

**National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior**

**Mount Rainier National Park
Washington**



**REHABILITATE PARADISE INN ANNEX AND SNOW BRIDGE
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

October 2016

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) documents the decision of the National Park Service (NPS) to select Alternative B, the preferred alternative, as analyzed in the Rehabilitate Paradise Inn Annex and Snow Bridge Environmental Assessment (EA) and the NPS's determination that neither significant impacts on the quality of the human environment, nor impairment of park values will occur from implementing this course of action.

The Paradise Inn, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1987 and is a contributing component of the Mount Rainier National Historic Landmark District. The Paradise Inn consists of two structures, the Inn and the Annex, which are connected by the Snow Bridge. The Annex was constructed in 1920 and provides 79 guest rooms, over half of all overnight lodging in the park. The Annex will be closed beginning August 2017 through late spring 2019 to complete this work. This decision and its implementation will complete the rehabilitation of the Paradise Inn and Annex, concluding a project that began with the rehabilitation of the Inn from 2006 to 2008.

This FONSI, its appendices, and the EA constitute the record of the environmental impact analysis and decision-making process, as required by NEPA. The FONSI is available on the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/mora>.

PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the selected alternative is to rehabilitate the Paradise Inn Annex and Snow Bridge, correcting identified structural and drainage deficiencies, and bringing the buildings into compliance with current building codes and standards. The project is needed because the two historic structures are in danger of structural failure. The recurring harsh winter conditions during the lifetime of the Annex and Snow Bridge have placed significant pressure on structural components of the buildings. The rubble foundation of the Annex has been compressed, deformed, and shifted, leaving the building susceptible to failure that may result from a seismic event, or extreme snow loads. Inadequate drainage contributes to undermining of the foundation, and degradation of exterior walls caused by constant moisture, contributing to accelerated deterioration of the foundation. Building upgrades are needed to bring the Annex and Snow

Bridge into compliance with International Building Code and National Fire Protection Act standards.

DECISION REACHED AND RATIONALE

The NPS selected Alternative B, Rehabilitate Paradise Inn Annex and Snow Bridge (the NPS preferred alternative) because it best meets the purpose and need for the project by:

- correcting identified structural deficiencies at the Annex and Snow Bridge;
- correcting drainage deficiencies that are contributing to the undermining of the foundation; and
- bringing the buildings into compliance with current building codes and standards.

Selected Action

The NPS will implement a slightly modified version of Alternative B, Rehabilitate Paradise Inn Annex and Snow Bridge (which was identified as agency-preferred alternative in the EA), as follows: short term operation of a small concrete batch plant will be allowed in the Picnic Loop area to efficiently service construction of the foundation – this minor change will minimize hauling up and down the Nisqually to Paradise Road to an external concrete plant, and does not increase the degree of potential adverse impacts documented in the EA.

As described in the EA, under the selected action a new concrete foundation for the Annex will be installed, which includes replacing the existing rubble with a replica veneer created by cutting the backs of the rocks. The selected action also includes rehabilitation of the Annex and Snow Bridge to improve safety and drainage. This project will address the potential for severe structural damage from snow loading and the possible collapse of the Annex and Snow Bridge during a seismic event, while addressing noncompliance with current building codes. Other key elements of the project include the following:

- The existing stone foundation of the Annex will be replaced with a new reinforced concrete foundation with a stone veneer. To maintain the historic appearance of the building, a replica veneer will be constructed from the existing stones by cutting the backs of the rocks, as required for the new depth, and replacing them in their original locations to recreate the appearance of the stone foundation prior to rehabilitation.
- Inadequate drainage around the foundation of the Annex will be addressed by installing a storm drain, and a groundwater diversion system will be installed to divert water away from the building.
- Shear resistance will be provided by installing seismic building improvements such as shear walls and plywood diaphragms in the basement and on each floor. Additional structural deficiencies will be addressed by repairing damaged basement beams and connections.

- The building interior will be rehabilitated with new code-compliant electrical systems, plumbing, fire protection systems, and acoustic materials, and exterior siding will be replaced.
- The stairs at the Annex north stair tower will be reconstructed to meet code.
- New roof joists and overframing will be installed to slightly extend the roof at the “triangle” by the north stairs and Snow Bridge to protect the building from water infiltration.
- New roof extensions at the north stair tower will be supported by kickers to match the existing roof kickers at the main roof. Shingles will be extended to match the existing roof.
- Replacing or repairing the windows in the Annex and Snow Bridge will address issues with drafty conditions and energy efficiency while maintaining the historic appearance of the windows.
- Staging and contractor parking will be limited to existing disturbed asphalt or gravel surfaces, with the exception of a small area east of the annex and a narrow strip adjacent to the access road where a small area of wetlands and non-wetland vegetation are present.

In addition, the project will implement a number of resource protection measures (attached) to minimize the degree and/or severity of adverse effects on air quality, water resources, wetlands, soil, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, cultural resources, visitor use, and public health and safety.

