**Yosemite National Park**
**Project Management Division**
**Environmental Planning and Compliance**

**National Park Service**
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

# Categorical Exclusion

(Version: OCT06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2007-024
PEPC Project Number: 17426

## A. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Title:** Crane Flat Heli-Rappel Simulator

**Location:** Crane Flat**,** Mariposa County, California

**Project Manager:** Jason Gayeski-Peters, 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 *C (5) - Installation of signs, displays, and kiosks.*

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//* 2/20/07

Michael J. Tollefson, Superintendent — Date

Original: Statutory Compliance File
cc: Project Proponent

Attachments (2)

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

# 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: Jason Gayeski-Peters, Project Manager, Visitor Protection, Yosemite National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: Notice to Proceed, 2007-024 Crane Flat Heli-Rappel Simulator

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 *C (5) - Installation of signs, displays, and kiosks.*

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 any conditions that may be stipulated in the enclosed *Categorical Exclusion Form* and associated documents when implementing this project.

*//MJTollefson//* 2/20/07
Michael J. Tollefson, Superintendent 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: 2007-024
PEPC Project Number: 17426

## A. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Title:** Crane Flat Heli-Rappel Simulator

**Location:** Crane Flat**,** Mariposa County, California

**Project Manager:** Jason Gayeski-Peters, Visitor Protection, Yosemite National Park

## B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

This project entails a soil investigation, rappel tower design and heli-rappel simulator installation. The Crane Flat Lookout parking area was specifically called out as the location of the future heli-rappel simulator in the Fire Management Plan.

The first step will be to have a qualified geotechnical engineer do a soil analysis at both locations. The soil analysis will allow the engineer to make a determination of foundation material and allowable soil pressure.

The foundation will be comprised of four concrete piers measuring 3 feet in diameter at a depth of 2.5 feet below the finished soil elevation. The exact size and depth of the pier foundation will be determined once the soils engineer has completed the soil sample analysis. The maximum disturbed area (in a previously disturbed area being the parking lot or the quarry) would be a rectangular area measuring 26 feet by 20 feet. The interior of the rectangular footprint would be undisturbed. The majority of the soil excavated for the pier foundation would be placed back on top of the pier foundation.

The heli-rappel simulator will be 40 feet tall and have side dimensions of 21 feet by 15 feet. The simulator will be constructed of an open steel frame. The simulator will be painted to blend in with the surrounding stand of Sugar Pine and Ponderosa trees. There will be a stairway leading from the ground level to the platform located on the top of the simulator. A hoist may be installed to simulate a lowering from a helicopter with a hoist. The rappel simulator would need to be protected by lightning in the form of a copper grounding rod placed at each of the four pier foundations to a depth of 10 feet below the finished ground elevation.

The simulator will be located down slope approximately 50 feet from the northwest corner of the parking lot. The slope is such that it will reduce the overall height of the simulator by taking advantage of this natural terrain feature. Consideration will be given to eliminate any erosion the simulator may enhance.

The heli-rappel simulator is needed in order to mitigate the impact to the visitor experience and to mitigate the safety hazards inherent in doing helicopter rappels. Fire fighters and rescue Technicians must maintain currency in the skill of helicopter rappelling. A live rappel from a helicopter must be done every 14 days, or 28 days if a rappel simulator is available. There are about 25 employees who need to maintain their currency. A rappel simulator would reduce by half the number of times that the helicopter would impact a visitor's experience.

A helicopter is a mechanical device subject to failure and human error. The less the helicopter flies the less exposure to park employees. Accidents and mishaps happen during training exercises. The rappel simulator allows the opportunity for fire fighters and rescue technicians to practice a life saving technique in a safe and controlled environment.

The March 2004 Yosemite Fire Management Plan and EIS identified the need for a rappel simulator. Site selection and cultural issues were discussed. Section II p. 25-26, IV p. 151.

