# **Letter of Compliance Completion**

To: Kevin Keheley, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent, Yosemite National Park Service

**Subject:** NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2020\_059 Improve Visitor Accessibility in Yosemite at Bridalveil Creek Campground (PEPC 92218)

Yosemite National Park

Date: 01/08/2021

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:

- Only actions explicitly described in PEPC 92218 are approved for implementation. Any changes or additions to the project scope must be reviewed and approved by the Yosemite Environmental Planning and Compliance office.
- To avoid impacts to fishers from disturbance, construction should avoid the Limited Operating Period (LOP), March 1 to June 30. If avoidance is not possible contact the Park biologist.
- Fill must come from an approved source. Contact Garrett\_Dickman@nps.gov for a list of approved aggregate sources.
- Measures shall be taken to prevent the introduction of exotic species in the project area and staging areas. All earth moving equipment must enter the Park free of dirt, dust, mud, seeds, or other potential contaminant. Examples of equipment that require inspection are excavators, skid steers, or boring equipment. Passenger vehicles do not need inspection but should be clean prior to entry in the park. Equipment exhibiting any dirt or other material attached to frame, tires, wheels, or other parts shall be thoroughly cleaned by the Contractor before entering the Park. Areas inspected shall 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. The Contractor shall notify the Construction manager at least two workdays (not including weekends) prior to bringing any equipment into the Park. Equipment found to have entered the Park with potential contaminants will be removed from the Park at the direction of the Contracting Officer at Contractor's sole expense. All staff working on site shall be informed of and follow best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species as described in

Division 1 Specifications, Section1335. Contact Garrett Dickman at garrett\_dickman@nps.gov at least a week in advance to schedule equipment inspection.

• Compliance with food-storage and garbage disposal requirements must be achieved at all times.

There are no NHPA Recommendations for Condi	tions or Si	tipulations identified.
Cicely Muldoon	Date:	1/14/2021
Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent	-"	

# **Categorical Exclusion Documentation Form (CE Form)**

Project: Improve Visitor Accessibility in Yosemite at Bridalveil Creek Campground

**PEPC Project Number: 92218** 

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

This project will enhance accessibility for people with disabilities in the Wawona District of the park by modifying the 450 square foot easternmost restroom building and two adjacent campsites (#76 and #77) at Bridalveil Creek Campground off the Glacier Point Road.

**Yosemite National Park** 

Date: 01/08/2021

The restroom remodel includes the following: 1) widening and replacing entrance doors to both men's and women's restrooms, 2) removing one water closet on the men's and one water closet on the women's side and making the remaining water closet on each side accessible with a new accessible toilet, sink, toilet paper holder, grab bars, soap dispenser, mirror, paper towel dispenser, diaper changing station and new partitions, and 3) making the restroom entrances accessible with the addition of grade compliant ramps.

Campsite modifications (sites #76 and #77) include the following: 1) adding an accessible wooden picnic table with galvanized steel frame, attached bench seating and extended accessible table top at each site, 2) installing a 200 square foot hardened campsite surface to stabilize the campsites, 3) Replacing food storage lockers for the accessible units, 4) providing 90 linear feet of a 3-foot wide accessible path of travel from each of the accessible campsites to the accessible restroom building. The park would re-grade existing paths to meet slope requirements for accessibility and install a hardened surface material to conform to the existing terrain. No ground cuts will be necessary. If fill material is required, it will be acquired from an approved source. The team would use a Bobcat skid steer to accomplish work and would stage materials on hardened surfaces nearby. Hardened surface material will be decomposed granite or Park Tread. Park Tread (www.parktread.com) is an environmentally friendly alternative to asphalt and maintains a natural appearance.

Mitigation(s): See Letter of Compliance Completion Form for mitigations.

**CE Citation:** C.19 Construction or rehabilitation in previously disturbed or developed areas, required to meet health or safety regulations, or to meet requirements for making facilities accessible to the handicapped.

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.