Alternatives Considered

Two alternatives were evaluated for action in the EA: 1) Alternative A, No Action; and 2) Alternative B, Rehabilitate Paradise Inn Annex and Snow Bridge. Under Alternative A, no improvements to the Paradise Inn Annex and Snow Bridge would occur. Ongoing minor repair activities would continue, although these activities would not address the structural and drainage issues that could result in substantial damage to these buildings from snow loading and the risk of collapse from a seismic event. This alternative would not address noncompliance with current electrical, plumbing, and fire safety codes.

Why the Selected Alternative Will Not Have a Significant Effect on the Human Environment

As defined in 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1508.27, significance is determined by examining the following criteria:

1. *Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse: A significant effect may exist even if the agency believes that on balance the effect will be beneficial*

Implementation of the selected action will result in both adverse and beneficial impacts. The selected action will be beneficial in the long term because it will reduce the risk of loss of life

and structural failure. The loss of historic fabric and the introduction of non-historic architectural elements will adversely affect the historical integrity of the Paradise Inn. Impacts will be mitigated by using compatible structural elements and through documentation of existing conditions prior to rehabilitation. Overall, the NPS has determined that the selected action will have no adverse effect on contributing properties to the Mount Rainier National Historic Landmark District (NHL). The Washington State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) concurred with this determination in a letter dated June 30, 2016. The NPS will submit construction documents to the SHPO for review and comment. It is expected that the construction documents will be available for review before the end of the 2016 calendar year.

Construction-related activities may adversely affect surface water quality as a result of increased sediment movement into surface water during the construction period; however, resource protection measures will be implemented to minimize the effects. Construction will result in temporary fill placed within 0.038 acre of wetlands east of the Annex. The fill material will be removed and the disturbed wetlands will be restored following construction. The selected action will result in beneficial effects on water resources and wetlands over the long term following completion of the project by improving site drainage and treating drainage water before discharge.

Increased hazards to health and safety may occur during construction. Over the long term, upgrading the fire protection, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing systems and addressing the structural deficiencies of the Annex and Snow Bridge will result in beneficial effects on visitor and employee health and safety.

Construction work and closures will cause a disruption in traffic and visitor access. In addition, noise disturbance will reduce the quality of the visitor experience during construction activities. The park will take measures to notify visitors of the status of road/trail closures and potential traffic delays. Over the long term, the selected action will improve the visitor experience by stabilizing the Annex, improving comfort by rehabilitating windows, reducing noise transmission between rooms by adding insulation, and restoring the historic character of the Annex and Snow Bridge.

Construction work and closures will have both adverse and beneficial effects on socioeconomics over the short term. The short-term effects from the closures will be adverse in that there would be fewer rooms for visitors within the park and beneficial in that more visitors will stay in the gateway communities, thus possibly increasing spending outside of the park and dispersing the revenues throughout the gateway communities. Over the long term, economic effects from the selected action will be beneficial by reducing the need for unforeseen closures for maintenance and repairs.

No significant resource effects were identified. Resource protection measures, as listed in the EA, will minimize adverse effects. Additional detail on resource effects is found in the EA.

2. Degree of effect on public health or safety

The selected action will include structural stabilization work to bring the Annex and Snow Bridge up to best professional standards and safety compliance. Structural improvements and

upgrading fire protection, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing systems will address the deficiencies of the Annex and Snow Bridge, which will improve visitor and employee safety. Implementing the selected action may produce low levels of safety risk to visitors, staff, and contractors during construction. The use of construction equipment, increased truck traffic, and brief interference with traffic flow could produce potential hazards. Risks would be limited by providing information on the actions to visitors, placing barriers near construction zones, controlling traffic, and following standard construction safety practices.

3. *Degree to which effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial*

Throughout the environmental process, the proposal to rehabilitate the Paradise Inn Annex and Snow Bridge was not highly controversial and the effects are not expected to generate future controversy. None of the identified environmental effects from implementation of the project were highly controversial and there is no indication of controversy over the nature of the effects. Given the substance of public comments, there is no evidence that the effects on the quality of the human environment will be highly controversial.

4. *Degree to which the possible effects on the quality of the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks*

The proposed Paradise Inn Annex and Snow Bridge rehabilitation meets project objectives through implementation of improvements that repair and correct damaged conditions, address public safety, provide for visitor enjoyment, and protect park natural and cultural resources. The anticipated effects on the human environment, as analyzed in the EA, are not highly uncertain or unique, and do not involve unknown risks. Resource conditions in the project area are well known and the anticipated impacts from implementing the selected action are understood based on NPS experience with similar projects.

5. *Degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration*

Implementing the selected action to rehabilitate the Paradise Inn Annex and Snow Bridge will not result in significant adverse effects on the natural environment, cultural resources, or visitor experience, and will not set a precedent for future actions that could have significant effects because the selected action will be rehabilitating facilities that previously existed.

6. *Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts*

The EA concluded that past, present, and future activities, when coupled with the impacts of the selected action, will have both adverse and beneficial cumulative effects. No significant adverse cumulative effects were identified.

