



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park
Date: 01/07/2020

Letter of Compliance Completion

To: Josh Keyes, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Cicely Muldoon, Acting Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: Merced River Plan Implementation: Expansion of the Village Grill Patio to Accommodate the Welcome Center Plaza (PEPC: 91519) (2020-003)

The Superintendent and park interdisciplinary team have reviewed the proposed project and completed an impact analysis and documentation, and 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 to historic properties.
- There will not be serious or long-term undesirable environmental or visual effects.

The subject proposed project, therefore, is now cleared for all NEPA and NHPA compliance requirements as presented above. Project plans and specifications are approved and construction and/or project implementation can commence.

Required Mitigations - For the proposed project actions to be within compliance requirements during construction and/or project implementation, the following mitigations must be adhered to:

- Traditionally associated American Indian tribes and groups will be given the opportunity to monitor ground disturbing project activities. Tribal monitors will be given at least 14 days advanced notice of construction dates. Project manager will coordinate with the Yosemite National Park American Indian Liaison to schedule American Indian tribal monitor personnel.
- If previously unknown archeological resources are discovered during construction, all work in the immediate vicinity (600 feet) of the discovery shall be halted until the resources are identified and documented and an appropriate mitigation strategy developed, if necessary, in accordance with pertinent laws and regulations, including the stipulations of the 2008 Programmatic Agreement Among the National Park Service (U.S. Department of the Interior), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.
- Avoid trenching within driplines of any bigleaf maple or dogwood tree, and trees larger than 12 inches in diameter-at-breast height. If this can't be avoided, dig by hand within the dripline to retain roots 2 inches in diameter and larger. Roots less than 2 inches diameter should be given a clean straight cut with a saw. Consult with the botanist if trenching in the vicinity of black oak trees. If any bedding or backfill material is proposed for import, sources must be approved in advance by park botanist. Protect trees and vegetation that might be retained within an island of the future parking lot.
- Personnel/ the contractor shall confine all earth moving activities to within the work limit as defined in the site plans. Work crews will follow BMPs to avoid spills and will carry containment materials at all times in case a spill does occur. Equipment fuel staging areas will be designated in work plans. Temporary fuel-storage and staging areas will be flagged, signed, and monitored. Staff will tighten hydraulic fittings, ensure hydraulic hoses are in good condition (and replace if damaged), and repair petroleum leaks before mechanized equipment is used on this project. Contact the Vegetation and Ecological Restoration (VER) Branch Chief to arrange for equipment inspection before entering the park. All equipment must be thoroughly cleaned to minimize the introduction of non-native plants (dirt, mud seeds or other potential contaminant attached to frame, tires, wheels, or other parts shall be thoroughly cleaned before entry into the park). All heavy equipment will be inspected by VER staff before entering the park. Areas

inspected will include, but not be limited to, tracks, track guard/housings, belly pans/under covers, buckets, rippers, and other attachments. Equipment that does not pass inspection will be turned around to the nearest cleaning facility outside the park. Re-clean equipment before returning to the project or staging area if it is removed from the general vicinity of the project or staging area. Operators will move tracked equipment straight in and out of work sites and avoid turning while off pavement; if soils are impacted, crews will de-compact soils with hand tools, a Bobcat tiller, or an excavator. Areas of bare soil will be manually revegetated or cultivated for natural revegetation. Equipment operators will avoid soil compaction by distributing machinery weight with military landing mats, snow, heavy plywood, or alternatives.

