



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT
701 SAN MARCO BOULEVARD
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32207-8175

Planning and Policy Division
Environmental Branch

August 3, 2020

Ms. Rose Ortiz Díaz
Coastal Zone Management Consistency
Office Puerto Rico Planning Board
P.O. Box 41119,
Minillas Station
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00940

Dear Ms. Ortiz Díaz:

I have enclosed seven copies of the application for Certification of Consistency with the Puerto Rico Coastal Management Program for the San Juan Metropolitan Area (Back Bay) Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) Study in Cataño, Guaynabo and San Juan, Puerto Rico. This study evaluates reducing damages to infrastructure due to coastal flooding from storm surge and waves as a result of coastal storms and hurricanes. The Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) consists of flooding and wave action reducing features for 5 reaches, West San Juan Bay -1B (WSJB-1B), WSJB-2, WSJB-3, WSJB-4 and Condado Lagoon – 1 (CL-1).

Both Structural and Natural and Nature-Bases Features (NNBF) are included in the proposed TSP consisting of approximately: 2.0 miles of levees, 6.7 miles of seawall/floodwall and 1 storm surge/sluice gate for structural features, and approximately 2.3 miles of elevated living shoreline and 0.7 miles of breakwaters for NNBF. Upon final design, functional lift provided from the construction of the NNBF features would be incorporated into the mitigation plan. The final determination in terms of the quantity and siting of any compensatory mitigation would be conducted during the water quality certification (WQC) process in the Pre-Construction Engineering and Design (PED) Phase of the project when site-specific survey data and the final designs are available.

The following additional information on this project is available on the internet http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/About/DivisionsOffices/Planning/EnvironmentalBranch/EnvironmentalDocuments.aspx#Puerto_Rico:

1. The Notice of Availability of the Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact
2. The Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment
3. Maps, drawings, and other information

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has determined that the TSP as proposed in the draft IFR/EA is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the Puerto Rico Coastal Management Program. If you have any questions, please contact Alberto Alvarado at 904-232-1238 (Alberto.O.Alvarado@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,



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Angela E. Dunn
Chief, Environmental Branch

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COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FEDERAL
CONSISTENCY EVALUATION PROCEDURES

SAN JUAN METROPOLITAN AREA, SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

Applicability of the Coastal Zone Management Act.

The following table summarizes the process and procedures under the Coastal Zone Management Act for Federal Actions and for non-Federal Applicants*.

Item	Non-Federal Applicant (15 CFR 930, subpart D)	Federal Action (15 CFR 930, subpart C)
Enforceable Policies	Reviewed and approved by NOAA	Same
Effects Test	Direct, Indirect (cumulative, secondary), adverse or beneficial	Same
Review Time	6 months from state receipt of Consistency Certification (30-days for completeness notice) Can be altered by written agreement between State and applicant	60 Days, extendable (or contractible) by mutual agreement
Consistency	Must be Fully Consistent	To Maximum Extent Practicable
Procedure Initiation	Applicant provides Consistency Certification to State	Federal Agency provides "Consistency Statement" to State
Appealable	Yes, applicant can appeal to Secretary (NOAA)	No (NOAA can "mediate")
Activities	Listed activities with their geographic location (State can request additional listing within 30 days)	Listed or Unlisted Activities in State Program
Activities in Another State	Must have approval for interstate reviews from NOAA	Interstate review approval NOT required
Activities in Federal Waters	Yes, if activity affects state waters	Same

* There are separate requirements for activities on the Outer Continental Shelf (subpart E) and for "assistance to an applicant agency" (subpart F).