7. *Degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed on the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources*

The proposed rehabilitation work will not introduce visual elements incompatible, out of scale, or out of character with the aesthetics or character of the Annex and Snow Bridge. The selected action will be beneficial in the long term by mitigating against the loss of life and potential for structural failure. The loss of historic fabric and introduction of non-historical architectural elements to the Paradise Inn Annex will be mitigated with compatible structural elements and through documentation of existing conditions prior to rehabilitation. The rehabilitation work also will restore the historic aesthetic within the building by replacing the non-historic décor with more appropriate décor and fixtures. The effects will be less than significant.

Rehabilitation work proposed under the selected action will follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Character-defining architectural elements will be preserved or replaced in-kind through similar design and like materials. The NPS has determined that the selected action will have no adverse effect on contributing properties to the Mount Rainier NHL. The Washington SHPO and DAHP concurred with this determination in a letter dated June 30, 2016. The project will not result in the loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

8. Degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its critical habitat

The proposed staging area at Cougar Rock Picnic Area would be adjacent to nesting habitat for the federally listed threatened northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet. There would be *no effect* to these species because timing restrictions to avoid the nesting seasons of these species would be implemented as described in the Resource Protection Measures. There would be no effect to other listed species. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service received a letter describing the project during the scoping period and received the announcement of the EA.

9. Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas

No prime farmlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas will be affected by the selected action. Adverse impacts on historical structures will occur from introducing new non-historical elements, as described above in the description of the selected action. Overall, the NPS has determined that the selected action will have no adverse effect on contributing properties to the Mount Rainier NHL, and received SHPO concurrence on June 30, 2016. Construction will result in the temporary loss of 0.038 acre of vegetated wetlands. All temporarily disturbed wetland areas will be revegetated with native species following construction.

10. Whether the action threatens a violation of federal, state, or local environmental protection law

The selected action does not violate any federal, state, or local environmental protection laws.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

During the scoping process, the park held discussions with Rainier Guest Services, the concessioner that operates the inn. Internal scoping was conducted by an interdisciplinary team from the park, Denver Service Center staff, and consultants.

The EA was made available for public review and comment during a 30-day period ending July 22, 2016. The EA was posted on the NPS PEPC website, copies were placed at the Puyallup, Enumclaw, Tacoma, Buckley, and Yakima Valley Regional public libraries and the NPS notified individuals; businesses; organizations; state, county, and local governments; federal agencies; and culturally affiliated American Indian tribes via letter that the EA was available for review and comment. Copies were also provided to park visitor centers, and to Rainier Guest Services.

The park received three correspondences on the EA from the public during the review period. All three correspondences expressed support for the project. One comment suggested adding infrastructure to support charging stations for electric vehicles. One commenter noted that the Carbon River area is vehicle accessible year-round. One comment expressed concern that plumbing and electrical changes may be visible to visitors and affect the historic character of the Paradise Inn. One commenter noted that Stevens Canyon Road at Backbone Ridge is within the park. One comment expressed concern that noise disturbances during construction from back-up alarms on construction vehicles were not adequately addressed in the EA, and expressed general concern about impacts on the visitor experience. One comment expressed concern that restored interior finishes should be made in identical fashion as the originals, at least on visible surfaces. Finally, one comment suggested returning Valley Road to its previous configuration as a one-way road.

AGENCY AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION

Washington State Historic Preservation Officer

Consultation with the Washington SHPO has been ongoing. A letter was sent to the SHPO on June 21, 2016 requesting formal concurrence with the NPS determination of no adverse effect on historic resources resulting from the preferred alternative presented in the EA.

The documents related to the National Historic Preservation Act, in accordance with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's regulations implementing Section 106 (36 CFR Part 800) were completed and submitted to the Washington SHPO. The NPS has determined that the selected action will have no adverse effect on contributing properties to the Mount Rainier NHL. The Washington SHPO and DAHP concurred with this determination in a letter dated June 30, 2016.

American Indian Consultation

Six federally recognized Native American tribes associated with the park were contacted and invited to participate in the planning process. These tribes included the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Nisqually Indian Tribe, Puyallup Tribe of Indians, Squaxin Island Tribe, and Yakima Nation. The park received responses from the Nisqually Indian Tribe and the Squaxin Island Tribe. Both tribes expressed no current concerns related to cultural resources and

requested that the NPS monitor excavation work and to be notified if archaeological resources are encountered.

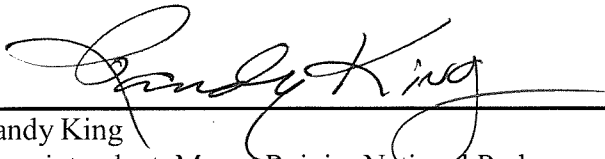
CONCLUSION

Based on the conservation planning and environmental impact analysis documented in the EA, with due consideration of the nature of the public comments and consultations with other agencies, and given the capability of the mitigation measures to avoid, reduce, or eliminate impacts, the NPS has determined that the selected alternative does not constitute a federal action that normally requires preparation of an EIS. Adverse environmental impacts that could occur are localized and limited in context. The selected alternative will not have significant effect on the quality of the human environment or the park's cultural or natural resources

There are no unmitigated adverse impacts on public safety, sites or districts either listed in or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, or other unique characteristics of the region. No highly uncertain or controversial impacts, unique or unknown risks, cumulative effects, or elements of precedence were identified. Implementation of the selected alternative will not violate any federal, state, or local environmental protection law.

