

Yosemite National Park Date: 05/23/2022

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: Stephen Mitchell, Project Manager, NPS Environmental Compliance and Cleanup Division

From: Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2022-022 Curry Former Waste Disposal Area CERCLA Response (PEPC: 89154)

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:

## <u>General</u>

- Project personnel will coordinate with Park Resources and Operational staff well ahead of project implementation to ensure that the project is planned and timed in such a way as to minimize operational impacts.
- If staging of equipment and fill does not occur on site, the Upper River campground is the recommended staging area (currently used for other staging uses).
- Work should occur outside of the peak wilderness use season (end of May through mid-October). Project staff will coordinate and communicate with the park's Wilderness Manager (Jeff Webb, Jeff\_Webb@nps.gov) well in advance of the parking lot closure dates to ensure that wilderness users may be notified in advance of the closure and accommodate alternate parking arrangements.
- Work with the park's transportation planner (Jim Donovan, jim\_donovan@nps.gov) to assist with and approve parking area design in alignment with the Merced River Plan.

- The project manager shall ensure that project personnel (managers, supervisors, and staff) attend a resources protection briefing prior to working on site to become familiar with statutory and contractual environmental requirements and protection measures for archeological sites, sensitive habitats, water resources, and wildlife. Required topics include proper storage and disposal of food and trash, safe behavior around wildlife, protection of cultural resources, avoidance of introduction of exotic plants, and specific protections for any threatened and endangered or sensitive species found on or around the project site. Contractors will watch the "Working in Yosemite" video prior to starting work (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CuRn-tZ8SL4&feature=youtu.be.
- During excavation and soil loading activities, a water mister/sprayer will be used to suppress dust. Cessation of work may be necessary during excessively windy conditions.

## <u>Safety</u>

- Prior to mobilization, send Health & Safety Plan (HASP) and Accident Prevention Plans (APP) to the Yosemite Safety Team for acceptance.
- Excavated soil will be segregated and managed as non-hazardous, non-RCRA hazardous, or RCRA hazardous waste. Non-hazardous soils will be transported to an approved Class 3 landfill for disposal or use as daily cover. Non-RCRA and RCRA hazardous soils will be transported to a licensed and properly permitted Class 1 disposal facility or an out-of-state facility permitted to accept hazardous waste.

#### **Vegetation**

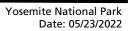
- At least a dozen black oaks have been identified within or adjacent to the work area. Please work with the Vegetation and Ecological Restoration (VER) branch to avoid disturbing these special status species during clearing and grubbing, remediation, and drainage swale construction activities.
- For tree or vegetation removal work, consult with Vegetation and Ecological Restoration Branch Chief (Athena Demetry, Athena\_Demetry@nps.gov) to avoid impacts to special status species and potentially salvage and replant vegetation before and after the project.
- All fill materials must be approved by park staff. Fill materials from within the park will be used to the extent possible. Any sources of imported backfill materials must be clean and free of seeds and must be approved by the park at least 14 days in advance. Please coordinate with VER Division Chief Athena Demetry (Athena\_Demetry@nps.gov) for fill sourcing and inspection.
- Measures shall be taken to prevent the introduction of exotic species in the project area and staging areas. All earth moving equipment must enter the Park free of dirt, dust, mud, seeds, or other potential contaminant. Examples of equipment that require inspection are excavators, skid steers, or boring equipment. Passenger vehicles do not need inspection but should be clean prior to entry in the park. Equipment exhibiting any dirt or other material attached to frame, tires, wheels, or other parts shall be thoroughly cleaned by the Contractor before entering the Park. Areas inspected shall include, but not be limited to, tracks, track guard/housings, belly pans/under covers, buckets, rippers, and other attachments. Equipment that does not pass inspection will be turned around to the nearest cleaning facility outside the park. The Contractor shall notify the Construction manager at least two work days (not including weekends) prior to bringing any equipment into the Park. Equipment found to have entered the Park with potential contaminants will be removed from the Park at the direction of the Contracting Officer at Contractor's sole expense. All staff working on site shall be informed of and follow best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species as described in Division 1 Specifications, Section1335.

#### **Wildlife**

• Fill all trenches or holes at the end of each day. If this is not possible, all holes or trenches will be fitted with escape ramps or capped to prevent entrapment of wildlife.

