



IN REPLY REFER TO:
L7615(YOSE-PM)

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yosemite National Park
P. O. Box 577
Yosemite, California 95389

Memorandum

To: Mike Wichmann

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and Section 106 Clearance: 2008-068 Rehabilitate Curry Village Registration Building, Guest Lounge and Amphitheater (22096)

The Management Team has reviewed the proposed project and completed its environmental assessment documentation, and we have determined that there:

- Will not be any effect on threatened, endangered, or rare species and/or their critical habitat.
- Will not be any effect on historical, cultural, or archeological resources.
- Will not be serious or long-term undesirable environmental or visual effects.

The subject proposed project, therefore, is now cleared for all NEPA and Section 106 compliance requirements as presented above. Project plans and specifications are approved and construction and/or project implementation can commence.

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

- See attached Mitigation Implementation Guide.

//R. Kevin Cann// acting
Michael J. Tollefson

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

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File



National Park Service

Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: 2008-068 Rehabilitate Curry Village Registration Building, Guest Lounge and Amphitheater

PIN: 22096

Date: July 2, 2008

Project Description: This project includes the rehabilitation of the Curry Village registration, lounge and amphitheater structures. The lounge project includes the complete rehabilitation of the building's architectural, structural, mechanical, and electrical systems. Included in the project are repairs and improvements to the outdoor amphitheater on the south end of the lounge building. The registration building project includes the complete rehabilitation of the building's architectural, structural, mechanical, and electrical systems. All rehabilitation work shall be constructed in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The Curry Village and East Yosemite Valley Campground Environmental Assessment addresses health and safety, visitor experience, and resource protection issues associated with the poor condition of the lounge, registration, and amphitheater buildings. The project will correct the structural deficiencies of these buildings by rehabilitating building foundations and roof trusses to meet current loads. The project will provide an adequate HVAC system, electrical wiring that meets the current National Electric Code, and a fire alarm and suppression system for each building. The building's exteriors will be restored, including siding, windows, doors and all building trim to a level where cyclic maintenance can be performed without significant restoration. Federal accessibility standards will be incorporated into the project. The follow-up actions to ensure that implementation of the project adequately address NHPA requirements include: Contract, design, and construction documents must be reviewed and approved by the park historic architect. The park historic architect must be invited for field inspections during construction to verify the approved designs and materials are achieved. The park historic architect and the historic preservation officer (HPO) will attend close-out walk-throughs. Business and Revenue Management will provide the park HPO with copies of the close-out documents or completion report, as appropriate for the project files and archives. Follow-up correspondence with SHPO to include design plans and construction schedule. Coordinate archeological monitoring during ground disturbance as determined in consultation with park archeologist. A temporary facility for the registration activity will be required during the reconstruction of this project. A 24' x 40' trailer with an accessibility ramp will be located in the existing Curry Village registration parking lot. Temporary utilities will consist of overhead power and data lines originating from the existing registration building. Water or sewer will not be provided to the temporary trailer. There will be no ground disturbance requiring archeological monitoring. The location of the temporary trailer was determined in consultation with the park historical architect to minimize impact to the cultural landscape. The temporary trailer will be painted Wosky Brown. Construction equipment and materials will be cleaned and inspected to ensure that it arrives on site free of mud and seed-bearing material. 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, Section 1355 Landscaping plans shall be approved by the park Vegetation and Restoration Branch

Project Location:
Mariposa County, CA

Mitigations:

- See attached Mitigation Implementation Guide.

Describe the category used to exclude action from further NEPA analysis and indicate the number of the category (see Section 3-4 of DO-12):

C.11. Installation of wells, comfort stations, and pit or vault toilets in areas of existing use and in developed areas.

On the basis of the environmental impact information in the statutory compliance file, with which I am familiar, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No exceptional circumstances (e.g. all boxes in the ESF are marked "no") or conditions in Section 3-6 apply, and the action is fully described in Section 3-4 of DO-12.

