



NFWF

Project Manager Selected for Puerto Rico Seagrass Fund Initial Assessment

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, in consultation/coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Marine Fisheries Services, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office, is pleased to announce the selection of the University of Puerto Rico – Mayaguez as project manager for the Puerto Rico Seagrass Fund Initial Assessment.

The assessment will evaluate the general condition of seagrass beds in the nearshore waters between Guánica and Santa Isabel, identify seagrass protection and restoration opportunities based on observed impacts to seagrass, and recommend priority seagrass conservation locations and strategies.

Following the completion of the Initial Assessment, NFWF and the IAT will conduct a second request for proposals to complete cost-effective seagrass protection and restoration projects in the targeted geography.

The Puerto Rico Seagrass Fund was established with funds from a consent decree entered in relation to U.S. v. Authority for the Port of the Americas (Case No. 3:12-cv-02033-JAG [D.P.R.]). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office together comprise the Interagency Advisory Team (IAT), which will advise the project manager on assessment scope and methodology.

For more information, please visit the Puerto Rico Seagrass Fund webpage at www.nfwf.org/seagrassfund or contact Michelle Olson at michelle.olson@nfwf.org.