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

General Instructions:

- B. Attach a 1:20,000 scale, U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangular base map of the site.
- C. 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.
- D. You may attach any further information you consider necessary for proper evaluation of the proposal.
- E. If any information requested in the questionnaire does not apply in your case, indicate by writing "N/A"(not applicable).
- F. 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:ObjectionAcceptanceNegotiation

Technician:Supervisor:

1. Name of Federal Agency: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District

2. Federal Program Catalog Number: 12.106 Flood Control Projects CFDA

Comments:

- 3. Type of Action:

☒Federal Activity

☐License or permit

☐Federal Assistance
 - 4. Name of Applicant: Angela E. Dunn, Environmental Branch Chief for US Army Corps of Engineers

Postal Address: 701 San Marco Blvd. Jacksonville, FL 32207-8175

Telephone: 904-232-2336Fax: 904-232-3442
 - 5. Project name: San Juan Metro Area, PR (Back Bay) Coastal Storm Risk Management
 - 6. Physical Description of Project Location (area, facilities such as vehicular access, drainage, storm and sanitary sewer placement, etc.): The project will cover locations in the periphery of the San Juan Bay, like Palmas (WSJB-2), Vista del Morro, Marina Bahía (WSJB-1B), Bahía, Cataño Pueblo and La Puntilla in Cataño, Vietnam y Sabana in Guaynabo (WSJB-3) to Puerto Nuevo (WSJB-4) and the Condado Lagoon (CL-1) in San Juan.
- Lambert Coordinates:

X = 3124481.54 meters

Y = 1762201.13 meters

7. Type of construction or other work proposed:

☐ drainage

☐ channeling

☐ landfill

☐ sand extraction

☐ pier

☐ bridge

☐ residential

☐ tourist

others (specify and explain): Seawalls/floodwalls, levees, a Storm Surge gate, Elevated Living shoreline and Breakwaters.

Description of proposed work: Construction of 1 mile of seawalls, 1 mile of levees and 0.7 miles of elevated Living shoreline in WSJB-1B. 1 Storm Surge gate, 0.6 miles of levee and 0.2 miles of seawall in WSJB-2. 0.4 miles of elevated Living shoreline, 4 miles of seawalls and 0.7 miles of breakwaters in WSJB-3. Construction of 1.4 miles of seawalls and 0.3 miles of levee in WSJB-4, and 1.26 miles of Elevated Living shoreline in CL-1 (Figure 1). Overall, 1 Storm Surge gate, approximately 6.7 miles of seawalls/floodwalls, approximately 2.3 miles of Elevated Living shoreline, approximately 2.0 miles of levees and approximately 0.7 miles of Breakwaters.

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		X	>150m	La Playita del Condado.
mangroves, wetlands	X	X	0 m	Condado Lagoon, La Esperanza.
coral, reefs		X	>250m	
river, estuary	X			La Malaria Channel, Río Puerto Nuevo,
bird sanctuary				
pond, lake, lagoon	X			Condado Lagoon.
agricultural unit				
forest, wood				
cliff, breakwater				
cultural or tourist area	X	X	0 m	La Esperanza Park, Cataño-San Juan Ferry Terminal, Condado Lagoon Park.
other (explain) Submerged Aquatic Vegetation	X	X	0 m	

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

Positive ☒

Negative ☒

Explain:

The construction of the structural features in these 5 reaches is estimated to have a direct impact on 11.8 acres of SAV, 11.3 acres of mangroves and 3.5 acres of freshwater wetlands. As for other systems within the project area, the impacts will be controlled, localized, temporary and minimized through Best Management Practices (BMPs) and methods. These impacts such as turbidity will only last as long as construction takes place. Meanwhile, the construction of the NNBF is estimated to create 23.5 acres of habitat through the Elevated

Living shoreline and potentially an additional 7 acres of habitat with the breakwaters. This would result in the direct impact of 26.6 acres of habitat and the creation of 30.5 acres of new habitat. The new habitat area are expected from the construction of Elevated Living shoreline in WSJB-1B, WSJB-3, by the La Esperanza Park, and CL-1 on the Condado Lagoon (Figure 1).

No direct or indirect impacts are expected to reefs or other systems outside the project area. Impacts are not expected as BMPs and methods to manage the construction will be implemented. Prior to any construction activity turbidity controls such as turbidity curtains, silt fences, and other Best Management Practice measures must be installed. Final details for BMPs and methods will be determined during the permitting and contracting process.

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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b. Regulation and Permits Administration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
c. Environmental Quality Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
d. Department of Natural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
e. State Historic Preservation Office	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SHPO No.: 12-27-18-01
f. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
g. U.S. Coast Guard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
h. Other (s) (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY THAT (project name) San Juan Metro CSRM Study is consistent with the Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program, and that to the best of my knowledge the above information is true.