- All employees/contractors will be trained on the Endangered Species Act and any relevant terms and conditions and conservation measures from relevant biological opinions from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (see resource protection briefing above). Personnel will obey all park speed limits. On-site speed limits will be limited to 25 miles per hour. Staff will drive slowly on warm, wet nights to avoid impacts to listed frogs. Construction staff will check beneath all heavy-equipment mats at the beginning of each day before equipment drives over them to ensure that California red-legged frogs (CRLF) are not hiding beneath them. Back-fill open trenches or pits at the end of each work day. Install wildlife escape ramps in trenches and pits until filled. During construction activities, personnel shall maintain vigilance for CRLF caught in excavations. If CRLF are found, personnel/ the contractor will call a qualified NPS biologist to capture and relocate CRLF to the immediate vicinity surrounding the project area. Park Aquatic Biologists will survey for CRLFs beginning in fall 2019 when seasonal conditions cause the frogs to begin utilizing upland habitats. Surveys will consist of two sets of night and day surveys, each set spaced 7 days apart. If CRLFs are found to be present, a biological monitor shall be present for project activities at the discretion of the Park Aquatic Ecologist (209-379-1438) and the project manager shall coordinate directly with the Park Aquatic Ecologist to arrange for appropriate biological monitoring of project activities at the direction of the Park Aquatic Ecologist. Areas where CRLF have been released, known to occur from previously conducted surveys, or found during pre-work surveys will be made known to all non-NPS staff (e.g., contractors) working in the project area and marked for exclusion of activities. If a qualified aquatic or terrestrial biologist determines that project activities may impact CRLF occupying the project area, a biological monitor will be assigned to the project. If it is determined that a project will likely impact CRLF occupying the project area, the NPS Aquatic Biologist/Monitor may move (hand capture) up to five sub-adult/ adult CRLF and relocate them to a site outside of the project area, but ,within the immediate vicinity of the project area. No eggs, tadpoles, or more than five CRLF subadults/ adults will be moved, without written permission from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. If CRLF are encountered in the project area where a pre-work survey did not detect them, all activities in the surrounding area shall temporarily stop. Prior to commencing project activities, a qualified NPS aquatic or terrestrial biologist will be contacted. If the qualified biologist determines that CRLF may be impacted, an approved NPS biologist may move (hand capture) up to five sub-adult/ adult CRLF and relocate them to a site outside of the project area, but within the immediate vicinity of the project area. Under no circumstances shall a non-NPS (e.g., contractor) or non-qualified NPS staff (staff other than Biological Monitor/Aquatic Biologist) capture, handle, or relocate CRLF.

There are no NHPA Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations identified.

A PDF text file of the project's approved environmental compliance package containing the letter of compliance completion, categorical exclusion form, environmental screening form, and any other associated environmental clearance forms, as applicable (e.g., Wilderness Minimum Requirement Analysis, Wild and Scenic River Section 7 Analysis). The signed originals of the package are on file in the Environmental Planning and Compliance Office at Yosemite National Park.

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

Superintendent: _____ **Date:** _____

Cicely Muldoon



Categorical Exclusion Documentation Form (CE Form)

Project: Merced River Plan Implementation: Expansion of the Village Grill Patio to Accommodate the Welcome Center Plaza

PEPC Project Number: 91519

Description of Action (Project Description):

JUSTIFICATION: The existing concessioner land assignment allows the concessioner to seat their customers is at the south end of the Village Store building which is to become the Visitor Welcome Center entrance plaza. To compensate the concessioner for the loss of square footage for patio seating in their land allotment, the same amount of space will be added adjacent to the existing grill patio seating area on the west side of the building. This will provide the concessioner with a more consolidated operation and have the benefit of completely separating the grill operation from the new Welcome Center entrance plaza.

SCOPE: The 3,500 square feet of the existing non-contributing grill patio flooring will be removed and regraded to meet Architectural Barriers Act accessibility requirements. An additional 1,500 square feet of patio will be added to the redesigned patio area to compensate the concessioner for the square footage taken out of their land assignment at the south end of the building. The new patio will be of similar form and character (exposed aggregate concrete) to that which is there now. Four alder trees, varying in size from 9-inches to 17-inches in diameter, that postdate the period of significance will be removed from within the redesigned patio footprint. The nonhistoric wood fencing that surrounds the existing patio area will be replaced by a wood fence of similar design and character but will incorporate wire mesh within the design to allow for better viewing of the adjacent natural area. Storm water from the patio will be directed to rock-lined drainage swales to ensure percolation of the storm water and minimize sedimentation into the adjacent stream. The existing non-contributing (but compatible) outdoor lighting poles that currently surround the south end of the Village Store building would be relocated to the patio area to match the ones on the west side of the building. This would ensure that the lighting fixtures used in the grill patio area all of the same design.

