

**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**July 22, 2024**

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

**COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE  
OF FUNDS**

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
Saipan, MP 96950      Tel: (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

**REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

On or after **August 07, 2024**, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following projects and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
New Construction: Childcare Facility (Rota)	Construct a concrete Early Childhood Learning Facility to provide quality care services that will support the overall development of young children in Rota.	Lot No. 345 R 524, Sinapalo III, Rota	\$450,000.00

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will not significantly impact the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan. It may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS


Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by **August 07, 2024, 4:30 p.m.**, will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands before authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commenters should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

### RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Arnold I. Palacios consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

### OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of **fifteen days** following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the **U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, Honolulu Field Office, 1003 Bishop Street, Suite 2100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813** and [CPDHonolulu@hud.gov](mailto:CPDHonolulu@hud.gov). Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.



**Arnold I. Palacios**  
Governor, CNMI



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban  
Development  
451 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20410  
www.hud.gov  
  
espanol.hud.gov

## **Environmental Assessment Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects 24 CFR Part 58**

### **Project Information**

**Project Name:** Childcare Facility (Rota)

**Responsible Entity:** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**Grant Recipient** (if different than Responsible Entity): Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
(NMHC)

**State/Local Identifier:** DUNS No. 854856119

**Preparer:** Ms. Brandy Camacho, Planning Administrative Assistant  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)

**Certifying Officer Name and Title:** Arnold I. Palacios, Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**Grant Recipient** (if different than Responsible Entity): Department of Community and Cultural  
Affairs – Childcare and Development  
Fund Program – (DCCA/CCDF)

**Consultant** (if applicable): N/A

**Direct Comments to:** Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)

**Project Location:** Sinapalo, Rota  
Lot no. 345 R 524

**Description of the Proposed Project** [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs – Childcare and Development Fund Program submits the following work to be done to build and have an Early Childhood Learning Facility in Sinapalo, Rota, CNMI.

**Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal** [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs – Childcare and Development Fund Program submitted its proposal for funding through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). This project aims to build a concrete early childhood learning facility to provide quality childcare services in a facility that will support the overall development of young children in Rota.

**Existing Conditions and Trends [24 CFR 58.40(a)]:**

Currently, there is no existing structure on the site location.

**Funding Information**

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
B-23-ST-69-0001	CDBG	\$450,000.00

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$450,000.00

**Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]:** \$450,000.00

**Compliance with 24 CFR 50.4, 58.5, and 58.6 Laws and Authorities**

Record below the compliance or conformance determinations for each statute, executive order, or regulation. Provide credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority. Where applicable, complete the necessary reviews or consultations and obtain or note applicable permits of approvals. Clearly note citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references. Attach additional documentation as appropriate.

<b>Compliance Factors:</b> Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 and 58.6</b>		
<b>Airport Hazards</b>  24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) has determined that the project is free from the Runway Protection Zone.  -Appendix A
<b>Coastal Barrier Resources</b>  Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The CNMI Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) has determined that the proposed construction project is not partially or wholly situated on or near



Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]		DCRM's designated "Area of Particular Concern" (APCs). -Appendix B
<b>Flood Insurance</b>  Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) has determined that the proposed project is NOT in the Special Flood Zone Area.  -Appendix C
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 &amp; 58.5</b>		
<b>Clean Air</b>  Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The CNMI Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) does not believe that the project will have a significant impact on the environment as defined by the National Environmental Policy Act.  -Appendix D
<b>Coastal Zone Management</b>  Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The CNMI Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) determined that the proposed improvement project is not partially or wholly situated on or near DCRM's designated "Areas of Particular Concern" (ACPs).  -Appendix B
<b>Contamination, Radon, and Toxic Substances</b>  24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) does not believe that the project will have a significant impact on the Environmental Policy Act.  -Appendix D
<b>Endangered Species</b>  Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) has determined that they do not anticipate impacts on T&E species.  -Appendix E
<b>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</b>  24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The CNMI Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) does not believe that the project will have a significant impact on the environment as defined by the National Environmental Policy Act.  -Appendix D

<b>Farmlands Protection</b>  Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) determined that NO protected animals will be impacted.  -Appendix F
<b>Floodplain Management</b>  Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) has determined that the proposed project is NOT in the Special Flood Zone Area.  -Appendix C
<b>Historic Preservation</b>  National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Division of Historic Preservation (HPO) has determined there are NO Historic Properties to be affected.  -Appendix G
<b>Noise Abatement and Control</b>  Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) does not believe that the project will have a significant impact on the environment as defined by the National Environmental Policy Act.  -Appendix D
<b>Sole Source Aquifers</b>  Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The CNMI has no Sole Source Aquifers  -Appendix H
<b>Wetlands Protection</b>  Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The CNMI Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) has determined that the proposed improvement project is not partially or wholly situated on or near DCRM's designated "Areas of Particular Concern" (ACPs).  -Appendix B
<b>Wild and Scenic Rivers</b>  Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The CNMI has no Wild and Scenic Rivers  -Appendix I
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b>		

<b>Environmental Justice</b>	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There will be no environmental impact on the construction of an Early Childhood Learning Facility.
Executive Order 12898		

**Environmental Assessment Factors** [24 CFR 58.40; Ref. 40 CFR 1508.8 & 1508.27] Recorded below is the qualitative and quantitative significance of the effects of the proposal on the character, features and resources of the project area. Each factor has been evaluated and documented, as appropriate and in proportion to its relevance to the proposed action. Verifiable source documentation has been provided and described in support of each determination, as appropriate. Credible, traceable and supportive source documentation for each authority has been provided. Where applicable, the necessary reviews or consultations have been completed and applicable permits of approvals have been obtained or noted. Citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references are clear. Additional documentation is attached, as appropriate. **All conditions, attenuation or mitigation measures have been clearly identified.**

**Impact Codes:** Use an impact code from the following list to make the determination of impact for each factor.

- (1) Minor beneficial impact
- (2) No impact anticipated
- (3) Minor Adverse Impact – May require mitigation
- (4) Significant or potentially significant impact requiring avoidance or modification which may require an Environmental Impact Statement

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>LAND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	The project will not affect any conformance with the plans.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	The soiled description as per the USDA Soil Conservation Service for the Sinapalo area is Luta. Detailed description as follows: Very shallow, well-drained, nearly level to strongly sloping soils; on limestone plateaus.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	The contractor will be required to apply for permits through the Department of Public Works (DPW) for construction to commence. The permitting agencies will guide them to prevent hazards, noise reduction, and site safety.
Energy Consumption	2	The project will consist of the construction of an Early Childhood Learning Facility.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC</b>		

Employment and Income Patterns	2	The goal of the project is to construct a childcare learning facility.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	The project site is in an area consisting of residential homes and small businesses. The construction of the multipurpose stage will not affect the community or the demographics of the site.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES</b>		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	The project will not affect any cultural or educational facilities.
Commercial Facilities	2	The project will not affect any commercial facilities.
Health Care and Social Services	2	The project will not affect any health care and social services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	The project will not affect any solid waste disposal or recycling facility.
Waste Water / Sanitary Sewers	2	The project will not affect any wastewater or sanitary sewers.
Water Supply	2	The project will not affect any water supply.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The project will not affect any public safety facilities.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	The project will not affect any parks, open spaces, or recreation. The project location does not have a park facility.
Transportation and Accessibility	2	The project will not affect any transportation facility.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>NATURAL FEATURES</b>		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	The project site has been developed, however, there will be no effect on any natural features or water resources.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	There will be no effect on any vegetation or wildlife. The project site has been developed.

