Only

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

Applicant: Los Surcos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623

City: Arecibo

Project (Parcel) Location – Area of Potential Effect Map (Aerial)



REGROW PROGRAM

Project Location Area of Potential Effects (APE) Map

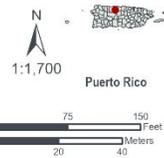
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option)
- APE (Buffer (15-meters))

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
 Rachuelo
 Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
 Parcel ID: 078-023-011-15-000
 Parcel Center:
 66.607819°W 18.3948°N

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
 accessed October 2023
 Updated: 10/10/2023
 Layout: APE
 Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps



Applicant: Los Surcos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623

City: Arecibo

Project (Parcel) Location - Aerial Map



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure A-2:
Site Vicinity**

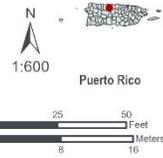
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option)

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
Riachuelo
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
Parcel ID: 078-023-011-15-000
Parcel Center:
66.607589°W 18.39482°N

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
accessed October 2023
Updated: 10/10/2023
Layout: Site Vicinity
Aprx: 72426_RegrowTier2Maps

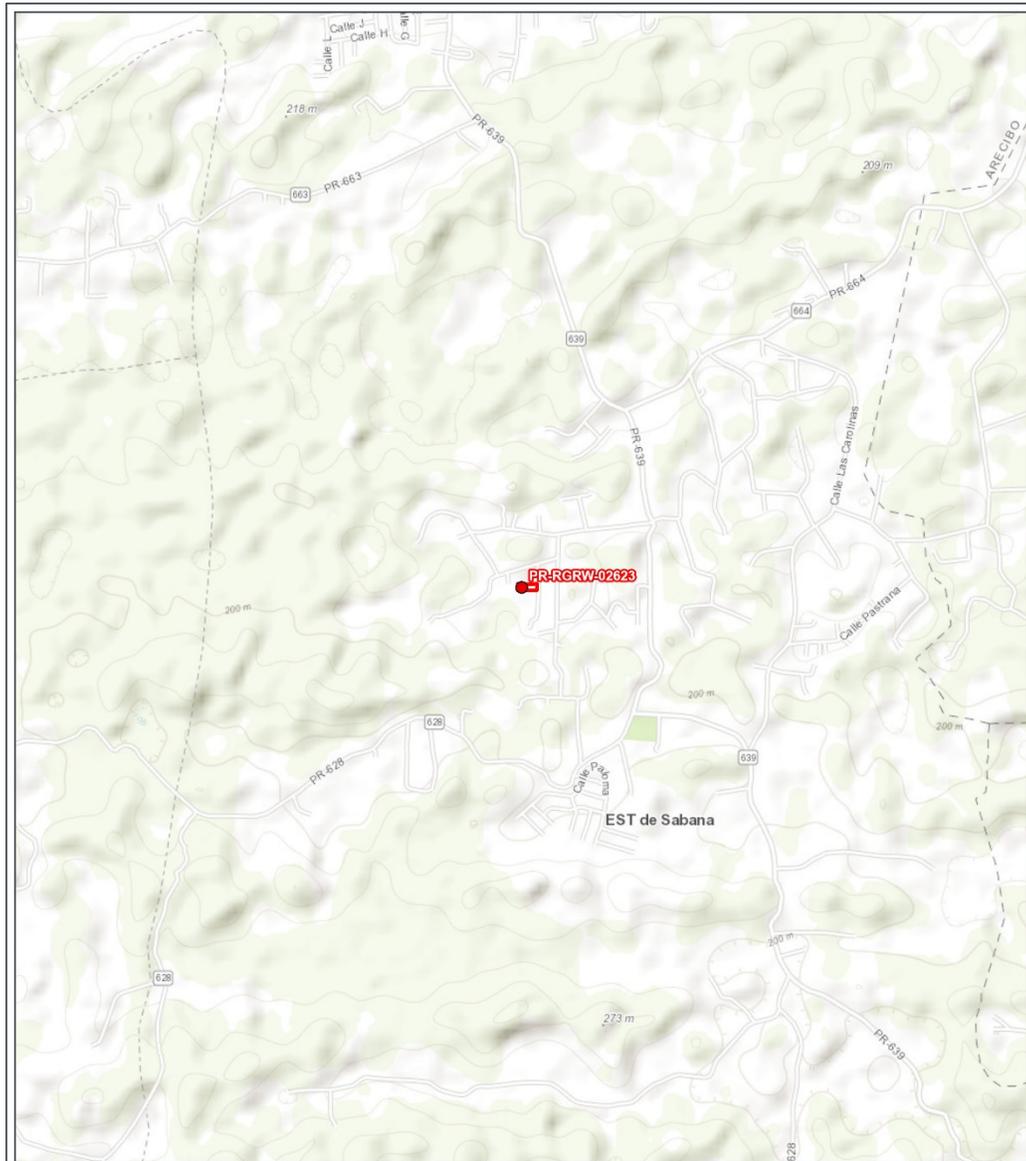


Applicant: Los Surcos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623

City: Arecibo

Project (Parcel) Location - USGS Topographic Map



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure A-1:
Site Location**

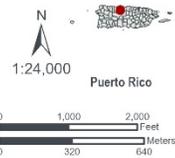
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



- Site
- Site Parcel

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
Riachuelo
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
Parcel ID: 078-023-011-15-000
Parcel Center:
66.607819°W 18.3948°N

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
accessed September 2023
Updated: 9/27/2023
Layout: Site Location
Aprx: 72426_ReGrowTier2Maps



Applicant: Los Surcos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623

City: Arecibo

Project (Parcel) Location – Soils Map (Only if Archaeology Review is Required)



REGROW PROGRAM

Figure A-2:
Site Vicinity

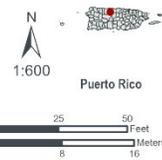
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option)

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
Riachuelo
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
Parcel ID: 078-023-011-15-000
Parcel Center:
66.607589°W 18.39482°N

Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
accessed October 2023
Updated: 10/10/2023
Layout: Site Vicinity
Aprx: 72426_RegrowTier2Maps

