



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: Ron Gaunt, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2013-046 Wawona Fire Station Geotech Investigation (50024)

The Executive Leadership Team has reviewed the proposed project/action and completed its environmental assessment documentation, and we have determined the following:

- There will not be any effect on threatened, endangered, or rare species and/or their critical habitat.
- There will not be any effect on historic, cultural, or archeological resources.
- There 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 a tribal monitor is scheduled to be on site during all ground disturbing activity.

Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:

Contact Mary Motolla prior to implementation. Motolla, THPO for Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians, will observe the work.

For complete compliance information see PEPC Project 50024.

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

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File

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

Letter of Compliance Completion - Wawona Fire Station Geotech Investigation - PEPC ID: 50024



Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: 2013-046 Wawona Fire Station Geotech Investigation

PEPC Project Number: 50024

Project Description:

A geotechnical investigation is needed for the structural design of a foundation system for a new fire station in Wawona. The selected geotechnical engineering firm will drill four exploratory vertical eight inch diameter soil borings to depths ranging from five to fifty feet (or refusal) with a truck mounted drill rig using hollow stem auger techniques. Samples will be obtained at various depths. An engineer and his support truck will maintain a log of the soils encountered and obtain samples for visual examination, classification, and laboratory testing. Upon completion the borings will be backfilled with all excavated soil.

The borings will be located at the approximate locations shown on the attached site plan. One boring to fifty feet (or refusal) will be located east of the existing Fire Management Office (FMO) trailer (this will be inside the footprint of the new fire station), one boring to twenty feet will be in the approximate location of the existing FMO trailer (this boring will also be within the footprint of the new fire station) and two borings to five feet will be located south of the existing FMO trailer (these borings will be in the parking or driveway aprons).

Project Locations:

Mariposa County, CA

Mitigations:

- Ensure a tribal monitor is scheduled to be on site during all ground disturbing activity.

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.15 Installation of underground utilities in previously disturbed areas having stable soils, or in an existing utility right-of-way.

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: 3/19/14

Don L. Neubacher

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



ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

DO-12 APPENDIX 1

Date Form Initiated: 03/13/2014

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

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite National Park
Project Title: 2013-046 Wawona Fire Station Geotech Investigation
PEPC Project Number: 50024
Project Type: Implementation Plan - Other (IMPL)
Project Location:
County, State: Mariposa, California **District:** Wawona
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			There will be four eight-inch diameter soil borings to depths ranging from five to fifty feet. This will be performed by a truck mounted drill rig using a hollow stem auger.
2. From geohazards	No				
3. Air quality		Negligible			The investigative testing will produce temporary air emissions.
4. Soundscapes		Negligible			There will be temporary heavy machinery sounds during the drilling.
5. Water quality or quantity	No				
6. Streamflow	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
characteristics					
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				Park staff will inspect drilling equipment for plant propagules prior to entering the work site.
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities,	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
etc.					
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources		Negligible			There will be temporary, negligible noise impacts to visitors.
18. Archeological resources		Negligible			Wawona Archeological District
19. Prehistoric/historic structure	No				
20. Cultural landscapes	No				
21. Ethnographic resources		Negligible			Wawona Archeological District
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 or policies	No				
27. Resource, including energy,	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
conservation potential, sustainability					
28. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	No				
29. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	No				
30. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	No				

C. MANDATORY CRITERIA

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?		No		
B. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas?		No		
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available		No		

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?				
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 integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		No		

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		No		

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
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, construction of the fire station.

E. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES

<u>Interdisciplinary Team</u>	<u>Field of Expertise</u>
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
Lou Summerfield	Acting Chief of Facilities Management
Linda C. Mazzu	Chief of Resources Management & Science
Kris Kirby	Chief of Business and Revenue Management
Tom Medema	Chief of Interpretation and Education
Kevin Killian	Chief of Visitor and Resource Protection
Kimball Koch	Project Leader
Madelyn Ruffner	Acting Environmental Planning and Compliance Program Manager
Renea Kennec	NEPA Specialist



PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: March 13, 2014

PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite National Park
Project Title: 2013-046 Wawona Fire Station Geotech Investigation
PEPC Project Number: 50024
Project Type: Implementation Plan - Other (IMPL)
Project Location:
County, State: Mariposa, California **District:** Wawona
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			There will be four eight-inch diameter soil borings to depths ranging from five to fifty feet. This will be performed by a truck mounted drill rig using a hollow stem auger.
Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?	Yes			The project site is located within the Wawona Archeological

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
				District.
Entail alteration of a historic structure or cultural landscape?		No		
Has a National Register form been completed?		No		
Are there any structures on the park's List of Classified Structures in the area of potential effect?		No		
WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST				
Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor?	Yes			South Fork of the 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		



ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. **Park:** Yosemite National Park

2. **Project Description:**

Project Name: 2013-046 Wawona Fire Station Geotech Investigation

Prepared by: Laura Kirn

Date Prepared: 01/14/2014

Telephone: 209.379.1314

PEPC Project Number: 50024

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

APE: Wawona Archeological District (work is proposed to occur in eastern portion of archeological site CA-MRP-8, a contributing resource).

3. **Has the area of potential effects been surveyed to identify historic properties?**

No

Yes

Source or reference:

4. **Potentially Affected Resources:**

Archeological resources affected:

Name and numbers: Wawona Archeological District

NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

Ethnographic Resources Affected:

Name and numbers: Wawona Archeological District

NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

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

Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure

Replace historic features/elements in kind

Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure

Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment

(inc. terrain)

Add non-historic features/elements (inc. visual, audible, or atmospheric)

to a historic setting or cultural landscape

Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible

- Yes 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. Supporting Study Data:

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

The park conducted subsurface archeological investigations in the project area. Results of this work are presented in the Draft Archeological Subsurface Survey in Support of the Wawona Wildland Fire Fighting Facility Project. Report on file at Yosemite National Park, Archeology Office.

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:

Anthropologist

Name: Laura Kirm

Date: 02/24/2014

Comments: Project was distributed to tribes via the December tribal consultation spreadsheet. One tribe, the Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians, responded with questions. These were addressed and the tribe has been invited to observe the work.

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance

Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: PM is to contact Mary Motolla to invite her to be present during boring, given the cultural sensitivity of the site as a whole.

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

Archeologist

Name: Laura Kirm

Date: 02/24/2014

Comments: Work will occur in a portion of CA-MRP-8, but will not adversely affect the historic property given the limited nature of the ground disturbance and the lack of dense, intact deposits in this area.

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance

Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

Historical Architect
Name: Gabrielle Harlan
Date: 01/14/2014

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance
Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties
Affected No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:
Doc Method: No Potential to Cause Effects [800.3(a)(1)]

Historical Landscape Architect
Name: Kevin McCardle
Date: 01/09/2014

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance
Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties
Affected No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:
Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

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

C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Assessment of Effect:

No Potential to Cause Effects
 No Historic Properties Affected
 No Adverse Effect
 Adverse 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.

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: 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

G. Memo to SHPO/THPO

H. Memo to ACHP

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.

Contact Mary Motolla prior to implementation. Motolla, THPO for Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians, will observe the work.

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.)**

No Assessment of Effect mitigations identified.

D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:

Acting Historic Preservation Officer:

