



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: Mark Husbands

From: Acting Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2009-022 Big Oak Flat Contact Station Correct Accessibility Deficiencies (24252)

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 all equipment and materials brought into the park are free of non-native, invasive plants and animals and noxious weeds. All staff working on the project shall be informed of and follow best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of nonnative, invasive species as described in Division 1 Specifications, Section 1355.

//Larry Harris// (Acting)  
David V. Uberuaga

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

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File



# National Park Service

## Categorical Exclusion Form

**Project:** 2009-022 Big Oak Flat Contact Station Correct Accessibility Deficiencies

**PIN:** 24252

**Date:** May 19, 2010

**Project Description:** This project would replace the existing visitor access ramp and deck, which are in poor condition and do not meet current ADA/ABA slope requirements, with a new ADA/ABA compliant access ramp and deck. This ramp would be relocated to the front (east) side of the building, requiring the removal of one tree (pine). The existing entrance door would be maintained, but would be remodeled to meet ADA/ABA requirements. On the exterior, the existing Wilderness Permit service window would be remodeled with a larger, lower opening and an accessible exterior counter. If possible within available funds, a shade structure would also be constructed over the new deck and Wilderness Permit service window. On the interior, the existing visitor counters would be remodeled or replaced to meet ADA/ABA requirements and functional requirements of park staff.

**Project Location:**  
Tuolumne County, CA

**Mitigations:**

- Ensure that all equipment and materials brought into the park are free of non-native, invasive plants and animals and noxious weeds. All staff working on the project shall be informed of and follow best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of nonnative, invasive species as described in Division 1 Specifications, Section 1355.

**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.3. Routine maintenance and repairs to non-historic structures, facilities, utilities, grounds, and trails.

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

//Larry Harris// (Acting)  
**Park Superintendent**

4/02/09  
**Date**

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Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in  
Yosemite National Park.*



# National Park Service

## ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF) DO-12 APPENDIX 1

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

Today's Date: **March 25, 2009**

Date Form Initiated: **03/25/2009**

### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: **Yosemite NP**

Project Title: **2009-022 Big Oak Flat Contact Station Correct Accessibility Deficiencies**

PEPC Project Number: **24252**

Project Type: **ADA Accessibility (OTHER)**

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

Project Manager: **Mark Husbands**

### B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project would replace the existing visitor access ramp and deck, which are in poor condition and do not meet current ADA/ABA slope requirements, with a new ADA/ABA compliant access ramp and deck. This ramp would be relocated to the front (east) side of the building, requiring the removal of one tree (pine). The existing entrance door would be maintained, but would be remodeled to meet ADA/ABA requirements. On the exterior, the existing Wilderness Permit service window would be remodeled with a larger, lower opening and an accessible exterior counter. If possible within available funds, a shade structure would also be constructed over the new deck and Wilderness Permit service window. On the interior, the existing visitor counters would be remodeled or replaced to meet ADA/ABA requirements and functional requirements of park staff.

Preliminary drawings attached? **Yes**

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

### C. RESOURCE EFFECTS TO CONSIDER:

Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Geologic resources – soils, bedrock,		X			Minor soil disturbance for the deck footings that

streambeds, etc.					include 20 - 2' deep holes.
2. From geohazards	X				
3. Air quality		X			Minimal air emissions during the deck installation.
4. Soundscapes		X			Temporary construction noises during the installation of the deck.
5. Water quality or quantity	X				
6. Streamflow characteristics	X				
7. Marine or estuarine resources	X				
8. Floodplains or wetlands	X				
9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use	X				
10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine	X				
11. Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat	X				
12. Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites	X				Yosemite National Park is a World Heritage site; no historic properties would be adversely affected by implementing this project
13. Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat	X				
14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat	X				
15. Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)		X			See Comment 1, below.
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	X				
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources	X				Visitor experience will be enhanced due to the accessibility upgrades.
18. Archeological resources	X				Hodgdon Meadow Archeological District; there are no known archeological resources at

					the Big Oak Flat entrance station.
19. Prehistoric/historic structure	X				
20. Cultural landscapes	X				
21. Ethnographic resources	X				
22. Museum collections (objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections)	X				
23. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	X				
24. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	X				
25. Energy resources	X				
26. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	X				
27. Resource, including energy, conservation potential, sustainability	X				
28. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	X				
29. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	X				This project addresses the park's commitment to correcting the accessibility deficiencies around the park.
30. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	X				

Comments:

**1. Ensure that all equipment and materials brought into the park are free of non-native, invasive plants and animals and noxious weeds. All staff working on the project shall be informed of and follow best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of nonnative, invasive species as described in Division 1 Specifications, Section 1355.**

## D. MANDATORY CRITERIA

<b>Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Comment or Data Needed to Determine</b>
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?		X		
B. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas?		X		
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2) (E))?		X		
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		X		
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		X		
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		X		
G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?		X		
H. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		X		
I. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		X		
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		X		

K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		X		
L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		X		

