

Yosemite National Park Date: 11/01/2019

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: Ansley Singer, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Michael T. Reynolds, Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2019-046 Improving Safety at Wapama Falls Footbridge (PEPC: 87715)

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:

- The project manager shall ensure that personnel attend a resources protection briefing prior to working on site to become familiar with resource protection measures outlined in this CE. Required topics include proper storage and disposal of food/trash, behavior around wildlife, cultural resource protection, prevention of exotic plants, protection of sensitive species, compliance with Clean Water Act permits, and compliance with the Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA).
- Projected trail closures at certain stages of the construction process will be clearly communicated and coordinated with park staff to minimize disruptions to park operations and to visitors. Trail closures will be timed to minimize impacts to visitor access.
- All actions will conform to the project's Minimum Requirement Analysis (MRA). Construction methods will use minimum tools and all workers will follow Leave No Trace principles while at the work site.
- Final bridge plans must be reviewed and approved by a Park Engineer as well as Park Hydrologist before the project is implemented.
- Wildlife Protections:

- Any helicopter operations required for project implementation will occur outside of raptor nesting season; helicopter use is not authorized from March 1st to July 31st. The park Terrestrial Ecologist may approve the use of helicopters within the avoidance window if it is confirmed that special status raptors are not nesting in the vicinity of the project. It is the project manager's responsibility to contact the Terrestrial Ecologist if approval to use helicopters between March1 and July 31 is desired.
- Bridges can be excellent roosts for bats; construct the new bridge to allow for bats to use the underside to those purposes. Ensure there are no bats using the bridge as a place to hibernate or raise young before planning on timing to remove. The best timing for removal of the existing bridge to avoid bat impacts would be August 15 to October 31, when bats are not raising young or hibernating. If bats are present and removal of the existing bridge needs to occur outside of this time frame, contact the park Terrestrial Ecologist (209-379-1435) to minimize impacts to bats that occupy the bridge. Do not "shoo" them out of the bridge.
- Workers shall obey posted speed limits while traveling through the park.
- All personnel will properly store and dispose of food and trash to prevent bears and other wildlife from obtaining them. Food storage and trash systems must follow park regulations.
- Cultural Resources Protections:
  - The only ground disturbing activities authorized for this project are construction of a 10-foot realignment of the existing trail to connect with the new bridge alignment and restoration of the old approach trail. Ground disturbance for these purposes will not exceed 12 vertical inches. New bridge footings will be mounted on large boulders/bedrock, requiring no ground disturbance. Any additional ground disturbing activities (signs, anchors, post holes, etc.) would require further review and approval from the park Environmental Planning and Compliance Office.
  - Design and construct the new bridge sections to match the existing footbridges (wooden rough beam construction materials, railings, width, and rustic character).
  - If previously unknown cultural resources are encountered, the project manager shall temporarily suspend work in the immediate area and contact the Cultural Resource Program Manager who will evaluate and determine appropriate action to protect resources, which could include consultation with appropriate parties (e.g., tribes, SHPO). Although not expected, should previously unknown American Indian burial sites be discovered, the Cultural Resource Program Manager will provide direction to follow provisions Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act requirements.
- Water Quality and Wetland Protections:
  - Work crews will follow BMPs to avoid fuel and oil spills and will carry containment materials at all times for all mechanized equipment. Equipment fuel staging areas will be designated in work plans. 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.
  - The project is being implemented under non-reporting Nationwide Permit (NWP 14 Linear Transportation Projects) pursuant to the Clean Water Act. All provisions outlined in 2017 Nationwide Permit General Conditions, as well as the Final Sacramento District Nationwide (NWP) Regional Conditions for California excluding the Lake Tahoe Basin (effective from March 19, 2017 to March 18, 2022), apply to this project. It is the project manager's responsibility to ensure conditions outlined in each are met and adhered to (please see annotated conditions attached in PEPC).

**Date:** 11/18/2019

## Superintendent:

/s/ Teri Austin (Acting Superintendent for Michael T. Reynolds) Michael T. Reynolds

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



Yosemite National Park Date: 11/01/2019

# **Categorical Exclusion Form**

**Project:** Improving Safety at Wapama Falls Footbridge **PEPC Project Number:** 87715 **Description of Action (Project Description):** 

The popular Hetch Hetchy Reservoir Trail leads from the O'Shaughnessy Dam around the north shore of the reservoir and on to many day hiking and overnight-backpacking destinations in the park. Wapama Falls is located via a 2.5 mile hike along the trail and is fed by Falls Creek. A series of five footbridges cross in front of the cascading falls allowing backpackers and day hikers access to miles of trails and the destinations beyond. However, during spring run-off conditions and heavy rain events, the westernmost portion of the footbridges can be inundated with water from the falls and may become impassible. These conditions can cause safety hazards for many visitors and results in them having to make a decision about whether to proceed through the waterfall spray or turn around, which can cut short plans for their hike, or causing home-coming backpackers to hike an alternate approximately 20-mile route to return to their vehicles. The second option is for hikers to proceed across the bridge at great risk to their wellbeing which resulted in two fatalities in 2011 and one in 2017 when hikers were swept off of the footbridges.