## 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. | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | History, Architecture and Landscape 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 | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 2b. | Is the project in an approved plan? (Identify the plan and provide a section or page citation. | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | 2004 Fire Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement. |
| 2c. | Is the project consistent with that plan? | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| 2d. | Is the Plan's CE, FONSI, or ROD current? | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| 3a. | Are there any interested or affected parties? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 3b. | Has a diligent effort been made to communicate with them? | ☐ | | | |
| 4a. | Are there any affected agencies or tribes? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 4b. | Has consultation been completed? | ☐ | | | |

## 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) | ☒ | | | Vicinity and site map; see Attachment A. |
| 2. | Drawings (e.g., design, construction) | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | Simulator design example; see Attachment B. |
| 3. | Site Plans | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 4. | Photographs | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | Photos of existing site; see Attachment C. |
| 5. | Non-NEPA/NHPA Approvals (Explain) | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 6. | Other (Explain) | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |

## 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 | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | Four 3 feet in diameter piers at a depth of 2.5 feet. |
| 2. From geohazards | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 3. Air quality | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | Negligible: temporary air emissions during construction. |
| 4. Soundscapes | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | Negligible: temporary construction noises. |
| 5. Water quality or quantity | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 6. Stream flow characteristics | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 7. Marine or estuarine resources | ☐ | ☐ | ☒ | |
| 8. Floodplains or wetlands | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 11. Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 12. Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | Yosemite National Park is a World Heritage Site; no historic properties would be adversely affected by implementing this project; see Section F, National Historic Preservation Act Checklist, below. |
| 13. Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 15. Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal) | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | See Section D, Mandatory Criteria, Condition 1, below. |
| 16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc. | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 18. Cultural resources including cultural landscapes, ethnographic resources | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 19. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 20. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc. | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 21. Energy resources | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 22. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 23. Resource, including energy, conservation potential | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 24. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc. | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 25. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 26 Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |

**Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:**

1. None

## 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? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 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? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | The assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect;" see Section F, National Historic Preservation Act Checklist, below. |
| 3. Have highly controversial environmental effects? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 7. Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | The assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect;" 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? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 9. Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 10. Threaten to violate a federal, state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 11. Involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA sec. 102(2)(E)? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 12. Have a disproportionate, significant adverse effect on low-income or minority populations (EO 12898)? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 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)? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 14. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of federally listed noxious weeds (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act)? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | Mitigated: see Condition 1, 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)? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | Mitigated: see Condition 1, 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? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 17. Have the potential for significant impact as indicated by a federal, state, or local agency or Indian tribe? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 18. Have the potential to be controversial because of disagreement over possible environmental effects? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 19. Have the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |

**Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:**

1. Ensure that equipment and material brought into the park is free of material that could introduce or spread noxious weeds and non-native invasive plants or animals. Inform all staff working on the project of best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species in Division 1 specifications, Section 1355.

## 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)? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 2. Species of special concern (Federal or State)? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 3. Park rare plants or vegetation? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 4. Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 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? | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | Project involves setting four 3 feet diameter piers at a depth of 2.5 feet. |
| 2. Are there any archeological sites? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 3. Are there any Native American Indian traditional cultural resources? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 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 *National Register*? | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | Crane Flat Historic District; the assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect," see Condition 1, 2 and 3 below, and the attached XXX. |
| 5. Is there a National Historic Landmark? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 6. Is there a structure(s) on the park's *List of Classified Structures*? | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | Crane Flat Lookout Tower; the assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect," see Condition 1, 2 and 3 below, and the attached XXX. |
| 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? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 8 Would there be alteration of any historic property or associated landscape element covered by 2-7, above? | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | The assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect," see Condition 1, 2 and 3 below, and the attached XXX. |
| 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. Consult with the History, Architecture and Landscape staff once soil analysis is complete to determine the exact location of the rappel tower.
2. Ensure the maximum height of the tower is below the surrounding tree line.
3. Ensure tower is painted flat black to blend into the landscape.

## G. WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST

| Is the proposed project: | Yes | No | N/A | Data Needed to Determine/Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Within designated Wilderness? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 2. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 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) | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 2. Fall within the bed and banks AND affect the free-flow of the river? | ☐ | ☐ | ☒ | |
| 3. Potentially affect water quality of the area? | ☐ | ☐ | ☒ | |
| 4. Diminish or other wise change the values for which the river was designated as a Wild and Scenic River? If "yes", explain. | ☐ | ☐ | ☒ | |
| 5a. Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River? | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| 5b. If 5a is "yes", will the project affect the Wild and Scenic River corridor? | ☐ | ☐ | ☒ | |
| 5c. If 5a is "yes", will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values? | ☐ | ☐ | ☒ | |
| 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:**

This project would have impacts similar to DO12 3.4 *C (5) - Installation of signs, displays, and kiosks.*

