

Categorical Exclusion

(Version: OCT06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2007-020

PEPC Project Number: 17352

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Title: Wawona Buildings #4204 and #2571 Live Burn Training

Location: Wawona, Mariposa County, California

Project Manager: Jeff Pasnetta, Visitor Protection, Yosemite National Park

B. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

This project is an action that has been determined to result in no measurable environmental effects. It is therefore categorically excluded from further National Environmental Policy Act analysis under Categorical Exclusion: DO12 3.4 E (4) - *Removal of non-historic materials and structures in order to restore natural conditions when the removal has no potential for environmental impacts, including impacts to cultural landscapes or archeological resources.*

Necessary compliance coordination has been completed regarding the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act, as applicable. Environmental impacts will be negligible or less when the project is implemented with the conditions stipulated under **Project Mitigations and Conditions** in **Section I** at the end of the attached *Environmental Screening Form*.

Additional supporting information for this determination and the stipulated conditions can be found in the following attachments (when checked):

- ☒ *Environmental Screening Form*
- ☐ *Preservation Assessment Form (YOSE-XXX)*
- ☐ *Wilderness Minimum Requirement Analysis*
- ☐ *Wild and Scenic River Section 7 Determination*
- ☐ Other:

C. DECISION

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 or conditions in DO12 3.5 or 3.6 apply and the action is fully described in DO12, Section 3.4.

//MJTollefson//
Michael J. Tollefson, Superintendent

1/26/07
Date

Original: Statutory Compliance File
cc: Project Proponent

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

Attachments (1)



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:
L7617 (YOSE-PM)

Memorandum

To: Jeff Panetta, Project Manager, Visitor Protection, Yosemite National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: Notice to Proceed, 2007-020 Wawona Buildings #4204 and #2571 Live Burn Training (PEPC #17352)

Your proposed project is an action that has been determined to result in no measurable environmental effects. It is therefore categorically excluded from further National Environmental Policy Act analysis under Categorical Exclusion: DO12 3.4 E (4) - *Removal of non-historic materials and structures in order to restore natural conditions when the removal has no potential for environmental impacts, including impacts to cultural landscapes or archeological resources.*

Necessary compliance coordination has been completed regarding the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act, as applicable. This project clearance is valid providing that you adhere to the conditions stipulated in the enclosed *Categorical Exclusion Form* and associated documents when implementing this project.

//MJTollefson//
Michael J. Tollefson, Superintendent

1/26/07
Date

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.

Environmental Screening Form

(Version: NOV06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2007-020

PEPC Project Number: 17352

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Title: Wawona Buildings #4204 and #2571 Live Burn Training

Location: Wawona, Mariposa County, California

Project Manager: Jeff Panetta, Visitor Protection, Yosemite National Park

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

This project involves burning two surveyed government owned structures: 1) building #2571 (the Redwood Laundry); and 2) building #4204 (Novaks residence at #8178 River St.). These buildings have been cleared and slated for demolition. The Safety Office has cleared the buildings for asbestos.

The Fire department would like to use these structures for live fire training to enhance and reinforce fire fighting concepts while in a live fire environment.

The live fire training will be held during a burn day. Incident Action Plans will be written and will address Command structure (IC, Safety officer)/Safety issues(water flow, back up teams, communications)/Procedural actions(Building walk thru) and Medical plan.

Prior to the burn, road access will be blocked and staffed. Fire apparatus (at least two) will be placed into position. The main pump engine will utilize water from a hydrant connection. Additional apparatus and static water sources (Folda-Tanks) will be on site.

The structures will have multiple fire sets. After each live fire evolution the fire set will be extinguished before moving onto the next set.

Once all training is complete, the structures will be allowed to burn to the foundation. Fire personnel and equipment will stay on site until remaining fire is burned out and extinguished.

Post burn clean up will focus on the removal of all non-burned material (mostly piping) and the final clean up of residual ash.

Table B1 – Background Information

	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1. Did NPS staff conduct a site visit? If yes, list attendees. If no, explain.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Structural Fire Staff
2a. Is the project providing compliance for an action associated with but not covered by an approved plan? (Identify the plan and provide a section or page citation.); OR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The demolition of the two buildings was approved by CE/XXX 2004-068 Demolition of Multiple Surveyed Structures and Limited Site Restoration - Wawona District.
2b. Is the project in an approved plan? (Identify the plan and provide a section or page citation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2c. Is the project consistent with that plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2d. Is the Plan's CE, FONSI, or ROD current?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3a. Are there any interested or affected parties?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Residents of the Wawona Community
3b. Has a diligent effort been made to communicate with them?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			A public communication program would be developed and executed to inform the residents of Wawona.
4a. Are there any affected agencies or tribes?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mariposa County & Mountain County Air Pollution Control District.
4b. Has consultation been completed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			The burn would occur on a designated "burn day" and these agencies notified.

