



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

Project Evaluation Process and Compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act Training

June 19 & July 20, 2018

San Juan, Puerto Rico

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Field Office



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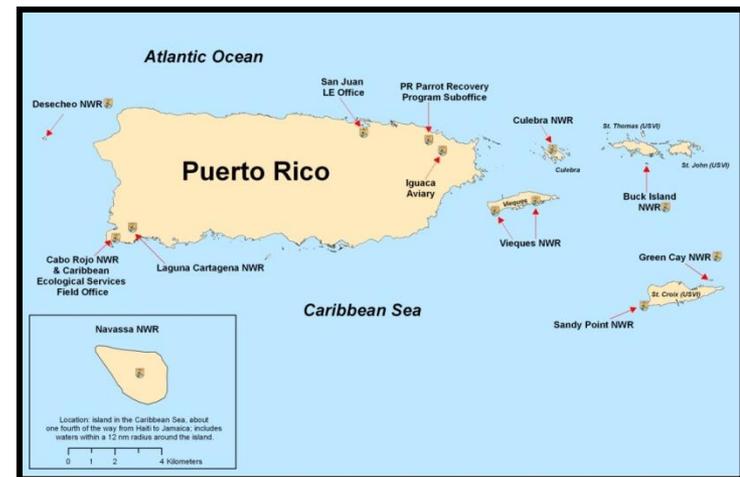


Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office

U.S. Fish and Wildlife in the Caribbean

Three divisions in the U.S. Caribbean – 60 employees

- ***Caribbean Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex – 9 refuges***
- ***Law Enforcement Division / Airport Inspector***
- ***Ecological Services***
 - ***Puerto Rican Parrot Recovery Program – Rio Grande Station***
 - ***Field Office – Boquerón Station***
 - ***Endangered Species Program***
 - ***Habitat Restoration Programs (PFW & CP)***
 - ***Habitat Conservation and Contaminants Program***





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Our Mission:

...to work with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.



Catesbaea melanocarpa



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Legal Authorities

- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act - FWCA
- Coastal Barriers Resource Act - CBRA
- Marine Mammal Protection Act - MMPA
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act – MBTA
- Partners for Fish and Wildlife Act - PFW
- Endangered Species Act - ESA



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What do we do in Puerto Rico and USVI?

- List, Recover and Re-classify Threatened and Endangered Species
- Promote Priority Recovery Actions to Conserve Listed Species
- Conduct Section 7 Consultations for Projects with Federal Nexus
- Provide Technical Assistance on Non-Federal Projects with Potential Impacts to Listed Species
 - Local Agencies and consultants
 - Promote the Implementation of Conservation Measures



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What do we do in Puerto Rico and USVI? Continue....

- Provide Technical and Economic Incentives to Restore Habitats to Benefit Listed Species
 - Coastal Program – Public and Private lands
 - Partners for Fish and Wildlife – Private lands only
- Provide technical assistance and expertise on oil spill responses, cleanup activities, and Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration actions (NARDAR)



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Review of Development Projects

- Federal Nexus – Projects with Federal funds, permits or actions (HUD, RD, USACE, EPA, FEMA, FCC, DTOP, among others)
- State or Territorial Projects – Projects submitted by local agencies and consultants



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What You Will Learn on This Training

- What is Section 7 of the ESA and what are the Basic Steps for compliance with Section 7
- What are the minimum requirements of a project packages for Section 7 Consultation
- Learn about Expedited Processes currently available for low effect projects to comply with Section 7 consultation of the ESA
- Proactive Conservation Measures for Listed Species
- Learn about tools available for effective consultation

Agenda

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|-----------------|--|
| 9:15 - 9:45 am | Inter-agency coordination for future reconstruction actions following the passage of Hurricanes Irma & María, FEMA |
| 9:45 -10: 30 am | Consultation Process under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act - José Cruz Burgos, Endangered Species Program Coordinator, CESFO. |
| 10:30-11:00 am | Break |
| 1:00-11:45 am | Expedited processes to comply with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and proactive conservation measures for the conservation of threatened and endangered species - Marelisa Rivera, Deputy Field Supervisor, CESFO |
| 11:45 - 1:15 pm | Lunch |
| 1:15 – 2:00 pm | Use of Ipac and other cyber tools for an effective consultation - Angel Colón, CESFO |
| 2:00 – 2:30 pm | Section 7 consultation for the former Roosevelt Roads Naval Base- an example of a valid consultation in Puerto Rico - Marelisa Rivera |
| 2:30 - 3:30pm | Discussion, question and answers. |