

## **APPENDIX B – COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT CONSISTENCY DETERMINATION**



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**CORPS OF ENGINEERS, JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT**  
**701 SAN MARCO BOULEVARD**

Planning and Policy Division  
Environmental Branch

October 29, 2021

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

Dear Ms. Ortiz:

I have enclosed seven copies of the application for Certification of Consistency with the Puerto Rico Coastal Management Program for the San Juan Harbor Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Mitigation Project (2021). This project provides an opportunity to reconcile 1.2 acres (ac) of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) compensatory mitigation associated to Puerto Nuevo Channel widening activities in 2001. The Preferred Alternative consists of mobilizing 260,000 cubic yards (cy) of dredge material from surrounding areas west of Cut-6 adjacent to San Juan Harbors' (SJH) navigation channel. Material is to be placed within an approximately 18-ac area Condado Lagoon, restoring artificial dredge holes to depths of -12 to -15 feet.

Dredge activities would take place concurrently with the San Juan Harbor Navigation Improvements Project approved in 2018. To obtain enough suitable material a 15-ac area west of Cut-6, outside of the navigation channel, would be dredged. This area was not originally included in the 2018 Improvements Project. Methods to mobilize material from SJH may include the use of a scow barge and pumping a slurry through a floating and/or submerged pipeline. A water quality certification (WQC) will be obtained prior to construction activities within SJH and Condado Lagoon. Counter measures would be implemented to ensure construction activities do not exceed water quality requirements.

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](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 Supplemental Environmental Assessment
3. Maps, drawings, and other information

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has determined that the Preferred Alternative as proposed in the draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment 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 Paul DeMarco at 904-232-1897 ([paul.m.demarco@usace.army.mil](mailto:paul.m.demarco@usace.army.mil)).

Sincerely,

Angela E. Dunn  
Chief, Environmental Branch

Encls

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:

- 1. Name of Federal Agency: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District
- 2. Federal Program Catalog Number: 12.107, Navigation Projects
- 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: 904-232-2336 Fax: 904-232-3442

5. Project name: San Juan Harbor Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Mitigation (2021)

6. Physical Description of Project Location (area, facilities such as vehicular access, drainage, storm and sanitary sewer placement, etc.): The project is located west of the navigation channel at Cut-6 and includes transportation of sand material through the San Antonio Channel into Condado Lagoon. Material would be transported via floating and/or submerged pipeline or other floatation equipment.

Lambert Coordinates: X = 232,381.691 meters Y = 269,636.662 meters

7. Type of construction or other work proposed:

<input type="checkbox"/> drainage	<input type="checkbox"/> channeling	<input type="checkbox"/> landfill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sand extraction
<input type="checkbox"/> pier	<input type="checkbox"/> bridge	<input type="checkbox"/> residential	<input type="checkbox"/> tourist

others (specify and explain): Beneficial dredge material associated with the SJH Navigation channel would be extracted and placed in Condado Lagoon, to include a 15-acre (ac) area west of Cut-6.

Description of proposed work: The project provides an opportunity to reconcile 1.2-ac of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) compensatory mitigation associated to Puerto Nuevo Channel widening activities in 2001. The Preferred Alternative consists of mobilizing 260,000 cubic yards (cy) of dredge material from surrounding areas west of Cut-6 of San Juan Harbors' (SJH) navigation channel (Figure 1). Material is to be placed within an approximately 18-ac area Condado Lagoon, restoring artificial dredge holes to depths of -12 to -15 feet (Figure 2).

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				
mangroves, wetlands				
coral, reefs				
river, estuary				
bird sanctuary				
pond, lake, lagoon	X		0m	Condado Lagoon.
agricultural unit				
forest, wood				
cliff, breakwater				
cultural or tourist area	X	X	>100m	Peninsula De Condado.
other (explain) Submerged Aquatic Vegetation	X	X	10m	Condado Lagoon.

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

Positive ☒ Negative ☐

Explain:

The use of sandy dredge material to be placed within artificial dredge holes of Condado Lagoon (Figure 2) would be used to reconcile 1.2 ac of mitigation associated to the Puerto Nuevo Channel from 2001. Approximately 18 ac of artificial dredge holes within the Lagoon would be filled to depth of -12 to -15 feet. Thus, restoring the seabed to conditions in which SAV could be established. Seabed restoration efforts are expected restore currents, circulation, SAV, habitat, water quality, and general health of the Lagoon. Therefore, providing food and forage for marine mammals, fish, and birds. Furthermore, improving the aesthetic and recreational values to the local community.

