

Appendix A, El Yunque NF Interpretation/CE site inventory

Introduction

This Interpretation/CE site inventory collects the surveys of site specific, non-personal interpretation media (signage, brochures, bulletin boards, etc.) in place at each Interpretive site throughout the El Yunque NF recreation corridor. The survey was performed by the following members of the VIS Interpretive services staff: Cynthia Manfred, Frank Torres, Edwin Velazquez and Aurea Moragón. The results were then edited and compiled by VIS Operations Leader, Victor M. Cuevas. The survey forms report on the condition and location of site



signage, the interpretive significance of the site, the site's perceived interpretive objective(s), existing interpretive media and services and any known management issues that should be addressed and described. Also recorded are all pertinent, site-specific, visitor and/or outfitter-guide comments gleaned by the VIS team during the course of the surveys. Proposals for new site signs are shown where site survey(s) determined that the interpretive narrative was obsolete or non-existent, or in some instances did not adequately answer visitor's frequently asked questions.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: _____

Reviewers Name: _____

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? _____

What are the conditions? _____

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need? __

GPS Location: _____

Site Location and Description: _____

Interpretive Significance: _____

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: _____

Site Objectives: _____

Interpretive Media or Services: _____

Known Management Issues: _____

Reviewers Comments: _____

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: La Coca Falls Observation area, New Opportunity

Reviewers Name: Cynthia Manfred

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? _____

What are the conditions? _____

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?
—

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Large Waterfall over straight rock face of about 80ft. that can be seen from Rd 191 Km 8.1. Two parking areas, a small store. Contiguous to Forest gate.

(Digital photos) pending

Interpretive Significance: First and main attraction along 191 the drive into the Forest towards the Recreation Area. It is the most recognizable feature of El Yunque in the local collective memory. A most popular stop.

Interpretive theme or topics: Origin of name, geological formation, headwaters and destination of creek.

Site Objectives: It is a main photo opportunity for the visitor, therefore a prime spot to reach many visitors.

Interpretive Media or Services: New sign. No previous media.

Known Management Issues: Safety Hazards: Dangerous road crossing. Slippery Rocks. Flash Flood danger.

Parking violations of visitor's & outfitter buses

Need to expose visitor's to forest care ethics: (To avoid disturbing animals or taking plants, unnecessary noise and littering).

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Yokahú Tower (sign #1)

Reviewers Name: Frank Torres

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No Site has interpretive guide
For sale

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Ground level Next to men's room entrance by side walk

Interpretive Significance: Panoramic view of Atlantic Ocean and Luquillo beach area
(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: View of Ten miles and Beyond

Site Objectives: Natures gift, rain forest with an ocean view

Interpretive Media or Services: Sign

Known Management Issues: Trash & graffiti and fungii on sign

Reviewers Comments: Photograph shows different view than can be seen from this spot.
Picture taken from different angle. You can't see the condos mentioned on the sign.
Sign is fading from direct sun light. New sing is needed and photo should be taken, this
is the same sign that's on the upper level of tower. Ten miles and Beyond should have
relation theme between El Yunque rain forest and the ocean that is seen from this angle.
Text refers to CNF should be El Yunque NF.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Yokahú Tower (sign #2)

Reviewers Name: Frank Torres

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No Site has interpretive guide
For sale

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Lower level front side of tower

Interpretive Significance: History of tower and leagen

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Yokahú Tower

Site Objectives: Recognize the beauty around you

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Trash & graffiti

Reviewers Comments: Photo could show tower in early stage of construction.

Brief history of tower is good. Text refers to CNF should be El Yunque .

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form

El Yunque National Forest



Yokahú Tower sign #2

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Yokahú Tower (sign#3)

Reviewers Name: Frank Torres

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No

Site has interpretive guide
For sale

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: unknown

Site Location and Description: Sign located next to water fountain right side front of tower

Interpretive Significance: Photografic view of cloud forest provides invitation to visitors for senic hikes.

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: The cloud forest

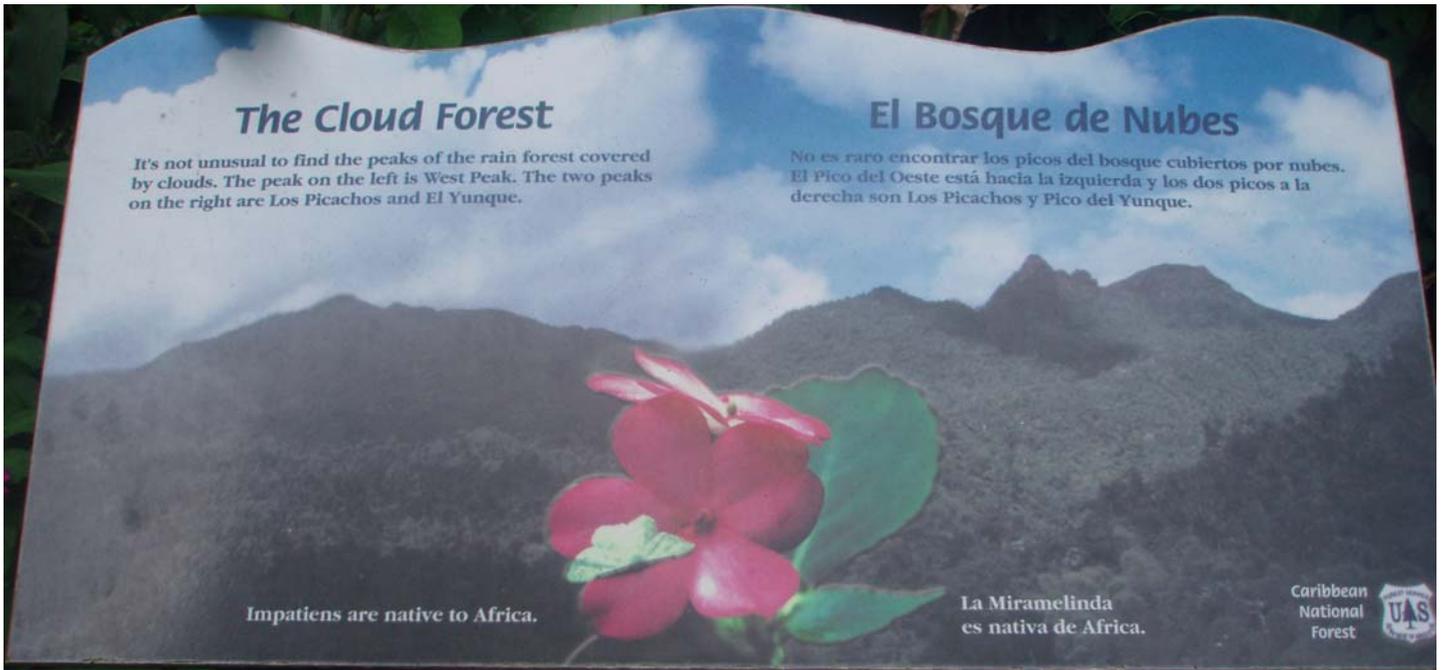
Site Objectives: Motivate our visitors to explore the upper level of El Yunque

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Trash & graffiti

Reviewers Comments: The sign is fading due to direct sun light. The view to the cloud forest is now obstructed by trees looking up hill from this sign. Photo of the Impatiens flower has no relationship with theme of sign. In a new sign we could use a photo of the Elfinwood Warbler or Lepanthes Orchid found in the cloud forest. Text refers to CNF should be El Yunque NF.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**



Yokahú Tower sign #3

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Yokahú Tower (sign #4)

Reviewers Name: Frank Torres

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No Site has interpretive guide
For sale

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Located at walk way near tower entrance

Interpretive Significance: Shows Red tail and Broad winged Hawks that may be seen in this area

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Nature Show

Site Objectives: Birds eye view of lower section of El Yunque

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: trash & graffiti sign fading

Reviewers Comments: Sign scratched with graffiti. Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque."

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



Yokahú Tower sign #4

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Yokahú Tower (sign #5)

Reviewers Name: Frank Torres

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No Site has interpretive guide
For sale.

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: unknown

Site Location and Description: Top level of tower sign facing north

Interpretive Significance: To recognized the mountain peaks to the north
(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Yunque peak, Los Picachos and Rock face

Site Objectives: Identify surrounding mountain peaks.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Trash & graffiti also sign is fading

Reviewers Comments: Face on rock is not clear to visitors a lot is left to the
imagination. Text refers to CNF should be El Yunque NF. The narrative about
the stripe-headed Tanager should include that this bird is endemic to Puerto Rico.
Since the hawks are seen flying above the peaks they should be included in this sign.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**



Yokahú Tower sign #5

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Yokahú Tower (sign #6)

Reviewers Name: Frank Torres

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No Site has interpretive guide
For sale

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need?

—
GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Upper level of tower looking southwest

Interpretive Significance: West peak of El Yunque and head profile of the sleeping indian. Plus birds eye view of forest 360 degree.