Other Factors	2	The project has been determined to be free from any environmental impacts. The contractors will conform to the guidance of the permitting agencies for the construction to commence.
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**Additional Studies Performed:** There is no significant impact on the environment for this project. All regulatory agencies were consulted in the preparation of this Environmental Assessment.

**Field Inspection** (Date and completed by): January 26, 2024 – By Tricia B. Tenorio, Planner (NMHC)

**List of Sources, Agencies, and Persons Consulted** [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:

- Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA)
- Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM)
- Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ/BECQ)
- Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW/DLNR)
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- CNMI Historic Preservation Office (HPO)
- Soil Survey Documentation from USDA Soil Conservation Service
- Region 9 Documentation on Designated Sole Source Aquifers from EPA
- Documentation from the Natural Park Service for Scenic Rivers in the CNMI
- FEMA flood plain maps

**List of Permits Obtained:**

*There will be no permits to be obtained at this time, however, before the construction of the project, the contractor will be responsible for applying for a “One Start Permit” that will be issued by the Department of Public Works (DPW) or the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ). The permits will be included in the project file as soon as the selected contractor has been identified.*

**Public Outreach** [24 CFR 50.23 & 58.43]:

*The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation will publish the “Finding of No Significant Impact -FONSI” and “Request for the Release of Funds- RROF” as soon as this Environmental Assessment is signed by the Certifying Officer. The publication will be printed in the newspaper, website, and on the NMHC Facebook page for 15 days.*

**Cumulative Impact Analysis** [24 CFR 58.32]:

*There will be no significant impact on the environment on the construction of an early childhood learning facility. This project will be closely monitored by the Department of Community and*

*Cultural Affairs – Child Care Development Fund (DCCA-CCDF) and permitting agencies to ensure that permit requirements are met and that building code requirements comply.*

**Alternatives** [24 CFR 58.40(e); 40 CFR 1508.9]

*There is no significant impact on the environment for this project. The construction project is a short-term project, not a long term.*

**No Action Alternative** [24 CFR 58.40(e)]: *N/A*

### **Summary of Findings and Conclusions:**

This project will not impact the environment as the project is for the benefit of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs – Child Care Development Fund (DCCA-CCDF) and the people of Rota. This is a short-term project, and the contractor will abide by the conditions provided in the permits.

### **Mitigation Measures and Conditions [40 CFR 1505.2(c)]**

Summarize below all mitigation measures adopted by the Responsible Entity to reduce, avoid, or eliminate adverse environmental impacts and to avoid non-compliance or non-conformance with the above-listed authorities and factors. These measures/conditions must be incorporated into project contracts, development agreements, and other relevant documents. The staff responsible for implementing and monitoring mitigation measures should be identified in the mitigation plan.

*-Before the construction, the contractor will be required to apply for all the necessary permits to begin construction work.*



**Determination:**

☒ **Finding of No Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1); 40 CFR 1508.27]  
The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

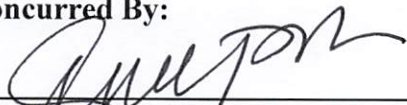
☐ **Finding of Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(2); 40 CFR 1508.27]  
The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

**Prepared By:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brandy Camacho, Planning Administrative Assistant  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation


Date: 07/15/2024

**Concurred By:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Zenie P. Mafnas, Acting Corporate Director  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

Date: 7/15/24

**Certifying Officer:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Arnold I. Palacios, Governor  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Date: 7/19/24

This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the activity/project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and per recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).



APPENDIX: A

## Commonwealth Ports Authority

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2<sup>ND</sup> Floor Arrival Bldg.

PO BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP • 96950

Phone: (1-670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (1-670) 234-5962

E-Mail Address: [cpa.admin@pticom.com](mailto:cpa.admin@pticom.com) Website: [www.cnmiports.com](http://www.cnmiports.com)



5/20/24 VP

May 10, 2024

Mr. Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
PO Box 500514  
Saipan, MP 96950

Subject: Request for Determination of Effect  
Lot No. 345 R 524  
Rota

Dear Mr. Palacios:

This is in reference to your letter dated May 3, 2024 requesting for a determination of effect for lot number 345 R 524 on Rota. The project indicated is under the Housing Urban Development through Community Development Block Grant.

After review of the lot and its location, we determined that the aforementioned lot is free from the Airport Runway Clear Zones. As such, the determination of effect is hereby given.

Should you have questions, please feel free to contact us.