Based on the forgoing, it has been determined that an EIS will not be prepared and the selected alternative may be implemented as soon as practicable.

Recommended:




Randy King
Superintendent, Mount Rainier National Park

9-30-16

Date

Approved:



for Laura E. Joss
Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service

10/7/16

Date

Attachment - Resource Protection Measures

The following resource protection measures will be implemented to minimize the degree or severity of adverse effects.

General Measures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction limits, including staging areas, would be clearly marked with stakes prior to the beginning of ground-disturbing activities. No disturbance would occur beyond these limits other than protection measures for erosion/sediment control (these are typically placed just outside the clearing limit stakes). Temporary construction fencing would only be installed where determined necessary by the NPS. All tools, equipment, barricades, signs, surplus materials, and rubbish would be removed from the project work limits upon project completion. Any asphalt surfaces damaged due to work on the project would be repaired to their original condition. All demolition debris would be removed from the project site, including all visible concrete and metal pieces. Construction debris would be hauled from the park to a licensed disposal location. Debris would not be burned or buried in the park. 	NPS Project Manager, Park Safety Officer
Air Quality	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dust control (i.e., use of water as a dust suppressant) would occur, as needed, on active work areas where dirt or fine particles are exposed. The park would determine an appropriate water source for dust control. Equipment would not be allowed to idle longer than 15 minutes when not in use. 	NPS Project Manager
Water Resources	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporary Storm Water Pollution Prevention would be required and an Under-Acre Pollution Prevention Plan (UPPP) would be prepared prior to construction and implemented during construction. The UPPP would conform to all NPS and Washington state requirements and would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> describe the project and project schedule, provide information on soil and fill, and describe activities and materials that could generate sediment and/or pollute stormwater; describe the BMPs that would be implemented to prevent erosion and sedimentation and identify, reduce, eliminate, or prevent stormwater contamination and water pollution from construction activity; and be designed to prevent violations of surface water quality, groundwater quality, or sediment management standards. There would be no discharges from the project area of concrete wastewater or wastewater from the washout and cleanup of construction materials, fuels, oils or other pollutants, or soaps and solvents. As required by the UPPP permit, the construction contractor would discharge any groundwater from dewatering activities into a controlled conveyance system before discharge to a sediment trap or sediment pond. All ground water would be treated. Treated, clean, nonturbid water could be discharged directly into surface water if the flow did not cause erosion or flooding of receiving waters. Measures to protect water quality from sedimentation are described below in 	Park Project Manager, Environmental Protection Specialist (EPS)

the *Soils, Soil Erosion, and Sediment Control* section.

- In the event of an unauthorized discharge:
 - Further contamination would be prevented immediately.
 - Appropriate authorities and the NPS would be notified immediately.
 - Damages would be mitigated as required.
- Work areas, including material sources and staging areas, would be separated by the use of a suitable barrier that would prevent sediment, petroleum products, chemicals, other liquids, or solid materials from entering waters of the U.S. Barriers would be constructed and removed to avoid discharge of material into waters of the U.S. Sediment or other material collected by the barrier would be removed and properly disposed of.
- If a construction area were unworked for more than 7 days during the dry season or 2 days during the wet season, it would be covered with mulch, compost, plastic sheeting, or something similar. All finished construction areas would be stabilized within 7 days after final grading.
- Staging areas on existing asphalt surfaces (used for construction equipment storage, vehicle storage, fueling, servicing, and hazardous material storage) will be established in the field and will be, if possible, at least 150 feet away from streams in a location and manner that would preclude erosion into or contamination of streams or wetlands. Staging along the Valley Road would be limited to areas identified in the field by the NPS.
- For storage of equipment and materials at designated staging areas within 150 feet of streams and wetlands, appropriate erosion protection measures would be implemented to protect water resources. Structurally adequate debris shields would be constructed to contain debris within the construction limits and prevent debris from entering waterways, travel lanes open to public traffic, or areas designated not to be disturbed.
- Leaky equipment would not be allowed in the park. If equipment starts to leak while in the park, it would be repaired immediately or removed from the park.
- A Hazardous Spill Plan or Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures Plan, whichever is determined appropriate, would be in place, stating what actions would be taken in the event of a spill, notification measures, and preventive measures to be implemented, such as the placement of refueling facilities, storage, and handling of hazardous materials. The plan would be submitted at least two days before beginning construction work. Other measures related to the spill plan include:
 - All equipment on the project would be maintained in a clean and well-functioning state to avoid or minimize contamination from automotive fluids.
 - All equipment would be checked daily and any leaks would be immediately repaired upon discovery.
 - Chemicals, fuels, and other toxic materials would be stored, used, and disposed of in a proper manner.
 - Oil, hydraulic fluids, antifreeze, or other chemicals would not be drained to the ground.
 - If possible, equipment or vehicles would be refueled at least 150 feet away

