



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: Rod Kennec, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2014-020 Rehabilitate Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station (50300)

The Executive Leadership Team has reviewed the proposed project 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 not be any effect on historical, cultural, or archeological resources.
- 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:

- No mitigations identified

For complete compliance information see PEPC Project 50300.

//Don 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: 2014-020 Rehabilitate Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station

PEPC Project Number: 50300

Project Description:

Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station was constructed in 1924 to serve as the fee collection and contact station for the east entrance to the park. It represents early rustic architectural design and set the theme for many other post 1920 park structures. Today the structure is listed on the National Register of Historical Places but is still used as a ranger office and contact station.

The structure has received little preventive maintenance and has sustained substantial deterioration to its log framework and exterior envelope. This project will correct backlog maintenance to the log framing and restore deteriorated siding, log purlins, log banding, and rafter tails; repair the floor support timbers; and place a concrete perimeter foundation under the building. Utilities will be upgraded and interior finishes and surfaces will be renewed to provide adequate, functional office space.

Construction plans and drawings have been professionally prepared to guide preservation work, which includes the addition of a small vestibule at the rear of the building to accommodate 5 to 6 foot snow accumulations. The limited amount of time that the Tuolumne Meadows area is accessible each summer and the other obligations of the Yosemite Historic Preservation Crew require that this project be split into two components and accomplished in two summers. The visitor contact and ranger administrative operations will be relocated to a temporary office trailer that will be placed near the project structure.

Project Location:

Tuolumne County, CA

Mitigations:

- No mitigations identified

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 Neubacher//

Date: 6/25/14

Don L. Neubacher

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Yosemite National Park.*



ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

DO-12 APPENDIX 1

Date Form Initiated: 06/17/2014

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: 2014-020 Rehabilitate Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station
PEPC Project Number: 50300
Project Type: Historic Preservation (HP)
Project Location:
 County, State: Tuolumne, California
Project Leader: Rod Kennec

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.		Negligible			The project will cause minor ground disturbance from trenching 12 inches deep around the perimeter of the structure (18 ft. x 40 ft.).
2. From geohazards	No				
3. Air quality		Negligible			Negligible temporary impacts (dust, particulate matter) during construction from use of vehicles to transport materials and personnel to the site.
4. Soundscapes		Negligible			Negligible temporary localized impacts from use of tools and equipment at the work site during

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
					regular work hours.
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		Negligible			Yosemite 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	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
species (plant or animal)					
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	No				
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources		Negligible			During construction visitor contact functions will be moved to an office trailer near the construction site, which may have short term impacts on the visitor experience.
18. Archeological resources		Negligible			The project will cause minor ground disturbance from trenching 12 inches deep around the perimeter of the structure (18 ft. x 40 ft.).
19. Prehistoric/historic structure	No				The Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station and Comfort Station are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
20. Cultural landscapes		Negligible			The Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station is a contributing feature to the Tuolumne Meadows Historic District.
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	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
low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.					
25. Energy resources	No				
26. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	No				
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;		No		

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
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?				
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 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 (Executive Order 13007)?		No		

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
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
Zach Allely	Acting 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
William Bryan	Project Leader
Madelyn Ruffner	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
<u>//Renea Kennec//</u> Compliance Specialist – Renea Kennec	<u>6/19/14</u>
<u>//Renea Kennec// for</u> Acting Compliance Program Manager – Lisa Acree	<u>6/19/14</u>
<u>//Randy Fong//</u> Chief, Project Management – Randy Fong	<u>6/23/14</u>

Approved:

Superintendent	Date
<u>//Don Neubacher//</u> Don L. Neubacher	<u>6/25/14</u>

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PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: June 19, 2014

PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite National Park
Project Title: 2014-020 Rehabilitate Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station
PEPC Project Number: 50300
Project Type: Historic Preservation (HP)
Project Location:
County, State: Tuolumne, California
Project Leader: Rod Kenec

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?	Yes			Project requires trenching around the building, 12 inches deep, 18 feet x 40 feet.
Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?	Yes			
Entail alteration of a historic structure or cultural landscape?	Yes			The Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a contributing feature of the Tuolumne Meadows Historic District.

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
Has a National Register form been completed?	Yes			The Tuolumne Ranger Station and Comfort Stations were nominated to the National Register in 1978.
Are there any structures on the park's List of Classified Structures in the area of potential effect?	Yes			The Tuolumne Ranger Station is Structure Number MA03000 and LCS ID Number 5788.
WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST				
Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor?	Yes			Tuolumne River Corridor
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		
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: 2014-020 Rehabilitate Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station

Prepared by: Renea Kennec

Date Prepared: 05/13/2014

Telephone: 209-379-1038

PEPC Project Number: 50300

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

Tuolumne Meadows Historic District including individually eligible Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Stations and Restrooms Buildings 3000, 3005, 3021, 3022, 3023 Tuolumne Meadows Archeology District

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

No

Yes

Source or reference:

4. Potentially Affected Resource(s):

Historical Structures/Resources Affected:

Name and numbers: Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station LCS 5788

Location: Tuolumne Meadows

NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

Cultural Landscapes Affected:

Name and numbers: Tuolumne Meadows Historic District

Location: Tuolumne Meadows

Ethnographic Resources Affected:

Name and numbers: Resources of Cultural Significance (un-evaluated)

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
- No Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (inc. terrain)
Add non-historic features/elements (inc. 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
- Yes Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources
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:

Anthropologist

Name: Jennifer Hardin

Date: 06/05/2014

Comments: No documented historic properties with religious and cultural significance to American Indian tribes and groups.

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance

Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected

No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

Archeologist

Name: Sonny Montague

Date: 06/04/2014

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance []

Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected
 No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: If buried historical or prehistoric archeological resources are discovered during project implementation, please discontinue work in the area and contact the Archeology Office.