Mitigation(s):

- Traditionally associated American Indian tribes and groups will be given the opportunity to monitor ground disturbing project activities. Tribal monitors will be given at least 14 days advanced notice of construction dates. Project manager will coordinate with the Yosemite National Park American Indian Liaison to schedule American Indian tribal monitor personnel.
- If previously unknown archeological resources are discovered during construction, all work in the immediate vicinity (600 feet) of the discovery shall be halted until the resources are identified and documented and an appropriate mitigation strategy developed, if necessary, in accordance with pertinent laws and regulations, including the stipulations of the 2008 Programmatic Agreement Among the National Park Service (U.S. Department of the Interior), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.
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will be flagged, signed, and monitored. Staff will tighten hydraulic fittings, ensure hydraulic hoses are in good condition (and replace if damaged), and repair petroleum leaks before mechanized equipment is used on this project. Contact the Vegetation and Ecological Restoration (VER) Branch Chief to arrange for equipment inspection before entering the park. All equipment must be thoroughly cleaned to minimize the introduction of non-native plants (dirt, mud seeds or other potential contaminant attached to frame, tires, wheels, or other parts shall be thoroughly cleaned before entry into the park). All heavy equipment will be inspected by VER staff before entering the park. Areas inspected will include, but not be limited to, tracks, track guard/housings, belly pans/under covers, buckets, rippers, and other attachments. Equipment that does not pass inspection will be turned around to the nearest cleaning facility outside the park. Re-clean equipment before returning to the project or staging area if it is removed from the general vicinity of the project or staging area. Operators will move tracked equipment straight in and out of work sites and avoid turning while off pavement; if soils are impacted, crews will de-compact soils with hand tools, a Bobcat tiller, or an excavator. Areas of bare soil will be manually revegetated or cultivated for natural revegetation. Equipment operators will avoid soil compaction by distributing machinery weight with military landing mats, snow, heavy plywood, or alternatives.

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

CE Justification:

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:

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

Date:

Cicely Muldoon

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 13007)?	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:	Merced River Plan Implementation: Expansion of the Village Grill Patio to Accommodate the Welcome Center Plaza
PEPC Project Number:	91519
Project Type:	Repair/Rehabilitation (REHAB)
Project Leader:	Josh Keyes

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

See Categorical Exclusion form.

C. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Air Air Quality	None	
Biological Nonnative or Exotic Species <i>Import ans Spread of Non-Native Species</i>	Potential	Issue: Earth moving and mechanized equipment provisions: Personnel/ the contractor shall confine all earth moving activities to within the work limit as defined in the site plans. Work crews will follow BMPs to avoid spills and will carry containment materials at all times in case a spill does occur. Equipment fuel staging areas will be designated in work plans. Temporary fuel-storage and staging areas will be flagged, signed, and monitored. Staff will tighten hydraulic fittings, ensure hydraulic hoses are in good condition (and replace if damaged), and repair petroleum leaks before mechanized equipment is used on this project. Contact the Vegetation and Ecological Restoration (VER) Branch Chief to arrange for equipment inspection before entering the park. All equipment must be thoroughly cleaned to minimize the introduction of non-native plants (dirt, mud seeds or other potential contaminant attached to frame, tires, wheels, or other parts shall be thoroughly cleaned before entry into the park). All heavy equipment will be inspected by VER staff before entering the park. Areas inspected will include, but not be limited to, tracks, track guard/housings, belly pans/under covers, buckets, rippers, and other attachments. Equipment that does not pass inspection will be turned around to the nearest cleaning facility outside the park. Re-clean equipment before returning to the project or staging area if it is removed from the general vicinity of the project or staging area. Operators will move tracked equipment straight in and out of work sites and avoid turning while off pavement; if soils are impacted, crews will de-compact soils with hand tools, a Bobcat tiller, or an excavator. Areas of bare soil will be manually revegetated or cultivated for natural revegetation. Equipment operators will avoid soil