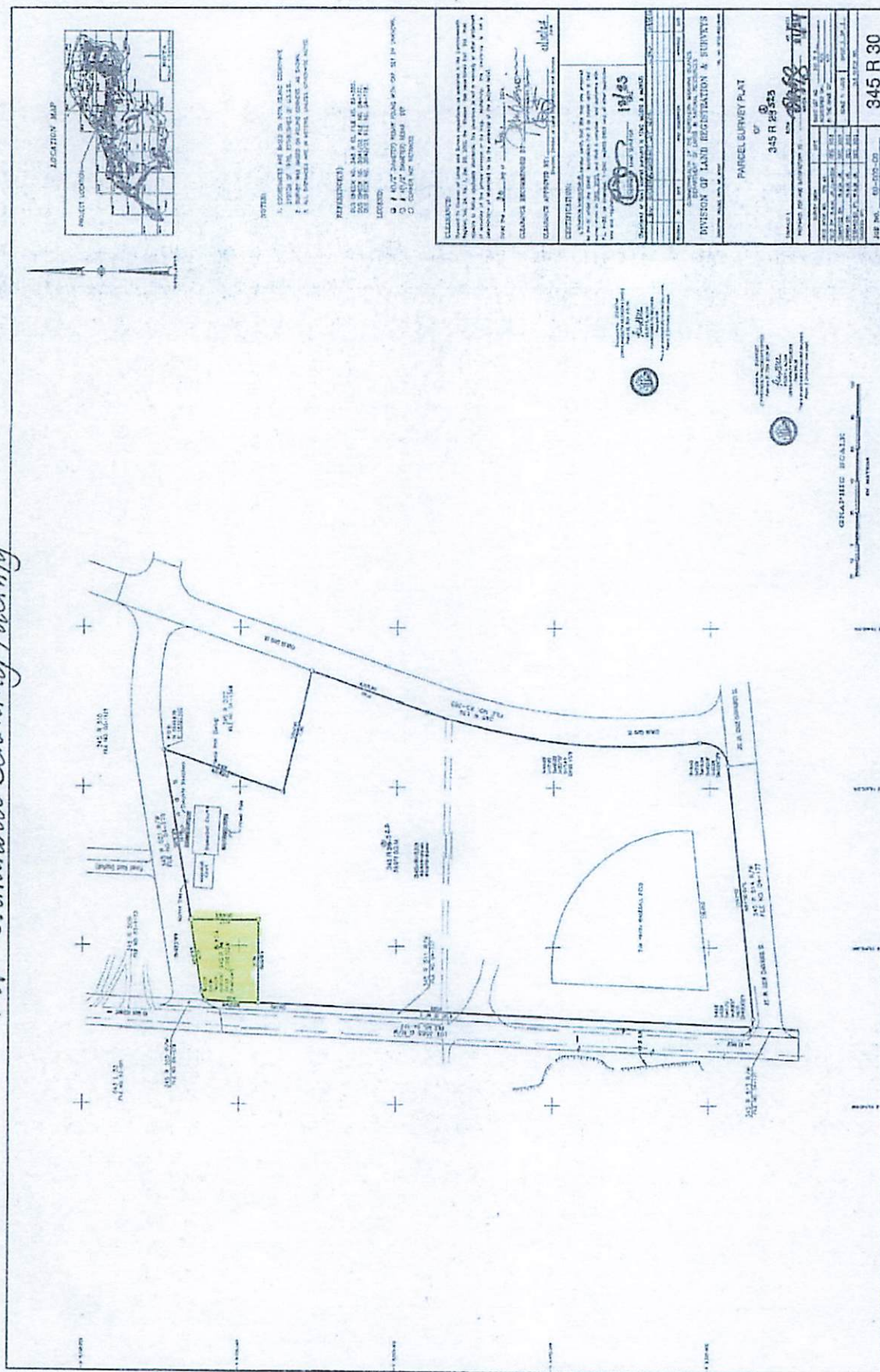
Sincerely,

LEO B. TUDELA  
Executive Director

cc: ELCO



ROP Childhood Learning Facility









APPENDIX: B



Eli D. Cabrera  
Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
**Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality**  
Division of Coastal Resources Management  
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel. (670) 664-8300; Fax. (670) 664-8315  
[www.dcrmi.gov.mp](http://www.dcrmi.gov.mp)



Richard V. Salas  
Director, DCRM

May 20, 2024

Ref No: PRM24-221/307D-24-040

Jesse Palacios  
Corporate Director  
Northern Marianas Housing Corp.  
P.O. Box 500514  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Email: [planningadmin@nmhcgov.net](mailto:planningadmin@nmhcgov.net)

**RE: Concurrence of Determination of Effect on Wetland Protection,  
Early Childhood Learning Facility, Sinapalo, Rota**

Dear Mr. Palacios,

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) is in receipt of your May 3, 2024 letter requesting for our concurrence on your determination of effect for the proposed construction of the above-subject project. As stated in your letter, the construction project is situated on Lot No. 345 R 524 in Sinapalo, Rota. Moreover, this project will be funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Based on our review, DCRM concurs with your determination of no effect on wetlands since the project is wholly situated outside of DCRM's designated Areas of Particular Concern (APCs) nor does it meet our Major Siting threshold requirement. Moreover, to the extent that this new project may require issuance of a federal license or permit or trigger federal consistency review, submission of a consistency determination certifying that issuance of the federal license or permit complies with the enforceable policies of the CNMI Coastal Management Program (CMP) may be necessary.

DCRM does not anticipate that this project will cause significant public controversy and believes that the public and other agencies will be supportive of this activity. However, given that the project is or will be federally funded, a One-Start permit from the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is required. This application will enable the DEQ, DCRM, the Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), and the Historic Preservation Office (HPO) to review your project proposal more thoroughly. Moreover, as this project will be duly permitted by relevant CNMI agencies, DCRM anticipates that the project will not conflict with any CNMI environmental, conservation, or land use laws and regulations.

**RECEIVED**  
05/21/2024

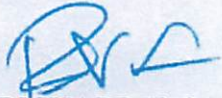
*[Signature]* 15:13/MS.



APPENDIX: B

We look forward to continue coordination as the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation plans and seeks permits for this important improvement project. Should you have any questions or need assistance, please contact our Permitting Section at (670) 664-8300.

Sincerely,



RICHARD V. SALAS

Director

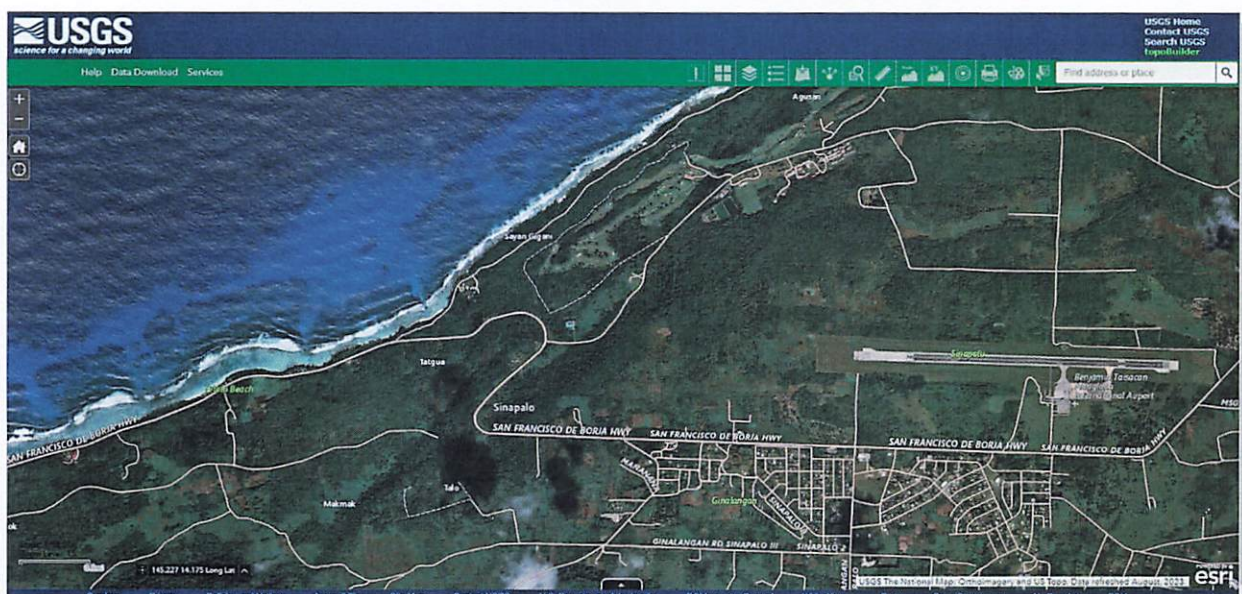
Division of Coastal Resources Management



