JP-833
Rev. MAR 2005

Commonwealth of Puerto Rico
Office of the Governor
Puerto Rico Planning Board
Physical Planning Area
Land Use Planning Bureau

CZ-2015-0608-084

Application for Certification of Consistency with the Puerto Rico Coastal Management Program

General Instructions:

A. Attach a 1:20,000 scale, U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangular base map of the site.

B. Attach a reasonably scaled plan or schematic design of the proposed object, indicating the following:

1. Peripheral areas
2. Bodies of water, tidal limit and natural systems.

C. You may attach any further information you consider necessary for proper evaluation of the proposal.

D. If any information requested in the questionnaire does not apply in your case, indicate by writing "N/A"(not applicable).

E. Submit a minimum of seven (7) copies of this application.

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BOX

Type of application: _____ Application Number: _____

Date received: _____ Date of Certification: _____

Evaluation result: ☐ Objection ☐ Acceptance ☐ Negotiation

Technician: _____ Supervisor: _____

Comments: _____

RECIBIDO
Unidad de Radicaciones
8 JUN 2015
RADICADO
JUNTA DE PLANIFICACION

1. Name of Federal Agency: U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
2. Federal Program Catalog Number: N/A
3. Type of Action:

☒ Federal Activity ☐ License or permit ☐ Federal Assistance

4. Name of Applicant: Maria C. Diaz

Postal Address: 90 K Street NE, Suite 911, Mailstop 1400, Washington, DC 20229-1400

Telephone: (202) 344-2129 Fax: _____

5. Project name: New Marine Facility for CBP Mayaguez Marine Unit at Boqueron, Cabo Rojo, PR
6. Physical Description of Project Location (area, facilities such as vehicular access, drainage, storm and sanitary sewer placement, etc.): Balneario de Boqueron, Puerto Rico National Parks Company. Boqueron ward, Municipality of Cabo Rojo. (See attachments)

Lambert Coordinates: X = 121964.553 Y = 220078.492

State Plane NAD83 Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands (meters)

7. Type of construction or other work proposed:

☐ drainage ☐ channeling ☐ landfill ☐ sand extraction

☐ pier ☐ bridge ☐ residential ☐ tourist

others (specify and explain) Federal facility. U.S. CBP New Marine Facility

Description of proposed work: Construction and operation of a new facility for the Office of Air and Marine Mayaguez Marine Unit on a 0.32-acre parcel. The new facility would consist of one administrative building, a boat maintenance/storage area consisting of a hangar type structure with hurricane tie downs and wash areas, exterior vehicular parking spaces, outdoor lighting, and a security fence and gate.

8. Natural, artificial, historic or cultural systems likely to be affected by the project

Place an X opposite any of the systems indicated below that are in the project area or its surroundings, which are likely to be affected by that activity. Indicate the distance from the project to any outside system that would likely be affected.

System	Within Project	Outside Project	Distance (meters)	Local name of affected system
beach, dunes				
marshes				
coral, reefs				
river, estuary				
bird sanctuary				
pond, lake, lagoon				
agricultural unit				
forest, wood				
cliff, breakwater				
cultural or tourist area				
other (explain)				

Describe the likely impact of the project on the identified system (s).

Positive ☐ Negative ☐

Explain: The Project is not likely to affect adjacent natural resources or recreational/tourist beach areas. Protection measures will be implemented during construction to avoid and minimize potential or indirect impacts to natural systems in the vicinity of the proposed Project area.

9. Indicate permits, approvals and endorsements of the proposal by Federal and Puerto Rican government agencies. Evidence of such support should be attached to the proposal.