- All project employees must be trained in proper storage of food and garbage before entering the job site to protect wildlife from human food conditioning. All food and garbage will be stored in an approved manner unless being prepared or consumed, and even in those cases, it will be kept within arm's reach. Coolers will never be left in the back of open trucks. Food and trash will be removed from the project site at the close of work each day. Food storage and trash systems must follow park regulations. Exceptions, such as open-top dumpsters for construction materials must be approved by park wildlife staff (e.g., dumpster must be clearly marked and stored away from visitor pathways).
- Workers will be informed to obey speed limits and drive slowly on warm, wet nights to avoid impacts to listed frogs that may be located on roadways.

| Superintendent Signature:                                                                         | Cicely Muldoon   | Date: | June 8, 2022 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------|--------------|
| The signed original of this doo<br>at the Environmental Planning<br>Office in Yosemite National P | g and Compliance |       |              |



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

#### **Project:** Curry Former Waste Disposal Area CERCLA Response **PEPC Project Number:** 89154 **Description of Action (Project Description):**

The Curry Former Waste Disposal Area (FWDA) (the Site) is located in Yosemite Valley and southeast of the unincorporated Yosemite Village west of Happy Isle Loop Road in the south-central portion of Yosemite National Park in Mariposa County, California. The Site covers approximately 1.8 acres of land and consists of a main waste disposal area of approximately 78,300 square feet with average waste material thickness of 12.2 feet, and two other smaller areas totaling approximately 1,900 square feet with a thin layer (less than 5 feet thick) of waste under cover soils at the periphery of the FWDA. A total of approximately 35,520 cubic yards (CY) of waste materials are estimated to be present at the Site within the extent of the FWDA.

According to available topographic maps, the Site was unoccupied in 1900 with no trails or roads in its general vicinity west of the Merced River. In 1926, the Site was excavated for borrow materials for an off-site paving project by NPS. The resulting excavation pit was then used for trash disposal from the 1920s until approximately 1962. According to an NPS survey map of Camp Curry from the 1950s, the FWDA was identified as "Curry Dump," with associated access roads from Happy Isle Loop Road and from the southeastern end of the "Guest Area Tent Frames". Materials received at the FWDA had reportedly included combustible rubbish and noncombustible material, which for a period were hauled to the FWDA and was burned inside the almost-full pit. By 1963, the FWDA ceased receiving wastes, as all refuse produced in Yosemite Valley were disposed of in the new landfill and incinerator facility in El Portal, California. In the late 1960s, the FWDA was converted to a transfer station, where trash was sorted and sent to the El Portal incinerator, as appropriate.

The Feasibility Study/Corrective Measures Summary (FS/CMS) presents the site history, prior investigations, conceptual site model (CSM), and the development and evaluation of remedial alternatives to address contaminant impacts from the Site. The document offers several alternatives for action at the Curry site. The park selected Alternative 2, "Cover with native soil" as the preferred remediation action because it best fulfills the protection of human and environmental safety and best meets park obligations under the Organic Act. Other alternatives considered included a no action alternative, covering the site with various liners, and the removal and disposal of waste at an off-site facility.

The NPS has moved forward with developing a Record of Decision document which describes the chosen alternative. This option involves the removal of existing cover material, clearing and grubbing the perimeter of the parking lot, capping the area with subgrade material, geogrid material, reservoir layers, and a final parking lot surface, and the construction of drainage controls. Approximately 107 CY of soil/waste will be excavated and removed from the Site. Approximately 17,000 square feet of area will be cleared and grubbed. Confirmation sampling within the excavation areas, stockpiles, and/or groundwater monitoring wells may occur prior to capping to ensure that contaminant removal has been successful. Backfill with the various capping materials will total approximately 5,500 CY of material to be imported. Parking lot features and space delineation will occur following capping, and replacement of existing food storage lockers. The parking lot will be closed for the duration of the project. Project implementation is expected to require 3-4 weeks of field implementation. The Site would continue to be used as a parking area and the park presently has no plans to convert the area to any other use. The work will be performed by the NPS under its delegated CERCLA authority and directed and overseen collaboratively by the NPS and the California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control.

## Mitigation(s):

See Letter of Compliance Completion Form

**CE Citation:** 3.3.C.19 Construction or rehabilitation in previously disturbed or developed areas, required to meet health or safety regulations, or to meet requirements for making facilities accessible to the handicapped.

