



A PDF text file of the project's approved environmental compliance package containing the letter of compliance completion, categorical exclusion form, environmental screening form, and any other associated environmental clearance forms, as applicable (e.g., Wilderness Minimum Requirement Analysis, Wild and Scenic River Section 7 Analysis). The signed originals of the package are on file in the Environmental Planning and Compliance Office at Yosemite National Park.

Categorical Exclusion Documentation Form (CE Form)

Project: Rehabilitate the Bridalveil Creek Campground Water Distribution System for Park Visitors, Phase I
PEPC Project Number: 89694

Description of Action (Project Description): The project will rehabilitate the water distribution system at Bridalveil Creek Campground. The campground contains 110 individual campsites, two group campsites, and three equestrian campsites. An average of 14,400 campers visit Bridalveil Creek Campground annually. It is the only established campground on Glacier Point Road and typically opens for ninety days per season. The existing water distribution system provides an average of 2,059 gallons of water per day and a daily maximum production of 5,400 gallons to the campground and day use areas.

The last substantial utility project on this water system was done in 1959 (the pump in the meadow was installed in the 1980's) placing the system at the end of its service life. The existing 10,000-gallon underground water storage tank is not code compliant. The new 10,000-gallon above ground water storage tank will meet code and regulatory requirements of the California State Water Quality Board, as well as to provide more water storage to meet the peak daily demands of the park visitors who use these facilities.

Both phase I and phase II construction activities have been evaluated and approved for this categorical exclusion (CE) with the exception of additional SHPO consultation required for any ground disturbing activities involving the Horse Camp area of the campground. Phase II work in Horse Camp may only commence after completion of archeological studies (scheduled for summer 2021) and future consultation with the SHPO regarding identification of historic properties and assessment of effects for phase II work actions.

Phase I Summary:

- Replace approximately 11,200 linear feet of existing cast iron and galvanized steel water distribution lines (loops A thru C, and from the chlorination building to the campground) and replace 950 linear feet of raw water line from the well to the chlorination building with new high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe.
- Replace existing potable water hydrants in-kind and in-place at the front of the host camp site (across from loop A) and install four new potable water hydrants near existing comfort stations (two in loop A, one in loop B, and one in loop C, and install one new potable water hydrant near the back of the host campsite (across from loop A, along the campground access road).
- Install five new water meters (one at each comfort station and one at the new water tank) and replace one existing water meter in-kind and in-place (near existing well).
- Replace the existing underground water tank with an above ground tank by removing the top of the existing water tank and backfill with native material and compact. Existing water tank will then be abandoned in place.

- Replace the existing water treatment vault and chlorination system (interior to the existing chlorination building).
- Relocate the existing propane generator from the chlorination building to a new code compliant CMU enclosure near the existing chlorination building.
- Install a concrete collar around the well head.

Phase II Summary: (construction within Horse Camp)

- Replace 500 linear feet of existing water distribution lines.
- Install two new potable water hydrants near the two camp sites.
- Replace one existing potable water hydrant near one camp site.
- Install one new water meter.
- Connect existing comfort station to new proposed water system.

Mitigation(s): See the Letter of Compliance Completion for mitigations.

CE Citation: 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 existing water system is at the end of its service life. The existing 10,000-gallon underground water storage tank is not code compliant. The new 10,000-gallon above ground water storage tank will meet code and regulatory requirements of the California State Water Quality Board, as well as to provide more water storage to meet peak daily demands of the park visitors who use these facilities.

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:** _____ **July 8, 2021**

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

Extraordinary Circumstances:

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Notes
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
F. [Repealed per DOI] Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	N/A	No longer applicable per the updated 2020 CEQ NEPA regulations and DOI direction
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: Rehabilitate the Bridalveil Creek Campground Water Distribution System for Park Visitors, Phase I

PEPC Project Number: 89694

Project Type: Repair/Rehabilitation (REHAB)

Project Location: County, State: Mariposa, California

Project Leader: Matthew Outhier

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 <i>Nonnative or Exotic Species</i>	Potential	<p>Issue: Nonnative or exotic species may be introduced into the park via construction equipment.</p> <p>Impact: No negative impacts are anticipated if mitigation measures are followed. Prevent the introduction of exotic species in the project area and staging areas. Prior to entry into the park, steam-clean heavy equipment to prevent importation of non-native plant species. Tighten hydraulic fittings, ensure hydraulic hoses are in good condition (and replace if damaged), and repair all petroleum leaks. Ensure all earth moving equipment enters the Park free of dirt, dust, mud, seeds, and other potential contaminants. To avoid introduction of non-native, invasive plant species into the park, erosion control materials must be seed-free. Best materials are jute, coconut fiber, and wood excelsior. Avoid all straw materials and plastic netting. Survey for and control invasive non-native vegetation from two years prior to project activities through one year after project activities, i.e. through duration of project funding.</p>
Biological Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat <i>Fisher</i>	Potential	<p>Issue: The fisher is a federally endangered species that may be present in the project area. Construction noise may disturb fisher in the project area.</p> <p>Impact: No negative impacts are anticipated if mitigation measures are followed. Work shall not occur during the fisher LOP of March 1st - May 31st. If a fisher den is discovered within 700 m of the work site, a LOP of March 1st - June 30th will be required.</p>