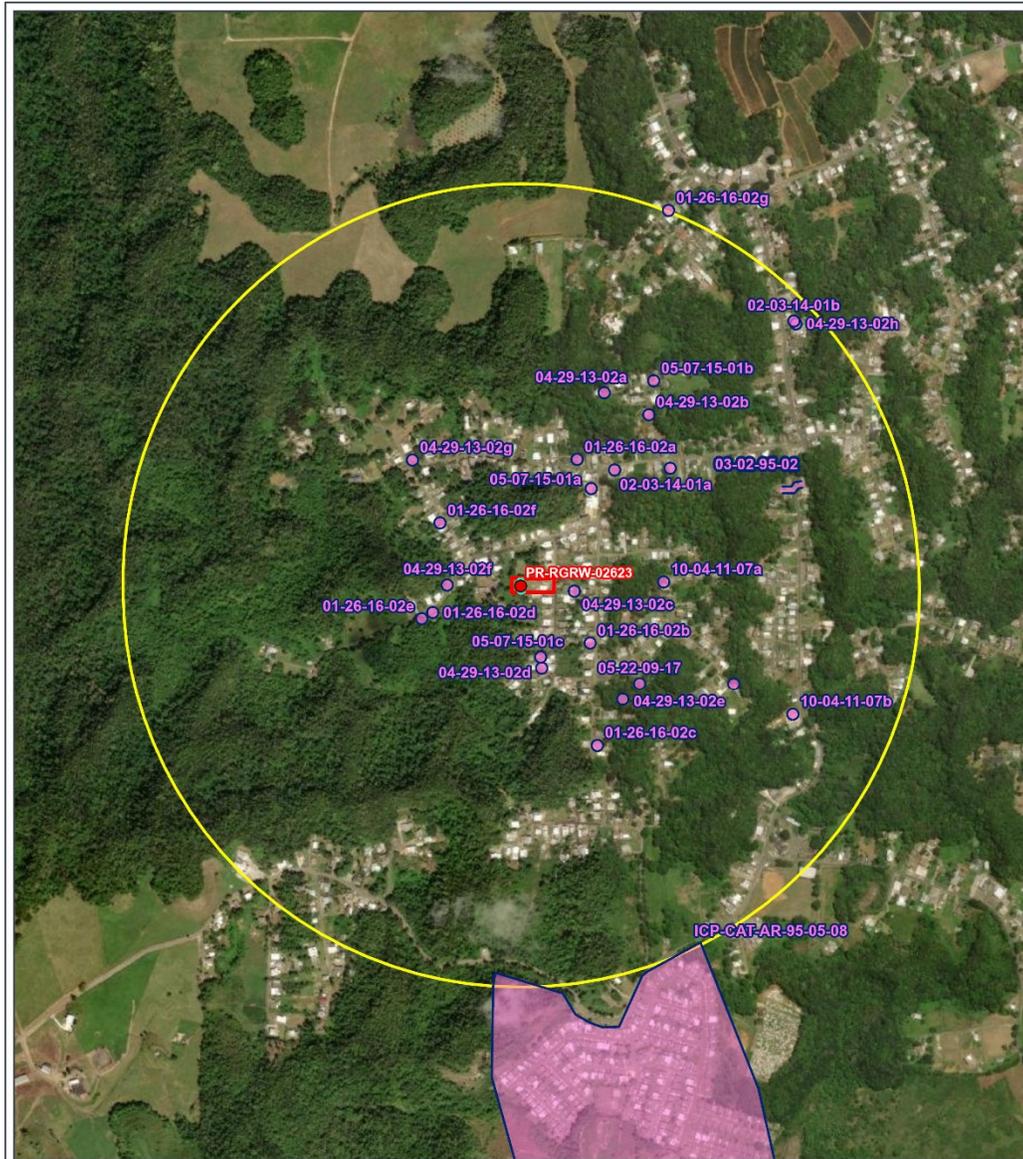


Applicant: Los Surcos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623

City: Arecibo

Project (Parcel) Location with Previous Investigations - Aerial Map



REGROW PROGRAM

Previous Investigation Map

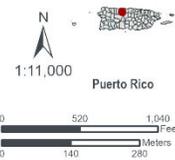
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



- Site
- ▭ Site Parcel
- ▭ Project Footprint (Option)
- ▭ Buffer (0.5-mile)
- ▭ Previously Recorded Survey
- ▭ MIPR Arqueologia
- ▭ Traditional Urban Centers

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
Riachuelo
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
Parcel ID: 078-023-011-15-000
Parcel Center:
66.607819°W 18.3948°N

Data Source: State Historic
Preservation Office and Puerto Rico
Institute of Culture
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
accessed September 2023
Updated: 9/27/2023
Layout: Previous Investigation
Aprx: 72428_RegrowTier2/Maps



Applicant: Los Surcos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623

City: Arecibo

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



REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure B 11-1:
Previously Recorded
Cultural Resources
Map**

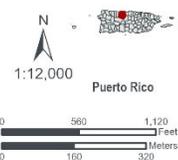
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



- | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|
| ● Site | ● National Historic Landmark | ■ Manatí Historic Zone |
| ■ Site Parcel | ■ National Register of Historic Places | ■ Miramar Historic Zone |
| ■ Buffer (0.5-mile) | ■ Historic Community | ■ Ponce Historic Zone |
| ▲ Archaeological Site | ■ Historic District | ■ San German Historic Zone |
| ■ Historical Place | ■ Arroyo Historic Zone | ■ San Juan Historic Zone |
| ★ Historic Area Point | ■ Caguas Historic Zone | ■ Vega Baja Historic Zone |
| ■ JP Historical Sites | ■ Coamo Historic Zone | ■ Traditional Urban Centers |
| ● National Register of Historic Places | ■ Guayama Historic Zone | |

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
Riachuelo
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
Parcel ID: 078-023-011-15-000 Parcel Center:
66.607819°W 18.3948°N

Data Source: State Historic Preservation Office and Puerto Rico Institute of Culture
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed September 2023
Updated: 02/27/2023
Layout: Cultural Resources
Apr: 72420_ReGrowTier2Maps



Applicant: Los Surcos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623

City: Arecibo

Photograph Key



Applicant: Los Surcos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623

City: Arecibo



Photo #: 01

Description (include direction): Southwest corner of greenhouse, looking northwest.

Date: 07/25/2023



Photo #: 02

Description (include direction): Northeast corner of greenhouse, looking southwest.

Date: 07/25/2023

Applicant: Los Surcos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623

City: Arecibo



Photo #:03

Description (include direction): Applicants house, constructed in 2006, View southeast.

Date: 07/25/2023



Photo #:04

Description (include direction): Applicants house and shed, showing the electric and solar hook-up points. House constructed 2006, shed constructed in 2019. View east.

Date: 07/25/2023

PUERTO RICO 2017 DISASTER RECOVERY, CDBG-DR PROGRAM

REGROW PUERTO RICO PROGRAM

Section 106 NHPA Effect Determination



Applicant: Los Surcos

Case ID: PR-RGRW-02623

City: Arecibo



Photo #:05

Description (include direction): Neighbor's houses ca. 1967. View northeast.

Date: 07/25/2023



October 20, 2022

Arch. Carlos A. Rubio Cancela

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

Cuartel de Ballajá Bldg.

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Re: Authorization to Submit Documents

Dear Arch. Rubio Cancela:

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

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

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

Cordially,

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

Juan C. Pérez Bofill, P.E. M.Eng

Director of Disaster Recovery

CDBG DR-MIT

Contamination and Toxics Sites Summary
Carretera 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int Riachuelo, Arecibo, PR 00688

Database	Primary ID	Facility Name	Facility Address	Secondary ID	Latitude	Longitude	Distance (ft)	Status
RCRA	110007802388	DEPT OF ED - S U JOSE RAMON RIVERA	CARR 639 KM 4.4	PR0000012781	18.391371	-66.602162	2,388.66	Listed as active. No violations identified in the last 12 quarters.
RCRA	110007816961	ESSO STANDARD OIL CO - PR SC- 130	INT RD 639 & 638	PRR000002204	18.389444	-66.603333	2,588.51	Listed as inactive. No violations identified in the last 12 quarters.



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Facility Summary

Facility/System Characteristics

Enforcement and Compliance

Environmental Conditions

Pollutants

Community

Customize Report

Environmental Media

Compliance History Timeframe

Display all statutes (default)

Monthly

Air

Quarterly

Water

Hazardous Waste

Drinking Water

Facility Summary

DEPT OF ED - S U JOSE RAMON RIVERA **Related Reports**



PR-639 KM 4.4, ARECIBO, PR 00612

[View Envirofacts Reports](#)

FRS ID: 110007802388

EPA Region: 02

Latitude: 18.391371

Longitude: -66.602162
Locational Data Source: RCRAINFO
Industries: --
Indian Country: N

Enforcement and Compliance Summary

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

Regulatory Information

Clean Air Act (CAA): No Information

Clean Water Act (CWA): No Information

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): Inactive Other, (PR0000012781)

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA): No Information

Other Regulatory Reports

Air Emissions Inventory (EIS): No Information

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (eGGRT): No Information

Toxic Releases (TRI): No Information

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

[Go To Enforcement/Compliance Details](#)

[Known Data Problems](#)

Facility/System Characteristics

Facility/System Characteristics



System	Statute	Identifier	Universe	Status	Areas	Permit Expiration Date	Indian Country	Latitude	Longitude
FRS		110007802388					N	18.391371	-66.602162
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PR0000012781	Other	Inactive ()			N	18.391371	-66.602162

Facility Address

System	Statute	Identifier	Facility Name	Facility Address	Facility County
FRS		110007802388	DEPT OF ED - S U JOSE RAMON RIVERA	PR-639 KM 4.4, ARECIBO, PR 00612	Arecibo Municipio

RCRAInfo	RCRA	PR0000012781	DEPT OF ED - S U JOSE RAMON RIVERA	CARR 639 KM 4.4, ARECIBO, PR 00688	Arecibo Municipio
----------	------	--------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------------	-------------------

Facility SIC Codes

System	Identifier	SIC Code	SIC Description
--------	------------	----------	-----------------

No data records returned

Facility NAICS Codes

System	Identifier	NAICS Code	NAICS Description
--------	------------	------------	-------------------

No data records returned

Facility Tribe Information

Reservation Name	Tribe Name	EPA Tribal ID	Distance to Tribe (miles)
------------------	------------	---------------	---------------------------

