Non-Time-Critical Removal Action at the Municipality of Culebra, Puerto Rico

# Environmental and Cultural Resources Surveys for Isla Culebrita

Prepared for United States Army District, Jacksonville United States Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville



Contract Number: W912DY-05-D-0007 Task Order Number: 0001 Project Number: I02PR006802



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November 2006

## Introduction

In accordance with requests by the regulators involved with the Technical Planning Process and the approved Work Plan, Ellis Environmental Group, LC (EEG) is required to provide cultural resources and environmental surveys of each cay that will be investigated under this contract. The purpose of the surveys is to identify cultural resources, sensitive habitats, and endangered plants and animals that may exist in the work areas. Additionally, EEG is requested to determine the access points to the cays where the boats will anchor. This report presents the results of the surveys conducted at Isla Culebrita.

EEG employed two subcontractors with specific Caribbean experience to conduct these surveys. Southeast Archeological Research (SEARCH) performed the cultural resources survey, and ReForesta, Inc. conducted the habitat and endangered species surveys. The cultural resources survey is included in **Appendix A**. The habitat and endangered species survey is included in **Appendix B**. A wetlands jurisdictional survey is provided in **Appendix C**.

# **Survey Results**

### **Cultural Resources**

Based on the data in the cultural resources survey report, no significant cultural resources were found at Isla Culebrita that would limit the surface removal of munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) from this site. As SEARCH personnel observed, no limitation to EEG operations based on cultural resource issues should be necessary.

The SEARCH expert provided a cultural resources briefing to EEG personnel during the initial project mobilization. All team members will be on the lookout for any items of potential cultural significance. If, in the future, items are found, EEG will map each location with the global positioning system (GPS) and send the coordinates and pictures to the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District (CESAJ) project manager, to be forwarded to the cultural resources specialist.

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#### **Environmental Resources**

#### Flora

A total of 97 plant species were recorded during the survey, none of which are state or federally threatened or endangered species. Four distinct plant communities were identified and included coastal forest, dry scrub forest, semi-open grasslands, and tidal flats. **Appendix B, Figure 1** delineates these communities. A small patch of a species described as a hybrid of sea grape plants (*Coccoloba uvifera* and *C. krugii*) was observed in the northeastern tip of the survey area growing on a rocky outcrop.

#### Fauna

The survey recorded 32 birds, 4 reptiles, and 2 mammals. One federally endangered species, the brown pelican, was observed resting on rocks along the coastline. The white-cheeked pintail, a species considered "threatened" by the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) was also sighted during the survey. Green turtles were also observed.

#### Wetlands

Wetlands were also delineated as part of the survey completed by ReForesta, Inc. Two areas were identified during the survey. The larger of the two areas is located in the northwestern portion of the survey area. The other area is located to the southeast, beginning along the eastern survey boundary and extending to the east. The wetlands are described in the jurisdictional survey included as **Appendix C**.

#### Recommendations

Based on the data and recommendations provided in the environmental resources survey report, EEG will implement the following actions during site preparation and MEC removal operations.

1. The small hybrid sea grape patch will not be removed. This patch is located at the northeastern tip of the study area. It measures 3 by 5 meters and is growing on a rocky coastal outcrop a few meters from the water (18.33965° N, 65.37668° W). This shrub tolerates pruning, and, if necessary, EEG will prune the bottom foliage to ensure proper detection of material potentially presenting an explosive hazard (MPPEH) in the area. EEG will not detonate an item near the sea grapes unless the item cannot be moved, in which case EEG will provide a barricade to protect the sensitive plants.

- 2. If MEC removal activities extend into the winter months, the crews will inform the appropriate agencies of any bird-nesting activity, especially in the tidal flat areas. All work will be coordinated with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (EQB) to ensure that EEG has current information about endangered birds that may be migrating and nesting in the area, and to ensure proper protection of the birds.
- 3. The appropriate agencies will be informed if any snakes are observed. As stated above, EEG will coordinate all work with the appropriate agencies.
- 4. Every effort will be made to avoid disturbing the brown pelicans, green turtles, and underwater habitat, especially sea grasses, when coming ashore. EEG will coordinate access to the cay with FWS to ensure protection of the brown pelicans and green turtles.
- 5. Clearing crews will be informed about the poisonous manchineel trees (photo at right). These trees exist in the coastal thickets. The manchineel tree is toxic and can burn the skin. The fruit of the manchineel tree resembles a small green apple and is poisonous. Contact with its leaves and fruit should be avoided and workers should not stand or sit under one when it is raining.



6. Coastal thickets and mangrove forests will be preserved. EEG will limit tree cutting and brush removal to only that necessary to effectively complete the detection and removal of surface MEC. Mangrove trees located within the coastal thickets and bordering the tidal flat will be carefully pruned to avoid damage. EEG will protect the sea grape plants located within the coastal thickets.

## **Vegetation Removal**

Vegetation on Isla Culebrita is extremely dense, and brush removal will be required. All native trees with diameters greater than 2 inches are to be left untouched. Non-native species can be removed as necessary. Brush removal crews will remove the least amount of vegetation that will

allow EEG unexploded ordnance (UXO) personnel to properly access the site and operate the geophysical equipment required to locate surface anomalies.

EEG plans to use manual methods (chain saws, machetes, and/or other hand tools) to perform tree and brush removal in accordance with the project Environmental Protection Plan; however, EEG proposes the option to perform mechanical removal using an armored Bobcat, mounted with a specialized vegetation cutting blade developed by Timberline Environmental Services (TES). The TES cutter grinds the smaller vegetation, leaving it as fine mulch distributed over the area.

#### **Coastal Thickets and Mangrove Forests**

Vegetation removal within the coastal thickets and mangrove forests will be limited to manual methods. Two strands of coastal thickets (coastal forests) have been delineated (see **Appendix B**). One strand extends along the northwestern edge of the cay between the ocean and the inland tidal flat. This strand, ranging in width from 50 to 75 meters, is approximately 400 meters long. The other strand runs along the southern side of the cay, bordering the ocean on the south and scrub forests on the north. This strand is also approximately 400 meters long and ranges in width between 10 and 75 meters. The dominant tree species occurring in the coastal thickets include button mangrove, sea grape, water mampoo, and spoon tree. The poisonous manchineel tree is also present. A strand of white and black mangroves also exists along the northern fringe of the tidal flat (see **Appendix B**).

In accordance with the approved Work Plan, invasive trees such as mesquite may be removed from these areas. Native trees and underbrush will be pruned to a height that will allow full coverage (unobstructed access) by the geophysical equipment, which EEG believes to be 12 inches. Small native trees (less than 2 inches in diameter) may require removal in order to provide the required access. EEG will remove larger native trees only in cases where MEC is embedded in the tree or caught or suspended in the roots or branches, or to gain access to MEC, in which case the tree will be removed using a chain saw. If possible, the tree will be trimmed or pruned back instead of removed.

#### **Dry Scrub Forest and Semi-Open Grasslands**

The dry scrub forest is dominated by cat's claw, pipe-organ cactus, crabwood, black willow, and a thorny bushy-vine. EEG plans to use manual brush removal in this area along with the option to conduct mechanized vegetation removal.

The semi-open grasslands are dominated by hurricane and guinea grasses, with scattered cashia trees and bushes. Depending on the height of the grass, mowing may be required to provide adequate access to the ground surface within the open grassy areas. Mechanized removals will be conducted in the brush areas if deemed appropriate, otherwise manual removal methods will be used.

#### Wetlands

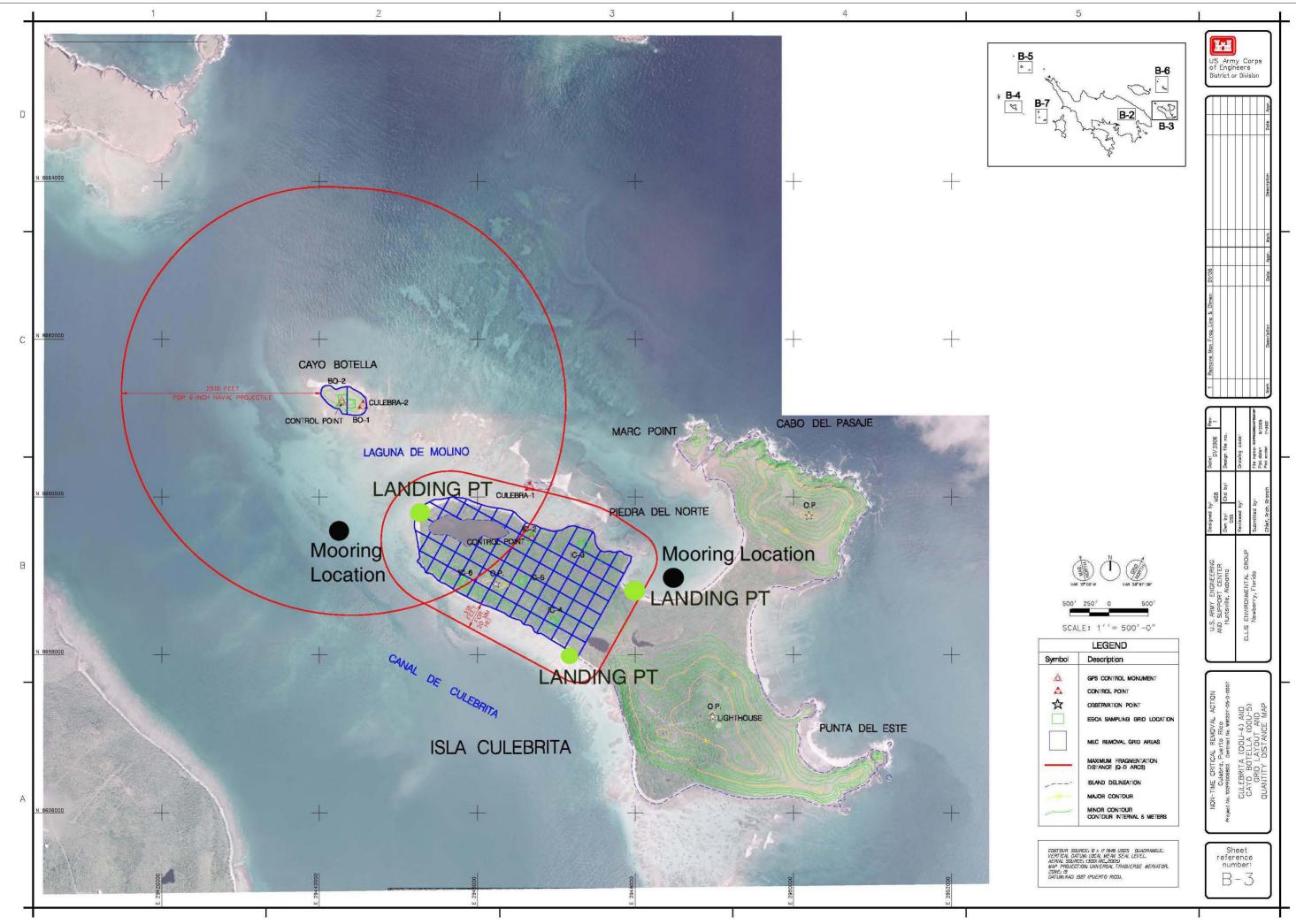
EEG will not conduct MEC removal operations in portions of the wetlands that are inundated with water at the time of the investigation. In areas not inundated, EEG will carefully hand trim vegetation to allow access to the ground. The wetlands boundaries will be marked in the field to ensure that the boundaries are clearly identified for the mechanized brush-cutting equipment.

