



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.

## Letter of Compliance Completion

**To:** Russell Mitchell, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

**From:** Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

**Subject:** NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2020-084 Prescribed Burn- PW-5 Crane Flat Burn Unit Segments A-D (PEPC: 95372)

The Superintendent and park interdisciplinary team have reviewed the proposed project and completed an impact analysis and documentation, and have determined the following:

- The project may affect and is likely to adversely affect Fisher in the project area. Conservation measures to minimize effects are included below. Otherwise there will be no adverse effect on other 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:

### Wildlife- General

- The timing of this project will be critical for avoiding potential impacts to fishers, great gray owls, and songbirds. Spring burning can disturb denning fishers and lead to death. The Limited Operating Period (LOP) for fishers is March 1 to June 30th. Spring burning can also lead to direct mortality of nesting birds. The LOP for songbirds is March 1 to July 31 and for great gray owls is March 1 to August 31. The ideal burn window for most wildlife would be in October. Please avoid burning between March 1 to July 31 if at all possible. If a burn is going to occur outside of this window, the project leader must contact wildlife to conduct Great Gray Owl surveys beforehand and determine avoidance buffers.
- Helicopter and UAV operations should ideally occur outside of the migratory bird season (March 1 to July 31) and outside the raptor nesting season (March 1 to August 31) to limit disturbance. Wildlife will provide maps of non-fly zones based on nest locations and sensitive habitats. This project occurs in

potential Great Gray Owl (GGOW) nesting habitat. If helicopter or UAV operations are proposed within the LOP of March 1 to August 15, contact Park Wildlife staff to conduct broadcast surveys and/or nest searches at least 1 month prior to implementation. If GGOW activity is detected, project staff will follow all recommendations made by Park Wildlife staff.

- All workers must be educated about bears and proper storage of food and garbage before entering the job site. All food and garbage must be stored properly (e.g., NOT in the bed of a truck) 24-hours a day. The exceptions are when food is being prepared or eaten, and at those times, it must remain within arm's reach. If there are any open-top construction dumpsters on the job site, they must be clearly labeled as such on all four sides, be located out of site of the public, and be located near a bear-proof dumpster.

### **Wildlife- Fisher**

- Project-specific conservation measures from the Fisher BO appendage:
  - The proposed project will occur during fall/winter 2020 and potentially in spring 2021. If prescribed burning occurs during the spring, the Park Service will avoid conducting burning from March 15th to April 30th if at all possible.
  - Any tree-cutting or other pre-burning prep-work that involves habitat modification or disturbance will occur outside the March 1 to June 30th LOP.
  - If understory burning must be conducted from March 1st to April 30th, the Park Service will use topography to limit smoke buildup in potential or high-quality denning habitat.
  - If additional control lines are deemed necessary to facilitate safe burning and to protect resources, they will be reviewed by a Park Wildlife Biologist to determine if the changes are consistent with the existing consultation or if additional consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service is needed.
  - While the project will remove trees and vegetation by design, project managers will be mindful of protecting large-diameter trees and California black oaks (>20 diameter breast height (inches) (dbh")) where possible. Only trees <12" dbh will be removed, large diameter trees and California black oaks (>20 dbh") will be retained and protected.
  - Large diameter trees, California black oaks (>20 dbh") and other high-value trees and snags will be raked or pre-burned when possible to aid in protection of these fisher habitat components.
  - Low intensity broadcast burning will be the method of prescribed burning used in proximity to large diameter trees, California black oaks (>20 dbh") and other high-value trees and snags, where possible.
  - Where possible, the project will maintain and enhance habitat heterogeneity within and between core habitat areas.
  - If conditions allow, the proposed project will maintain and enhance cover between habitat patches to allow for connectivity.
  - If conditions allow, the proposed project will create a mosaic within potential denning habitat, including some unburned patches, to provide heterogeneity and refugia for fisher and their prey.
  - The project manager will consult with Park wildlife staff during planning to avoid and/or enhance suitable habitat and corridors to the greatest extent possible.
  - Any temporary fencing will allow for the safe passage of fishers.
  - All food and garbage will be stored at all times in wildlife-proof containers.
  - Any pipes, water tanks, or trenches will be capped, screened, or fitted with escape ramps if they cannot be closed each night to avoid entrapment of wildlife.
  - Project staff will follow posted speed limits and reduce their speed by an additional five miles per hour during dusk and dawn.
  - The Park wildlife biologist will teach work crews how to identify fisher, den trees, and other important habitat components that if feasible, should be retained.
  - If a fisher is spotted within a work site, work in the area will cease until the animal moves out of the area and it is determined that the fisher will not be adversely impacted. The Park wildlife biologist will be notified of the sighting for their awareness.
  - The Park Service shall monitor the 43 acres of potential denning habit within the project area to verify that excessive noise and smoke levels don't exceed the 43 acres by passing beyond the project area.