No direct or indirect impacts are expected to reefs or other systems outside the project area. Minor, temporary impacts to SAV could occur from dredge placement. Any SAV blanketed along the edge of the fill areas would be restored from existing root systems or recolonized by the abundant seagrass varieties within the Lagoon. Any adverse impacts to SAV would be off-set by creating approximately 18-ac which SAV is expected to establish. Permanent adverse impacts are not expected as Best Management Practice (BMPs) and methods to manage potential water quality related effects would be implemented. Prior to any construction activity turbidity controls such as turbidity curtains, silt fences, and other BMPs must be implemented. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>SHPO No.: 10-05-15-02</u>
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 HARBOR, PUERTO RICO SEAGRASS MITIGATION, ADDITIONAL SAND SOURCE PROJECT 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
_____
Date

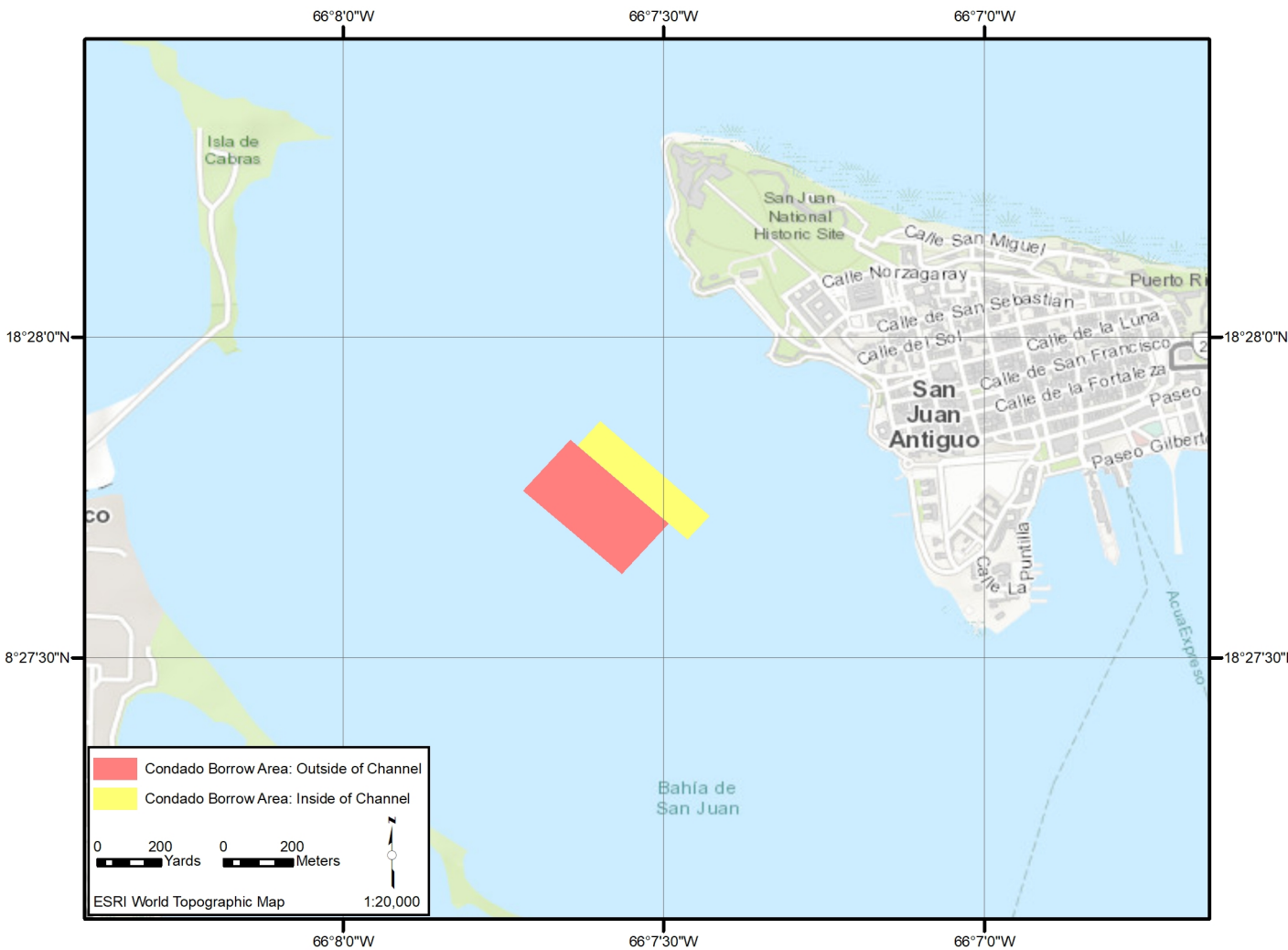


FIGURE 1. DREDGE BORROW AREAS WEST OF CUT-6

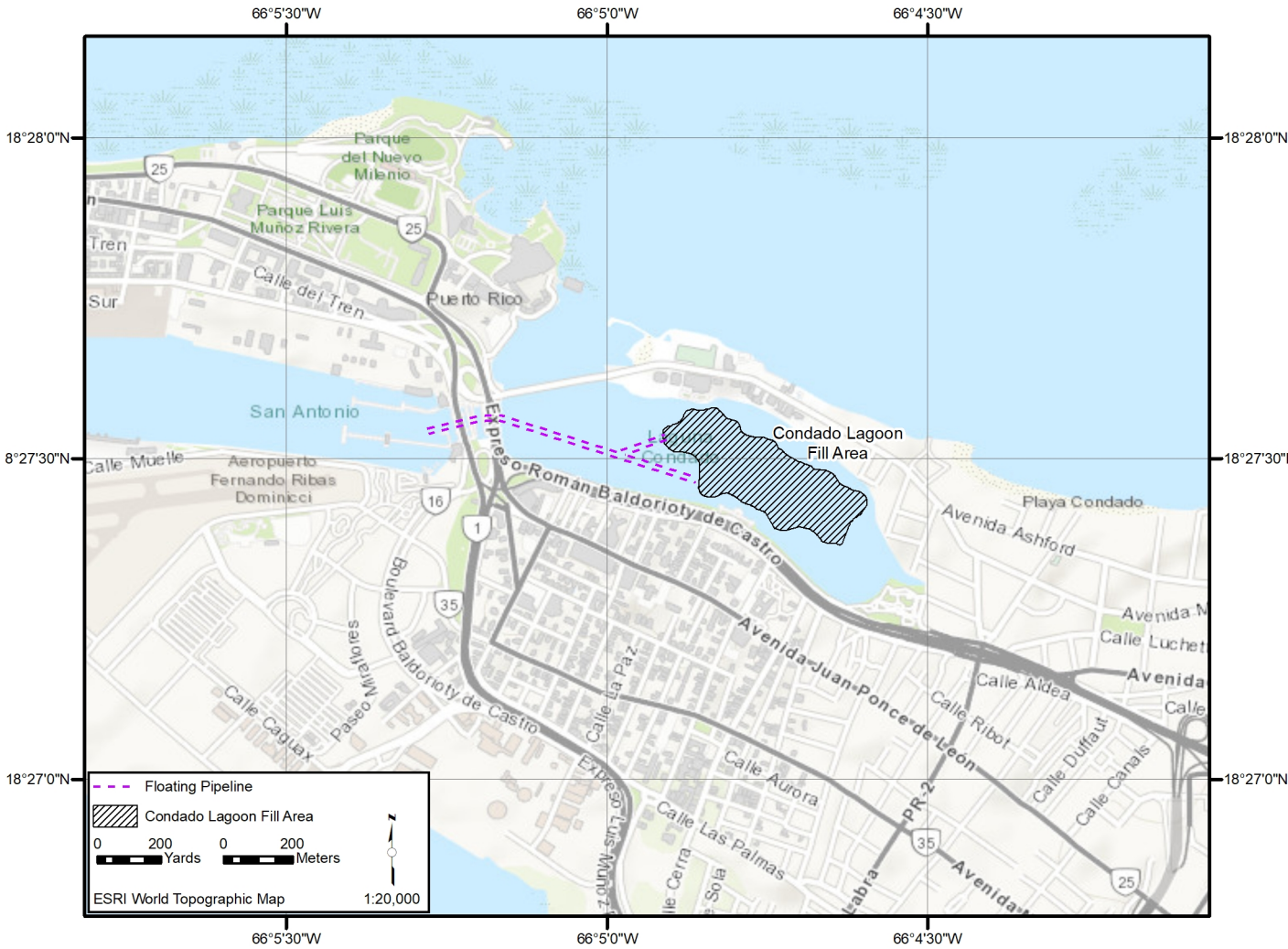


FIGURE 2. FILL AREA AT CONDADO LAGOON