



## **2015 ANNUAL REPORT**

### **NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT SECTION 106 UNDERTAKINGS**

#### **INCLUDING ACTIONS REVIEWED UNDER**

#### **YOSEMITE'S 1999 PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT**



*White Wolf Lodge Rehabilitation*

The Programmatic Agreement  
Among The National Park Service at Yosemite,  
The California State Historic Preservation Officer,  
and The Advisory Council On Historic Preservation  
Regarding Planning, Design, Construction, Operations and Maintenance,  
Yosemite National Park, California (1999)

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# NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT SECTION 106 COMPLIANCE

## 1999 Programmatic Agreement Annual Reporting

Yosemite National Park prepares an annual report pursuant to the *1999 Programmatic Agreement Among the National Park Service at Yosemite, the California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding Planning, Design, Construction, Operations and Maintenance, Yosemite National Park, California* (1999 PA). The report describes how the park is carrying out its National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) section 106 responsibilities under this agreement. Per stipulation XVIII of the agreement, the report includes:

- A list of “no effect” and “no adverse effect” actions carried out in accordance with the 1999 PA (see Appendix A),
- Identification and/or evaluation of potential historic properties,
- Monitoring efforts, and
- Treatment of historic properties.

This report also includes a summary of compliance for planning and design projects completed through the standard section 106 review process (36 CFR Part 800) and an update of cultural resource staffing. Reporting for other section 106 agreement documents is also included in this report.

## Yosemite Cultural Resources Programs

Yosemite maintains a staff of cultural resource management (CRM) professionals who meet the Secretary of the Interior’s qualifications standards. That CRM team is made up of staff from within four different divisions within the park including Resources Management and Science, Interpretation, Project Management, and Facilities Management. The cultural resources subject matter experts from each of these four divisions make up the park’s CRM team which reviews section 106 compliance for park projects. The CRM team and the park’s section 106 coordinator review projects at the earliest stages of project development. The CRM staff includes individuals with expertise in history, curation, archeology, anthropology, conservation, historical architecture, and historical landscape architecture. In addition, designated cultural resource specialists have specific responsibilities for review of projects that could have effects on historic properties, such as the fire archeologist, who evaluates the effects of prescribed burns. This ensures that common management activities receive timely evaluation by cultural resource experts.

The list in Table 1 contains all of the park’s cultural resource managers from 2015 which includes staff members from the park’s various divisions as well as the NPS Pacific West Regional Office cultural resources program staff who assist the park as needed.

**Table 1: Yosemite Cultural Resources Staff, 2015**

<b>Yosemite National Park</b>	
<b>Division of Facilities Management</b>	
Rod Kennec <sup>+</sup>	Historic Preservation Specialist
<b>Division of Interpretation</b>	
Barbara Beroza	Chief Curator
Greg Cox <sup>+</sup>	Curator of Collections
Ed Leblanc <sup>*</sup>	Archivist
Paul Rogers	Archivist
<b>Division of Project Management</b>	
Kimball Koch <sup>+</sup>	Section 106 Coordinator/(Acting) Historical Landscape Architect
<b>Division of Resources Management and Science</b>	
Barbara Bane <sup>*</sup>	Project Archeologist
Todd Bloch <sup>*</sup>	(Acting) Historical Architect
Scott Carpenter <sup>+</sup>	Cultural Resources Program Manager
David Curtis	Archeological Technician
Paul DePascale	Project Archeologist, Trails Program
Sara Dolan <sup>+</sup>	Compliance Archeologist
Jennifer Hardin, Ph.D. <sup>*, +</sup>	Cultural Anthropologist/American Indian Liaison
Gabrielle Harlan <sup>*, +</sup>	Historical Architect
Scott Jackson	Project Archeologist
Jun Kinoshita	Project Archeologist, Fire Management Program
Lindsay Kozub	Historian
Brian Lefler	Cultural Anthropologist
Kevin McCardle <sup>*, +</sup>	Historical Landscape Architect
Sonny Montague <sup>+</sup>	Park Archeologist, Archeologist for Wilderness Program
Paul Stephens <sup>*</sup>	Historical Architect
Eirik Thorsgard <sup>+</sup>	Park Cultural Anthropologist & American Indian Liaison
Charles Tonetti <sup>*</sup>	(Acting) Historical Architect
Mike Turek <sup>*</sup>	(Acting) American Indian Liaison
Wesley Wills	Archeological Technician
<b>Pacific West Regional Office: Cultural Resources Program</b>	
Christine Avery	Historian
Sueann Brown	Historical Architecture Program Manager
Paul Chattey <sup>*</sup>	Historical Architect
Vida Germano	Cultural Landscape Inventory/List of Classified Structures Coordinator
Elaine Jackson-Retondo, Ph.D.	Supervisory Historian and National Historic Landmarks Program Manager
Cari Kreshak <sup>*</sup>	Section 106 Coordinator
Elizabeth Gordon	(Acting) Section 106 Coordinator
David Louter, Ph.D.	Chief, Division of Cultural Resources
Erica Owens <sup>*</sup>	Historical Landscape Architect

\* Individuals who no longer hold the position (e.g. have left the park, agency or have recently retired.)

