

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

Memorandum

To: Ron Gaunt, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2012-003 Curry Village Cabin Rehabilitation (30715)

The Executive Leadership Team has reviewed the proposed project 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 the rehabilitation follows the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.
- 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 site shall be informed of and follow best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species as described in Division 1 Specifications, Section 1335.
- Ensure that coordination with History, Architecture and Landscapes Branch staff takes place on all phases of planning, design and implementation.
- Minimize soil disturbance such as compaction and vegetation damage (especially the protection of trees) around sample sites. Preserve and replace topsoil where feasible.
- Monitor ground disturbing activities to avoid potential adverse effects to archeological resources.

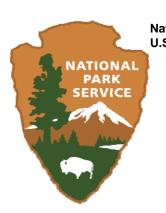
For comp	lete comp	liance i	informat	ion see	PEPC	Project	30715.

____//Don L. Neubacher// Don L. Neubacher

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File

National Park Service Yosemite National Park U.S. Department of the Interior Date: 04/09/2012



Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: 2012-003 Curry Village Cabin Rehabilitation

PEPC Project Number: 30715

Project Description:

This project is to rehabilitate sixteen historic guest cabins with baths; these cabins include 13 duplex, two quadplex bungalows and Stoneman Cabin #819. These cabins are currently used for guest accommodations and are located on the west side of Curry Village. Built between 1918 and 1922 by Curry Company as an upscale camping experience, these cabins have deteriorating and failing foundations. They were originally built using rocks as piers where practical and most often wood piers setting directly on the ground. They are situated in the shady side of the southern cliffs of Yosemite Valley, and the flow of water off Glacier Point cliff leaves them exposed to seasonally deposited silt on the upslope side, keeping the foundation and exterior sheathing moist. This condition has rotted out many softwood piers, rim joists, sub and finish floor elements, and exterior sheathing. This cabin rehabilitation will be accomplished in four phases from 2012 through and including 2015.

Stabilization of the structural systems includes:

- Rebuilding the concrete foundations, providing code compliant vertical and lateral structural systems (shear walls), and stabilizing rock fireplaces and chimneys.
- Raising finish floor levels to re-establish historic relationships of floor to exterior grades; this will allow site drainage issues to be addressed.
- Addressing access compliance deficiencies such as path of travel, interior clearances for bathrooms, replacement of non-compliant fixtures and hardware, and adding to the total accessible room count.
- Replacing and/or repairing the historic fabric with new and/or salvaged materials (windows and
 doors rehabilitated, exterior siding and rock veneers rehabilitated, etc) and re-establishing the
 historic pergolas.
- Correcting electrical and plumbing deficiencies through repair of damaged piping. Energy efficient light fixtures will be used and the electrical resistance wall heaters will be removed.
- Installing a new energy efficient heating system using propane fuel and high efficiency heaters.

Construction will be completed over a four year period in four phases, as follows:

- Phase 1, Cabins 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, scheduled to start construction Fall of 2012;
- Phase 2, Cabins 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, scheduled to start construction in Fall of 2013;
- Phase 3, Cabins 6, 7, 14, 15, 16, scheduled to start construction Fall of 2014; and

• Phase 4, Stoneman Cabin #819, scheduled to start construction in Fall of 2015.

The resulting project will meet the criteria for an informal Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Certification.

Project Locations:

Mariposa County, CA

Mitigations:

- Ensure the rehabilitation follows the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.
- 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 site shall be informed of and follow best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species as described in Division 1 Specifications, Section 1335.
- Ensure that coordination with History, Architecture and Landscapes Branch staff takes place on all phases of planning, design and implementation.
- Minimize soil disturbance such as compaction and vegetation damage (especially the protection of trees) around sample sites. Preserve and replace topsoil where feasible.
- Monitor ground disturbing activities to avoid potential adverse effects to archeological resources.

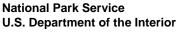
Describe the category used to exclude action from further NEPA analysis and indicate the number of the category (see Section 3-4 of DO-12):

C.4 Routine maintenance and repairs to cultural resource sites, structures, utilities and grounds under an approved Historic Structures Preservation Guide or Cyclic Maintenance Guide; or if the action would not adversely affect the cultural resource.

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.

Superintendent: //Don L. Neubacher// Date: 4/17/12

Don L. Neubacher





ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF) DO-12 APPENDIX 1

Date Form Initiated: 04/09/2012

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

Yosemite National Park

Date: 04/09/2012

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite National Park

Project Title: 2012-003 Curry Village Cabin Rehabilitation

PEPC Project Number: 30715

PMIS Number: 181147, 181148, 181150, 181151

Project Type: Capital Improvement (CI)

Project Location:

County, State: Mariposa, California

Project Leader: Ron Gaunt

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, natural, or cultural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Geologic resources – soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc.		Negligible			Topsoil will be temporarily disrupted for foundation work; each cabin will have a 13 inch wide and 18 inch deep stem wall installed.
2. From geohazards	No				
3. Air quality		Negligible			There will be temporary vehicle emissions and dust during the length of the project. The debris pile will be dampened with water during compaction to minimize dust.