		<p>compaction by distributing machinery weight with military landing mats, snow, heavy plywood, or alternatives.</p> <p>Impact: This impact is mitigated through vehicle washing and inspections prior to entering the park.</p>
<p>Biological Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat</p>	Potential	
<p>Biological Vegetation <i>Removal of Native Vegetation</i></p>	Potential	<p>Issue: From the MRP (pg. 9-288): As compared to the total acreage of native vegetation in Segment 2, only a small percentage of these vegetation communities would be impacted by the actions at Yosemite Village Day-use Parking Area and Yosemite Village. In addition, potentially affected vegetation communities are adjacent to already developed areas, and therefore experience high levels of visitation and human-related impacts such as vegetation trampling and soil compaction. Vegetation that would be removed at Yosemite Village Day-use Parking Area and Yosemite Village under Alternative 5 would not substantially fragment existing native vegetation communities, reduce species diversity, or substantially reduce the overall size or quality of native plant communities in Yosemite Valley, as new construction would primarily occur in or adjacent to previously disturbed locations or in more resilient upland habitat.</p> <p>Impact: This impact is mitigated by limiting the extent of the patio to avoid impacts to sensitive vegetation.</p>
<p>Biological Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species <i>Habitat</i></p>	Potential	<p>Issue: From the Merced River Plan (pg. 9-390): Losses to these habitat types would occur through vegetation clearing, grading, site development or other surface disturbance (e.g., driving over vegetation). As compared to the total acreage of wildlife habitats in Segment 2, only a small percentage of these wildlife habitats would be impacted by the actions at Yosemite Village Day-use Parking Area and Yosemite Village. The potentially affected wildlife habitats are adjacent to already developed areas, and therefore experience high levels of visitation and human-related impacts.</p> <p>Impact: This impact is mitigated by limiting the extent of the patio to avoid impacts to sensitive wildlife habitat. Additionally, contract staff will be trained in California Red Legged Frog best management practices.</p>
<p>Cultural Archeological Resources <i>Undocumented Subsurface Archeological Deposits</i></p>	Potential	<p>Issue: Ground disturbing actions may impact undocumented archeological resources. Monitoring and avoidance is necessary to ensure there are no adverse effects to historic properties.</p> <p>Impact: Archeological and cultural monitoring as well as contract staff training will mitigate this potential impact.</p>
<p>Cultural Cultural Landscapes <i>Yosemite Village Historic District and Yosemite Valley Historic District</i></p>	Potential	<p>Issue: The construction of a non-historic patio within the historic districts has the potential to result in an adverse effect to the historic cultural landscape.</p> <p>Impact: The patio design has been minimized to avoid effects to the historic landscape features such as the wetland and planted areas. This project minimized impacts to live trees and black oaks.</p>

