



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: Jim Donovan, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2021-140 Install Four Regulatory Control Signs in Yosemite Falls Bus Parking Area (101833)

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:

- If a significant discovery occurs during monitoring or as part of an inadvertent finding, work at or adjacent to the discovery shall cease and the NPS shall be immediately notified by calling the YNP Branch of Anthropology (Dawn Bringelson, 209-379-1060). The area of the work stoppage should be adequate to provide for the security, protection, and integrity of the discovery. Protection measures include: 1. Halting work within 10 meters of the finding. 2. Notify the site or area crew lead.
- A tribal monitor is required during all ground disturbing activities associated with this project.
- Only project actions described in PEPC 101833 are approved for implementation. Modification to plans or additional actions require additional review and approval from the Yosemite National Park Environmental Planning and Compliance Office.
- Compliance with food-storage and garbage disposal requirements must be achieved at all times.
- Project manager shall consult with facilities (Russ Kish, 209-379-1119) prior to installation of signs to ensure the signs will not impact access to the dumpsters.

Superintendent Signature:

Cicely Muldoon

Date:

August 17, 2021

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



Categorical Exclusion Documentation Form (CE Form)

Project: Install Four Regulatory Control Signs in Yosemite Falls Bus Parking Area

PEPC Project Number: 101833

Description of Action (Project Description):

Install four regulatory signs in the Yosemite Falls bus parking area to reserve existing oversize vehicle parking spaces for buses that are greater than 30 feet in length. These signs will provide messages such as "Buses Only," "No Parking Behind This Sign," and "Do Not Enter." The bus parking area is not presently marked with traffic control or parking management messages, and is being used by daily visitor vehicles, leaving no parking spaces for public transportation or authorized commercial tour buses.

Mitigation(s):

See Letter of Compliance Completion Form for mitigations.

CE Citation: C.5 Installation of signs, displays, kiosks, etc.

CE Justification: The project involves installing signs in a previously disturbed area.

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 Signature: _____ **Cicely Muldoon** **Date:** _____ **August 17, 2021**

Extraordinary Circumstances:

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Notes
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	None
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	None
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	None
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	None
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	None
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?	No	None
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?	No	None
I. Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	None
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	None
K. 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	None
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)?	No	None



ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

Updated Sept 2015 per NPS NEPA Handbook

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Install Four Regulatory Control Signs in Yosemite Falls Bus Parking Area

PEPC Project Number: 101833

Project Type: Regulation (REG)

Project Location:

County, State: Mariposa, California

Project Leader: Jim Donovan

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

See Categorical Exclusion form.

C. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Air Air Quality	None	None
Biological Nonnative or Exotic Species	None	None
Biological Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat	None	None
Biological Vegetation	None	None
Biological Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species	None	None
Cultural Archeological Resources	None	None

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Cultural Cultural Landscapes	Potential	Issue: The project will occur within the Yosemite Valley Historic District. Impact: The signs will have a minimal impact to the Yosemite Valley Historic District and will largely be out of sight to tourists.
Cultural Ethnographic Resources	None	Issue: This area is sacred to many tribes in central California. Impact: A tribal monitor will be present during all ground disturbing activities. Mitigation measures are in place in the situation that unanticipated cultural resources are discovered.
Cultural Museum Collections	None	None
Cultural Prehistoric/historic structures	None	None
Geological Geologic Features	None	None
Geological Geologic Processes	None	None
Lightscares	None	None
Other Human Health and Safety	Potential	Issue: Construction crew will be handling tools and installing signs, which can have potential safety issues. Impact: Construction crew will follow all OSHA standards and implement safe working practices.
Other Operational	Potential	Issue: The new signs will discourage visitors from parking in designated bus parking areas. Impact: This will increase efficiency because fewer visitors will park in designated bus parking areas.
Other	None	None
Socioeconomic Land Use	None	None
Socioeconomic Minority and low-income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	None
Socioeconomic	None	None