Angela E. Dunn

Name (legible)

Chief, Environmental Branch

Position

Signature

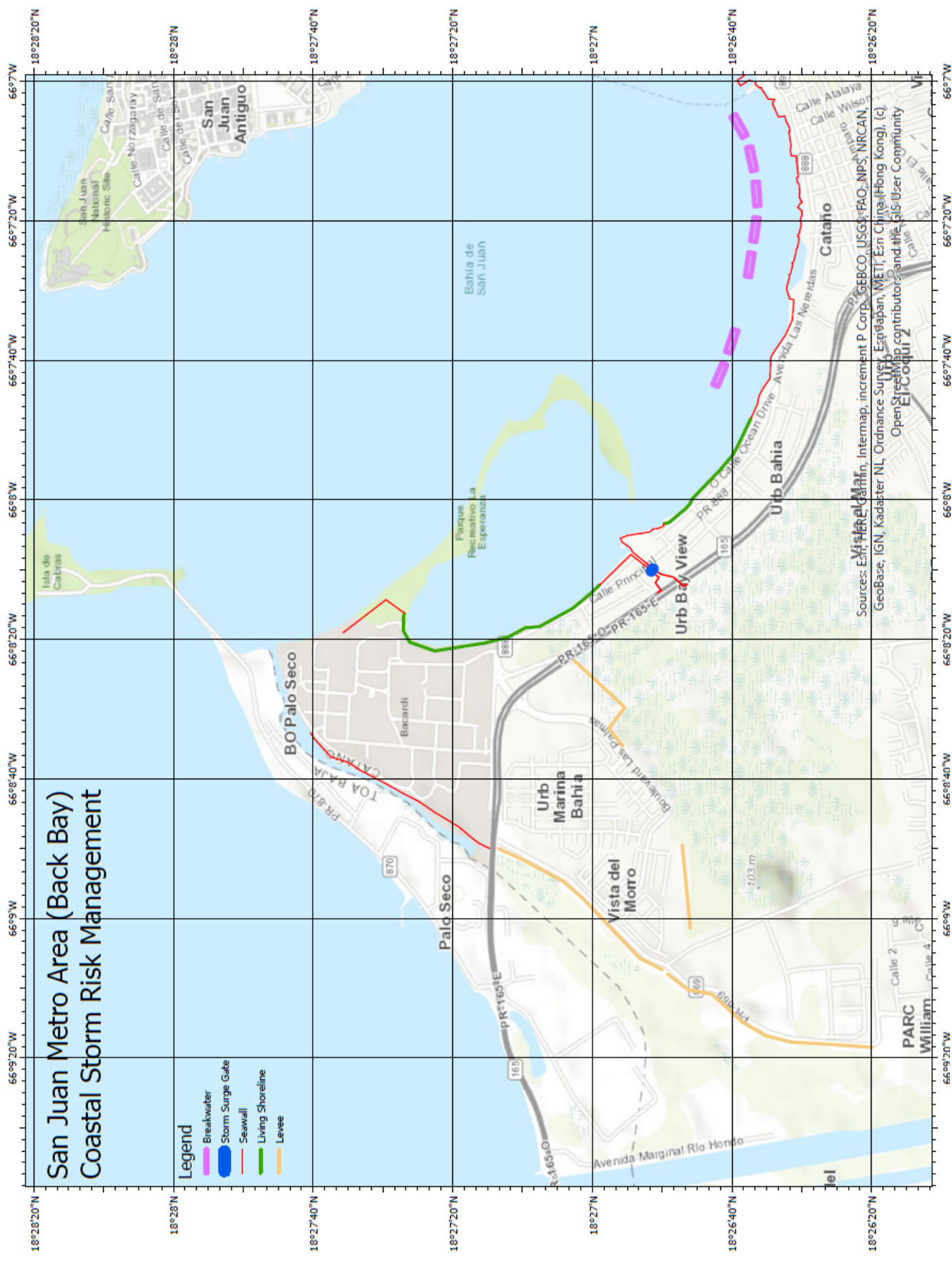
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Date