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: West Peak of mountain “Look Around You”

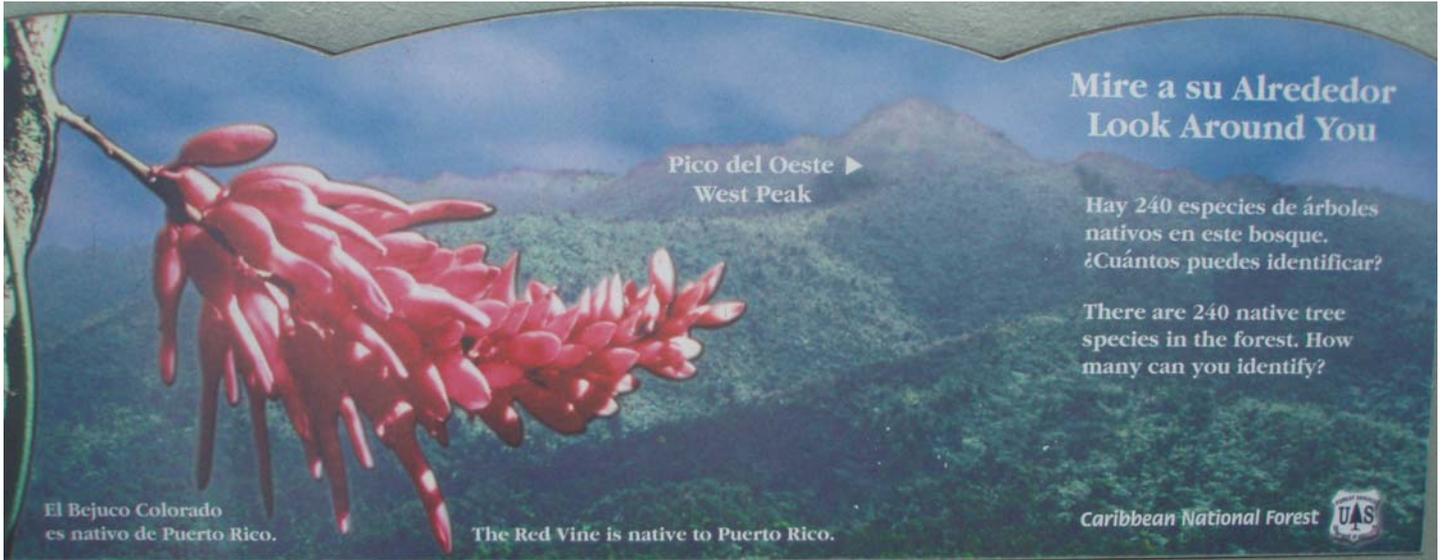
Site Objectives: unobstructed view of surrounding hill side

Interpretive Media or Services: Sign

Known Management Issues: Trash & graffiti

Reviewers Comments: I find comments adequate the view is spectacular. Text refers to CNF should be El Yunque NF. Sign is fading.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**



Yokahú Tower sign #6

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Yokahú Tower (sign #7)

Reviewers Name: Frank Torres

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No, Site has interpretive guide-
for sale.

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: unknown

Site Location and Description: Upper level of tower sign facing northeast direction

Interpretive Significance: Magnificent, provides 360 degree view of the forest and the coastal plain, nearby offshore islands.

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Ten miles and beyond

Site Objectives: Panoramic view from top tower to delight our visitors.

Interpretive Media or Services: Sign

Known Management Issues: Trash & graffiti also mold on sign

Reviewers Comments: Sign is fading, this view has more visible features than the sign describes, more photos are required. Sign now points out Luquillo Beach Playa Azul Condos, Sandy Beach Condos, Las Paulinas/San Miguel Turtles nesting area, Fajardo Lighthouse, Seven Seas Beach. Other features not mentioned are the El Conquistador Hotel and off shore islands Culebra, Saint Thomas, Palomino and Lobos Cay. Pictures on sign of Parrots and Coqui frog are not related with "Ten miles and Beyond." Theme should cover relation between El Yunque rain forest and the ocean.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



Important visible features from this site are: Luquillo Beach, Playa Azul Condos, Sandy Hills Condo, Las Paulinas/San Miguel Turtles nesting area, Fajardo Lighthouse, Seven Seas Beach, El Conquistador Hotel, Palomino's Island, Lobos Cay, Culebra and Saint Thomas Islands.



Diez Millas y Más Ten Miles and Beyond

Balneario de Luquillo
▼ Luquillo Beach

Condominio Playa Azul
▼ Playa Azul Condo

Condominio Sandy Hills
▼ Sandy Hills Condo

Las Paulinas/San Miguel
▼ (anidaje de tortugas)
(turtle nesting area)

Faro de Fajardo
Bahía Las Cabezas de San Juan
Laguna Grande

Fajardo Lighthouse
Las Cabezas de San Juan Bay
Laguna Grande ▼

Playa Seven Seas
Seven Seas Beach

La Cotorra Puertorriqueña es una de diez especies de aves en mayor peligro de extinción en el mundo. La única población silvestre se encuentra aquí en El Yunque.

The Puerto Rican Parrot is one of the ten most endangered bird species in the world. They are only found in the wild here in El Yunque.





**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 1

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

This Bulletin board is located at trail head and is the only one located in this trail.

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Located at the trailhead close to the bulletin board stand, a "Wildlife viewing area" sign, a forest closing hour sign, and the main trail information sign.

Interpretive Significance: Provides orientation and directions (including a map) to get to the La Mina Falls and the Interpretive trail.

(Digital Photos – [1](#), [2](#), [3](#))

Interpretive theme or topics: Welcome to Big Tree Trail

Site Objectives: Welcome visitors and clarify access to La mina Falls.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Trash

Reviewer's Comments: Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Map is confusing, symbols are not consistent with reality. Distance stated in text is wrong. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form

El Yunque National Forest



This photo shows the first sign located at Big Tree Trail, all the following photos does not include the base structure, only the interpretive sign.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest

Bienvenidos al la Vereda de los Árboles Grandes

Estás a punto de descubrir algunas de las maravillas del Bosque pluvial. En este camino de media milla, ida y vuelta, podrás obtener la gran experiencia de ver y oír los sonidos del Bosque de Tabonuco. Esta es una de nuestras diversas comunidades forestales, o ecosistemas, en nuestro Bosque Nacional del Caribe. Encontrarás varias casetas techadas, y áreas de descanso a lo largo de este camino, que te animarán a disfrutar de un paseo placentero. Está atento y fíjate en los rótulos pues te revelarán algunos de los secretos de este bosque tan bello, diverso y único.

Este camino continúa más allá de la Cascada La Mina. Tendrás que regresar por el mismo camino que has tomado, a menos que desees ir hasta el área recreativa y luego regresar, por la carretera. Ciertamente, podrás ver nuevos aspectos del bosque a tu regreso.

Welcome

You are about to discover some of the wonders of the rainforest. On this 1/2 mile round trip trail you will experience the sights and sounds of the tabonuco forest type. This is one of four distinctly different forest communities, or ecosystems, in the Caribbean National Forest. Covered shelters and rest stops along the way will encourage a leisurely pace. Watch for the trail signs that will reveal some of the secrets of this beautiful, diverse and unique forest.

The trail continues down to La Mina Falls and beyond. You will have to back track unless you wish to go through the recreation area and return along the road. But it is certain that you will spot new wonders on your return.

Al Camino del Árbol Grande

Bosque Nacional del Caribe Servicio Bosque de los Estados Unidos

Big Tree Trail

Caribbean National Forest U. S. Forest Service

Big Tree Trail sign #1

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 2

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Located by the dead Tabonuco tree near the trailhead.

Interpretive Significance: Introduces visitors to the Tabonuco forest.

(Digital Photos – [1](#), [2](#))

Interpretive theme or topics: Tabonuco

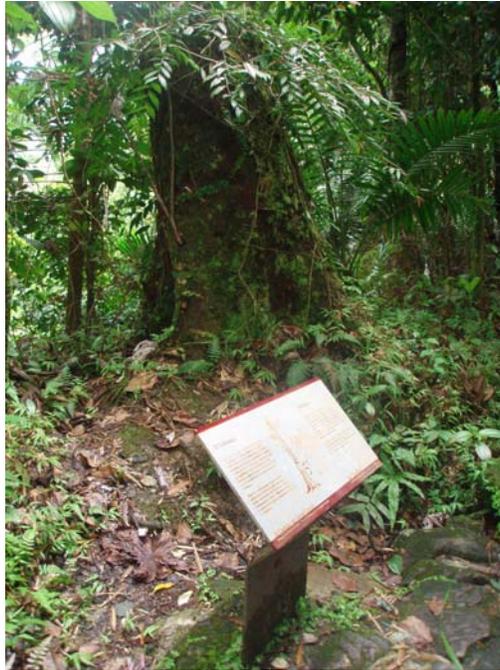
Site Objectives: Describe the Tabonuco type forest and the Tabonuco tree.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