No data records returned

Enforcement and Compliance

Compliance Monitoring History Last 5 Years



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

No data records returned

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

Compliance Summary Data

Statute	Source ID	Current SNC/HPV	Current As Of	Qtrs with NC (of 12)	Data Last Refreshed
RCRA	PR0000012781	No	11/18/2023	0	11/17/2023

Three-Year Compliance History by Quarter

[Download Data](#) 

Statute	Program/Pollutant/Violation Type	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10
RCRA (Source ID: PR0000012781)		01/01-03/31/21	04/01-06/30/21	07/01-09/30/21	10/01-12/31/21	01/01-03/31/22	04/01-06/30/22	07/01-09/30/22	10/01-12/31/22	01/01-03/31/23	04/01-06/30/23
Facility-Level Status		No Violation Identified									
Violation		Agency									



Informal Enforcement Actions Last 5 Years

Statute	System	Source ID	Type of Action	Lead Agency	Date
---------	--------	-----------	----------------	-------------	------

No data records returned

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

Formal Enforcement Actions Last 5 Years

Statute	System	Law/Section	Source ID	Type of Action	Case No.	Lead Agency	Case Name	Issued/Filed Date	Settlements/Actions	Settlement/Action Date
---------	--------	-------------	-----------	----------------	----------	-------------	-----------	-------------------	---------------------	------------------------

No data records returned

Environmental Conditions

Watersheds ▾



12-Digit WBD HUC (RAD)	WBD Subwatershed Name (RAD)	State Water Body Name (ICIS)	Beach Closures Within Last Year	Beach Closures Within Last Two Years	Pollutants Potentially Related to Impairment	Watershed with ESA-listed Aquatic Species?
------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------------	---------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--	--

No data records returned

Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)

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

No data records returned

Air Quality Nonattainment Areas

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

No data records returned

Pollutants

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



TRI Facility ID	Year	Air Emissions	Surface Water Discharges	Off-Site Transfers to POTWs	Underground Injections	Disposal to Land	Total On-Site Releases	Total Off-Site Transfers
-----------------	------	---------------	--------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------	------------------	------------------------	--------------------------

No data records returned

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

Chemical Name

No data records returned

CWA Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Pollutant Loadings

[DMR and TRI Multi-Year Loading Report](#)



NPDES ID	Description
----------	-------------

No data records returned

Community

Environmental Justice

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

EJScreen Indexes Shown

Related Reports

[EJScreen Community Report](#)

Compare to US
 State

Index Type Environmental Justice
 Supplemental

[Download Data](#)

Facility 1-mile Radius

Facility Census Block Group

Census Block Group ID: 720133022011	US (Percentile)	
Supplemental Indexes	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Max

Count of Indexes At or Above 80th Percentile	5	8
Particulate Matter 2.5	--	--
Ozone	--	--
Diesel Particulate Matter	5	10
Air Toxics Cancer Risk	55	55
Air Toxics Respiratory Hazard Index	39	39
Toxic Releases to Air	78	□ 87
Traffic Proximity	76	□ 93
Lead Paint	□ 94	□ 94
Risk Management Plan (RMP) Facility Proximity	□ 99	□ 99
Hazardous Waste Proximity	□ 97	□ 98
Superfund Proximity	□ 99	□ 99
Underground Storage Tanks (UST)	0	□ 98
Wastewater Discharge	□ 97	□ 97

Demographic Profile of Surrounding Area (1-Mile Radius)



Select Demographic Profile Option:

1-Mile Radius

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

General Statistics (U.S. Census)

Total Persons	3,523
Population Density	1,163/sq.mi.
Housing Units in Area	1,474

General Statistics (ACS)

Total Persons	1,446
---------------	-------

Percent People of Color	98%
Households in Area	559
Households on Public Assistance	4
Persons With Low Income	1,204
Percent With Low Income	85%

Geography

Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.
Center Latitude	18.391371
Center Longitude	-66.602162
Land Area	100%
Water Area	0%

Income Breakdown (ACS) - Households (%)

Less than \$15,000	329 (58.65%)
\$15,000 - \$25,000	110 (19.61%)
\$25,000 - \$50,000	53 (9.45%)
\$50,000 - \$75,000	45 (8.02%)
Greater than \$75,000	24 (4.28%)

Age Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)

Children 5 years and younger	213 (6%)
Minors 17 years and younger	878 (25%)
Adults 18 years and older	2,646 (75%)
Seniors 65 years and older	463 (13%)

Race Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)

White	2,989 (85%)
-------	-------------

African-American	150 (4%)
Hispanic-Origin	3,509 (100%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	8 (0%)
American Indian	6 (0%)
Other/Multiracial	370 (11%)
Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS) - Persons (%)	
Less than 9th Grade	215 (20.13%)
9th through 12th Grade	132 (12.36%)
High School Diploma	382 (35.77%)
Some College/2-year	128 (11.99%)
B.S./B.A. or More	160 (14.98%)

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Customize Report

Environmental Media

- Display all statutes (default)
- Air
- Water
- Hazardous Waste
- Drinking Water

Compliance History Timeframe

- Monthly
- Quarterly

Facility Summary

ESSO STANDARD OIL CO - PR SC-130

CARR 639 & CARR 638 BO RAMAL - SABA NA HOYOS, ARECIBO, PR 00612

FRS ID: 110007816961

EPA Region: 02

Latitude: 18.389444

Related Reports



[View Envirofacts Reports](#)

Longitude: -66.603333
Locational Data Source: ICIS
Industries: --
Indian Country: N

Enforcement and Compliance Summary

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

Regulatory Information

Clean Air Act (CAA): No Information

Clean Water Act (CWA): No Information

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): Inactive Other, (PRR000002204)

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA): No Information

[Go To Enforcement/Compliance Details](#)

[Known Data Problems](#)

Other Regulatory Reports

Air Emissions Inventory (EIS): No Information

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (eGGRT): No Information

Toxic Releases (TRI): No Information

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

Facility/System Characteristics

Facility/System Characteristics



System	Statute	Identifier	Universe	Status	Areas	Permit Expiration Date	Indian Country	Latitude	Longitude
FRS		110007816961					N	18.389444	-66.603333
ICIS		1400004269					N	18.389444	-66.603333
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PRR000002204	Other	Inactive ()			N		

Facility Address

System	Statute	Identifier	Facility Name	Facility Address	Facility
--------	---------	------------	---------------	------------------	----------

					County
FRS		110007816961	ESSO STANDARD OIL CO - PR SC-130	CARR 639 & CARR 638 BO RAMAL - SABA NA HOYOS, ARECIBO, PR 00612	Arecibo Municipio
ICIS		1400004269	INDEPENDENT ESSO S/S 2P-130	CARR 639, RAMAL WARD, SABA NA HOYOS, ARECIBO, PR 00612	Arecibo Municipio
RCRAInfo	RCRA	PRR000002204	ESSO STANDARD OIL CO - PR SC-130	INT RD 639 & 638, ARECIBO, PR 00612	Arecibo Municipio

Facility SIC Codes

System	Identifier	SIC Code	SIC Description
No data records returned			

Facility NAICS Codes

System	Identifier	NAICS Code	NAICS Description
No data records returned			

Facility Tribe Information

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

Enforcement and Compliance

Compliance Monitoring History Last 5 Years



Statute	Source ID	System	Activity Type	Compliance Monitoring Type	Lead Agency	Date	Finding (if applicable)
No data records returned							

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

Compliance Summary Data

Statute	Source ID	Current SNC/HPV	Current As Of	Qtrs with NC (of 12)	Data Last Refreshed
RCRA	PRR000002204	No	11/18/2023	0	11/17/2023

Three-Year Compliance History by Quarter

[Download Data](#)

Statute	Program/Pollutant/Violation Type	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10
No data records returned											

RCRA (Source ID: PRR000002204)		01/01-03/31/21	04/01-06/30/21	07/01-09/30/21	10/01-12/31/21	01/01-03/31/22	04/01-06/30/22	07/01-09/30/22	10/01-12/31/22	01/01-03/31/23	04/01-06/30/23
Facility-Level Status		No Violation Identified									
Violation	Agency										

Informal Enforcement Actions Last 5 Years



Statute	System	Source ID	Type of Action	Lead Agency	Date
---------	--------	-----------	----------------	-------------	------

No data records returned

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

Formal Enforcement Actions Last 5 Years

Statute	System	Law/Section	Source ID	Type of Action	Case No.	Lead Agency	Case Name	Issued/Filed Date	Settlements/Actions	Settlement/Action Date
---------	--------	-------------	-----------	----------------	----------	-------------	-----------	-------------------	---------------------	------------------------