#### **CE Justification:**

The site is being remediated under CERCLA through a non-time-critical removal/capping in place action.

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: | June 8, 2022 |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------|--------------|
| · · ·                     | •              | -     |              |

## **Extraordinary Circumstances:**

| If implemented, would the proposal                                                       | Yes/No | Explanation              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|
| A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?                                  | No     | None                     |
| <b>B.</b> Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic       | No     | None                     |
| characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands;    |        |                          |
| wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal   |        |                          |
| drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990);              |        |                          |
| floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and            |        |                          |
| other ecologically significant or critical areas?                                        |        |                          |
| C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts       | No     | None                     |
| concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?             |        |                          |
| <b>D.</b> Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or     | No     | None                     |
| involve unique or unknown environmental risks?                                           |        |                          |
| E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about    | No     | None                     |
| future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?                       |        |                          |
| F. [Repealed per DOI] Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually      | N/A    | No longer applicable per |
| insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?                      |        | the updated 2020 CEQ     |
|                                                                                          |        | NEPA regulations and     |
|                                                                                          |        | DOI direction            |
| G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the          | No     | None                     |
| National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?      |        |                          |
| H. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of    | No     | None                     |
| Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated              |        |                          |
| Critical Habitat for these species?                                                      |        |                          |
| I. Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the          | No     | None                     |
| protection of the environment?                                                           |        |                          |
| J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority           | No     | None                     |
| populations (EO 12898)?                                                                  |        |                          |
| K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by         | No     | None                     |
| Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred |        |                          |
| sites (EO 130007)?                                                                       |        |                          |
| L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds       | No     | None                     |
| 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)?                                     |        |                          |



National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

# **ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)**

Updated Sept 2015 per NPS NEPA Handbook

## A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Curry Former Waste Disposal Area CERCLA Response PEPC Project Number: 89154 Project Type: Other Administrative Activities (ADM) Project Location: County, State: Mariposa, California Project Leader: Stephen Mitchell

## **B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

See Categorical Exclusion Form

## C. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

| Resource                                                                              | Potential<br>for<br>Impact | Potential Issues & Impacts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Air</b><br>Air Quality                                                             | Potential                  | Issue: Dirt moving and truck offloading could generate dust.<br>Impact: Water-based dust suppression will be used for controlling dust during project implementation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Biological</b><br>Nonnative or<br>Exotic Species<br>Nonnative or<br>Exotic Species | Potential                  | <ul> <li>Issue: Equipment will be entering the park, posing a potential risk of introducing nonnative or exotic species.</li> <li>Impact: To mitigate potential impacts, contact the Vegetation and Ecological Restoration Branch Chief to arrange for equipment cleaning and inspection before entering park. • All earth moving equipment must be thoroughly cleaned to minimize the introduction of non-native plants. • Equipment exhibiting any dirt, mud seeds or other potential contaminant attached to frame, tires, wheels, or other parts will be thoroughly cleaned and inspected by trained park staff before entering the park. • Areas inspected will include, but not be limited to, tracks, track guard/housings, belly pans/under covers, buckets, rippers, and other attachments. • Equipment that does not pass inspection will be turned around to the nearest cleaning facility outside the park. • Re-clean equipment before returning to the project or staging area if it is removed from the general vicinity of the project or staging area. • Before moving vehicles or equipment to a new job site within the park, visually inspect and clean thoroughly to remove all mud, dirt, and plant parts.</li> </ul> |

