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## Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: **Native Tree & Shrub Planting**

PEPC ID (PIN): **27767**

**Project Description: The park is proposing to procure and install native trees for installation within five identified developed areas within the park where visitors will benefit from the introduction of shade. Selected native tree species will enhance sites that have sustained damage due to normal attrition at maturity, floods, wind storms, disease, or soil compaction. Campgrounds, picnic areas, parking areas, and pedestrian walkways have been targeted as high priority sites where shade is desired. In addition, the park will install native shrub species as part of the landscape installation in the immediate vicinity of two recently constructed Visitor Centers (Akers Ferry and Pulltite). This project will be contracted out. Prior to installation, the park Landscape Architect will stake precise locations of each specimen in the field, consulting with the park Archeologist on a site by site basis. At Alley Spring and Akers Ferry, an Archeology Tech will be present during the excavation of the planting pits. All excavation is to occur in previously disturbed ground within the developed area of each site. Plantings will be sited to avoid all buried and overhead utility lines. Standard nursery trade installation procedures will be followed, as outlined in the contract. Excavated soil will be amended with decomposed organic matter and back-filled. Each tree specimen will be staked and mulched with shredded bark which will be obtained locally. Species selection will be consistent with native species indicative of vegetation types identified using the USGS Mapping Vegetation Communities in Ozark National Scenic Riverways: Final Technical Report to the National Park Service (2006). The contract will specify plant seed sources obtained from the Ozark Plateau Region in southcentral Missouri and central and northwest Arkansas, or as approved by the Contracting Officer's Representative.**

Project Locations:

Location 1

County:	Carter Cty	State:	MO
District:		Section:	
Geo. Marker:		Other:	

Location 2

County:	Shannon Cty	State:	MO
District:		Section:	

Geo. Marker:

Other:

(See Attached Environmental Screening Form)

Mitigation(s):

- **No mitigations identified**

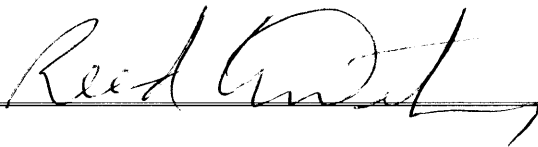
Describe the category used to exclude action from further NEPA analysis and indicate the number of the category (see Section 3-4 of DO-12):

**E.2 Restoration of noncontroversial native species into suitable habitats within their historic range and elimination of exotic species.**

(See Attached Environmental Screening Form)

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.

Park Superintendent / Date:



SEP 30 2009

NPS Contact Person:

Joe Strenfel

Title:

Management Assistant

Phone number:

573-323-4236