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
4. Soundscapes		Negligible			There will be temporary construction noises during daylight hours of the project.
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				
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				

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
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	No				
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources		Negligible			Construction will be implemented in phases to minimize impacts of closed guest accommodations. The visitor experience will be enhanced by the rehabilitation of the cabins through accessibility, code compliance and energy efficient buildings.
18. Archeological resources		Negligible			Yosemite Valley Archeological District
19. Prehistoric/historic structure		Negligible			Camp Curry Historic District, Yosemite Valley Historic District
20. Cultural landscapes		Negligible			Yosemite Valley Historic District
21. Ethnographic resources		Negligible			Yosemite Valley American Indian Traditional Cultural Property
22. Museum collections (objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections)	No				
23. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	No				
24. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	No				
25. Energy resources	No				
26. Other agency or tribal land use plans	No				

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
or policies					
27. Resource, including energy, conservation potential, sustainability	No				
28. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	No				
29. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity		Negligible			There is a beneficial impact for the structures in rehabilitating and maintaining the cabins.
30. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	No				

C. MANDATORY CRITERIA

Mandatory Criteria: If	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
implemented, would the				
proposal:				
A. Have significant impacts on		No		
public health or safety?				
B. Have significant impacts on		No		
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?				

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
proposal: 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 Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?		No		
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		No		

Mandatory Criteria: If	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
implemented, would the				
proposal:				
integrity of such sacred sites				
(Executive Order 13007)?				
L. Contribute to the introduction,		No		
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)?				

D. OTHER INFORMATION

- 1. Are personnel preparing this form familiar with the site? Yes
- 1.A. Did personnel conduct a site visit? No
- 2. Is the project in an approved plan such as a General Management Plan or an Implementation Plan with an accompanying NEPA document? No
- 3. Are there any interested or affected agencies or parties? No
- 3.A. Did you make a diligent effort to contact them? Yes
- 4. Has consultation with all affected agencies or tribes been completed? Yes
- 5. 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) Yes, cabins within the rockfall zone are anticipated to be removed Fall 2012. Implementation of both projects will be coordinated to minimize visitor impacts.

E. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES

Interdisciplinary Team	Field of Expertise
Don L. Neubacher	Superintendent
Michael Gauthier	Chief of Staff
Kathleen Morse	Chief of Planning
Randy Fong	Chief of Project Management
Teri Austin	Chief of Administration Management
Ed Walls	Chief of Facilities Management
Linda C. Mazzu	Chief of Resources Management & Science
Marty Nielson	Chief of Business and Revenue Management
Tom Medema	Chief of Interpretation and Education
Charles Cuvelier	Chief of Visitor and Resource Protection
Ron Gaunt	Project Leader
Madelyn Ruffner	Acting Environmental Planning and Compliance Program
	Manager
Kimball Koch	Acting Historic Preservation Officer
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
//Renea Kennec// Compliance Specialist – Renea Kennec	4/17/12
//Madelyn Ruffner// Acting Compliance Program Manager – Madelyn Ruffner	_4/17/12
	_4/17/12
Approved:	

Superintendent	Date
_//Don L. Neubacher//	_4/17/12
Don L. Neubacher	



PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: April 9, 2012

PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite National Park

Project Title: 2012-003 Curry Village Cabin Rehabilitation

PEPC Project Number: 30715

Project Type: Capital Improvement (CI)

Project Location:

County, State: Mariposa, California

Project Leader: Ron Gaunt

PARK ESF ADDENDUM QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST				
Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		No		
Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		No		
Park rare plants or vegetation?		No		
Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		No		
NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST				
Entail ground disturbance?	Yes			Topsoil will be temporarily disrupted for foundation work; each cabin will have a 13 inch wide stem wall installed that is 18 inches deep.
Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?	Yes			Monitor ground disturbing activities to avoid potential adverse effects to archeological resources.
Entail alteration of a historic structure or cultural landscape?	Yes			The project entails replacing and repairing historic fabric with new and salvaged material. The project will adhere to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.
Has a National Register form been completed?	Yes			Camp Curry Historic District; Yosemite Valley Historic District

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
Are there any structures on the park's List of Classified Structures in the area of potential effect?	Yes			Stoneman Cabin LCS #055927 All other structures are on the LCS.
WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST				
Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor?	Yes			Merced River
Fall within the bed and banks AND will affect the free-flow of the river?		No		
Have the possibility of affecting water quality of the area?		No		
Remain consistent with its river segment classification?	Yes			
Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		No		
Will the project encroach or intrude upon the Wild and Scenic River corridor?		No		
Will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?		No		
Consistent with the provisions in the Merced River Plan Settlement Agreement?	Yes			
WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST				
Within designated Wilderness?		No		
Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		No		



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. Park: Yosemite National Park

2. Project Description:

Project Name: 2012-003 Curry Village Cabin Rehabilitation

Prepared by: Renea Kennec **Date Prepared:** 04/09/2012 **Telephone:** 209-379-1038

PEPC Project Number: 30715

Area of potential effects (as defined in 36 CFR 800.16[d])

American Indian Traditional Resource Area, Yosemite Valley Archeological District

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

No X Yes

Source or reference: Yosemite Valley Archeological District; Yosemite Valley Historic District; Camp Curry Historic District

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

X intact cultural deposits.)