### **Marine Protection**

EEG will use a Trident 40-foot boat with a 16-foot beam to transport personnel and equipment to the cays. The boat has a 4½-foot draft and will work well in this area.

EEG will access the cays only from the landing points shown on the map on the following page. EEG will ensure that the boat will be anchored in the mooring locations noted on the map. The bottom is sandy with only a sparse number of coral heads in the area, and care will be taken to avoid the coral heads in this area when anchoring.

EEG will use a rubber dingy or a small 14- or 21-foot skiff to land personnel and equipment on shore, which is a rocky beach presently littered with debris.



APPENDIX A

# Archaeological Walkover Survey

## End of Fieldwork Report: Archaeological Walkover Survey Associated with Unexploded Ordnance Removal on Isla Culebrita and Cayo Lobo, Municipality of Culebra, Puerto Rico

CONSULTANT:	Southeastern Archaeological Research, Inc. 315 NW 138 <sup>th</sup> Terrace, Jonesville, Florida 32669
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:	William Keegan, Ph.D.
CLIENT:	U.S. Army Corp of Engineers/Ellis Environmental Group
DATE:	August 18, 2006

In April 2006, Southeastern Archaeological Research (SEARCH) of Jonesville, Florida was engaged by Ellis Environmental Group, LC, in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Huntsville, to conduct a cultural resource survey of the Cerro Balcón region of Culebra and several of the surrounding cays as part of the Culebra Non-Time-Critical Removal of unexploded ordnance (UXO) from the ground surface. The first phase at Cerro Balcón has been described in a separate executive summary and final report. This second phase of work consisted of a survey of two of these cays: Cayo Lobo and the northwest peninsula of Isla Culebrita (Figure 1). As noted in the Cerro Balcón report, there is no mention of previously recorded archaeological sites on the small cays surrounding Culebra, with the exception of two sites on the east side of Isla Culebrita; one of which is the National Register of Historic Places listed property the Culebrita Lighthouse ("Faro Isla de Culebritas"), built in 1874. The Isla Culebrita sites are outside the present survey project area.



Figure 1. Location of Surveyed Cays—Cayo Lobo and Isla Culebrita

This End of Fieldwork report describes walkover surveys of Cayo Lobo and the northwestern peninsula of Isla Culebrita conducted in July 2006. Dr. William F. Keegan, Curator of Caribbean Archaeology, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, was sub-contracted as the Principal Investigator. Dr. Keegan conducted his investigation of Cayo Lobo on July 25 and Isla Culebrita on July 26, 2006. Unfortunately, due to severe weather conditions during the time of the survey, it was impossible to return safely to either island for follow-up investigations.

Dr. Keegan's investigations were limited to a walkover survey. No subsurface testing was permitted due to the potential for buried UXO in the project area. An Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) specialist, equipped with a magnetometer, preceded Dr. Keegan at all times during the surface survey. Because the current UXO removal project is limited to surface disposal with no planned subsurface impacts and the islands are protected by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, a surface survey was deemed a sufficient methodology for identifying resources within the project area. The project will have no significant subsurface impacts.

The following is a brief description of the survey completed on Isla Culebrita and Cayo Lobo. A complete report is pending, which will thoroughly present previous research, environmental conditions, archaeological site potential and findings. No sites were located during this investigation.

### Cayo Lobo

Cayo Lobo is a small cay to the west of Culebra. It is composed of three high promontories connected by a low saddle (Figure 2). There are military observation bunkers on two of the promontories and a helicopter landing pad on the third. It appears that most of the bombing was restricted to the lower central part of the cay. Today, most of the cay is covered in dense grass, with woodland vegetation on the promontories and along the cliff edges. Surface visibility is only fair in most places, but toward the center of the cay there are former craters and erosion gulleys that offer complete surface exposures.

Keegan's survey covered the entire circumference of the cay, with special attention to cliff edges and other exposures. In addition, most of the low interior was walked in a series of transects that focused on the substantial exposures. The walkover survey achieved extensive coverage of the cay. The cay would certainly have provided access to a variety of resources including marine mollusks and a variety of lithics (milky quartz, diorite, and greenstone) that were used by the Taínos. However, the entire island is a high ridge with steep sides. This rocky outcrop has no beaches to easily land a canoe and no protection from the elements. Cayo Lobo has a low potential for prehistoric archaeological sites. The survey found no evidence of historic or prehistoric activities, other than 20<sup>th</sup> century military use.

### Isla Culebrita

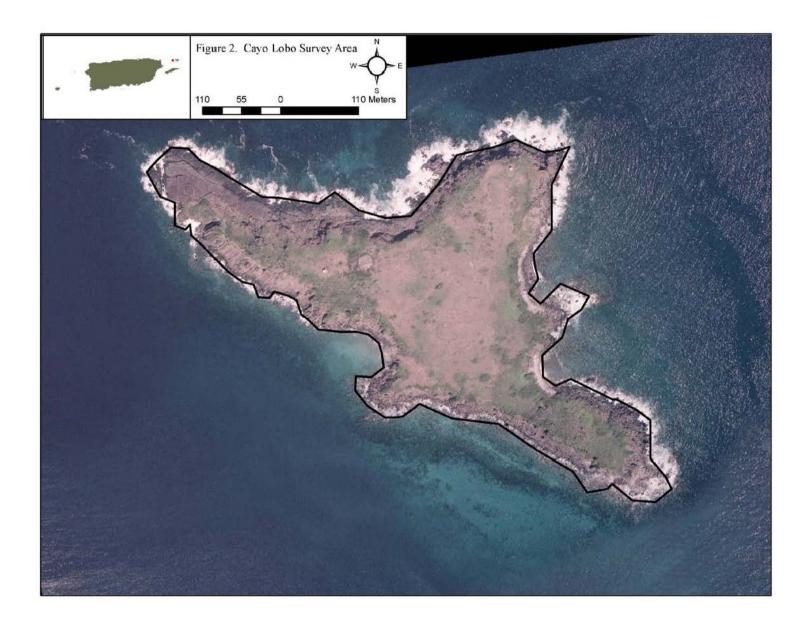
Isla Culebrita, located east of Culebra, has a similar layout to Cayo Lobo but on a much larger scale. There are again three promontories connected by a lowland. Only the northwestern peninsula of Culebrita is within the project area (Figure 3). The vegetation is extremely dense

and covered with thorns. Surface visibility on top of the peninsula is limited due to abundant leaf litter. There is a sand beach at the western tip of the peninsula that extends in front of a large pond (*Laguna del Molino*). This pond is not open to the ocean today, however it may have been a tidal creek at the time the Taínos were living in the region. The pond is described by the 1977 Soil Survey of Humacao Area of Eastern Puerto Rico (1977) as a tidal flat and shown in the aerial to have had access to the ocean on both ends of the pond. The fieldwork and photography for the 1977 soil survey was completed between 1962 and 1968. The sand beach at the tip of this peninsula appears to be a building rather than eroding shoreline and is possibly of modern origin (since A.D. 1500). The soils north of the pond are Catano loamy sand, which are nearly level, rapidly permeable sediments. Most of the remainder of Culebrita consists of Descalabrado clay loam (20-40% slopes, eroded) (USDA 1977). This soil type is well drained and moderately permeable, and occurs in areas of low rainfall. These soils are usually shallow and overlie volcanic bedrock.