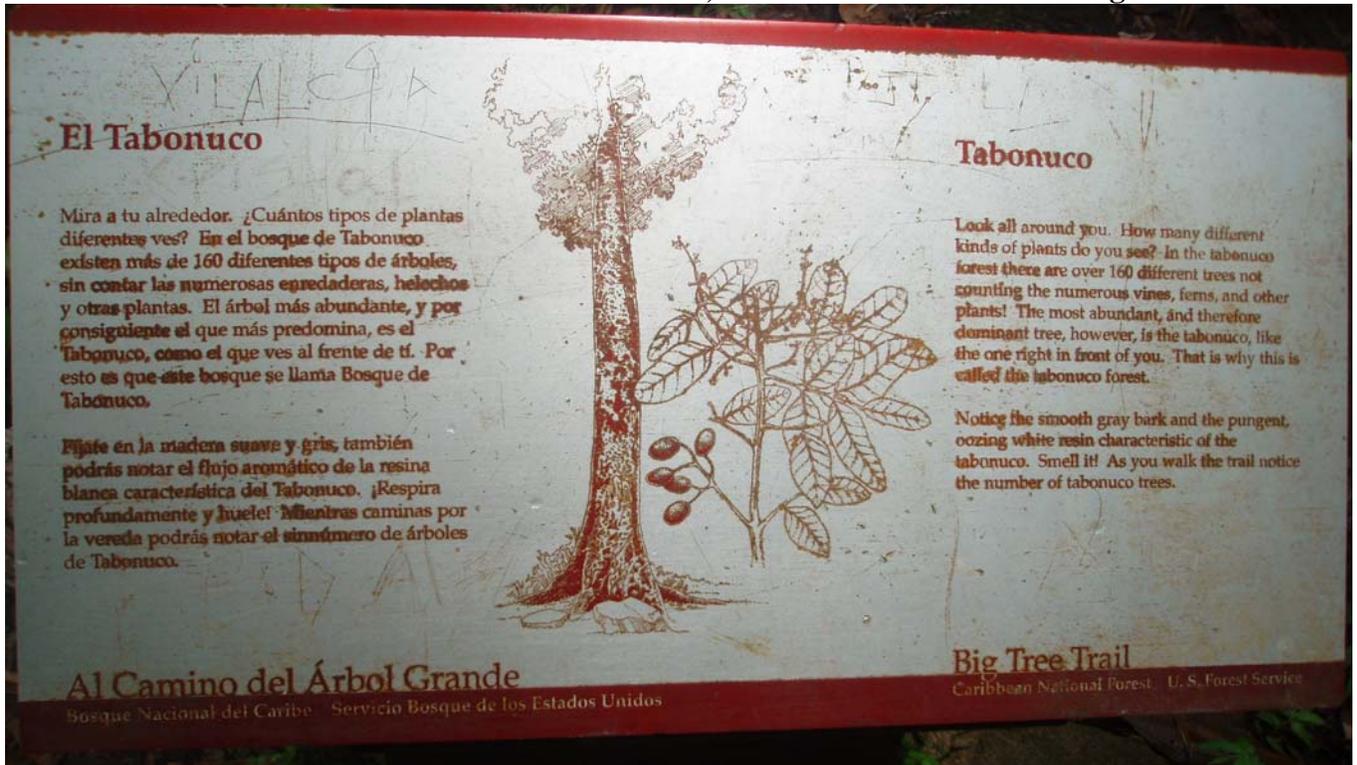
Known Management Issues: Trash, erosion caused by visitors that have created additional "non-official" trails due to heavy use), erosion.

Reviewer's Comments: This sign need to be relocated in front of a live tree. This is the first interpretive sign. The Tabonuco tree which the sign refers to is dead. Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



See than the dead Tabonuco tree in the back, is the one described in this sign.



Big Tree Trail sign #2

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 3

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No
Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?
1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Located in front of ravine mostly populated by Sierra Palm trees and under Yagrumo trees.

Interpretive Significance: Provides an introduction to forest wildlife diversity.
(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: Wildlife. Forest biology.

Site Objectives: Compare animal diversity versus plant diversity. Briefly explain species arrival to the island.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Graffiti and Trash

Reviewer's Comments: The numbers of animal's species are greater than the one's used in this sign. Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest

Vida Silvestre

Un punto interesante es que aquí existen menos variedades de animales que de plantas. ¿Por qué? Debido a que esto es una isla, todos los tipos de plantas y animales nativos tuvieron que llegar hasta aquí flotando por el agua, volando o cargados por la fuerza del viento. Evidentemente esto fue más fácil de lograr para las semillas y los animales pequeños que para los animales grandes. En el bosque de Tabonuco los únicos mamíferos nativos son varios tipos de murciélagos que se alimentan de néctar, frutas e insectos. Solamente existen cuatro especies de culebras y ninguna de ellas es peligrosa. Hay varias especies de lagartijos, ranas arbóreas (comúnmente conocidas como coquíes), caracoles terrestres, sobre cuarenta tipos de aves y un sinnúmero de insectos. Mantente atento por si logras fijarte en algunas de estas criaturas mientras continúas tu paseo por esta vereda.



Wildlife

Interestingly, there are far fewer different kinds of animals here, than plants. Why? Since this is an island, all native plants & animals had to get here by floating, flying, or being carried by the winds. Evidently that's easier for seeds and small animals than large ones. The only native mammals are several kinds of fruit, insect, and nectar-eating bats. There are only 4 species of snakes, and none of them are dangerous. There are several species of lizards, tree frogs (coquíes), and snails; over forty species of birds, and countless insects. Watch for these elusive creatures as you walk the trail.

Al Camino del Árbol Grande

Parque Nacional del Caribe - Sendero Bosque de los Estados Unidos

Big Tree Trail

Caribbean National Forest - U.S. Forest Service

Big Tree Trail sign #3

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 4

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No
Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?
1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Located near the previous sign but closer to the Tabonuco tree and in front of the first rain shelter.

Interpretive Significance: Provides an introduction to tree diversity.
(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: Diversity

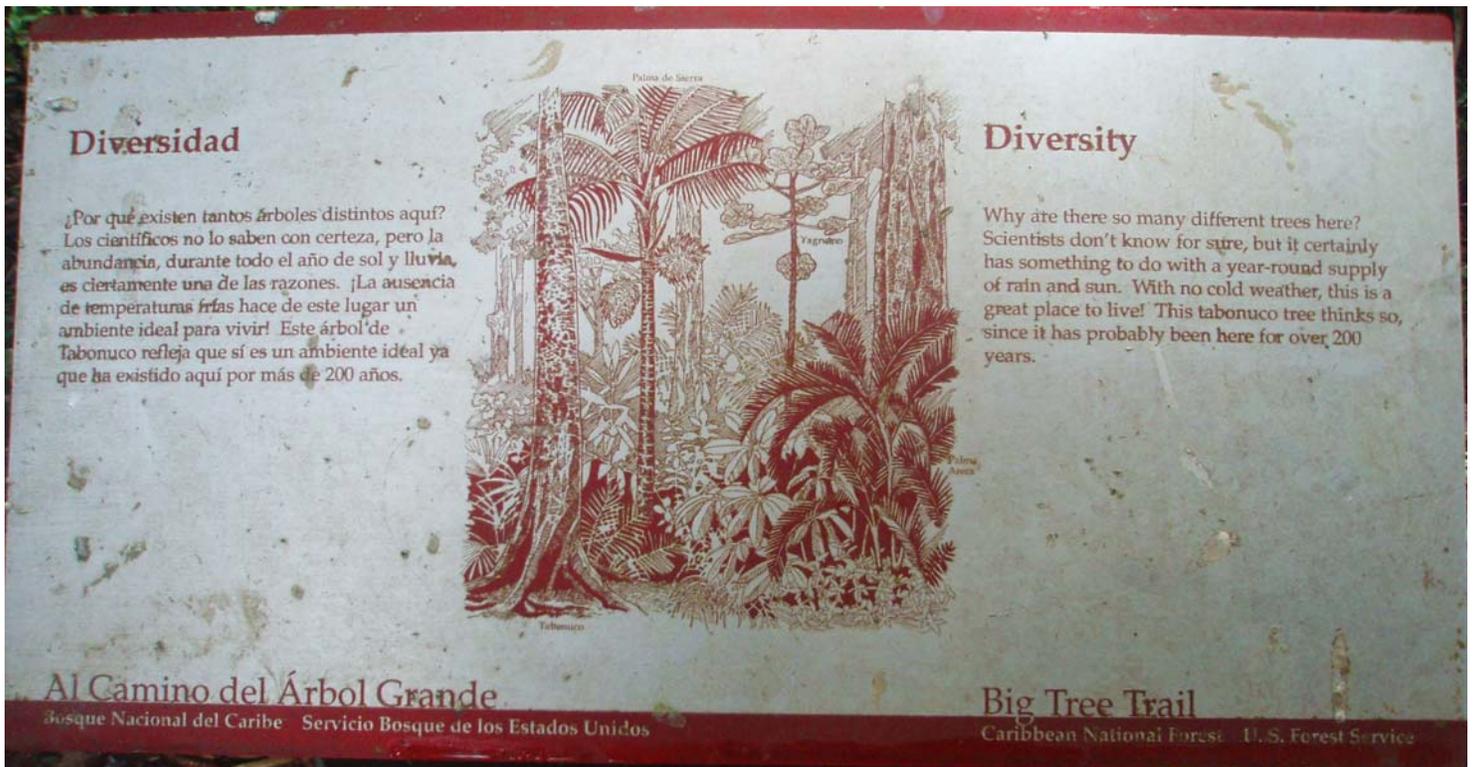
Site Objectives: Briefly explain how environmental factors in this forest help in the trees and other plants diversity. Create awareness of the Tabonuco tree life span.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Graffiti and Trash

Reviewer's Comments: Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



Big Tree Trail sign #4

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 5

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Located at a ridge with Tabonuco trees surrounding area.

Interpretive Significance: Create awarness of the importance of the energy of the sun.

(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: The Ultimate Source of Energy

Site Objectives: Explain the importance of the energy of the sun for the trees and plants in general.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Trash

Reviewer's Comments: Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest

La Fuente Esencial de Energía

¿Sabes tu de dónde es que los seres obtienen su energía en última instancia? ¡Sí, del sol! Árboles y otras plantas verdes convierten la energía del sol conjuntamente con el agua y los nutrientes de la tierra, en su alimentación. A su vez, los animales, incluyendo los seres humanos, dependen de las plantas para su alimentación.

Mire hacia el cielo. La mayoría de las plantas en este bosque tienden a tener las hojas grandes y anchas, para poder absorber grandes cantidades de luz solar. Hay menos cantidad de plantas pequeñas en el soto bosque ya que no son muchas las plantas que pueden sobrevivir sin luz solar directa. El Tabonuco es el árbol dominante aquí debido a que sus retoños pueden sobrevivir bajo la sombra de otros árboles.