Cicely Muldoon	Date:	1/14/2021	
Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent			

### **Extraordinary Circumstances:**

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	No	
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?		
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts	No	
concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?		
<b>D.</b> Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve	No	
unique or unknown environmental risks?		
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about	No	
future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but		No longer applicable
cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		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	No	
Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?		
<b>H.</b> Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of	No	
Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated		
Critical Habitat for these species?		
I. Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the	No	
protection of the environment?		
<b>J.</b> Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority	No	
populations (EO 12898)?		
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by	No	
Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred		
sites (EO 130007)?		
L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or	No	
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)?		

## Yosemite National Park Date: 01/05/2021

# **ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)**

#### Updated Sept 2015 per NPS NEPA Handbook

#### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Improve Visitor Accessibility in Yosemite at Bridalveil Creek Campground

PEPC Project Number: 92218

**Project Type:** Other Maintenance Activities (MNT)

**Project Location:** 

County, State: Mariposa, California Project Leader: Kevin Keheley

#### **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 Exotic plants	Potential	Issue: Measures shall be taken to prevent the introduction of exotic species in the project area and staging areas. All earth moving equipment must enter the Park free of dirt, dust, mud, seeds, or other potential contaminant. Examples of equipment that require inspection are excavators, skid steers, or boring equipment. Passenger vehicles do not need inspection but should be clean prior to entry in the park. Areas inspected shall 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. The Contractor shall notify the Construction manager at least two work days (not including weekends) prior to bringing any equipment into the Park. Equipment found to have entered the Park with potential contaminants will be removed from the Park at the direction of the Contracting Officer at Contractor's sole expense. All staff working on site shall be informed of and follow best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species as described in Division 1 Specifications, Section1335. Contact garrett_dickman@nps.gov at least a week in advance to schedule equipment inspection.  Impact: No impacts if mitigation measures are followed.

Biological Nonnative or Exotic Species Weed/Seed Free fill material	Potential	Issue: Fill must come from an approved source. Contact Garrett_Dickman@nps.gov for a list of approved aggregate sources.  Impact: No impacts if mitigation measure is followed.
Biological Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat Pacific Fisher	Potential	Issue: Although this project occurs within fisher habitat, it will occur entirely within a developed footprint and will have No Effect on fishers.  Impact: To avoid impacts to fishers from disturbance, construction should avoid the disturbance LOP, March 1 to June 30. If avoidance is not possible contact the Park biologist.
Biological Vegetation	None	
Biological Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species	None	
Cultural Archeological Resources	None	
Cultural Cultural Landscapes	None	
Cultural Ethnographic Resources	None	
Cultural Museum Collections	None	
Cultural Prehistoric/historic structures	None	
Geological Geologic Features	None	
Geological Geologic Processes	None	
Lightscapes	None	
Other Human Health and Safety Accessibility improvements at	Potential	Issue: Two restrooms and two campsites will be made accessible at Bridalveil Creek Campground.  Impact: This project will improve the safety of the site for wheelchair guests.

restrooms and campsites		
Other Operational	None	
Other	None	
Socioeconomic Land Use	None	
Socioeconomic Minority and low- income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	
Socioeconomic	None	
Soundscapes	None	
Viewsheds	None	
Visitor Use and Experience Recreation Resources Accessibility improvements at restrooms and campsites	Potential	Issue: Two restrooms and two campsites will be made accessible at Bridalveil Creek Campground.  Impact: This improvement will provide more accessible camping and facilities to disabled guests.
Visitor Use and Experience Accessibility improvements at restrooms and campsites	Potential	Issue: Two restrooms and two campsites will be made accessible at Bridalveil Creek Campground.  Impact: More guests with disabilities can enjoy the campground with better access to the restrooms.
Water Floodplains	None	
Water Marine/Estuarine Resources	None	
Water Water Quality or Quantity	None	
Water Wetlands	None	