## APPENDIX: B



## APPENDIX C: ROTA FLOOD PLAIN MAPS







APPENDIX: D

**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Email: [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp)

Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>

Tels: (670) 234-6866

234-9447

Fax: (670) 234-9021

June 27, 2024

Mrs. Zabrina Cruz  
Director  
Division of Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 501304  
Saipan, MP 96950



**RECEIVED**  
8/7/10/2024

*[Signature]* 11:40 am

**RE: AMENDMENT No. 3: Concurrence of Determination of Effect**

Håfa Adai Mrs. Cruz:

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is kindly requesting your agency's *concurrence* for the Determination of Effect on the construction of an Early Childhood Learning Facility in Sinapalo III, Rota. Lot no. 345 R 524.

As a requirement by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) environmental review, we must obtain concurrence from all regulatory agencies.

The proposed project will be funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

**NMHC has determined that there is no effect on the following:**

**a. Impact of the project on air quality:**

*-NMHC has determined that there will be no impact on air quality.*

**b. Proximity to any known or suspected sites contaminated with toxic chemicals/radon or radioactive materials:**

*-NMHC has determined no suspected or visual indication of toxic chemicals or radioactive materials. There is no known data indication of radon occurring between or around the proposed project site.*

**c. Project involved in the development of noise-sensitive uses or within a major roadway or railroad:**

*-NMHC has determined that the construction is not involved in the development of noise-sensitive uses or is within a major roadway or railroad.*

**d. Separation from ground explosives or flammable fuel or chemical containers:**

**"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"**

Rota Field Office: Tel. (670) 532-9410  
Fax. (670) 532-9441

Tinian Field Office: Tel. (671) 433-9213  
Fax. (670) 433-3690



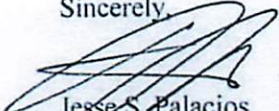
APPENDIX: D

- *NMHC has determined that the project site is at an acceptable separation distance from any above-ground explosive or flammable fuel or chemical containers. The project will not expose such hazards to people or buildings.*

Upon agreement of our determination please sign below indicating concurrence of your agency.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Brandy Camacho or Ms. Tricia B. Tenorio at (670) 233-0071/0076.

Sincerely,



Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director

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**Division of Environmental Quality Concurrence:**

Based on the information you have supplied, the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality does not believe that this project will have a significant impact on the environment as defined by the National Environmental Policy Act. Your project may require permits from DEQ or other local or federal agencies, and your responsibility to obtain them is not obviated by this letter.



---

Zabrina Cruz, Director  
Division of Environmental Quality



---

Date:

**"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"**

Rota Field Office: Tel. (670) 532-9410  
Fax. (670) 532-9441

Tinian Field Office: Tel. (671) 433-9213  
Fax. (670) 433-3690



## APPENDIX: D

*\* Updated Comments on Solid Waste Management.*

*07/10/2024*



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality  
Division of Environmental Quality



Date	July 10, 2024
Request From	Northern Marianas Housing Corp.
Project Name	Early Childhood Learning Facility (Amendment No. 3)
Project Type	New Construction

Based on your requests, the Division of Environmental Quality does not believe that this project will have a significant impact on the environment as defined by under the DEQ's regulations. Your project may require permits from DEQ or other local or federal agencies, and your responsibility to obtain them is not obviated by this concurrence. Be advised of the comments, recommendations and requirements from the DEQ programs below.

Wastewater, Earthmoving, & Erosion Control	Based on the proposed project activities, a One-Start Earthmoving Permit must be obtained prior to start of project.
Water Quality/Nonpoint Source	No comments or concerns from WQS/NPS.
Clean Air Program	Water suppression, tarp coverage, or other best practices must be implemented to control fugitive dust from construction activities. The proposed project site is not adjacent to any known or suspected site containing radon gas that meet EPA's action level (4 pCi/L (picocuries per liter) or more).
Safe Drinking Water	All components of the water system should be certified lead free. • Recommended to install rooftop rain catchment to be used as water source for building if possible. • All tanks and water system fittings should be NSF 61 approved for drinking water. Any connections to CUC or other water systems should use some form of backflow prevention.
Toxic Waste Management	<p>1. New Construction: The One-Start Permit condition shall cover all potential discoveries of hazardous waste or material. All parties pertaining to the project shall cease activities upon discovery of any hazardous materials or unusual substance or objects, and shall notify the discovery to DEQ. Failure to report findings may result in enforcement proceedings.</p> <p>2. All household hazardous waste and universal waste generated from the rehabilitation/reconstruction shall be disposed of properly and in accordance with applicable state and federal regulations.</p> <p>3. If heavy equipment will be utilized at these project sites, the company performing the activities shall have spill response equipment readily available in case of a incident.</p> <p>4. If designated buildings for demolition were constructed prior to 1978, a Lead-based paint test should be performed to identify the possibility of contaminants. The test should be conducted before any demolition occurs to ensure that no contaminants will be present within the dust particulates.</p>
Solid Waste Management	Recycle materials to to be generated shall be taken to DEQ permitted facilities and non-recyclable materials must be disposed of according to the DEQ Solid Waste Management Regulations.
Storage Tanks	The Storage Tanks Branch has no comments or concerns
Site Assessment & Remediation (Brownfields & Formerly Used Defense Sites)	Please see attached document for SAR review
Pesticides	A pesticide treatment permit from DEQ is required for pre or post construction pesticide treatment/applications.



## APPENDIX: D

### **Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) – CDBG-DR Program - Early Childhood Learning Facility, Lot No. 345 R 522 (Sinapalo, Rota) – NEPA Review**

Property Identification	Applicant Name:	Project Activity
Lot No. 345 R 522 (Sinapalo, Rota)	Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) – CDBG-DR Program	New Construction

1. **Toxic/Hazardous/Radioactive, Material, Contamination, Chemical or Gases:** That the project does not involve new development for habitation; OR the project involves new development for habitation but is not located within one mile of an NPL ("Superfund") site, within ½ mile of a CERCLIS site, nor adjacent to any other known or suspected sited contaminated with toxic chemicals or radioactive source determines it does not pose a health hazard.