The illustration depicts a dense rainforest scene. Sunlight rays are shown as bright, diagonal beams filtering through the thick canopy of various tropical trees and plants. The ground is covered with lush vegetation, including large-leafed plants and what appears to be a fallen log or branch. The overall style is a detailed, woodcut-like engraving.

The Ultimate Source of Energy

Do you know where all living things ultimately get all their energy? Yes, the sun! Trees and other green plants, make food with the sun's energy along with water and nutrients from the soil. In turn, animals, including people, depend on plants for food.

Look up into the canopy. Plants in the rain forest tend to have large, broad leaves in order to trap more sunlight. There are fewer plants on the forest floor, because there aren't many plants that are able to live without direct energy from the sun. The mature tabonuco is dominant here because their seedlings can survive in the shade of their elders.

Al Camino del Árbol Grande
Bosque Nacional del Caribe Servicio Bosque de los Estados Unidos

Big Tree Trail
Caribbean National Forest U. S. Forest Service

Big Tree Trail sign #5

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



Big Tree Trail sign #6

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 6

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No
Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?
1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Located at Tabonuco forest understory.

Interpretive Significance: Provides information about the importance of insects in the forest.

(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: Insect Action

Site Objectives: Explain the insects effect on plants and its importance in organic mater recycling. Forest ecology.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Trash

Reviewer's Comments: Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 7

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Located in front of an Ausubo tree stump that is missing now.

Interpretive Significance: Create awareness on the importance of trees.

(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: A Tree of Great Value

Site Objectives: Explain the importance and describe the Ausubo tree. Give some historic background about the Ausubo tree.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Trash

Reviewer's Comments: Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



Big Tree Trail sign #7

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 8

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Located in front of the vine and bromeliad covered Magnolia splendens tree.

Interpretive Significance: Create awareness on the uniqueness of the Magolia splendens and the diversity and interdependency of plant organisms.

(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: A Community within a Community

Site Objectives: Explain plant diversity and interactions.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Trash

Reviewer's Comments: Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.



Big Tree Trail sign #8

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 9

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Located halfway down the steep section of the trail.

Interpretive Significance: Adaptation, diversity. Create awareness of lizard species that live in the Tabonuco forest.

(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: Lizards

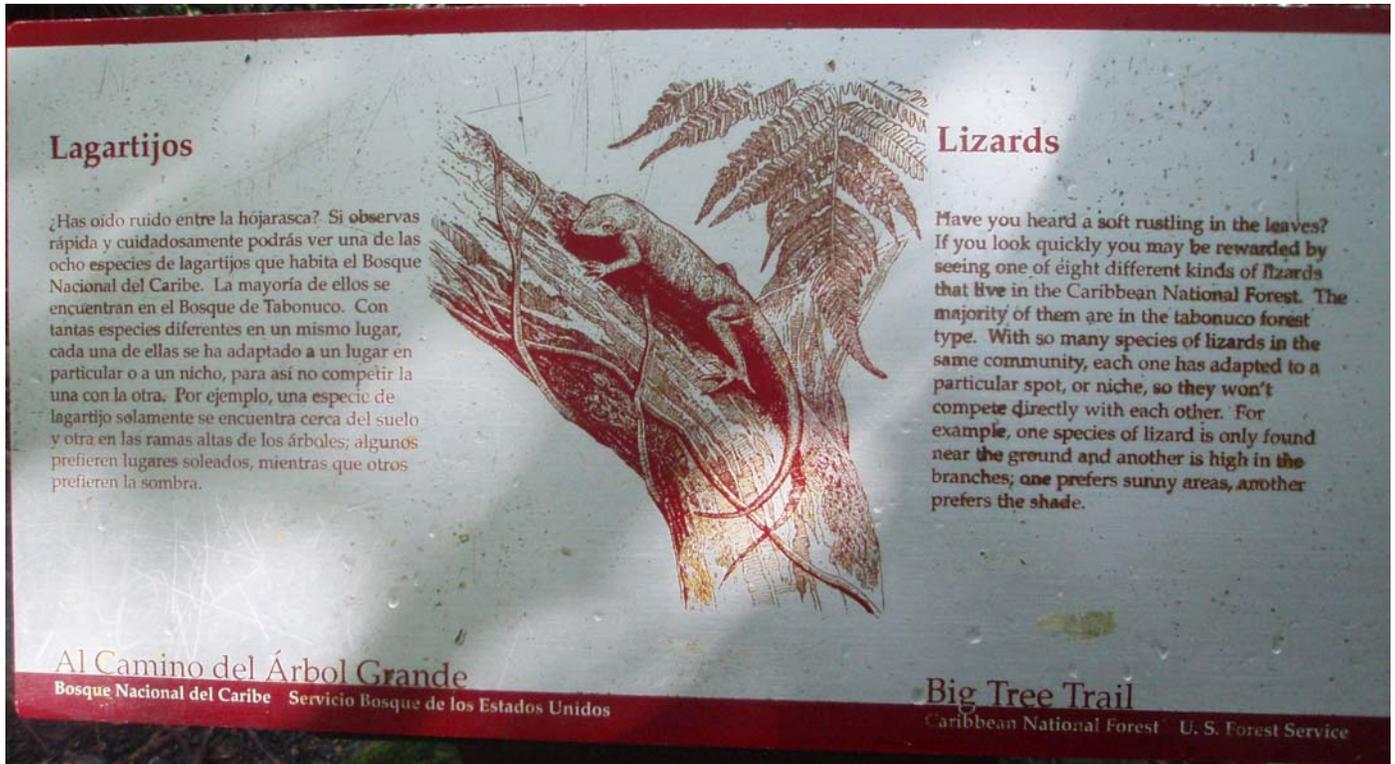
Site Objectives: Explain the variety of lizards in the Tabonuco forest and its adaptations.

Interpretive Media or Services: None

Known Management Issues: Graffiti and Trash

Reviewer's Comments: One of the subjects is lizards biodiversity, adaptation to niches. This lizard drawing does not look like our native lizards. The drawing could be improved showing native species and those adaptations: three unique & rare species should be used *A. cuvieri*, *A. cristatellus*, *A. occultus*. Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign has a "label" closing at bottom that reads: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not mean "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



Big Tree Trail sign #9

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 10

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No **How many?** 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No **How many do you need?**

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Under a fallen Tabonuco tree, before reaching the second rain shelter on trail.

Interpretive Significance: Food transfer, how trees gets their food.
(Digital Photos – [1](#), [2](#))

Interpretive theme or topics: The Supermarket

Site Objectives: Describe how the forest produce nutrients and how they are transferred

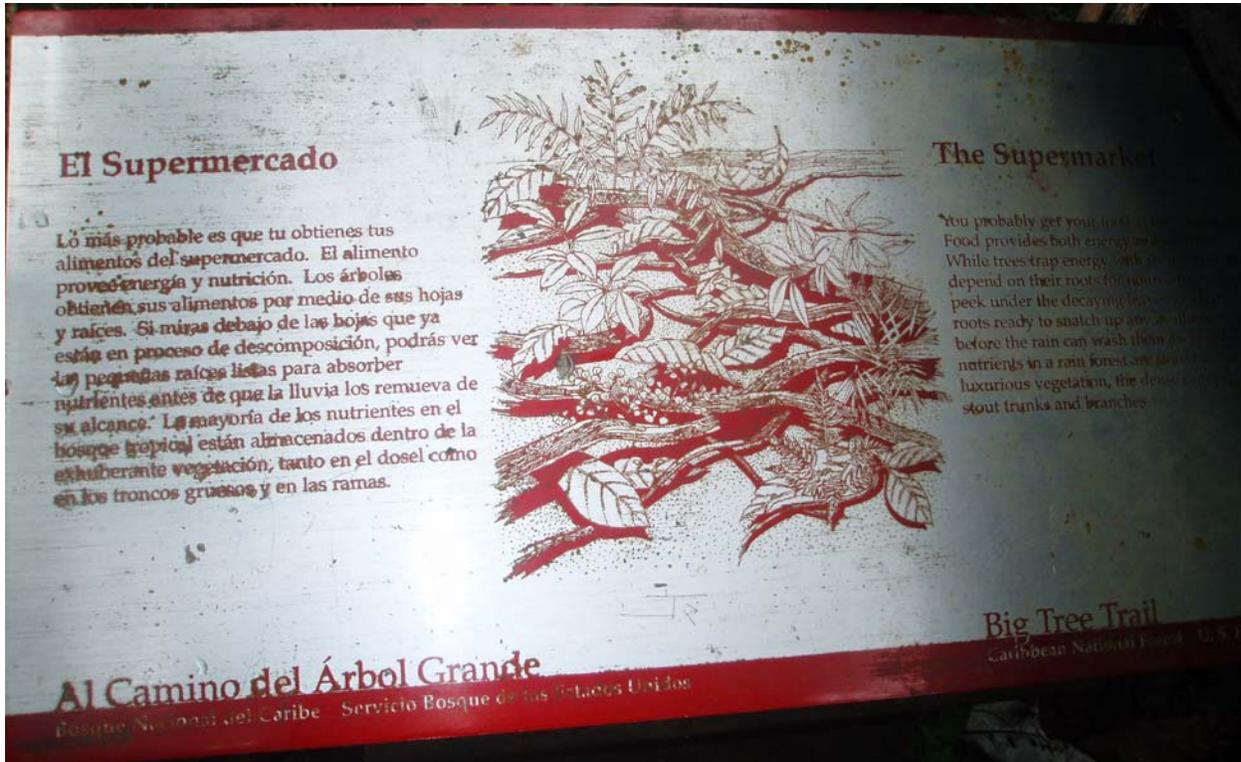
Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Graffiti and Trash

Reviewer's Comments: This theme could give a hint for next sign making references to the fungus. Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form

El Yunque National Forest



Big Tree Trail sign #10

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 11

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Close to second rain shelter.