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Soundscapes	Potential	Issue: There may be minor auditory impacts during sign installation. Impact: The signs will be installed during regular business hours and the impacts will be temporary.
Viewsheds	Potential	Issue: The signs will be installed inside the Yosemite Valley Historic District. Impact: There may be minor visual impacts to the historic district.
Visitor Use and Experience Recreation Resources	None	None
Visitor Use and Experience Visitor Use and Experience	Potential	Issue: Visitors will have a clearer delineation of areas in which they should not park. Impact: This will increase efficiency and there will be fewer incidents of inappropriate parking. Visitor parking will not be decreased.
Water Floodplains	None	None
Water Marine or Estuarine Resources	None	None
Water Water Quality or Quantity	None	None
Water Wetlands	None	None
Water Wild and Scenic River	None	Issue: The project is within the Merced Wild and Scenic River corridor Impact: This project is within the Merced Wild and Scenic River boundary, but it would not affect outstandingly remarkable values, water quality, free-flowing condition of the river, or user capacity contrary to the management targets established in the 2014 Merced River Plan.
Wilderness	None	



ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. **Park:** Yosemite National Park

2. **Project Description:**

Project Name: Install Four Regulatory Control Signs in Yosemite Falls Bus Parking Area

Prepared by: Erin Davenport **Date Prepared:** 05/27/2021 **Telephone:** (209) 379-1067

PEPC Project Number: 101833

Locations:

County, State: Mariposa, CA

Describe project:

See Categorical Exclusion form.

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

The area of potential effects is limited to the parking area west of Yosemite Lodge which was constructed in 2017. The APE is bounded to the north by Northside Drive, to the east by the entrance driveway (Yosemite Lodge Road/Meadow Lane) and the bike path bordering the eastern side of the bus parking area, to the south and west by the forested edge surrounding the bus parking area. The subsurface APE is anticipated to be 3 feet below grade, and the above-ground APE is the 11-foot-tall signs.

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

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

Archeological Resources Present: Yes

Archeological Resources Notes: The work will occur within the Yosemite Valley Archeological District and has been assessed through multiple archeological survey and monitoring projects in 1974, 1988, 1992, 2016, and 2020. The area is extensively disturbed by construction of parking lots, roads, utilities, and existing signs and no archeological sites have been identified. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] No additional archeological work is recommended.

Historical Structures/Resources Present: Yes

Property Name: Yosemite Valley Historic District

NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

Cultural Landscapes Present: Yes

Property Name: Yosemite Valley Historic District

NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

Property Name: Yosemite Valley Archeological District
NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

Ethnographic Resources Present: No

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

Yes/No	The proposed action will...
No	Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure
No	Replace historic features/elements in kind
No	Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure
No	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)
No	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: Hope Schear

Date: 07/23/2021

Comments: Compliance reviews complete under YOSE PA streamlined review category 9b.

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: Please see specialists recommendations.

Doc Method: Park Specific or Other Programmatic Agreement

[X] Anthropologist

Name: Liz Williams

Date: 07/23/2021

Comments: After 30 day review of TSS, received one comment from Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians

who request a tribal monitor present during all ground disturbing activities because of proximity to known archeological sites.

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: Sent information about hiring tribal monitor to Jim Donovan, Project Manager who agreed to hire tribal monitor. Tribal Monitor Required.

Doc Method: Park Specific or Other Programmatic Agreement

[X] **Archeologist**

Name: Wesley Wills

Date: 06/08/2021

Comments: The work will occur within the Yosemite Valley Archeological District and has been assessed through multiple archeological survey and monitoring projects in 1974, 1988, 1992, 2016, and 2020. The area is extensively disturbed by construction of parking lots, roads, utilities, and existing signs and no archeological sites have been identified. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. No additional archeological work is recommended.

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: Park Specific or Other Programmatic Agreement

[X] **Historical Landscape Architect**

Name: Vida Germano

Date: 06/15/2021

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: Park Specific or Other Programmatic Agreement

No Reviews From: Curator, Historical Architect, Historian, Other Advisor

C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Assessment of Effect:

Select with X	Assessment Effect
n/a	No Potential to Cause Effects
n/a	No Historic Properties Affected
X	No Adverse Effect
n/a	Adverse Effect

2. Documentation Method:

☐ A. Standard 36 CFR Part 800 Consultation

Further consultation under 36 CFR Part 800 is needed.