The walkover survey progressed along the northwest beach and covered the entire perimeter of the project area. In addition, the margins of the pond were surveyed, and a transect was walked along a diagonal from the southern beach to the northern cliffs. With the possible exception of the pond, there is a low probability that prehistoric sites of significance ever existed here due to poor soils, a lack of freshwater resources, and little protection from the elements. The terrestrial environment offers no resources of value and is a difficult terrain to traverse as it consists of steep, heavily vegetated slopes. No evidence for historic or prehistoric activities was found.

### **Conclusions**

Neither Cayo Lobo nor Isla Culebrita offered any signs of historic or prehistoric activities. No historic structures are located within the project areas. It is our opinion that the archaeological survey work described above and the submittal of a Final Technical report will adequately complete the cultural resource assessment of Isla Culebrita and Cayo Lobo. The walkover survey found no cultural resources and no evidence of past resource exploitation. Therefore, the project areas are not subject to any further investigations or protective or mitigative measures.





APPENDIX B

# Flora and Fauna Survey for Culebrita Island

# FLORA AND FAUNA SURVEY FOR CULEBRITA ISLAND DERP-FUDS CLEAN UP CULEBRA, Puerto Rico OCTOBER-2006

Prepared for:

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Prepared by:



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Participants: Roberto Bello, M.S. Alejandro Cubiñá, M.S. Carlos Laboy OCTOBER 2006

#### Location

The island of Culebrita is located approximately 1.5 kilometers east of Playa Larga in eastern Culebra (see appendix 1 for location map). Culebrita is located within the subtropical dry forest life zone (Ewel & Whitmore 1973).

The study area, located in the northwestern portion of the island, comprises 82 acres (approximately 1/3 of the island). Culebrita is part of the Culebra Wildlife Refuge administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

#### Soils

According to the National Resource Conservation Service there are three soil types in the study area (see Appendix 1 for map):

Cf - Cataño Loamy sand (Deep soils that are excessively drained and rapidly permeable. Parent material: Beach sand deposits).
Td - Tidal flats (Low areas that are affected by seawater during high tide).

**DeE2 - Descalabrado clay loam** (Well-drained moderately permeable soils found on mountain side slopes and ridge tops in the semiarid volcanic uplands).

#### Methodology

Field work was conducted on July 26, and August 10-11, 2006. All surveys were conducted during the day from approximately 8 A.M. to 3 PM by Roberto Bello, Alejandro Cubiñá, and Carlos Laboy from Reforesta, Inc. A UXO specialist was always

present with the biological team, and Dr. William F. Keegan, an archaelogist, accompanied us on the first field work day.

Penetrating the thick spiny scrub forest was the biggest challenge in conducting the field work. To maximize our effort, we selected representative areas by analyzing a 2005 aerial photo to establish linear study transects (see Appendix 2 for transect location), since total coverage was not possible. Emphasis was given to closed canopy forests and wetland areas. Steep cliffs were out of the scope of work of this survey. Coordinates were recorded with a handheld GPS in DEG.DDDDD, NAD 27 datum.

*Flora* – We recorded all plant species occurring within the study site. Any plants that could not be identified in the field were taken to the University of Puerto Rico at Río Piedras herbarium for later identification. Plant nomenclature follows Liogier and Martorell (2000).

*Fauna* – The vertebrate fauna was determined by visual and acoustic means. Rock and fallen branches were frequently turned to detect cryptic species. Any skeletal remains were identified. Nomenclature for the herpetofauna follows Schwartz and Henderson (1991) and Raffaele *et al.* (1998) for the avifauna.

#### Results

*Flora* – We recorded 97 plant species of plants (see Table 1). No state or federally threatened and endangered species of plants were recorded. Grey nickers (*Caesalpinia bonduc*) is listed as an "elemento crítico" by the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PR-DNER) and is found throughout the coastal thickets in the study area. This plant is not uncommon throughout Puerto Rico and adjacent islands. It is probably included in the "elemento crítico" list because it resembles *Caesalpinia culebae* and *Caesalpinia melanosperma*.

To determine the degree of human disturbance in Culebrita before becoming a nature reserve, we obtained a 1965 aerial photo (earlier photos weren't available in the PR Highway Authority). The main difference between vegetation cover in the sixties and today is the degree of fragmentation of the dry forests in the study area. Forty years ago scrub forest wasn't as extensive as it is today. Earlier photography is needed to determine the degree of human impact in the island. It is very likely that the suitable trees found in the dry forest were exploited by the lighthouse caretakers and that fires must have been a common occurrence during military practices.

Four distinct plant communities occur in northwestern Culebrita (see Appendix 4 for map):

1 - C<u>oastal forest</u> – Flat coastal areas with closed tree canopy from 3.5 to 5 meters in height. The dominant tree species occurring in this community are: Button mangrove (*Conocarpus erectus*), Sea grape (*Coccoloba uvifera*), Water mampoo (*Pisonia subcordata*), and the Spoon tree (*Elaedendron xylocarpum*). The poisonous Manchineel tree (*Hippomane mancinella*) occurs in these coastal thickets.

2 – <u>Dry scrub forest</u> – This is the most abundant habitat-type found in the study site. It occurs along the cliffs and hills of the island. The soil is rocky and very shallow. Canopy height averages 2.6 m. The dominant shrubs and trees growing in this community are: Cat's claw (*Pithecellobium unguis-cati*), Pipe-organ cactus (*Pilosocereus royenii*), Crabwood (*Gymnanthes lucida*), and Black willow (*Capparis cynophallophora*). The thorny bushy-vine *Oplonia spinosa* is also abundant. 3 – <u>Semi-open grasslands</u> – Grassy patches dominated by Hurricane grass (*Bothriochloa pertusa*), and Guinea grass (*Urochloa maxima*). Scattered Cashia (*Acacia farnesiana*) trees and (*Capparis flexuosa*) bushes are common.

4 – <u>Tidal flats</u> – Seasonally flooded shallow lagoons. May be partially or completely surrounded by mangrove forests dominated by White (*Laguncularia racemosa*) and Black (*Avicennia germinans*) mangroves.

A species described as a hybrid between *Coccoloba uvifera* and *Coccoloba krugii* which was abundant in Cayo Lobo, was only found in the northeastern tip of the study area. The small patch measures 3 x 5 m and is growing on a rocky coastal outcrop a few meters from the water (18.33965° N, 65.37668°W, 108 ft). Another plant of interest, the endemic herb *Justicia culebritae*, was not recorded in the study area. According to the information provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife this plant is found in the hills surrounding the lighthouse (T. Tallevast, pers. comm.).

*Fauna* – We recorded 32 birds, 4 reptiles, and 2 mammals in the study area. A few Brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) individuals, a federally endangered species, were observed resting on rocks along the coast of Culebrita. Two dead pelicans were found along the coasts during the field effort. Green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) were observed foraging in *Thalassia* beds found in northern Culebrita. A few individuals of the White Cheeked Pintail (*Anas bahamensis*) were sighted on the tidal flats in the northwestern tip of Culebrita. This species is considered threatened by the PR-DNER.

No amphibians were recorded during our diurnal survey, but we would expect to find *Eleutherodactylus antillensis*, *Eleutherodactylus cochranae* and *Eleutherodactylus* 

*coqui*, three common Coquí species, if we had continued the surveys through the night. The white-lipped frog (*Leptodactylus albilabris*) and the toad (*Bufo marinus*) should also be present. In addition, other probable reptiles found in Culebrita are: *Typhlops richardi*, *Alsophis portoricensis*, *Arrhyton exiguum*, and the Puerto Rican slider (*Trachemys stejnegeri*).

The Virgin Islands tree boa (*Epicrates monensis granti*) has been observed in nearby Culebra. During our site visit we did not find any boas or shed skins. The coastal thickets and scrub forest are ideal habitat for this species. Nocturnal surveys would be necessary to determine if the species is present in this small island. Finally, we observed abundant evidence of deer presence in Culebrita. A study on the impact of this exotic species on the native vegetation would be appropriate.

#### Recommendations

We recommend the following:

1. As in Cayo Lobo, avoid removing the small Hybrid seagrape patch.

2. If work extends into the winter months, the cleaning crews should inform the appropriate agencies of any bird nesting activity, especially in the tidal flat areas.

3. Inform the appropriate agencies if any snakes are observed.

4. Avoid disturbing the brown pelicans, green turtles and underwater habitat, especially sea grasses, when coming ashore.