#### **BECQ-DEQ BRANCH: Site Assessment and Remediation (SAR)**

In respect to the following lot (listed above) in question, there are no concerns of those sites being situated within one mile of an NPL ("Superfund") site, or within ½ mile of a CERCLIS site, nor adjacent to any other known or suspected site contaminated with toxic chemicals or radioactive sources and determines it does not pose a health hazard.

#### **UXO Safety**

- No concerns surrounding this lots. However, the owners should take precautions in the event of any intrusive activities such as land excavations. Reason being that there could be a possibility of UXO or Unexploded Ordnance in the area. In the event UXO is discovered, work should STOP, and DFEMS be contacted.
- Even if it is indicated that there is no record of inventory there is a potential for Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) to be found in the subject site. Although, if UXO is discovered during excavation or mining activities, it is recommended that work is ceased



## APPENDIX: D

and that the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS) is contacted.

- It is important that if an Unexploded Ordinance ("UXO") is encountered with the surface activities, work must stop and the Site Safety Officer must contact the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services ("DFEMS") at 911. DFEMS is the contact for the removal of Unexploded Ordinances that are discovered on-site.
- If UXO is frequently being discovered on the sub-surface due to land clearing activities, the need for a UXO Technician should be considered. The role of the UXO Technician is to provide safety support and monitor for any UXO during excavation activities.
  - Always remember the 3R's of UXO Safety:
    - **Recognize** – when you may have come across a munition, and that munitions are dangerous.
    - **Retreat** – do not approach, touch, move, or disturb a suspect munition, but carefully leave the area.
    - **Report** – immediately what you saw and where you saw it to local law enforcement – call 911.

### **BECQ-DEQ Site Assessment & Remediation (SAR)**

- Joshua C. Santos (Manager – Site Assessment & Remediation)
- Anthony A. Castro (Env. Specialist – Site Assessment & Remediation)

## APPENDIX: D

# Map Images









APPENDIX: D



APPENDIX: E



**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Email: [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp)

Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>

Tels: (670) 234-6866

234-9447

Fax: (670) 234-9021

May 3, 2024

Ms. Rosemary Camacho  
Acting Director  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
P.O. Box 10007  
Saipan, MP 96950

**Re: Concurrence of Determination of Effect**

Hafa Adai Ms. Camacho,

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is in the process of preparing the Environmental Assessment Statutory Checklist (24 CFR § 58.35) for the construction of an Early Childhood Learning Facility in Sinapalo, Rota. Lot no. 345 R 524.

As a requirement by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) environmental review, we must obtain concurrence from all regulatory agencies.

The project will be funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

NMHC has determined that there is no effect on the following:

**a. Endangered Species:**

*NMHC has determined that there will be no impact on Endangered Species for constructing an Early Childhood Learning Facility in Sinapalo, Rota. Lot no. 345 R 524.*

Upon agreement of our determination please feel free to contact Ms. Brandy Camacho or Ms. Tricia B. Tenorio at (670) 233-0071/0076.

Sincerely,

  
Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director

---

**"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"**

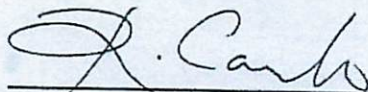
Rota Field Office: Tel. (670) 532-9410  
Fax: (670) 532-9441

Tinian Field Office: Tel. (671) 433-9213  
Fax: (670) 433-3690

## APPENDIX: E

### Division of Fish and Wildlife Concurrence:

Based on the information you have supplied, the CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife does not believe that this project will have a significant impact on the environment as defined by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and Wet Land Protection Executive Order 11990. Your project may require permits from DEQ or other local or federal agencies, and your responsibility to obtain them is not obviated by this letter.



Rosemary Camacho  
Acting Director  
Division of Fish and Wildlife

5/10/24

Date

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5/10/24

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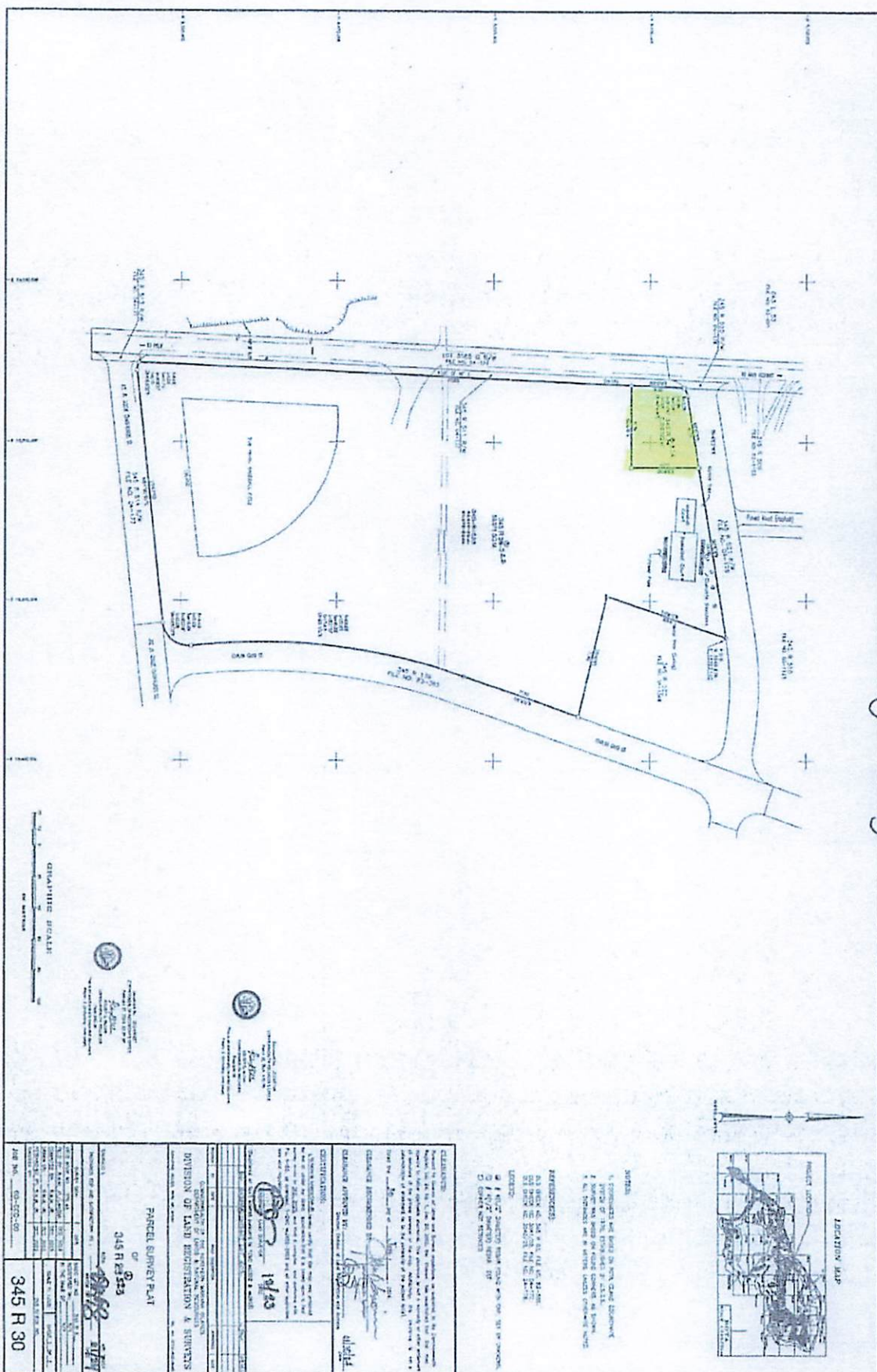
"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"

