



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
L7615(YOSE-PM)

**Memorandum**

**To:** Kevin M. Keheley, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

**From:** Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

**Subject:** NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2014-038 El Portal Community Hall Rehabilitation (55681)

The Executive Leadership Team has reviewed the proposed project 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 historical, 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:

- Archeological monitoring is recommended during the sewer line trenching.
- The project should follow archeological monitoring recommendations to avoid impacts to culturally significant resources.

For complete compliance information see PEPC Project 55681.

Don L. Neubacher

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File

Letter of Compliance Completion - El Portal Community Hall Rehab - PEPC ID: 55681





## Categorical Exclusion Form

**Project:** 2014-038 El Portal Community Hall Rehabilitation

**PEPC Project Number:** 55681

**Project Description:**

The El Portal Community Hall is in need of a kitchen upgrade. The purpose of the kitchen improvements is to provide a facility for food service and food preparation. The kitchen currently does not meet federal health code standards. The rehabilitation includes making the kitchen into a larger commercial type food service area and adding a stall to both restrooms. The kitchen and restrooms will be extended into the current hall space with no increase in footprint of the building. The majority of the work will be done on the interior of the building with the exception of some trenching on the west side for new sewer lines. Utility trenching includes ground disturbance measuring 30 feet long by 2 feet deep by 2 feet wide. Each restroom will be made accessible and the number of stalls will be increased to two per restroom. All of the staging will take place inside the hall and at the Buildings & Grounds shop in El Portal. This project will take approximately three months to complete.

**Project Locations:**

Mariposa County, CA

**Mitigations:**

- Archeological monitoring is recommended during the sewer line trenching.
- The project should follow archeological monitoring recommendations to avoid impacts to culturally significant 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.19 Construction or rehabilitation in previously disturbed or developed areas, required to meet health or safety regulations, or to meet requirements for making facilities accessible to the handicapped.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

1/26/15





## ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

### DO-12 APPENDIX 1

Date Form Initiated: 01/14/2015

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:** 2014-038 El Portal Community Hall Rehab  
**PEPC Project Number:** 55681  
**Project Type:** Repair/Rehabilitation (REHAB)  
**Project Location:**  
**County, State:** Mariposa, California  
**Project Leader:** Kevin Keheley

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			Soil disturbance includes a trench measuring 30 feet long, 2 feet wide and 2 feet deep.
2. From geohazards	No				
3. Air quality	No				
4. Soundscapes		Negligible			There will be some temporary construction noise during the kitchen rehabilitation.
5. Water quality or quantity	No				
6. Streamflow	No				

<b>Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources</b>	<b>No Effect</b>	<b>Negligible Effects</b>	<b>Minor Effects</b>	<b>Exceeds Minor Effects</b>	<b>Data Needed to Determine/Notes</b>
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				
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				
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities,	No				

<b>Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources</b>	<b>No Effect</b>	<b>Negligible Effects</b>	<b>Minor Effects</b>	<b>Exceeds Minor Effects</b>	<b>Data Needed to Determine/Notes</b>
etc.					
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources	No				
18. Archeological resources	No				
19. Prehistoric/historic structure	No				
20. Cultural landscapes	No				
21. Ethnographic resources		Negligible			
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		



<b>Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Comment or Data Needed to Determine</b>
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		

<b>Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Comment or Data Needed to Determine</b>
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*) No

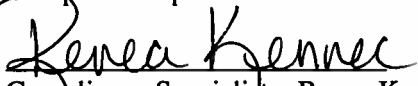


**E. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES**

<b><u>Interdisciplinary Team</u></b>	<b><u>Field of Expertise</u></b>
Don L. Neubacher Michael Gauthier Kathleen Morse Randy Fong Jeff Hilliard Ron Borne Linda C. Mazzu Kris Kirby Tom Medema Kevin Killian Kevin Keheley Madelyn Ruffner Renea Kennec	Superintendent Chief of Staff Chief of Planning Chief of Project Management Chief of Administration Management Chief of Facilities Management Chief of Resources Management & Science Chief of Business and Revenue Management Chief of Interpretation and Education Chief of Visitor and Resource Protection Project Leader Environmental Planning and Compliance Program Manager 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  Compliance Specialist – Renea Kennece	Date <u>1/21/15</u>
 Compliance Program Manager – Madelyn Ruffner	<u>1/26/15</u>
 Chief, Project Management – Randy Fong	<u>1/26/2015</u>