Cultural Ethnographic Resources <i>Ethnographic Resources</i>	Potential	Issue: This project has potential to affect ethnographic resources which could include traditional use plants and archeological materials. This project is located outside of documented ethnographic sites. Impact: Cultural monitoring will mitigate this potential impact.
Cultural Museum Collections	None	
Cultural Prehistoric/historic structures	None	
Geological Geologic Features	None	
Geological Geologic Processes	Potential	Issue: From the Merced River Plan (pg. 9-155): Net increases in impervious surface area would be largely offset by the removal of select existing parking facilities and roadways, as noted above, removal of the Concessioner General Office, as well as improvements in drainage facilities associated with the new structures, and the additional of bioswales in parking areas. However, based on the anticipated increase in parking and road area, a net increase in impervious surfaces is anticipated. As noted elsewhere, impervious surfaces increase stormwater runoff and shorten hydrologic concentration time.
Lightscares Lightscares	None	
Other Human Health and Safety <i>Visitor Safety on Pathways and Thresholds</i>	Potential	Issue: This project requires a temporary connection between the existing pathways and patio for at least a year before the remainder of the Welcome Center plaza and pathways are constructed. The design team had to address multiple considerations to design accessible and intuitive surfaces and interfaces.
Other Operational <i>Village Grill Operations and Pedestrian Circulation</i>	Potential	Issue: The schedule for the grill patio was accelerated to be completed ahead of the Welcome Center plaza and pedestrian circulation to ensure adequate patio seating at all times. Impact: Impacts would be minimized through the timing of the construction. Longer-term impacts of pedestrian circulation between the grill patio construction and the Welcome Center construction are still in development.
Other Other	None	
Socioeconomic Land Use <i>Concessioner Land Assignment</i>	Potential	Issue: The project is coordinated with the timing of the Grill Patio construction and the General Office removal in order for the concessioner land assignment to be appropriately redrawn in advance of the Welcome Center and parking area construction. Impact: Impacts would be beneficial.
Socioeconomic Minority and low-income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	

Socioeconomic Socioeconomic	None	
Soundscapes Soundscapes <i>Natural Soundscapes for Wildlife and Visitors</i>	None	Issue: Patio demolition and construction has potential to impact visitors and wildlife. The construction schedule in the fall and winter will avoid nesting bird season and high visitation season.
Viewsheds Viewsheds <i>Viewsheds in Yosemite Village</i>	Potential	Issue: The removal of trees for the construction of the patio in Yosemite Village has the potential to alter historic viewsheds. The overgrowth and encroachment of conifers and deciduous overstory has greatly impacted the historic viewsheds in the area. The removal of select trees will enhance the views from this area and restore some of the open views of the cliff walls. Impact: Impacts would be beneficial.
Visitor Use and Experience Recreation Resources	None	
Visitor Use and Experience Visitor Use and Experience <i>Seating Capacity and Pedestrian Circulation</i>	Potential	Issue: The Village Grill is a popular visitor use area with limited seating. The upcoming Welcome Center construction will add to visitor activity in this area. Impact: The patio is designed to replace square footage for seating at the Village Grill that will be removed through the Welcome Center project. This will also more clearly define the dining area from the pedestrian circulation and welcome center visitors.
Water Floodplains	None	
Water Marine or Estuarine Resources	None	
Water Water Quality or Quantity	None	
Water Wetlands <i>Wetland adjacent to project area</i>	Potential	Issue: The patio was designed to avoid direct impacts to the wetland by avoiding the area that has been delineated. The runoff from the patio would be mitigated by the construction of weirs.
Water Wild and Scenic River	None	
Wilderness Wilderness	None	
Wilderness Wilderness	None	



ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. Park: Yosemite National Park

2. Project Description:

Project Name: Merced River Plan Implementation: Expansion of the Village Grill Patio to Accommodate the Welcome Center Plaza

Prepared by: Erin Davenport **Date Prepared:** 11/01/2019 **Telephone:** 209-379-1067

PEPC Project Number: 91519

Locations:

County, State: Mariposa, CA

Describe project:

See Categorical Exclusion form.

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

The Village Store is located at the southern end of Yosemite Village and is surrounded by a conifer and oak forest on its northern side and by alders and wetland on the western and southern side. A parking lot is located on the eastern side of the building. The APE for the undertaking includes the entire Village Store building complex including the pedestrian path to the west of the building and the parking area to the east/southeast Visitor Contact Station. The APE is bounded to the north by Ahwahnee Way, to the east by Village Drive including the Concessioner Garage, to the south by Northside Drive, and to the west by the Yosemite Village Service Road. The existing trees blocks the views of the Village Store from Glacier Point and Half Dome which are the two major viewing areas along the Valley Rim in this portion of the Valley.