The purpose of this project is improve the safety at Wapama Falls. It will replace the westernmost of the five footbridges that crosses Falls Creek at the base of Wapama Falls and reroute it south of the existing bridge section to alleviate the dangerous inundation conditions that are sometimes experienced in this section during high flows. This realignment will increase visitor safety by reducing the potential for bridge inundation and increase the bridge's visibility from the western approach, so that visitors can better assess the crossing conditions and any associated risk before proceeding. The problematic section of the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir Trail is located at the 65-foot westernmost span of the five footbridges that crosses Falls Creek approximately 2.5 miles east of the O'Shaughnessy Dam Trailhead. The westernmost bridge span would be replaced by two new, re-routed spans that would be approximately 120 feet in length combined (two spans are needed to bypass the fall spray zone and associated change in alignment). The westernmost abutment would be moved approximately 25 feet to the west, and the span would run approximately 40 feet to the south of the current alignment outside the area of hazardous water flow. The new abutments and supports will be within the boulder-strewn Falls Creek drainage. The new bridge sections would be designed and fabricated to match the existing foot bridges. Trail crews would construct a small section of trail (roughly 10 linear feet) that would reroute the trail to the new bridge abutment. Materials will be transported by either helicopter, boat, stock, or by foot. Following completion of the reroute, the park would remove the existing 65-foot bridge section and restore to natural conditions the 25-foot section of trail leading up from the west to the existing bridge. Work would be completed using standard trail construction/maintenance methods in designated wilderness (Minimum Requirements Analysis attached).

#### Mitigation(s):

• The project manager shall ensure that personnel attend a resources protection briefing prior to working on site to become familiar with resource protection measures outlined in this CE. Required topics include proper storage and disposal of food/trash, behavior around wildlife, cultural resource protection, prevention of exotic plants, protection of sensitive species, compliance with federal Clean Water Act permits, state water quality permts, and compliance with the Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA).

- Projected trail closures at certain stages of the construction process will be clearly communicated and coordinated with park staff to minimize disruptions to park operations and to visitors. Trail closures will be timed to minimize impacts to visitor access.
- All actions will conform to the project's Minimum Requirement Analysis (MRA). Construction methods will use minimum tools and all workers will follow Leave No Trace principles while at the work site.
- Final bridge plans must be reviewed and approved by a Park Engineer as well as Park Hydrologist before the project is implemented.
- Wildlife Protections:
  - Any helicopter operations required for project implementation will occur outside of raptor nesting season; helicopter use is not authorized from March 1st to July 31st. The park Terrestrial Ecologist may approve the use of helicopters within the avoidance window if it is confirmed that special status raptors are not nesting in the vicinity of the project. It is the project manager's responsibility to contact the Terrestrial Ecologist if approval to use helicopters between March1 and July 31 is desired.
  - Bridges can be excellent roosts for bats; construct the new bridge to allow for bats to use the underside to those purposes. Ensure there are no bats using the bridge as a place to hibernate or raise young before planning on timing to remove. The best timing for removal of the existing bridge to avoid bat impacts would be August 15 to October 31, when they are not raising young or hibernating. If bats are present and removal of the existing bridge needs to occur outside of this time frame, contact the park Terrestrial Ecologist (209-379-1435) to minimize impacts to bats that occupy the bridge. Do not "shoo" them out of the bridge.
  - Workers shall obey posted speed limits while traveling through the park.
  - All personnel will properly store and dispose of food and trash to prevent bears and other wildlife from obtaining them. Food storage and trash systems must follow park regulations.
- Cultural Resources Protections:
  - The only ground disturbing activities authorized for this project are construction of a 10-foot realignment of the existing trail to connect with the new bridge alignment and restoration of the old approach trail. Ground disturbance for these purposes will not exceed 12 vertical inches. New bridge footings will be mounted on large boulders/bedrock, requiring no ground disturbance. Any additional ground disturbing activities (signs, anchors, post holes, etc.) would require further review and approval from the park Environmental Planning and Compliance Office.
  - Design and construct the new bridge sections to match the existing footbridges (wooden rough beam construction materials, railings, width, and rustic character).
  - If previously unknown cultural resources are encountered, the project manager shall temporarily suspend work in the immediate area and contact the Cultural Resource Program Manager who will evaluate and determine appropriate action to protect resources, which could include consultation with appropriate parties (e.g., tribes, SHPO). Although not expected, should previously unknown American Indian burial sites be discovered, the Cultural Resource Program Manager will provide direction to follow provisions Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act requirements.
- Water Quality and Wetland Protections:
  - Work crews will follow BMPs to avoid fuel and oil spills and will carry containment materials at all times for all mechanized equipment. Equipment fuel staging areas will be designated in work plans. 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.