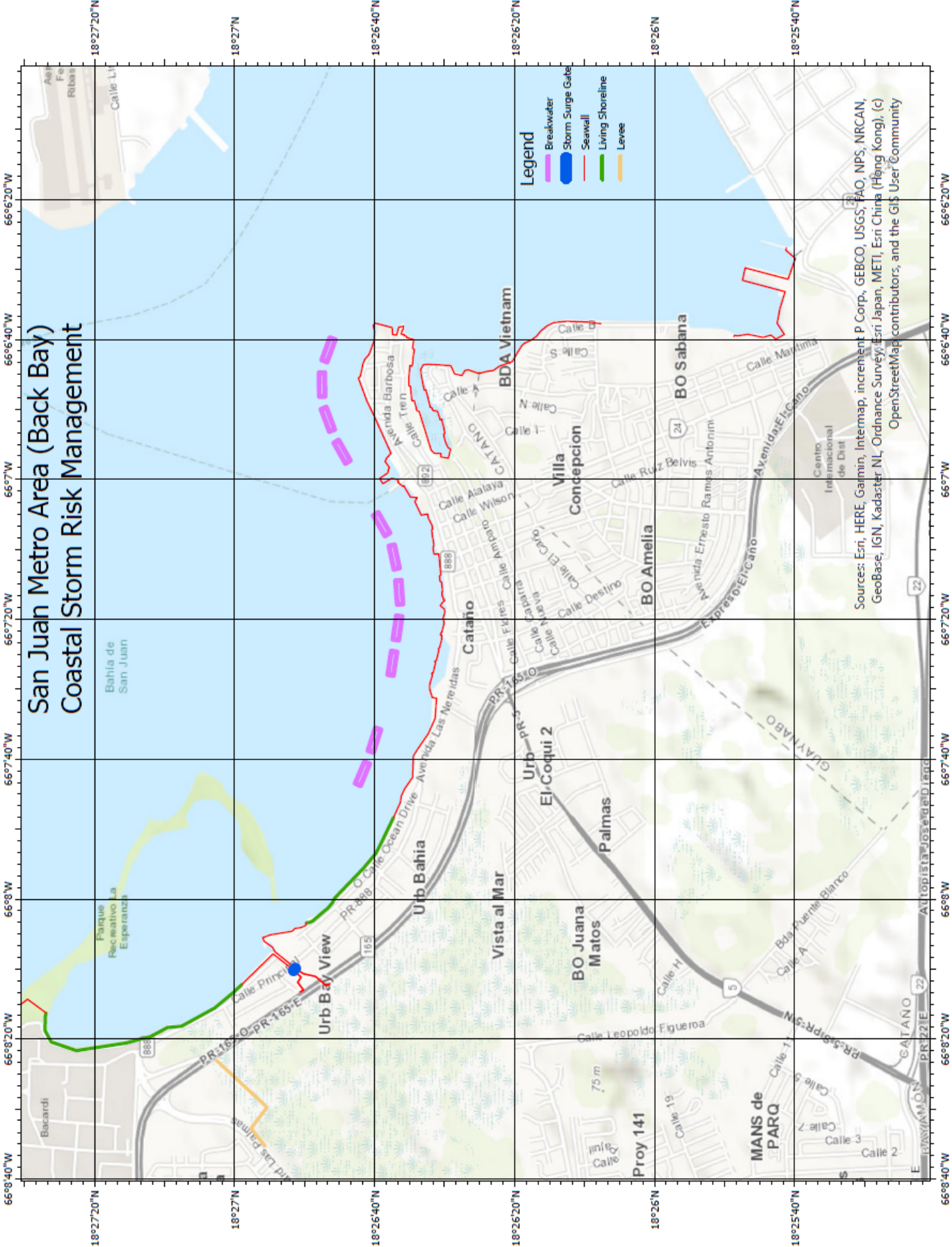
San Juan Metropolitan Area (Back Bay), Puerto Rico