- There is a BO in place for Fisher. Please follow additional mitigation measures common to all projects and Rx Burns:
  - To the extent feasible, maintain all high quality trees (i.e., trees with broken tops, cavities, large branches, or other deformities that occur in high quality habitat, especially live hardwoods >20 inches in dbh, live conifers >30 inches in dbh, dead hardwoods >27 inches in dbh, and dead conifers >35 inches in dbh).
  - To the extent feasible, maintain all potential natal and maternal den trees and resting sites.
  - Maintain and enhance desired stand-level characteristics in suitable habitat.
  - Leave slash piles and downed trees where possible to provide resting sites and habitat for prey, while still meeting project goals of fuel reduction. If they must be burned, avoid burning from March 15 to April 30.

### **Archeology**

- Assessment of no adverse effect to archeological sites is contingent on the following stipulations:
  - Ensure that fuels reduction—removal of dense brush, downed trees, duff removal—and scratch lines around specific features and sites will be completed at the direction of the Fire Archeologist prior to ignition.
  - Ensure that slash from fuels reduction will be piled and burned outside of archeological site boundaries or removed from the project area.
  - Ensure that any ground-disturbing mop-up activities do not take place within sites.
  - If concealed archeological resources are encountered during project activities, ensure protection measures are taken and initiate consultation with SHPO and traditionally associated tribes, as necessary.
  - If additional containment lines become necessary, ensure that archeological sites will be avoided unless previously constructed lines are utilized.
  - Integrate cultural resource awareness and protection into daily fire briefings during implementation of the prescribed burn.
  - Conduct post-burn assessments at archeological sites following prescribed burning to document fire effects to cultural resources and assess potential post-fire treatment needs.

### **Vegetation**

- Wetlands- Adverse impacts to the Wetlands areas in Segment A should be avoided or minimized to the extent possible. Actions to avoid adverse impacts include; avoid the use of mechanical treatment and heavy equipment use in wetlands; do not use foams or other fire retardants in or near wetlands; if wetlands are used as a natural boundary for a prescribed burn, the control line should be in adjacent uplands or should be a wet line only if in the wetlands themselves; during mop-up, avoid excessive scratching/removal of perennial wetland vegetation.
- Avoid invasive plant and special status plant populations when creating new containment lines and staging areas. Fire staff should clean equipment, tools, boots, and clothing prior to site work to avoid introducing invasive plants from lower elevations to higher elevations.

### **Air Quality**

- The Project Manager should work with the appropriate Air Resource District to register the burn and secure any necessary Smoke Management Plan permits prior to ignition to minimize any adverse smoke impacts to air quality. Project Manager will refer to procedures noted in the 2004 Final Yosemite Fire Management Plan EIS for mitigation of potential air quality impacts.