Kimball

Koch

//Kimball Koch//

Date: 3/12/2014

E. 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.

Superintendent: //Don L. Neubacher//

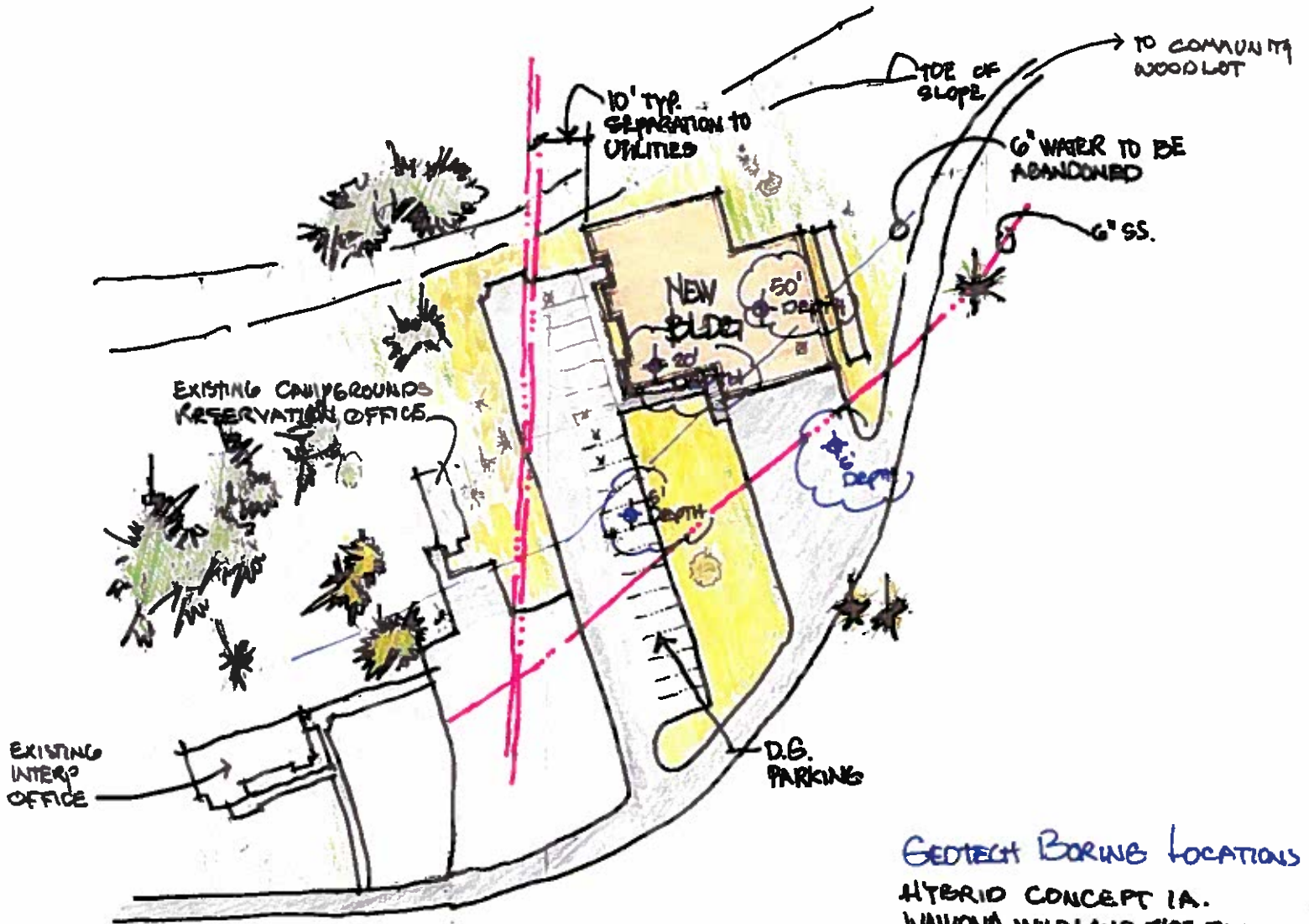
Date: 3/18/14

Don L. Neubacher

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

CHILNAULN RD

TO WAWONA RD



TO COMMUNITY WOODLOT

EXISTING CAMPGROUNDS RESERVATION OFFICE

EXISTING INTERP OFFICE

10' TYP. SEPARATION TO UTILITIES

TOE OF SLOPE

6" WATER TO BE ABANDONED

6" SS.

NEW BLDG

50' DEPTH

20' DEPTH

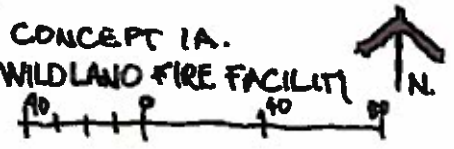
5' DEPTH

D.G. PARKING

GEOTECH BORING LOCATIONS

HYBRID CONCEPT 1A.
WAWONA WILDLAND FIRE FACILITY

TO MERCOP RIVER



12/9/2013