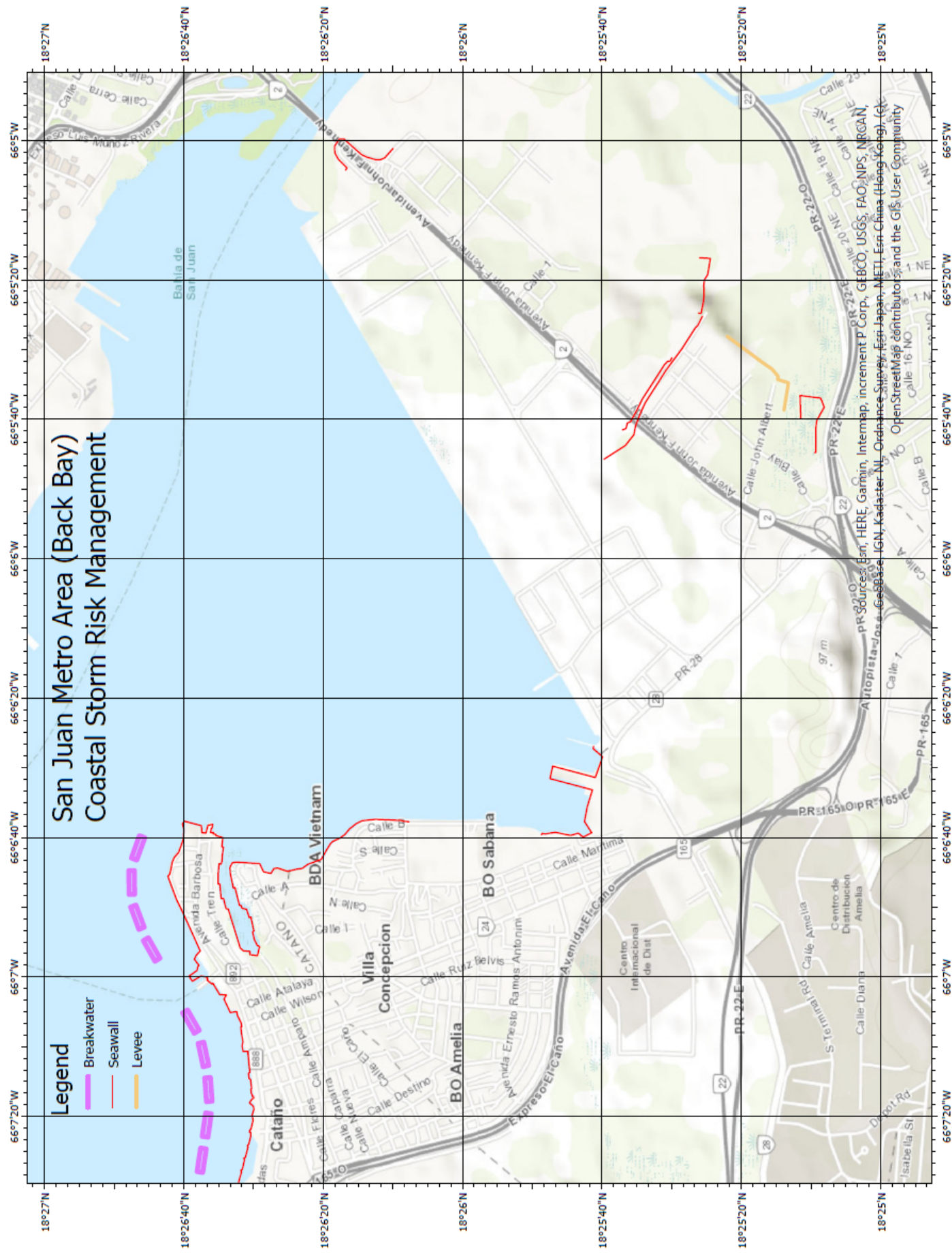
Figure 1. San Juan Metropolitan Area (Back Bay) Structural, Non-structural and NNBF alternatives in 5 reaches.



