



IN REPLY REFER TO:
L7615(YOSE-PM)

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: 2013-044 Yosemite Lodge Kitchen Ceiling Tiles Replacement (49568)

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 historic 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:

- Finish materials shall be replaced in kind. Consult with park Historical Architect should unforeseen conditions be uncovered in the course of the work.

Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:

None

For complete compliance information see PEPC Project 49568.

//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.*

Letter of Compliance Completion - Yosemite Lodge Kitchen Ceiling Tiles Replacement - PEPC ID: 49568



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park
Date: 02/18/2014

Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: 2013-044 Yosemite Lodge Kitchen Ceiling Tiles Replacement

PEPC Project Number: 49568

Project Description:

This project will upgrade the existing ceiling material in the Yosemite Lodge (YL) kitchen. This includes the main kitchen, dish and pot cleaning rooms and food preparation areas. It is unknown when the ceiling was last upgraded. The park public health officer has determined that the current ceiling is in disrepair and the tiles do not meet the 2009 California Health Code requirement for food establishments. Water and steam generated during kitchen operations throughout the years has compromised the ceiling tiles. The project will address 6,000 square feet of ceiling space in a commercial kitchen with an upgrade of the existing ceiling material to meet current health code. Ancillary equipment, such as ventilation and lighting, will be reused or replaced as needed. Delaware North Companies will work with the park historical architect regarding the scope of work for this project as the Yosemite Lodge Determination of Eligibility is finalized.

The Yosemite Lodge Kitchen Ceiling Replacement project will be constructed in multiple phases, based on operational needs of the kitchen staff during the project. Phases 1 and 2 will consist of removing the existing fiber reinforced panels (FRP) from the ceiling in the dish room and pot room, replacing any damaged plywood and installing new FRP. Work will also include new lighting and ventilation rehabilitation, as necessary. In addition, a 50 foot section of the west wall is deteriorated and will be replaced with new standard 2 x 6 construction. The new exterior siding will match adjacent siding. A new wall opening between the dish room and pot room will be created to increase operational efficiency. Portions of the existing wall to be removed will be retained for historical reference, as approved by the historical architect. Phases 3, 4 and 5 of the project (as indicated on the attached phasing map) will be completed under separate compliance as the scope of the work is determined.

Work will be coordinated and scheduled as to limit impacts to visitors and food service areas at Yosemite Lodge. Temporary menu changes and reduction in service hours at the Food Court and Mountain Room Restaurant may result. Best construction time of year is at low visitation, between the months of February and March. Back of house preliminary construction activity will be coordinated with the contractor to retain work schedule and re-open the kitchen for full service by the 2014 Easter Holiday.

Project Locations:

Mariposa County, CA

Mitigations:

Categorical Exclusion Form - Yosemite Lodge Kitchen Ceiling Tiles Replacement - PEPC ID: 49568

- Finish materials shall be replaced in kind. Consult with park Historical Architect should unforeseen conditions be uncovered in the course of the work.

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.4 Routine maintenance and repairs to cultural resource sites, structures, utilities and grounds under an approved Historic Structures Preservation Guide or Cyclic Maintenance Guide; or if the action would not adversely affect the cultural resource.

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:** 3/6/14
Don L. Neubacher

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park
Date: 02/18/2014

ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

DO-12 APPENDIX 1

Date Form Initiated: 02/18/2014

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: 2013-044 Yosemite Lodge Kitchen Ceiling Tiles Replacement
PEPC Project Number: 49568
Project Type: Capital Improvement (CI)
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	No				
4. Soundscapes	No				
5. Water quality or quantity	No				
6. Streamflow characteristics	No				

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
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 supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	No				

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
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources	No				
18. Archeological resources	No				
19. Prehistoric/historic structure		Negligible			The Yosemite Lodge Complex is currently being assessed for a Determination of Eligibility; during the assessment the work will proceed as if the Yosemite Lodge is a National Register eligible property.
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				

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
27. Resource, including energy, conservation potential, sustainability	No				
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 implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
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		No		

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?				
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		No		
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		No		

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
(Executive Order 13007)?				
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 species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		No		

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? No
4. Has consultation with all affected agencies or tribes been completed? No
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

<u>Interdisciplinary Team</u>	<u>Field of Expertise</u>
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
Lou Summerfield	Acting 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.