	Yes	No	Pending	Application Number
a. Planning Board	☐	☐	☐	
b. Regulation and Permits Administration	☐	☐	☐	
c. Environmental Quality Board	☐	☐	☐	
d. Department of Natural Resources	☐	☐	☒	Habitat Categorization (O-SC-CCH01-SS-00854-27-05-2015)
e. State Historic Preservation Office	☐	☐	☐	
f. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	☐	☐	☐	
g. U.S. Coast Guard	☐	☐	☐	
h. Other (s) (specify)	☐	☐	☒	OGPe REA (2015-055865-REA-077365)

CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY THAT (project name) CBP New Marine Facility in Boqueron, Cabo Rojo, PR is consistent with the Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program, and that to the best of my knowledge the above information is true.

Maria C. Diaz
Name (legible)

Branch Manager, Eastern Region
Air and Marine Facilities Program Management Office
Position

MariaCDiaz
Signature

4/30/2015
Date

General Site Description:

The Project area and its surroundings have been affected by previous development to accommodate existing facilities related to the operation of law enforcement agencies within the area and the construction of the operational facilities of the Puerto Rico National Parks Company, as well as infrastructure including roads, electric power, sanitary, and water utilities. The Project area is flat and mostly covered by pavement. The mangroves bordering Caño Boquerón are outside of the Project boundaries. The Mayaguez Marine Unit currently operates from temporary facilities at the site. The area connects to one lighted concrete pier at Caño Boquerón used by CBP for its marine operations. Current site conditions are shown in **Attachment B: Site Photos**.

Land Use and Zoning:

The proposed Project area is located within the premises of the Balneario of Boquerón (Public Beach) and Vacation Center. This public area is managed by the Puerto Rico National Parks Company. Current land uses includes recreational and public uses. Also, marine units of law enforcement agencies, including CBP, DNER, and FURA use the area as a base of operations.

According to the zoning maps of the Territorial Plan of the Municipality of Cabo Rojo, the proposed Project area is classified as PP or "Playa Pública" (Public Beach). This zoning district is established to designate coastal areas of Puerto Rico, suitable for bathing and passive recreational activities.

The Proposed Action consists of the construction of a new marine facility for the Mayaguez Marine Unit, for which operations require direct access to piers and boat launching areas (ramps) in coastal waters. The location of this type of facility is restricted to coastal areas.

Environmental Site Description:

The topography of the Project area is flat. The geology of the area consists of beach deposits (Qb) and mangrove swamps (Qm). The soils have been classified as Bahia Salinas sand (BhB).

Based on the Flood Insurance Rate Map for the Project area, Map Number 72000C1545J (2009), the site is located in flood hazard areas subject to inundation by the 1% annual chance flood or the 100-year flood (Zone AE). A Jurisdictional Determination (JD) of Wetlands concluded that there are no wetlands under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) within the proposed Project site.

No federally or locally designated threatened or endangered species were identified within the proposed Project area. The Antillean manatee (*Trichechus manatus manatus*), a state and federal endangered species, was observed within the waters of the Caño Boquerón near (outside) the Project area. The Project area is within the Designated Critical Habitat for the yellow-shouldered blackbird (*Agelaius xanthomus*). Also, the white-crowned pigeon (*Patagioenas leucocephala*) designated as a "critical element" by the DNER in the area was observed flying over the study site. This species is fairly common within the mangrove and coastal forest in this area.

Most of the Project area has been paved and developed; therefore, natural features within the area are limited mostly to planted trees and herbaceous species common in areas subject to human use. However, the proposed Project site is located in a coastal area classified as a coastal barrier for conservation purposes[1] (PR-67P) and adjacent to important natural systems. Natural systems identified within a 400-meter perimeter from the proposed Project area include **(Attachment A: Figure 3 - Natural Systems)**:

- Caño Boquerón coastal lagoon and associated mangroves bordering the east limit of the Project area.
- Extensive wetlands areas, consisting of estuarine and marine wetlands and deep-waters. Although the USFWS National Wetland Inventory (NWI) map shows wetlands within the Balneario de Boquerón including the Project area (as shown in Figure 3), analysis of

[1] Coastal barriers classified as Otherwise Protected Areas (OPAs) are generally comprised of lands held by a qualified organization primarily for wildlife refuge, sanctuary, recreational, or natural resource conservation purposes.