Table B2 – Environmental Screening Form Attachments (provide Attachment letter—A, B, etc.)

	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1. Maps: 2 required (vicinity map & site map)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Wawona and buildings' vicinity maps; see Attachment A.
2. Drawings (e.g., design, construction)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Site Plans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Photographs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Buildings #2751 and #4204; see Attachment B.
5. Non-NEPA/NHPA Approvals (Explain)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Other (Explain)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

C. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL RESOURCE EFFECTS

Are any impacts possible on the following resources?	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Geologic resources: soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negligible: covered by CE 2004-068; additionally, see Condition 2, Section D, below.
2. From geohazards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Air quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negligible: fire training burn is exempt from permitting requirements and these burns would occur on a designated "burn day."
4. Soundscapes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negligible: covered by CE 2004-068.
5. Water quality or quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigated: covered by CE 2004-068; additionally, see Condition 2, Section D, below.
6. Stream flow characteristics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Marine or estuarine resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Floodplains or wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negligible: covered by CE 2004-068.
10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12. Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Covered by CE 2004-068. see Section F, National Historic Preservation Act Checklist, below.
13. Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
15. Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigated: covered by CE 2004-068; also, see Condition 2, Section D, below.
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Covered by CE 2004-068.
18. Cultural resources including cultural landscapes, ethnographic resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Covered by CE 2004-068; see Section F, National Historic Preservation Act Checklist, below.
19. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
20. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Covered by CE 2004-068.
21. Energy resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
22. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negligible: fire training burn is exempt from permitting requirements and these burns would occur on a designated "burn day."
23. Resource, including energy, conservation potential	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigated: see Condition 1, below
24. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigated: covered by CE 2004-068; also, notice would be given to community residents before the burns occur; see Condition 2, below.
25. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
26. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:

- Salvage and recycle all metals and any other usable materials after the burn. (Resources Management and Science)
- Work with the park Fire Information Officer (Deb Schweitzer, 372-0480) to develop and implement a community information plan for Wawona Residents and park visitors before the live burn training events occur. (Resources Management and Science)

D. MANDATORY CRITERIA

If implemented, would the proposed action:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Have material adverse effects on public health or safety?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigated: see project description and Condition 1, below.
2. Have adverse effects on such unique 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; floodplains; or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the National Register of Natural Landmarks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Covered by CE 2004-068; see Section F, National Historic Preservation Act Checklist, below.
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Covered by CE 2004-068; see Section F, National Historic Preservation Act Checklist, below.
8. Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Threaten to violate a federal, state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA sec. 102(2)(E))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12. Have a disproportionate, significant adverse effect on low-income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Covered by CE 2004-068.
13. Restrict access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 130007)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of federally listed noxious weeds (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigated: see Condition 2, below.
15. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of non-native invasive species or actions that may promote the introduction, growth or expansion of the range of non-native invasive species (EO 13112)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigated: see Condition 2, below
16. Require a permit from a federal, state, or local agency to proceed, unless the agency from which the permit is required agrees that a CE is appropriate?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negligible: fire training burn is exempt from permitting requirements and these burns would occur on a designated "burn day."
17. Have the potential for significant impact as indicated by a federal, state, or local agency or Indian tribe?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
18. Have the potential to be controversial because of disagreement over possible environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
19. Have the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:

1. Prepare and submit a Safety Plan to the park Safety Office (379-1079) for review and approval before the burn. (Facilities Management; see the Environmental Screening Form for CE 2004-068), Condition 1.
2. Coordinate with park Fire Ecology and Ecological Restoration Staff (Jen Hooke, 375-9596) to ensure both burn sites are restored to natural conditions to prevent the potential for excessive erosion and the establishment of non-native and invasive species. (Resources Management and Science)

E. SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST

Within the area of potential effect, are there:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Species of special concern (Federal or State)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Park rare plants or vegetation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
If "yes" to any of the above questions, a Special-Status Species Checklist must be completed and attached.				
Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:				
1. None				

F. NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST

Within the area of potential effect:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Will there be ground disturbance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Are there any archeological sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Are there any Native American Indian traditional cultural resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Is there a historic property (a building, structure, feature, or all or any part of an archeological district or site, or a historic district or site, or any associated landscape element) that is listed or eligible for listing on the <i>National Register</i> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Is there a National Historic Landmark?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Is there a structure(s) on the park's <i>List of Classified Structures</i> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is there any cultural resource requiring an evaluation of eligibility as a historic property under NHPA, Section 106, before an affect determination can be made?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. Would there be alteration of any historic property or associated landscape element covered by 2-7, above?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The demolition of these buildings was cleared by CE 2004-068 and its associated XXX; there were no resources identified related to these two structures; the overall assessment of effect was "No Adverse Effect."
If "yes" to <u>any</u> of the above, then an Assessment of Effects form (YOSE-XXX) must be completed and attached.				
Mitigations and Conditions:				
1. None				

G. WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST

Is the proposed project:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Within designated Wilderness?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
If "yes" to either of the above, then a Wilderness Minimum Requirements Analysis must be completed and attached.				
Mitigations and Conditions:				
1. None				

H. WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST

Does the proposed project:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor? If "yes", name the river(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Fall within the bed and banks AND affect the free-flow of the river?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Potentially affect water quality of the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	See Conditon 2, Section D, above.
4. Diminish or other wise change the values for which the river was designated as a Wild and Scenic River? If "yes", explain.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5a. Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5b. If 5a is "yes", will the project affect the Wild and Scenic River corridor?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5c. If 5a is "yes", will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If "yes" to questions 2, 5b, or 5c, then a WSRA Section 7 determination must be completed and attached.				
Mitigations and Conditions:				
1. None				

I. NEPA Analysis and Approval Conditions

When implemented as detailed in the project description and following all Project Mitigations and Conditions listed below, this project meets the terms and conditions of a categorical exclusion to NEPA.

Applicable Categorical Exclusion:

DO12 E (4) - Removal of non-historic materials and structures in order to restore natural conditions when the removal has no potential for environmental impacts, including impacts to cultural landscapes or archeological resources.

Project Mitigations and Conditions:

1. Salvage and recycle all metals and any other usable materials after the burn. (Resources Management and Science)
2. Work with the park Fire Information Officer (Deb Schweitzer, 372-0480) to develop and implement a community information plan for Wawona Residents and park visitors before the live burn training events occur. (Resources Management and Science)
3. Prepare and submit a Safety Plan to the park Safety Office (379-1079) for review and approval before the burn. (Facilities Management; see the Environmental Screening Form for CE 2004-068), Condition 1.)
4. Coordinate with park Fire Ecology and Ecological Restoration Staff (Jen Hooke, 375-9596) to ensure both burn sites are restored to natural conditions to prevent the potential for excessive erosion and the establishment of non-native and invasive species. (Resources Management and Science)

This project has been reviewed in accordance with the above criteria and it has been determined that the project will result in no or minimal environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review required under the National Environmental Policy Act. Additionally, the necessary compliance coordination has been completed with regard to the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act.

