

WESTERN NEW LIFE, INC. - WQML(FM)
FCC Form 301
Section 307(b) and "Tuck" Showings

I. Preferential Arrangement of Allotments Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Sec.307(b)

This application seeks to change the community of license of Station WQML-FM, Facility ID No. 183333, from Charlotte Amalie, VI to Culebra, Puerto Rico.

The proposed community change would provide Culebra its second aural transmission service. Eleven full power Stations will remain in Charlotte Amalie, V.I. after FCC approval and completion of the proposed community change. Those Stations are WIVI-FM, WGOD-FM, WIUJ-FM, WZIN-FM, WVJZ-FM, WVGJ-FM, Allotment 226A, WVWI-AM, WGOD-AM, WSTA-AM, WIGT-AM.

Culebra is an incorporated municipality, founded in October 27 of 1880. It is an Island Municipality of Puerto Rico 17 miles away from Puerto Rico shores. It is totally isolated from San Juan Metropolitan area and Humacao Urbanized area. The only way to get to Culebra is by boat or airplane, no bridges exist to establish a direct connection with mainland Puerto Rico.

Western New Life complies with priority two of FM Assignment Policies. We propose a second aural reception service to a community. This represents a preferential arrangement of allotments pursuant to Section 307(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, for the following reasons:

(1) The proposed re-allocation of WQML to Culebra will bring that incorporated community its second aural reception service. This is a high priority (Priority 2) in allocation decision-making weighing heavily in favor of the proposed minor change. See FM Assignment Policies, 90 FCC 2d 88 (1982).

(2) As an incorporated municipality listed in the U.S. Census, Culebra is among the geographic places normally entitled to an allocation, subject to distribution of service analysis under Section 307(b). *Id.* at para. 34.

(3) Allotting to Culebra Channel 254A with its second aural service better serves the public interest and necessity under Section 307(b) than maintaining twelve stations to Charlotte Amalie, VI. By contrast, the Status quo would leave a community (Culebra) with only one transmission service in comparison with Charlotte Amalie that actually have twelve licensed Stations.

In conclusion, the Public Interest lies in the proposed modification of WQML's community of license change to Culebra, Puerto Rico.

II. TUCK SHOWING: Culebra is clearly independent of San Juan and Humacao Urbanized Areas, therefore qualified as a community of license.

1) Culebra is an island municipality of Puerto Rico seventeen miles away from the shores of Puerto Rico mainland. The only way to get to Culebra is by boat or by airplane.

2) Culebra has its own local government with an elected Mayor and assembly officials elected every four years by the people of Culebra in general elections.

3) Culebra has its own local United State Postal Service Office with its own Zip Code that is 00775.

4) Culebra has its own commercial establishments like Restaurants, Fuel Stations, Pharmacies, Banks, Health facilities, Hotels, Rent a Car among others. (see attached directory).

5) Culebra has local Public Schools, Power Service Office, Water Service Office, Alcalde or Mayor Office name in Spanish "Alcaldia" for local government operation and services. Local Police Station, Public Library, Fire Fighter Department among others governmental offices.

6) Culebra is a tourist island with the famous Playa Flamenco Beach considered one of the top white sand beaches in the world. Culebra has developed a high Real State market for the beautiful beaches and Paradise like living. Tourism is the main economical industry of Culebra.

7) Culebra has been assigned by local Telephone Company its own code number for local telephone Service that is 742. 742 designate de municipality of Culebra exclusively. For example the City Hall telephone number is 787-742-3521. (see attached directory).

III. Full information of Culebra, Puerto Rico.

Culebra, Puerto Rico

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"Culebra Island" redirects here. For the island in the [Falkland](#) archipelago, see [Sedge Island](#).



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Culebra, Puerto Rico

— [Municipality](#) —





Flag

Nickname(s): La Isla Chiquita (Little Island), Última Virgen (Last Virgin)

Anthem: *"Culebra Isla preciosa"*



Location of Culebra in Puerto Rico

Coordinates:  [18°19′01″N 65°17′24″W](#)[18.31694°N 65.29°W](#)
Coordinates:  [18°19′01″N 65°17′24″W](#)[18.31694°N 65.29°W](#)

Country

[United States](#)

Territory

[Puerto Rico](#)

Founded

October 27, 1880

Government

- **Mayor** Abraham Peña Nieves
- **Senatorial dist.** 8 - Carolina
- **Representative dist.** 36

Area

- **Total** 11.6 sq mi ([30.1](#) km²)
- **Land** 10.8 sq mi (28 km²)

Population (2000)

- **Total** 1,868
- **Density** 160.7/sq mi (62.1/km²)

- Racial groups (2000 Census) ^[1]	60.6% White
	20.9% Black
	1.0% American Indian/An
	1.1% Asian
	0.1% Native Hawaiian/Pi
	13.0% Some other race
	3.4% Two or more races
Time zone	AST (UTC-4)
Zip code	

Isla Culebra (Spanish pronunciation: [kuˈle ra], "Snake Island") is an island-[municipality](#) of [Puerto Rico](#) originally called **Isla Pasaje** and **Isla de San Ildefonso**. It is located approximately 17 miles (27 km) east of the Puerto Rican mainland, 12 miles (19 km) west of [St. Thomas](#) and 9 miles (14 km) north of [Vieques](#). Culebra is spread over 5 wards and Culebra (Dewey) Pueblo (The downtown area and the administrative center of the city). The island is also known as **Isla Chiquita** ("Little Island") and **Última Virgen** ("Last Virgin", reflecting its position at the end of the [Virgin islands](#) archipelago). Residents of the island are known as *Culebrenses*.