Rota Field Office: Tel. (670) 532-9410  
Fax. (670) 532-9441

Tinian Field Office: Tel. (671) 433-9213  
Fax. (670) 433-3690



POP Childhood Learning Facility



APPENDIX: F



**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Email: [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp)

Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>

Tel: (670) 234-6866

234-9447

Fax: (670) 234-9021

May 3, 2024

Pamela M. Sablan  
District Conservationist  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
P.O. Box 5082 CHRB  
Saipan, MP 96950

**Re: Request for a Determination of Effect**

Håfa Adai Ms. Sablan,

807 05/06/24  
RECEIVED

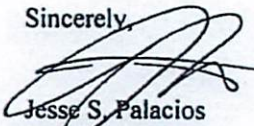
The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is in the process of preparing the Environmental Assessment Statutory Checklist (24 CFR § 58.35) for the construction of an Early Childhood Learning Facility in Sinapalo, Rota. Lot no. 345 R 524.

The proposed project will be funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

For our office to complete the Environmental Review, an Environmental Assessment Statutory Checklist (24 CFR § 58.35) must be completed. We kindly request your office to issue a Determination of Effect based on HUD requirements for the Farmland Conversion Impact Rating for the construction of a generator room on top of the rear parking area of the Guma' Esperansa as attached.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Brandy Camacho or Ms. Tricia B. Tenorio at (670) 233-0071/0076.

Sincerely,

  
Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director

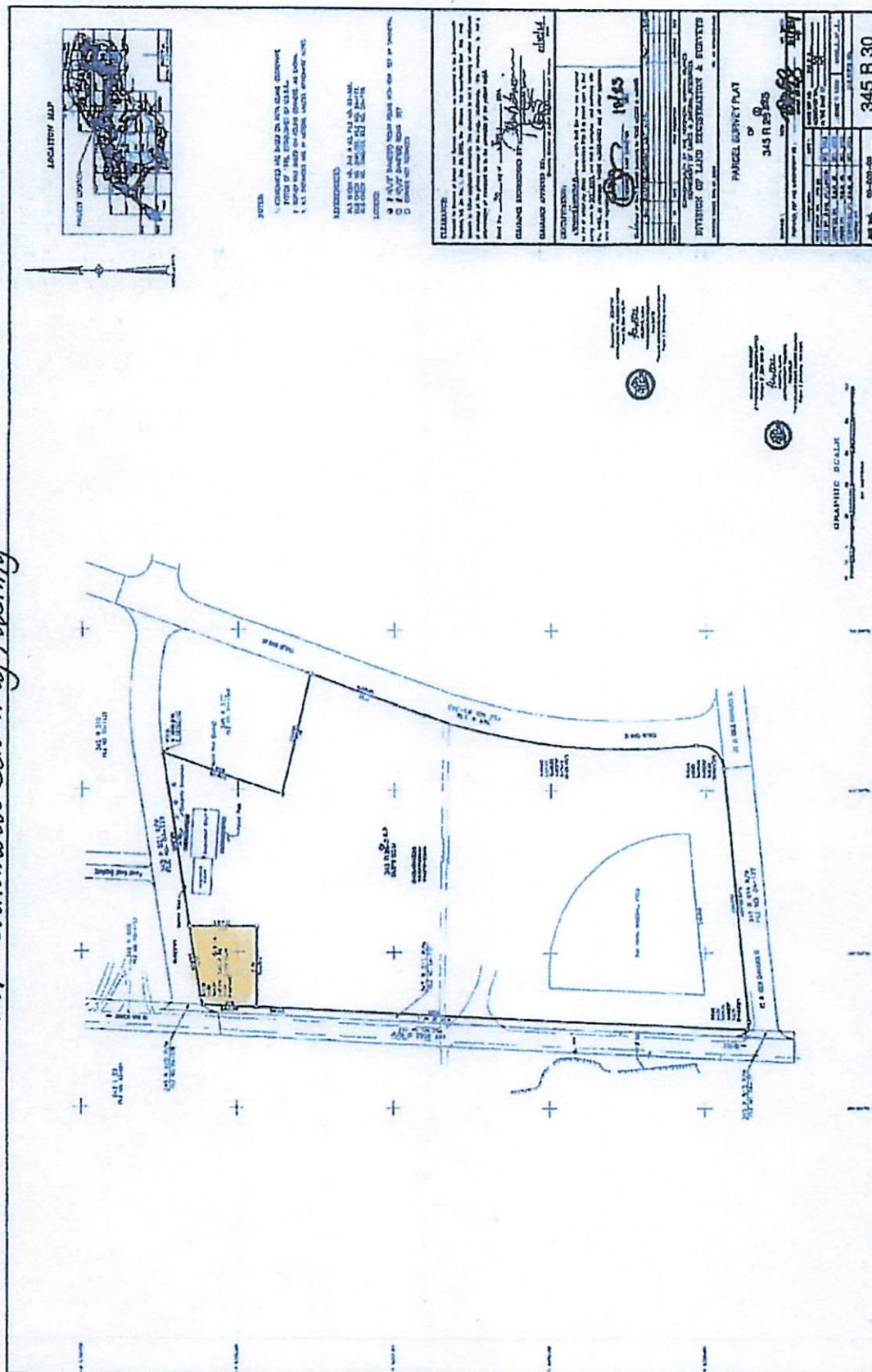
**"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"**