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

## E. OTHER INFORMATION

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

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

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

## F. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES

<u>Interdisciplinary Team</u>	<u>Field of Expertise</u>
David V. Uberuaga	Acting Superintendent
Larry Harris	Acting Deputy Superintendent
Linda Dahl	Chief of Planning
Mark Butler	Acting Chief of Project Management
Katariina Tuovinen	Acting Chief of Administration Management
Dennis Mattiuzzi	Chief of Facilities Management
Niki Nicholas	Chief of Resources Management & Science
Marty Nielson	Chief of Business and Revenue Management
Tom Medema	Acting Chief of Interpretation and Education
Steve Shackelton	Chief Ranger
Mark Husbands	Project Leader
Teri Tucker	Acting Environmental Planning and Compliance
	Program Manager
Jeannette Simons	NHPA Specialist
Renea Kennec	NEPA Specialist

## G. SUPERVISORY SIGNATORY

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

Recommended:

<b>Compliance Specialist</b>	<b>Date</b>
<u>//Renea Kennec//</u> Compliance Specialist – Renea Kennec	<u>3/25/09</u>
<u>//Teri C. Tucker//</u> Acting Compliance Program Manager – Teri Tucker	<u>3/25/09</u>
<u>//Mark A. Butler//</u> Acting Chief, Project Management – Mark Butler	<u>3/27/09</u>

Approved:

<b>Acting Superintendent</b>	<b>Date</b>
<u>//Larry Harris// (Acting)</u> David V. Uberuaga	<u>4/02/09</u>

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Yosemite National Park.*



## PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: **March 25, 2009**

### PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite NP

Project Number: 24252

Project Type: ADA Accessibility (OTHER)