+ Staff who sign on Section 106 documentation

## Division of Resources Management and Science

### Cultural Resource Programs

*Cultural Resource Branch Chief: Scott Carpenter*

The Cultural Resources Branch is a combination of the Anthropology (Archeology and Cultural Anthropology) and the History, Historical Architecture, and Cultural Landscapes (HAL) program. The branch chief coordinates Yosemite's cultural resource inventory responsibilities under sections 106 and 110 of the NHPA. This includes research and documentation of Yosemite's long, complex history of human occupation and use. The cultural anthropologist is the park's liaison with the seven traditionally associated American Indian tribes and groups.

### Archeology Program

*Archeology Program Lead: Sonny Montague*

The archeology program provides cultural resource management, inventory and documentation, compliance, and research support for projects throughout the park. Yosemite archeology staff provides support to numerous park projects including guidance for avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating adverse effects to archeological resources. Archeology staff conducts inventory, condition assessments, monitoring, and excavations, and management of contracted work and cooperative agreements. The year's highlights include:

- Carried out archeological inventory and monitoring related to ecological restoration projects in multiple Yosemite Wilderness areas. The 2015 field work resulted in inventory of 1,577 acres, documentation of 34 previously unrecorded sites and 116 isolated finds, and re-documentation of 9 sites. In all, 39 modern fire rings were removed from 27 archeological sites, thereby continuing efforts to promote preservation of archeological deposits.
- Participated on an interdisciplinary team to identify issues related to pack stock use in Yosemite Wilderness. The team assessed 14 locations in 2015, bringing the current total of assessed stock camps and grazing areas to 98.
- Conducted condition assessments at a sample of sites within the Wild and Scenic River corridors of the Tuolumne River and Merced River as part of the ongoing Visitor Use and Impacts Monitoring Program. Forty-six sites were assessed, with the majority being in good condition.
- Conducted archeological survey in support of the Bridalveil Fall Rehabilitation Project to ensure that the planning team can consider avoidance of sites at the earliest possible opportunity. The work entailed inventory of 41 acres, documentation of one previously unrecorded site and one isolated find, re-documentation of three sites, and site record



*Yosemite archeologists surveying areas proposed for ecological restoration in Yosemite Valley*

updates for three sites.

- Conducted archeological survey in support of Merced River Plan ecological restoration projects, including the Ahwahnee Meadow Restoration Project. The archeological work consisted of survey of 291 acres, recordation of four previously undocumented archeological sites, and updated site records for 11 sites. Three historical resources at CA-MRP-0292/293/H, CA-MRP-2370H, and CA-MRP-2371H were evaluated for NRHP eligibility, with subsequent SHPO concurrence on the eligibility recommendations. Staff also assessed 19 of the archeological sites identified for site protection in the Merced River Plan.
- Contracted with Far Western Anthropological Group to complete archeological data recovery and monitoring at CA-MRP-660/H and CA-MRP-661/H, pursuant to the memorandum of agreement (MOA) for the Restoration of the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. The contractor also conducted additional studies of collections from previous investigations at nearby CA-MRP-199.
- Carried out archeological surveys to current standards at Bug, Ranger, and Road Crew camps, and conducted test excavations to evaluate NRHP eligibility at CA-TUO-3960 and CA-TUO-5808 in support of the Tuolumne Meadows Cabins Rehabilitation Project.
- Carried out archeological test excavations at a portion of CA-MRP-56 in support of the Yosemite Village day-use parking area/realignment of Northside Drive project. Identified sensitive archeological areas and made recommendations for avoidance.
- Conducted site protection and monitoring for construction implementation on several projects including Tioga Road rehabilitation (Phase 1), west of Yosemite Lodge parking area, Tenaya Lake west end trail delineation and restoration, and Ansel Adams Gallery rehabilitation.
- Served (fire archeologist) as the Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) implementation lead for the El Portal Fire, supported fuels planning (including prescribed burning in Wawona), coordinated the resource advisor (READ) program for Yosemite, and provided cultural resource information for multiple fires. These fires included those managed for suppression objectives and some managed for resource benefit objectives.
- Carried out intensive public education and work with park staff and volunteer crews to implement archeological site protection and collections documentation as part of FACELIFT, the park's annual trash pickup event.
- Continued the completion of backlog reports for investigations at Wawona, Yosemite Valley, and Tuolumne Meadows as part of a Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) agreement with University of California, Merced.

