

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yosemite National Park P. O. Box 577 Yosemite, California 95389

Memorandum

To: Ron Gaunt, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2013-037 Yosemite Lodge Guest Room Component

Renewal (48865)

The Executive Leadership Team has reviewed the proposed project/action and completed its environmental assessment documentation, and we have determined the following:

- There will not be any effect on threatened, endangered, or rare species and/or their critical habitat.
- There will be no adverse effects to historical properties.
- There will not be serious or long-term undesirable environmental or visual effects.

The subject proposed project, therefore, is now cleared for all NEPA and NHPA compliance requirements as presented above. Project plans and specifications are approved and construction and/or project implementation can commence.

For the proposed project actions to be within compliance requirements during construction and/or project implementation, the following mitigations must be adhered to:

- Park Historical Architect should be involved in the review of the design and materials, as well as construction monitoring and consultation.
- The new work should endeavor to replicate the existing finishes. Unpainted wood ceilings shall not be painted.
- Provide for the salvaging, labeling and preservation/storage on site of one 8" x 8" sample of original sink counter top to include a finished edge.
- New aluminum windows shall be approved by the park Historical Architect.
- New bathroom exhaust vents shall be concealed behind existing building louvers where possible.
- For the accessible rooms prior to removal or alteration, take archival black and white 5" x 7" record photographs of the existing dressing room and bathroom and the exterior windows and sliding glass doors to be removed for the new accessible egress to the patio.

Letter of Compliance Completion - Yosemite Lodge Guest Room Component Renewal - PEPC ID: 48865

- The existing fenestration pattern of the accessible rooms should be maintained. Standard/non accessible room layouts should not be altered.
- Wood louvers should be retained either in operable or fixed condition. To the extent possible, the existing operating hardware should be retained and repaired.

For complete compliance information see PEPC Project 48865.

//Don L. Neubacher//

Don L. Neubacher

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File

The signed original of this document is on file at the Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in Yosemite National Park.



Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: 2013-037 Yosemite Lodge Guest Room Component Renewal

PEPC Project Number: 48865

Project Description:

The purpose of this project is to renovate 166 guest lodging rooms at Yosemite Lodge, located in Yosemite Valley. The overall objective of the rehabilitation and replacement of building components is to improve the energy efficiency and sustainability of these lodging units. This guest lodging requires upgrades to replace failing systems and fixtures and provide improved visitor service. Component renewal elements include the rehabilitation or replacement of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems; exterior windows and patio doors; interior entry doors; and the replacement of shower surrounds, valves, faucets and ventilation fans. Replacement of soft goods, carpet, and interior finishes will also be included. Many guest rooms have jalousied single paned aluminum framed exterior windows. which have no insulation, are often inoperable, and are extremely difficult to maintain. Patio doors have jalousied aluminum full lite inserts that exhibit the same challenges.

Yosemite National Park

Date: 10/28/2013

The project team will implement the door and window treatment design that was provided by the park Historical Architect for the initial 69-room upgrades. Park Historic Architects will be on the design team to inform the selected treatment.

Additionally, six of the 166 rooms will also be upgraded to meet accessibility standards. This portion of the project will alter the physical layout of six rooms to meet the requirements of accessible room availability. Accessibility alterations will be made to entry doors, signage, hardware, window controls, patio configurations, fire alarms, and electrical controls.

In total, 166 guest rooms will be remodeled in a two phase effort beginning October 2013 to April 2014. Up to fifty-nine rooms at one time will be off-line and unavailable to guests within this time frame. The rooms included in the project are in the following buildings:

- 3400 Building, Hemlock (31 rooms)
- 3600 Building, Alder (19 rooms, plus 1 accessible room to be constructed in CIF 5022)
- 3900 Building, Cedar (19 rooms)
- 4100 Building, Tamarack (5 rooms, plus 1 accessible room to be constructed in CIF 5022)
- 4100 Building, Dogwood (8 rooms)
- 4100 Building, Aspen (8 rooms)
- 4200 Building, Elderberry (20 rooms)
- 4300 Building, Willow (12 rooms)

Categorical Exclusion Form - Yosemite Lodge Guest Room Component Renewal - PEPC ID: 48865

- 4400 Building, Cottonwood (8 rooms, plus 2 accessible to be constructed in CIF 5022)
- 4500 Building, Manzanita (18 rooms, plus 2 accessible to be constructed in CIF 5022)
- 4600 Building, Azalea (12 rooms)
- 4700 Building, Birch (6 rooms)

Project Locations:

Mariposa County, CA

Mitigations:

- Park Historical Architect should be involved in the review of the design and materials, as well as provide for construction monitoring and consultation.
- The new work should endeavor to replicate the existing finishes. Unpainted wood ceilings shall not be painted.
- Provide for the salvaging, labeling and preservation/storage on site of one 8" x 8" sample of original sink counter top to include a finished edge.
- New aluminum windows shall be approved by the park Historical Architect.
- New bathroom exhaust vents shall be concealed behind existing building louvers where possible.
- For the accessible rooms prior to removal or alteration, take archival black and white 5" x 7" record photographs of the existing dressing room and bathroom and the exterior windows and sliding glass doors to be removed for the new accessible egress to the patio.
- The existing fenestration pattern of the accessible rooms should be maintained. Standard/non accessible room layouts should not be altered.
- Wood louvers should be retained either in operable or fixed condition. To the extent possible, the existing operating hardware should be retained and repaired.