Project Location: County, State: Tuolumne, California

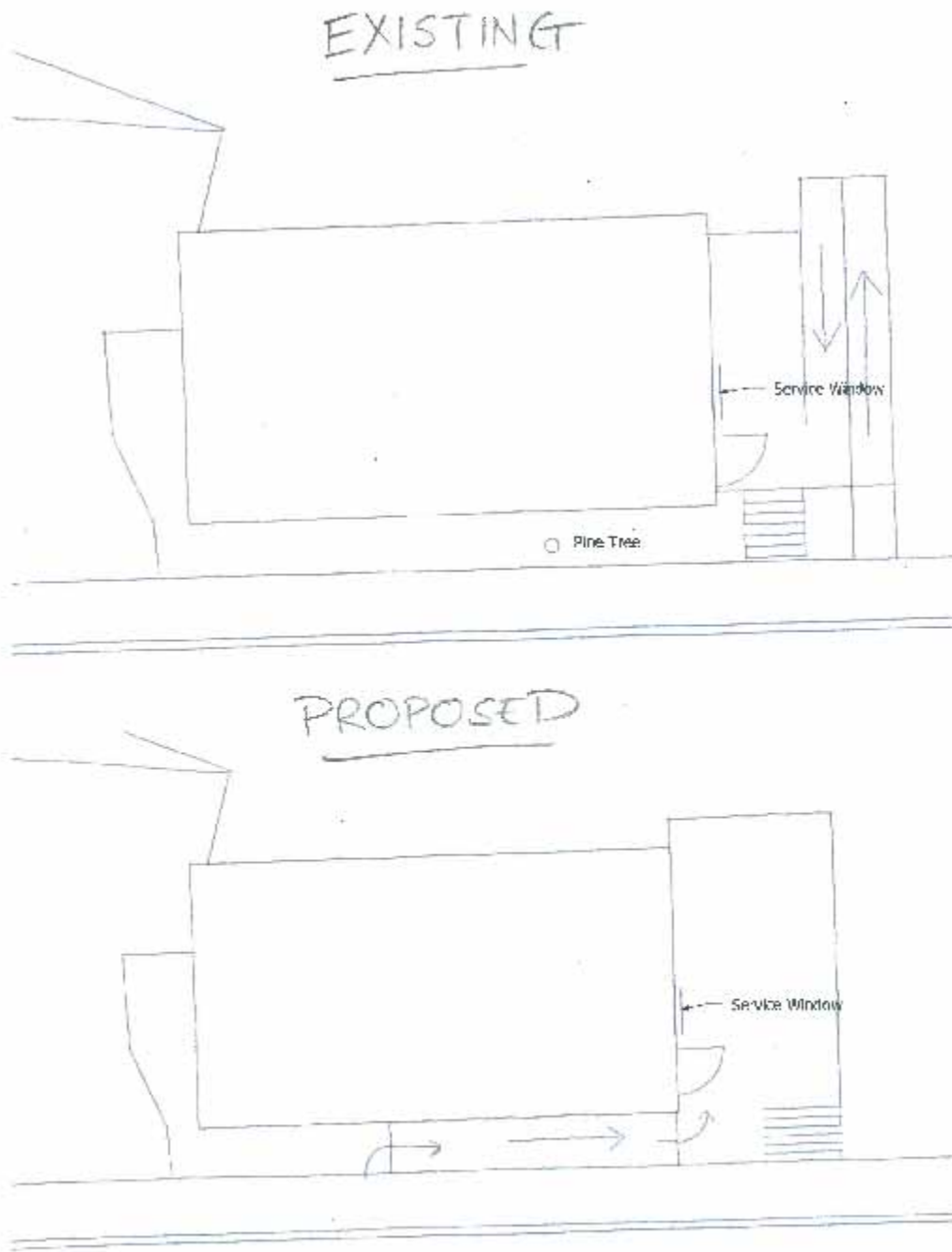
Project Manager: Mark Husbands

Project Title: 2009-022 Big Oak Flat Contact Station Correct Accessibility Deficiencies

### PARK ESF ADDENDUM QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1.SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST				
2. Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		X		
3. Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		X		
4. Park rare plants or vegetation?		X		
5. Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		X		
6.NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST				
7. Entail ground disturbance?	X			Minor soil disturbance for the deck footings that include 20 - 2' deep holes.
8. Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?	X			Hodgdon Meadow Archeological District; there are no known archeological resources at the Big Oak Flat entrance station.
9. Entail alteration of a historic structure or cultural landscape?	X			
10. Has a National Register form been completed?		X		
11. Are there any structures on the park's List of Classified Structures in the area of potential effect?		X		
12.WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST				
13. Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor?		X		
14. Fall within the bed and banks AND will affect the free-flow of the river?		X		
15. Have the possibility of affecting water quality of the area?		X		
16. Remain consistent with its river segment classification?			X	

17. Protect and enhance river ORVs?			X	
18. Fall within the River Protection Overlay?		X		
19. If Yes, remain consistent with conditions of the River Protection Overlay?			X	
20. Remain consistent with the areas Management Zoning?			X	
21. Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		X		
22. Will the project encroach or intrude upon the Wild and Scenic River corridor?		X		
23. Will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?		X		
100.WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST				
101. Within designated Wilderness?		X		
102. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		X		







Big Oak Flat Contact Station







Tree to Be Removed



Existing Ramp



# National Park Service

## ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES

### A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. Park: Yosemite NP Park District: Big Oak Flat

2. **Project Description:**

a. Project Name: 2009-022 Big Oak Flat Contact Station Correct Accessibility Deficiencies

Date: March 23, 2009 PEPC Project ID Number: 24252

b. Describe project and area of potential effects (as defined in 36 CFR 800.2[c]).

This project would replace the existing visitor access ramp and deck, which are in poor condition and do not meet current ADA/ABA slope requirements, with a new ADA/ABA compliant access ramp and deck. This ramp would be relocated to the front (east) side of the building, requiring the removal of one tree (pine). The existing entrance door would be maintained, but would be remodeled to meet ADA/ABA requirements. On the exterior, the existing Wilderness Permit service window would be remodeled with a larger, lower opening and an accessible exterior counter. If possible within available funds, a shade structure would also be constructed over the new deck and Wilderness Permit service window. On the interior, the existing visitor counters would be remodeled or replaced to meet ADA/ABA requirements and functional requirements of park staff.

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

   No

  X   Yes Source or reference Big Oak Flat Entrance Station Level 0 CLI; Hodgdon Meadow Archeological District.

  X   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 Resource(s): None**

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)



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

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** Jeannette Simons **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** Historic Preservation Officer **Telephone:** 209-379-1372

**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:

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**☐ ARCHEOLOGIST**

Name:

Date:

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:

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**☐ CURATOR**

Name:  
Date:  
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:

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**[X] ANTHROPOLOGIST**

Name: Jeannette Simons  
Date: 03/23/2009  
Comments: American Indian Liaison

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [ ]  
Assessment of Effect: x No Historic Properties Affected \_\_\_ No Adverse Effect \_\_\_ Adverse Effect  
\_\_\_ Streamlined Review  
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

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**[X] HISTORIAN**

Name: Patrick Chapin  
Date: 03/06/2009  
Comments: None

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [ ]  
Assessment of Effect: x No Historic Properties Affected \_\_\_ No Adverse Effect \_\_\_ Adverse Effect  
\_\_\_ Streamlined Review  
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:  
None

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**[X] HISTORICAL ARCHITECT**

Name: Sueann Brown  
Date: 03/09/2009  
Comments:

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [ ]  
Assessment of Effect: x No Historic Properties Affected \_\_\_ No Adverse Effect \_\_\_ Adverse Effect  
\_\_\_ Streamlined Review  
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

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**[X] HISTORICAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT**

Name: David Humphrey

Date: 03/04/2009  
Comments: None.

*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:  
None.

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**☐ 106 Advisor**

Name:

Date:

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:

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

**1. Assessment of Effect:**

☒ No Historic Properties Affected ☐ 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. 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    3/25/09

**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 Superintendent    //Larry Harris// (Acting)

Date    4/02/09

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Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in  
Yosemite National Park.*