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Biological Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat <i>Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog (Rana sierrae)</i>	Potential	<p>Issue: The Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog is a federally endangered species and a California threatened species that may be present in the project area.</p> <p>Impact: Potential impacts of the project and mitigation measures to avoid negative impacts are addressed in the biological opinion dated July 18, 2019 for Yosemite National Park's Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Projects for Sierra Nevada Yellow-legged Frog and Yosemite Toad, Yosemite National Park, Madera, Mariposa, and Tuolumne Counties, California and are incorporated in the mitigations section of this CE.</p>
Biological Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat <i>Yosemite toad (Anaxyrus canorus)</i>	Potential	<p>Issue: The Yosemite toad is a federal threatened and a California species of concern that may be present in the project area.</p> <p>Impact: Potential impacts of the project and mitigation measures to avoid negative impacts are addressed in the biological opinion dated July 18, 2019 for Yosemite National Park's Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Projects for Sierra Nevada Yellow-legged Frog and Yosemite Toad, Yosemite National Park, Madera, Mariposa, and Tuolumne Counties, California and are incorporated in the mitigations section of this CE.</p>
Biological Vegetation	None	None
Biological Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species	None	None
Cultural Archeological Resources <i>Known Archeological Site</i>	Potential	<p>Issue: [REDACTED] . SHPO and Tribal consultation has been accomplished for the undertaking.</p> <p>Impact: No negative impacts are anticipated. Archeological construction monitoring is required, and construction materials and equipment shall not be staged within or adjacent to site.</p>
Cultural Cultural Landscapes	None	None
Cultural Ethnographic Resources	None	None
Cultural Museum Collections	None	None
Cultural Prehistoric/historic structures	None	None

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Geological Geologic Features	None	None
Geological Geologic Processes	None	None
Lightscares	None	None
Other Human Health and Safety <i>Water Distribution and Quality</i>	None	Issue: The existing water distribution system is beyond its service life. If the system fails, the campground will be without safe potable water. Impact: The project will have a positive impact on the health and safety of visitors by meeting the water demand in the campground.
Other Human Health and Safety <i>Firefighting</i>	None	Issue: The campground is not currently equipped with a fire hydrant for filling firefighting equipment. Impact: The project will install one fire hydrant which will have a positive impact on the safety of park visitor by providing water to firefighting equipment.
Other Operational	None	None
Other	None	None
Socioeconomic Land Use	None	None
Socioeconomic Minority and low-income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	None
Socioeconomic	None	None
Soundscapes	None	None
Viewsheds	None	None
Visitor Use and Experience Recreation Resources	Potential	Issue: The existing water distribution system is beyond its service life. Impact: The project will have a positive impact on the recreation resources at the campground by meeting visitors water demands with safe and reliable water.
Visitor Use and Experience Visitor Use and Experience <i>Potable</i>	Potential	Issue: The existing water distribution system is beyond its service life. Impact: The project will have a positive impact on the visitor experience by meeting the water demand in the campground.

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Water Floodplains	None	<p>Issue: A portion of the project is within the Briadalveil Creek floodplain.</p> <p>Impact: No impacts will result because the project actions within the floodplain will be temporary during construction. No new permanent structures will be placed within the floodplain.</p>
Water Marine or Estuarine Resources	None	None
Water Water Quality or Quantity	Potential	<p>Issue: A portion of the project takes place in wetlands and crosses Bridalveil Creek. Some dirt may inadvertently enter these resources during construction.</p> <p>Impact: No negative impacts are anticipated if mitigation measures and water quality permit conditions are followed.</p>
Water Wetlands	Potential	<p>Issue: Approximately 2,033 linear feet (1.2 acres) of existing water line will be replaced with new pipe within wetlands.</p> <p>Impact: Best management practices as well as all 404 permit and 401 certification requirements will be followed to avoid impacts to wetlands. Any impacts will be minor and temporary.</p>
Water Wild and Scenic River	None	The project is not within the bed and banks of a designated wild and scenic river or its tributary.
Wilderness	Potential	<p>Issue: The new water pipe alignment avoids the existing meadow within wilderness. Wilderness character may be degraded by abandoning the existing water pipe that runs through the meadow.</p> <p>Impact: No negative impacts are anticipated if the Minimum Required Action (MRP) is implemented. The minimum required action for the preservation of wilderness character is to place cement slurry inside the water pipe running through wilderness, using equipment outside of wilderness.</p>



Other Compliance/Consultations Form

Park Name: Yosemite National Park

PEPC Project Number: 89694

Project Title: Rehabilitate the Bridalveil Creek Campground Water Distribution System for Park Visitors, Phase I

Project Type: Repair/Rehabilitation

Project Location:

County, State: Mariposa, CA

Project Leader: Matthew Outhier

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT (ESA)

Any Federal Species in the project Area? Yes

If species in area: No Effect

Was Biological Assessment prepared? Yes

Sent to FWS: Jun 12, 2019

FWS Response: Jul 18, 2019

Sent to NMFS:

NMFS Response:

If Biological Assessment prepared, concurred? Yes

Formal Consultation required? No

Formal Consultation Notes: Park biologist concluded that this action is covered under the July 18, 2019 biological opinion for the Yosemite National Park's Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Projects for Sierra Nevada Yellow-legged Frog and Yosemite Toad, Yosemite National Park, Madera, Mariposa, and Tuolumne Counties, California. There will be no effect to the fisher as long mitigations are followed and work occurs after June 1st.