No data records returned

Environmental Conditions

Watersheds



12-Digit WBD HUC (RAD)	WBD Subwatershed Name (RAD)	State Water Body Name (ICIS)	Beach Closures Within Last Year	Beach Closures Within Last Two Years	Pollutants Potentially Related to Impairment	Watershed with ESA-listed Aquatic Species?
------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------------	---------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--	--

No data records returned

Assessed Waters From Latest State Submission (ATTAINS)

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

No data records returned

Air Quality Nonattainment Areas

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

No data records returned

Pollutants

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



TRI Facility ID	Year	Air Emissions	Surface Water Discharges	Off-Site Transfers to POTWs	Underground Injections	Disposal to Land	Total On-Site Releases	Total Off-Site Transfers
-----------------	------	---------------	--------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------	------------------	------------------------	--------------------------

No data records returned

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

Chemical Name

No data records returned

CWA Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Pollutant Loadings

[DMR and TRI Multi-Year Loading Report](#)



NPDES ID	Description
----------	-------------

No data records returned

Community

Environmental Justice

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

EJScreen Indexes Shown

Related Reports

Compare to US
 State

Index Type
 Environmental Justice

[EJScreen Community Report](#)

Supplemental

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Facility 1-mile Radius

Facility Census Block Group

Census Block Group ID: 720133022011	US (Percentile)	
Supplemental Indexes	Facility Census Block Group	1-mile Max
Count of Indexes At or Above 80th Percentile	5	8
Particulate Matter 2.5	--	--
Ozone	--	--
Diesel Particulate Matter	5	10
Air Toxics Cancer Risk	55	55
Air Toxics Respiratory Hazard Index	39	39
Toxic Releases to Air	78	<input type="checkbox"/> 87
Traffic Proximity	76	<input type="checkbox"/> 93
Lead Paint	<input type="checkbox"/> 94	<input type="checkbox"/> 94
Risk Management Plan (RMP) Facility Proximity	<input type="checkbox"/> 99	<input type="checkbox"/> 99
Hazardous Waste Proximity	<input type="checkbox"/> 97	<input type="checkbox"/> 98
Superfund Proximity	<input type="checkbox"/> 99	<input type="checkbox"/> 99
Underground Storage Tanks (UST)	0	<input type="checkbox"/> 98
Wastewater Discharge	<input type="checkbox"/> 97	<input type="checkbox"/> 97

Demographic Profile of Surrounding Area (1-Mile Radius)



Select Demographic Profile Option:

1-Mile Radius

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

General Statistics (U.S. Census)	
Total Persons	3,329
Population Density	1,100/sq.mi.
Housing Units in Area	1,386

General Statistics (ACS)	
Total Persons	1,334
Percent People of Color	98%
Households in Area	515
Households on Public Assistance	4
Persons With Low Income	1,120
Percent With Low Income	86%

Geography	
Radius of Selected Area	1 mi.
Center Latitude	18.389444
Center Longitude	-66.603333
Land Area	100%
Water Area	0%

Income Breakdown (ACS) - Households (%)	
Less than \$15,000	308 (59.69%)
\$15,000 - \$25,000	100 (19.38%)
\$25,000 - \$50,000	49 (9.5%)
\$50,000 - \$75,000	42 (8.14%)
Greater than \$75,000	17 (3.29%)

Age Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)	
--	--

Children 5 years and younger	196 (6%)
Minors 17 years and younger	838 (25%)
Adults 18 years and older	2,491 (75%)
Seniors 65 years and older	426 (13%)

Race Breakdown (U.S. Census) - Persons (%)

White	2,824 (85%)
African-American	145 (4%)
Hispanic-Origin	3,316 (100%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	8 (0%)
American Indian	6 (0%)
Other/Multiracial	346 (10%)

Education Level (Persons 25 & older) (ACS) - Persons (%)

Less than 9th Grade	199 (20.26%)
9th through 12th Grade	123 (12.53%)
High School Diploma	349 (35.54%)
Some College/2-year	120 (12.22%)
B.S./B.A. or More	144 (14.66%)

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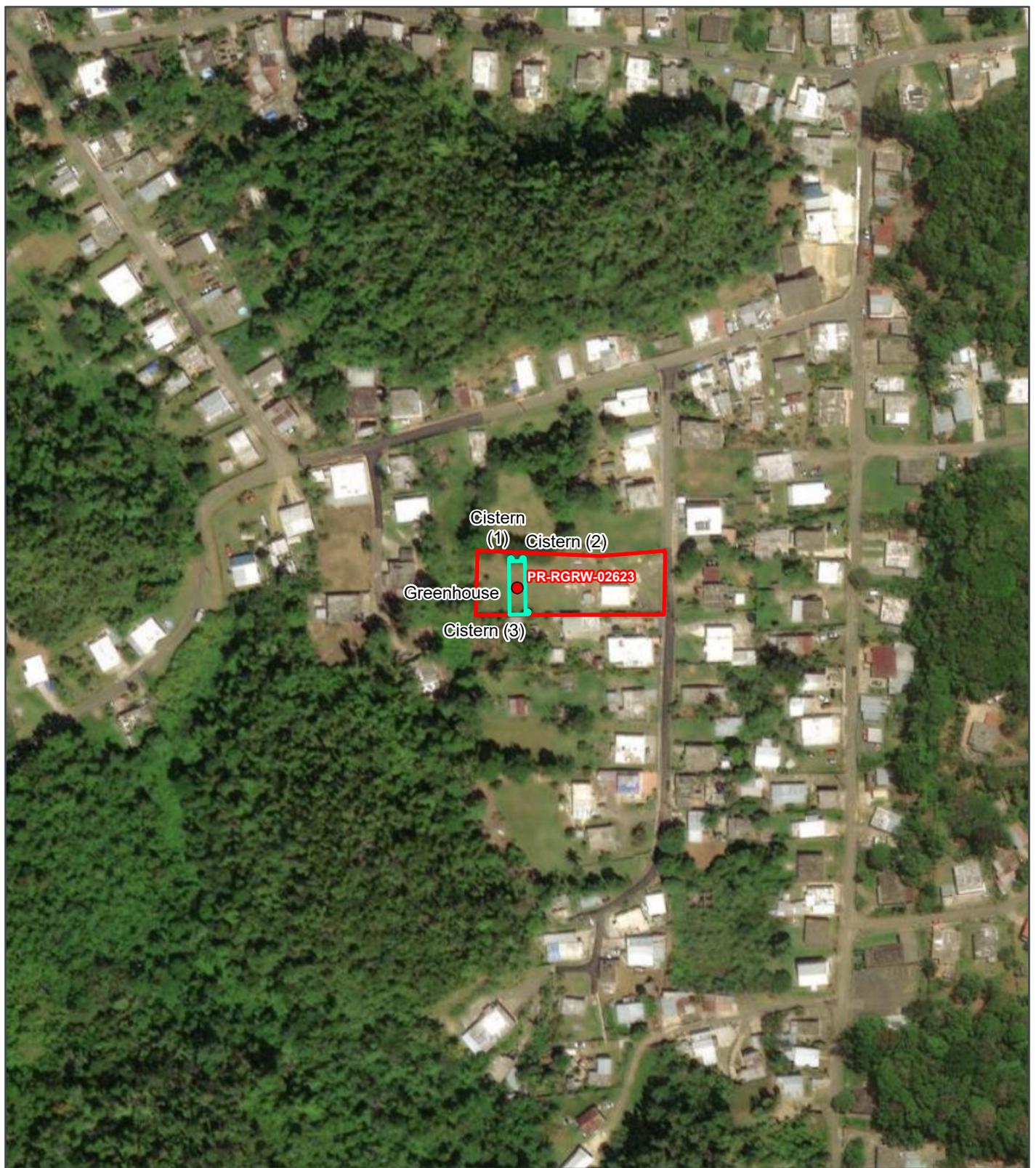
[White House](#)[Exit EPA's Website](#)

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Last updated on September 21, 2022

[Data Refresh Information](#)



REGROW PROGRAM

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

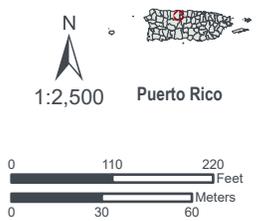
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623