**Approved:**

Superintendent  Don L. Neubacher	Date <u>1/27/15</u>
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## PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: January 21, 2015

### PROJECT INFORMATION

**Park Name:** Yosemite National Park  
**Project Title:** 2014-038 El Portal Community Hall Rehab  
**PEPC Project Number:** 55681  
**Project Type:** Repair/Rehabilitation (REHAB)  
**Project Location:**  
**County, State:** Mariposa, California  
**Project Leader:** Kevin Keheley

### PARK ESF ADDENDUM QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
<b>SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST</b>				
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		
<b>NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST</b>				
Entail ground disturbance?	Yes			Soil disturbance includes a trench measuring 30 feet long, 2 feet wide and 2 feet deep.
Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?	Yes			
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		
<b>WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST</b>				
Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor?	Yes			Merced River

<b>ESF Addendum Questions</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Data Needed to Determine/Notes</b>
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		
<b>WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST</b>				
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:** 2014-038 El Portal Community Hall Rehab  
**Prepared by:** Renea Kennec    **Date Prepared:** 01/13/2015    **Telephone:** 209-379-1038  
**PEPC Project Number:** 55681  
**Locations:**  
    **County, State:** Mariposa, CA

**Area of potential effects (as defined in 36 CFR 800.16[d])**  
El Portal Archeological District

### 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:** El Portal 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
- Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible
- Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources
- Begin or contribute to deterioration of historic features, terrain, setting,

\_\_\_\_\_ landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources  
Involve a real property transaction (exchange, sale, or lease of land or  
No 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.)

**B. REVIEWS BY CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS**

The park 106 coordinator requested review by the park's cultural resource specialist/advisors as indicated by check-off boxes or as follows:

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[ X ] Archeologist  
Name: Sonny Montague  
Date: 01/06/2015

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [ ]  
Assessment of Effect: \_\_\_ No Potential to Cause Effect \_\_\_ No Historic Properties  
Affected  X  No Adverse Effect \_\_\_ Adverse Effect \_\_\_ Streamlined Review  
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: Monitor trenching for sewer line.

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

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[ X ] Anthropologist  
Name: Jennifer Hardin  
Date: 01/22/2015

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [ ]  
Assessment of Effect: \_\_\_ No Potential to Cause Effect \_\_\_ No Historic Properties  
Affected  X  No Adverse Effect \_\_\_ Adverse Effect \_\_\_ Streamlined Review  
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: The project should follow archeological monitoring recommendations to avoid impacts to culturally significant resources.

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

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[ X ] Historical Architect  
Name: Gabrielle Harlan  
Date: 01/14/2015

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

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

Assessment of Effect Form - El Portal Community Hall Rehab - PEPC ID: 55681



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Historical Landscape Architect  
Name: Kevin McCardle  
Date: 12/15/2014

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:

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

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### 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.

1999 Programmatic Agreement as amended in 2014

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

SHPO/THPO Notes:

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:

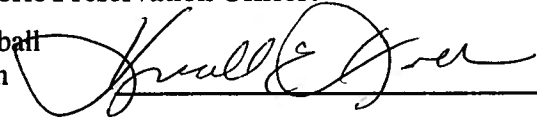
Measures to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of historic/prehistoric properties:  
(Remember that setting, location, and use may be relevant.)

No Assessment of Effect mitigations identified.

**D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:**

**Historic Preservation Officer:**

Kimball  
Koch



Date: 4/23/2015

**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:

1/22/15