The project is being implemented under non-reporting Nationwide Permit (NWP 14 - Linear Transportation Projects) pursuant to the Clean Water Act. All provisions outlined in 2017 Nationwide Permit General Conditions, as well as the Final Sacramento District Nationwide (NWP) Regional Conditions for California excluding the Lake Tahoe Basin (effective from March 19, 2017 to March 18, 2022), apply to this project. It is the project manager's responsibility to ensure conditions outlined in each are met and adhered to (please see annotated conditions attached in PEPC).

**CE Citation:** C.8 Replacement in kind of minor structures and facilities with little or no change in location, capacity or appearance.

CE Justification: Dangerous bridge span being replaced with rerouted spans (2) in a more favorable alignment.

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:	/s/ Teri Austin (Acting Superintendent for	Date:	11/18/2019
	Michael T. Reynolds)	_	
	Michael T. Reynolds		
The signed origin	nal of this document is on file at the		

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#### **Extraordinary Circumstances:**

If implemented, would the proposal	Yes/No	Notes
A. 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	No	
<ul> <li>ecologically significant or critical areas?</li> <li>C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?</li> </ul>	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	
<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	
<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 130007)?	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	No	

expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order	
13112)?	



Yosemite National Park Date: 11/01/2019

# **ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)**

Updated Sept 2015 per NPS NEPA Handbook

## A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Improving Safety at Wapama Falls Footbridge
<b>PEPC Project Number:</b>	87715
Project Type:	Reconstruction (REC)
<b>Project Location:</b>	
County, State:	Mariposa, California District, Section: Mather, Hetch Hetchy
Project Leader:	Ansley Singer, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

#### **B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

See Categorical Exclusion form.

# C. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
<b>Air</b> Air Quality	None	
<b>Biological</b> Nonnative or Exotic Species	None	
Biological Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat <i>Raptors</i>	Potential	Issue: Special status raptors occur in the work site vicinity. Impact: Follow resource protections to avoid impacts to special status species.
<b>Biological</b> Vegetation	None	
<b>Biological</b> Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species <i>Bat habitat</i>	Potential	Issue: Bridges often provide excellent habitat for bats. Impact: Follow resource protections to ensure that the new bridge continues to provide bat habitat.
Cultural Archeological Resources	Potential	Issue: Some ground disturbance is required to implement project. Impact: Follow resource protections to regarding inadvertent discoveries to ensure no adverse impacts to archeological resources.

Cultural	None	
Cultural Landscapes	ivone	
Cultural	None	
Ethnographic Resources	rione	
Cultural	None	
Museum Collections		
<b>Cultural</b> Prehistoric/historic structures <i>Hetch Hetchy Reservoir Trail</i> (unevaluated)	Potential	Issue: The park treated the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir Trail as a historic resource eligible for listing on the National Register for National Historic Preservation Act section 106 purposes.
		Impact: Follow resource protection measures to prevent adverse effects to the property that is potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
Geological Geologic Features	None	
Geological Geologic Processes	None	
Lightscapes Lightscapes	None	
<b>Other</b> Human Health and Safety <i>Human Health and Safety</i>	Potential	Issue: The footbridge in its existing condition sometimes is hazardous to cross during spring runoff conditions. Impact: Project will have beneficial impact on human safety and health by addressing reducing hazardous conditions during high flow conditions.
<b>Other</b> Operational <i>Trail access</i>	Potential	Issue: Trail access will be limited due to closures during certain portions of construction. Impact: NPS operations that periodically rely on this trail for backcountry access (packers, trail crew workers, researchers) will need to augment their work plans or travel plans to account for trail closures.
Other Other	None	
Socioeconomic Land Use	None	
<b>Socioeconomic</b> Minority and low-income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	
Socioeconomic Socioeconomic	None	
Soundscapes Soundscapes	None	