Interpretive Significance: Microorganisms & fungus benefits for nutrients recycling.

(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: Recycling

Site Objectives: Rain forest ecology.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Graffiti and Trash

Reviewer's Comments: The word "organismo" is used 4 times! It is too complicated; the main idea could be explained easier. An interesting fact about this rain forest, is the relationship between Fungi and tree roots for absorbing Nitrogen, at least 50 % of the forest species needs a micro fungus to achieve this. Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form

El Yunque National Forest

El Reciclaje

Examina este tronco viejo. Puede o puede que no veas a simple vista algún organismo activo sobre este tronco. Sin embargo, si pones un pequeño pedazo del tronco debajo de un microscopio, encontrarás que sí hay actividad — tanto como si fuera un día normal de trabajo en una oficina. Estos organismos microscópicos, y los organismos más grandes que se nutren de ellos, le devuelven al suelo nutrientes que se encuentran en este tronco, que aparenta ser inservible. Estos nutrientes pueden ser utilizados en un proceso de recirculación por otras especies. Este proceso es muy rápido en este ambiente debido al clima cálido y húmedo el cual es ideal para el crecimiento de los hongos y las bacteria, los cuales son los agentes primarios en la descomposición. De la misma manera, las hojas y otras materias orgánicas se recirculan. En la naturaleza no existe el desperdicio. Aún cuando este tronco está muerto, está contribuyendo a la vida de otros organismos.



Recycling

Examine this old log. You may or may not see anything at work here, but if you put a slice of this decaying wood under a microscope you would find it as populous and busy as an urban office building. These microscopic organisms, and the larger ones that feed on them, are returning nutrients tied up in this wood back to the soil to be reused by another. This process is very rapid here because the warmth and high humidity are ideal for the growth of fungi and bacteria, the primary agents of decay. In the same way all leaves, and other organic matter are recycled. In nature there is no waste. Even in death this log is giving life to another.

Al Camino del Árbol Grande
Bosque Nacional del Caribe Servicio Bosque de los Estados Unidos

Big Tree Trail
Caribbean National Forest U.S. Forest Service

Big Tree Trail sign #11

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 12

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Along Big Tree Trail, about 50 m. from previous sign.

Interpretive Significance: Reference to forest sounds: birds, frogs, water and wind.
(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: Listen!

Site Objectives: Awakening senses to different sounds.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Trash

Reviewer's Comments: Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



Big Tree Trail sign #12

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 13

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Along Big Tree Trail, about 50 m. from previous sign.

Interpretive Significance: The disclosure of the important role of bats for the overall survival of tropical rain forest.

(Digital Photos – [1](#), [2](#))

Interpretive theme or topics: Thanks to the Bats

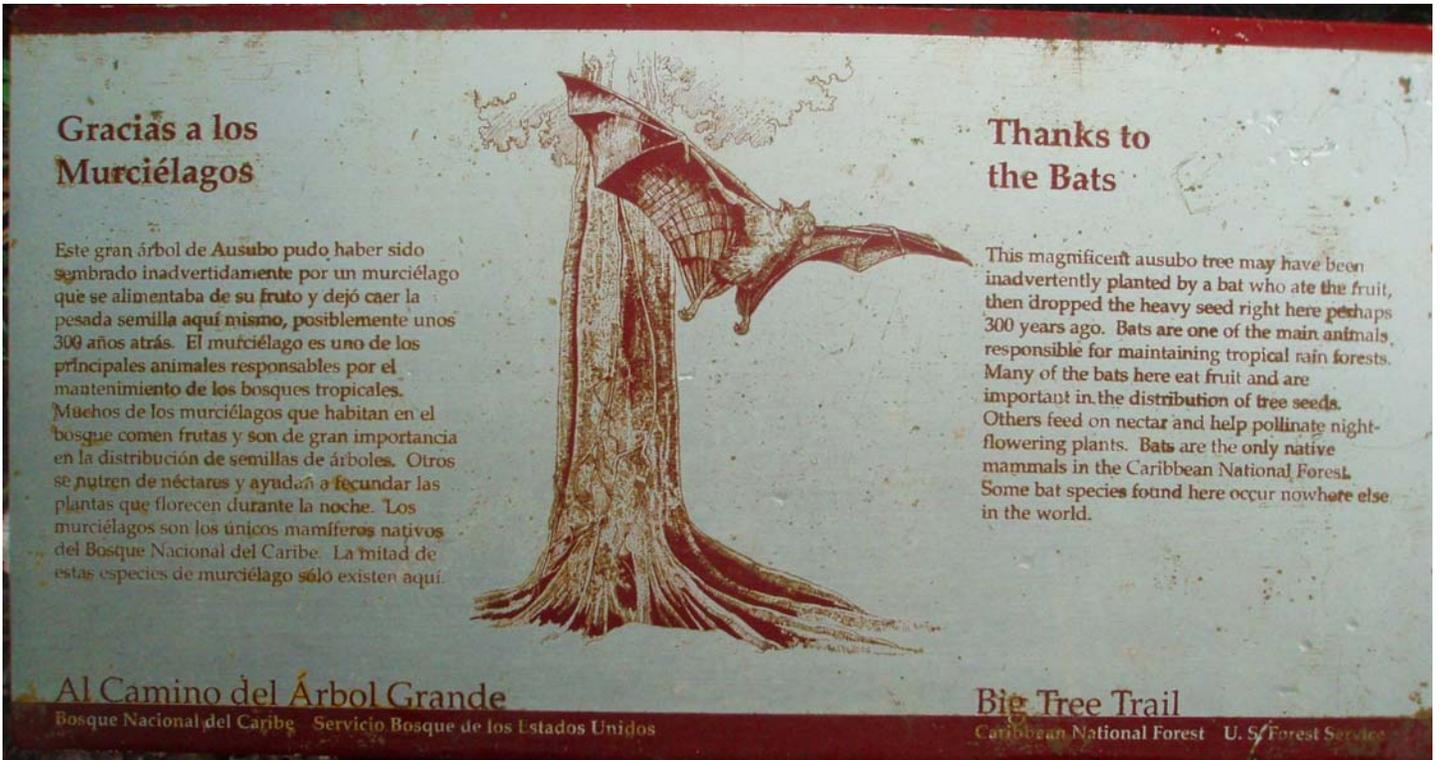
Site Objectives: Gear attention to Trees and bats relationships.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Graffiti and Trash

Reviewer's Comments: The last sentence in Spanish does not say the same info than the last sentence in English. The insectivores' bats are also very important to humans, and were missing in this text. Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



Big Tree Trail sign #13

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 14

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Along Big Tree Trail, about 50-100 m. from previous sign.

Interpretive Significance: Demonstrate the different & similar leaves shapes and adaptation to a wet environment.

(Digital Photos – [1](#))

Interpretive theme or topics: Adaptation

Site Objectives: Get the attention to plants adaptations.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Graffiti and Trash

Reviewer's Comments: Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



Big Tree Trail sign #14

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 15

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Along Big Tree Trail, about 50 m. from previous sign.

Interpretive Significance: Pioneer species and how they “heal” the forest from natural disasters.

(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: Catastrophes

Site Objectives: Here the subject of the central theme is the pioneer species not the catastrophes, should read: “Pioneer species to survive Catastrophes”.

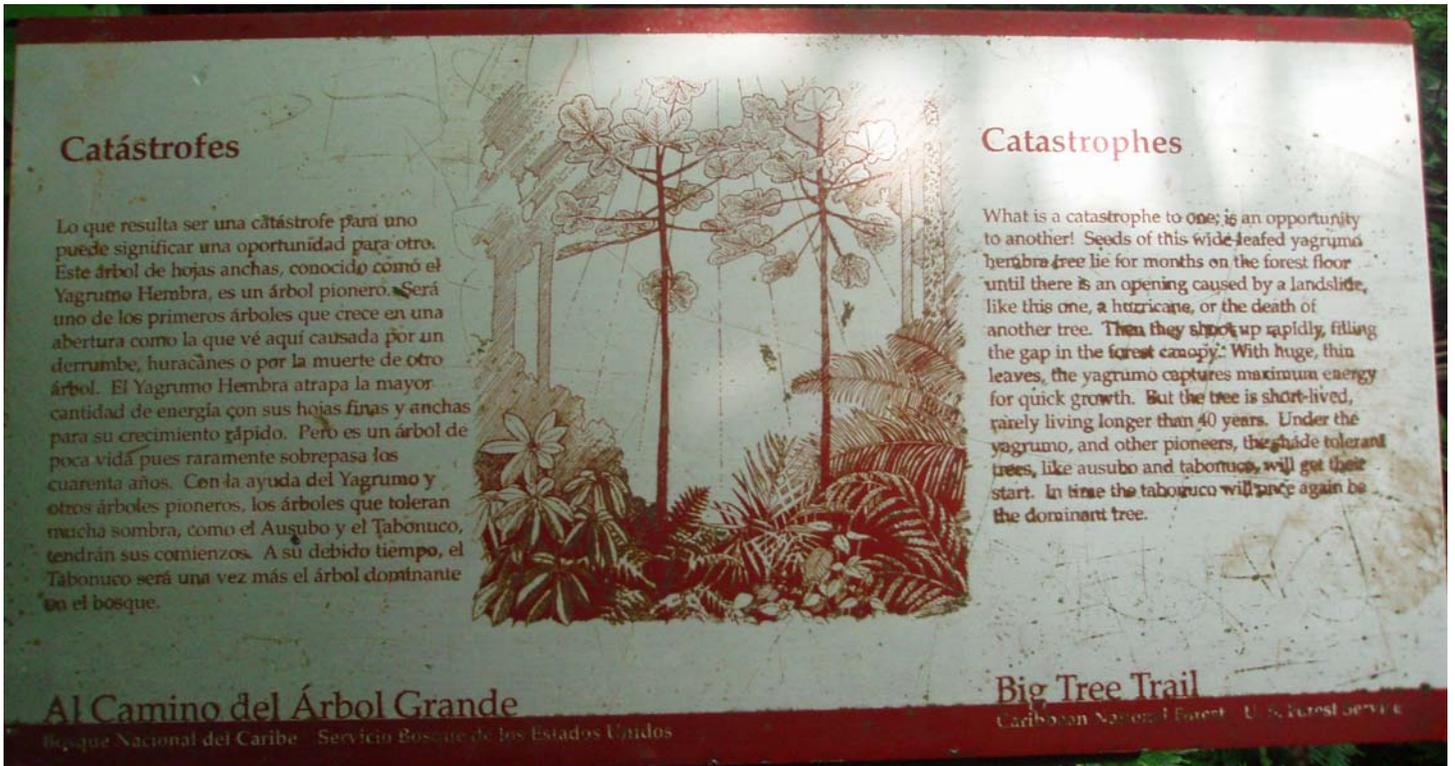
Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Graffiti and Trash

