



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.

## Categorical Exclusion Form

**Project:** 2018-032 Ferguson Fire Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Plan  
**PEPC Project Number:** 82906

### Project Description

The Ferguson Fire BAER plan prescribes emergency treatments to minimize post-fire threats to life or property and to stabilize/ prevent further unacceptable degradation to natural/cultural resources within the fire perimeter in Yosemite. Treatments include:

**Culvert Installations** - Crews will install ten culverts on the Wawona Road. Two culverts will be new installations where no culverts are present. Six culverts will be new culverts installed parallel to existing culverts. Two existing 18" culverts will be replaced with two 36" culverts. Crews will install five new culverts on the Glacier Point Road directly parallel and adjacent to existing culverts. Stone masonry headwalls and outlets will match existing headwalls and outlets with riprap energy dissipaters to match existing conditions. Two stone headwalls will be reconstructed, as the headwalls are currently buried and are anticipated to have been damaged during the fire. If further assessment determines they are not damaged, then they will be cleaned out and not replaced. Some locations may need a downward flume added in the same area as the existing culvert pipe due to the steep slopes at the outlets.

**Stabilization of Fill Slope** - Crews will stabilize three fill slopes along the Wawona Road. These slopes are very unstable and the fill drops off just beyond the pavement.

**Pavement and Curb Repairs** - Crews will repair damaged curb and asphalt in 25 locations. Work includes removing various damaged sections of pavement and concrete curb and replacing it with the same material at the same location. Work also includes adding 500-linear feet of asphalt curb along the Wawona Rd. burn area, north of Chinquapin, to help improve the ditch capacity and help keep ditches cleaner. In addition, the large turnout in the Wawona Rd. burn area north of Chinquapin will be paved to help protect the fill slope and contain the water once it plugs the culverts and crosses the road. Works also includes asphalt and curb repairs in the burn areas along El Portal Road, Glacier Point Road, and Wawona Road (both north and south of Chinquapin).

**Rock Scaling** - 10 Locations along Wawona Road (North of Chinquapin and Glacier Point Road and Near El Portal View): Work is anticipated to be minimal at each location.

**Sparling Ranch Treatments** - 1) Remove hazard trees. 2) Install silt fences to divert sheet flow and settle sediment. 3) Install barriers at the base of historic buildings.

**Sign Installation** - 1) Install a warning sign at the Merced Grove Trail/Road indicating post-fire hazards (e.g., hazard trees). 2) Install a closure sign regarding a hard closure of Alder Creek Trailhead through April 2019. Sign will warn of post-fire hazards, such as downed or hazard trees, and washed out and overgrown trail. 3) Place

seven warning signs on roadsides where roads enter the burn area (from both directions), warning of post-fire hazards along the following roadways:

- Highway 140/El Portal Road - at Parkline and approaching the burn area from Yosemite Valley
- Highway 41/Wawona Road - approaching from Tunnel View and approaching from Wawona
- Highway 120/Big Oak Flat Road between the Big Oak Flat park entrance and the burn area and between the burn area and Tamarack Creek/The Cascades
- Glacier Point Road, approaching the burn area from Badger Pass.

The BAER Plan also includes other recommendations covered by existing programmatic CE compliance or not requiring any compliance documentation. Such routine activities include activities covered by the park's trail maintenance programmatic CE and activities covered by the park's forestry programmatic CE (e.g., hazard tree falling and/or removal). Treatment activities also include those covered by the park's Invasive Plant Management Plan.

**Project Location:** Mariposa County

**Mitigation(s)**

- Post-fire cultural resource assessment activities will include a complete archeological survey and recordation of the Sparling Ranch buildings and apple orchard as part of the post-fire cultural resource assessment.
- Follow mitigations as specified in Clean Water Act Section 401 and 404 permits.

**CE Citation:** G.1 Post-fire rehabilitation activities not to exceed 4,200 acres (such as tree planting, fence replacement, habitat restoration, heritage site restoration, road and trail repairs, and repair of damage to minor facilities such as campgrounds) to repair or improve lands unlikely to recover a management-approved condition from wildland fire damage, or to repair or replace minor facilities damaged by fire. Such activities must comply with the following:

- Shall be conducted consistent with bureau and departmental procedures and applicable land and resource management plans,
- Shall not include the use of herbicides or pesticides or the construction of new permanent roads or other new permanent infrastructure; and
- Shall be completed within three years following a wildland fire.

**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:** Michael T. Reynolds **Date:** 11/8/2018  
Michael T. Reynolds

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

**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?		
<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 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

<b>Project Title:</b>	Ferguson Fire Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Plan
<b>PEPC Project Number:</b>	82906
<b>Project Type:</b>	Fire Management Plan (FMP)
<b>Project Location:</b>	
<b>County, State:</b>	Mariposa, California
<b>Project Leader:</b>	Joe Meyer

### B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

See Categorical Exclusion Form

### C. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

Resource	Potential Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
<b>Air</b> Air Quality	None	
<b>Biological</b> Nonnative or Exotic Species	None	
<b>Biological</b> Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat	None	
<b>Biological</b> Vegetation	None	
<b>Biological</b> Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species	None	
<b>Cultural</b> Archeological Resources	Potential	Issue: No archeological sites are identified within the areas of proposed culvert installation and road repairs. A single, previously undocumented, prehistoric/protohistoric period lithic scatter was found immediately adjacent to the Sparling ranch buildings and apple orchard. Post-fire cultural resource

		assessment activities will include a complete archeological survey of the area and recordation of the site.
<b>Cultural</b> Cultural Landscapes	None	
<b>Cultural</b> Ethnographic Resources	None	The tribes were consulted during the fire and they will receive a copy of the final BAER plan.
<b>Cultural</b> Museum Collections	None	
<b>Cultural</b> Prehistoric/historic structures	None	Glacier Point Road is an eligible historic property. The park is treating Wawona Road as eligible. See assessment of effect form for more details.
<b>Geological</b> Geologic Features	None	
<b>Geological</b> Geologic Processes	None	
<b>Lightscares</b> Lightscares	None	
<b>Other</b> Human Health and Safety	None	BAER actions (e.g. signs) will notify the public of post-fire hazards. Culverts will help protect the road from runoff-related road failure.
<b>Other</b> Operational	None	
<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	None	
<b>Viewsheds</b> Viewsheds	None	
<b>Visitor Use and Experience</b> Recreation Resources	None	
<b>Visitor Use and Experience</b>	None	

Visitor Use and Experience		
<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	None	Other Waters of the U.S. present- Clean Water Act permits necessary.
<b>Water</b> Wild and Scenic River	None	
<b>Wilderness</b> Wilderness	None	
<b>Wilderness</b> Wilderness	None	