



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
L7615(YOSE-PM)

## United States Department of the Interior NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

### Memorandum

To: Dave Henderson, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Acting Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2009-111 Yosemite Lodge Permitted Parking Signage (28183)

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

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

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

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

- Ensure that the existing signs are removed when new signs are installed.
- Ensure that the Deputy Chief of Operations concurs with the Code of Federal Regulations and Superintendent's Compendium changes.

//Nikki Stephanie Nicholas// (acting)  
David V. Uberuaga

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File

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



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park  
Date: 02/04/2010

---

## Categorical Exclusion Form

**Project:** 2009-111 Yosemite Lodge Permitted Parking Signage

**PEPC Project Number:** 28183

**Project Description:** The purpose of this project is to reduce the total number of signs in the Yosemite Lodge parking lots. New signs would be placed to indicate that the entire Yosemite Lodge Complex is "Permitted Parking" and older existing signs would be removed.

**Placement:** One sign would be placed at each of the three entrances to the Yosemite Lodge Complex. The signs would be visible as you enter the complex at the Lower Falls, opposite Camp 4, and at the Meadow Lane entrances. The signposts would require digging up to 24 inches deep and 12 inches in diameter.

The signs would be compliant with the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and Uniguide.

The white signs with black lettering would read: Permitted Parking Only 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (the regulation cited may need to be added: 36CFR 4.12 Traffic Control Devices).

**Project Location:**  
Mariposa County, CA

**Mitigations:**

- Ensure that the existing signs are removed when new signs are installed.
- Ensure that the Deputy Chief of Operations concurs with the Code of Federal Regulations and Superintendent's Compendium changes.

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

C.5 Installation of signs, displays, kiosks, etc.

On the basis of the environmental impact information in the statutory compliance file, with which I am familiar, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No exceptional circumstances or conditions in Section 3-6 apply, and the action is fully described in Section 3-4 of DO-12.

**Park Acting Superintendent** //Nikki Stephanie Nicholas// (acting)

**Date** 3/11/10

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



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park  
Date: 02/04/2010

## ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

### DO-12 APPENDIX 1

Date Form Initiated: 01/20/2010

Updated May 2007 - per 2004 Departmental Manual revisions and proposed Director's Order 12 changes

### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Park Name:** Yosemite National Park  
**Project Title:** 2009-111 Yosemite Lodge Permitted Parking Signage  
**PEPC Project Number:** 28183  
**Project Type:** Sign Installation (OTHER)  
**Project Location:** County, State: Mariposa, California  
**Project Leader:** Dave Henderson

**Preliminary drawings attached?** Yes

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

### B. RESOURCE EFFECTS TO CONSIDER:

Identify potential effects to the following physical or natural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Geologic resources – soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc.		Negligible			Each sign will be buried in a hole 24 inches deep and one foot square.
2. From geohazards	No				
3. Air quality	No				
4. Soundscapes	No				
5. Water quality or quantity	No				
6. Streamflow characteristics	No				
7. Marine or estuarine resources	No				
8. Floodplains or wetlands	No				
9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use	No				
10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine	No				

<b>Identify potential effects to the following physical or natural resources</b>	<b>No Effect</b>	<b>Negligible Effects</b>	<b>Minor Effects</b>	<b>Exceeds Minor Effects</b>	<b>Data Needed to Determine/Notes</b>
11. Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat	No				
12. Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites	No				Yosemite National Park is a World Heritage Site.
13. Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat	No				
14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat	No				
15. Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)	No				
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	No				
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources	No				
18. Museum collections (objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections)	No				
19. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	No				
20. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	No				
21. Energy resources	No				
22. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	No				
23. Resource, including energy, conservation potential, sustainability	No				
24. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	No				
25. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	No				
26. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	No				

Identify potential effects to the following cultural resources	No Historic Properties Affected	No Adverse Effect	Adverse Effect	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Archeological resources	X			Yosemite Valley Archeological District; this project has no impact on the archeological district.
2. Prehistoric/historic structure	X			
3. Cultural landscapes		X		Yosemite Valley Historic District; the assessment of effect is “No Adverse Effect.”
4. Ethnographic resources	X			

### C. MANDATORY CRITERIA

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?		No		
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		
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?		No		
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		No		
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		No		
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		No		
G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National		No		

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 Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		No		
I. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		No		
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		No		
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		No		
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		

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

#### **D. OTHER INFORMATION**

Are personnel preparing this form familiar with the site? Yes

Did personnel conduct a site visit? No

Is the project in an approved plan such as a General Management Plan or an Implementation Plan with an accompanying NEPA document? No

Are there any interested or affected agencies or parties? No

Has consultation with all affected agencies or tribes been completed? No

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

## E. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES

<u>Interdisciplinary Team</u>	<u>Field of Expertise</u>
David V. Uberuaga	Acting Superintendent
Katariina Tuovinen	Acting Deputy Superintendent
Kristina Rylands	Acting Chief of Planning
Mark Butler	Chief of Project Management
Katariina Tuovinen	Chief of Administration Management
Paul Laymon	Chief of Facilities Management
Niki Nicholas	Chief of Resources Management & Science
Marty Nielson	Chief of Business and Revenue Management
Tom Medema	Chief of Interpretation and Education
Steve Shackelton	Chief of Visitor and Resource Protection
Dave Henderson	Project Leader
Elexis Mayer	Environmental Planning and Compliance Program Manager
Jeannette Simons	NHPA Specialist
Renea Kennec	NEPA Specialist