Rota Field Office: Tel. (670) 532-9410  
Fax. (670) 532-9441

Tinian Field Office: Tel. (671) 433-9213  
Fax. (670) 433-3690



ROP Childhood Learning Facility





APPENDIX: F

# Prime and Unique Farmlands Map

USDA-NRCS

Map Prepared by Pamela M. Sablan, District Conservationist - 05/07/2024  
Response to Categorically Excluded Statutory Checklist  
"Construction of an Early Childhood Learning Facility - Sinapalo, Rota"



0 425 850 1700 Feet



Project Location




United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



## APPENDIX: F

U.S. Department of Agriculture							
FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING							
<b>PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>				Date Of Land Evaluation Request <u>05/03/2024</u>			
Name of Project Construction of an Early Childhood Learning Facility				Federal Agency Involved Northern Marianas Housing Corporation			
Proposed Land Use Sinapalo, Rota Lot no. 345 R 524				County and State Northern Mariana Islands			
<b>PART II (To be completed by NRCS)</b>				Date Request Received By NRCS <u>05/06/2024</u>		Person Completing Form: <u>S. TARA</u>	
Does the site contain Prime, Unique, Statewide or Local Important Farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - do not complete additional parts of this form)				YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Acres Irrigated	Average Farm Size
Major Crop(s)	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres: %			Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: %			
Name of Land Evaluation System Used	Name of State or Local Site Assessment System			Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS			
<b>PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>				Alternative Site Rating			
				Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly				N/A			
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly							
C. Total Acres In Site							
<b>PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information</b>							
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland							
B. Total Acres Statewide Important or Local Important Farmland							
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted							
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value							
<b>PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion</b>							
Relative Value of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points)							
<b>PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria</b>				Maximum Points	Site A	Site B	Site C
(Criteria are explained in 7 CFR 858.6 b. For Corridor project use form NRCS-CPA-106)							
1. Area In Non-urban Use				(15)			
2. Perimeter In Non-urban Use				(10)			
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed				(20)			
4. Protection Provided By State and Local Government				(20)			
5. Distance From Urban Built-up Area				(15)			
6. Distance To Urban Support Services				(15)			
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average				(10)			
8. Creation Of Non-farmable Farmland				(10)			
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services				(5)			
10. On-Farm Investments				(20)			
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services				(10)			
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use				(10)			
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS				160			
<b>PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>							
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)				100			
Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or local site assessment)				160			
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)				260			
Site Selected:				Date Of Selection			
				Was A Local Site Assessment Used?			
				YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>			
Reason For Selection:							
							
Name of Federal agency representative completing this form: <u>PAUL M. SABIDO, D.C.</u>						Date: <u>5/8/24</u>	
(See Instructions on reverse side)						Form AD-1006 (03-02)	



APPENDIX: G



*Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands*  
*Division of Historic Preservation*  
*Department of Community & Cultural Affairs*  
*Buildings A-15 and A-16 Cactus St. Garapan*  
*Caller Box 10007*  
*Saipan, MP 96950*



TEL: 664-2120-25  
FAX: 664-2139

May 10, 2024

Serial: 36414

File: 6.7.24.47 – (Amendment-1)

Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
P.O. Box 500514  
Saipan, MP 96950

**RE: Section 106 Concurrence on Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's (NMHC) consultation amendment in Support of the Early Childhood Learning Facility project to Include Change on Lot Number, from (Lot Number 345 R 522 to Lot Number 345 R 524), Sinapalo area, Rota**

Dear Mr. Palacios,

The HPO has reviewed the amendment documentation you have provided on the above subject reference and concurs with NMHC's finding of **No Historic Properties Affected** determination and recommends no further work for the project.

If there are any questions or comments you may have, please feel free to reach out to HPO at (670) 664-2120.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mertie T. Kani".

Mertie T. Kani  
Historic Preservation Officer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John D. Palacios".

John D. Palacios  
HPO Coordinator

**RECEIVED**  
05/10/2024

10:40 W.S.



## Rota [edit]

**Contents** **hide**

(Top)

Numbers of listings

**Rota**

Saipan

Tinian

See also

References


















## APPENDIX: G

map or coordinates using

OpenStreetMap

Download coordinates

as: [show links]

[4]	Name on the Register	Image	Date listed <sup>[5]</sup>	Location	Village	Description
1	Chudang Pali Japanese World War II Defensive Complex		May 1, 2012 (#12000250 <sup>2</sup> )	Sunrise Hotel, Rte. 100  14°09'12"N 145°12'06"E	Sinapalu	
2	Chugal Pictograph Site		August 31, 1998 (#98001056 <sup>2</sup> )	I'Chenchon Bird Sanctuary  14°09'12"N 145°16'03"E		Prehistoric pictograph cave
3	Commissioner's Office		April 17, 1981 (#81000663 <sup>2</sup> )	North of Songsong Village  14°10'02"N 145°09'46"E	Songsong	
4	Dugi Archeological Site	<b>Address Restricted</b>	February 11, 1985 (#85000287 <sup>2</sup> )	Address Restricted	Songsong	
5	Japanese Coastal Defense Gun		November 2, 1984 (#84000422 <sup>2</sup> )	Northeast of Songsong  14°07'13"N 145°09'59"E	Songsong	
6	Japanese Hospital		April 16, 1981 (#81000664 <sup>2</sup> )	West side of Sasanhaya Bay  14°08'13"N 145°08'18"E	Songsong	
7	Mochong		September 11, 1985 (#85002301 <sup>2</sup> )	Address Restricted	Songsong	
8	Nanyo Kohatsu Kabushiki Kaisha Sugar Mill		April 16, 1981 (#81000665 <sup>2</sup> )	Southwest of Songsong Village, near the harbor  14°08'10"N 145°08'07"E	Songsong	
9	Rectory		April 16, 1981 (#81000666 <sup>2</sup> )	North end of the island  14°09'59"N 145°10'00"E	Songsong	
10	Rota Laita Stone Quarry		December 23, 1974 (#74002225 <sup>2</sup> )	 14°10'17"N 145°15'30"E	Songsong	

APPENDIX: H

US  
EPA  
ARCHIVE  
DOCUMENT



## APPENDIX: H



United States  
Environmental  
Protection Agency

Region 9 Ground Water  
Office (WTR-9)

JUNE 2000

### Sole Source Aquifer Designations in EPA, Region 9

The U.S. EPA's Sole Source Aquifer Program was established under Section 1424(e) of the U.S. Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA.) Since 1977, it has been used by communities to help prevent contamination of groundwater from federally-funded projects. It has increased public awareness of the vulnerability of groundwater resources.