**Superintendent:** Cicely Muldoon **Date:** December 18, 2020  
Cicely Muldoon

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



## Categorical Exclusion Documentation Form (CE Form)

**Project:** Prescribed Burn- PW-5 Crane Flat Burn Unit Segments A-D

**PEPC Project Number:** 95372

**Description of Action (Project Description):**

The National Park Service is proposing to initiate prescribed burns as early as fall 2020 in the North Crane Flat Burn Unit (PW-05). The proposed burn would cover an area of approximately 670 acres of the park just north of the Big Oak Flat Road to the west of the Crane Flat area. This project will build on past prescribed fire activities and recent thinning and pile burning work in the area with the goal of reducing fuel loading in the North Crane Flat unit to secure the roads and handlines as holding lines.

Prescribed fire preparation may include felling trees for firefighter safety or as part of the burn strategy and piling hazardous fuels. Utility task vehicles, chainsaws, and hand tools would be used to support preparation of the project area and prescribed burning activities. If additional control lines are deemed necessary to facilitate safe burning and to protect resources, they will be reviewed by an interdisciplinary team and approved by the deciding official prior to implementation. The interdisciplinary team is made up of NPS fire staff as well as cultural and natural resources staff (including archaeologists, historians, and cultural anthropologists/tribal liaisons). The ignition of the prescribed burn is expected to be accomplished through drip torches. Helicopters or UAVs may be used to assist with the burn if needed.

The Crane Flat Burn Unit prescribed burn project is located at the park's western boundary and lies between two giant sequoia groves (the Tuolumne Grove to the north and the Merced Grove to the south). The area is bounded to the south by the Big Oak Flat Road and to the east by Tioga Road, major park roads providing access to Yosemite Valley and the high-country wilderness area of the park, respectively. The desired forest condition is a landscape that is ecologically healthy and resilient to high intensity fire.

The majority of the PW-05 North Crane Flat unit has burned since 2005. The 2013 Rim Fire burned approximately 20 acres in the northwest section of Segment A between Crane Flat Fire Road and Tioga Road and a few small areas of Segment D along Garnet Ridge Road on the northern boundary. A prescribed burn of 260 acres in 2005 covered much of Segments A and B, excluding the western edge of Segment A and the southeastern finger of Segment B. The 2006 prescribed burn encompassed the southeastern finger of Segment B and all of Segment C, covering approximately 190 acres. In 2010 a prescribed burn was completed on Segment D, covering approximately 210 acres.

**Mitigation(s):**

See Letter of Compliance Completion Form for mitigations.

**CE Citation:** B.1 Changes or amendments to an approved plan, when such changes would cause no or only minimal environmental impact.

**CE Justification:**



**Extraordinary Circumstances:**

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Notes
<b>A.</b> Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	
<b>B.</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	
<b>C.</b> Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	
<b>D.</b> Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	
<b>E.</b> Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	
<b>F.</b> Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		No longer applicable per the updated 2020 CEQ NEPA regulations and DOI direction.
<b>G.</b> 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	
<b>H.</b> 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	A Biological Analysis for the federally-listed Fisher is being prepared for this action.
<b>I.</b> Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	
<b>J.</b> Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	
<b>K.</b> 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	
<b>L.</b> 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:** Prescribed Burn- PW-5 Crane Flat Burn Unit Segments A-D  
**PEPC Project Number:** 95372  
**Project Type:** Fire - Prescribed Burn (PB)  
**Project Location:**  
**County, State:** Tuolumne, California  
**County, State:** Mariposa, California  
**Project Leader:** Russell Mitchell

### B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

See Categorical Exclusion form.

### C. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
<b>Air</b> Air Quality	Potential	Issue: Prescribed fire project anticipated to generate smoke and air quality impacts.  Impact: Air quality impacts are anticipated to be minor, and much smaller than those produced in large, catastrophic fires (which could result by not taking action). Project manager will refer to procedures noted in the 2004 Final Yosemite Fire Management Plan EIS for mitigation of potential air quality impacts.
<b>Biological</b> Nonnative or Exotic Species <i>Introduction of noxious plants</i>	Potential	Issue: If fire trucks, bulldozers, or other heavy equipment are staged for fire contingencies, they may act as vectors that could introduce non-native plants.  Impact: Follow resource protections outlined with regard to heavy equipment cleaning and inspection.
<b>Biological</b> Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat <i>Fisher, Bats, Raptors, Western Pond Turtle, Songbirds</i>	Potential	Issue: Special status species as well as the Federally listed Pacific Fisher are present in the project area. Helicopter use may disturb wildlife, especially nesting birds.  Impact: Follow resource protections with regard to special status species. Impacts from this action are expected to be minor and much smaller than those posed by catastrophic fire, which could result from not taking action. Disturbance caused by helicopters may be minimized by performing the burn in the fall or winter.