#### Anthropology Program and American Indian Consultation

*Anthropology Program Lead and American Indian Liaison: Eirik Thorsgard*

Yosemite National Park consults with traditionally associated American Indian tribes and groups in accordance with section 106 of the NHPA, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, the American Indian Freedom of Religion Act, various Executive Orders, NPS Director's Orders, and the 2006 NPS Management Policies. Consultations occur throughout the year on an as-needed basis. The





*On-site meeting in the Mariposa Grove with the park's working group including traditionally associated tribes and groups*

tribes and groups traditionally associated with Yosemite are the American Indian Council of Mariposa County, Inc. (also known as the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation), the Bishop Paiute Tribe, the Bridgeport Indian Colony, Mono Lake Kutzadika<sup>a</sup>, the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California, the Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians, and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians.

Yosemite National Park has cooperative agreements with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County, the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California, and the Tuolumne Band of Me-

Wuk Indians to contribute substantially to project planning and implementation as subject matter specialists. Similar agreements are being developed with the other four tribes. The primary purpose of the cooperative agreement is to transfer financial assistance to tribal groups, enabling tribal representatives to participate in the protection of resources with cultural and religious significance. In 2013, the park negotiated a 15-year cooperative agreement with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County, Inc., to collaborate about traditional cultural activities and events held in the park.

During 2015, the park completed tribal consultation for 42 projects with potential to affect resources with traditional cultural and religious significance. Consultation with the tribes is facilitated through the use of bi-monthly tribal project review spreadsheets and independent project letters, which provide detailed information on upcoming park projects and gives the tribes an early opportunity to be involved in the planning process. The park also developed four task agreements with the tribes for resource management and historic preservation monitoring activities.

#### Annual All Tribes Meeting

The Thirteenth Annual All-Tribes Meeting was held in Yosemite National Park in the East Auditorium on July 10, 2015. The meeting was attended by park staff and representatives from five of the seven traditionally associated tribes and groups. The meeting opened with briefings from tribal representatives and from the park



*Participants in the 2015 All-Tribes meeting in Yosemite Valley*

superintendent. Project managers from the park provided overviews of the Wauhoga Indian Cultural Center, El Portal NAGPRA Osteology Analysis, the use of the tribal spreadsheets, the Wilderness Stewardship Plan, the interpretation being developed for Tuolumne Meadows, the Mariposa Grove Restoration, Tenaya Lake Trails, the Emergency Services Complex and the development of a new parkwide programmatic agreement.

#### Site Visits and Tribal Monitoring

The park works with traditionally associated tribes and groups to ensure that projects are reviewed and monitored as necessary by qualified tribal monitors, particularly those involving construction or other ground-disturbing activities. During 2015, site visits with Yosemite's traditionally associated American Indian tribes and groups took place related to several projects in the planning process [e.g. El Portal Sewer, El Capitan Meadow Restoration, Eagle Peak, Mariposa Grove, Tenaya Lake, Wauhoga, Pothole Dome, and Lake Eleanor].

In 2015, cultural monitors were present at the following park projects: archeological investigations in support of the Yosemite Valley Emergency Services Complex rehabilitation project, Ansel Adams Gallery Complex rehabilitation project, Phase I of the Tioga Road rehabilitation, Wawona Fire Station construction, Yosemite Valley Administration Building rehabilitation project, Mariposa Grove archeological investigations, Mariposa Grove/South Entrance geotechnical investigations, Swinging Bridge picnic area improvements, and Tenaya Lake rustic trail construction. On-site monitors ensured that cultural resources were protected from potential damage during construction activities.

#### History, Historical Architecture, and Cultural Landscapes (HAL) Program

*HAL Program Lead: (Acting) Scott Carpenter*

The HAL program provides professional expertise and support for park projects related to Yosemite's history and built environment which is an intertwined complex of historical information, buildings, structures, and historic landscapes. Historic properties within Yosemite include five National Historic Landmarks: the Ahwahnee Hotel (currently named the Majestic Yosemite Hotel), Parsons Memorial Lodge, the Rangers' Club, Le Conte Memorial Lodge (renamed the Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center), and the Wawona Hotel (currently named the Big Trees Lodge). The park contains more than 900 documented historic buildings, structures, sites, and objects that are either listed on, or have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

HAL projects in 2015 included the following:

- Completion of four Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) Reports for the Ahwahnee Hotel and Cottages as part of the Ahwahnee Comprehensive Rehabilitation Program: The HABS written documentation was completed by HAL branch staff in the spring of 2015. This documentation was submitted in June along with the HABS photographic documentation (completed in 2011 by Schaf Photo Studios) to the NPS Pacific West Regional Office. The

Regional Office subsequently submitted the reports to the SHPO and to the Library of Congress in October of 2015.