## F. SUPERVISORY SIGNATORY

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

Recommended:

Compliance Specialists	Date
<u>//Renea Kennec//</u> Compliance Specialist – Renea Kennec	<u>2/4/10</u>
<u>//Elexis Mayer//</u> Compliance Program Manager – Elexis Mayer	<u>3/2/10</u>
<u>//Mark A. Butler//</u> Chief, Project Management – Mark Butler	<u>3/5/10</u>

Approved:

Acting Superintendent	Date
<u>//Nikki Stephanie Nicholas// (acting)</u> David V. Uberuaga	<u>3/11/10</u>

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



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park  
Date: 02/04/2010

## PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: February 4, 2010

### PROJECT INFORMATION

**Park Name:** Yosemite National Park  
**Project Title:** 2009-111 Yosemite Lodge Permitted Parking Signage  
**PEPC Project Number:** 28183  
**Project Type:** Sign Installation (OTHER)  
**Project Location:** County, State: Mariposa, California  
**Project Leader:** Dave Henderson

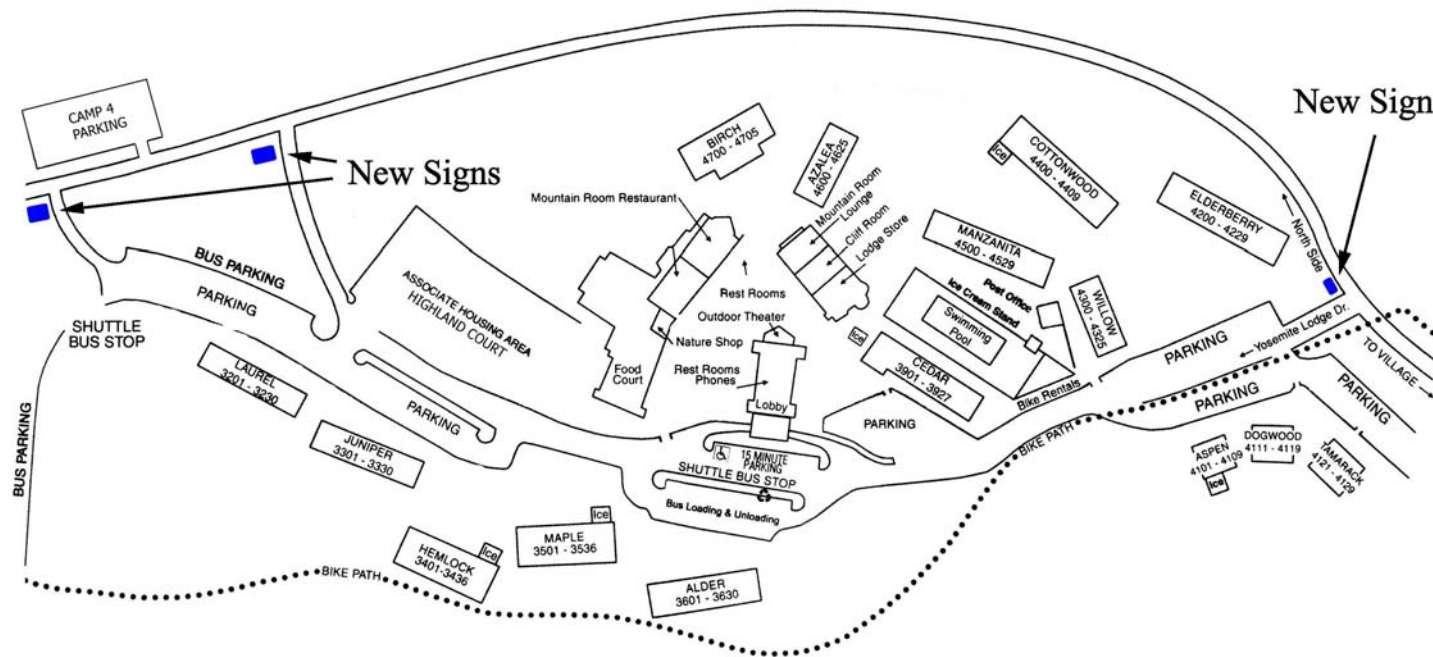
### PARK ESF ADDENDUM QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
<b>SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST</b>				
1. Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		No		
2. Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		No		
3. Park rare plants or vegetation?		No		
4. Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		No		
<b>NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST</b>				
5. Entail ground disturbance?	Yes			Each sign will be buried in a hole 24 inches deep and one foot square.
6. Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?	Yes			Yosemite Valley Archeological District; the assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect."
7. Entail alteration of a historic structure or cultural landscape?	Yes			
8. Has a National Register form been completed?		No		