**Project Mitigations and Conditions:**

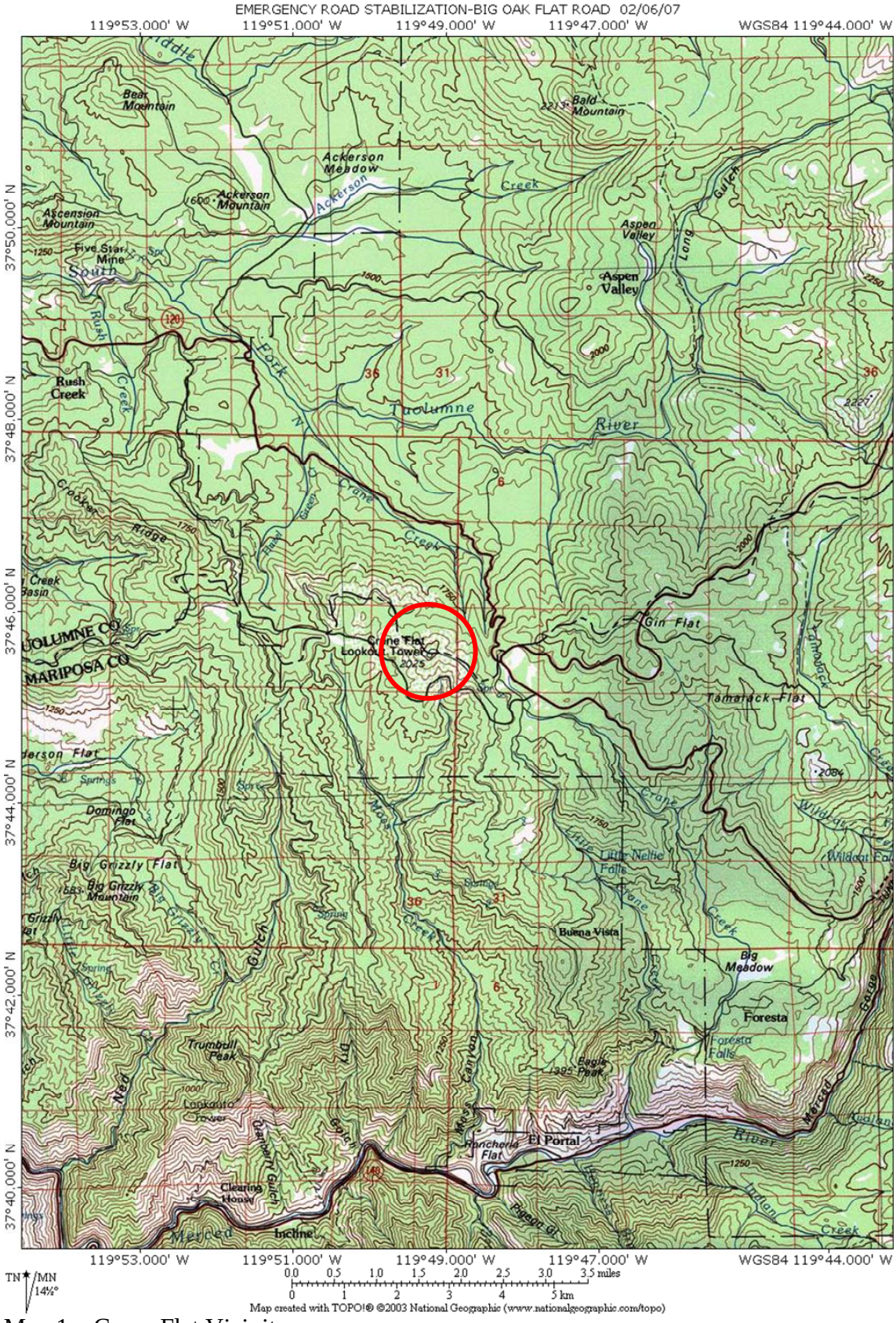
1. **Ensure that equipment and material brought into the park is free of material that could introduce or spread noxious weeds and non-native invasive plants or animals. Inform all staff working on the project of best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species in Division 1 specifications, Section 1355. (Environmental Planning and Compliance)**
2. **Consult with the History, Architecture and Landscape staff once soil analysis is complete to determine the exact location of the rappel tower. (Resources Management and Science)**
3. **Ensure the maximum height of the tower is below the surrounding tree line. (Resources Management and Science)**
4. **Ensure tower is painted flat black to blend into the landscape. (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.*