- Historical and architectural assessments of residential tent cabins located within the Tuolumne Meadows Historic District to inform a Historic Resource Study for Ranger Camp, Bug Camp, and Road Crew Camp: HAL Branch representatives conducted archival research, oral histories, and site visits to assess historic resources affected by a proposed project to replace 37 tent cabins beginning in 2016. HAL staff began writing the Historic Resource Study in 2015 and anticipate completion of the document in 2016.
- Development of a protocol for implementing a management indicator and monitoring program for historic resources in Yosemite Valley included as Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs) in the Merced Wild and Scenic River Final Comprehensive Management Plan (MRP) and completion of historic resource assessments
- Historical architectural consultation on the Ansel Adams Gallery and Residence Rehabilitation Project
- Planning and consultation on the White Wolf Lodge Rehabilitation Project
- Coordination of the implementation of the Yosemite Scenic Vista Management Plan
- Planning for the Curry Village Rehabilitation Project
- Coordination with concessionaire on repair of fireplaces (e.g. Ahwahnee Hotel, Wawona Hotel, Degnan's Deli)

The HAL program anticipates filling the vacant historical architect and historical landscape architect positions in 2016.

### **Division of Project Management**

Environmental Planning and Compliance  
*Compliance Branch Chief: Madelyn Ruffner*

Within the Division of Project Management is the Branch of Environmental Planning and Compliance. The park's Historic Preservation Officer (section 106 coordinator) is located within this division. This group coordinates compliance review for planning, design, construction, operations, and maintenance projects in accordance with National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Compliance review is documented using the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) program. The PEPC program facilitates the organization, internal review, public commenting, and comment analysis of documents throughout the planning and/or design process for each project. Completed NEPA and NHPA section 106-related documents (with confidential information withheld) are posted online on the park's public webpage at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/yose>. Section 106/1999 PA compliance completed in 2015 by the branch of compliance in coordination with the park's CRM team is documented throughout this report.

## **Division of Interpretation**

### Park Collections

*Collections Program Manager: Barbara Beroza*

Within the Division of Interpretation is the Collections program which includes the Yosemite Museum, the Yosemite Research Library and the Yosemite Archives. The program is responsible for managing and maintaining the park's extensive museum collection, archives and library. Many of the museum artifacts are exhibited and stored in the Museum Building in Yosemite Village. The El Portal Maintenance Complex contains a large portion of the storage facilities for the museum as well. Other small storage facilities are scattered throughout the park. Yosemite collections include cultural artifacts, natural specimens, and historic records that document the history of Yosemite National Park.

#### Accomplishments from 2015:

- Park archive finding aids were posted on the Online Archive of California at <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/institutions/>
- Archival collections are 80% processed and cataloged
- Compact shelving added to half of the archives
- Several new staff were hired to backfill vacant positions (Librarian, Curator, Registrar, and Archivist), and
- Two exhibits were presented in the Museum Gallery.

## **Division of Facilities Management**

### Historic Structures Preservation Crew

*Historic Preservation Crew Program Lead: Rod Kennec*

The Historic Building Preservation Crew is a specialized work crew within Yosemite's Division of Facilities Management. Although not a designated section 106 assessment of effects reviewer, the crew members provide technical guidance on historic treatment project that ensure historic preservation work completed in the field meets the Secretary of the Interiors Standards. The crew's subject matter experts provide preservation consulting services for parkwide projects when it relates to material types, construction methods, condition assessment, treatment prescriptions and cost estimating. Through an agreement, Yosemite provides these services to Devil's Postpile National Monument when requested.

#### Projects completed in 2015 include:

- Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station Rehabilitation: retrofit concrete foundation, floor structure repair, wall repair, log repair, window preservation

- Wawona Point Masonry: raking out failed mortar, replacing missing stones, tuck pointing mortar joints, replacing damaged or missing wall sections
- Ansel Adams Gallery -Residences 900A&B and Darkroom 901 Rehabilitation and Seismic Retrofit: wood sash window preservation, exterior siding in-kind replacement
- Henness Ridge Fire Lookout Preservation: in-kind roof replacement, siding repairs, stairs and railings repair, in-kind porch canvas replacement, in-kind replacement of railing beams, restored lightning arrestor system, door and window repair, painting
- Crane Flat Fire Lookout: in-kind replacement of protective shutters, painting

## Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) Visit to Yosemite

The State Historic Preservation Officer (Julianne Polanco) and the SHPO's lead section 106 reviewer for the National Park Service (Mark Beason) visited Yosemite National Park on October 22nd and 23rd, 2015. OHP staff met with the park's superintendent, division chiefs, project managers, cultural resource managers, and compliance staff. During the two day visit, a variety of topics were discussed, including Merced River Plan implementation, Tuolumne River Plan implementation, restoration of the Mariposa Grove, upcoming planning effort for the Wilderness Stewardship Plan, and the development of a new parkwide PA. OHP staff visited Curry Village, the Yosemite Village day-use parking area, and Yosemite Lodge and Camp 4. The Park provided an update on its cultural resource programs, as well as upcoming section 106/110 inventories.



*Great Lounge, Ahwahnee Hotel HABS Documentation, 2015*

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# IDENTIFICATION, EVALUATION AND DOCUMENTATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

## **Consensus Determinations of Eligibility:**

2015: No new properties were determined eligible in 2015 through consensus determinations with the SHPO.