Viewsheds Viewsheds	None	
Visitor Use and Experience Recreation Resources <i>Trail access</i>	Potential	Issue: Trail will be closed for a few weeks in certain portions during construction, limiting access to backcountry areas reached by traveling on this trail.Impact: Visitors may have to embark on longer hikes using alternative routes or plan trips to different destinations when trail closures are in affect.
Visitor Use and Experience Visitor Use and Experience Visitor Use	Potential	Issue: The conditions of the footbridge are currently hazardous during high-flow conditions.Impact: Safety conditions at the footbridge will be improved by the project and the visitors will have better access to destinations reached by the trail during high water flow conditions.
Water Floodplains	None	
Water Marine or Estuarine Resources	None	
Water Water Quality or Quantity	None	
Water Wetlands Waters of the United States (Clean Water Act)	Potential	Issue: Project activities are proposed within the bed and banks of a creek (defined as Waters of the U.S.) and the project is subject to Clean Waters Act provisions. Impact: The project is being implemented under non- reporting Nationwide Permit 14; all conditions will be adhered to during work implementation. No adverse impacts to the waterway are anticipated. A 401 Water Quality Certification state permit is not needed, due to the proposed pillar to be installed being located out of the ordinary high water mark (per Debra Mahnke at the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board).
Water Wild and Scenic River	None	
Wilderness Wilderness Designated Wilderness	Potential	Issue: Project is located in a designated wilderness area.Impact: Implement resource protections and conditionsstipulated in the project Minimum Requirements Analysis(MRA) to avoid impacts to wilderness character.



Yosemite National Park Date: 11/01/2019

# ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

## A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

**1. Park:** Yosemite National Park

#### 2. Project Description:

 Project Name:
 Improving Safety at Wapama Falls Footbridge

 Prepared by:
 Ninette Daniele
 Date Prepared:
 08/15/2019
 Telephone:

 PEPC Project Number:
 87715
 District, Section:
 Mather, Hetch Hetchy

 County, State:
 Mariposa, CA
 District, Section:
 Mather, Hetch Hetchy

 Describe project:
 See Categorical Exclusion form.

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

Immediate vicinity of the trail near Wapama Falls. The bridge is minimally visible from along the O'Shaughnessy Dam (approximately 1.6 miles). The bridge is being constructed on top of talus using concrete abutments and piers, so there is minimal vertical disturbance.

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

	No
Х	Yes
	Source or reference:

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

#### **Archeological Resources Affected: No**

#### Historical Structures/Resources Affected: Yes

**Historical Structures/Resources Notes:** For 106 purposes for this project, we are assuming the trail is eligible based on its likely construction in the late 1920s, following completion of the O'Shaughnessy dam. Bridge has been reconstructed many times (western span washed away in 2010, also entire bridge replaced after 1997 flood).

#### **Cultural Landscapes Affected: No**

#### **Ethnographic Resources Affected: No**

#### 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)	
	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: Kimball Koch

Date: 08/15/2019

**Comments:** Per Cultural Resources Program Manager, no historical architect review required. For 106 purposes, we are proposing to assume the trail is eligible based on its likely construction in the 1920s following completion of the O'Shaughnessy dam.

 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] Anthropologist Name: Scott Carpenter Date: 08/15/2019 Comments: Project on August 2019 tribal consultation spreadsheet as informational item.

Check if project do	es not involve groun	d disturbance [	]		
Assessment of Effe	ect: <u>No Potential</u>	to Cause Effect	Х	_No Historic Properties Affected	No
Adverse Effect	Adverse Effect	Streamlined R	eview		
Recommendations	for conditions or st	ipulations:			

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

[ X ] Archeologist Name: Wesley Wills Date: 08/15/2019

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ]
Assessment of Effect:No Potential to Cause EffectNo Historic Properties AffectedNo
Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:
Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process
[ X ] Historian
Name: Scott Carpenter
Date: 08/15/2019
<b>Comments:</b> No historical architect review required.
Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ]         Assessment of Effect:No Potential to Cause EffectNo Historic Properties AffectedNo         Adverse EffectAdverse EffectStreamlined Review         Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: For 106 purposes, we are proposing to assume the trail is eligible based on its likely construction in the 1920s following completion of the O'Shaughnessy dam.
Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process
[X] Historical Landscape Architect Name: Kimball Koch Date: 08/15/2019
Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ]         Assessment of Effect:       No Potential to Cause Effect       No Historic Properties Affected       X       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:

# [X] 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 18, 2019 SHPO Received: Oct 24, 2019

**THPO Required:** Yes **THPO Sent:** Aug 15, 2019 **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** - For the proposed project actions to be within compliance requirements during construction and/or project implementation, the following mitigations must be adhered to:

- Design and construct the new bridge sections to match the existing footbridges (wooden rough beam construction materials, railings, width, and rustic character).
- The only ground disturbing activities authorized for this project are construction of a 10-foot realignment of the existing trail to connect with the new bridge alignment and restoration of the old approach trail. Ground disturbance for these purposes will not exceed 12 vertical inches. New bridge footings will be mounted on large boulders/bedrock, requiring no ground disturbance. Any additional ground disturbing activities (signs, anchors, post holes, etc.) would require further review and approval from the park Environmental Planning and Compliance Office.