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Potential for Impact</b>	<b>Potential Issues &amp; Impacts</b>
<b>Biological</b> Vegetation	Potential	Issue: The forest and associated vegetation in the vicinity are fire-adapted and will be impacted by this action.  Impact: Impacts from this action are expected to be beneficial to forest health and intended to thwart the potential negative, extensive impacts from large, catastrophic fire, which could result from not taking action.
<b>Biological</b> Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species	Potential	Issue: Fire may have impacts to wildlife communities and habitat (though these ecosystems are fire-adapted); wildlife behavior is impacted by human-caused food conditioning.  Impact: Impacts from this action are expected to be beneficial to forest habitat health and intended to thwart the potential negative, extensive impacts from large, catastrophic fire, which could result from not taking action. Workers will follow resource protections with regard to food/trash storage outlined to prevent food conditioning in wildlife.
<b>Cultural</b> Archeological Resources	Potential	Issue: Archeological sites are located in the project area.  Impact: Follow cultural resource protections outlined to avoid impacts to archeological resources.
<b>Cultural</b> Cultural Landscapes	None	
<b>Cultural</b> Ethnographic Resources	None	
<b>Cultural</b> Museum Collections	None	
<b>Cultural</b> Prehistoric/historic structures <i>Crane Flat Fire Lookout</i>	Potential	Issue: The historic Crane Flat Fire Lookout is located in Segment A of the project area.  Impact: The prescribed burn project is expected to create a more defensible area surrounding the historic structure, protecting it from future catastrophic wildfires which could result from not taking the proposed action.
<b>Geological</b> Geologic Features	None	
<b>Geological</b> Geologic Processes	None	
<b>Lightsapes</b> Lightsapes	None	

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Potential for Impact</b>	<b>Potential Issues &amp; Impacts</b>
<b>Other</b> Human Health and Safety	Potential	Issue: Fire operations pose inherent risks to human health and safety. Large, catastrophic fires (which could result from not taking action) also pose risks to human health and safety.  Impact: Follow NPS and Park protocols to safely carry out prescribed burning activities and have contingency plans in place. Overall impacts to human health and safety are improved by decreasing the risk of large, catastrophic fire that could result from not taking action.
<b>Other</b> Operational <i>Crane Flat Campgrounds, Roads</i>	Potential	Issue: Prescribed fire may impact some NPS operations, including the adjacent Crane Flat Campground and the roads used as containment lines for the project.  Impact: Communicate and coordinate project actions well ahead of projected implementation, refer to the 2004 Final Yosemite Fire Management Plan EIS for mitigations and procedures regarding communication and coordination.
<b>Other</b> Other	None	
<b>Socioeconomic</b> Land Use	None	
<b>Socioeconomic</b> Minority and low-income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	
<b>Socioeconomic</b> Socioeconomic	None	
<b>Soundscapes</b> Soundscapes <i>Helicopters</i>	Potential	Issue: Helicopters produce a lot of noise.  Impact: Noise from helicopters may disturb wildlife. See Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat, above.
<b>Viewsheds</b> Viewsheds <i>Forest Structure</i>	Potential	Issue: The project will clear excessive growth and vegetation from the project area.  Impact: The project is expected to positively impact the forest views in the area by creating a more open, park-like forest structure.
<b>Visitor Use and Experience</b> Recreation Resources <i>Area closures, delays during prescribed fire activities</i>	Potential	Issue: Areas where prescribed fire activities are planned for implementation will be temporarily closed to visitation to protect visitor safety. Delays or reduced traffic speeds are possible along roads adjacent to the project area.  Impact: Minor, temporary negative impact to recreation resources. The project area is a low-use area and the prescribed burning activities will take place in the low-visitation season. Refer to mitigations in the 2004 Final Yosemite Fire Management Plan EIS to reduce potential visitor impacts.

