

## **United States Department of the Interior**

#### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

#### Memorandum

**To:** William Bryan, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

**Subject:** NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2016-018 Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne

Meadows Relocation of 5 Gas Station Concessioner Tent Cabins (65702)

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 be no adverse 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:

No mitigations identified.

For complete compliance information see PEPC Project 65702.

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

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File



## **Categorical Exclusion Form**

Project: 2016-018 Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Relocation of 5 Gas

**Yosemite National Park** 

Date: 07/06/2016

**Station Concessioner Tent Cabins** 

**PEPC Project Number:** 65702

### **Description of Action (Project Description):**

This project was called for in the 2014 Record of Decision for the Tuolumne River Plan/EIS (PEPC 14043) and must adhere to mitigation and stipulations specified in the Final EIS/Record of Decision.

The project will relocate the non-historic employee residential canvas tent cabins from behind the former Tuolumne Meadows Gas Station. Yosemite Hospitality will disassemble the existing tent bases and frames and reconstruct them within the concessioner land assignment.

Location: One tent will be relocated to the Tuolumne Stables in the "maintenance section" of employee housing, adjacent to the pack dock / hitching post. The four remaining tents will be relocated to the Tuolumne Lodge area adjacent to the guest parking lot in the section of housing most distant from the Tuolumne River.

Infrastructure and Ground Disturbance: Minimal ground disturbance is anticipated associated with constructing pathways or infrastructure to the relocated tent cabins. The cabins will not have water, gas, or electrical connections. Each will have one wood-burning stove. The cabins will be constructed on six (6) 12" by 12" cement pier blocks requiring a maximum disturbance of 6" depth disturbance for each block, a maximum of 3 cubic feet per cabin, and a maximum of .56 cubic yards for the entire project.

The TRP identified relocation of these tent cabins to the lodge area but did not analyze the exact locations (e.g., this project relocates one tent to the Stables area which was not identified in the TRP).

#### **Project Locations:**

Tuolumne County, CA

#### **Mitigation(s):**

No mitigations identified.

**CE Citation:** C.18 Construction of minor structures, including small improved parking lots, in previously disturbed or developed areas.

#### **Explanation:**

While the removal of the 5 cabins was approved in the TRP, the specific sites for relocation were not analyzed or approved in that NEPA process.

<b>Date:</b> 7/11/2016	
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Decision: I find that the action fits within the categorical exclusion above. Therefore, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No extraordinary

Don L. Neubacher

circumstances apply.

## **Extraordinary Circumstances:**

If implemented, would the proposal	Yes/No	Notes
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	
<b>B.</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 resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	
<b>D.</b> Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	
<b>E.</b> Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	
<b>F.</b> Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	
<b>G.</b> 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	
<b>H.</b> 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	
<b>I.</b> Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	
<b>J.</b> Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	
<b>K.</b> Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 130007)?	No	
<b>L.</b> Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or nonnative 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	

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)**

Updated Sept 2015 per NPS NEPA Handbook

#### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project Title:** 2016-018 Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Relocation of 5 Gas

**Yosemite National Park** 

Date: 07/06/2016

**Station Concessioner Tent Cabins** 

**PEPC Project** 65702

**Number: Project Type:** 

Other Maintenance Activities (MNT)

**Project Location:** 

County, State:

Tuolumne, California

**Project Leader:** 

William Bryan

B. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER: Resource Potential Potential Issues & Impacts		
Resource	for Impact	1 otential issues & impacts
<b>Air</b> Air Quality	None	
Biological Nonnative or Exotic Species	None	
Biological Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat	None	
<b>Biological</b> Vegetation	None	
Biological Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species	None	
Cultural Archeological Resources	None	
Cultural Cultural Landscapes	None	

Environmental Screening Form (ESF) - Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Relocation of 5 Gas Station Concessioner Tent Cabins - PEPC ID: 65702

Resource	Potential	Potential Issues & Impacts
Resource	for Impact	Totelium Issues & Impacts
Cultural Ethnographic Resources	None	Tribal consultation sent via Tribal Spreadsheet on June 24, 2016. No identified Ethnographic properties within project area.
Cultural Museum Collections	None	
Cultural Prehistoric/historic structures	None	
Geological Geologic Features soil	Potential	The cabins will be constructed on six (6) 12" by 12" cement pier blocks requiring a maximum disturbance of 6" depth for each block, a maximum of 3 cubic feet per cabin, and a maximum of 15 cubic feet for all five cabins.
Geological Geologic Processes	None	
<b>Lightscapes</b> Lightscapes	None	
Other Human Health and Safety	None	
Other Operational	None	
Socioeconomic Land Use	None	
Socioeconomic Minority and low- income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	
Socioeconomic Socioeconomic	None	
Soundscapes Soundscapes	None	
Viewsheds Viewsheds	None	
Visitor Use and Experience Recreation Resources	None	

Environmental Screening Form (ESF) - Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Relocation of 5 Gas Station Concessioner Tent Cabins - PEPC ID: 65702

