

APPENDIX B
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS JOINT PERMIT APPLICATION
(ENG FORM 4345)
INFORMATION FOR BLOCK 18
SJU-RUNWAY 8-26 OBJECT FREE AREA IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

BLOCK 18. NATURE OF ACTIVITY (Description of Project)

Aerostar Airport Holdings, LLC proposes implementing the clearing and grubbing of vegetation and filling of wetlands, north of Runway 8-26 of the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport (SJU). The purpose of the Runway Object Free Area (ROFA) clearing component of the proposed project is to enhance safety at the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport (SJU) to the greatest extent practicable for aircraft, pilots, passengers, and users. The proponent considered reasonable alternatives, including the No-Action Alternative. These were identified and evaluated following NEPA, CEQ guidance, and FAA guidance and policies. The project will include clearing and grubbing fringe mangroves at both sides of existing Channel A that developed due to the lack of maintenance of this man-made channel.

The proposed activity also includes clearing and grubbing vegetation and filling wetlands on the north of Runway 8-26. This alternative proposes to fill select wetland areas on the north of Runway 8-26 to allow access where currently limited and where traditional maintenance equipment would be used to maintain vegetation with OFA criteria. This alternative involves grading within a linear strip of wetlands on the north side of the drainage canal (Channel A) that runs parallel north of Runway 8-26 and fill in wetlands located toward the east end of Runway 8-26. The activity requires removing vegetation (including roots) in the channels, dredging two feet of accumulated sediment from the bottom of all channels, clearing sediment and obstructions from all interconnecting pipes and replacing the 24-inch pipe with two 42-inch pipes.