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
<b>Visitor Use and Experience</b> Visitor Use and Experience	None	
<b>Water</b> Floodplains	None	
<b>Water</b> Marine or Estuarine Resources	None	
<b>Water</b> Water Quality or Quantity	None	
<b>Water</b> Wetlands <i>Wetlands</i>	Potential	<p>Issue: A wetlands area is located in Segment A of the project area.</p> <p>Impact: The project is not expected to adversely impact the wetlands area, though heavy equipment use and chemicals related to fire suppression should be minimized in and around the area.</p>
<b>Water</b> Wild and Scenic River	None	
<b>Wilderness</b> 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:** Prescribed Burn- PW-5 Crane Flat Burn Unit Segments A-D

**Prepared by:** Daniel Sharon    **Date Prepared:** 05/12/2020    **Telephone:** (209) 379-1038

**PEPC Project Number:** 95372

#### **Locations:**

**County, State:** Tuolumne, CA

**County, State:** Mariposa, CA

#### **Describe project:**

See Categorical Exclusion form.

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

The APE is limited to the immediate vicinity of the proposed prescribed burn within the northern portion of the Crane Flat Burn Unit (PW-05). This portion of the burn unit is subdivided into four segments: Segments A (129 acres), B (163 acres), C (164 acres), and D (210 acres).

Planned containment lines are either modern infrastructure, railroad logging branchlines currently used as fire roads, or previously established handlines. The southern holding line for all segments will be the Big Oak Flat Road. The eastern holding line in Segment A will be the Tioga Road. The western boundary in Segment D will be a small handline extending from Big Oak Flat Road to the Garnett Ridge Road across from the Merced Grove Trailhead parking to cut off the large finger in Garnett Ridge Road. The Garnett Ridge Road will serve as the northern holding line for Segment D. A previously used handline extending from Garnett Ridge Road to the Crane Flat Lookout will be reopened to serve as the northern boundary of Segment C. The Crane Flat Lookout Road will be the holding line for Segment B. A trail extending from the Crane Flat Lookout Road to Tioga Road will serve as the northern holding line for Segment A. A previously used handline may be reopened to split Segment B and C that extends from the Crane Flat Lookout south to Big Oak Flat Road. All previously used handlines were surveyed by the Fire Archeologist before the 2005 and 2006 burns (Kinoshita et. al 2005, 2006).

The vertical APE is expected to be limited to the surface and near-surface soils. The proposed burn is in a remote location and would not be visible from high-use public areas, with the exception of the southern and eastern boundaries of the burn area which are defined by major park roads. Visible smoke impact along the roadways will be temporary for the duration of the burn. The project would occur in the fall when visitation is typically lower.

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

**No**

Yes

Source or reference:

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

**Archeological Resources Present:** Yes

**Property Name:** Crane Flat Archeological District **LCS:**

**Archeological Resources Notes:** CA-MRP-103/H, CA-MRP-104, CA-MRP-105, CA-MRP-106, CA-MRP-0720H, CA-MRP-1784H, CA-MRP-1971H, CA-MRP-2482H, CA-MRP-2488H, P-22-003899, P-22-003901

**Historical Structures/Resources Present:** Yes

**Property Name:** Crane Flat Fire Lookout **LCS:** 226304

**Historical Structures/Resources Notes:** This property is currently used as a helibase and base of operations for fire management crews. Vegetation is cleared annually around the structure and it is well protected.

**Cultural Landscapes Present:** No

**Ethnographic Resources Present:** Yes

**Ethnographic Resources Notes:** The park's American Indian Liaison has provided the tribes with the project plans including a description of the undertaking through the August 2019 tribal spreadsheet. No comments or concerns have been received from the tribes regarding the undertaking.