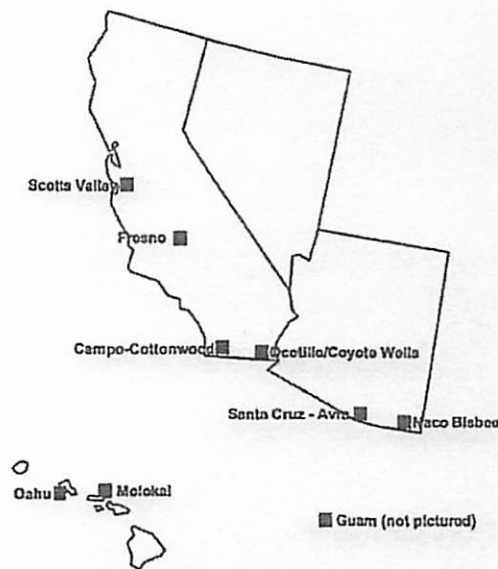
**How did this program start?** SDWA regulations implementing the sole source aquifer statute were first proposed in 1977 for the Edwards Underground Reservoir in San Antonio, Texas. These regulations guided U.S. EPA in the subsequent designation of 64 sole source aquifers across the United States.

**What does the Sole Source Aquifer Program do?** The Sole Source Aquifer program allows for EPA environmental review of any project which is financially assisted by federal grants or federal loan guarantees. These projects are evaluated to determine whether they have the potential to contaminate a sole source aquifer. If there is such a potential, the project should be modified to reduce or eliminate the risk, or federal financial support may be withdrawn. This doesn't mean that the Sole Source Aquifer program can delay or stop development of landfills, roads, publicly owned wastewater treatment works or other facilities. Nor can it impact any direct federal environmental regulatory or remedial programs, such as permit decisions.

The Sole Source Aquifer Program's review authority extends only to projects funded with federal assistance that are to be implemented in designated sole source aquifer areas. (For regulations applicable to new private development, you should consult with your local, county or state environmental health agency.)

Typical projects reviewed by the U.S. EPA include housing projects undertaken by Housing and Urban Development, and highway construction and expansion projects undertaken by the Federal Highway Administration. In 1991, the U.S. EPA reviewed 152 federal assistance projects totaling \$571 million; of these projects, 25 had to be modified to prevent contamination of sole source aquifers. Modifications included the redesign of bridges and highways to prevent spills of hazardous materials.

**How do you designate an aquifer as a "Sole Source" Aquifer?** As the name implies, only a "sole source" aquifer can qualify for the program. To be a sole source, the aquifer must supply more than 50% of a community's drinking water. Any individual, corporation, association, or federal, state or



local agency may petition the U.S. EPA for sole source aquifer designation, provided the petition includes sufficient hydrogeologic information. An outline describing how such petitions should be prepared is contained in *The Sole Source Aquifer Designation Petitioner Guidance*, copies of which are available at EPA Regional offices (see contact information below.)

**What about Boundaries?** Determination of sole source aquifer boundaries is a difficult aspect of the designation process since the "designated area includes the surface area above the aquifer and its recharge area." Thus, some sole source aquifers extend across state boundaries. The 10,000 square-mile Eastern Snake River Aquifer, for example, includes portions of Idaho, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming.

In Region 9: nine sole source aquifers have been designated in the following areas as shown on the map: Upper Santa Cruz and Avra Basin Aquifer, covering parts of Pima, Pinal, and Santa Cruz Counties, Arizona; Naco-Bisbee Aquifer, Arizona; Ocotillo-Coyote Wells, Imperial County, California; Fresno Aquifer, California; Scotts Valley Aquifer, Santa Cruz County, California; Campo-Cottonwood Aquifer, San Diego County, California; Northern Guam Aquifer, Guam; Southern Oahu Aquifer, Hawaii; and Molokai Aquifer, Hawaii.

Region 9 SSA maps are on the web at [www.epa.gov/safewater/ssanp.html](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ssanp.html). For more information about SSA designation and project reviews, please call David Albright, manager of the Ground Water Office, at (415) 972-3971 or email [albright.david@epa.gov](mailto:albright.david@epa.gov).

## APPENDIX: I

Norm - Groove Widel About the WSR Act Rivers: Nationwide River

www.nps.gov/nrc/programs/rtrca/nri/index.html

### Nationwide Rivers Inventory

[Authorizations](#) | [History](#) | [Eligibility Descriptions](#)  
[NRI Consultation Instructions](#) | [Outstandingly Remarkable Values](#)  
[Potential Classification](#) | [Wild and Scenic Rivers System](#)  
[Nationwide Rivers Inventory Home](#)

[River Projects](#)  
[More About Rivers](#)  
[Publications/Online Resources](#)  
[Federal Partners](#)  
[Nonprofit Partners](#)  
[Rivers Home](#)


**Download NRI GIS Data**  
[Alaska NRI GIS Data](#)  
[Hawaii NRI GIS Data](#)  
[Lower 48 NRI GIS Data](#)  
[UPDATED OR NRI Data](#)  
[Puerto Rico NRI GIS Data](#)

The National Park Service is compiling information to update this database. Please contact Joan Harn (joan\_harn@nps.gov) if you are aware of any changes to be made.  
 Please contact Sheila Wakisa (sheila\_wakisa@nps.gov) to order a CD of GIS files.

The **Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI)** is a listing of more than 3,400 free-flowing river segments in the United States that are believed to possess one or more "outstandingly remarkable" natural or cultural values judged to be of more than local or regional significance. Under a 1979 Presidential Directive, and related Council on Environmental Quality procedures, all federal agencies must seek to avoid or mitigate actions that would adversely affect one or more NRI segments. Click here for instructions on the process of consulting with the NPS on projects potentially affecting NRI segments.

The NRI is a source of information for statewide river assessments and federal agencies involved with stream-related projects. For any group concerned with ecosystem management, the inventory can provide the location of the nearest naturally-functioning system which might serve as a reference for monitoring activities. It also serves as a listing of plant and animal species for restoration efforts on a similar section of river. For the recreationalist, it provides a listing of free-flowing, relatively undisturbed river segments.

Click here to hear an audio explanation of the NRI (wav file 4MB)  
[Click On the Map Below to View a Map of the Database](#)



The NRI is managed by the Rivers, Trails, & Conservation Assistance Program.

Challenge Cost Share Program | Federal Lands to Parks | Hydroponics Reclamation Program  
 Land and Water Conservation Fund | Conservation and Outdoor Recreation | National Trails System  
 National Park Service | National System of Public Lands | National System of Public Lands



## APPENDIX: I