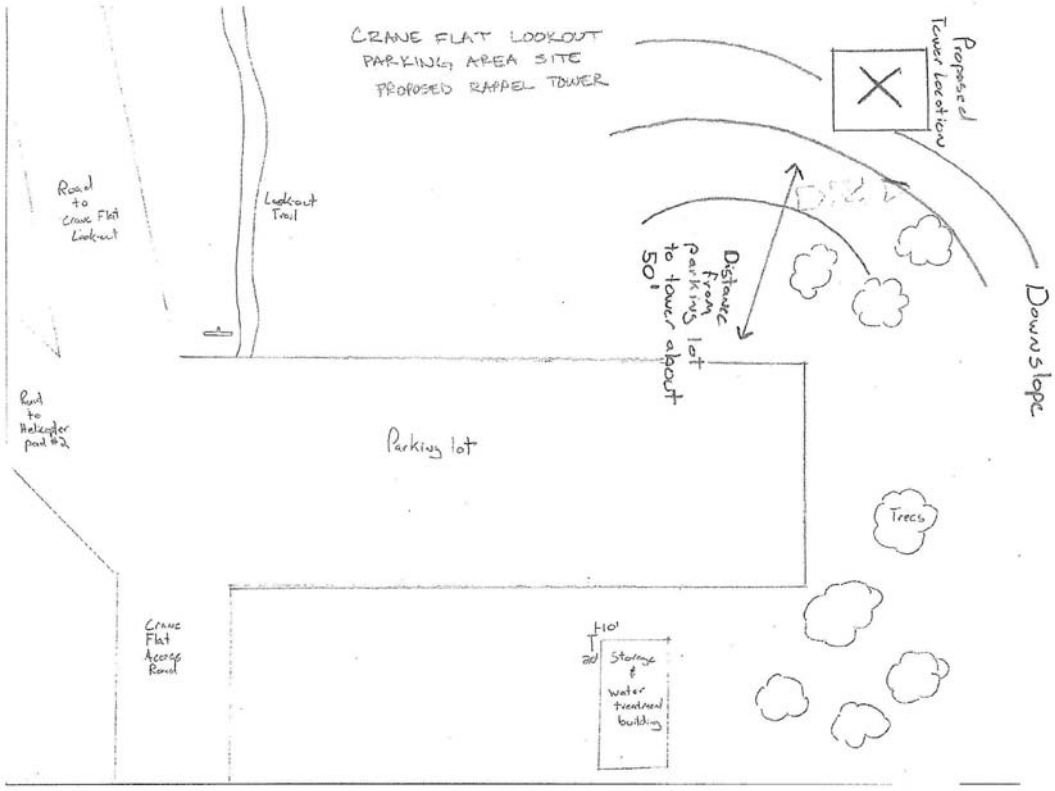
| | |
|---|---|
| *//Renea Kennec//* | *2/7/07* |
| ***Compliance Specialist*** | ***Date*** |
| *//Mark A Butler//* | *2/8/07* |
| ***Compliance Program Manager*** | ***Date*** |
| *//Bill Delaney//* | *2/16/07* |
| ***Chief, Project Management*** | ***Date*** |

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

# Attachment A




Map 1 – Crane Flat Vicinity




Map 2 – Lower Parking Lot Site

# Attachment B

Proposed Design

# Attachment C

Photo 1 – Proposed Site Looking North

Photo 2 – Proposed Location

# Preservation Assessment Form (YOSE XXX)

(Version: AUG06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2007-024
PEPC Project Number: 17426

## A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

**Title:** Crane Flat Heli-Rappel Simulator

**Project Location and Area of Potential Effect:**

Crane Flat, Tuolumne County, California

Crane Flat Historic District

**Project Description:** This project entails a soil investigation, rappel tower design and heli-rappel simulator installation. The Crane Flat Lookout parking area was specifically called out as the location of the future heli-rappel simulator in the Fire Management Plan.

The first step will be to have a qualified geotechnical engineer do a soil analysis at both locations. The soil analysis will allow the engineer to make a determination of foundation material and allowable soil pressure.

The foundation will be comprised of four concrete piers measuring 3 feet round at a depth of 2.5 feet below the finished soil elevation. The exact size and depth of the pier foundation will be determined once the soils engineer has completed the soil sample analysis. The maximum disturbed area (in a previously disturbed area being the parking lot or the quarry) would be a rectangular area measuring 26 feet by 20 feet. The interior of the rectangular footprint would be undisturbed. The majority of the soil excavated for the pier foundation would be placed back on top of the pier foundation.

