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Comments: I attended the Las Piedras Meeting on the proposed El Yunque Management Plan (October 6, 2016). I found the presentation enlightening and well organized. Much of the information on how our understanding of the forest has changed was new and convincing, and many questions were clarified. I applaud the effort of the personnel present.

As a wildlife biologist, I would like the proposed management plan to include information on pests (both plant and animals) already identified at El Yunque, the status (widespread, localized, etc.) and information on how they might be managed. As an example, the mongoose seems to be widespread and presents a risk to human visitors, but cats may not be so. Their effects on landbirds of the forest is important, but there is no information on how will they be managed. This may require research by the forest service on distribuciones, and áreas where their control may be of utmost importance for both the native wildlife as for the visiting humans. A list of identified pests should be included and if possible, any available information on their distribución through the forest (at least of sightings).

I agree that the second alternative of the three presented is the best one.