2016/17: The park anticipates submitting the following DOEs to the SHPO as consensus determinations of eligibility:

-Mission 66

- Yosemite Lodge
- Degnan's Deli (Yosemite Village)
- Village Store (Yosemite Village)

-Other

- White Wolf Historic District
- Wawona Commercial Services Historic District (including the hotel, golf course, gas station and store)

## **National Register Listings: Keeper of the National Register**

2015: No properties were added to the National Register

2016: Following SHPO review and concurrence of the Yosemite Lodge DOE, the park intends to submit documentation to the Keeper for listing on the National Register of Historic Places

## **Historic Structures Reports (HSRs)/Cultural Landscape Reports (CLRs)**

2015: No HSRs or CLRs were completed in 2015.

2016/17: HSRs to be completed in 2016 include the following:

-Mission 66

- Yosemite Lodge Food Court
- Degnan's Deli (if determined eligible)
- Village Store (if determined eligible)

-National Historic Landmarks (NHLs)

- Le Conte Memorial Lodge National Historic Landmark
- Parsons Memorial Lodge National Historic Landmark

-Other

- Yosemite Valley Group Utility Building (Fort Yosemite)
- Tuolumne Meadows Tent Cabins Historic Resource Study (HRS)



## Historic Property Documentation

2015: The park completed the following historic property documentation:

-HABS Documentation

- Ahwahnee Hotel: Four Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) Reports for the Hotel Main Building and Cottages were finalized and distributed including copies sent to the SHPO's office (consistent with stipulations in the 2011 Ahwahnee Comprehensive Rehab PA)

-Photo-documentation:

- Mariposa Grove: Photo-documentation was submitted to the SHPO's office (consistent with stipulations in the 2013 Restoration of the Mariposa Grove MOA)

2016/17: The park anticipates completing the following historic property documentation:

-HABS Documentation

- General Offices Headquarters Building (per 2016 MOA to be developed)

-Photo-documentation:

- Tuolumne Meadows Gas Station (per the 2016 MOA)
- Tioga Road culverts (per 1999 PA standard mitigation measures)



*Dining Room, Ahwahnee Hotel HABS Documentation, 2015*



## HIGHLIGHTED STATUS REPORTS FOR SELECTED ONGOING PROJECTS

(See Appendix D for Status of Other Ongoing Projects/Plans Completed under the 1999 PA)

### **El Portal Sewer Rehabilitation Project – Standard Review Process (36 CFR Part 800)**

The El Portal sewer rehabilitation project will provide much needed repairs to the aging sewer system to avoid potential problems with spills and groundwater infiltration. The El Portal sanitary sewer system transports wastewater from Old El Portal, Rancheria Flat, and the trailer park to the El Portal Wastewater Treatment Plant. In addition to making repairs to approximately 28,000 feet of main lines, the project will also repair numerous service lateral connections in Old El Portal and Rancheria Flat.

The project is divided into two phases which were prioritized based on “failure” ratings. Phase 1 will address the most urgent needs on the main sewer line and in Old El Portal. Phase 2 will address the remaining urgent, immediate, intermediate, and long term failures in Rancheria Flat, the trailer park, and the remaining areas of Old El Portal. The work will generally take place within previously disturbed areas.

The park initiated consultation with the SHPO and Yosemite’s traditionally associated tribes and groups in a letter dated August 8, 2014. The letter also requested concurrence on the project’s APE and included schematic designs for the new sewer lines. Based on previous discoveries of human remains in the area, the park developed a plan of action pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

In a letter dated October 6, 2015, the SHPO concurred with the park’s determination of No Adverse Effect with the following conditions:

- the park will conduct non-intensive archeological monitoring involving spot check screening of excavated trench sediments,
- the park will conduct sewer trench wall sampling, and
- Native American monitors will be present for all ground disturbing activities where archeological monitoring is required.

Any inadvertent discoveries will be address according to the Yosemite Archeological Research Design and Synthesis and the NAGPRA Plan of Action. Work is scheduled to begin in Fall 2016.

### **Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Tent Cabin Replacement Projects**

Replacement of the tent cabins implements an action called for in the *Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan (2014)* regarding improvement of employee housing. Thirty-seven tent cabins are proposed for replacement in three developed areas within the Tuolumne Meadows Historic District (including Road Camp, Ranger Camp, and Bug Camp) over the next several years. Many of the rustic tent cabins are in poor condition and do not provide the occupants with adequate protection from rodent intrusion in an environment where hanta virus remains a health concern.

Because the tent roofs are removed each winter, the cabins are exposed to the elements during the winter months, necessitating a continuous cycle of repairs and partial reconstruction of cabins each spring to address the effects of winter storm damage. This process has resulted in the cabins having varying levels of material integrity. Several of the tent cabins proposed to be replaced are identified as contributing resources to the Tuolumne Meadows Historic District (2007 Consensus DOE); however, additional research is underway to confirm the findings of the DOE. The park is completing a Historic Resource Study to provide more detailed historical background and architectural descriptions of the tent cabins to inform the design of the replacement cabins. Replacing the tent cabins with hard-roofed cabins will allow the park to address Occupational Safety and Health Administration and Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS).