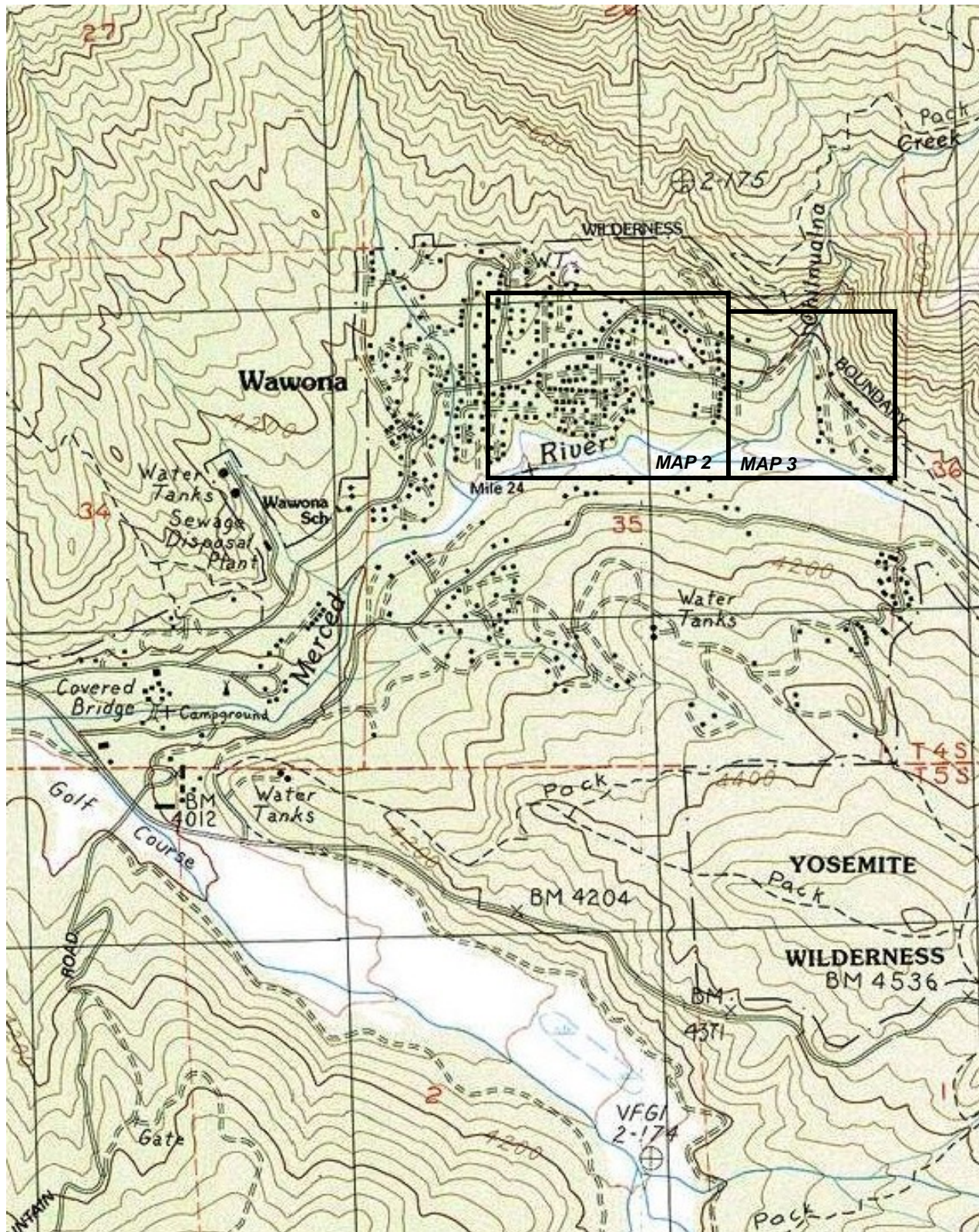
<i>GWColliver</i>	<i>1/23/07</i>
Compliance Specialist	Date

<i>Mark A Butler</i>	<i>1/24/07</i>
Compliance Program Manager	Date

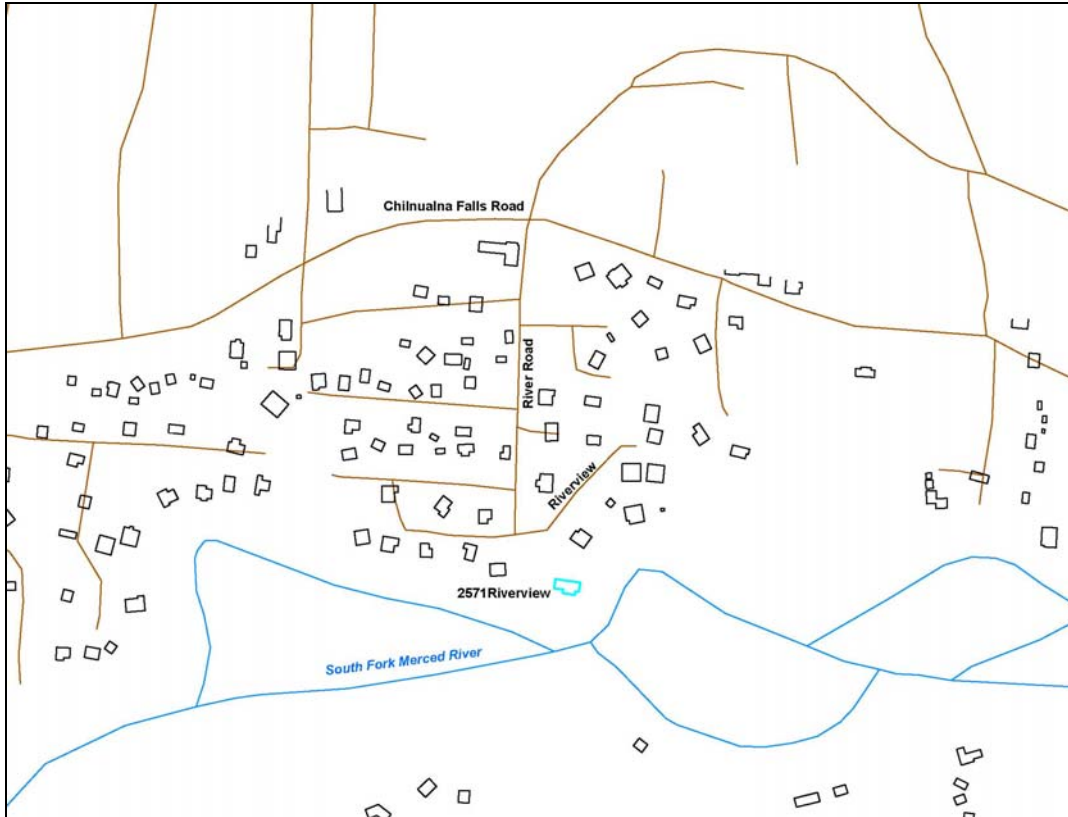
<i>Bill Delaney</i>	<i>1/24/07</i>
Chief, Project Management	Date