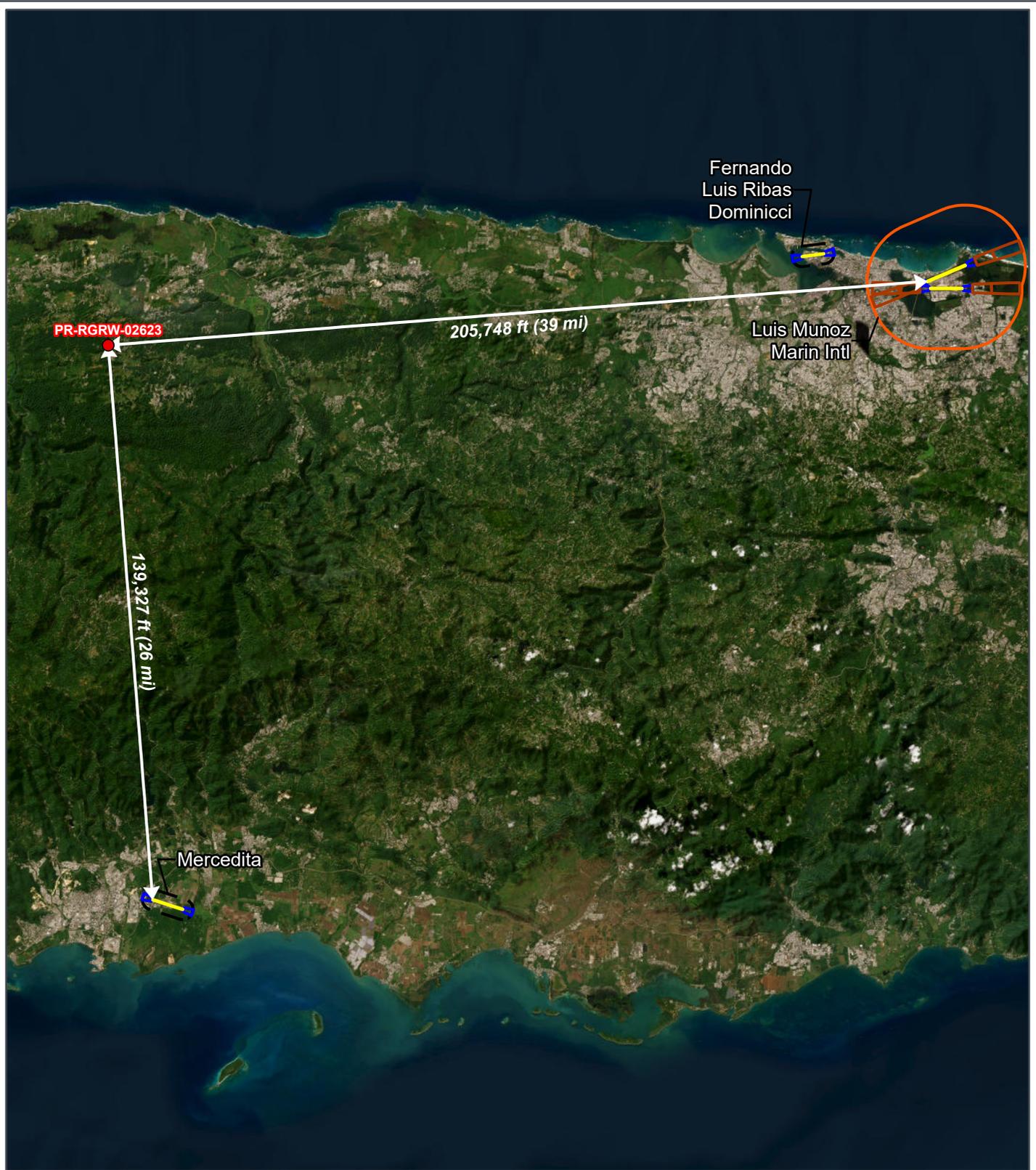


- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE)
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood
- 1% Annual Chance Flood
- Zone A
- Zone A-Floodway
- Zone AE
- Coastal A Zone and Floodway
- Zone AE-Floodway
- Zone AO
- Zone VE
- Zone X (500-year floodplain)
- Zone/BFE Boundary

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int Riachuelo
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
Parcel ID: 078-033-011-15-000
Coordinates:
18.3948, -66.607819

Data Source: https://gis.fema.gov/arcgis/rest/services/DR/PuertoRico_ABFE_1PCT/MapServer
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2023
Updated: 10/10/2023
Layout: ABFE 1Pct
Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

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

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



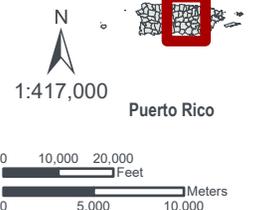
- Site
- Airport Runway
- Accident Potential Zones (APZ)
- Runway Protection Zones (RPZ)
- 2,500-FT Civil Airport Buffer
- 15,000-FT Military Airport Buffer

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
Riachuelo
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688

Parcel ID: 078-033-011-15-000
Coordinates:
18.3948, -66.607819

Data Source: <https://geodata.bts.gov/>
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
accessed July 2023

Updated: 7/28/2023
Layout: Airport Hazards
Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

Figure B 2-1: Coastal Barrier Resources Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



- Site
- Otherwise Protected Area
- System Unit

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 Riachuelo
 Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688

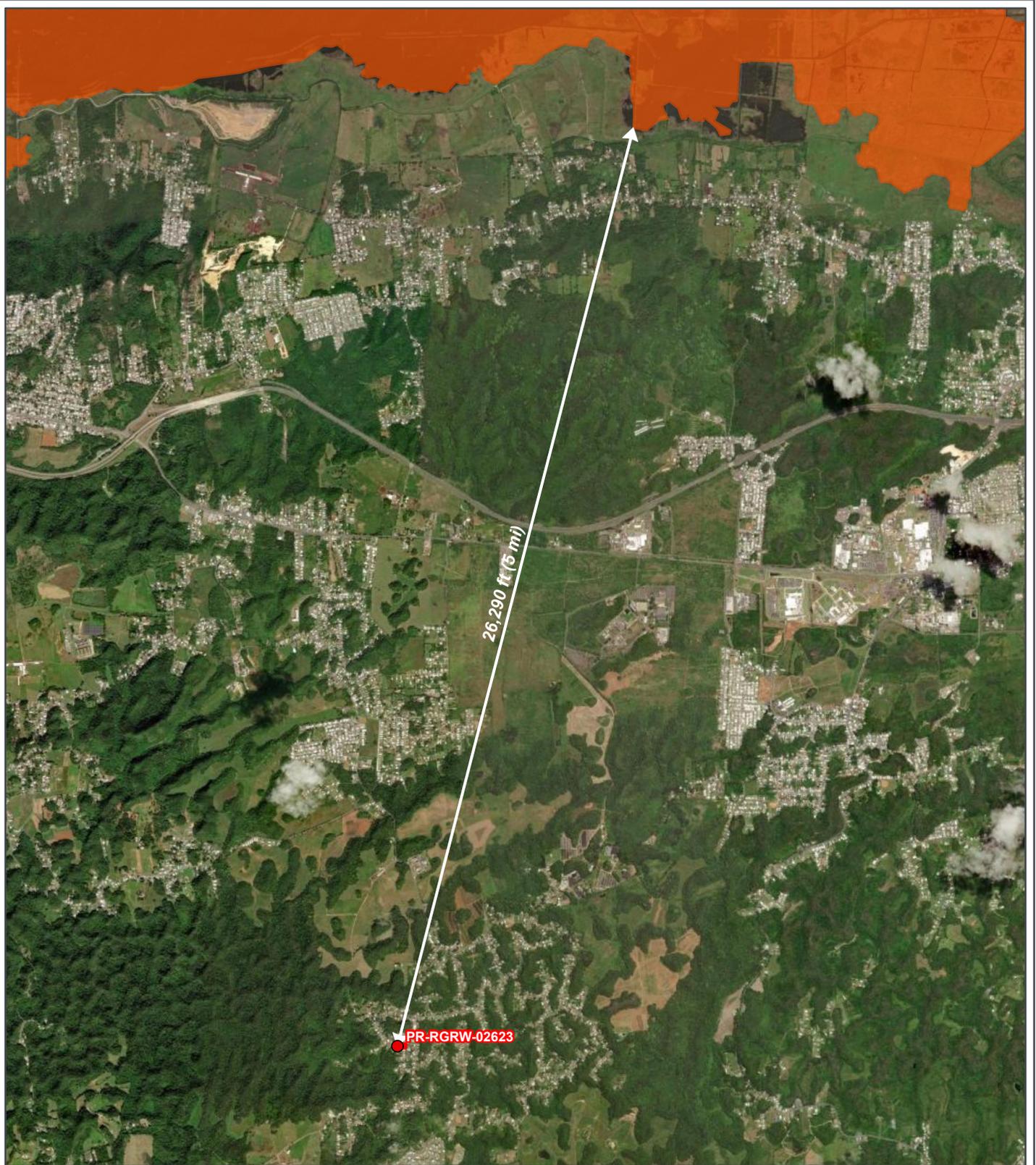
Parcel ID: 078-033-011-15-000
 Coordinates:
 18.3948, -66.607819