//R. Kevin Cann// acting
Park Superintendent

07/03/2008

Date

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the Environmental Planning and Compliance
Office in Yosemite National Park.*



National Park Service

ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF) DO-12 APPENDIX 1

Updated May 2007 - per 2004 DM revisions and proposed DO-12 changes

Today's Date: **June 27, 2008**

Date Form Initiated: **06/27/2008**

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: **Yosemite NP**

Project Title: **2008-068 Rehabilitate Curry Village Registration Building, Guest Lounge and Amphitheater**

PEPC Project Number: **22096**

Project Type: **Facility Rehabilitation (FR)**

Project Location: County, State: **Mariposa, California**

Project Leader: **Mike Wichmann**

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project includes the rehabilitation of the Curry Village registration, lounge and amphitheater structures. The lounge project includes the complete rehabilitation of the building's architectural, structural, mechanical, and electrical systems. Included in the project are repairs and improvements to the outdoor amphitheater on the south end of the lounge building. The registration building project includes the complete rehabilitation of the building's architectural, structural, mechanical, and electrical systems. All rehabilitation work shall be constructed in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The Curry Village and East Yosemite Valley Campground Environmental Assessment addresses health and safety, visitor experience, and resource protection issues associated with the poor condition of the lounge, registration, and amphitheater buildings. The project will correct the structural deficiencies of these buildings by rehabilitating building foundations and roof trusses to meet current loads. The project will provide an adequate HVAC system, electrical wiring that meets the current National Electric Code, and a fire alarm and suppression system for each building. The building's exteriors will be restored, including siding, windows, doors and all building trim to a level where cyclic maintenance can be performed without significant restoration. Federal accessibility standards will be incorporated into the project. The follow-up actions to ensure that implementation of the project adequately address NHPA requirements include: Contract, design, and construction documents must be reviewed and approved by the park historic architect. The park historic architect must be invited for field inspections during construction to verify the approved designs and materials are achieved. The park historic architect and the historic preservation officer (HPO) will attend close-out walk-throughs. Business and Revenue Management will provide the park HPO with copies of the close-out documents or completion report, as appropriate for the project files and archives. Follow-up correspondence with SHPO to include design plans and construction schedule. Coordinate archeological monitoring during ground

disturbance as determined in consultation with park archeologist. A temporary facility for the registration activity will be required during the reconstruction of this project. A 24' x 40' trailer with an accessibility ramp will be located in the existing Curry Village registration parking lot. Temporary utilities will consist of overhead power and data lines originating from the existing registration building. Water or sewer will not be provided to the temporary trailer. There will be no ground disturbance requiring archeological monitoring. The location of the temporary trailer was determined in consultation with the park historical architect to minimize impact to the cultural landscape. The temporary trailer will be painted Wosky Brown. Construction equipment and materials will be cleaned and inspected to ensure that it arrives on site free of mud and seed-bearing material. 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, Section 1355 Landscaping plans shall be approved by the park Vegetation and Restoration Branch

Preliminary drawings attached? **Yes**

Is project a hot topic (controversial or sensitive issues that should be brought to attention of Regional Director)? **No**

C. RESOURCE EFFECTS TO CONSIDER:

Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Geologic resources – soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc.		X			Archeological monitoring will occur throughout the project.
2. From geohazards	X				
3. Air quality		X			Temporary air emissions during the rehabilitation.
4. Soundscapes		X			Temporary noises associated with the construction project.
5. Water quality or quantity	X				
6. Streamflow characteristics	X				
7. Marine or estuarine resources	X				
8. Floodplains or wetlands	X				
9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use	X				
10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine	X				
11. Species of special concern (plant or animal;	X				

state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat					
12. Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites		X			Yosemite National Park is a World Heritage site; no historic properties would be adversely affected by implementing this project.
13. Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat	X				
14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat	X				
15. Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)	X				This project will adhere to Division 1 specifications, see description.
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	X				
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources		X			The majority of this project will occur during low visitation times and the construction zone will be properly fenced.
18. Archeological resources	X				Yosemite Valley Archeological District; archeological monitoring will occur throughout the project.
19. Prehistoric/historic structure		X			Curry Village Historic District; this project satisfies the Section 106 review of the National Historic Preservation Act.
20. Cultural landscapes	X				
21. Ethnographic resources	X				
22. Museum collections (objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections)	X				
23. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	X				
24. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size,	X				

migration patterns, etc.					
25. Energy resources	X				
26. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	X				
27. Resource, including energy, conservation potential, sustainability	X				
28. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	X				
29. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	X				The rehabilitation of these buildings addresses and meets the park's long-term management of resources.
30. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	X				

Comments:

D. MANDATORY CRITERIA

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?		X		
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?		X		Mitigated; the assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect."
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?		X		
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		X		

E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		X		
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		X		
G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?		X		Mitigated; all rehabilitation work shall be constructed in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.
H. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		X		
I. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		X		
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		X		
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		X		
L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		X		

For the purpose of interpreting these procedures within the NPS, any action that has the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values would constitute an action that triggers the DOI exception for actions that threaten to violate a federal law for protection of the environment.