| Resource                                                                                                    | Potential<br>for | Potential Issues & Impacts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                             | Impact           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Biological</b><br>Species of Special<br>Concern or Their<br>Habitat<br><i>Amphibians</i>                 | Potential        | <ul><li>Issue: Federally listed amphibian species are present in Yosemite Valley and may be on roads during warm, wet nights.</li><li>Impact: Workers will be informed to obey speed limits and drive slowly on warm, wet nights to avoid impacts to listed frogs that may be located on roadways.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Biological</b><br>Vegetation                                                                             | Potential        | Issue: Clearing and grubbing will occur along the perimeter of the existing parking<br>lot within the footprint of the FWDA. Approximately a dozen black oaks are within<br>or adjacent to this area. Revegetation will be required along the perimeter of the<br>parking area following capping.<br>Impact: The contractor will work with the park to retain black oaks where possible.<br>Revegetation activities will be coordinated well in advance with park vegetation<br>staff. |
| <b>Biological</b><br>Wildlife and/or<br>Wildlife Habitat<br>including<br>terrestrial and<br>aquatic species | None             | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Cultural<br>Archeological<br>Resources<br>Yosemite Valley<br>Archeological<br>District                      | Potential        | Issue:       The site is also within the Yosemite Valley         Archeological District.       Impact: The archeological site has been determined ineligible for NRHP listing and the SHPO has concurred that the project will have no adverse effects on archeological resources.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Cultural</b><br>Cultural<br>Landscapes<br><i>Yosemite Valley</i><br><i>Historic District</i>             | Potential        | Issue: The project site is in the Yosemite Valley Historic District.<br>Impact: The SHPO has concurred that the project will have no adverse effects on the historic district.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Cultural</b><br>Ethnographic<br>Resources                                                                | None             | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Cultural<br>Museum<br>Collections<br>FWDA Artifacts                                                         | Potential        | Issue: The project area contains artifacts associated with the historic dump site. The project involves partial excavation of the existing cover material and capping the area with native soil.<br>Impact: An archeological team has determined that the existing archeological sample is sufficient to characterize and study the site and that no further archeological work is needed.                                                                                             |
| Cultural<br>Prehistoric/historic<br>structures                                                              | None             | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

| Resource                                                          | Potential<br>for<br>Impact | Potential Issues & Impacts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Geological<br>Geologic Features<br>Contaminated<br>Soils          | Potential                  | Issue: Most contaminated soils will be left in place and capped with an erosion-<br>resistant barrier. Native soil from within the park will be used to the extent possible,<br>otherwise clean soil will be imported.<br>Impact: The project is expected to prevent erosion of the soil cover layer and the<br>underlying contaminated soils through the installation of drainage swales and use of<br>erosion-resistant barriers. Any soil imported into the park will need to be weed-free<br>and approved by park vegetation staff. |
| <b>Geological</b><br>Geologic Features                            | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Geological<br>Geologic<br>Processes                               | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Lightscapes                                                       | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Other<br>Human Health and<br>Safety<br>Visitors, Project<br>Staff | Potential                  | Issue: The existing cover material has been compromised by erosion, posing the potential for visitor exposure to contaminated materials. During construction, the project will generate dust.<br>Impact: The project will ultimately prevent contaminated materials from being exposed by preventing erosion. Safety measures such as dust suppression will protect workers during construction.                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Other</b><br>Operational                                       | Potential                  | Issue: The project site is located within the footprint of a heavily used trailhead<br>parking lot. Project implementation will require temporary closure of the parking lot<br>during excavation, backfill, and capping. Lane closures or traffic control may be<br>needed to facilitate equipment movement to and from the site.<br>Impact: Project staff will coordinate with park staff well ahead of project<br>implementation to ensure that operational impacts are minimized.                                                   |
| <b>Other</b><br><i>Contaminated Soil</i>                          | Potential                  | Issue: Preliminary investigations found contaminants of concern in the soil including dioxins, pentachlorobiphenyls, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and eight different metals.<br>Impact: The project will ultimately prevent contaminated materials from being exposed by capping the site and preventing erosion. Because contaminants will be left in place, periodic monitoring is proposed.                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Paleontological</b><br>Paleontological<br>Resources            | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Socioeconomic<br>Land Use                                         | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