The park initiated consultation with the SHPO under the standard section 106 review process on March 3, 2014. The initial project is currently on hold due to delays in housing project funding. The Historic Resource Study currently in progress will function as a guide to provide recommendations for replacement of historic cabins within the Tuolumne Meadows Historic District before construction begins.



*Typical Tuolumne Meadows hard-sided tent cabin,*

#### Phase 1: Pilot Project: Construction of Two Cabins – 1999 Parkwide PA

After internal review, the park proposed moving ahead with a pilot project to construct two new cabins in an area that would not affect archeological or historic resources. The sites for the two new cabins will be confirmed in summer 2016 and will be contingent upon the avoidance of adverse effects to archeological, ethnographic and other historic resources; minimal site constraints; access to utilities; ease of construction; and minimizing employee displacement.

#### Phase 2: Replacement of 37 Tent Cabins in Tuolumne Meadows – Standard Review Process (36 CFR Part 800)

In 2015, a comprehensive assessment of existing cabins was conducted to confirm the inventory of historic cabins, identify character-defining features, and evaluate historic integrity. Archeological testing was conducted to better define the boundaries of the prehistoric sites. The park began developing a Historic Resource Study, which will be completed in 2016 and will function as a guide to inform design and ensure compatibility of new cabins within the historic district. The goal remains to protect the historic character of the district while ensuring that the park meets federal and state housing and accessibility standards. Further consultation with the SHPO's office in 2016 will include design review and consultation on the effect determination.

#### **Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Gas Station Removal**

The removal of the Tuolumne Meadows Gas Station will implement transportation and land use components of the *Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan* (Tuolumne River Plan, 2014).

Phase 1: Gas Station Storage Tank Removal – 1999  
Parkwide PA

The removal of the non-contributing underground storage tanks was fast-tracked to ensure completion of the work by the outgoing park-concessionaire. In July 2015 consultation letters were sent to American Indian tribes and groups and the SHPO regarding the first phase of the project which included removal of the underground storage tanks. No concerns were identified. This action was completed in September 2015.



*Tuolumne Meadows gas station after removal  
of the underground storage tank*

Phase 2: Demolition of the Gas Station – MOA to be  
developed in 2016

Removal of the historic gas station building will require development of an MOA to address the adverse effects associated with the removal of the building. The ACHP indicated that they would not be involved in further consultation for the project. Consultation on this project will continue in 2016 to develop a MOA to resolve the adverse effect of removing a contributing building within the Tuolumne Meadows Historic District. Removal of the building is anticipated in fall of 2016.



*Office addition to the Tuolumne Meadows  
Ranger Cabin*

**Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne  
Meadows Ranger Station Addition – Standard Review  
Process (36 CFR Part 800)**

Work on the ranger station began in 2015 and included installation of a new foundation to replace the failing pier system, repair of floor structure and replacement of the tongue-and-groove flooring in-kind repair of the historic doors and windows, and the construction of new a 244 sf office addition to the building. Work was completed in October 2015.

**White Wolf Lodge Rehabilitation – 1999 Parkwide PA**

Rehabilitation of the main Lodge began in 2015. Work included installation of a new foundation to replace failed foundation system, repair/replacement of deteriorated building fabric, new shingle roofing, repair of the porch, accessibility improvements and upgraded utilities. An annex was constructed to provide additional space for the kitchen functions. Rehabilitation of the Lodge will be completed in 2016. Future phases will include rehabilitation of two duplex cabins, with one unit meeting ABAAS requirements for accessibility.

**Yosemite General Management Plan Implementation: Wauhoga Indian Cultural Center – 1999  
Parkwide PA**

The 1980 Yosemite General Management Plan authorized development of the Wauhoga Indian Cultural Center in partnership with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County for the purpose of providing a place for park associated American Indians to practice traditional ceremonies and share their culture with the public. A structural analysis report was conducted in 2015 for the roundhouse portion of the project. The park continues to work with the tribes, recognizing the American Indian Council of Mariposa County as the lead entity, on the development of the Wauhoga Indian Cultural Center in Yosemite Valley.

## ONGOING & FUTURE CONSULTATION

### **Development of a New Parkwide PA – 36 CFR § 800.6**

The park initiated consultation on the development of a new PA through correspondence in June 2014 with the SHPO, ACHP, and Yosemite's traditionally associated tribes and groups. In 2015, the park continued monthly consultation meetings with the signatory parties. The 1999 PA was amended to extend until May of 2016 so that the park's compliance process would remain the same until a new PA could be negotiated. The new PA will build from the streamlined activities identified in the 2008 nationwide PA. Consultation includes meetings with a tribally-appointed working group, as needed.