Reviewer’s Comments: Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Sign is all scratched. The sign have a “label” closing at bottom that read: “Al camino del Arbol Grande” this does not means “Big Tree Trail”, the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form

El Yunque National Forest



Big Tree Trail sign #15

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 16

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Located close to the adaptations is describing.

Interpretive Significance: Roots adaptations to cope with water.

(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: Coping with the Water

Site Objectives: Tree roots adaptations to survive in the rain forest

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Graffiti and Trash

Reviewer's Comments: Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form

El Yunque National Forest



Adaptaciones al Agua

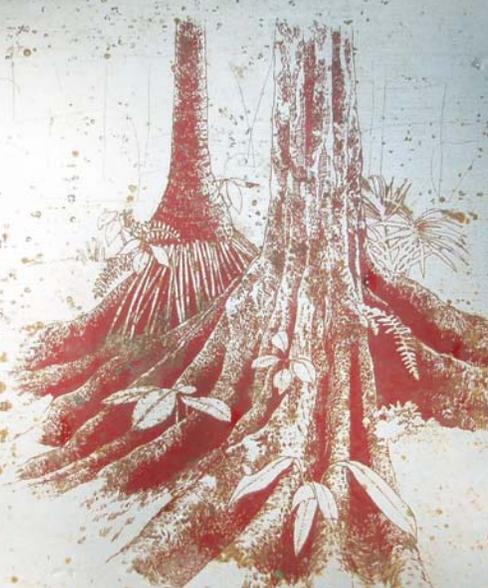
Mediante las numerosas lluvias que caen durante el año, el Bosque de Tabonuco recibe un promedio de 120 pulgadas de agua anualmente, lo que equivale a diez pies de lluvia. Esta gran cantidad de agua puede ser la razón por la cual los árboles tienen raíces anchas y fuertes, como el árbol que tiene en frente. Estas raíces de contrafuerte son una adaptación a las condiciones húmedas y evidentemente funcionan bien en el bosque tropical. La Palma de Sierra, a la izquierda del árbol grande, utiliza su red de raíces aéreas para ayudarla a "respirar" y también para mantenerla firmemente en su lugar.

Coping with the Water

In numerous showers throughout the year, the tabonuco forest receives an average rainfall of about 120 inches annually - that's 10 feet of rain! The soil is saturated with water nearly all the time. The excessive water may be the reason that trees like the one in front of you, have wide, buttressed roots. This root structure is a possible adaptation for providing support in wet conditions and evidently works well in the rain forest. The sierra palm, on the left of the large tree, uses prop roots to help breathe and to anchor it.

Al Camino del Árbol Grande
Bosque Nacional del Caribe - Servicio Bosque de los Estados Unidos

Big Tree Trail
Caribbean National Forest - U.S. Forest Service



Big Tree Trail sign #16

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 17

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Before reaching the first stream on trail.

Interpretive Significance: High! Water conservation and it relationship to global warming and climate change should be also addressed.

(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: Precious Water

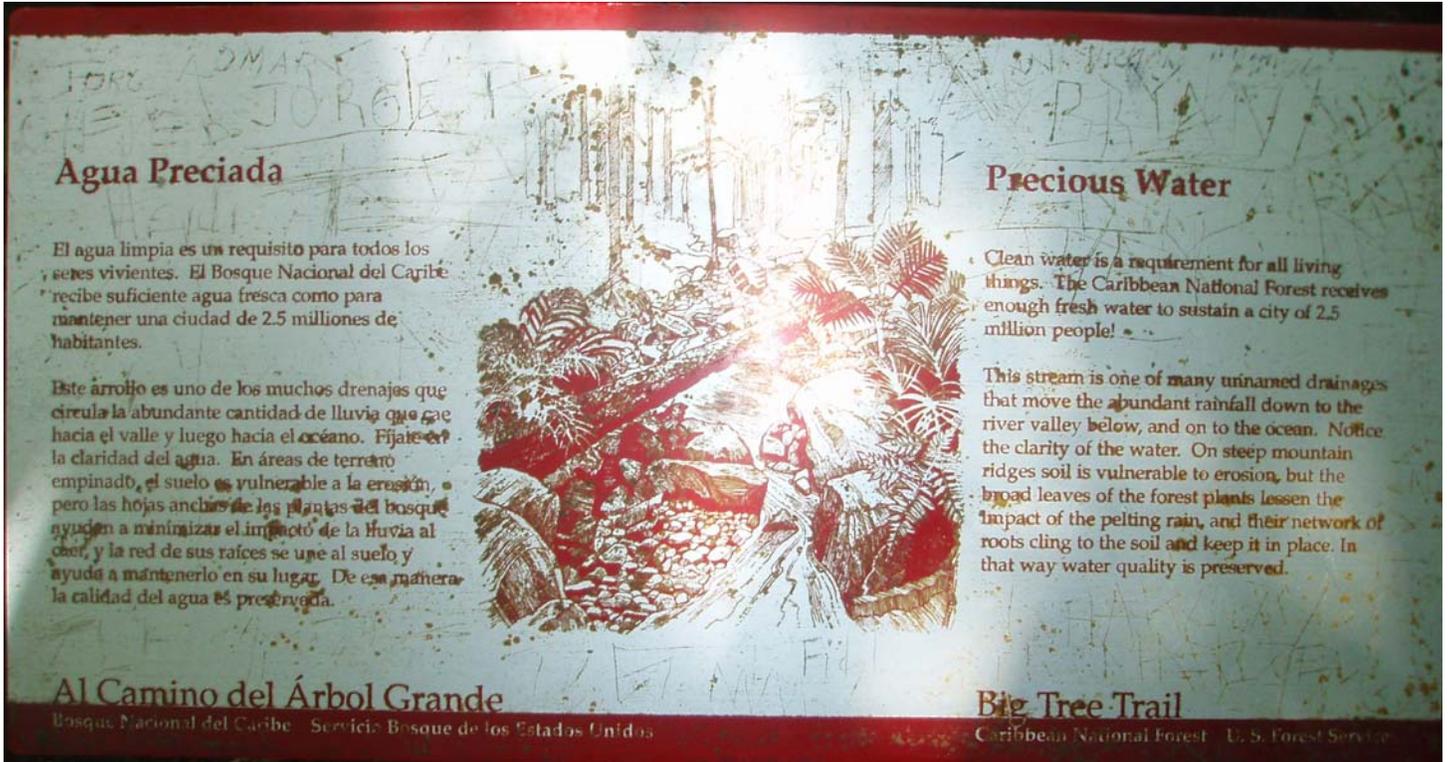
Site Objectives: Presents the relationship of El Yunque rain forest as a producer of clean water.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Graffiti and Trash

Reviewer's Comments: The words "milliones" and "arollo" are not in the Spanish dictionary! Water conservation, number of gallons produced by the forest rain and climate change relationships should be presented either here or in any other interpretive sign. Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



Big Tree Trail sign #17

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Big Tree Trail - Sign 18

Reviewers Name: Víctor Cuevas, Aurea Moragón

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1 (Eng/Span)

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Located right after the river crossing bridge. This is the last interpretive sign.

Interpretive Significance: Forest Ecology, the relationship of each component of the Tabonuco ecosystem.