4. Potentially Affected Resources:

Archeological resources affected:

Name and numbers: Yosemite Valley Archeological District

NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

Historical Structures/Resources Affected:

Name and numbers: Yosemite Valley Historic District NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

Name and numbers: Camp Curry Historic Site NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

Ethnographic Resources Affected:

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

5. Tł	ne prop	posed action will: (check as many as apply)
	Yes	Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure
-	Yes	Replace historic features/elements in kind
-	Yes	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
	Yes	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):
(Atta	ich if f	ng Study Data: easible; if action is in a plan, EA or EIS, give name and project or page number.) WS BY CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS
	_	06 coordinator requested review by the park's cultural resource specialist/advisors as y check-off boxes or as follows:
Nam Date Com		a Kirn
Asse Effect Reco	ssment et mmeno	oject does not involve ground disturbance [] of Effect: No Historic Properties AffectedX No Adverse Effect Adverse _ Streamlined Review dations for conditions or stipulations: Archeological monitoring during ground disturbance.
Doc	wiethod	l: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

Name: Shawn Lingo Date: 01/31/2012 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: Standard 4-Step Process [X] Exhibits Spec. Preservation Name: Rod Kennec Date: 04/06/2010 Comments: All work will comply with The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. The replacement of joists, rim joists, plates, posts, braces, sub-flooring and flooring will be done in-kind. Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [] Assessment of Effect: ___ No Historic Properties Affected ___X No Adverse Effect Effect __ Streamlined Review Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: Consult with Historical Architect or Preservation Specialist during the planning and work. [X] Anthropologist Name: Jennifer Hardin Date: 04/17/2012 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] Historical Landscape Architect Name: David Humphrey Date: 03/08/2012 Comments: None. Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [] Assessment of Effect: ___ No Historic Properties Affected ___ X _ No Adverse Effect ___ Adverse __ Streamlined Review Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: none. Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process

[X] Historical Architect

No Reviews From: Curator, Historian, 106 Advisor

1. Assessment of Effect: **No Historic Properties** No Adverse **Adverse Effect** Affected X Effect 2. Documentation Method: [] 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.

C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

[X] 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: 1999 Programmatic Agreement

[] E. COMBINED NEPA/NHPA Document

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. Memo to SHPO/THPO
- [] H. Memo to ACHP

Specify plan/EA/EIS:

3. Additional Consulting Parties Information:

Additional Consulting Parties: No

4. Stipulations and 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.

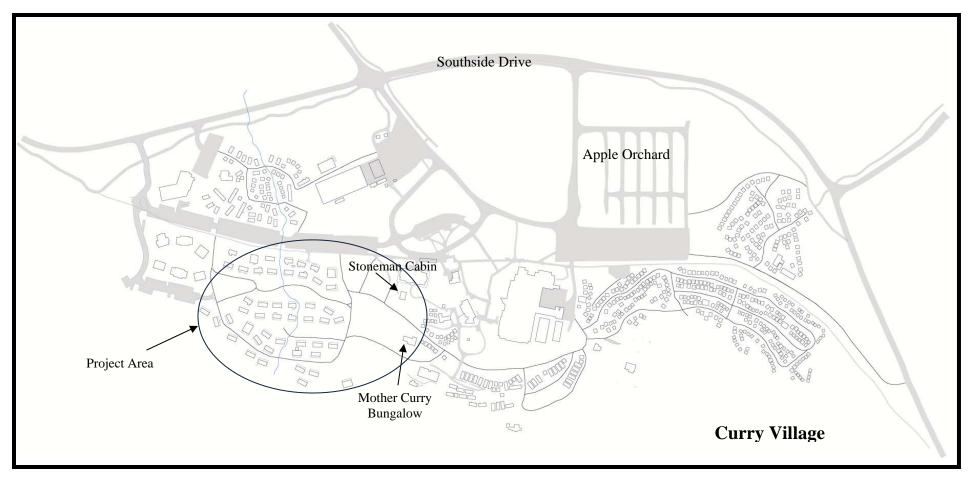
5. Mitigations/Treatment Measures:

Measures to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of historic/prehistoric properties: (Remember that setting, location, and use may be relevant.)

- Ensure the rehabilitation follows the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.
- Monitor ground disturbing activities to avoid potential adverse effects to archeological resources.

D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:

<u>//Ki</u>	mball Koch//	Date: 4/17/12
K	imball Koch	
E. SUPERINTE	NDENT'S APPROVAL	
	have reviewed and approve	nagement Policies and Cultural Resource Management the recommendations, stipulations, or conditions noted
Guideline, and I in Section C of the	have reviewed and approve	



Curry Village Cabin Rehabilitation