### **Wilderness Stewardship Plan and Environmental Impact Statement – Standard Review Process (36 CFR Part 800)**

Over 94% of Yosemite National Park is designated as wilderness as defined by the Wilderness Act of 1964, and established by the California Wilderness Act of 1984. Yosemite's wilderness is currently managed under the 1989 Wilderness Management Plan. The park is updating the plan to incorporate current information about visitor use patterns, methods of managing visitor use, trail use management, and stock management. The plan will establish a management framework that preserves wilderness character as defined by interagency guidance stemming from section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act. The park initiated consultation with the SHPO office on November 15, 2015. The park will be conducting public workshops in 2016 to solicit preliminary concepts and ideas regarding stock use and visitor use and capacity.

### **Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: White Wolf Lodge Rehabilitation– Standard Review Process (36 CFR Part 800)**

The park initiated consultation with the SHPO via letter in August 2011 (NPS110818A). The goal of the project was to update the Lodge facilities including ABAAS upgrade of a historic duplex unit. Work on the lodge (Phase 1) proceeded while the planning for the duplex unit (Phase 2) was put on hold pending completion of a determination of eligibility for the duplex units in the context of a district nomination. Research and documentation of the site will be completed by Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates in 2016.

### **Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Tent Cabin Replacement– Standard Review Process (36 CFR Part 800)**

The park initiated consultation with SHPO regarding the replacement of tent cabins via letter in March 2014 (NPS\_2014\_0304\_001). The project would improve life safety conditions and accessibility of 37 cabins currently used for seasonal park housing. The project is on hold pending completion of a historic resource study (HRS) that would guide the identification and replacement of both the historic and non-historic cabins. Completion of the HRS is anticipated in 2016/2017.

### **Tuolumne River Plan Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Gas Station Removal (36 CFR Part 800):**

The park initiated consultation via letter in July 2015 (NPS\_2015\_0709\_001). A Memorandum of Agreement will be developed for signature in 2016. Removal is anticipated in 2016/2017.

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## STATUS OF OTHER ACTIVE SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS

The following describes how the park is meeting the requirements of its active agreements with the SHPO and other consulting parties:

### ***2015 -- Memorandum of Agreement Between the National Park Service and the California State Historic Preservation officer, Regarding the Rehabilitation of the Yosemite Valley Emergency Services Complex, Yosemite National Park, Mariposa County, California***

After initiating consultation with the SHPO and American Indian tribes and groups, and following a year of consultation with all parties, the park executed an MOA in January 2015 to resolve the adverse effects to archeological and historic properties of religious and cultural significance. The goals of the project include meeting health and safety standards and addressing deficiencies in existing fire egresses, the electrical system, accessibility for persons with disabilities, and other structural integrity considerations.

This agreement involved extensive consultation with the park's traditionally associated tribes and groups and includes mitigation measures to address resources of religious and cultural significance and address archeological resources. Mitigations include developing a publication written by and from the perspective of traditionally associated American Indians, designing a banner representing the traditionally associated tribes and groups, revitalizing the Indian interpretive Garden at the Yosemite Museum, controlled data recovery excavations, archeological monitoring/sediment screening and recovery of human remains, and tribal cultural monitoring for the project.



*Archeologists and tribal monitor screening soils excavated from under the Emergency Services building*

Consultation on the design of the banner and the development of the book were begun. Discussions to rehabilitate the Indian Garden at the Museum in the Valley will also begin in 2016. Construction and archeological monitoring will begin in 2016. The park will be consulting with the park's traditionally associated tribes and groups to determine the final location for materials excavated as a result of the project. The park anticipates completion of construction in 2017.

### ***2014--Programmatic Agreement Between the National Park Service, the California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan***

See Appendix B for a complete summary.

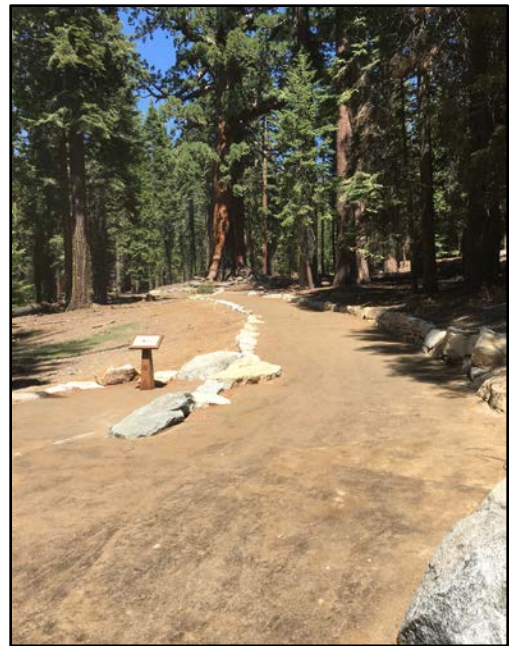


**2013 -- Memorandum of Agreement Between the National Park Service and the California State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the Restoration of the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias, Yosemite National Park, Mariposa County, California (amended in 2015)**

The MOA was executed on December 6, 2013 (SHPO Reference # NPS111003A). The park completed photo-documentation of the historic resources affected by the project prior to the construction phases. The photo-documentation was sent to the park archives and provided to the SHPO for their records on July 30, 2015.