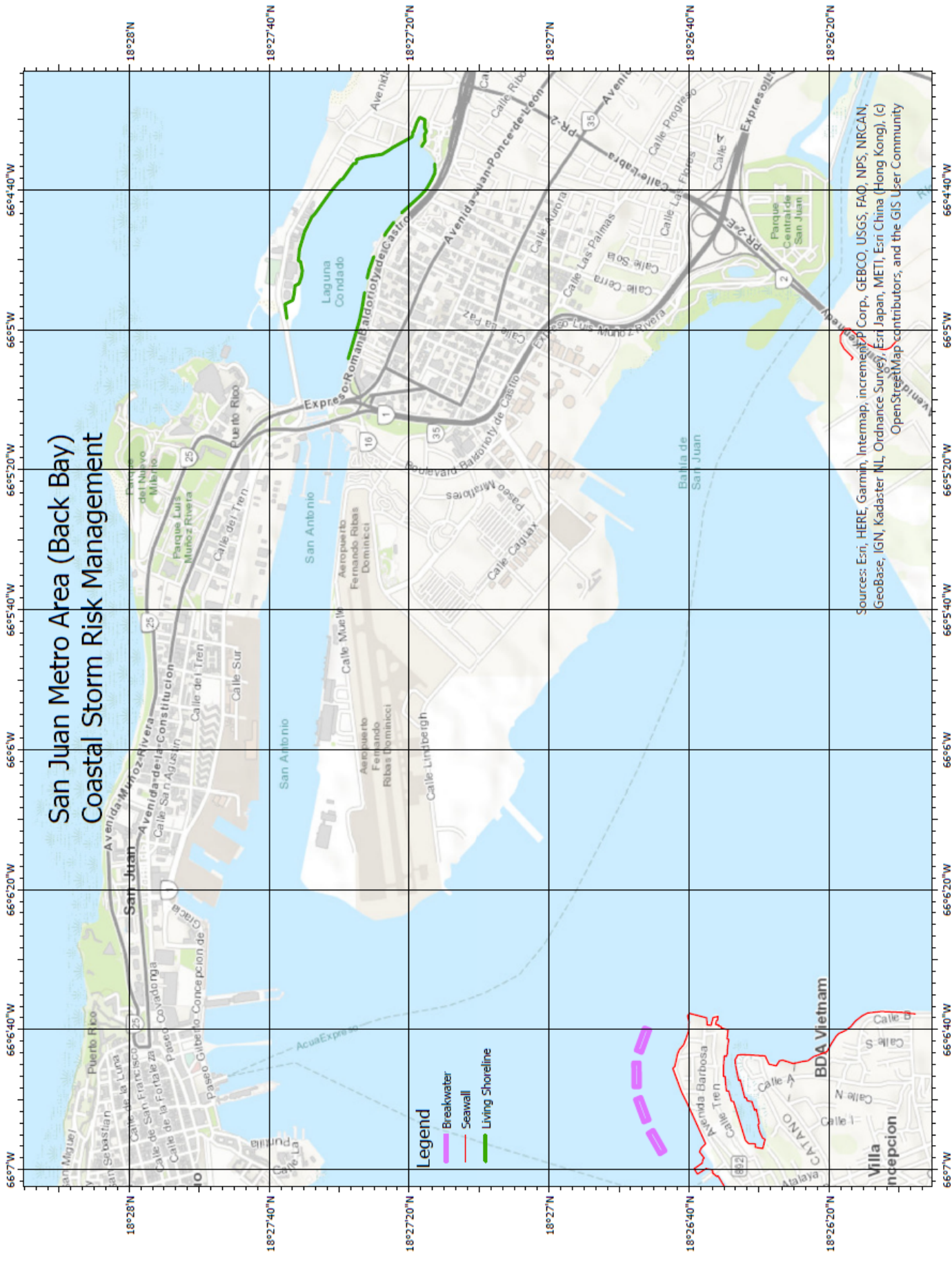
Map 1a. San Juan Metro Area 1:20,000 scale topographic map.



Map 1b. San Juan Metro Area 1:20,000 scale topographic map.



Map 1c. San Juan Metro Area 1:20,000 scale topographic map.



Map 1d. San Juan Metro Area 1:20,000 scale topographic map.