<p>from streams or identified wetlands in a location and manner that would preclude erosion into or contamination of streams or wetlands. For refueling at designated refueling areas within 150 feet of streams and wetlands, appropriate spill containment measures would be implemented to protect water resources. The NPS would identify refueling areas, which would be approved by the park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A supply of acceptable absorbent materials would be kept at the job site in the event of spills. Acceptable absorbent materials are those that are manufactured specifically for the containment and cleanup of hazardous materials. Any spills would be cleaned up immediately. In the event of a spill, the NPS would be notified immediately. ○ BMPs for drainage and sediment control, as described in the UPPP, would be implemented to prevent or reduce nonpoint source pollution and minimize soil loss and sedimentation in drainage areas. ○ Vegetable oil-based hydraulic fluids are readily available and would be used in all heavy equipment to minimize potential impacts on water quality from spills. ○ Fresh concrete, concrete byproducts, or other chemical contaminants would not be allowed to enter water bodies. ○ Rock cutting operations would not be allowed in the park. 	
Wetlands	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to construction work at locations where wetlands may be present adjacent to the project area, certified weed-free coir logs or other erosion-control measures such as silt fence would be installed to form a filter barrier to trap sediments from being deposited in wetlands. Construction fencing would be installed to define construction limits. • In wetland areas impacted for staging activities, vegetation would be cut at ground level prior to construction to protect the root zone and allow vegetation to regrow following construction. • Wetlands impacted for staging activities would be protected by placing fabric or mats prior to construction. No permanent fill would be placed in wetlands. • Impacted wetlands would be decompacted following construction if the park determines that soil compaction has occurred that may inhibit the regrowth of vegetation in the wetlands. • Temporarily impacted wetlands would be revegetated following construction using salvaged plant material. • Hydrologic connections to wetlands would be maintained via culverts, ditches, or other measures. 	<p>Park Geologist, Aquatic Ecologist, Project Manager</p>
Soils, Soil Erosion, and Sediment-Control Measures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excavated material that is suitable for growth of native vegetation, as determined by the park, would be salvaged and stockpiled according to park stipulations before any additional construction work takes place. • Topsoil would not be mixed with subsoil. • Use of BMPs in the project area for erosion control would include all or some of the following actions, depending on site-specific requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Disturbed areas would be kept as small as practical to minimize exposed soil and the potential for erosion. 	<p>Park Project Manager, EPS, Plant Ecologist, Historical Landscape Architect (HLA)</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Erosion- and sediment-control devices would be installed and vegetation cleared prior to salvaging topsoil for storage. ○ Excavated material would be covered with water-repellent breathable material during storage to prevent erosion/sedimentation. ○ Silt fences, coir logs, temporary earthen berms, temporary water bars, sediment traps, stone check dams, or other equivalent measures would be installed. Erosion-control measures would be monitored to ensure they are properly installed and are functioning effectively. ○ Certified weed-free coir logs would be installed for filtering sediment from runoff and reducing the velocity of sheet flow. Logs would be installed according to plans and as directed by the park to address erosion concerns. Silt fence would be installed according to plans, fencing would consist of one continuous piece of semipermeable fabric (or steps would be taken to join sections so there would be no gaps), fencing would remain in an upright position after installation, materials and equipment would not be leaned against fencing to avoid fence collapse, and fencing would be repaired to ensure an effective barrier within 24 hours of deficiency notification. ○ A guar-based or similar tackifier containing no artificial fibers would be used as an adhesive agent for hydraulic seeding, if needed. 	
Vegetation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No vegetation would be disturbed outside of the construction limits unless prior approval is obtained from the park. Any unauthorized disturbance would result in the contractor paying for the restoration of that area using the methods set forth in the contract documents. • Parking of equipment and private vehicles would be restricted to hardened surfaces, such as existing parking areas, to limit vegetation disturbance. • Prior to construction work, certified weed-free coir logs or other erosion-control measures such as silt fence would be installed to form a filter barrier to trap sediments from being deposited in vegetated areas. Construction fencing would be installed to define construction limits. • In the vegetated areas impacted for staging activities, south and east of the annex, vegetation would be cut at ground level prior to construction to protect the root zone and allow vegetation to regrow following construction. • As appropriate, all salvageable vegetation (determined by the park plant ecologist) within the limits of construction would be removed and relocated to temporary storage (planting beds in the Paradise Picnic Area or behind the kitchen and East Wing of the Paradise Inn) during construction. • To protect the viability of the vegetation in the project area, the following measures would be taken: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Replacement of excavated fill would be hand tamped back into place. ○ Plants would be protected from cutting, breaking, and skinning of roots, branches, or bark. ○ To reduce the potential of topsoil losing its important biological components, topsoil within areas to be excavated around the foundation would be stripped to a depth of 12 inches, stockpiled in windrows off-site (in a designated staging area) to a depth of not greater than 3 feet, and covered with breathable fabric. 	<p>Park Program Manager, EPS, Plant Ecologist, HLA</p>