Data Source: <https://cbrsgis.wim.usgs.gov/arcgis/rest/services/CoastalBarrierResourcesSystem/MapServer>
 Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed July 2023
 Updated: 7/28/2023
 Layout: Coastal Barrier Resources System



1:57,000





REGROW PROGRAM

Figure B 5-1: Coastal Zone Management Map

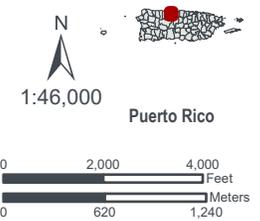
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



- Site
- Coastal Management Zone

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
 Riachuelo
 Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
 Parcel ID: 078-033-011-15-000
 Coordinates:
 18.3948, -66.607819

Data Source: <https://coast.noaa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/Hosted/CoastalZoneManagementAct/BaseMap>: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed July 2023
 Updated: 7/28/2023
 Layout: Coastal Zone Management
 Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

**Figure B 9-1:
Prime Farmland Map**

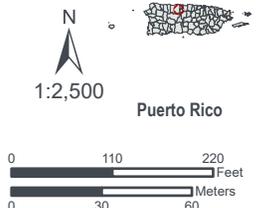
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623

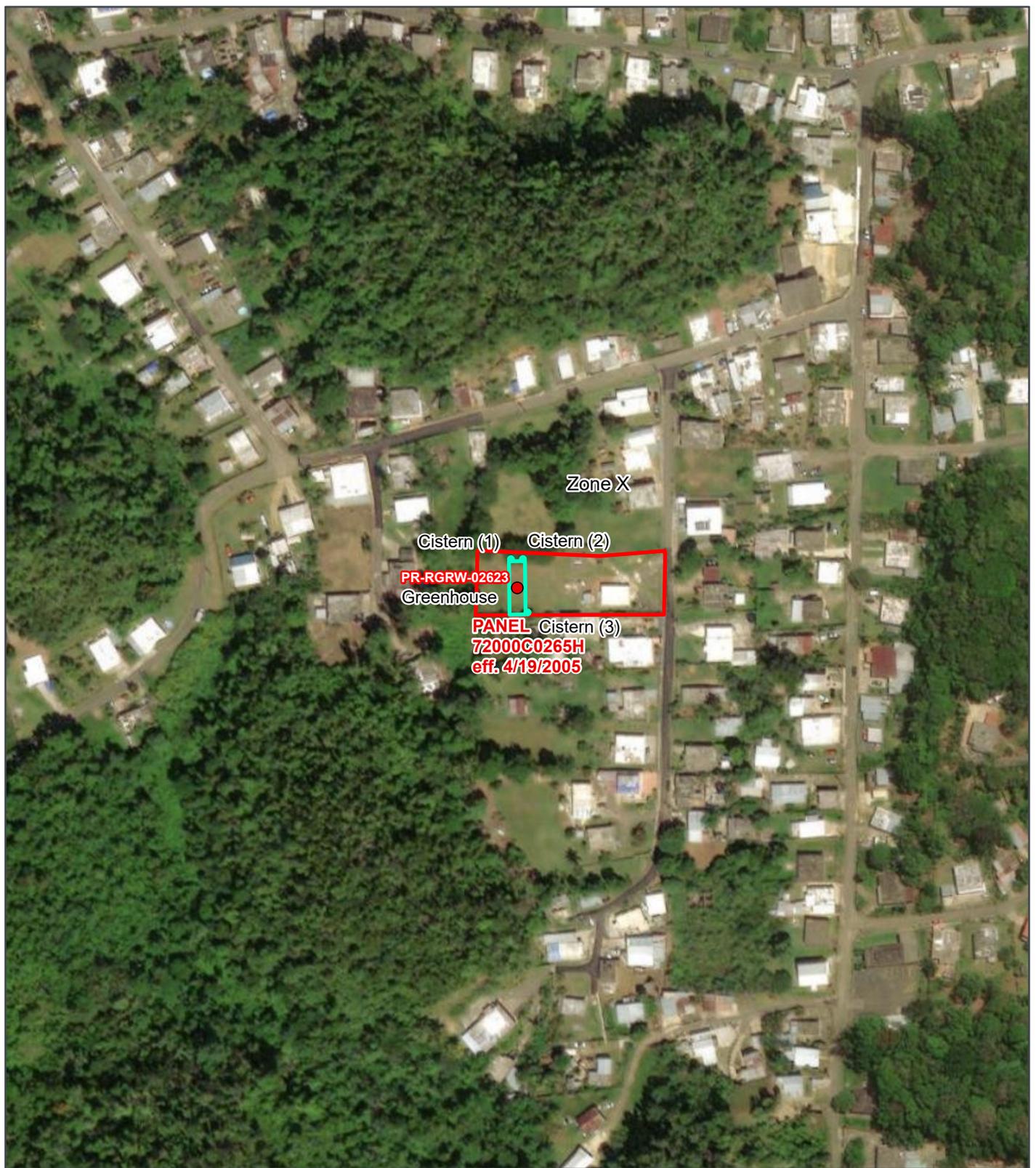


- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- All areas are prime farmland
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated
- Prime farmland if drained
- Prime farmland if irrigated
- Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
- Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
- Not prime farmland
- Not Public Information

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
Riachuelo
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
Parcel ID: 078-033-011-15-000
Coordinates:
18.3948, -66.607819

Data Source: <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online,
accessed October 2023
Updated: 10/10/2023
Layout: Prime Farmland
Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

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

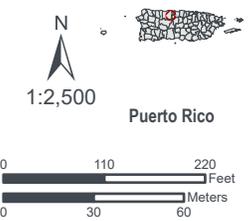
Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623