The heli-rappel simulator will be 40 feet tall and have side dimensions of 21 feet by 15 feet. The tower will be constructed of an open steel frame. The simulator will be painted to blend in with the surrounding stand of Sugar Pine and Ponderosa trees. There will be a stairway leading from the ground level to the platform located on the top of the simulator. A hoist may be installed to simulate a lowering from a helicopter with a hoist. The rappel simulator would need to be protected by lightning in the form of a copper grounding rod placed at each of the four pier foundations to a depth of 10 feet below the finished ground elevation.

The tower will be located down slope approximately 50 feet from the northwest corner of the parking lot. The slope is such that it will reduce the overall height of the tower by taking advantage of this natural terrain feature. Consideration will be given to eliminate any erosion the tower may enhance.

The heli-rappel simulator is needed in order to mitigate the impact to the visitor experience and to mitigate the safety hazards inherent in doing helicopter rappels. Fire fighters and rescue technicians must maintain currency in the skill of helicopter rappelling. A live rappel from a helicopter must be done every 14 days, or 28 days if a rappel tower is available. There are about 25 employees who need to maintain their currency. A rappel simulator would half the number of times that the helicopter would impact a visitor's experience.

A helicopter is a mechanical device subject failure and human errors in judgment. The less the helicopter flies the less exposure to park employees. Accidents and mishaps happen during training exercises. The rappel simulator allows the opportunity for fire fighters and rescue technicians to practice a life saving technique is a safe and controlled environment.

The March 2004 Yosemite Fire Management Plan and EIS identified the need for a rappel simulator. Site selection and cultural issues were discussed. Section II p. 25-26, IV p. 151.

| 1. Attached Sensitive Information** | Yes | No | Explanation/Source/Notes |
|---|---|---|---|
| a. Maps | ☒ | ☐ | |
| b. Drawings | ☐ | ☒ | |
| c. Site Plans | ☐ | ☒ | |
| d. Photographs | ☐ | ☒ | |
| e. Sample | ☐ | ☒ | |
| f. List of Materials | ☐ | ☒ | |
| g. Other (Explain) | ☐ | ☒ | |

** **Sensitive documents not for duplication or distribution beyond park management, subject matter experts, and the project statutory compliance file.**

## B. DESCRIPTION OF EFFECTS

| | Yes | No | N/A | Explanation/Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1. Has the Area of Potential Effect been surveyed to identify historic properties?** If Yes, provide reference for the Survey (s). | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | Crane Flat Historic District |
| a. Would the proposed action affect a known historic property? | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | LCS |

| **2. List all Historic Properties in the Area of Potential Effect:** | **Affected? Yes** | **No** | **Explanation/Notes** |
|---|---|---|---|
| a. Crand Flat Lookout Tower | ☒ | ☐ | |
| b. | ☐ | ☒ | |
| c. | ☐ | ☐ | |

| **3. List resources in the Area of Potential Effect to which American Indians attach cultural and religious significance:** | **Affected? Yes** | **No** | **Explanation/Notes** |
|---|---|---|---|
| a. | ☐ | ☐ | |
| b. | ☐ | ☐ | |
| c. | ☐ | ☐ | |

| **4. The proposed action will:** | **Yes** | **No** | **N/A** | **Explanation/Note** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| • Destroy, remove, or alter features or elements from a historic structure | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| • Replace historic features/elements in kind | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| • Add nonhistoric features/elements to a historic structure | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| • Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (including terrain) | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| • Add nonhistoric features/elements (including visual, audible, or atmospheric) to a historic setting or cultural landscape | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| • Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible, or alter associated terrain | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| • Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible, or alter associated terrain | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| • Begin or contribute to the deterioration of historic fabric, terrain, setting, landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| • Involve a real property transaction affecting historic cultural properties (i.e., the exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures) | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |
| • Potentially affect presently unidentified historic resources | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ | |
| • Other | ☐ | ☒ | ☐ | |

**5. Describe any measures that are incorporated as part of this project that will be taken to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of prehistoric or historic fabric, setting, integrity, or data:**

**Checklist prepared by:** Jeannette Simons **Date:** 1/16/07
**Title:** Historic Preservation Officer

## C. SPECIALIST SECTION

**Specialists**: Your comments here (or attached) show that you have reviewed this proposal for conformity with requirements of *National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106*; with the 1995 *Servicewide Programmatic Agreement* (if applicable); with applicable parts of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*; with the NPS *Management Policies* and *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*; and have given your best professional advice about this project and the issues relevant to the Section 106 process, including identification and evaluation of historic properties and further consultation needs.