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

Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure

Replace historic features/elements in kind

Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure

Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (inc. terrain)

Add non-historic features/elements (inc. visual, audible, or atmospheric) to a historic setting or cultural landscape

Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible

Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible

Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources

Begin or contribute to deterioration of historic features, terrain, setting, landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources

Involve a real property transaction (exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures)

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Supporting Study Data:**

**(Attach if feasible; if action is in a plan, EA or EIS, give name and project or page number.)**

## B. REVIEWS BY CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS

The park 106 coordinator requested review by the park's cultural resource specialist/advisors as indicated by check-off boxes or as follows:

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**[ X ] 106 Advisor**

**Name:** Madelyn Ruffner

**Date:** 08/10/2020

**Comments:** SHPO concurred per letter dated 8/7/2020.

*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

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**[ X ] Anthropologist**

**Name:** Liz Williams

**Date:** 06/09/2020

**Comments:** Tribes were consulted per the August 2019 tribal spreadsheet. No comments were received.

*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

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**[ X ] Archeologist**

**Name:** Sonny Montague

**Date:** 06/18/2020

*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:** Assessment of no adverse effect is contingent on the following stipulations: • Ensure that fuels reduction—removal of dense brush, downed trees, duff removal—and scratch lines around specific features and sites will be completed at the direction of the Fire Archeologist prior to ignition. • Ensure that slash from fuels reduction will be piled and burned outside of archeological site boundaries or removed from the project area. • Ensure that any ground-disturbing mop-up activities do not take place within sites. • If concealed archeological resources are encountered during project activities, ensure protection measures are taken and initiate consultation with SHPO and traditionally associated tribes, as necessary. • If additional containment lines become necessary, ensure that archeological sites will be avoided unless previously constructed lines are utilized. • Integrate cultural resource awareness and protection into daily fire briefings during implementation of the prescribed burn. • Conduct post-burn assessments at archeological sites following prescribed burning to document fire effects to cultural resources and assess potential post-fire treatment needs.

**Doc Method:** Standard 4-Step Process

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**Historian**

**Name:** Scott Carpenter

**Date:** 06/09/2020

**Comments:** No historic structures or historic districts/landscapes affected by project, so no review by Historical Architect or Landscape Architect required.

*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

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**No Reviews From:** Curator, Historical Architect, Other Advisor, Historical Landscape Architect

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### **C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **1. Assessment of Effect:**

- No Potential to Cause Effects
- No Historic Properties Affected
- No Adverse Effect
- Adverse Effect

#### **2. Documentation Method:**

**A. Standard 36 CFR Part 800 Consultation**

Further consultation under 36 CFR Part 800 is needed.

**B. Streamlined Review Under the 2008 Servicewide Programmatic Agreement (PA)**

The above action meets all conditions for a streamlined review under section III of the 2008 Servicewide PA for Section 106 compliance.

#### **Applicable Streamlined Review Criteria**

(Specify 1-16 of the list of streamlined review criteria.)

**C. 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:** Jul 8, 2020

**SHPO Received:** Aug 7, 2020

**THPO Required:** Yes

**THPO Sent:** Aug 16, 2019

**THPO Received:** No THPO response after 30 days

**SHPO/THPO Notes:** SHPO concurrence with finding of no adverse effects to historic properties.

**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:

- Assessment of no adverse effect to archeological sites is contingent on the following stipulations:
  - Ensure that fuels reduction—removal of dense brush, downed trees, duff removal—and scratch lines around specific features and sites will be completed at the direction of the Fire Archeologist prior to ignition.
  - Ensure that slash from fuels reduction will be piled and burned outside of archeological site boundaries or removed from the project area.
  - Ensure that any ground-disturbing mop-up activities do not take place within sites.
  - If concealed archeological resources are encountered during project activities, ensure protection measures are taken and initiate consultation with SHPO and traditionally associated tribes, as necessary.
  - If additional containment lines become necessary, ensure that archeological sites will be avoided unless previously constructed lines are utilized.
  - Integrate cultural resource awareness and protection into daily fire briefings during implementation of the prescribed burn.
  - Conduct post-burn assessments at archeological sites following prescribed burning to document fire effects to cultural resources and assess potential post-fire treatment needs.