The approximate footprint (square footage) of the main project components are:

- Administrative Building – 2,378 square feet (sq ft)
- Boat Maintenance/Storage Area – 1,500 sq ft

The Project area is located within a flood hazard area (Zone AE), and placing of fill will be required to elevate the proposed administrative building location above the regulatory flood level. The facility will be accessed from the main internal road of the Balneario de Boquerón, which is accessed from PR-101 km 18.5. All utilities are available within the Puerto Rico National Parks Company complex. Existing utilities in the Project area will be removed or relocated as needed to meet the design of the proposed facility. The facility will be equipped with an emergency power generator and water cistern. The Proposed Action does not include any improvement or construction in the existing dock or any construction work in U.S. Waters.

The new facility will be designed in compliance with the current CBP OAM Facility Design Standard, as applicable for the site. The proposed new facility is also intended to comply with the Guiding Principles for Federal Leadership in High Performance and Sustainable Buildings. Construction of the facility is estimated to cost approximately $1.5 million and the duration of the construction phase is estimated to last approximately 12 months. During the construction phase, the existing facilities at the site will be relocated temporarily so the Mayaguez Marine Unit can continue its operations from the area.

Protection measures to be implemented during construction to avoid and minimize potential or indirect impacts to natural systems in the vicinity of the proposed Project area include:

- Development and implementation of a Sediment and Erosion Control Plan (SECP) and stormwater pollution prevention measures to minimize pollutants in stormwater runoff. during construction activities.
- A spill prevention and response plan that describes planning, prevention, and control measures to minimize impacts resulting from a spill of any hazardous materials would be implemented
- No dredge, fill, equipment, or any material will be placed on jurisdictional areas.

ATTACHMENTS (3)

Attachment A: Location Maps

Attachment B: Site Photos

Attachment C: Conceptual Site Layout

Attachment A: Location Maps

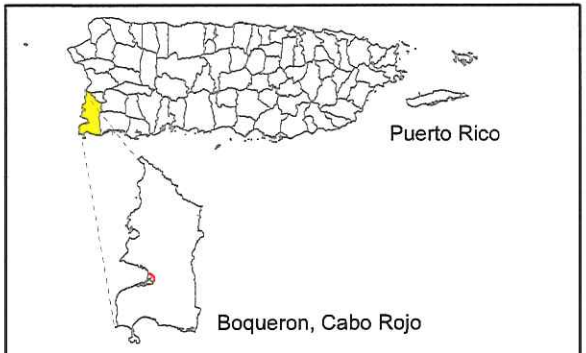
Figure 1. Location Map

Environmental Assessment for CBP New Marine Facility, Cabo Rojo, PR

SALO Engineering, PSC

0 170 340 680 1,020 Meters

1:20,000



Legend

Project Limit (0.32 acres)

Sources:
U.S. Geological Survey [USGS]. 1966. Puerto Real Topographic Quadrangle.