Water Wild and Scenic River	None	
Wilderness	None	

Yosemite National Park Date: 01/08/2021

# ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

#### A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. Park: Yosemite National Park

#### 2. Project Description:

Project Name: Improve Visitor Accessibility in Yosemite at Bridalveil Creek Campground

Prepared by: Jessica Salesman Date Prepared: 06/23/2020 Telephone: 563-873-3491 x 142

PEPC Project Number: 92218

**Locations:** 

County, State: Mariposa, CA

Describe project: See Categorical Exclusion

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

The project is located in the Bridalveil Creek Campground. The APE includes the immediate vicinity of building 5315 (the restroom to be renovated) the adjacent camping spots (76 and 77) and the paths of travel between each camping pad and the restroom. To minimize potential soil disturbance, fill will be utilized to adjust grade to make camping pads and paths level and slope compliant. Vertical adjustments are anticipated to be less than 6" above or below the current soil surface.

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

	No
X	Yes
	Source or reference:

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

Archeological Resources Present: No

**Historical Structures/Resources Present:** Yes

**Historical Structures/Resources Notes:** The campground is a Mission 66 resource, however, no determination of eligibility has been completed for the campground. The park is treating the campground as if it is eligible for the purposes of Section 106 compliance. In a letter dated December 10, 2020 (NPS\_2020\_1112\_003), SHPO concurred with this approach.

**Cultural Landscapes Present:** Yes

**Cultural Landscapes Notes:** No cultural landscape inventory has been completed for the site. The campground is a Mission 66 resource, however, no determination of eligibility has been completed for the campground. The

park is treating the campground as if it is eligible for the purposes of Section 106 compliance. In a letter dated December 10, 2020 (NPS 2020 1112 003), SHPO concurred with this approach.

#### **Ethnographic Resources Present:** No

**Ethnographic Resources Notes:** No historic properties with religious and cultural significance have been reported in the area. Project information was presented to traditionally associated tribes and groups in the March 2020 Tribal Spreadsheet. No comments were received.

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

Yes	Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure
Yes	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)
	Other (please specify):

#### 6. Supporting Study Data:

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

#### **B. REVIEWS BY CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS**

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

[ X ] 106 Advisor Name: Madelyn Ruffner Date: 08/06/2020
Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ]  Assessment of Effect:No Potential to Cause EffectNo Historic Properties AffectedX_No Adverse EffectAdverse EffectStreamlined Review  Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:
Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process

[X] Anthropologist Name: Liz Williams Date: 06/23/2020

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ]  Assessment of Effect:No Potential to Cause EffectX_No Historic Properties AffectedNo Adverse EffectAdverse EffectStreamlined Review Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:
Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process
[X] Archeologist Name: Wesley Wills Date: 02/11/2020 Comments: The project area was archeologically surveyed in 1984, 1987, and 2019. No archeological sites have been identified within or adjacent to the proposed ground-disturbing activities. No additional archeological work is planned as part of this undertaking.
Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ]  Assessment of Effect:No Potential to Cause EffectNo Historic Properties AffectedX_No Adverse EffectAdverse EffectStreamlined Review  Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:
Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process
[X] Historian Name: Scott Carpenter Date: 06/23/2020 Comments: Mission 66 era and earlier campground layout not being affected. Historic M-66 buildings will not be altered.  Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ] Assessment of Effect:No Potential to Cause EffectNo Historic Properties AffectedX_No Adverse EffectAdverse EffectStreamlined Review Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:  Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process
[X] Historical Architect Name: Sueann Brown Date: 07/28/2020 Comments: Project will have only a minor impact to the exterior due to the widening of the door. Interior impacts are greater but reasonable to provide accessibility. Standard review process needed due to the lack of a DOE.
Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ]  Assessment of Effect:No Potential to Cause EffectNo Historic Properties AffectedX_No Adverse EffectAdverse EffectStreamlined Review Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:
Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process