The vertical APE for utilities extends to 1.2 meters below the existing grade. The project will be designed to take advantage of existing utility trenching to the greatest extent possible. Excavation for the foundation of the comfort station will not exceed 1.2 meters in depth. Specific locations for manholes and lift stations (if needed) will be coordinated to avoid archeological resources and will not exceed 2.4 meters in depth. The park will confirm the vertical APE during the assessment of effect phase of the project.

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

4. Potentially Affected Resource(s):

Archeological Resources Present: Yes

Property Name: Yosemite Valley Archeological District **LCS:**

Historical Structures/Resources Present: Yes

Property Name: Yosemite Village Historic District **LCS:**

Property Name: Yosemite Village Store Complex **LCS:** **ParkID:** FMSS ID 84

Location: Yosemite Valley

Cultural Landscapes Present: Yes

Property Name: Yosemite Valley Historic District **LCS:**

Property Name: Yosemite Village Historic District **LCS:**

Ethnographic Resources Present: Yes

Property Name: Yosemite Valley Archeological District **LCS:**

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
Yes	Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure
Yes	Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (inc. terrain)
Yes	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
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)

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:

106 Advisor

Name: Kimball Koch

Date: 09/30/2019

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: Standard 4-Step Process

Anthropologist

Name: Liz Williams

Date: 09/30/2019

Comments: Park notified tribes and groups of project in letter from Superintendent on July 22, 2019. None of the tribes indicated the project would affect historic properties of religious and cultural significance. (The Picayune Rancheria of Chuckchansi requested continued consultation on the larger welcome center project repurposing as it develops.)

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: Standard 4-Step Process

[X] Archeologist

Name: Wesley Wills

Date: 09/30/2019

Comments: The project area has been investigated through archeological surface survey and multiple construction monitoring projects. The location is within the Yosemite Valley Archeological District, but no archeological materials have been identified within 60 meters of proposed ground disturbance and the project is not anticipated to disturb any archeological sites.

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: Standard 4-Step Process

[X] Historian

Name: Scott Carpenter

Date: 09/30/2019

Comments: Existing deck is nonhistoric, noncontributing to the building. Alterations have no adverse effect. No historical architect review necessary; alternations do not touch the building itself.

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: Standard 4-Step Process

[X] Historical Landscape Architect

Name: Kimball Koch

Date: 09/30/2019

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: Standard 4-Step Process

No Reviews From: Curator, Historical Architect, Other Advisor

C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Assessment of Effect:

	No Potential to Cause Effects
	No Historic Properties Affected

X	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. Undertaking Related to Park Specific or Another Agreement

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under another document such as a park, region or statewide agreement established in accord with 36 CFR 800.7 or 36 CFR 800.14.

D. Combined NEPA/NHPA Process

Process and documentation required for the preparation of an EA/FONSI or an EIS/ROD to comply with Section 106 is in accord with 36 CFR 800.8.c.

E. Memo to Project File

3. Consultation Information

SHPO Required: Yes

SHPO Sent: Sep 30, 2019

SHPO Received: Dec 17, 2019

THPO Required: Yes

THPO Sent: Jul 22, 2019

THPO Received: Jul 29, 2019

SHPO/THPO Notes:

Advisory Council Participating: No

Advisory Council Notes:

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.)

Required Mitigations - For the proposed project actions to be within compliance requirements during construction and/or project implementation, the following mitigations must be adhered to:

- See categorical exclusion form.

6. Assessment of Effect Notes:

D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:

NHPA Specialist
Madelyn Ruffner

Date:

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.

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

Superintendent:

Date:

Cicely Muldoon