Describe the category used to exclude action from further NEPA analysis and indicate the number of the category (see Section 3-4 of DO-12):

C.19 Construction or rehabilitation in previously disturbed or developed areas, required to meet health or safety regulations, or to meet requirements for making facilities accessible to the handicapped.

On the basis of the environmental impact information in the statutory compliance file, with which I am familiar, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No exceptional circumstances (e.g. all boxes in the ESF are marked "no") or conditions in Section 3-6 apply, and the action is fully described in Section 3-4 of DO-12.

Superintendent:	//Don L. Neubacher//	Date: 10/30/13			
	Don L. Neubacher				
	The signed original of this doc Environmental Planning and				

Categorical Exclusion Form - Yosemite Lodge Guest Room Component Renewal - PEPC ID: 48865



National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior Yosemite National Park Date: 10/28/2013

ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

DO-12 APPENDIX 1

Date Form Initiated: 10/21/2013

Updated May 2007 - per 2004 Departmental Manual revisions and proposed Director's Order 12

changes

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite National Park

Project Title: 2013-037 Yosemite Lodge Guest Room Component Renewal

PEPC Project Number: 48865

Project Type: Facility Rehabilitation (FR)

Project Location:

County, State: Mariposa, California District: Yosemite Valley

Project Leader: Ron Gaunt

Is project a hot topic (controversial or sensitive issues that should be brought to attention of Regional Director)? No

B. RESOURCE EFFECTS TO CONSIDER:

Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Geologic resources – soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc.	No				
2. From geohazards	No				
3. Air quality		Negligible			There are temporary air emissions associated with this project work. There are no long-term effects to air quality for this project.

Environmental Screening Form (ESF) - Yosemite Lodge Guest Room Component Renewal - PEPC ID: 48865

4. Soundscapes		Negligible		There will be negligible, temporary construction noises during the project work.
5. Water quality or quantity	No			
6. Streamflow characteristics	No			
7. Marine or estuarine resources	No			
8. Floodplains or wetlands	No			
9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use	No			
10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine	No			
11. Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat	No			
12. Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites	No			Yosemite National Park is a World Heritage Site.
13. Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat	No			
14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat	No			
15. Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)	No			
16. Recreation resources, including	No			

supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.				
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources		Negligible		Visitor experience for Yosemite Lodge guests will be diminished temporarily. Long-term effects will be enhanced due to the upgraded and accessible rooms. Work is being completed during the off season.
18. Archeological resources	No			
19. Prehistoric/historic structure			Minor	Some components of this project will have an adverse effect on Yosemite Lodge. Mitigations are in place to minimize the effects of the project work.
20. Cultural landscapes	No			
21. Ethnographic resources	No			
22. Museum collections (objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections)	No			
23. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	No			
24. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	No			
25. Energy resources	No			
26. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	No			
27. Resource, including energy,	No			

conservation potential, sustainability			
28. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	No		
29. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	No		
30. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	No		

C. MANDATORY CRITERIA

Mandatory Criteria: If	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
implemented, would the proposal:				
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?		No		
B. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas?		No		
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?		No		
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant		No		

environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	
G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?	No	
H. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?	No	
I. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?	No	
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?	No	
L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such	No	

species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?					
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For the purpose of interpreting these procedures within the NPS, any action that has the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values would constitute an action that triggers the DOI exception for actions that threaten to violate a federal law for protection of the environment.