5. Inform clearing crews about the poisonous Manchineel tree.

6. Preserve the coastal thickets and mangrove forests.

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http://plants.usda.gov/

http://www.itis.usa.gov/

http://www.soils.usda.gov/

Table 1. Flora           Scientific name	Common name (E)	Common name (Sp.)	<u>Family</u>
Herbaceous Plants			
Argusia gnaphalodes (L.) Heine Batis maritima L.	Sea lavender	Temporana	
Bothriochloa pertusa (L.) A. Camus	Hurricane grass	Hierba amarga	POACEAE
Cakile lanceolata (Willd.) O. E. Schulz	Sea-rocket Barilla	Mostacilla del mar	BRASSICACEAE
Chamaecrista sp.	Barilla		LEGCAESALPINIOIDEAE
Chamaesyce messembrianthemifolia (Jacq.) Dugand		BORAGINA	<b>ENE</b> HORBIACEAE
Commelina sp.			COMMELINACEAE
Crotolaria lotifolia L.		Cascabelillo axilar	
Cyperus planifolius Rich.			CYPERACEAE
Desmanthus virgatus (L.) Willd.		Desman BATACEAE	PAPILIONOIDEAE AMARYLLICACEAE
Hymenocallis caribae (L.) Herb.	White lily, spider lily		
Mammilaria nivosa Link in Pfeiff.	Snow cactus	Erizo blanco	CACTACEAE
Melocactus intortus (Miller) Urban	Turk's cap	Melón de costa	CACTACEAE
Opuntia repens Bello	Suckers	Gatos	CACTACEAE
Portulaca oleracea L.	Purslane	Verdolaga LEGMIMOS	BORTALACACEAE
Psychilis macconnielliae Sauleda	~	~ /	ORCHIDACEAE
Rivina humilis L.	Cat's blood	Carmín	PHYTOLACCACEAE
Ruellia tuberosa L.	Many-roots		ACANTHACEAE
Sesuvium portulacastrum (L.) L.	Sea purslane	Verdolaga rosada	AIZOACEAE
Setaria rariflora Mikan			POACEAE
Sida ciliaris L.		Escoba peluda	MALVACEAE
Spartina patens (Ait.) Muhl.	Salt grass	Hierba de sal	
Sporobolus virginicus (L.) Kunth	Seashore dropseed	Matojo de burro	POACEAE
Tephrosia cinerea (L.) Pers.		Añil cenizo	
Tillandsia utriculata L.	Florida giant air plant		
<i>Tolumnia prionochila</i> (Kranzlin) Braem	Dancing lady		
Urochloa maxima (Jacq.) R. D. Webster	Guinea grass	Hierba de guin <b>ça</b> OACEAE	POACEAE

LEG.-PAPILIONOIDEAE

#### Table 1. Flora (continued) Scientific name Common name (E) Common name (Sp.) Family **Herbaceous Plants (continued)** Waltheria indica L. Malvavisco **STERCULIACEAE** Margarita de las rocas Wedelia fruticosa Jacq. **Shrubs and Trees** Acacia farnesiana (L.) Willd. Aroma Amyris elemifera L. Avicennia germinans (L.) L. Black mangrove Mangle negro Bourreria succulenta Jacq. Pigeon berry Palo de vaca Oxhorn bucida<sup>Tea</sup> Bucida buceras L. **AOMPOSI** Bursera simaruba (L.) Sarg. Gumbo limbo Capparis cynophallophora L. Black willow Burro prieto ACEAE Broad-leaved caper Capparis hastata Jacq. Burro Cashia Capparis flexuosa (L.) L. Palinguán CAPPARACEAE Dog caper Citharexylum fruticosum L. Florida fiddlewood **Péndul**<sup>2</sup>COMBRETACEAE Coccoloba krugii x C. uvifera Howard Uva de playa híbrida POLYGONACEAE Hybrid Seagrape Coccoloba krugii Lindau Uva de **elapa**ARACEAE Coccoloba uvifera $(L.)^{L}$ Seagrape Coccothrinax alta (OF. Cook) Becc. Teyer palm Cocos nucifera L. Palma de coco Coconut palm Conocarpus erectus L. Mangle botón Button mangrove San Bartolomé PALMAE Cordia rickseckeri Millsp. Crossopetalum rhacoma Crantz Poison cherry COMBRETACE Croton astroites Dryand in Ait. Maná BORAGINA Croton flavens L. var. rigidus Muell. Arg. Yellow balsam Adormidera Ficus citrifolia P. Mill. White fig Elaeodendron xylocarpum (Vent.) DC. Spoon tree Black torch Erithalis fruticosa L. Jagüev GALVADE CELASTRACEAE Manjack RUBIACEAE MORACEAE

### CELASTRACEAE

Jayajabico

# **Table 1. Flora (continued)**Scientific name

#### Shrubs and Trees (continued)

Ernodea littoralis Sw. Erythroxylum brevipes DC. Eugenia biflora (L.) DC. Eugenia foetida Pers. Euphorbia petiolaris Sims Exostema caribaeum (Jacq.) R. & S. Guapira fragans (Dum.-Cours.) Little Gymnanthes lucida Sw. *Hippomane mancinella* L. Krugiodendron ferreum (VahlBusselat Laguncularia racemosa (L.) Gaertn. Lantana involucrata L. Jacquinia arborea Vahl Jacquinia berteroi Sprengel Melochia tomentosa L. Crabwood Morinda citrifolia L. Neea buxifolia (Hook. F.) HeiMenchineel Opuntia dilenii (Ker-Gawl) Haw. Opuntia rubescens Salm-Dick ex DC. Piscidia carthagenensis Jacq. Torchwood Pisonia subcordata Sw. Pilosocereus royenii (L.) Byles & Rowley Pithecellobium unguis-cati (L.) Mart. Plumeria alba L. Randia aculeata L.

### <u>Common name (E)</u> <u>Common name (Sp.)</u> <u>Family</u>

Golden creeper Hoja menuda Black rod-wood Hoja menuda Spanish stopper Manchineel berry Indio desnudo Palo de quina Yellow torch CorchoERY Black mampoo CEAE RUBIACEAE Palo de hierro Black ironwood NYCTAGINACEAE aití White mangrov Mangle blanco COMBRETACEAE EUPHORBIACEAE Manzanillo sage Santa María **EUPHORBIACEAE** Broom wood Bretónica afelp EAE Azúcares Gardenia hedi Tuna brava CACTACEAE Prickly pear Prickly pear Tuna de petate CACTACEAE Fish poison LEG.-PAPILIONOIDEAE Ventura Water mampoo Corcho blanco Pipe-organ cactus Sebucány CTAGINA CASE ACEAE Cat's claw Alhelí blanco NYCTAGINACEAE Milk tree Christmas tree Rolón

Noni

Tintillo

APOCYNACEAE RUBIACEAE LEG.-MIMOSOIDEAE

# Table 1. Flora (continued)

Scientific name

#### Shrubs and Trees (continued)

Rauvolfia viridis Willd. ex Roem. & Schultes Rhizophora mangle L. Schaefferia frutescens Jacquin Suriana maritima L. Tabebuia heterophylla (DC.) Britt.

#### Vines

Caesalpinia bonduc (L.) Roxb. Canavalia rosea (Sw.) DC. Centrosema virginianum (L.) Bentham Dalbergia monetaria L. f. Galactia dubia DC. Jacquemontia pentanthos (Jacq.) G. Don Hylocereus trigonus (Haw.) Safford Ipomoea pes-caprae (L.) R. Br. Ipomoea steudelii Millsp. Macfadyenia unguis-cati (L.) A. H. Gentry Metastelma decipiens Schltr. Oplonia spinosa (Jacq.) Raf. Passiflora suberosa L. Serjania polyphylla (L.) Radlkofer Tournefortia volubilis L. <u>Common name (E)</u> <u>Common name (Sp.)</u> <u>Family</u>

Wild daisy

Bitter bush APOCYNACEAE Red mangrove Mangle colorado RHIZOPHORACEAE Florida boxwood Jibá Bay cedar White cedar Roble blanco BIGNONIACEAE Guitarán SIMAROUBACEAE Gray nickers Mato de playastrace ES.-CAESALPINIOIDEAE Bay bean Haba de playa LEG.-PAPILIONOIDEAE Flor de conchitas Wist vine Palo de brasilete LEG.-PAPILIONOIDEAE LEG.-PAPILIONOIDEAE Money bush Iron weed

CONVOLVULACEAE

Wild duisy	riguinaldo azai	CONTOLITOLITOLITOLI	
Strawberry pear	Pitahaya		
Bay hops	Bejuco de playa	CONVOLVULACEAE	
Cat claw	Uña de gato CACT	TACEAE BIGNONIACEAE ASCLEPIADACEAE	
Prickly bush	Espinosa	ACHANTHACEAE	
Passion flower	Flor de pasión		
Black withe	Bejuco de canastas	SAPINDACEAE	
LEGPAPILIONOID PASSIFLORACEAE			

Aguinaldo azul

Table 2. FaunaScientific name	Common name (Eng.)	Common name (Sp.)	<u>Family</u>
Birds			
Anas bahamensis	White-cheeked Pintail	Pato quijada colorada	ANATIDAE
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed Hawk		
Butorides virescens	Green Heron		
Calidris himantopus	Stilt Sandpiper	Playero patilargo	
Calidris minutilla	Least Sandpiper Guara	Playerito menudo	SCOLOPACIDAE
Calidris pusilla	Semipalmated Sandpiper	Playerito gracioso	
Charidrius wilsonia	Wilson's Plover	Playero maritimaccipitida	<b>PHARADRIIDAE</b>
Coccyzus minor	Mangrove Cuckpartinete	Pajaro bobo meanine SCOL	CUCULIDAE
Coereba flaveola	Bananaquit	SCOL	LOPACIDAE
Columba squamosa	Scaly-naped Pigeon	Paloma turca	
Columbina passerina	Common ground-Dove	Rolita	
Crotophaga ani	Smooth-billed Ani		
Dendroica petechia	Yellow Warbler	Canario de mangle	EMBERIZIDAE
Elaenia griseus	Caribbean Elacationita Judío	Juí blanco	
Gallinula chloropus	Common Gallinule	Gallareta comúcolumbio	ARALLIDAE
Haematopus palliatus	Oystercatcher		HAEMATOPODIDAE
Larus atricilla	Laughing Gull	Gaviota Egange RIZIDAE	
Margarops fuscatus	Pearly-eyed Thrasher	Zorzal pardo	
Falco sparverius	American Kestrel	Falcón Contra MBIDAE	AE -
Fregata magnificens	Magnificent Frigatebird	TijeretaCUCULIDAE LARI	DAE
Orthorhyncus cristatus	Antillean crested Hummingh	bird	TROCHILIDAE
Pelecanus occidentalis*	Brown Pelican	Pelícano pardo	
Rallus longirostris	Clapper Rail	Pollo de manglmIMIDAE	RALLIDAE
Saurtothera vielloti	Puerto Rican Lizard-Cuckoo	Pajaro bobo mayar CONIDA	<b>AE</b> UCULIDAE
Sterna hirundo	Common tern	Gaviota común <sub>FREGATIDA</sub>	ΛE
Sula leucogaster	Brown Boobie	Boba prieta	
Tiaris bicolor	Black-faced Grassquit	Gorrión negro PELECANIE	bÆ