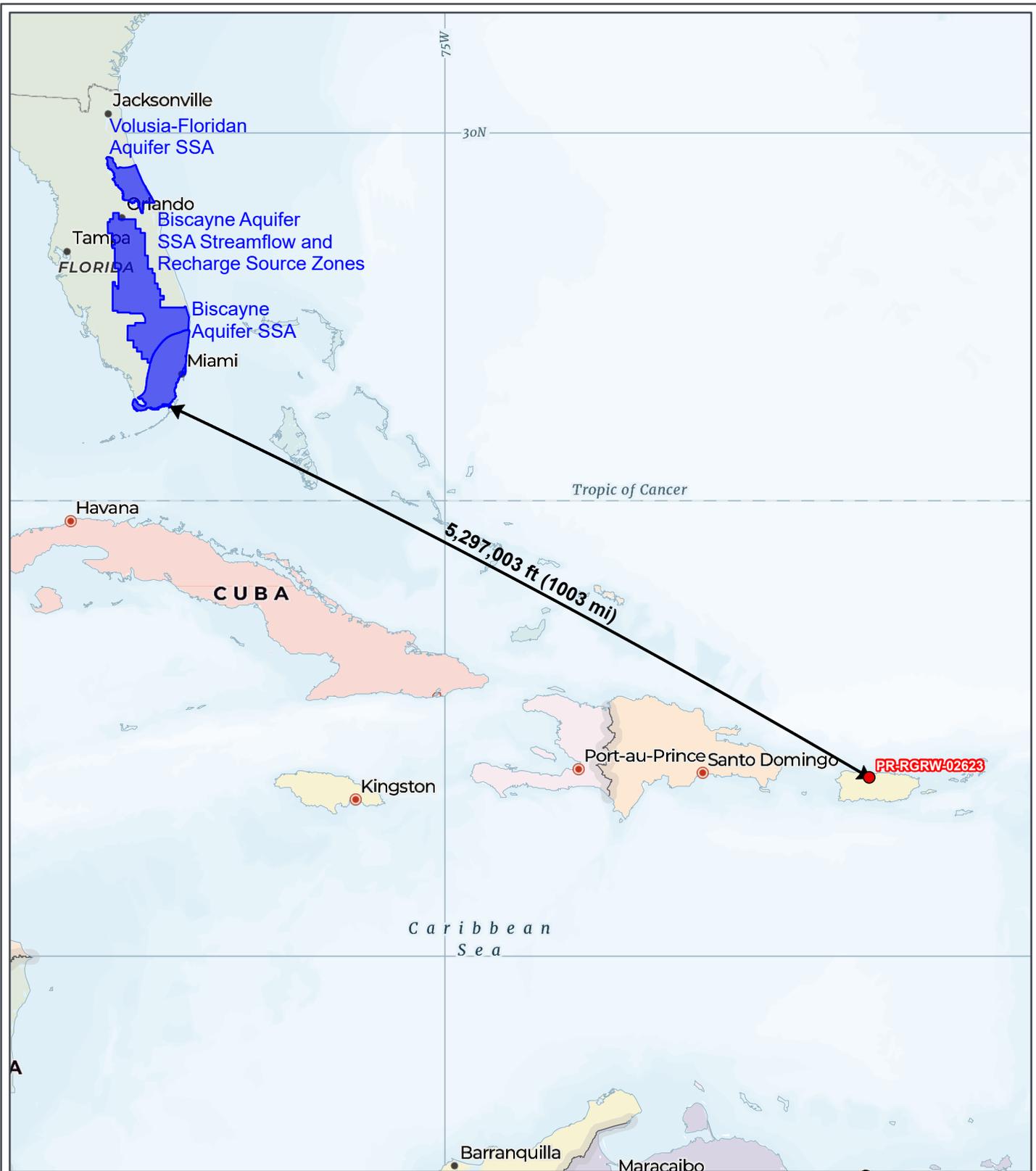


- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- Base Flood Elevations
- Zone A
- Zone AE
- Zone AH
- Zone AO
- Zone VE
- Floodway
- Zone X - Shaded (500-year floodplain)
- Zone X - Unshaded
- Area Not Included
- Open Water

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
 Riachuelo
 Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
 Parcel ID: 078-033-011-15-000
 Coordinantes:
 18.3948, -66.607819

Data Source: <https://hazards.fema.gov/gis/nfhl/rest/services/public/NFHL/MapServer>
 Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed October 2023
 Updated: 10/10/2023
 Layout: Effective Floodplain
 Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

Figure 12-1: Sole Source Aquifers Map

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623

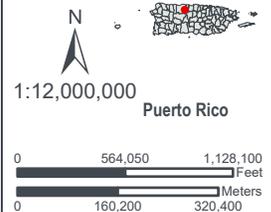


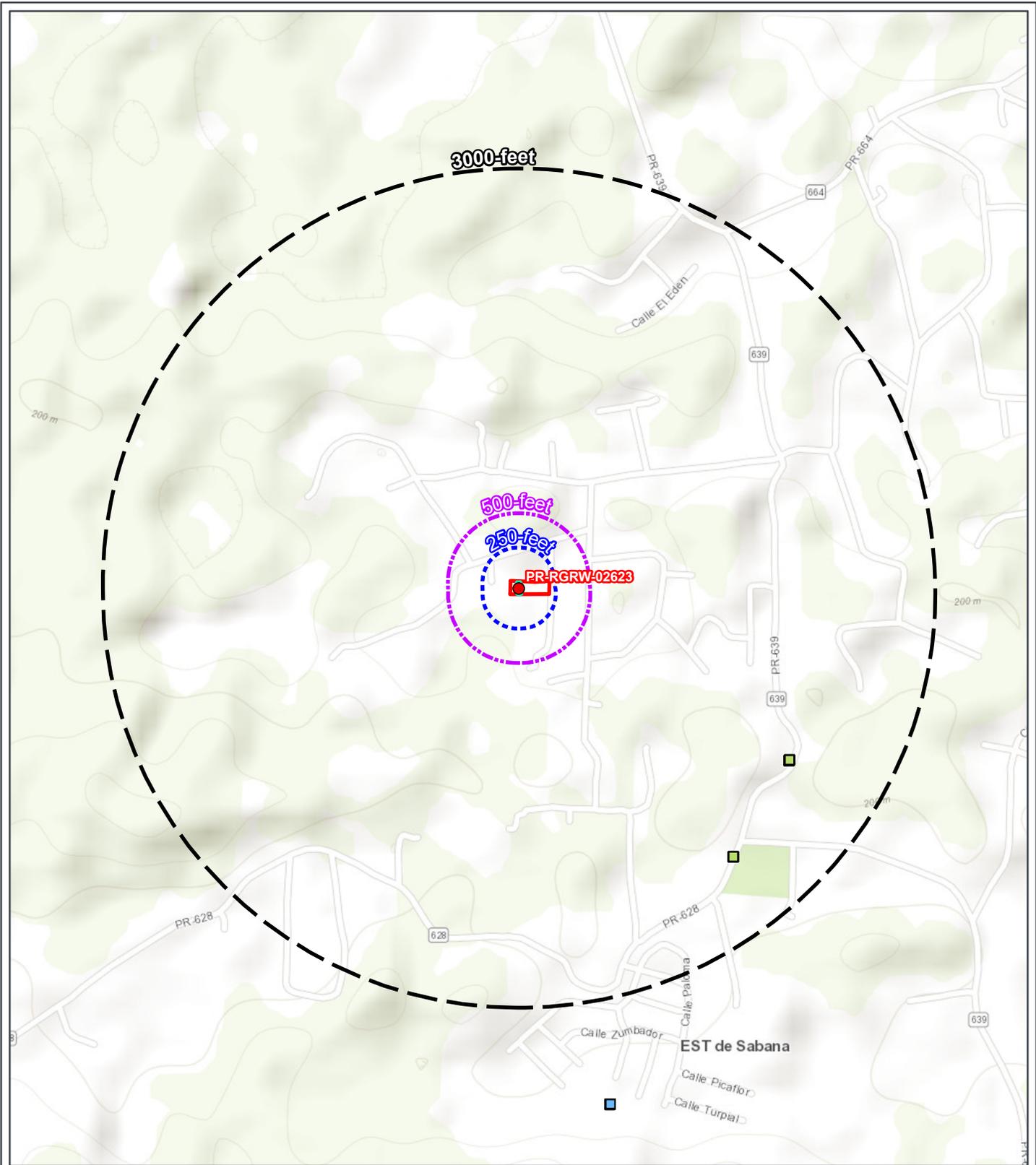
- Site
- Sole Source Aquifers

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

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int Riachuelo
 Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
 Parcel ID: 078-023-011-15-000
 Coordinates:
 18.3948, -66.607819

Data Source: <https://services.arcgis.com/cJ9YHowT8TU7DUyn/arcgis/rest/services/SoleSourceAquifers/FeatureServer>
 Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed February 2024
 Updated: 2/23/2024
 Layout: Sole Source Aquifers
 Aprx: 72428_ReGrowTier2Maps