| Resource                                                                                                 | Potential<br>for<br>Impact | Potential Issues & Impacts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Socioeconomic<br>Minority and low-<br>income<br>populations, size,<br>migration patterns,<br>etc.        | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Socioeconomic                                                                                            | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Soundscapes                                                                                              | Potential                  | Issue: Some noise associated with the excavation and cap installation work is<br>expected during project implementation.<br>Impact: Increased noise levels are expected to be temporary and localized during<br>project implementation.                                                |
| Viewsheds                                                                                                | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Visitor Use and<br>Experience<br>Recreation<br>Resources<br>Wilderness<br>Trailhead Parking<br>Lot       | Potential                  | Issue: The site is currently used as a wilderness trailhead parking lot.<br>Impact: The parking lot will be closed during project implementation, which is<br>expected to last 3-4 weeks outside of peak visitation season. The project will not<br>alter the current use of the site. |
| Visitor Use and<br>Experience<br>Visitor Use and<br>Experience<br>Wilderness<br>Trailhead Parking<br>Lot | Potential                  | Issue: The wilderness trailhead parking lot currently has an eroding fill layer as its<br>surface.<br>Impact: The project will regrade the parking lot and add drainage swales, improving<br>the overall condition of the parking lot and reducing long-term erosion.                  |
| Water<br>Floodplains                                                                                     | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Water<br>Marine or<br>Estuarine<br>Resources                                                             | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Water<br>Water Quality or<br>Quantity                                                                    | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Water<br>Wetlands                                                                                        | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Water<br>Wild and Scenic<br>River                                                                        | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Wilderness                                                                                               | None                       | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

## ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

## A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. Park: Yosemite National Park

#### 2. Project Description:

Project Name: Curry Former Waste Disposal Area CERCLA ResponsePrepared by: Daniel SharonDate Prepared: 04/09/2020Telephone: (209) 379-1038PEPC Project Number: 89154Locations: County, State: Mariposa, CADescribe project:See Categorical Exclusion Form.

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

The area of potential effects (APE) includes the Curry FWDA in Yosemite Valley, the current location of the Wilderness Trailhead Parking Area. Visual effects will be temporary during the proposed remediation action which is expected to last 3-4 weeks outside of peak visitation season. The subsurface vertical APE will be associated with the excavation of the existing cover material from the FWDA and is estimated to be a maximum of 4 feet. If staging of equipment and fill does not occur on site, the Upper River campground is the recommended staging area (currently used for other staging uses).

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

## 4. Potentially Affected Resource(s):

#### Archeological Resources Present: Yes

**Property Name:** Yosemite Valley Archeological District LCS:

Archeological Resources Notes: The buried dump is archeological site CA-MRP-1541H. The site has been deemed ineligible for listing in the NRHP.

Historical Structures/Resources Present: No

Cultural Landscapes Present: Yes

Property Name: Yosemite Valley Historic District LCS:

Ethnographic Resources Present: No

**Ethnographic Resources Notes:** Included in May 8, 2015 letter and August 2019 tribal project spreadsheet. Only comment received related to the safety of people accessing the site for plant gathering activities which will be addressed during construction by public access restrictions. The tribe recommended that the park post signs identifying the area as a non-gathering area. The park has determined that the on-site contaminants are primarily

confined below layers of topsoil and the potential risk of hazardous contaminants on the surface remains low, not warranting sign installation. The NPS provided a response to the Tribe in August 2017 that it would not be posting public notices restricting access as the risks posed by the site to public safety are low.

| 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)                                                               |
| No     | 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):                                                      |

| 5. | The proposed | action will: | (check as | many a | s apply) |
|----|--------------|--------------|-----------|--------|----------|
|----|--------------|--------------|-----------|--------|----------|

#### 6. Supporting Study Data:

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

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

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

[X] **106 Advisor** Name: Madelyn Ruffner Date: 04/21/2020

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: Project is covered under CERCLA; park will be consulting with SHPO per standard consultation process.

Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process

[X] Anthropologist Name: Liz Williams Date: 04/14/2020

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: The park consulted with the tribes in May 2015 and August 2019. No comments or concerns were received.

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

#### [X] Archeologist

Name: Wesley Wills Date: 03/24/2020

**Comments:** The Curry Waste Accumulation Area is archeological site CA-MRP-1541H, which consists of artifacts deposited largely in the 1930s-1960s that are covered by a layer of soil fill capped with compacted gravel that serves as a parking lot. The site was investigated as part of construction monitoring and test pit excavations in 2000 and 2001 (Burton et al. 2003). A large enough sample was retrieved to determine that the deposit is so mixed, representing several decades of use, that it would not be an efficient source of information. In addition, the large number of test pits excavated at the Curry WAA, all of similar composition, indicates that additional work at the site would only result in redundant data. The proposed undertaking, which would retain and improve the capped nature of the dump and would not disturb significant buried archeological materials, will not result in disturbance of intact or significant deposits and 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:** Standard 4-Step Process

[X] Historian
Name: Scott Carpenter
Date: 04/14/2020
Comments: No historic structures or buildings present, no Historical Architect review required.