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Im	pacts
Visitor Use and Experience Visitor Use and Experience	None		
Water Floodplains	None		
Water Marine or Estuarine Resources	None		
Water Water Quality or Quantity	None		
Water Wetlands	None		
Water Wild and Scenic River Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River	Potential	Decision for the Tuolu	ted for implementation in the 2014 Record of mne River Plan and must adhere to mitigations and n the final EIS/Record of Decision for that plan.
Wilderness Wilderness	None		
Recommended:			
Compliance Specia	alists		Date
// Kristin Anderson // Compliance Specialist – Kristin Anderson			7/6/2016
// Madelyn Ruffner Compliance Progra	· // am Manager	– Madelyn Ruffner	7/7/2016
// Randy Fong // Chief, Project Mar	nagement – I	Randy Fong	7/8/2016
Approved:			
Superintendent			Date
// Don L. Neubach Don L. Neubacher			7//11/2016

Environmental Screening Form (ESF) - Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Relocation of 5 Gas Station Concessioner Tent Cabins - PEPC ID: 65702

Yosemite National Park Date: 07/06/2016

# ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

#### A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. Park: Yosemite National Park

#### 2. Project Description:

**Project Name:** 2016-018 Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Relocation of 5

Gas Station Concessioner Tent Cabins

Prepared by: Erin Davenport Date Prepared: 6/7/2016 Telephone: 209-379-1067

**PEPC Project Number:** 65702

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

The area of potential effect includes the entirety of the Tuolumne Meadows Historic District and the Tuolumne Meadows Archeological District.

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

 $\frac{\text{No}}{\text{X}} \text{Yes}$ Source or reference:

#### 4. Potentially Affected Resource(s):

#### **Archeological resources affected:**

Name and number(s): Tuolumne Meadow Archeological District

NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

**Archeological Resources Notes:** Project sites are not within or nearby known sensitive resources

#### **Historical Structures/Resources Affected:**

Name and number(s): Tuolumne Meadows Historic District

**Location:** Tuolumne Meadows

**Historical Structures/Resources Notes:** Tents being relocated are not historic structures

**Cultural Landscapes Notes:** The "Tuolumne Meadows Historic District" Cultural Landscape Inventory was used as the basis for the consensus determination of eligibility with the SHPO's office.

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

Assessment of Effect Form - Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Relocation of 5 Gas Station Concessioner Tent Cabins - PEPC ID: 65702

ment se Eff imend	of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect _X_ No Historic Properties Affected No Potential to Cause Effect _X_ No Historic Properties Affected No Potential to Cause Effect Streamlined Review dations for conditions or stipulations:  d: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement
Sara	ologist Dolan /2016
	dations for conditions or stipulations:
ment	of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties AffectedX No Fect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review
ties w	Tribal consultation sent via Tribal Spreadsheet on June 24, 2016. No identified Ethnographic vithin project area.
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	ppologist
	y check-off boxes or as follows:
	VS BY CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS  06 coordinator requested review by the park's cultural resource specialist/advisors as
	easible; if action is in a plan, EA or EIS, give name and project or page number.)
-	ng Study Data:
	Other (please specify):
No	Involve a real property transaction (exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures)
No	Begin or contribute to deterioration of historic features, terrain, setting, landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources
No	Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources
No	Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible
	or cultural landscape  Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible
K 7	Add non-historic features/elements (inc. visual, audible, or atmospheric) to a historic setting
No	Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (inc. terrain)
No	Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure
No No	Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure  Replace historic features/elements in kind
	No N

[ X ] Historian Name: Scott Carpenter Date: 07/06/2016	
Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ]  Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected X  Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review  Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:	No
Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	
[ X ] Historical Architect Name: Scott Carpenter Date: 07/06/2016	
Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ]  Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect X No Historic Properties Affected I  Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review  Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:	No
Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	
[ X ] Historical Landscape Architect Name: Kimball Koch Date: 06/28/2016 Comments: Non-historic concessionaire tent cabins are being relocated into the vicinity of the lodge and stables. The tent cabins are compatible with existing structures/cabins in areas to be relocated. Relocation called for in the TRP which was completed under the 99 PA. Action will occur before sunsetting of the 9 PA in 2017.	
Check if project does not involve ground disturbance [ ] Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected X Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:	No
No Reviews From: Curator, 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  X No Adverse Effect	

Assessment of Effect Form - Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Relocation of 5 Gas Station Concessioner Tent Cabins - PEPC ID: 65702

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:
[ 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.
1999 PA as amended in 2016
[ ] 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: Information only
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:**

Assessment of Effect Form - Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Relocation of 5 Gas Station Concessioner Tent Cabins - PEPC ID: 65702

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:

Kimball Koch	// Kimball Koch //	<b>Date:</b> 7/7/2016
E. SUPERINTEN	NDENT'S APPROVAL	
	have reviewed and approve the rec	ent Policies and Cultural Resource Management commendations, stipulations, or conditions noted
Superintendent:	// Don L. Neubacher // Don L. Neubacher	<b>Date:</b> 7/11/2016

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