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

[X] Historical Architect

Name: Gabrielle Harlan

Date: 06/10/2014

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance []

Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected
 No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: We recommend that the vestibule addition to the rear of the building be subtly differentiated from the rest of the building so that it can be "read" as an addition, rather than original. Please consider subtly differentiating materials in terms of the vertical siding and the foundation, as well as through construction detailing (such as the exposed rafter tails that are currently planned).

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

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

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.

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.)**

No Assessment of Effect mitigations identified.

D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:

Acting Historic Preservation Officer:

Kimball Koch //Kimball Koch// **Date:** 6/19/2014

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL

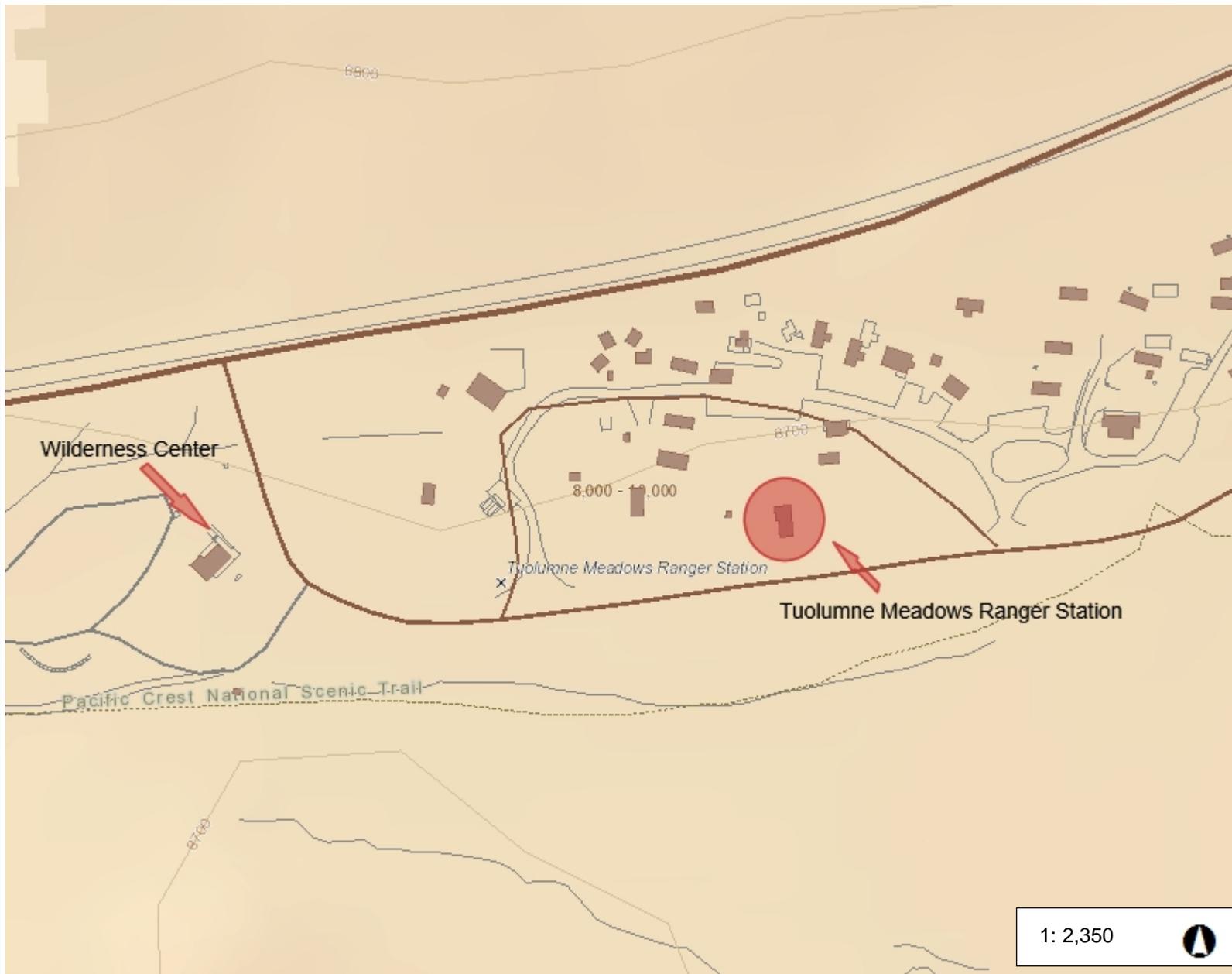
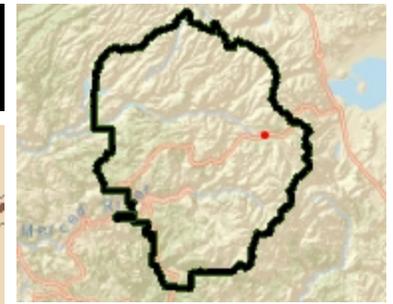
The proposed work conforms to the NPS *Management Policies* and *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, and I have reviewed and approve the recommendations, stipulations, or conditions noted in Section C of this form.

Superintendent: //Don Neubacher// **Date:** 6/25/14
Don L. Neubacher

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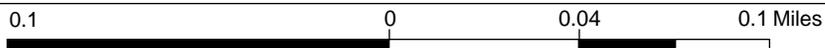
Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station Rehabilitation



Legend

- Building Outline
- × Minor Landmarks
- Roads - Large Scale
 - Light Duty Roads
 - Primary Roads
 - Secondary Roads
 - Parking Lots
- Trails
- ◻ Yosemite National Park
- ◻ Elevation Bands
- Contour Lines 100ft
- Basemap (CAD)

1: 2,350



WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere
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Notes