9. Are there any structures on the park's List of Classified Structures in the area of potential effect?		No		
<b>WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST</b>				
10. Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor?	Yes			Merced River.
11. Fall within the bed and banks AND will affect the free-flow of the river?		No		
12. Have the possibility of affecting water quality of the area?		No		
13. Remain consistent with its river segment classification?			N/A	
14. Protect and enhance river ORVs?			N/A	
15. Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		No		
16. Will the project encroach or intrude upon the Wild and Scenic River corridor?		No		
17. Consistent with the provisions in the Merced River Plan Settlement Agreement?	Yes			
<b>WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST</b>				
18. Within designated Wilderness?		No		
19. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		No		

## Yosemite Lodge at the Falls





Lodge Drive and North Side Drive near Camp 4.JPG  
9/23/2009



Lodge Drive and North Side Drive near Lower Falls.JPG  
9/23/2009



Meadow Lane and North Side Drive.JPG  
9/23/2009



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park  
Date: 02/03/2010

## ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES

### A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

**1. Park:** Yosemite National Park    **Park District:** Yosemite Valley

**2. Project Description:**

**a. Project Name:** 2009-111 Yosemite Lodge Permitted Parking Signage

**b. Date:** February 3, 2010

**c. PEPC Project ID Number:** 28183

**3. Has the area of potential effects been surveyed to identify cultural resources?**

☐ No

☒ Yes, Source or reference: **Yosemite Valley Archeological District; Yosemite Valley Historic District; Yosemite Valley American Indian Traditional Cultural Property.**

☐ Check here if no known cultural resources will be affected. (If this is because area has been disturbed, please explain or attach additional information to show the disturbance was so extensive as to preclude intact cultural deposits.)

**4. Potentially Affected Resources:**

Archeological resources affected?

Name and number(s): **Yosemite Valley Archeological District**  
NR status: **1 - Listed in Register and documented**

Cultural landscapes affected?

Name and number(s): **Yosemite Valley Historic District**  
NR status: **1 - Listed in Register and documented**

Ethnographic resources affected?

Name and number(s): **Yosemite Valley American Indian Traditional Cultural Property**  
NR status: **8 - Within a Register-eligible district**

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

- 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  
No 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)  
       Other (please specify)

**6. Measures to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of historic/prehistoric properties:**

(Remember that setting, location, and use may be relevant.)

**No Assessment of Effect mitigations identified.**

**7. Supporting Study Data:**

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

**8. Attachments:**

[ ] Maps [ ] Archeological survey, if applicable [ ] Drawings [ ] Specifications [ ] Photographs  
[ ] Scope of Work [ ] Site plan [ ] List of Materials [ ] Samples [ ] Other:

**Prepared by:** Renea Kennec      **Date:** February 3, 2010      **Title:** Environmental Protection Specialist  
**Telephone:** 209-379-1038

**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 ] Archeologist

Name: Laura Kirn

Date: 01/04/2010

Comments: YOSE 1999 PA, Stipulation VII.C.2.g.

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [ ]

Assessment of Effect:        No Historic Properties Affected        X   No Adverse Effect             Adverse Effect  
       Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

---

[ X ] Archeologist

Name: Sonny Montague

Date: 11/20/2009

Comments:

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [ ]

Assessment of Effect: ☐ No Historic Properties Affected ☒ No Adverse Effect ☐ Adverse Effect ☐ Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

---

[ X ] Historical Architect

Name: Sueann Brown

Date: 01/07/2010

Comments:

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [ ]

Assessment of Effect: ☐ No Historic Properties Affected ☒ No Adverse Effect ☐ Adverse Effect ☐ Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

---

[ X ] Historical Landscape Architect

Name: David Humphrey

Date: 11/10/2009

Comments:

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [ ]

Assessment of Effect: ☐ No Historic Properties Affected ☒ No Adverse Effect ☐ Adverse Effect ☐ Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

---

No Reviews From: **Curator, Historian, 106 Advisor, Other Advisor, Anthropologist**

---

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

### 1. Assessment of Effect:

\_\_\_\_\_ No Historic Properties Affected   X   No Adverse Effect \_\_\_\_\_ Adverse Effect

### 2. Compliance requirements:

#### ☐ 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. PLAN-RELATED UNDERTAKING

Consultation and review of the proposed undertaking were completed in the context of a plan review process, in accordance with the 2008 Servicewide PA and 36 CFR Part 800.

Specify plan/EA/EIS: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ☒ D. UNDERTAKING RELATED TO ANOTHER AGREEMENT

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

Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ☐ E. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS SATISFIED BY USE OF NEPA

Documentation is required for the preparation of an EA/FONSI or an EIS/ROD has been developed and used so as also to meet the requirements of 36 CFR 800.3 through 800.6

#### ☐ F. No Potential to Cause Effects [800.3(a)(1)]

#### ☐ G. STIPULATIONS/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.

Recommended by Park Section 106 coordinator:

Signature of Historic Preservation Officer   //Jeannette Simons//  

Date:   3/3/10

#### **D. 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.

Signature of Acting Superintendent //Nikki Stephanie Nicholas// (acting)

Date: 3/11/10

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