(Digital Photos – 1)

Interpretive theme or topics: Interdependence

Site Objectives: Closing statement for forest conservation

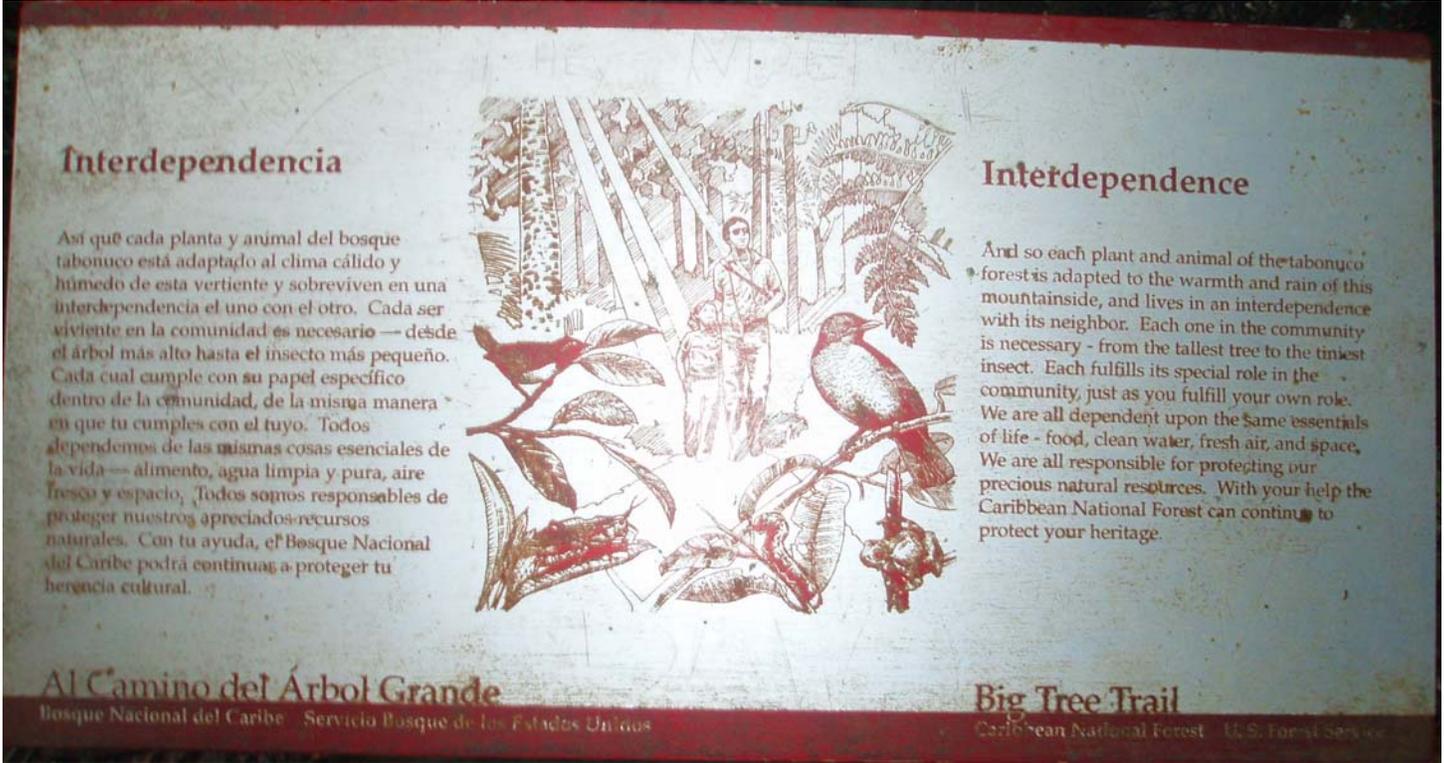
Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: Graffiti damage to signs and trash along trail.

Reviewer's Comments: Text refers to "Caribbean" instead of "El Yunque." Too much text, not many visitors read the whole text. Sign is all scratched. The sign have a "label" closing at bottom that read: "Al camino del Arbol Grande" this does not means "Big Tree Trail", the reference name for this trail in Spanish is Vereda de Arboles Grandes.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form

El Yunque National Forest



Big Tree Trail sign #18

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Caimitillo Trail, Puerto Rican Parrot Interpretive area, New Opportunity

Reviewers Name: Cynthia Manfred

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? _____

What are the conditions? _____

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need?
—

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: Puerto Rico Parrot Project Display

(Digital Photos) 4 included

Interpretive Significance: The Puerto Rican Parrot's Recovery Project is at the forefront of local environmental consciousness. Local & foreign visitors alike ask about the parrot. Caimitillo trail is a short & accessible trail lot of people are prone to see. It is also used by guides (forest & outside) for their presentations.

Interpretive theme or topics: Puerto Rican Parrot recovery efforts.

Site Objectives: Make people aware of the predicament of this endangered bird, and in doing so shed light on the effects of habitat destruction in general.

Interpretive Media or Services: Proposing new sign. No previous media

Known Management Issues: Lack of Information. Visitor disorientation. Need to expose visitor's to forest care ethics: (To avoid disturbing animals or taking plants, noise control, littering).

Reviewers Comments:

The parrot project display consists of 5 structures.

A natural cavity with improvements in a Palo Colorado tree represents the typical nest for a Puerto Rican Parrot, a PVC structure provides an artificial nest, an observation platform lookout, an observation camouflaged "blind" and a pearly-eyed Thrasher nest box (this last one further up on the trail).

It would be great to finally see this display completed with the addition of the interpretive signs needed to get the message to our visitors.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**



Pearly-eyed Thrasher nest box



Puerto Rican Parrot PVC nest structure



Palo Colorado tree with natural cavity improved into Puerto Rican Parrot nest.



Observation lookout platform structure.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Caimitillo Interpretive trail, New opportunity for Palm Forest

Reviewers Name: Cynthia Manfred

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? _____

What are the conditions? _____

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?
—

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: First stretch of Caimitillo trail from trailhead at 191 RD

(Digital Photos) pending

Interpretive Significance: Palm Forest constitutes one of the 4 major forest types. Palm fruit is a major food item for the parrot. Caimitillo trail which is the shortest & most accessible trail in the forest is highly used by a great number of visitors. It is also used by guides (forest & outside) for their presentations.

Interpretive theme or topics: Palm Forest Type territory.

Site Objectives: Make people aware of and have them recognize one of the 4 forest types in El Yunque.

Interpretive Media or Services: Proposing new sign. No previous media.

Known Management Issues: Lack of Information. Visitor disorientation. Need to expose visitor's to forest care ethics: (To avoid disturbing animals or taking plants, unnecessary noise, and littering).

Reviewers Comments:

This noticeably palm dominated region is clearly located in this trail just in from the 191 Rd. represents one of the four types of forest El Yunque is known by. It is a great opportunity to teach what it consists of.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Caimitillo Interpretive trail, New Opportunity for Palo Colorado forest
Reviewers Name: Cynthia Manfred

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No
Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? _____
What are the conditions? _____

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: First stretch of Caimitillo trail from trailhead at 191 RD

(Digital Photos) pending

Interpretive Significance: Palo Colorado Type forest is one of the 4 major forest types. The Palo Colorado tree provides most of the nesting cavities for the parrot. Caimitillo trail which is the shortest & most accessible trail in the forest is highly used by a great number of visitors. It is also used by guides (forest & outside) for their presentations.

Interpretive theme or topics: Palo Colorado Type territory.

Site Objectives: Provide visitor the opportunity to recognize a Palo Colorado tree, & make them aware of one of the 4 forest types in El Yunque National Forest.

Interpretive Media or Services: Proposing new sign. No previous media

Known Management Issues: Lack of Information. Visitor disorientation. Need to expose visitor's to forest care ethics: (To avoid disturbing animals or taking plants, unnecessary noise and littering).

Reviewers Comments:

Although dominated by the sierra palm, this one Palo Colorado tree stands amidst palm territory just a short walk from the trailhead off Rd 191. It is a good opportunity to identify this kind of tree. This particular tree has a cavity caused by a broken branch that can be seen after taking a U turn in Caimitillo the trail.

Another location nearby that feature- in this case several -Palo Colorado's is that trail that splits at the U turn into Caimitillo Spur. Right across the rain shelter there are Palo Colorado's & other trees that belong to the Palo Colorado Type forest vegetative association.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Caimitillo Interpretive trail, New Opportunity

Reviewers Name: Cynthia Manfred

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No **How many?** _____

What are the conditions? _____

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No **How many do you need?**

—

GPS Location: Unknown

Site Location and Description: First stretch of Caimitillo trail from trailhead at 191 RD, taking first right into picnic area.

(Digital Photos) pending

Interpretive Significance: Only view out to the neighboring shores to the Atlantic in the whole Palo Colorado Recreation Area. A place to assess distance to and elevation from the shore as well as a point of entry of the trade winds pushing the clouds into the forest.

Caimitillo trail which is the shortest & most accessible trail in the forest is highly used by a great number of visitors. It is also used by guides (forest & outside) for their presentations.

Interpretive theme or topics: Trade winds as the vehicle of humidity from the Atlantic into our forest.

Site Objectives: Have the visitor be a witness to the source of the rain for this rainforest.

Interpretive Media or Services: Proposing new sign. No previous media

Known Management Issues: Lack of Information. Visitor disorientation. Need to expose visitor's to forest care ethics: (To avoid disturbing animals or taking plants, unnecessary noise and littering).

Reviewers Comments:

A few steps away from this vista point there is a sign : Caimitillo Interpretive trail with no Interpretive media anywhere. This is an opportunity to answer the question: Why is this a rainforest?

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Palo Colorado Visitor Center, El Yunque trail to Baño Grande (1)

Reviewers Name: Edwin Velazquez

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need?

—

GPS Location: unknown

Site Location and Description: Baño Grande pool entrance to the left almost in front of the dam.

Interpretive Significance: Provides an overview of the trail around the pool area.
(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Short trail in Baño Grande.

Site Objectives: Describe what you will be seeing along the trail around pool area.

Interpretive Media or Services: Sign

Known Management Issues: graffiti

Reviewers Comments: Its somewhat worn out. The frame is in bad condition. The information is still usefull.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



Palo Colorado Visitor Center, El Yunque trail to Baño Grande (1)

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Palo Colorado Visitor Center, Baño Grande pool area (2)

Reviewers Name: Edwin Velazquez

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: unknown

Site Location and Description: Bano grande pool area. Sign of the palo colorado tree does not pinpoint the actual tree .

Interpretive Significance: Gives information on the colorado tree.
(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: The Palo Colorado tree

Site Objectives: Describes the colorado tree.