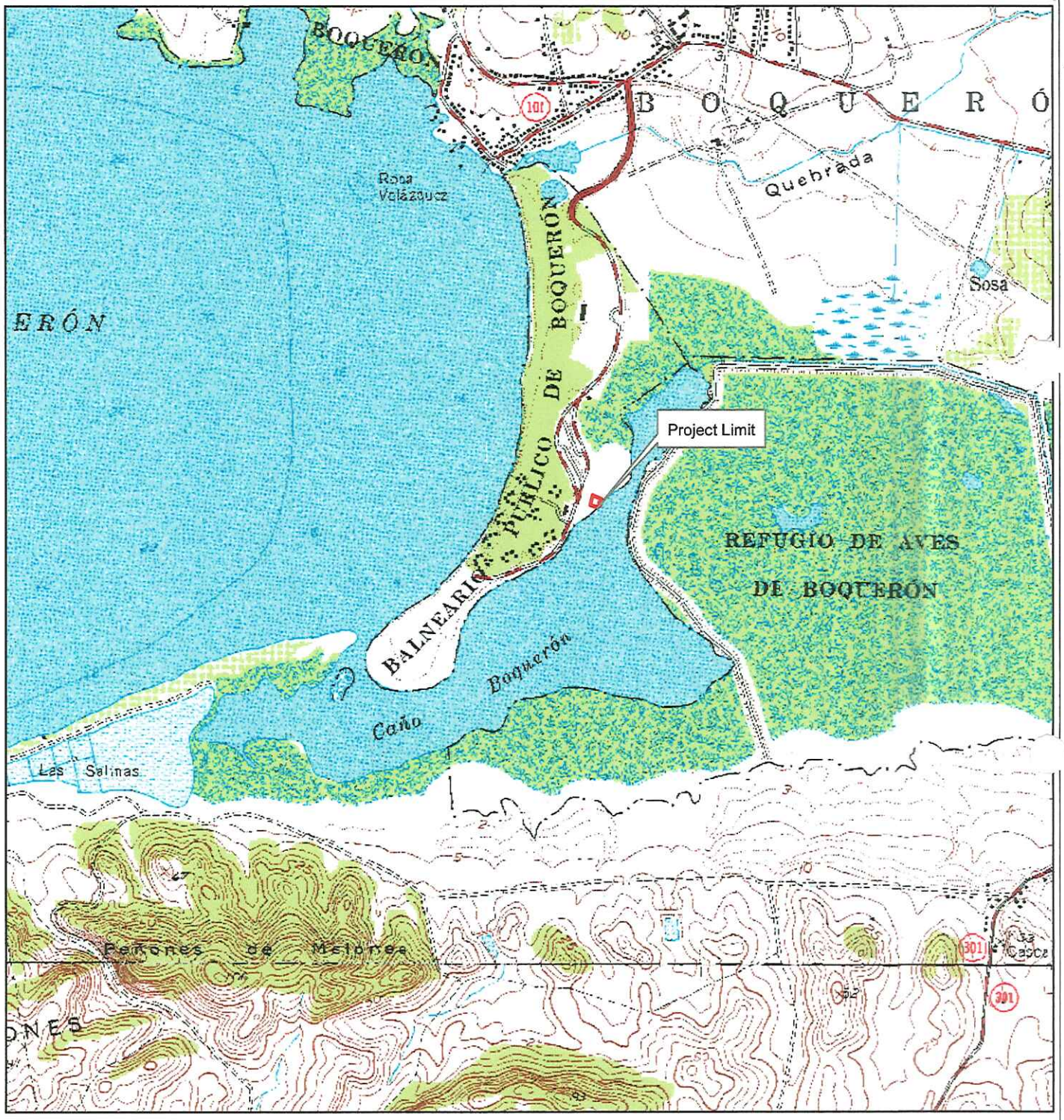


Figure 2. Aerial Photo

Environmental Assessment for CBP New Marine Facility, Cabo Rojo, PR

SALO Engineering, PSC

0 10 20 40 60 Meters

1:1,000

Legend

Project Limit (0.32 acres)

Sources:
Aerial Images 2009-2010 from UPR-Graduate School of Planning, PR Planning Board, VITO Belgium, FugroEarth Data Inc.

Figure 3. Natural Systems

Environmental Assessment for CBP New Marine Facility, Cabo Rojo, PR

SALO Engineering, PSC

0 80 160 320 480 Meters

1:10,000

N W E S

Legend

- Project Limit (0.32 acres)
- Hydrography
- Coastal Barrier
- Wetlands (USFWS-NWI)
- Wildlife Refuge (DNER)
- 400 Meters Perimeter

Sources:
Aerial Images 2009-2010 from UPR-Graduate School of Planning, PR Planning Board, VITO Belgium, FugroEarth Data Inc.
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2010. National Wetlands Inventory website. U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C.
Protected Natural Areas. DNER 2010.
Hydrography. Plan de Agua. DNER.