Table 2. Fauna (continued)			
Scientific name	Common name (Eng.)	Common name (Sp.)	<b>Family</b>
Tringa flaviceps	Lesser Yellowlegs		
Tringa solitaria	Solitary Sandpiper	Playero solitario	SCOLOPACIDAE
Tyrannus dominicensis	Gray Kingbird		
Zenaida asiatica	White-winged Dove	<sup>O</sup> Tortola aliblanca	
Zenaida aurita	Zenaida Dove	Tortola cardosantera	
		(	COLUMBIDAE
Mammals			COLUMBIDAE
Odocoileus virginianus	White-tailed departirre		
Rattus rattus	Black rat	SCOLOPACIDAE	
Reptiles Venado TYRANNIDAE			
Ameiva exsul	Common P.R. Ameiva	Siguana común	TEIIDAE
Anolis cristatellus	Common Anole	Lagartijo comúcervi	
Anolis pulchellus	Common GrassAnole	Lagartijo jardinero	IGUANIDAE
Anolis stratulus	Tree Anole	Lagartijo manchado	
Chelonia mydas+	Green turtle		IGUANIDAE
Hemidactylus mabouia	House Gecko	SalamanguesaDAE	
Sphaerodactylus macrolepis	Ground Gecko	Salamanquita común	IGUANIDAE
Sphaerodactylus nicholsi	Dwarf Ground Gecko	Salamanquita pigmea	GEKKONIDAE
+Threatened species	Pejeblanco	CHELO	GEKKONIDAE NIIDAE

\*Endangered species

Pejeblanco

GEKKONIDA CHELONIIDAE GEKKONIDAE Appendix 1 – Location and Soil Maps.

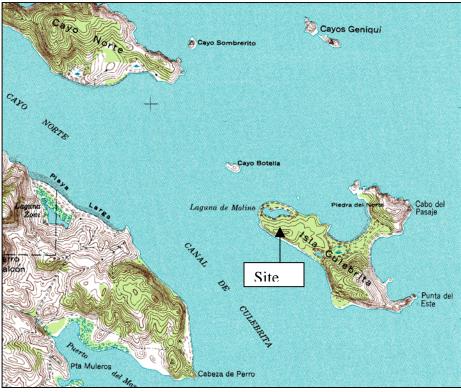


Figure 1. Location of Culebrita Island.

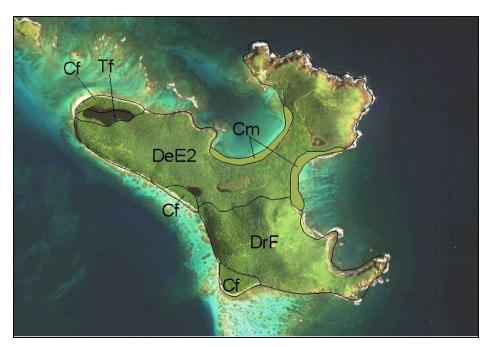


Figure 2. Soil map.

Appendix 2 – Surveyed areas (2005 aerial photo).

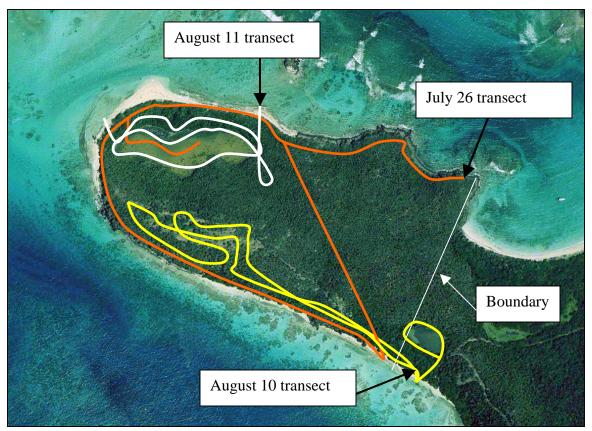


Figure 3. Colored transects depicting sampled areas.

# Appendix 3 – 1965 Aerial photo.

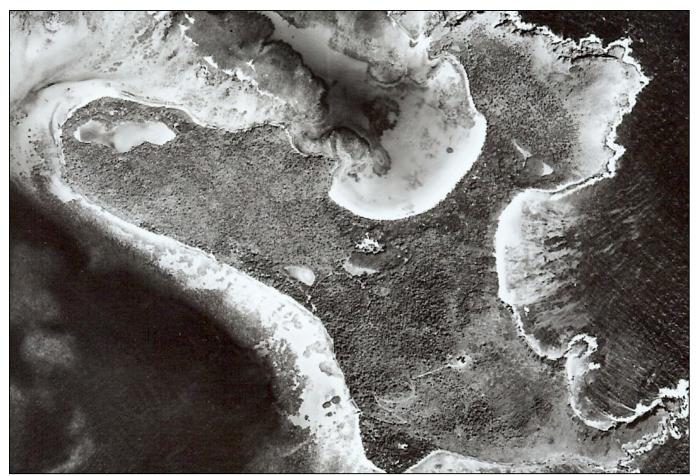


Figure 4. Vegetation cover in 1965.



Appendix 4 – Plant communities and field photographs.

Figure 5. Approximate location of plant communities in study site.



Figure 6. Tidal flat in northwestern tip of Culebrita.

## Appendix 4 – (Continued).



Figure 7. Pipe-organ cactus and surrounding scrub forest vegetation.



Figure 8. Flowering Gray nickers (Caesalpinia bonduc).

APPENDIX C

# Jurisdictional Determination for Culebrita Island

# JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FOR CULEBRITA ISLAND DERP-FUDS CLEAN UP CULEBRA, Puerto Rico OCTOBER-2006

Prepared for:

Ellis Environmental Group, LC 414 SW 140<sup>th</sup> Terrace Newberry, Fl 32669

Prepared by:



PO Box 8972 San Juan PR 00910-0972 (787) 748-5435-voice (787) 748-5390-fax

Participants: Roberto Bello, M.S. Alejandro Cubiñá, M.S. Carlos Laboy

#### INTRODUCTION

Ellis Environmental Group, LC (EEG) is conducting a clean-up and removal action of munitions of environmental concern (MEC) under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program-Formerly Utilized Defense Sites (DERP-FUNDS) Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) in the island of Culebrita. Wetlands, primarily lagoons, salt flats, and associated transitional zones are considered part of essential fish habitat and provide foraging areas for migratory and resident bird species. To aid in protecting these resources, jurisdictional wetlands have been delineated.

#### LOCATION

The island of Culebrita is located approximately 1.5 kilometers east of Playa Larga in eastern Culebra (see appendix 1 for location map). Culebrita is located within the subtropical dry forest life zone (Ewel & Whitmore 1973).

The study area, located in the northwestern portion of the island, comprises 82 acres (approximately 1/3 of the island). The proposed areas of clean-up and removal activities are part of the Culebra Wildlife Refuge administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

#### METHODS

The determination of jurisdiction was conducted following the routine on site method as described in the Wetland Determination Manual, 1987. It involved an evaluation of the Soil Survey, Wetland Inventory Maps and aerial photos. An intensive field inspection for the presence of wetland plants, hydric soils and wetland hydrology was conducted. Once

a wetland was identified, sampling transects were established perpendicular to the wetland baseline. Each transect consisted of three sampling points (within the wetland, bordering the wetland, and approximately 3-4 m from the wetland border. Field work was conducted on July 26, and August 10-11, 2006. A UXO specialist was always present with the delineation team, and Dr. William F. Keegan, an archaelogist, accompanied us on the first day. Coordinates were recorded with a handheld Magellan Platinum GPS in DEG.DDDDD, NAD 27 datum.

## SOILS

According to the National Resource Conservation Service there are three soil types in the study area (see Appendix 1 for soil map):

**Cf - Cataño Loamy sand** (Deep soils that are excessively drained and rapidly permeable. Parent material: Beach sand deposits).

**Td - Tidal flats** (Low areas that are affected by seawater during high tide). A hydric soil.

**DeE2 - Descalabrado clay loam** (Well-drained moderately permeable soils found on mountain side slopes and ridge tops in the semiarid volcanic uplands).

### RESULTS

### Hydrology

The two wetland areas identified in the study are enclosed by land. The two shallow lagoons or tidal flats flood during rain events and may receive sea water from storm surges. During our first visit to Laguna de Molino (western tidal flat) on July 26, 2006

about 95 % of the sandy bottom of the lagoon was exposed. Two weeks after, the area was completely flooded following several rainy days.

### Vegetation

The field investigation of the site revealed that both lagoons are bordered on the seaward side by a small mangrove fringe. The mangrove fringe on the eastern lagoon is dominated by Bottom mangrove (*Conocarpus erectus*), while Black (*Avicennia germinans*) and White (*Laguncularia racemosa*) mangroves are more abundant in Laguna de Molino. Both mangrove areas are narrow and are less than 10 m wide. Further seaward, both wetlands are bounded by coastal forests. The upland species that dominate this community are the Spoon tree (*Elaeodendron xylocarpum*) and Water mampoo (*Pisonia subcordata*).