D. OTHER INFORMATION

- 1. Are personnel preparing this form familiar with the site? Yes
- **1.A.** Did personnel conduct a site visit? No
- 2. Is the project in an approved plan such as a General Management Plan or an Implementation Plan with an accompanying NEPA document? No
- 3. Are there any interested or affected agencies or parties? Yes
- **3.A.** Did you make a diligent effort to contact them? Yes
- **4.** Has consultation with all affected agencies or tribes been completed? Yes
- **5.** Are there any connected, cumulative, or similar actions as part of the proposed action? (e.g., other development projects in area or identified in *GMP*, adequate/available utilities to accomplish project) No

E. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES

Interdisciplinary Team	Field of Expertise
Don L. Neubacher	Superintendent
Michael Gauthier	Chief of Staff
Kathleen Morse	Chief of Planning
Randy Fong	Chief of Project Management
Teri Austin	Chief of Administration Management
Ed Walls	Chief of Facilities Management
Linda C. Mazzu	Chief of Resources Management & Science
Kris Kirby	Chief of Business and Revenue Management
Tom Medema	Chief of Interpretation and Education
Kevin Killian	Chief of Visitor and Resource Protection
Ron Gaunt	Project Leader
Madelyn Ruffner	Acting Environmental Planning and Compliance Program
	Manager
Renea Kennec	NEPA Specialist

F. SUPERVISORY SIGNATORY

Based on the environmental impact information contained in the statutory compliance file and in this environmental screening form, environmental documentation for this stage of the subject project is complete.

Recommended:

Compliance Specialists	Date
	_10/29/13
//Madelyn Ruffner// Acting Compliance Program Manager – Madelyn Ruffner	_10/29/13
//Randy Fong// Chief, Project Management – Randy Fong	_10/29/13

Approved:

Superintendent	Date
_//Don L. Neubacher//	10/29/13
Don L. Neubacher	

The signed original of this document is on file at the Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in Yosemite National Park.

Yosemite National Park Date: 10/28/2013

PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: October 28, 2013

PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite National Park

Project Title: 2013-037 Yosemite Lodge Guest Room Component Renewal

PEPC Project Number: 48865

Project Type: Facility Rehabilitation (FR)

Project Location:

County, State: Mariposa, California District: Yosemite Valley

Project Leader: Ron Gaunt

PARK ESF ADDENDUM QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST				1
Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		No		
Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		No		
Park rare plants or vegetation?		No		
Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		No		
NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST				
Entail ground disturbance?		No		
Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?		No		
Entail alteration of a historic structure or cultural landscape?	Yes			Some components of this project will have an adverse effect on Yosemite Lodge. Mitigations are in place to minimize the effects of the project work.
Has a National Register form been completed?		No		Yosemite Lodge has a Determination of Eligibility in

			process.
Are there any structures on the park's List of Classified Structures in the area of potential effect?		No	
WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST			
Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor?	Yes		Merced River
Fall within the bed and banks AND will affect the free-flow of the river?		No	
Have the possibility of affecting water quality of the area?		No	
Remain consistent with its river segment classification?	Yes		
Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		No	
Will the project encroach or intrude upon the Wild and Scenic River corridor?		No	
Will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?		No	
Consistent with the provisions in the Merced River Plan Settlement Agreement?	Yes		
WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST			
Within designated Wilderness?		No	
Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		No	



ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Yosemite National Park

Date: 10/28/2013

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. Park: Yosemite National Park

2. Project Description:

Project Name: 2013-037 Yosemite Lodge Guest Room Component Renewal

Prepared by: Renea Kennec Date Prepared: 10/28/2013 Telephone: 209-379-1038 PEPC Project Number: 48865

Area of potential effects (as defined in 36 CFR 800.16[d])

Yosemite Valley Historic District, Yosemite Lodge (not evaluated yet)

3	3. Has t	he area o	f potentia	l effects	been surv	eved to	identify	historic (properties?
•	· IIII	iic ai ca o	potentia	I CIICCES	occii bui v	y ca to	i a cii cii ,	IIIDCOLIC	properties.

X	No
	Yes
	Source or reference:

4. Potentially Affected Resources:

Historical Structures/Resources Affected:

Name and number: Yosemite Lodge - Determination of Eligibility in process **NR status:** 5 - Found eligible for 106 purposes through consultation with the SHPO

Cultural Landscapes Affected:

Name and numbers: Yosemite Valley Historic District NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

5. The proposed action will: (check as many as apply)

Yes	Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure
Yes	Replace historic features/elements in kind
Yes	Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure

Assessment of Effect Form - Yosemite Lodge Guest Room Component Renewal - PEPC ID: 48865

_	No	Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (inc. terrain)		
Add non-historic features/elements (inc. visual, audible, or atmospheric) No to a historic setting or cultural landscape				
_	No	Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible		
_	No	Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible		
_	Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources			
_	Begin or contribute to deterioration of historic features, terrain, setting, No landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources			
_	No	Involve a real property transaction (exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures)		
_		Other (please specify):		
The p	oark 1	WS BY CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS 106 coordinator requested review by the park's cultural resource specialist/advisors as by check-off boxes or as follows:		
Name	: Lau	eologist ra Kirn 4/2013		
Asses	smen o Adv	oject does not involve ground disturbance [X] t of Effect: X No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected verse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review dations for conditions or stipulations:		
Name Date: Comr includ Histor Due to room' to have	e: Pau 10/21 ments: ded in ric Pla o the s pati ye an	rical Architect 1 Stephens 1/2013 2 While a formal determination of eligibility has not been made it was agreed that the work this project would carried out as if the buildings are eligible for the National Register of aces. The proposed work includes extensive up-grading/repair/replacement to interior finishes. required demolition and rebuilding of the guest bathroom and the exterior wall facing the o the ADA portion of the proposed work has been determined by Yosemite National Park staff adverse effect on the resource.		
Asses	smen	oject does not involve ground disturbance [] t of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected No fectX Adverse Effect Streamlined Review		