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

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

Applicable Streamlined Review Criteria

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

☒ C. Undertaking Related to Park Specific or Another Agreement

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under another document such as a park, region or statewide agreement established in accord with 36 CFR 800.7 or 36 CFR 800.14.

☐ D. Combined NEPA/NHPA Process

Process and documentation required for the preparation of an EA/FONSI or an EIS/ROD to comply with Section 106 is in accord with 36 CFR 800.8.c.

☐ E. Memo to Project File

3. Consultation Information

SHPO Required: No

SHPO Sent:

SHPO Received:

THPO Required: Yes

THPO Sent: June 28, 2021

THPO Received: July 1, 2021

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:

- If a significant discovery occurs during monitoring or as part of an inadvertent finding, work at or adjacent to the discovery shall cease and the NPS shall be immediately notified by calling the YNP Branch of Anthropology (Dawn Bringelson, 209-379-1060). The area of the work stoppage should be adequate to

provide for the security, protection, and integrity of the discovery. Protection measures include: 1. Halting work within 10 meters of the finding. 2. Notify the site or area crew lead.

- A tribal monitor is required during all ground disturbing activities associated with this project.

6. Assessment of Effect Notes:

Yosemite Parkwide Programmatic Agreement:

9.b) New signs that meet NPS standards, e.g. at entrance to the park or related to the park's interpretive mission, provided the sign is not physically attached to a historic building, structure, or object (including trees) provided the sign is to be located outside of documented archeological site boundaries and historic properties of religious and cultural significance, or within archeological site boundaries in previously disturbed areas or areas inventoried and found to contain no eligible archeological resources, and provided that the actions are completed in a manner that does not adversely affect historic properties directly, indirectly, or cumulatively.

D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:

Section 106 Coordinator Signature: Erin Davenport for Hope Schear **Date:** August 17, 2021

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 Signature: Cicely Muldoon **Date:** August 17, 2021



Other Compliance/Consultations Form

Park Name: Yosemite National Park

PEPC Project Number: 101833

Project Title: Install Four Regulatory Control Signs in Yosemite Falls Bus Parking Area

Project Type: Regulation

Project Location:

County, State: Mariposa, CA

Project Leader: Jim Donovan

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? No
Consultation Information:
General Notes:

Data Entered By: Heather Mackey **Date:** Jun 1, 2021

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?	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	None
D. State Section 401 Permit?	No	Issue Date: Expiration Date:
E. Tribal Water Quality Permit?	No	None

Question	Yes/No	Details
F. CZM Consistency determination needed?	No	Date Review Requested: Date Reply Received: Date State Concurred:
G. Erosion & Sediment Control Plan Required?	No	None
H. Any other permits required?	No	Permit Information:
Other Information:	No	None

Data Entered By: Erin Davenport Date: May 27, 2021

Floodplains & Wetlands Mitigations

No Floodplains & Wetlands mitigations are associated with this project.

Wilderness

Question	Yes/No	Notes
A. Does this project occur in or adjacent to Designated, Recommended, Proposed, Study, Eligible, or Potential Wilderness?	No	None
B. Is the only place to conduct this project in wilderness?	No	None
C. Is the project necessary for the administration of the area as wilderness?	No	None
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	None
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	None
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.	N/A	Initiation Date: Completed Date: Approved Date:
Other Information:	No	None

Data Entered By: Erin Davenport Date: May 27, 2021

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

Question	Yes/No
C. Wild and scenic river concerns exist?	No

Question	Yes/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:

This project is within the Merced Wild and Scenic River boundary, but it would not affect outstandingly remarkable values, water quality, free-flowing condition of the river, or user capacity contrary to the management targets established in the 2014 Merced River Plan.

Data Entered By: Erin Davenport **Date:** May 27, 2021