The hydric vegetation on the landward side is limited to the shrubby *Batis maritima*. The wetland limit is well defined due to an abrupt change in topography which in turn allows for the development of upland plant species. The landward side of both lagoons consists of xeric scrub forest.

### CONCLUSION

The USACE jurisdictional areas are limited to two shallow lagoons (see Appendix 6). Laguna de Molino occurs on the western tip of the study site and covers approximately 5.5 acres. The other lagoon occurs on the boundary of the study site. This wetland is smaller, covering only 0.9 acres. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Wetland Inventory Map has no data on Culebrita (see Appendix 2). The Laguna de Molino boundaries were flagged and GPS coordinates were recorded for

each point. Below are the recorded coordinates:

Pt. 1 - 18.32005° N, 65.23826° W	Pt.15 - 18.31959° N, 65.23629° W
Pt. 2 - 18.32021° N, 65.23804° W	Pt.16 - 18.31945° N, 65.23647° W
Pt. 3 - 18.32031° N, 65.23781° W	Pt.17 - 18.31944° N, 65.23661° W
Pt. 4 - 18.32035° N, 65.23761° W	Pt.18 - 18.31925° N, 65.23676° W
Pt. 5 - 18.32021° N, 65.23683° W	Pt.19 - 18.31926° N, 65.23676° W
Pt. 6 - 18.32017° N, 65.23645° W	Pt.20 - 18.31937° N, 65.23715° W
Pt. 7 - 18.32018° N, 65.23606° W	Pt.21 - 18.31948° N, 65.23729° W
Pt. 8 - 18.32008° N, 65.23570° W	Pt.22 - 18.31958° N, 65.23751° W
Pt. 9 - 18.31379° N, 65.23538° W	Pt.23 - 18.31963° N, 65.23772° W
Pt.10 - 18.31962° N, 65.23530° W	Pt.24 - 18.31963° N, 65.23796° W
Pt.11 - 18.31947° N, 65.23559° W	Pt.25 - 18.31966° N, 65.23808° W
Pt.12 - 18.31940° N, 65.23576° W	Pt.26 - 18.31967° N, 65.23587° W
Pt.13 - 18.31944° N, 65.23592° W	
Pt.14 - 18.31950° N, 65.23606° W	

The western end of the small lagoon was also flagged. The rest of the lagoon is outside

the clean-up and removal area. Below are the recorded coordinates:

Pt. 1 - 18.31573° N, 65.23255° W Pt. 2 - 18.31582° N, 65.23266° W Pt. 3 - 18.31597° N, 65.23274° W Pt. 4 - 18.31600° N, 65.23260° W Pt. 5 - 18.31601° N, 65.23253° W Pt. 6 - 18.31602° N, 65.23242° W Pt. 7 - 18.31600° N, 65.23228° W

## References

- Ewel, J. S. and J. L. Whitmore. 1973. Ecological life zones of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. USDA Forest Serv. Res. Paper ITF-18. 72 pp.
- Liogier, H.A., and L.F. Martorell. 2000. Flora of Puerto Rico and Adjacent Islands: A Systematic Synopsis. Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico. 382 pp.
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- United States Army Corps of Engineers. 1987. Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual. Department of the Army, Waterways Experimental Station, Washington D.C.
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service. 1988. National List of Plant Species that Occur in Wetlands: Caribbean Area. U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Report 88 (26.2).
- United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service. 2005. Hydric Soils of the Caribbean Area. Internet: http://www.pr.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/soil\_survey/cbhydricsoil.pdf

Appendix 1 – Location and Soil Maps.

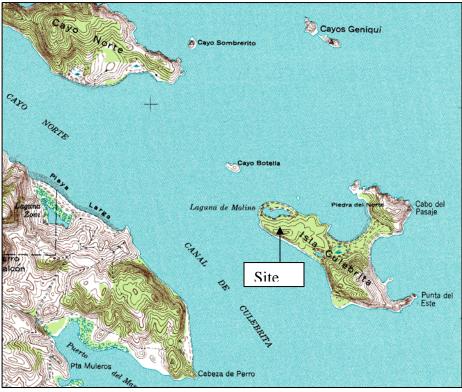


Figure 1. Location of Culebrita Island.

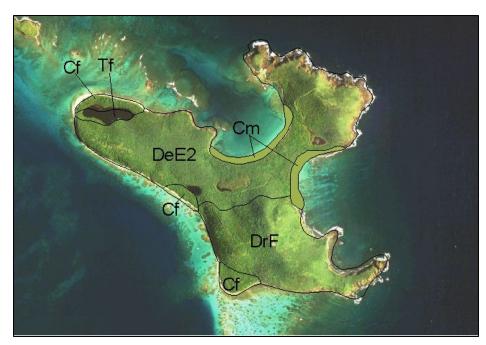


Figure 2. Soil map.



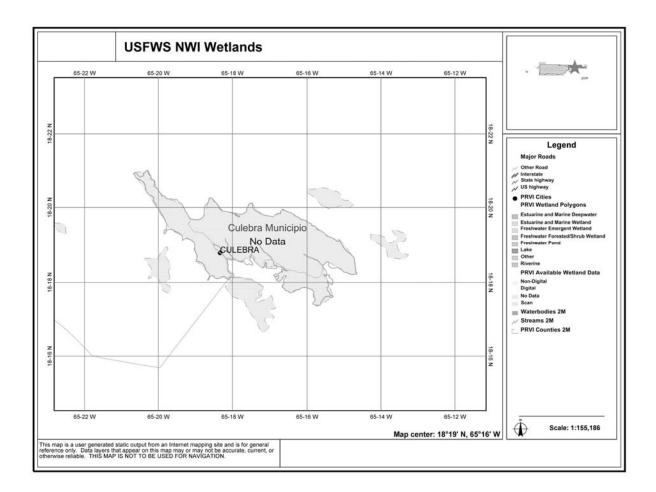


Figure 3. No data are provided for the area of Culebra.

# Appendix 3 – Field Photographs.



Figure 4. Laguna de Molino (western tidal flat) on July 26, 2006.



Figure 5. Laguna de Molino on August 11, 2006.

Appendix 3 – Field Photographs (continued).



Figure 6. Northern limit of wetland at Laguna de Molino.



Figure 7. Eastern tidal flat on August 10, 2006.

# Appendix 4 – Field Data Sheets.

#### DATA FORM ROUTINE WETLAND DETERMINATION (1987 COE Wetlands Delineation Manual)

(1907 COL Wellands Deiniealion Manual)

Project/Site:				Date:	August 11,2006	
Applicant/Owner:				County:	Culebra	
Investigator:	Alejandro Cubi	ñá		State:	Puerto Rico	
Do Normal Circumstances ex	⊠Yes	□No	Community ID:	Laguna de Molino (Western Tidal Flat)		
Is the site significantly disturbed (Atypical Situation)?		□Yes	No	Transect ID:	2	
Is the area a potential Problem Area?		□Yes	No	Plot ID:	Α	
(If needed, explain on reve	rse.)					

VEGETATION

9 10 11.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		
16		
	13 14 15	13     14       14     15       15     16

Recorded Data (Describe in Remarks):     Stream, Lake, or Tide Gauge     Aerial Photographs     Other	Wetland Hydrology Indicators: Primary Indicators: Inundated Saturated in Upper 12 Inches
No Recorded Data Available	Saturated in Upper 12 Inches  Water Marks  Drift Lines  Sediment Deposits
Field Observations:	Drainage Patterns in Wetlands Secondary Indicators (2 or more required):
Depth of Surface Water:(in.)	<ul> <li>Oxidized Root Channels in Upper 12 Inches</li> <li>Water-Stained Leaves</li> </ul>
Depth to Free Water in Pit:8 (in.)	Local Soil Survey Data
Depth to Saturated Soil:0 (in.)	Other (Explain in Remarks)
Remarks:	3

SOILS

Map Unit Name (Series and Phase): Tyda Taxonomy (Subgroup):		Tydal	Flats (Td)	_ Drainage Class: Field Observations	
			_ Confirm Mapped Type?	🛛 Yes 🗌 No	
Profile Descr Depth (inches)	iptions: <u>Horizon</u>	Matrix Color (Munsell Moist)	Mottle Colors (Munsell Moist)	Mottle Abundance/ Size/Contrast	Texture, Concretions, Structure, etc,
0-2	A	10 YR 3/1			Rusty Orange Concretion / Loamy Sand
2-16	<u> </u>	10 YR 5/2			Loamy Sand
			_		
Sulfidic	el Epipedon	ie ia Colors	Organic Listed o Listed o	ions ganic Content in Surface Lay Streaking in Sandy Soils n Local Hydric Soils List n National Hydric Soils List Explain in Remarks)	er in Sandy Soils

# WETLAND DETERMINATION

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Salar		(Check)		(Check)
Wetland Hydrology Present? Hydric Soils Present?	⊠Yes ⊠Yes			Is this Sampling Point Within a Wetland?	
Remarks GPS coordinates: 18.	31964° N	I, 65.	23537° W.	First parameter doesn't apply, no v	egetation present.
Remarks GPS coordinates: 18.	31964° N	<b>I</b> , 65.:	23537° W.	First parameter doesn't apply, no v	egetation present.
Remarks GPS coordinates: 18.	31964° N	<b>I</b> , 65.:	23537° W.	First parameter doesn't apply, no v	egetation present.
Remarks GPS coordinates: 18.	31964° N	<b>1</b> , 65	23537° W.	First parameter doesn't apply, no v	egetation present.

