



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:
L7615(YOSE-PM)

Memorandum

To: Kelly White, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2016-017 Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Cabin Replacement - Pilot Project (65683)

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 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:

- Archeological monitoring will be required during ground disturbing activities. Facilities should coordinate with cultural resources staff approximately two weeks before project implementation.

For complete compliance information see PEPC Project 65683.

// 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: 2016-017 Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Cabin Replacement – Pilot Project

PEPC Project Number: 65683

Description of Action (Project Description):

This project was selected for implementation in the 2014 Record of Decision for the Tuolumne River Plan/EIS (PEPC 65683). This project must adhere to mitigation and stipulations specified in the Final EIS/Record of Decision.

This pilot project will replace two seasonal NPS employee tent cabins (#3088 and #3089) located at Bug Camp in Tuolumne Meadows with two new hard-topped cabins. The current cabins are in very poor condition, are not code compliant, have ineffective rodent exclusion, and do not meet the NPS Housing Guidelines. The design of new cabins rectifies these deficiencies. These new cabins are a prototype design; data from the tracking of costs, construction time, constructability, and tenant reviews of the completed cabins will be used to inform the design for the larger project, which involves replacement of 35 tent cabins phased over the next 7 years, as part of the implementation of the Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River Plan.

The original planned course of action was to dismantle the existing #3088 and #3089 cabins, and replace them with the prototype cabins within the previous building footprint. However, seasonal housing is in very short supply in Tuolumne Meadows, and after consulting with the park's Housing Office and the impacted users, it was determined that the existing cabins will remain in service this summer while the replacement cabins are being built nearby. Cabins #3088 and #3089 will be dismantled and removed at the end of the season when the replacements are available for use.

The replacement cabins will be positioned and orientated to maintain compatibility with the Bug Camp landscape. The new cabins will feature a 16' x 22' livable area, plus a 16'x 6' porch. Perimeter footings for each building will be excavated by backhoe or track hoe (excavator). The trenches will be approximately 20" wide 24" deep (deeper where steps are required due to grade changes). Approximate footing excavation will total 35 cubic yards for both cabins.

Utilities (water, sewer, electricity, and propane) will be routed to serve the replacement cabins, and will involve approximately 350 linear feet of trenching, in seven trenches of various length, and the addition of a sewer manhole and a propane tank. The utility trenches will each be approximately 24" wide x 42" deep, and in total will disturb approximately 100 cubic yards of soil, much of it to be re-used as backfill material. Minor site grading to divert drainage from the buildings will disturb another 5 cubic yards (approximately).

Total soil disturbance is expected to be approximately 145 cubic yards over approximately 2,000 square feet of area. Approximately twenty-five pine trees of 14" diameter or less have to be removed to accommodate the new cabin locations.

Project Locations:

Tuolumne County, CA

Mitigation(s):

- Archeological monitoring will be required during ground disturbing activities. Facilities will coordinate with cultural resources staff approximately two weeks before project implementation.

CE Citation: C.18 Construction of minor structures, including small improved parking lots, in previously disturbed or developed areas.

Decision: I find that the action fits within the categorical exclusion above. Therefore, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No extraordinary circumstances apply.

Superintendent: // Don L. Neubacher // **Date:** 8/5/2016
Don L. Neubacher

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Extraordinary Circumstances:

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Notes
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 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, 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 (EO 12898)?	No	
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 130007)?	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 species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?	No	



ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

Updated Sept 2015 per NPS NEPA Handbook

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: 2016-017 Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Cabin Replacement-Pilot Project
PEPC Project Number: 65683
PMIS Number: 194285
Project Type: Repair/Rehabilitation (REHAB)
Project Location:
County, State: Tuolumne, California

B. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Air Air Quality	Potential	During the 4 months of construction there will be some generation of dust. Water will be used as a dust palliative.
Biological Nonnative or Exotic Species	None	
Biological Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat	None	
Biological Vegetation	Potential	Plants in the footprint of the new cabins to be built will be removed, about 1,000 square feet of vegetation to be removed (removal of approximately 25 pine trees).
Biological Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species	None	
Cultural Archeological Resources	Potential	The project site is close to archeological resources. There will be monitoring during ground disturbing activities.
Cultural Cultural Landscapes	None	
Cultural Ethnographic Resources	None	No Ethnographic resources identified within project area. Tribal consultation sent via Tribal spreadsheet on 6/24/2016. Additional information was requested by North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians on July 6th, 2016. No comments or concerns have been expressed since this contact.

