

SOME IMPORTANT KEY FINDINGS

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Water

- Minimum flows are not being maintained, impairing ocean connectivity, including observed 0 flow on the Río Icacos (Crook et al., 2007) – Add to the statement, the purposes: ecological vs consumptive.
- There are 34 water intakes withdrawing over 46 million gallons per day from the Forest, in some basins, up to 82% of the median flow is diverted, on a typical day, 70% of water (add date) generated within the Forest is diverted before reaching the ocean, up from 54% in 1994.

Air

- The conditions of the air surrounding El Yunque have remained relatively constant in the past; however, they have begun to change in recent years due to increased anthropogenic activity and climate change.

Ecosystems Services

- Stakeholder groups such as scientists and forest managers identified certain ecosystem services that were not identified by the rest of the stakeholders. These ecosystem services were categorized into two groups: regulating and supporting and included carbon sequestration, soil erosion control, nutrient cycling, soil formation, and maintenance of biodiversity.
- Many of the major ecosystem services provided by El Yunque National Forest identified by all stakeholder groups include: clean water, habitat for flora and fauna, air purification, recreation, and scenic value.