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History



 Culebra's [city hall](#).

[Christopher Columbus](#) was the first European to arrive at the island in 1493. The island was populated by [Taíno Indians](#) prior to this and was used by [pirates](#) as a refuge for more than 3 centuries.

In 1875, a black Englishman named Stevens was made the first governor of Culebra by the government of [Vieques](#). He was given the task of protecting the island and the fishermen who used the nearby waters from pirates. He was assassinated later that same year. Culebra was then settled by [Cayetano Escudero Sanz](#) on October 27, 1880. This first settlement was called San Ildefonso, to honor the Bishop of [Toledo](#), San Ildefonso de la Culebra. Two years later, on September 25, 1882 construction of the [Culebrita](#) Lighthouse began and it was completed on February 25, 1886. It was the oldest operating lighthouse in the Caribbean until 1975, when the [U.S. Navy](#) and [Coast Guard](#) finally closed the facility.

In 1902, Culebra was integrated as a part of [Vieques](#). One year later, on June 26, [President Theodore Roosevelt](#) established the Culebra Naval Reservation. A bird refuge was established on February 27, 1909. In 1939, the [U.S. Navy](#) began to use the Culebra Archipelago as a gunnery and bombing practice site. This was done in preparation for the United States' involvement in World War II. In 1971 the people of Culebra began protests, known as the [Navy-Culebra protests](#), for the removal of the U.S. Navy from Culebra. Four years later, in 1975, the use of Culebra as a gunnery range ceased and all operations were moved to [Vieques](#).

Culebra was declared an independent island municipality in 1917. The first democratically elected government was put into place in 1960. Prior to this, the government of Puerto Rico appointed delegates to administer the island.

Flag

The Culebra flag consists of five vertical stripes, three alternate yellow and two green ones. The yellow central stripe has the map of Culebra in green.

Coat of Arms






This crown consists of sterns of two ships with their sails filled by the wind. The cross and the episcopal walking stick symbolize Bishop San Ildefonso, because originally the island was called San Ildefonso de la Culebra. The serpent (culebra means serpent) symbolizes its name. An armed arm from the Coat of Arms of the Escudero family, first settlers of the island. The laurel cross refers to the civic triumph reached when Culebra obtained the evacuation of the United States Navy from the island.

Demographics



Culebra with barrios

Barrios (Districts/Wards)

<i>Barrio</i> 	<u>area</u> <u>m²</u> ^[2] 	population (census 2000) 	density 	islands in barrio 
Culebra barrio- pueblo	408969	652	1594.3 -	Cayo Pirata, Cayo Verde, Cayo Matojo, El Ancon, Piedra Stevens, Los Gemelos, Alcarraza, Roca Lavador (awash), Cayo Botijuela, Cayo de Luis Peña , Las Hermanas (Cayo del Agua, Cayo Ratón, Cayo Yerba), El Mono, Cayo Lobo , Roca Culumna (Part of Cayo Lobito), Cayo Lobito, Cayo Tuna
Flamenco	12602398	885	70.2	Culebrita , Cayo Botella, Pelá, Pelaita
Fraile	8211978	51	6.2	
Playa Sardinas I	410235	136	331.5 -	
Playa Sardinas II	2600088	122	46.9 -	
San Isidro	5857771	22	3.8	Roca Speck, Cayo Norte , Cayo Sombrerito, Cayos Geniquí, Cayo Tiburón, Cayo Ballena
Culebra	30091439	1.868	62,1	23 islands, cays and rocks

Geography



Culebra on the horizon as seen from [Vieques](#)

Culebra is an [archipelago](#) consisting of the main island and twenty-three smaller islands that lie off its coast. The largest of these [cays](#) are: [Culebrita](#) to the east, [Cayo Norte](#) to the northeast, and [Cayo Luis Peña](#) and [Cayo Lobo](#) to the west. The smaller islands include Cayo Ballena, Cayos Geniqui, Arrecife Culebrita, Las Hermanas, El Mono, Cayo Lobito, Cayo Botijuela, Alcarraza, Los Gemelos, and Piedra Steven. Islands in the archipelago are [arid](#), meaning they have no rivers or [streams](#). All of the [fresh water](#) is brought from Puerto Rico via Vieques.

Culebra is characterized by an irregular [topography](#) resulting in a long intricate [shoreline](#). The island is approximately 7 by 5 miles (11 by 8 km). The coast is marked by cliffs, sandy coral [beaches](#) and [mangrove forests](#). Inland, the tallest point on the island is Mount Resaca, with an elevation of 650 feet (198 m).