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Cultural Museum Collections	None	
Cultural Prehistoric/historic structures	None	
Geological Geologic Features	Potential	There will be trenching for the perimeter footings for the two cabins (approximately 35 cubic yards, maximum depth of 24 inches), as well as trenching for the utilities of approximately 350 linear feet at 24 inches wide and 42 inches deep (about 100 cubic yards). There will also be minor site grading for surface water drainage.
Geological Geologic Processes	None	
Lightscares Lightscares	None	
Other Human Health and Safety	Potential	Employees are exposed to construction related job injuries. Adhering to OSHA regulations will mitigate this risk.
Other Operational	Potential	Additional waste will be created during the 4 month construction period due to demolition of cabins and extra construction materials.
Other Other	Potential	Motor fuels will be on site for the construction equipment, approximately 100 gallons of diesel fuel. The contractor will have a spill kit on site.
Socioeconomic Land Use	None	
Socioeconomic Minority and low-income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	
Socioeconomic Socioeconomic	None	
Soundscapes Soundscapes	Potential	During the 4 month construction period there will be increased noise levels due to machinery and general construction.
Viewsheds Viewsheds	None	
Visitor Use and Experience Recreation Resources	None	
Visitor Use and Experience Visitor Use and Experience	None	
Water Floodplains	None	
Water Marine or Estuarine	None	

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Resources		
Water Water Quality or Quantity	None	
Water Wetlands	None	
Water Wild and Scenic River	Potential	This project is near the Dana Fork of the Tuolumne River and is within the boundary of the Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River Corridor.
Wilderness Wilderness	None	

Recommended:

Compliance Specialists	Date
<u>// Kristin Anderson //</u> Compliance Specialist – Kristin Anderson	<u>8/3/2016</u>
<u>// Madelyn Ruffner //</u> Compliance Program Manager – Madelyn Ruffner	<u>8/3/2016</u>
<u>// Randy Fong //</u> Chief, Project Management – Randy Fong	<u>8/3/2016</u>

Approved:

Superintendent	Date
<u>// Don L. Neubacher //</u> Don L. Neubacher	<u>8/5/2016</u>

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



ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. **Park:** Yosemite National Park

2. **Project Description:**

Project Name: 2016-017 Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Cabin Replacement-Pilot Project

Prepared by: Sara Dolan **Date Prepared:** 06/06/2016 **Telephone:** (209) 379-1308

PEPC Project Number: 65683

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

Tuolumne Meadows Archeological District

Tuolumne Meadows Historic District

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

 No
 X Yes

Source or reference: 2015T

4. **Potentially Affected Resource(s):**

Archeological resources affected:

Name and number(s): Tuolumne Meadow Archeological District

NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

Historical Structures/Resources Affected:

Name and number(s): Tuolumne Meadows Historic District

Location: Tuolumne Meadows

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

- No Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure
- No 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 (inc. terrain)
Add non-historic features/elements (inc. visual, audible, or atmospheric) to a historic setting
- Yes 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

Assessment of Effect Form - Tuolumne Meadows Cabin Replacement - Pilot Project - PEPC ID: 65683

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] 106 Advisor
Name: Kimball Koch
Date: 07/29/2016

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:

[X] Anthropologist
Name: Eirik Thorsgard
Date: 07/05/2016

Comments: No Ethnographic resources identified within project area. Tribal consultation sent via Tribal spreadsheet on 6/24/2016. Additional information was requested by North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians on July 6th, 2016. No comments or concerns have been expressed since this contact.

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:

[X] Archeologist
Name: Sara Dolan
Date: 07/06/2016

Comments: A sensitive cultural resource is located nearby the project area.

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: Archeological monitoring will be required during ground disturbing activities. Project management should coordinate with CR staff approximately two weeks before project implementation.

[X] Historian
Name: Scott Carpenter
Date: 08/02/2016

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:

☒ Historical Architect

Name: Scott Carpenter

Date: 08/02/2016

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:

☒ Historical Landscape Architect

Name: Kimball Koch

Date: 06/29/2016

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:

No Reviews From: Curator, Other Advisor

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:

[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.

1999 PA as amended in 2016

[] 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

SHPO/THPO Notes:

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.)**

- Assessment of Effect - Archeology - Archeological monitoring will be required during ground disturbing activities. Project management should coordinate with CR staff approximately two weeks before project implementation.