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: Park Historical Architect should be involved in the review of the design and materials. Provide for construction monitoring and consultation by a Historical Architect staff member of HAL/RMS. Wood louvers should be retained either in operable or fixed condition. To the extent possible the existing operating hardware should be retained and repaired. The existing fenestration pattern of the ADA rooms should be maintained. Standard/non ADA room layouts should not be altered. The new work should endeavor to replicate the existing finishes. Unpainted wood ceilings shall not be painted. For the ADA rooms prior to removal or alteration take archival black and white 5" x 7" record photographs of the existing dressing room and bathroom and the exterior windows and sliding glass doors to be removed for the new accessible egress to the patio. New bathroom exhaust vents shall be concealed behind existing building louvers where possible. New aluminum windows shall be approved by the Park Historical Architect. Provide for the salvaging, labeling and preservation/storage on site of one 8" x 8" sample of original sink counter top to include finished edge.

[X] Historical Landscape Architect Name: Kevin McCardle Date: 09/24/2013
Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [] Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected X_ No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:
Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement
No Reviews From: Curator, Historian, 106 Advisor, Other Advisor, Anthropologist
C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS 1. Assessment of Effect:
No Potential to Cause Effects No Historia Proportion Affordad
No Historic Properties Affected No Adverse Effect
X Adverse Effect
2. Documentation Method:
[] A. STANDARD 36 CFR PART 800 CONSULTATION Further consultation under 36 CFR Part 800 is needed.
[] B. STREAMLINED REVIEW UNDER THE 2008 SERVICEWIDE PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT (PA)
The above action meets all conditions for a streamlined review under section III of the 2008

Assessment of Effect Form - Yosemite Lodge Guest Room Component Renewal - PEPC ID: 48865

Servicewide PA for Section 106 compliance.

APPLICABLE STREAMLINED REVIEW ACTIVITY (Specify 1-16 of the list of streamlined review activity.)

[] C. PLAN-RELATED UNDERTAKING

Consultation and review of the proposed undertaking were completed in the context of a plan review process, in accordance with the 2008 Servicewide PA and 36 CFR Part 800. Specify plan/EA/EIS:

[X] D. UNDERTAKING RELATED TO ANOTHER AGREEMENT

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under another document such as a statewide agreement established in accord with 36 CFR 800.7 or counterpart regulations.

Specify: 1999 Programmatic Agreement

[] E. COMBINED NEPA/NHPA Document

Documentation is required for the preparation of an EA/FONSI or an EIS/ROD has been developed and used so as also to meet the requirements of 36 CFR 800.3 through 800.6

[] G. Memo to SHPO/THPO

[] H. Memo to ACHP

3. Additional Consulting Parties Information:

Additional Consulting Parties: No

4. Stipulations and Conditions:

Following are listed any stipulations or conditions necessary to ensure that the assessment of effect above is consistent with 36 CFR Part 800 criteria of effect or to avoid or reduce potential adverse effects.

5. Mitigations/Treatment Measures:

Measures to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of historic/prehistoric properties: (Remember that setting, location, and use may be relevant.)

- Park Historical Architect should be involved in the review of the design and materials. Provide for construction monitoring and consultation by a Historical Architect staff member of HAL/RMS.
- The new work should endeavor to replicate the existing finishes. Unpainted wood ceilings shall not be painted.
- Provide for the salvaging, labeling and preservation/storage on site of one 8" x 8" sample of original sink counter top to include finished edge.
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Assessment of Effect Form - Yosemite Lodge Guest Room Component Renewal - PEPC ID: 48865

- The existing fenestration pattern of the ADA rooms should be maintained. Standard/non ADA room layouts should not be altered.
- Wood louvers should be retained either in operable or fixed condition. To the extent possible, the existing operating hardware should be retained and repaired.

D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:						
Acting Histor	ic Preservation Officer:					
Kimball Koch	//Kimball Koch//	Date: 10/29/2013				
The proposed	d I have reviewed and approve	unagement Policies and Cultural Resource Ma the recommendations, stipulations, or condit				
Superintende	nt: //Don L. Neubacher// Don L. Neubacher	Date: 10/30/13				

The signed original of this document is on file at the Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in Yosemite National Park.