Ensenada Honda is the largest [harbor](#) on the island and is considered to be the most hurricane secure harbor in the Caribbean. The capital of the Culebra is [Dewey, Puerto Rico](#).

Nature Reserves



Map of the Culebra National Wildlife Refuge

These small islands are all classified as nature reserves and several nature reserves also exist on the main island. One of the oldest bird sanctuaries in United States territory was established in Culebra on February 27, 1909 by President [Teddy Roosevelt](#).^[3] The [Culebra Island Giant Anole](#) (*Anolis roosevelti*, *Xiphosurus roosevelti* (according to ITIS)) is an extremely rare or possibly extinct lizard of the [Anolis](#) genus. It is native to Culebra Island and was named in honor of

[Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.](#), who was the governor of Puerto Rico at that time. There are bird sanctuaries on many of the islands as well as turtle nesting sites on Culebra. [Leatherback](#), [green sea](#) and [hawksbill sea turtles](#) use the beaches for nesting. The archipelagos bird sanctuaries are home to [brown boobies](#), [laughing gulls](#), [sooty terns](#), [bridled terns](#) and [noddy terns](#). An estimated 50,000 [sea birds](#) find their way back to the sanctuaries every year. These nature reserves comprise 1568 [acres](#) (6 km²) of the [archipelago's](#) 7000 acres (28 km²). These nature reserves are protected by the [United States Fish and Wildlife Service](#).

Culebra has no natural large mammals. However, a population of [White-tailed deer](#) introduced in 1966 can be found on the eastern region of the island.^[3]

National protected area

- [Culebra National Wildlife Refuge](#)

Tourism



Flamenco Beach

Culebra is a popular weekend tourist destination for Mainland [Puerto Ricans](#), [Americans](#) and residents of [Vieques](#). Because of the "arid" nature of the island there is no run-off from rivers or streams resulting in very clear waters around the archipelago.

Culebra has many beautiful beaches including Flamenco Beach (Playa Flamenco), which can be reached by shuttle buses from the ferry. The beach extends for a mile of white coral sand and is framed beautifully by arid tree-covered hills. The beach is also protected by the [Department of Natural and Environmental Resources](#) as a [Marine Wildlife Reserve](#).

The area west of Flamenco Beach and the adjacent Flamenco Point were used for joint-[United States Navy/Marine Corps](#) military exercises until 1975. Many military relics, including [tanks](#), remain in the area. Culebra and Vieques offered the U.S. military an experience of great value to the battles in the Pacific as a feasible training area for the [Fleet Marine Force](#) in [amphibious](#) exercises for [beach landings](#) and [naval gunfire support](#) testing. Culebra and Vieques were the two components of the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Range Inner Range. In recent years, only the shortened term "Inner Range" was used.



Coral Reef On Culebra

Other beaches are only accessible by private car or boats. Of the smaller islands, only [Culebrita](#) and [Luis Peña](#) permit visitors and can be accessible via water taxis from Culebra. Hiking and nature photography are encouraged on the small islands. However, activities which would disturb the nature reserves are prohibited, e.g. [Camping](#), [Littering](#) and [Motor Vehicles](#). Camping, however, is allowed on Playa Flamenco throughout the year. Reservations are recommended. Culebra is also a popular destination for [scuba divers](#) because of the many reefs throughout the archipelago and the crystal clear waters.

Landmarks and places of interest



Early 20th Century warehouse, now converted into a museum.

- Flamenco Beach Ranked # 2 in the top 10 most exotic beaches in the world.
- Brava Beach
- Las Vacas Beach
- Larga Beach
- Pueblo Español
- Punta Soldado Beach
- Resaca Beach
- Tamarindo Beach
- Tortuga Beach

Festivals and events

- Windsurfing Competition - February
- Fishing Tournament - March
- Patron Festivities - June
- Craft Festivities - November



 Old Tank at Flamenco Beach.

Transportation

Culebra has a small airport, [Benjamín Rivera Noriega Airport](#) with domestic service to the mainland and [Vieques](#). The airport is served by small airlines:

- [Air Culebra](#) from [San Juan's Luis Muñoz Marín](#) and [Isla Grande](#) Airports.
- [Air Flamenco](#) provides service from [Fernando Luis Ribas Dominicci Airport](#) in Isla Grande, [Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport](#) in San Juan, and [José Aponte de la Torre Airport](#) in [Ceiba](#).
- [Vieques Air Link](#) provides service to Culebra from [San Juan](#) and [Fajardo](#).
- [M&N Aviation](#) from [Fernando Luis Ribas Dominicci Airport](#) in Isla Grande, and [José Aponte de la Torre Airport](#) in [Ceiba](#).

Ferry service is available from [Fajardo](#).

Government and infrastructure



 Culebra Post Office

The [United States Postal Service](#) operates the Culebra Post Office.^[4]

Gallery



Flamenco Beach



Flamenco Beach



An old tank at Flamenco Beach



Church at the town plaza



Flamenco Bay from above