D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:

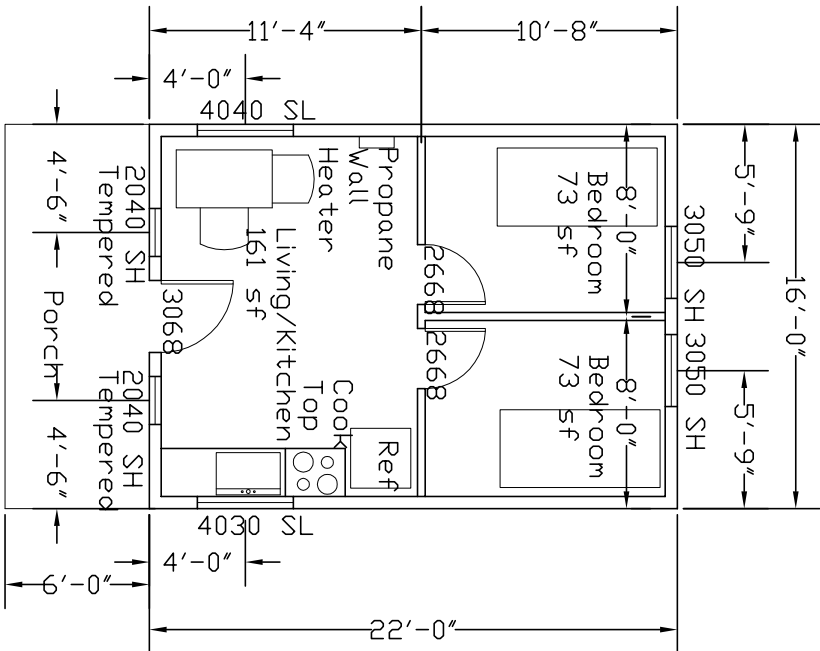
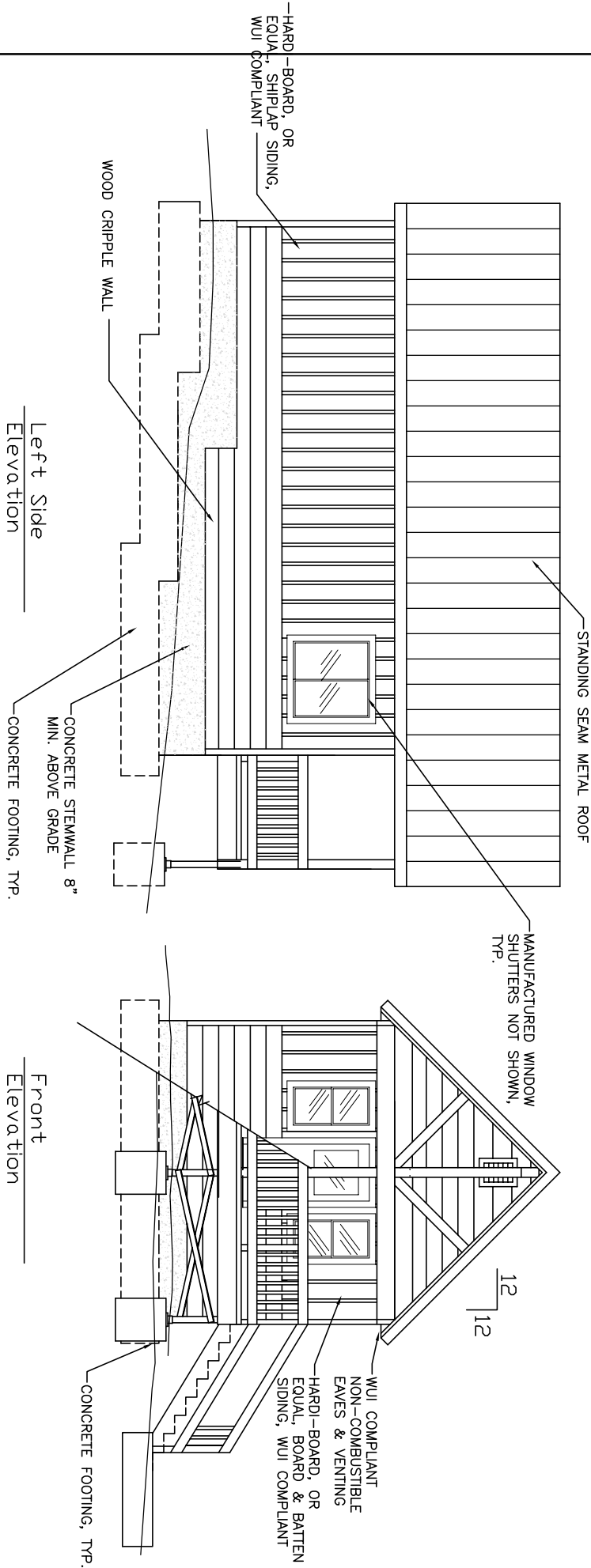
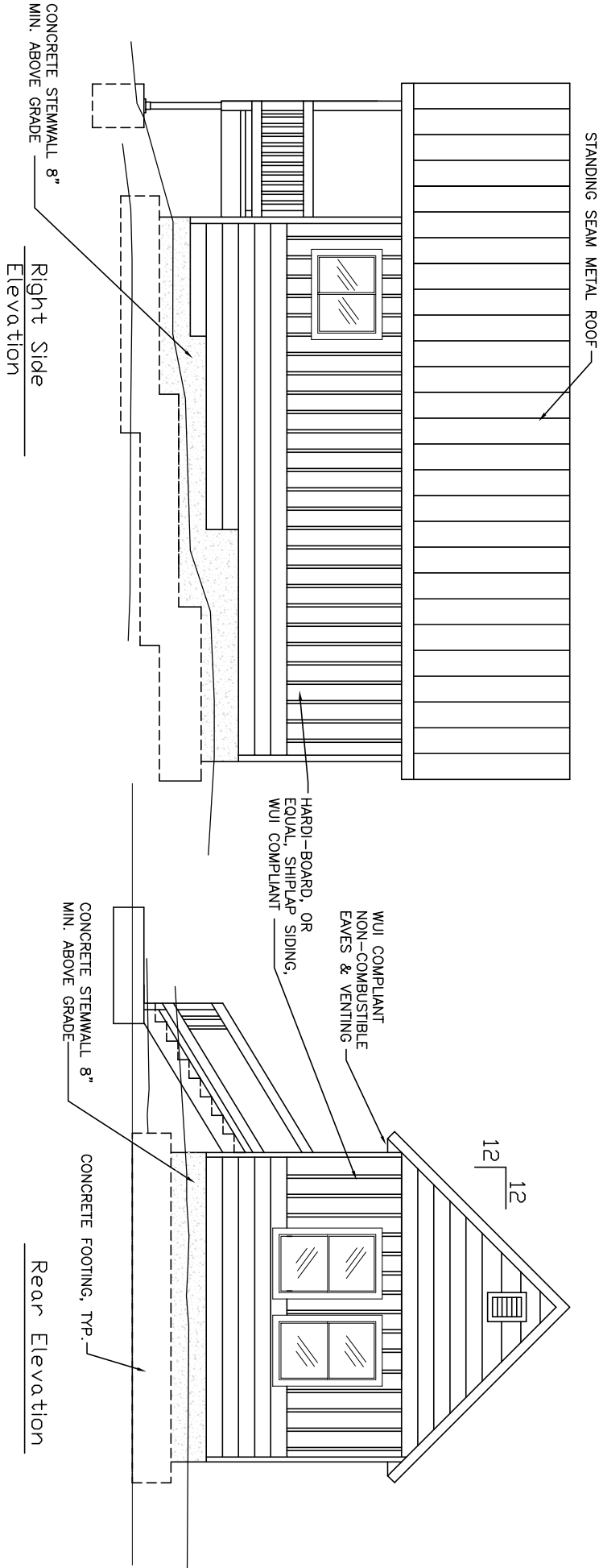
Historic Preservation Officer:

Kimball Koch // Kimball Koch // **Date:** 8/3/2016

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:** 8/5/2016
Don L. Neubacher



16' x 22'
Floor Plan D
(352 sf)



2013 California Building Code
Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Zone
Tulume County, CA
CA Climate Zone 16; ICC Climate Zone 4

Construction Type: V (Wood, Combustible)
Occupancy Group: R-2 (Live/Work Units)
Seismic Design Category: D
Wind Load: 85 mph (3s Gust)
Snow Load: 375 psf Ground
200 psf Sloped Roof

WUI Notes:
All windows double glazed, one pane tempered
Siding, roofing, and venting shall meet WUI requirements
Insulation Requirements:
Attic: R-38
Walls: R-21
Floors: R-30

DESIGNED:	SUB SHEET NO.	TITLE OF SHEET	DRAWING NO.
Kelly White, P.E. SABD	A1	FLOOR PLAN AND ELEVATIONS 16'X22' TENT CABIN REPLACEMENT TUOLUMNE MEADOWS YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK	104 XXXX
Kelly White, P.E. TECH. REVIEW:			PMIS/PKG NO. 194285
DATE: Jun 2016			SHEET 1 OF X