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

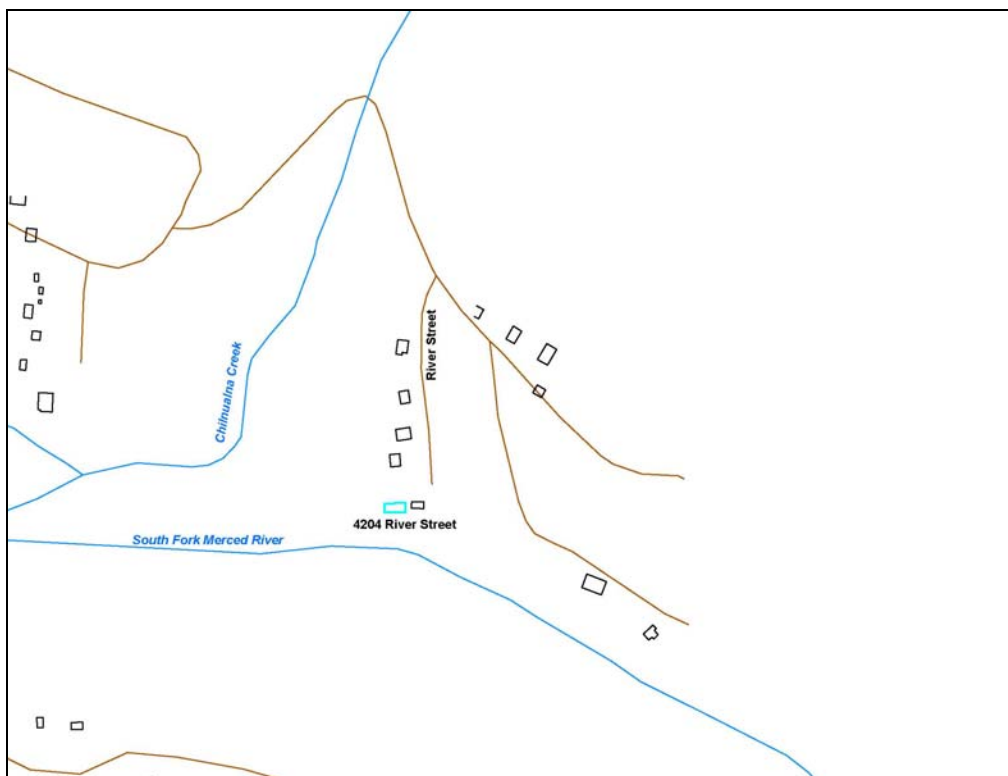
Attachment A



Map 1 – Wawona, Yosemite National Park



Map 2 – Building at 2571 Riverview Road, Wawona



Map 3 – Building at 4204 River Street, Wawona

Attachment B



Photo 1 – Building at 2571 Riverview Road, Wawona



Photo 2 – Building at 4204 River Street, Wawona