Weed Control	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All imported erosion-control materials that are capable of harboring plant seed would be certified weed-free according to North American Weed Management Association standards to ensure that it is free of noxious weeds and accepted by the park. Subsurface rock that has not been exposed to a weed source may be acceptable upon inspection by the park. The park would inspect all local material sources prior to use or transport of materials into the park. • For a material source provider to be considered certified weed-free, all staging areas, work areas, and facilities associated with producing the material would be inspected by a qualified government inspector, qualified park employee, or other proper officials or authority - a representative of that state's department of agriculture, a weed supervisor or weed superintendent, a university extension agent, or an individual designated by that state's laws or regulations - and determined to be free of all noxious weed and invasive plant species. To prevent introduction of noxious weeds and exotic species within the project limits, the contractor would comply with the following measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Imported large foundation rock would be pressure washed. ○ The NPS would inspect all contractor vehicles and equipment prior to entering the park for mud, weeds, and other unwanted substances. All vehicles (includes hydroseeder truck and the inside of the tank), heavy equipment, hauling vehicles, and trailers would be pressure washed before their first entry into the park. Hauling vehicles that have previously transported weed-contaminated material would be pressure-washed before transporting clean material. Subsequent entries of hauling vehicles into the park would not require pressure washing unless the vehicle shows signs of mud, plant material, or as requested by the park. ○ Vehicle loads would be covered to reduce exposure to noxious weeds when transporting rock, soil, or other material that could contain weed seed. Excavated material, conserved topsoil, conserved rock/soil, and subexcavation material stockpiles would be covered with a breathable water-repellent fabric, which would be anchored around the perimeter to hold it in place. 	<p>Park Project Manager, Plant Ecologist</p>
Wildlife and Special Status Species	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NPS would inform construction personnel of the occurrence and status of special status species near the project area, the potential impacts construction activities may have on the species, and the potential penalties for taking or harming a special status species. • The NPS would locate and move sensitive amphibians two weeks prior to excavation or use the wetlands east of the Annex. • Sediment fences would be used to prevent amphibians from crawling into stored materials. • The following measures would be taken to limit noise and disturbance from vehicles and construction equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All motor vehicles and equipment would have mufflers conforming to original manufacturer specifications that are in good working order and are in constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual noise. ○ Sound attenuation devices (such as rubber strips or sheeting) would be installed and maintained on all equipment. This would include truck tail and other gate dampeners (both opening and closing) for all dump trucks used 	<p>Park Project Manager, EPS, Aquatic Ecologist, Wildlife Ecologist</p>

<p>on the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use of unmuffled compression brakes would be prohibited within park boundaries. ○ Use of air horns within the park would not be allowed except for safety. • Because of the proximity of northern spotted owl territories and marbled murrelet habitat, staging would not occur at the Cougar Rock Picnic Area from April 1 through September 23 (to protect nesting murrelets) and from March 15 through September 30 if nesting owls are present. • If tree and shrub removal is required, nesting bird surveys would be done. If nesting birds are found, tree removal would be conducted outside of the nesting season for migratory birds (September to February) to avoid disturbing or take of a bird nest. • Any roadkill or wildlife collisions would be reported to the park immediately. • Feeding or approaching wildlife would be prohibited. • The park wildlife ecologist would be notified if bears or foxes loiter in the project area. • A litter control program would be implemented during construction to eliminate the accumulation of trash. All food items would be stored inside vehicles, trailers, or wildlife-resistant receptacles except during actual use to prevent attracting wildlife. 	
<p style="text-align: center;">Cultural Resources</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the event of the inadvertent discovery of historic properties such as archaeological resources, suspected human remains, funerary objects, sacred sites, or objects of cultural patrimony, the park archaeologist and superintendent would be notified immediately. The park would follow their <i>Archaeological Inadvertent Discovery Plan</i> approved by the SHPO. Work in the affected area(s) would stop immediately until the historic properties are reviewed by the park. As appropriate, consultation with the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and any affected Native American tribes would also take place regarding disposition of affected artifacts and remains. During consultation, reasonable measures would be taken to protect the discovery site, including any appropriate stabilization or covering, to ensure the confidentiality of the discovery site and to restrict access to the discovery site. • A monitoring plan would be developed by the park for project activities that have the potential to affect archaeological resources recommended or determined eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. This plan would require an archaeological monitor to be present on-site during ground-disturbing activities in or around culturally sensitive areas as determined by the park and consulting parties including the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. Based on the monitoring plan, the contractor would notify the park 2 weeks in advance of conducting activities in culturally sensitive areas. • Historic buildings and landscapes would be protected by following the <i>Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties</i>. • Measures recommended by the SHPO would be added to this list. 	<p>Park Project Manager, Historical Architect</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Visitor Use and Experience</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The status of construction would be communicated via a number of outlets: the park website, regional newspapers, radio, entrance stations, visitor centers, 	<p>Park Chief of Interpretation,</p>

Rehabilitate Paradise Inn Annex and Snow Bridge

<p>news releases, local newspapers, media outlets, and postings in local businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specific provisions would be followed to minimize adverse effects on visitors:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The majority of material deliveries would be made and disruptive work would be done during the week, rather than on weekends or holidays, and would occur before or after peak visitation periods.○ Paved areas used by vehicular and pedestrian traffic would be kept clean of construction debris and soils, as necessary.	<p>Safety Officer, Project Manager</p>
Public Health and Safety	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appropriate barriers and barricades would be used to clearly delineate work areas for the safety of park visitors.• Trucks hauling debris and other loose materials would be covered to maintain adequate freeboard to prevent spillage to paved surfaces.	<p>Park Project Manager, Safety Officer, EPS</p>