• If previously unknown cultural resources are encountered, the project manager shall temporarily suspend work in the immediate area and contact the Cultural Resource Program Manager who will evaluate and determine appropriate action to protect resources, which could include consultation with appropriate parties (e.g., tribes, SHPO). Although not expected, should previously unknown American Indian burial sites be discovered, the Cultural Resource Program Manager will provide direction to follow provisions Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act requirements.

#### 6. Assessment of Effect Notes:

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

NHPA Specialist	/s/ Kimball Koch	Date:	11/4/2019
	Kimball Koch		

#### 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:	/s/ Teri Austin (Acting Superintendent for	Date:	11/18/2019
	Michael T. Reynolds)		
	Michael T. Reynolds		
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The signed original of this document is on file at the Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in Yosemite National Park.



Yosemite National Park Date: Nov 1, 2019

# **Other Compliance/Consultations Form**

Park Name: Yosemite National Park
PEPC Project Number: 87715
Project Title: Improving Safety at Wapama Falls Footbridge
Project Type: Reconstruction (REC)
Project Location:

County, State: Mariposa, California
District, Section: Mather, Hetch Hetchy

Project Leader: Ansley Singer, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

ESA

Any Federal Species in the project Area? No		
If species in area: No Effect		
Was Biological Assessment prepared?		
If Biological Assessment prepared, concurred?		
Formal Consultation required? No		
Formal Consultation Notes:		
Formal Consultation Concluded:		
Any State listed Species in the Project Area?		
Consultation Information:		
General Notes:		
Data Entered By: Ninette Daniele	Date:	Nov 1, 2019
	•	

## **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?		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?	Yes		<b>Request Date:</b> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers notified per email on 10/21/19 that the project would be implemented under non-reporting Nationwide Permit 14. <b>Issue Date:</b> NA <b>Expiration:</b> NA

C. State 401 certification?	No	,
D. State Section 401 Permit?	No	Issue Date: NA Expiration Date: NA
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	Permit Information:
Other Information:		State 401 permit is not required, as the proposed pillar to be installed islocated above the ordinary high water mark (per Debra Mahnke.Central Valley Water Regional Water Quality Control Board).
<b>Data Entered By:</b> N	linette Dan	iele <b>Date:</b> Nov 1, 2019

#### **FloodPlains & Wetlands Mitigations**

- Work crews will follow BMPs to avoid fuel and oil spills and will carry containment materials at all times for all mechanized equipment. Equipment fuel staging areas will be designated in work plans. 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.
- The project is being implemented under non-reporting Nationwide Permit (NWP 14 Linear Transportation Projects) pursuant to the Clean Water Act. All provisions outlined in 2017 Nationwide Permit General Conditions, as well as the Final Sacramento District Nationwide (NWP) Regional Conditions for California excluding the Lake Tahoe Basin (effective from March 19, 2017 to March 18, 2022), apply to this project. It is the project manager's responsibility to ensure conditions outlined in each are met and adhered to (please see annotated conditions attached in PEPC).

#### Wilderness

Question	Yes	No	
A. Does this project occur in or adjacent to Designated, Recommended, Proposed, Study, Eligible, or Potential Wilderness?	Yes		
B. Is the only place to conduct this project in wilderness?	Yes		
C. Is the project necessary for the administration of the area as wilderness?	Yes		
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)	Yes		
E. Does the project or any of its alternatives involve the use of any of the Wilderness Act Section 4(c) prohibited uses: commercial	Yes		

enterprise, permanent road, temporary road, motor vehicles, motorized equipment, motorboats, landing of aircraft, mechanical transport, structure, or installation? (If Yes, Minimum Requirements Analysis required)		
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.		Initiation Date:Completed Date:Sep 20, 2019Approved Date:Sep 20, 2019
Other Information: Minimum Requirements Analysis attached.		
Data Entered By:         Ninette Daniele	Date:	Nov 1, 2019

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

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

# **Other Information:**

The project entails replacing bridge components spanning a tributary of the Tuolumne River, however this area is an excluded section that does not meet Wild and Scenic River criteria due to being an impoundment (Hetch Hetchy reservoir).

Data Entered By:Ninette DanieleDate:Nov 1, 2019
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