Dorado Beach, San Juan, Puerto Rico

image courtesy of Terrapin Bright Green

The redevelopment of the Dorado Beach Resort, located just outside of San Juan, Puerto Rico, is an opportunity to build upon the legacy of Laurence S. Rockefeller's environmental efforts and preserve the landscape of the site. By integrating sustainability into the infrastructure and new construction, Caribbean Property Group could further leverage the growing interest in sustainable development and unique vacationing experiences. NSI, with project partners Terrapin Bright Green and Ramsey Engineering, assessed opportunities for the property's new and upgraded infrastructure plans, including two new hotels and a renovated environmental education center.

The team pinpointed opportunities for improving system functionality, reduction of operational and maintenance costs, and watershed protection measures. Concepts, key principles and tools were outlined for integration in to the redevelopment process. Key principles included energy efficient design, site drainage improvements, and sustainable wastewater and stormwater management techniques. Recommendations included altering current irrigation practices, implementation of rain harvesting systems, and installation of rain gardens, naturalized swales, and vegetated strips.