---

**Archeologist** Name: **Laura Kirn** Date: 1/23/07

Comments:

Ground Disturbance Involved Yes: ☒ No: ☐

Assessment of Effect: **"No Effect"**

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Archeologist: *//Laura Kirn//*

---

**Cultural Anthropologist** Name: **Sonny Montague** Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect:

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Cultural Anthropologist: _____

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**Curator** Name: **Jonathan Bayless** Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect:

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Curator: _____

**Historian** Name: **Charles Palmer** Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect:

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Historian: _____

**Historic Architect** Name: **Sueann Brown** Date: 1/24/07

Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **"No Adverse Effect"**

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Historic Architect: *//Sueann Brown//*

**Historic Landscape Architect** Name: **Danny Schaible** Date: 1/19/07

Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **"No Adverse Effect"**

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Historic Landscape Architect: *//Danny Schaible//*

**Preservation Specialist** Name: **Rod Kennec** Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect:

Recommended Conditions: Recommended Conditions

Signature of Preservation Specialist: _____

**Native American Liaison** Name: **Jeannette Simons** Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect:

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Native American Liaison: _____

Name: Dave T. Humphrey Date: 1/19/07

Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **"No Adverse Effect"**

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Historical Landscape Architect: *//David T. Humphrey//*

## D. RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND SCIENCE DIVISION AND PARK 106 COORDINATOR REVIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

**1. Review by specialists:** The appropriate subject-matter experts have reviewed the project and entered their comments and recommendations in Section C, above.

*The foregoing assessment is adequate: the proposed action is consistent with all applicable NPS management policies, standards, guidelines, or US DOI standards and guidelines, Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings, or others, and incorporates measures to avoid Adverse Effects.*

**Reviewed and Accepted by:**

**Signature:** *//Niki Stephanie Nicholas//* **Date:** 1/25/07
Chief of Resources Management & Science Division

**2. Compliance Requirements:** The following is the park's assessment of Section 106 process needs and requirements for this undertaking.

☐ **Standard 36 CFR Part 800 Consultation**

Consultation under 36 CFR is needed subsequent to the preparation of this form and its review by appropriate historic resource management advisors.

☐ **Undertaking related to the 1995 NPS Programmatic Agreement**

The above action meets all conditions for a programmatic exclusion under Stipulation IV. A of the 1995 NPS programmatic agreement, and is listed in Stipulation IV. B, as:

<Choose Type of Undertaking>

☐ **Plan-Related Undertaking**

Consultation and review of the proposed undertaking were completed in the context of a plan review process, in accordance with the 1995 NPS programmatic agreement and 36 CFR Part 800.

☐ **Undertaking Related to Another Agreement**

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under a document such as a statewide agreement written in accordance with 37 CFR Part 800.7 or counterpart regulations.

**Agreement**: <Enter Agreement Information>

☐ **Flood-Recovery Related Undertaking**

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under the letter-based agreement between the NPS, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the Council for Historic Preservation for "Highwater 97" flood repair and recovery

☒ **Undertaking Related to the 1999 Yosemite Programmatic Agreement**

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under the park's 1999 programmatic agreement for planning, design, construction, operations and maintenance; the undertaking meets the stipulations identified in Article VII.C.2.

**3. Assessment of Effects: No Adverse Effect**

**4. Project Stipulations and Conditions**

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

a. The Project Manager has reviewed and accepted these conditions (see e-mails dated 2/1/07 and 2/2/07):

1. Once soil analysis becomes available, consult with History, Architecture and Landscape personnel to determine exact location of rappel simulator;
2. The tower should be placed so that the maximum height of the tower is below the surrounding tree line;
3. Recommend tower color be flat black to blend into the landscape.

**Recommended by Park Section 106 Coordinator:**

Name: **Jeannette Simons**

Title: **Historic Preservation Officer**

Signature: *//Jeannette Simons//* Date: 2/20/07

**E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL**

*The proposed work conforms to NPS Management Policies and NPS-28 and I approve the recommendations, stipulations, and conditions noted in Section B of this form.*

**Signature of Superintendent:** *//MJTollefson//* **Date:** 2/20/07

Michael J. Tollefson

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