### 6. Assessment of Effect Notes:

**D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:**

**NHPA Specialist**

Hope Shear \_\_\_\_\_ *Hope Shear* \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** *December 16, 2020*

**E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL**

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

**Superintendent:** \_\_\_\_\_ *Cicely Muldoon* \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** *December 18, 2020*  
Cicely Muldoon

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



### Floodplains/Wetlands/§404 Permits

Question	Yes	No	Details
A.1. Is project in 100- or 500-year floodplain or flash flood hazard area?		No	Not in floodplain or flash flood hazard area.
A.2. Is Project in wetlands as defined by NPS/DOI?	Yes		Determined to be exempt from compliance with Director's Order #77-1 and no Wetland Statement of Findings required.
B. COE Section 404 permit needed?		No	No placement of fill in waters of the United States.
C. State 401 certification?		No	
D. State Section 401 Permit?		No	<b>Issue Date:</b> <b>Expiration Date:</b>
E. Tribal Water Quality Permit?		No	
F. CZM Consistency determination needed?			N/A
G. Erosion & Sediment Control Plan Required?		No	
H. Any other permits required?		No	<b>Permit Information:</b>
Other Information:			Measures to protect wetlands in the project area are included in the mitigations.

Data Entered By: Daniel Sharon

Date: Dec 15, 2020

### Floodplains & Wetlands Mitigations

**Mitigation ID**

**Text**

105712

Wetlands- Adverse impacts to the Wetlands areas in Segment A should be avoided or minimized to the extent possible. Actions to avoid adverse impacts include; avoid the use of mechanical treatment and heavy equipment use in wetlands; do not use foams or other fire retardants in or near wetlands; if wetlands are used as a natural boundary for a prescribed burn, the control line should be in adjacent uplands or should be a wet line only if in the wetlands themselves; during mop-up, avoid excessive scratching/removal of perennial wetland vegetation.

### Wilderness

Question	Yes	No	
A. Does this project occur in or adjacent to Designated, Recommended, Proposed, Study, Eligible, or Potential Wilderness?		No	
B. Is the only place to conduct this project in wilderness?			
C. Is the project necessary for the administration of the area as wilderness?			

<b>D. Would the project or any of its alternatives adversely affect (directly or indirectly) Designated, Recommended, Proposed, Study, Eligible, or Potential Wilderness? (If Yes, Minimum Requirements Analysis required)</b>			
<b>E. Does the project or any of its alternatives involve the use of any of the Wilderness Act Section 4(c) prohibited uses: commercial enterprise, permanent road, temporary road, motor vehicles, motorized equipment, motorboats, landing of aircraft, mechanical transport, structure, or installation? (If Yes, Minimum Requirements Analysis required)</b>			
<b>If the answer to D or E above is "Yes" then a Minimum Requirements Analysis is required. Describe the status of this analysis in the column to the right.</b>			<b>Initiation Date: Completed Date: Approved Date:</b>
<b>Other Information:</b>			

**Data Entered By:** Daniel Sharon **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Permits/Laws** *Questions A & B are no longer used.*

<b>Question</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>C. Wild and scenic river concerns exist?</b>		No
<b>D. National Trails concerns exist?</b>		No
<b>E. Air Quality consult with State needed?</b>	Yes	
<b>F. Consistent with Architectural Barriers, Rehabilitation, and Americans with Disabilities Acts or not Applicable? (If N/A check Yes)</b>	Yes	
<b>G. Other:</b>		

**Other Information:**

**Data Entered By:** Daniel Sharon **Date:** Dec 15, 2020