E. OTHER INFORMATION

Are personnel preparing this form familiar with the site? **Yes**

Did personnel conduct a site visit? **No**

Is the project in an approved plan such as a General Management Plan or an Implementation Plan with an accompanying NEPA document? **Yes**

If so, plan name:

Curry Village and East Valley Campground Environmental Assessment

Is the project still consistent with the approved plan? **Yes**

Is the environmental document accurate and up-to-date? **Yes**

FONSI Date approved: **02/01/2004**

Are there any interested or affected agencies or parties? **No**

Has consultation with all affected agencies or tribes been completed? **Yes**

Are there any connected, cumulative, or similar actions as part of the proposed action? (e.g., other development projects in area or identified in GMP, adequate/available utilities to accomplish project)? **No**

F. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES

<u>Interdisciplinary Team</u>	<u>Field of Expertise</u>
Michael Tollefson	Superintendent
Kevin Cann	Deputy Superintendent
Linda Dahl	Chief of Planning
Bill Delaney	Chief of Project Management
Larry Harris	Chief of Administration Management
Dennis Mattiuzzi	Chief of Maintenance
Niki Nicholas	Chief of Resources Management & Science
Marty Nielson	Chief of Business and Revenue Management
Chris Stein	Chief of Interpretation and Education
Steve Shackelton	Chief Ranger
Mike Wichmann	Project Leader
Mark Butler	Environmental Planning and Compliance
	Program Manager
Jeannette Simons	NHPA Specialist
Renea Kennec	NEPA Specialist

G. SUPERVISORY SIGNATORY

Based on the environmental impact information contained in the statutory compliance file and in this environmental screening form, environmental documentation for this stage of the subject project is complete.

Recommended:

Compliance Specialist	Date
<u>//Renea Kennec//</u> Compliance Specialist – Renea Kennec	<u>07/02/2008</u>
<u>//Mark A. Butler//</u> Compliance Program Manager – Mark Butler	<u>07/02/2008</u>
<u>//Bill Delaney//</u> Chief, Project Management – Bill Delaney	<u>07/02/2008</u>

Approved:

Superintendent	Date
<u>//R. Kevin Cann// acting</u> Michael Tollefson	<u>07/03/2008</u>

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



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6



Photo 7



Photo 8

PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: **June 27, 2008**

PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite NP

Project Number: 22096

Project Type: Facility Rehabilitation (FR)

Project Location: County, State: Mariposa, California

Project Leader: Mike Wichmann

Project Title: 2008-068 Rehabilitate Curry Village Registration Building, Guest Lounge and Amphitheater

PARK ESF ADDENDUM QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1.SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST				
2. Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		X		
3. Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		X		
4. Park rare plants or vegetation?		X		
5. Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		X		
6.NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST				
7. Entail ground disturbance?	X			The rehabilitation has a project specific archeological monitoring plan component that will be adhered to throughout the project.
8. Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?	X			Yosemite Valley Archeological District.
9. Entail alteration of a historic structure or cultural landscape?	X			All rehabilitation work shall be constructed in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.
10. Has a National Register form been completed?		X		
11. Are there any structures on the park's List of Classified Structures in the area of potential effect?	X			
12.WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST				
13. Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor?	X			Merced River

14. Fall within the bed and banks AND will effect the free-flow of the river?		X		
15. Have the possibility of affecting water quality of the area?			X	
16. Remain consistent with its river segment classification?			X	
17. Protect and enhance river ORVs?			X	
18. Fall within the River Protection Overlay?			X	
19. If Yes, remain consistent with conditions of the River Protection Overlay?			X	
20. Remain consistent with the areas Management Zoning?			X	
21. Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		X		
22. Will the project encroach or intrude upon the Wild and Scenic River corridor?			X	
23. Will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?		X		
100. WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST				
101. Within designated Wilderness?		X		
102. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		X		