Compliance Specialists	Date
<u>//Renea Kennec//</u> Compliance Specialist – Renea Kennec	<u>2/19/14</u>
<u>//Madelyn Ruffner//</u> Acting Compliance Program Manager – Madelyn Ruffner	<u>2/27/14</u>
<u>//Madelyn Ruffner//</u> Chief, Project Management – Randy Fong	<u>2/27/14</u>

Recommended:

Superintendent	Date
<u>//Don L. Neubacher//</u> Don L. Neubacher	<u>2/28/14</u>

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park
Date: 02/18/2014

PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: February 18, 2014

PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite National Park
Project Title: 2013-044 Yosemite Lodge Kitchen Ceiling Tiles Replacement
PEPC Project Number: 49568
Project Type: Capital Improvement (CI)
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				
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			The Yosemite Lodge Complex is currently being assessed for a Determination of Eligibility; during the assessment the work will proceed as if the Yosemite Lodge

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
				is a National Register eligible property.
Has a National Register form been completed?		No		A Determination of Eligibility is currently being prepared for the Yosemite Lodge Complex.
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

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. **Park:** Yosemite National Park

2. Project Description:

Project Name: 2013-044 Yosemite Lodge Kitchen Ceiling Tiles Replacement

Prepared by: Laura Kirn **Date Prepared:** 12/17/2013 **Telephone:** 209.379.1314

PEPC Project Number: 49568

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

Yosemite Lodge kitchen area

3. Has the area of potential effects been surveyed to identify historic properties?

☒ No

☐ Yes

Source or reference:

4. Potentially Affected Resources:

Resources Notes: Determination of eligibility for the national register of historic places for the Yosemite Lodge complex is underway, however no recommendation is available at the time of this action.

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

☐ Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure

☐ Yes Replace historic features/elements in kind

☐ No Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure

☐ No Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment
(including terrain)

☐ No Add non-historic features/elements (including visual, audible, or
atmospheric) to a historic setting or cultural landscape

☐ No Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible

☐ No Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible

☐ No Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources

☐ No Begin or contribute to deterioration of historic features, terrain, setting,
landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources

No Involve a real property transaction (exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures)
Other (please specify): _____

6. Supporting Study Data:

(Attach if feasible; if action is in a plan, EA or EIS, give name and project or page number.)

B. REVIEWS BY CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS

The park 106 coordinator requested review by the park's cultural resource specialist/advisors as indicated by check-off boxes or as follows:

[X] Archeologist
Name: Sonny Montague
Date: 01/09/2014

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [X]
Assessment of Effect: X No Potential to Cause Effect ___ No Historic Properties
Affected ___ No Adverse Effect ___ Adverse Effect ___ Streamlined Review
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

[X] Historical Architect
Name: Paul Stephens
Date: 02/18/2014
Comments: RMS/HAL Historical Architect will attend construction meetings.

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [X]
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: Finish materials shall be replaced in kind. Consult with RMS/HAL Historical Architect should unforeseen conditions be uncovered in the course of the work.
Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

[X] Historical Landscape Architect
Name: Kevin McCardle
Date: 01/09/2014

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance []
Assessment of Effect: X No Potential to Cause Effect ___ No Historic Properties
Affected ___ No Adverse Effect ___ Adverse Effect ___ Streamlined Review
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

No Reviews From: Curator, Historical Architect, Historian, 106 Advisor, Other Advisor, Anthropologist

Assessment of Effect Form - Yosemite Lodge Kitchen Ceiling Tiles Replacement - PEPC ID: 49568

C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Assessment of Effect:

☐ No Potential to Cause Effects
☐ No Historic Properties Affected
☒ No Adverse Effect
☐ 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 Servicewide PA for Section 106 compliance.

APPLICABLE STREAMLINED REVIEW Criteria
(Specify 1-16 of the list of streamlined review criteria.)

☐ 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:

☒ 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:

Assessment of Effect Form - Yosemite Lodge Kitchen Ceiling Tiles Replacement - PEPC ID: 49568

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.)

No Assessment of Effect mitigations identified.

D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:

Acting Historic Preservation Officer:

//Kimball Koch// Date: 2-19-14

Kimball Koch

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL

The proposed work conforms to the NPS *Management Policies* and *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, and I have reviewed and approve the recommendations, stipulations, or conditions noted in Section C of this form.

Superintendent: //Don L. Neubacher// Date: 3/5/14
Don L. Neubacher

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