Formal Consultation Concluded: May 13, 2021

Any State listed Species in the Project Area? Yes

Consultation Information: [REDACTED] Therefore, in spring 2022 nest initiation could begin anytime between April and June 1st. A situational limited operating period (LOP) may be required. A terrestrial wildlife biologist will conduct great gray owl (GGOW) broadcast surveys during starting March 1st through May 31st. Depending on the results of the broadcast surveys, nest searching may be required. If observed behavior indicates nesting (female begging call) or a nest is found, a 400 m buffer will be applied around the nest and a LOP from March 1st to August 15th will be required. If no GGOW or behavior that indicates nesting is observed an LOP from March 1st to June 1st is required. If a nest that is greater than 1/4 mile from the project site, is identified an LOP from March 1st to June 1st is required.

Data Entered By: Heather Mackey

Date: May 13, 2021

ESA Mitigations

Special Status Plant Species:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with Vegetation staff to survey project area, including buffer zone and staging areas, for special status plant species. Avoid during design, and flag for construction. Note: Surveys are funded and scheduled for summer 2021.

Floodplains/Wetlands/§404 Permits

Question	Yes/No	Details
A.1. Is project in 100- or 500-year floodplain or flash flood hazard area?	Yes	Determined to be exempt from compliance with Director's Order #77-2 and no Floodplain Statement of Findings required.
A.2. Is project in wetlands as defined by NPS/DOI?	Yes	Although a portion of the project is within wetlands, no fill will be placed, impacts will be temporary and a Nationwide Permit (NWP) 58 is applicable and a State 401 permit shall be obtained.
B. COE Section 404 permit needed?	No	No placement of fill in waters of the United States. Project qualifies for Nationwide Permit 58.
C. State 401 certification?	Yes	Under Nationwide Permit 58 the project will require submittal of a Notice of Intent with the State Water Quality Board prior to construction.
D. State Section 401 Permit?	Yes	Issue Date: To be acquired prior to construction Expiration Date:
E. Tribal Water Quality Permit?	No	None
F. CZM Consistency determination needed?	No	Date Review Requested: Date Reply Received: Date State Concurred:
G. Erosion & Sediment Control Plan Required?	Yes	To be prepared prior to construction.
H. Any other permits required?	No	Permit Information:
Other Information:	No	None

Data Entered By: Laura Stevens

Date: 06/11/2021

Floodplains & Wetlands Mitigations

- Construct barriers or use silt fencing to prevent the discharge of turbid water when working near streams.
- Stabilize all disturbed soil and fill slopes in an appropriate manner.
- Avoid the use of heavy equipment in wetlands to the extent possible. Place heavy equipment used in wetlands on mats or take other similar measures to minimize soil and plant root disturbance and to preserve the preconstruction topography of the wetland.
- Remove temporary soil stockpiles in wetlands in their entirety as soon as practicable. Restore wetland soil, hydrology, and native vegetation as soon as practicable.
- Overlay wetland and stream areas on construction drawings and mark or fence for avoidance.
- Whenever possible, place excavated material on an upland site. When this is not feasible, stockpile excavated material on a temporary basis on filter cloth, mats, or other semi-permeable surface, or take comparable measures to ensure that underlying wetland habitat is protected. Stabilize material with wattles, filter cloth, or other appropriate means to prevent reentry into the waterway or wetland.

- Store equipment and materials away from all waterways and wetlands.
- Remove hazardous waste materials generated during implementation of the project from the project site immediately. Dispose of volatile wastes and oils in approved containers for removal from the project site to avoid contamination of soils, drainages, and watercourses. Keep absorbent pads, booms, and other materials onsite during projects that use heavy equipment to contain oil, hydraulic fluid, solvents, and hazardous materials spills.
- Construct barriers or use silt fencing to prevent the discharge of turbid water when working near streams.

Wilderness

Question	Yes/No	Details
A. Does this project occur in or adjacent to Designated, Recommended, Proposed, Study, Eligible, or Potential Wilderness?	Yes	None
B. Is the only place to conduct this project in wilderness?	Yes	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)	Yes	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.	No	Initiation Date: 03/30/2021 Completed Date: 04/21/2021 Approved Date: 06/11/2021
Other Information:	No	None

Data Entered By: Laura Stevens

Date: 06/11/2021

Other Permits/Laws

Questions A & B are no longer used.

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

Data Entered By: Laura Stevens

Date: 06/11/2021