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Errata

Rehabilitate Paradise Inn Annex and Snow Bridge Environmental Assessment

Edits to the Environmental Assessment

This portion of the Errata indicates changes made after public and agency review of the Rehabilitate Paradise Inn Annex and Snow Bridge Environmental Assessment (EA). Short-term operation of a small concrete batch plant will be allowed in Picnic Loop Area A to minimize truck trips up and down the Nisqually Road to an external concrete plant. As explained in the Errata, this modification will not increase the degree of adverse impacts described in the EA due to the limited duration and size of the operation and adherence to Washington Department of Ecology standards.

The following should be changed in the EA as noted below:

Page 4, Introduction, 2nd paragraph – Change “National Landmark Historic District” to “National Historic Landmark District.”

Page 5, Figure 1 Paradise Inn location – The corrected Figure 1 is attached and replaces Figure 1 provided in the EA.

Page 13, Foundation Improvements – After “The cast-in-place concrete foundation would be constructed after excavation of areas around the foundation and removal of the existing foundation” add the following text: “A small, portable concrete batch plant would be used to produce about 325 cubic yards of concrete. The plant would be located in Picnic Loop Area A. About 20,000 gallons of water would be needed, which would be extracted from the hydrant at the Nisqually entrance. The batch plant would be in operation for about four weeks. The batch plant would comply with all Washington Department of Ecology standards and BMPs in this EA. If concrete waste is produced, it would be removed from the park for disposal; it would not be discharged in the project area.”

Page 19, Figure 9 Staging Areas – The corrected Figure 9 is attached and replaces Figure 9 provided in the EA.

Page 24, Resource Protection Measures – Delete “Concrete batch plants or rock cutting operations would not be allowed in the park” and replace with “Rock cutting operations would only be allowed in the maintenance yard at Tahoma Woods”.

Page 28, Cultural Resources, last bullet – Delete “Measures recommended by the SHPO would be added to this list” and replace with “Consultation with the SHPO will continue as design and construction of the project proceeds. If new information about affected resources becomes available and/or the project scope of work changes significantly, the SHPO will be notified immediately so that they have the opportunity to provide feedback and reevaluate their assessment of “No Adverse Effect” to properties contributing the NHL.”