Approved by HQUSACE 3/92 Forms version 1/02 .....

#### DATA FORM **ROUTINE WETLAND DETERMINATION** (1987 COE Wetlands Delineation Manual)

Project/Site:	Culebrita	Date:	August 11,2006			
Applicant/Owner:	Ellis Environmental			County:	Culebra Puerto Rico	
Investigator:	Alejandro Cubi					
Do Normal Circumstances e	⊠Yes	<b>□</b> No	Community ID:	Laguna de Molino (Westerr Tidal Flat)		
Is the site significantly distur	□Yes	No	Transect ID:	2		
Is the area a potential Problem Area?		Yes	No	Plot ID:	В	
(If needed, explain on reve	erse.)		A. 110 - 11			

#### VEGETATION

Dominant Plant Species	Stratum	Indicator	Dominant Plant Species	Stratum	Indicator
1. Capparis cynophallophora	S	NL	9		
2. Laguncularia racemosa	тт	OBL	10		
3. Acacia farnesiana	т	NL	11.		
4. Pithecelobium unguis-catis	т	FAC-	12.		
5. Avicennia germinans	тт	OBL	13.		
6. Sporobolus virginicus	н	FACW	14.		2000-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00
7. Batis maritima	н	FACW	15.		
8			16		
Percent of Dominant Species that (excluding FAC-). 4 out of 7		W or FAC			
Remarks:					

Recorded Data (Describe in Remarks):	Wetland Hydrology Indicators:
Stream, Lake, or Tide Gauge	Primary Indicators:
Aerial Photographs	Inundated
Other	Saturated in Upper 12 Inches
No Recorded Data Available	Water Marks
	Drift Lines
	Sediment Deposits
Field Observations:	Drainage Patterns in Wetlands Secondary Indicators (2 or more required):
Depth of Surface Water:(in.)	Oxidized Root Channels in Upper 12 Inches
	Water-Stained Leaves
Depth to Free Water in Pit:(in.)	Local Soil Survey Data
	FAC-Neutral Test
Depth to Saturated Soil:(in.)	Other (Explain in Remarks)
Remarks:	

		Cataño	Cataño Loamy Sand (Cf)			Drainage Class:		
		Typic Tropopsamments				Field Observations Confirm Mapped Type?	⊠Yes	No No
Profile Desc Depth (inches) 0-16	riptions: <u>Horizon</u> A	Matrix Color (Munsell Moist)		Mottle Colors (Munsell Mois		Mottle Abundance/ Size/Contrast	Texture, Concr Structure, etc,	
0-16		2.5 Y 3/2					Loam	y Sand
Sulfidi Aquic Reduc		Colors			Organic St Listed on L Listed on N	s nic Content in Surface Lay reaking in Sandy Soils .ocal Hydric Soils List lational Hydric Soils List lain in Remarks)	er in Sandy Soil	S
ETLAND	DETERMINAT	ION						
	Vegetation Preser drology Present? Present?	nt? ⊠Yes □Yes □Yes	No	(Check)	s this Sam	pling Point Within a Wetle	_	iheck) s 🖾No
Remarks G	PS coordinates	8: 18.31962° N	I, 65.2	23531° W.				

Approved by HQUSACE 3/92 Forms version 1/02

## DATA FORM **ROUTINE WETLAND DETERMINATION**

(1987 COE Wetlands Delineation Manual)

Project/Site:	Culebrita	Date:	August 11,2006			
Applicant/Owner:	Ellis Environmental			County:	Culebra	
Investigator:	Alejandro Cubiñ	á		State:	Puerto Rico	
Do Normal Circumstances exi	⊠Yes	No	Community ID:	Laguna de Molino (Western Tidal Flat)		
Is the site significantly disturb	Is the site significantly disturbed (Atypical Situation)?			Transect ID:	2	
Is the area a potential Problem Area?		□Yes	No	Plot ID:	С	
(If needed, explain on rever	se.)					

VEGETATION

Dominant Plant Species	Stratum	Indicator	Dominant Plant Species	Stratum	Indicator
1. Elaeodendron xyloocarpum	т	NL	9		
2. Randia aculeata	тт	NL	10.		
3. Acacia farnesiana	т	NL	11.		
4. Pithecelobium unguis-catis	Т	FAC-	12.		
5. Melochia tomentosa	S	NL	13		
6. Jacquemontia pentanthos	v	NL	14.		
7			15		
8			16		
Percent of Dominant Species tha (excluding FAC-). 0 out of 6		W or FAC			
Remarks:					

Recorded Data (Describe in Remarks):  Stream, Lake, or Tide Gauge  Aerial Photographs  Other	Wettand Hydrology Indicators: Primary Indicators:
No Recorded Data Available	Saturated in Upper 12 Inches Water Marks Drift Lines Sadirate December
Field Observations:	Sediment Deposits     Drainage Patterns in Wetlands     Secondary Indicators (2 or more required):
Depth of Surface Water:(in.)	Oxidized Root Channels in Upper 12 Inches Water-Stained Leaves
Depth to Free Water in Pit:(in.)	Local Soil Survey Data FAC-Neutral Test
Depth to Saturated Soil:(in.)	Other (Explain in Remarks)
Remarks:	

SOILS

Map Unit Name (Series and Phase): Cataño Loamy S Taxonomy (Subgroup): Typic Tropopsa		amy Sand (Cf)	Drainage Class:	
		popsamments	Field Observations Confirm Mapped Type?	⊠Yes □ No
tions: Horizon	Matrix Color (Munsell Moist)	Mottle Colors (Munsell Moist)	Mottle Abundance/ Size/Contrast	Texture, Concretions, Structure, etc,
A	10 YR 3/3			Loamy Sand
В	10 YR 4/6			Sandy Clay Loam
-	e	High Or Organic Listed o	ganic Content in Surface Lay Streaking in Sandy Soils In Local Hydric Soils List	er in Sandy Soils
	a Colors		Alter and the second	
	ions: Horizon A B cators: pedon dor isture Regim Conditions	ions: Matrix Color Horizon (Munsell Moist) A 10 YR 3/3 B 10 YR 4/6 	ions: Matrix Color Mottle Colors Horizon (Munsell Moist) (Munsell Moist) A 10 YR 3/3 B 10 YR 4/6 Concrete pedon Concrete pedon Concrete Listed of Conditions	ions: Matrix Color Mottle Colors Mottle Abundance/ Horizon (Munsell Moist) (Munsell Moist) Size/Contrast A 10 YR 3/3 B 10 YR 4/6

### WETLAND DETERMINATION

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Wetland Hydrology Present? Hydric Soils Present?	□Yes □Yes □Yes	No	(Check)	Is this Sampling Point Within a Wetland?	(Check)
Remarks GPS coordinates: 18.	.31961° I	N, 65.	23530° W		(
			£		
				Ann	roved by HOUSACE 3/92

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#### DATA FORM ROUTINE WETLAND DETERMINATION (1987 COE Wetlands Delineation Manual)

Project/Site:	Culebrita Ellis Environmental Alejandro Cubiñá			Date:	August 10,2006 Culebra	
Applicant/Owner:				County:		
Investigator:				State:	Puerto Rico	
Do Normal Circumstances exist on the site?		⊠Yes	<b>No</b>	Community ID:	Eastern Tidal Flat	
Is the site significantly disturbed (Atypical Situation)?		□Yes	No	Transect ID:	1	
Is the area a potential Problem Area?		□Yes	No	Plot ID:	Α	
(If needed, explain on reve	rse.)					

### VEGETATION

D	Iominant Plant Species	Stratum	Indicator	Dominant Plant Species	Stratum	Indicator
1	Batis maritima	н	FACW	9		
2.	Conocarpus erectus	т	FACW	10.		
3.				11.		
4.				12.		
5.				13.		
6.				14.		
7.			0.000	15.		
8				16		
	cent of Dominant Species th excluding FAC-). 2 out of 2		W or FAC			
Rem	narks:					

Recorded Data (Describe in Remarks):	Wetland Hydrology Indicators:
Stream, Lake, or Tide Gauge	Primary Indicators:
Aerial Photographs	Inundated
Other	Saturated in Upper 12 Inches
No Recorded Data Available	Water Marks
	Drift Lines
	Sediment Deposits
Field Observations:	Drainage Patterns in Wetlands
	Secondary Indicators (2 or more required):
Depth of Surface Water: (in.)	Oxidized Root Channels in Upper 12 Inches
a a constant and a co	Water-Stained Leaves
Depth to Free Water in Pit: 6 (in.)	Local Soil Survey Data
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	FAC-Neutral Test
Depth to Saturated Soil:0 (in.)	Other (Explain in Remarks)
Remarks:	
	•