 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] Historical Landscape Architect Name: Vida Germano Date: 04/21/2020

 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

No Reviews From: Curator, Historical Architect, Other Advisor

## C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 1. Assessment of Effect:

| Select with X | Assessment of Effect            |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Not selected  | No Potential to Cause Effects   |
| Not selected  | No Historic Properties Affected |
| Х             | No Adverse Effect               |
| Not selected  | 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

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SHPO Required: Yes SHPO Sent: Jul 10, 2020 SHPO Received: Jul 30, 2020

**THPO Required:** Yes **THPO Sent:** May 8, 2015 **THPO Received:** May 8, 2017

**SHPO/THPO Notes:** The SHPO concurred with the park's finding of no adverse effect to historic properties, however disagreed with the park's original assertion that CA-MRP-1541H is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The park sent a follow-up letter on October 5, 2020 revising its stance and formally requesting SHPO concurrence with the ineligibility of this site. The SHPO concurred with the ineligibility of the site on October 9, 2020.

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:

No NHPA mitigations

6. Assessment of Effect Notes:

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

| Section 106 Coordinator | Hope Schear | Date: | May 23, 2022 |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------|--------------|
| Signature:              |             | _     |              |

#### 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: | June 8, 2022 |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------|--------------|
|---------------------------|----------------|-------|--------------|

## **Other Compliance/Consultations Form**

Park Name: Yosemite National Park PEPC Project Number: 89154 Project Title: Curry Former Waste Disposal Area CERCLA Response Project Type: Other Administrative Activities: Contaminated site investigation and response Project Location: County, State: Mariposa, CA Project Leader: Stephen Mitchell

#### ESA

| Any Federal Species in                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | the project Area? No    |       |              |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------|--|
| If species in area: No E                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | ffect                   |       |              |  |
| Was Biological Assessm                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | nent prepared?          |       |              |  |
| If Biological Assessmer                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | nt prepared, concurred? |       |              |  |
| Formal Consultation r                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | equired? No             |       |              |  |
| Formal Consultation N                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | otes:                   |       |              |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                         |       |              |  |
| Formal Consultation C                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | concluded:              |       |              |  |
| Any State listed Specie                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | s in the Project Area?  |       |              |  |
| If Biological Assessment prepared, concurred?<br>Formal Consultation required? No<br>Formal Consultation Notes:<br>Formal Consultation Concluded:<br>Any State listed Species in the Project Area?<br>Consultation Information:<br>General Notes: |                         |       |              |  |
| <b>General Notes:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                         |       |              |  |
| Data Entered By:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Heather Mackey          | Date: | Jun 10, 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:<br>Expiration Date:                      |
| E. Tribal Water Quality Permit?                                            | No     | None                                                 |
| F. CZM Consistency determination needed?                                   |        | N/A                                                  |

| Question                                         | Yes/No | Details                          |  |  |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| G. Erosion & Sediment Control Plan Required?     | Yes    | None                             |  |  |
| H. Any other permits required?                   | No     | Permit Information:              |  |  |
| Other Information:                               | Yes    | Contractor will develop a SWPPP. |  |  |
| Data Entered By: Daniel SharonDate: Mar 31, 2021 |        |                                  |  |  |

## Floodplains & Wetlands Mitigations

No Floodplains & Wetlands mitigations are associated with this project.

#### Wilderness

| Question                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Yes/No | Details                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 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<br>indirectly) Designated, Recommended, Proposed, Study, Eligible, or Potential<br>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<br>Wilderness Act Section 4(c) prohibited uses: commercial enterprise,<br>permanent road, temporary road, motor vehicles, motorized equipment,<br>motorboats, landing of aircraft, mechanical transport, structure, or<br>installation? (If Yes, Minimum Requirements Analysis required) | No     | None                                                  |
| If the answer to D or E above is "Yes" then a Minimum Requirements<br>Analysis is required. Describe the status of this analysis in the column to the<br>right.                                                                                                                                                                                                       | N/A    | Initiation Date:<br>Completed Date:<br>Approved Date: |
| Other Information:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | No     | None                                                  |

Data Entered By: Daniel SharonDate: Mar 31, 2021

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

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

## **Other Information:**

Data Entered By: Daniel SharonDate: Mar 31, 2021