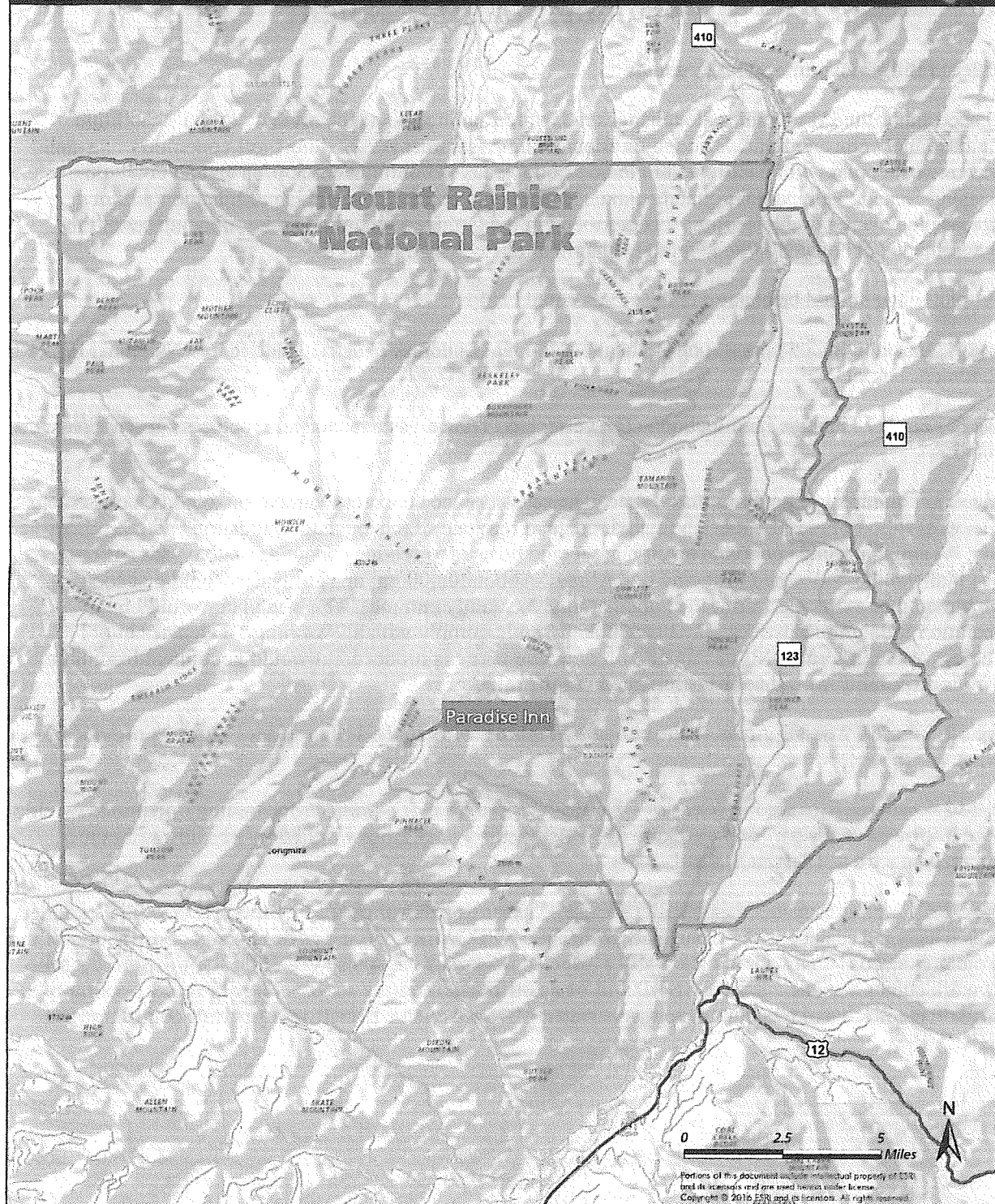


Figure 1. Paradise Inn Location

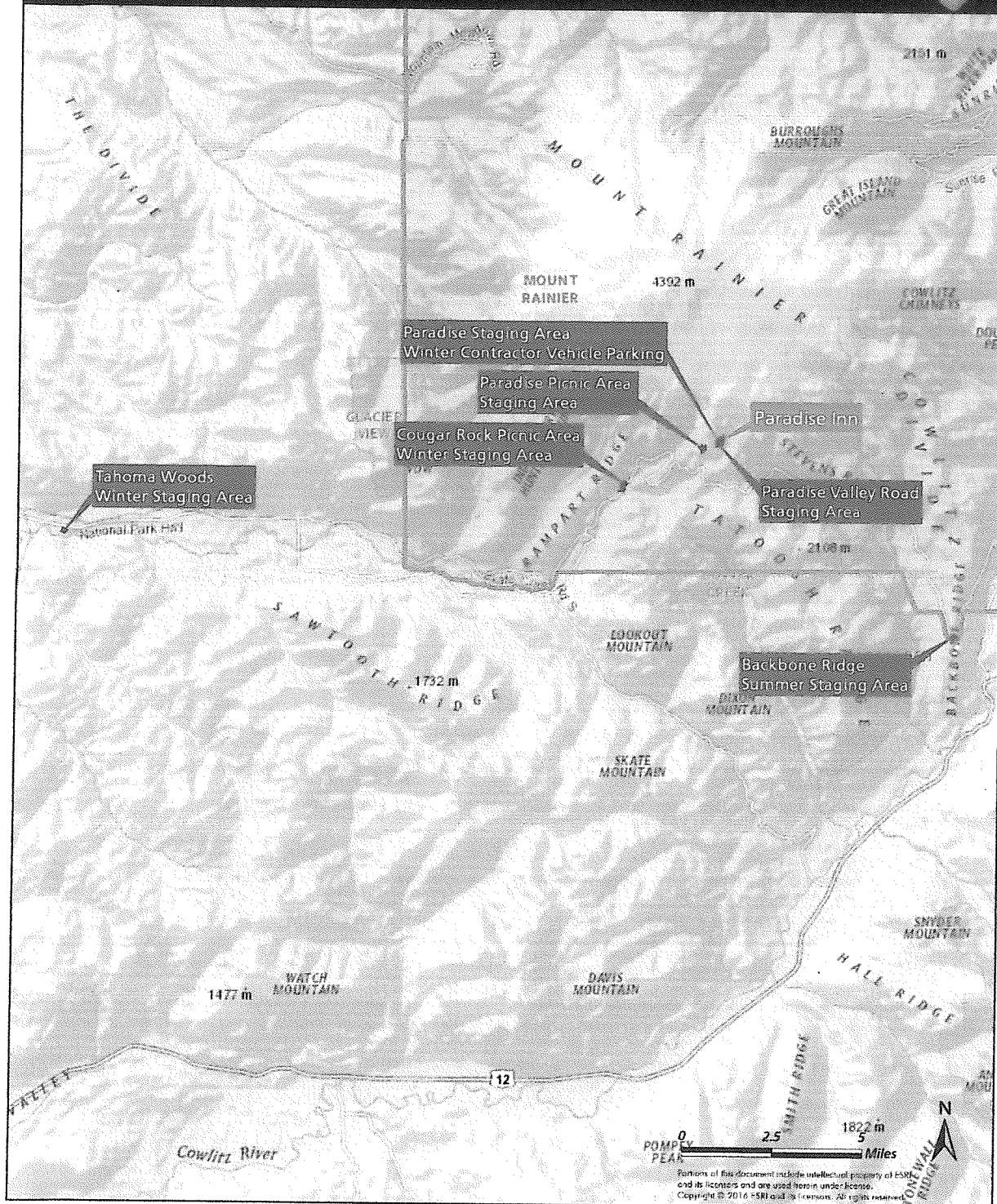


Figure 9. Staging Areas

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