REGROW PROGRAM

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

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



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

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

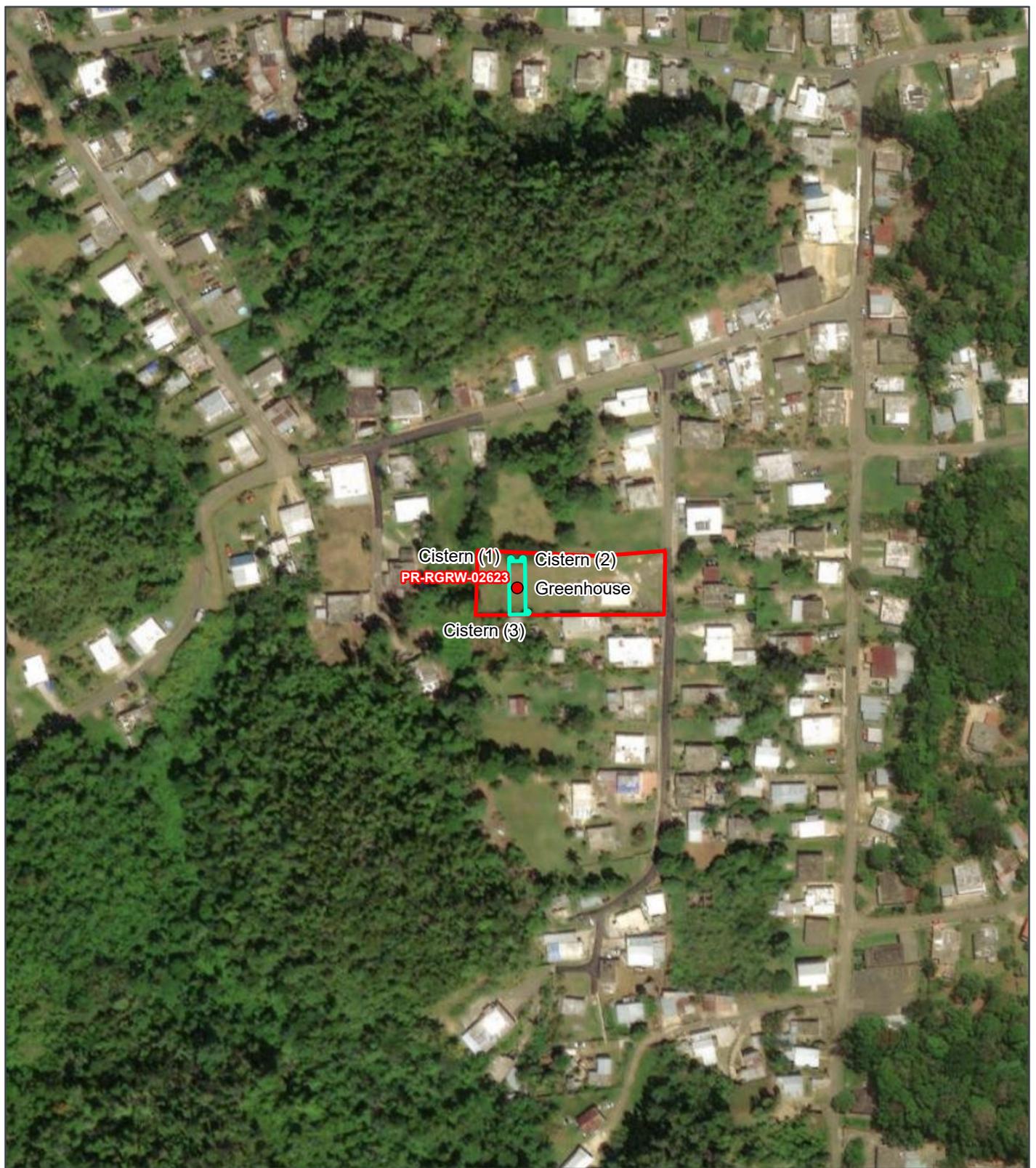
Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
Riachuelo
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
Parcel ID: 078-033-011-15-000
Coordinates:
18.3948, -66.607819

Data Source: <https://geopub.epa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/EMEF/MapServer>
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed September 2023
Updated: 9/27/2023
Layout: Contamination and Toxic Substances

1:12,000

Puerto Rico

0 560 1,120 Feet
0 160 320 Meters



REGROW PROGRAM

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

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623

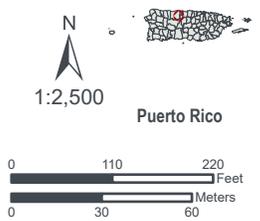


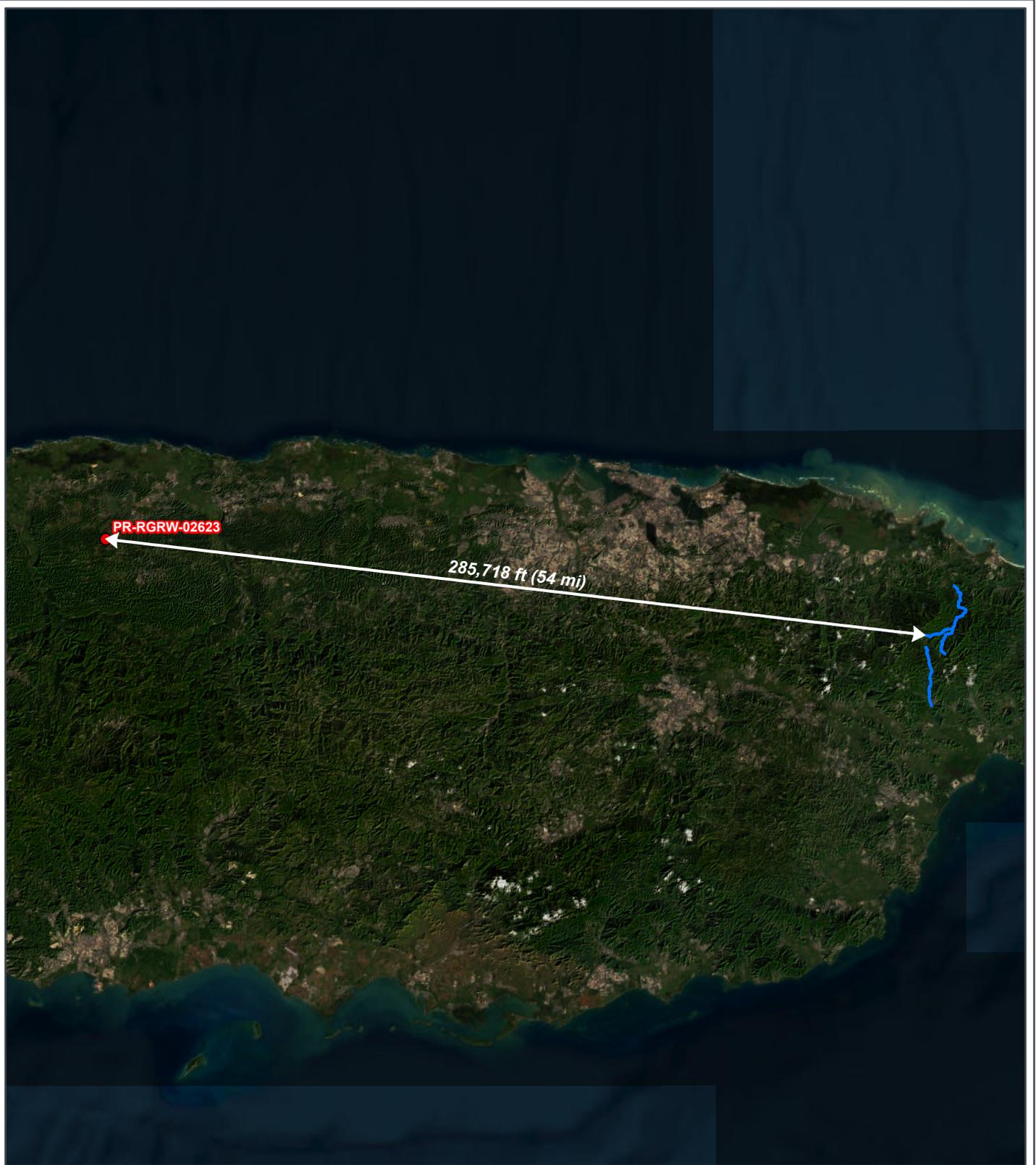
- Site
- Site Parcel
- Project Footprint (Option)
- NHD Stream
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland

- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/ Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Riverine

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Riachuelo
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688
Parcel ID: 078-033-011-15-000
Coordinates:
18.3948, -66.607819

Data Source: <https://apps.nationalmap.gov/downloader/#/https://www.fws.gov/program/national-wetlands-inventory/data-download>
Base Map: *ESRI ArcGIS Online*, accessed October 2023
Updated: 10/10/2023
Layout: Wetlands Protection





REGROW PROGRAM

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

Applicant ID: PR-RGRW-02623



- Site
- National Wild and Scenic River

Carr 2 R 639 K 4.5 Int
Riachuelo
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00688

Parcel ID: 078-033-011-15-000
Coordinates:
18.3948, -66.607819

Data Source: https://apps.fs.usda.gov/arcx/rest/services/EDW/EDW_WildScenicRiverSegments_01/MapServer
Base Map: ESRI ArcGIS Online, accessed July 2023
Updated: 7/28/2023
Layout: Wild and Scenic Rivers