Interpretive Media or Services: Sign

Known Management Issues: Graffiti

Reviewers Comments: Move the sign close to an actual colorado tree.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**



Palo Colorado Visitor Center, Baño Grande pool area (2)

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Palo Colorado (4)
Reviewers Name: Edwin Velazquez

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No
Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?
1

GPS Location: unknown

Site Location and Description: Bano grande entrance. Post that indicates El Yunque trail.

Interpretive Significance: Information
(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: El yunque trail

Site Objectives: Provides information on the trail.

Interpretive Media or Services: Sign directional post,color coded

Known Management Issues: Trash

Reviewers Comments: It has the wrong color . El Yunque trail posts are green and this one is gray.Remember all trails are color coded in the maps.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Palo Colorado, Bano Grande Area (5)

Reviewers Name: Edwin Velazquez

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: unknown

Site Location and Description: Entrance to El Yunque trail. Information sign that states the distance to El Yunque peak

Interpretive Significance: Information
(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Distance to el Yunque.

Site Objectives: Indicates the visitors the distance in miles to El Yunque peak.

Interpretive Media or Services: Directional sign

Known Management Issues: graffiti

Reviewers Comments: Replace the sign Its in bad condition.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Palo Colorado Bano grande pool area (14)

Reviewers Name: Edwin Velazquez

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No **How many?** 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No **How many do you need?**

—

GPS Location: unknown

Site Location and Description: As you enter the pool area go left over the bridge on top of the dam.

Interpretive Significance: Introduce visitors to the bromeliad plant.
(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Bromeliad plant

Site Objectives: Describe the bromeliad plant

Interpretive Media or Services: Sign

Known Management Issues: graffiti

Reviewers Comments: Sign has writings and scratches . The frame is in bad condition. Information is usefull.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form El Yunque National Forest



BROMELIAS

La bromelia, nativa solamente en América Tropical, es una planta aérea o epífita, viviendo sobre los árboles del Bosque Pluvial. Esta no es un parásito ya que sus hojas atrapan agua y otros desperdicios para su soporte. Néctar a su derecha, el tronco de un árbol inclinado en forma pronunciada. En la parte superior de éste un grupo de bromelias se apilan conjuntamente, con otras más arriba. Durante la primavera las bromelias echan una espiga roja brillante para dar más vida al Bosque.

BROMELIADS

The bromeliad, native only to tropical America, is an air plant or epiphyte living on trees in the rain forest. It is not a parasite as its leaves catch and hold water and other waste matter. Nectar to the right of a tree trunk leaning at a sharp angle. On its upper side a group of bromeliads pile up together to enrich the air.

Palo Colorado Visitor Center, Baño Grande pool area (14)

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Palo Colorado Visitor Center, Baño Grande pool area (5).

Reviewers Name: Edwin Velazquez/Victor M. Cuevas

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: unknown

Site Location and Description: Baño Grande pool area. Sign off the CCC.

Interpretive Significance: Provides information about the Civilian Conservation Corps era, and their contribution to the construction of forest structures and trails.

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: History of the area.

Site Objectives: Give an overview of the history of the area.

Interpretive Media or Services: sign

Known Management Issues: graffiti

Reviewers Comments: Replace it. It's worn out. Information is still valid and useful.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form

El Yunque National Forest



Palo Colorado Visitor Center, Baño Grande pool area (5)

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Palo Colorado, Baño Grande pool area (4) - New opportunity

Reviewers Name: Edwin Velazquez/Victor M. Cuevas

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No **How many?** 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No **How many do you need?**

1

GPS Location: unknown

Site Location and Description: Bridge by Baño Grande pool. Empty stand.

Interpretive Significance: We have 11 watersheds inside forest lands with 1,125 miles of running water, this provides habitat for 10 macroinvertebrates, one landcrab and 9 shrimps plus 9 species of fishes.

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Aquatic life

Site Objectives: Conservation of aquatic species.

Interpretive Media or Services: Opportunity for new sign

Known Management Issues: graffiti

Reviewers Comments: Install an interpretive sign about how deep is the pool and the animals that live here and along other water ecosystems.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**



Palo Colorado Visitor Center, Baño Grande pool area (4)

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Palo Colorado Information Center (3) New opportunity-La Mina Falls

Reviewers Name: Edwin Velazquez

Does Site have a current brochure?

Yes No

Do you still need brochure?

Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board?

Yes No How many? 1

What are the conditions? Excellent

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?

Yes No How many do you need?

1

GPS Location: unknown

Site Location and Description: Entance to la Mina trail by the information center.

Information sign that says La Mina Trail .7miles

Interpretive Significance: Distance to la Mina falls

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Information

Site Objectives: Give information and directions

Interpretive Media or Services: new sign

Known Management Issues: none

Reviewers Comments: Replace information sign with an intrepretive sign that states what is la Mina with photo of the area. Also the distance in a time frame.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Palo Colorado (10)

Reviewers Name: Edwin Velazquez

Does Site have a current brochure?
Do you still need brochure?

Yes No
Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board?
What are the conditions? Excellent

Yes No **How many?** 1

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced?
1

Yes No **How many do you need?**

GPS Location: unknown

Site Location and Description: Bano grande pool area. Sign of the palo colorado tree does not pinpoint the actual tree .

Interpretive Significance: Gives information on the colorado tree.

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Colorado tree

Site Objectives: Describes the colorado tree.

Interpretive Media or Services: Sign

Known Management Issues: Graffiti

Reviewers Comments: Move the sign close to an actual colorado tree.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Mt Britton Tower, new opportunity.

Reviewers Name: Victor M. Cuevas

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? _____

What are the conditions? _____

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

—

GPS Location: _____

Site Location and Description: The Mt. Britton Tower is located at end of trail with same name.

Interpretive Significance: The Mt. Britton tower is probably the most visited area among the forest peak observation towers. This peak, trail and tower has been named in honor of Dr. Nathaniel Lord Britton.

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Dr. Nathaniel L. Britton contribution to science and knowledge and investigation of Caribbean and forest flora.

Site Objectives: Awaken interest in forest history.

Interpretive Media or Services: new sign

Known Management Issues: Trash is common along the trail and graffiti is found in tower structure.

Reviewers Comments: This type of forest history interpretive signs, in where we display the reason why an area is called by a given name are missing from forest interpretive opportunities. The proposed conceptual design for this type of sign is to present two themes; 1) One or two sentences about the biography of Dr. Nathaniel Lord Britton and his relation with this forest. including a photo of him. 2) One or two sentences about the tower details, including an historic photo of construction times.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest

MT. BRITTON TOWER



Dr. Nathaniel Lord Britton (1857-1934) He was a botanist, taxonomist, founder and first director-in-chief of The New York Botanical Garden. Much of his field work was done in the Caribbean, where he visited frequently when the winter weather in New York City became too severe. His contributions to Caribbean flora are undisputed.

Dr. Britton retired from the Garden in 1929 and spent his final years writing a Puerto Rican flora (Flora Borinquena) left unfinished at his death. His wife Elizabeth died in February 1934 and this was an emotional shock from which he never recovered; Dr. Britton soon followed her in death in June of that year.



The Tower, named after Britton's contribution was built in 1937-38, becoming the tallest of the Civilian Conservation Corp towers with four to five stories in stone masonry, located at 3,087 feet in elevation at the end of the Mt. Britton trail.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Queensland Kauri at La Coca Trail head, New Opportunity

Reviewers Name: Victor M. Cuevas

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No How many? _____

What are the conditions? _____

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No How many do you need?

GPS Location: _____

Site Location and Description: This Queensland Kauri conifer is located at 191 roadside in front of La Coca trailhead

Interpretive Significance: This magnificent tree is the next visual attraction at 191 road after seeing La Coca waterfall. It is very prominent and information requests from our visitors are very frequent.

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Silviculture practices

Site Objectives: Increase forest values awareness.

Interpretive Media or Services: interpretive sign

Known Management Issues: graffiti

Reviewers Comments: This site is visited very frequently by nature lovers that have been impressed by this magnificent tree along road side.

Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest

QUEENSLAND KAURI



Native to eastern Queensland, Australia, the Queensland Kauri or Smooth-barked Kauri *Agathis robusta* (syn. *A. palmerstonii* ;) is a coniferous tree in the family Araucariaceae.

This tree was planted in about 1937 as part of a highway beautification program designed by Hunter Randolph, Landscape Architect of the Caribbean National Forest. Its strong wood has survived the impact of several hurricanes such as Santa Clara 1956, Hugo 1989, Marilyn 1995, Hortense 1996, and Georges 1998. This conifer is a monoecious, it has separate male and female cones on the same tree.

**Interpretive/CE Site Inventory Form
El Yunque National Forest**

Site Name: Tradewinds Trail Entrance, New Opportunity for Wilderness Area

Reviewers Name: Victor M. Cuevas

Does Site have a current brochure? Yes No

Do you still need brochure? Yes No

Does Site have a bulletin board? Yes No **How many?** _____

What are the conditions? _____

Could bulletin board numbers be reduced? Yes No **How many do you need?**

—

GPS Location: _____

Site Location and Description: The entrance area of Tradewinds Trail, access to our new El Toro Wilderness area.

Interpretive Significance: El Toro Wilderness Area got designated on January 19, 2006. It became then the first tropical rain forest wilderness in the Western Hemisphere. El Toro wilderness represents an area of unique ecological and biological diversity.

(Digital Photos)

Interpretive theme or topics: Wilderness management & protection of highly important natural area.

Site Objectives: Increase knowledge about the importance of El Toro Wilderness Area.

Interpretive Media or Services: Interpretive sign.

Known Management Issues: Trash, trail erosion.

Reviewers Comments: This trail is one of the main access to El Toro Peak and recently designated wilderness areas. This new sign proposal provides opportunities for conservation education.