Name: Vida Date: 07/07	
	accessible camp sites are adjacent to the restroom that will be rehabilitated.
Assessment Adverse Eff Recommen	oject does not involve ground disturbance [ ] of Effect:No Potential to Cause EffectNo Historic Properties AffectedX_No ectAdverse EffectStreamlined Review dations for conditions or stipulations: d: Standard 4-Step Process
	u. Standard 4-Step Process
No Reviews	s From: Curator, Other Advisor
C. PARK S	ECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS
1. Assessme	ent of Effect:
	No Potential to Cause Effects
	No Historic Properties Affected
X	No Adverse Effect
	Adverse Effect
2. Documer	ntation Method:
	andard 36 CFR Part 800 Consultation
Further cons	sultation under 36 CFR Part 800 is needed.
The above a	eamlined Review Under the 2008 Servicewide Programmatic Agreement (PA) ction meets all conditions for a streamlined review under section III of the 2008 Servicewide PA for compliance.
	Streamlined Review Criteria 6 of the list of streamlined review criteria.)
The propose	dertaking Related to Park Specific or Another Agreement and undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under another document such as a park, region or greement established in accord with 36 CFR 800.7 or 36 CFR 800.14.
Process and	<b>nbined NEPA/NHPA Process</b> documentation required for the preparation of an EA/FONSI or an EIS/ROD to comply with Section cord with 36 CFR 800.8.c.
[ ] E. Me	mo to Project File

## 3. Consultation Information

**SHPO Required:** Yes **SHPO Sent:** Nov 10, 2020 SHPO Received: Dec 10, 2020 **THPO Required:** Yes **THPO Sent:** Mar 5, 2020 **THPO Received: 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: None 6. Assessment of Effect Notes: None D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR: Hope Schear **Date:** 1/12/2021 Hope Schear, Section 106 Coordinator 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.

Cicely Muldoon	Date:	1/14/2021	
Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent			

# Date: 01/08/2021

Yosemite National Park

# **Other Compliance/Consultations Form**

Park Name: Yosemite National Park PEPC Project Number: 92218

Project Title: Improve Visitor Accessibility in Yosemite at Bridalveil Creek Campground

Project Type: Other Maintenance Activities: Accessibility

**Project Location:** 

County, State: Mariposa, CA Project Leader: Kevin Keheley

#### **ESA**

Any Federal Species in the project Area? Yes

If species in area: No Effect

Was Biological Assessment prepared? No If Biological Assessment prepared, concurred?

Formal Consultation required? No

**Formal Consultation Notes:** 

Although this project occurs within fisher habitat, it will occur entirely within a developed footprint and will have No Effect on fishers.

#### **Formal Consultation Concluded:**

Any State listed Species in the Project Area? Yes

**Consultation Information:** Although great gray owls are in the area, this small project will occur entirely within a developed footprint and will not impact great gray owls.

**General Notes:** 

Data Entered By:	Rachel Mazur	Date:	Jul 14, 2020	

#### **ESA Mitigations**

No ESA mitigations are associated with this project.

#### Floodplains/Wetlands/§404 Permits

Question	Yes	No	Details
A.1. Is project in 100- or 500-year floodplain or flash flood hazard area?			
A.2. Is Project in wetlands as defined by NPS/DOI?		No	Not in wetland as defined by NPS/DOI.
B. COE Section 404 permit needed?		No	No placement of fill in waters of the United States.
C. State 401 certification?		No	

Question	Yes	No	Details
D. State Section 401 Permit?		No	Issue Date: Expiration Date:
E. Tribal Water Quality Permit?		No	
F. CZM Consistency determination needed?		No	Date Review Requested: Date Reply Received: Date State Concurred:
G. Erosion & Sediment Control Plan Required?		No	
H. Any other permits required?		No	Permit Information:
Other Information:			

## Floodplains & Wetlands Mitigations

No Floodplains & Wetlands mitigations are associated with this project.

#### 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?		No	
C. Is the project necessary for the administration of the area as wilderness?		No	
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)		No	
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)		No	

Data Entered By:	Laura Stevens	Date:	Nov 27, 2020
-		_	