SOILS

Map Unit Na (Series and I	and Phase): Tydal Flats (Td)		ats (Td)	_ Drainage Class: Field Observations			
Taxonomy (Subgroup):				_ Confirm Mapped Type?	⊠Yes	□ No	
Profile Descr Depth (inches)	iptions: <u>Horizon</u>	Matrix Color (Munsell Moist	)	Mottle Colors (Munsell Moist)	Mottle Abundance/ Size/Contrast	Texture, Concr Structure, etc,	etions,
0-15	<u>A</u>	Gley 1 2.5/	10Y		-	Loam	y Sand
					-		
	bl Epipedon			Concret	ions ganic Content in Surface Lay	er in Sandy Soil	s
Histoso Histic E Sulfidio Aquic M Reduci	bl Epipedon	Colors	9	High Or Organic Listed o Listed o	N 105 G 4 10 100	rer in Sandy Soil	S
Histoso Histic E Sulfidio Aquic M Reduci	ol Epipedon : Odor Moisture Regime ng Conditions	Colors	5	High Or Organic Listed o Listed o	ganic Content in Surface Lay Streaking in Sandy Soils n Local Hydric Soils List n National Hydric Soils List	er in Sandy Soil	S
Histoso	ol Epipedon : Odor Moisture Regime ng Conditions	Colors	8	High Or Organic Listed o Listed o	ganic Content in Surface Lay Streaking in Sandy Soils n Local Hydric Soils List n National Hydric Soils List	er in Sandy Soil	S
Histoso	ol Epipedon : Odor Moisture Regime ng Conditions	Colors	5	High Or Organic Listed o Listed o	ganic Content in Surface Lay Streaking in Sandy Soils n Local Hydric Soils List n National Hydric Soils List	er in Sandy Soil	S
Histoso Histic E Sulfidic Aquic N Reduci Gleyed	ol Epipedon : Odor Moisture Regime ng Conditions	×		High Or Organic Listed o Listed o	ganic Content in Surface Lay Streaking in Sandy Soils n Local Hydric Soils List n National Hydric Soils List	er in Sandy Soil	5
Histoso Histic E Sulfidio Reduci Gleyed Remarks:	ol Epipedon : Odor Moisture Regime ng Conditions or Low-Chroma (	<u>FION</u>		High Or Organic Listed o Listed o	ganic Content in Surface Lay Streaking in Sandy Soils n Local Hydric Soils List n National Hydric Soils List		s heck)

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## DATA FORM ROUTINE WETLAND DETERMINATION

(1987 COE Wetlands Delineation Manual)

Project/Site:	Culebrita			Date:	August 10,2006	
Applicant/Owner:	Ellis Environmental			County:	Culebra	
Investigator:	Alejandro Cubiñá			State:	Puerto Rico	
Do Normal Circumstances exi	st on the site?	Yes	No	Community ID:	Eastern Tidal Flat	
Is the site significantly disturbed (Atypical Situation)?		□Yes	No	Transect ID:	1	
Is the area a potential Problem Area?		□Yes	No	Plot ID:	В	
(If needed, explain on rever	se.)					

### VEGETATION

Dominant Plant Species	Stratum	Indicator	Dominant Plant Species	Stratum	Indicator
1. Tabebuia heterophylla	т	FAC	9		
2. Conocarpus erectus	тт	FACW	10		
3. Elaeodendron xylocarpum	т	NL	11		
4. Hippomane mancinella	т	NL	12.		
5. Randia aculeata	т	FAC	13.		
6.			14.		
7.			15.		
8			16		
Percent of Dominant Species that (excluding FAC-). 3 out of 5	ALCOUNT OF A CONTRACTOR A CON	W or FAC			
Remarks:					

Recorded Data (Describe in Remarks):     Stream, Lake, or Tide Gauge	Wetland Hydrology Indicators: Primary Indicators:
Aerial Photographs	Inundated
Other     No Recorded Data Available	Saturated in Upper 12 Inches Water Marks
	Drift Lines
	Sediment Deposits
Field Observations:	Drainage Patterns in Wetlands Secondary Indicators (2 or more required):
Depth of Surface Water:(in.)	Oxidized Root Channels in Upper 12 Inches Water-Stained Leaves
Depth to Free Water in Pit:(in.)	Local Soil Survey Data FAC-Neutral Test
Depth to Saturated Soil:(in.)	Other (Explain in Remarks)
Remarks:	× 32

(Series and	me Phase):	Cataño Loamy Sand (Cf)		Drainage Class:	-
Taxonomy (\$	nomy (Subgroup): Typic Tropopsamme		popsamments	Field Observations Confirm Mapped Type?	Yes 🗌 No
Profile Desc Depth (inches) 0-7	riptions: <u>Horizon</u> A	Matrix Color (Munsell Moist) 10 YR 3/2	Mottle Colors (Munsell Moist)	Mottle Abundance/ Size/Contrast	Texture, Concretions, Structure, etc, Loarny Sand
Hydric Soil II	ndicators:	-		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
-	ol Epipedon Odor Moisture Regime		Organic :	ons anic Content in Surface Lay Streaking in Sandy Soils I Local Hydric Soils List	er in Sandy Soils

### WETLAND DETERMINATION

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Wetland Hydrology Present? Hydric Soils Present?	⊠Yes ⊡Yes ⊡Yes	No	(Check)	Is this Sampling Point Within a Wetland?	(Check) □Yes ⊠No
RemarksGPS coordinates: 18.3	31564° N	, 65.2	3247°W		
				Арр	roved by HQUSACE 3/92

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#### DATA FORM **ROUTINE WETLAND DETERMINATION** (1987 COE Wetlands Delineation Manual)

Project/Site:	ant/Owner: Ellis Environmental			Date:	August 10,2006	
Applicant/Owner:			County:	Culebra Puerto Rico		
Investigator:			State:			
Do Normal Circumstances exist on the site?		⊠Yes	No	Community ID:	Eastern Tidal Flat	
Is the site significantly disturbed (Atypical Situation)?		□Yes	No	Transect ID:	1	
Is the area a potential Problem Area?		Yes	No	Plot ID:	С	
(If needed, explain on reve	rse.)					

#### VEGETATION

Dominant Plant Species	Stratum	Indicator	Dominant Plant Species	Stratum	Indicator
1. Elaeodendron xylocarpus	T	NL	9.		
2. Conocarpus erectus	тт	FACW	10.		
3. Crossopetalum rhacoma	T	NL	11		
4. Bursera simaruba	т	NL	12.		in an anna anna
5.			13.		
6.			14.		
7		and the second	15.		
8			16		
Percent of Dominant Species that (excluding FAC-). 1 out of 4		W or FAC			
Remarks:					

Recorded Data (Describe in Remarks):	Wetland Hydrology Indicators:
Stream, Lake, or Tide Gauge	Primary Indicators:
Aerial Photographs	Inundated
Other	Saturated in Upper 12 Inches
No Recorded Data Available	Water Marks
	Drift Lines
	Sediment Deposits
Field Observations:	Drainage Patterns in Wetlands
	Secondary Indicators (2 or more required):
Depth of Surface Water:(in.)	Oxidized Root Channels in Upper 12 Inches
	Water-Stained Leaves
Depth to Free Water in Pit: (in.)	Local Soil Survey Data
	FAC-Neutral Test
Depth to Saturated Soil:(in.)	Other (Explain in Remarks)
Remarks:	

~	-	 	•	
-	ο			
v	~	 -	•	

		amy Sand (Cf)	Drainage Class:	
		popsamments	Field Observations Confirm Mapped Type?	Yes 🗌 No
		Mottle Colors (Munsell Moist)	Mottle Abundance/ Size/Contrast	Texture, Concretions, Structure, etc,
ol Epipedon : Odor Moisture Regim ing Conditions		High Org Grganic Listed or Listed or	yanic Content in Surface Lay Streaking in Sandy Soils In Local Hydric Soils List In National Hydric Soils List	er in Sandy Soils
	Phase): Subgroup): riptions: <u>Horizon</u> <u>A</u> 	Phase): Cataño Loa Subgroup): Typic Trop riptions: Matrix Color <u>Horizon (Munsell Moist)</u> <u>A 7.5YR 3/2</u> 	Phase):       Cataño Loamy Sand (Cf)         Subgroup):       Typic Tropopsamments         riptions:       Matrix Color       Mottle Colors         Horizon       (Munsell Moist)       (Munsell Moist)         A       7.5YR 3/2	Phase):       Cataño Loamy Sand (Cf)       Drainage Class:         Subgroup):       Typic Tropopsamments       Confirm Mapped Type?         riptions:       Matrix Color       Mottle Colors       Mottle Abundance/         Horizon       (Munsell Moist)       (Munsell Moist)       Size/Contrast         A       7.5YR 3/2

### WETLAND DETERMINATION

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# Appendix 5 – Data Point Photos.



Figure 8. Sampling point 2A.



Figure 9. Sampling point 2B.

Appendix 5 – Data Point Photos (continued).



Figure 10. Sampling point 2C.



Figure 11. Sampling point 1A.

Appendix 5 – Data Point Photos (continued).



Figure 11. Sampling point 1B.

Appendix 6 – Location of Wetlands and Sampling Transects.

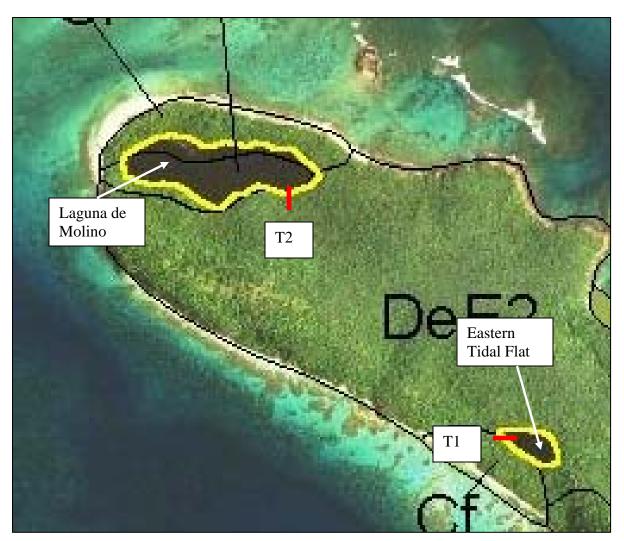


Figure 11. Location of both tidal wetlands and sampling transects. Yellow lines represent wetland boundaries.