The park is addressing stipulations pertaining to treatment and monitoring of archeological resources that includes provisions for data recovery, excavation and requirements for tribal monitoring during construction or pre-construction archeological surveys in areas with known or suspected archeological resources. For archeological and tribal resources, the park is complying with mitigations that stipulate that the NPS will undertake archeological data recovery at the two sites. Actions within or adjacent to these sites that involve minor ground disturbance are conducted with an archeological and tribal monitor present. Actions involving moderate to severe ground disturbance within or adjacent to the two sites are preceded by intensive surface survey and/or controlled subsurface testing. Archeological test excavations at the prehistoric component of site CA-MRP-661/H took place in November 2014, and indicated that additional data recovery is necessary. The NPS discussed data recovery options at a consultation meeting with the American Indian tribes and groups.

In 2015, the NPS and SHPO executed an amendment to the Mariposa Grove MOA with regard to the following: inclusion of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a signatory, modification of data recovery methods at one archeological site in response to a request from the tribes, and the lowering of a section of the Mariposa Grove Road near the South Entrance that was not included in previous descriptions of the undertaking. The MOA amendment defined new archeological data recovery methods per consultation with American Indian tribes and groups and addressed the project requirement to lower the Mariposa Grove Road up to 10 feet for no more than 725 linear feet near the South Entrance to Yosemite. Treatment and monitoring of archeological resources includes provisions for data recovery, excavation and requirements for tribal monitoring during construction or pre-construction archeological surveys in areas with known or suspected archeological resources.



*Recently paved accessible trail  
to the Grizzly Giant tree*

Work was contracted for Phase IV in 2015 which included removal of the parking lot from the Grove, construction of the septic infrastructure in the Grove, construction of a boardwalk through the wetlands in the new arrival area, and the conversion of the road to a trail above the Grizzly Giant. The park's trail crews continued construction of a universally accessible trail at the Grizzly Giant. The park's historic



preservation crew continues work on the repair of historic masonry at Wawona Point begun in 2014. Contract work conducted by Far Western at sites 660, 661, and 199. The park conducted site protection and archeological monitoring during construction activities.

Work for Phase V will be contracted in 2016. Work at the South Entrance will include construction of a parking area, visitor contact station, associated utilities infrastructure and resurfacing of the road between South Entrance and the Grove. The park will be constructing a traffic circle at South Entrance to replace the existing “T” intersection consistent with the preferred alternative in the Restoration of the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias Environmental Impact Statement. The Mariposa Grove will be re-opened to the public by fall 2017.

The MOA stipulations will require the park to updated national register documentation for several properties. Following completion of construction phase in 2017, the park will:

- update the nomination for listing the Mariposa Grove Archeological District
- prepare a National Register Nomination for the Mariposa Grove Historic District that includes documentation of the changes resulting from the project
- update the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for the South Entrance Station

***2011 -- Programmatic Agreement Between the National Park Service, Yosemite National Park and the California State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding The Ahwahnee Hotel National Historic Landmark Comprehensive Rehabilitation Program, Mariposa County, California***

The plan-specific agreement for the multi-year comprehensive rehabilitation of The Ahwahnee Hotel requires the park to submit design and construction documents as they are developed to the SHPO for review. Per Stipulation III.B., the park sent the final construction documents in 2015. For the upcoming phase of construction, the park will prepare a narrative report and photographic documentation, as described in stipulation IV-C.

In June of 2015, the park transmitted the Historic American Buildings Survey written and photographic documentation to the NPS Pacific West Regional Office. The NPS Regional HABS coordinator subsequently submitted the documentation to the SHPO and to the Library of Congress in October of 2015, pursuant to stipulation IV.A of the agreement.

Remaining stipulations to be completed following completion of the work includes: narrative and photographic documentation of before, during, and after construction activities for each rehabilitation phase; an update of the National Register nomination for The Ahwahnee Hotel as well as the development of interpretive media and materials for the public.

***2011 -- Memorandum of Agreement Between the National Park Service and the California State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the Curry Village Rockfall Hazard Zone Mitigation, Yosemite National Park, Mariposa County, California***

The majority of MOA stipulations have been fulfilled as required during earlier implementation phases of the project. All structures covered under the MOA were removed from the rockfall zone in 2013. Salvage efforts and site clean-up were completed in October 2013. The park hand-delivered the Historic American Landscapes Survey photographs and documentation to the SHPO on December 5, 2013;

copies of both were submitted to the U.S. Library of Congress on June 26, 2013. In June 2014, stipulations I.D. 1 and I.D. 5 requiring development of an interpretive exhibit and small interpretive signs at the site were completed. The park has developed a draft brochure related to stipulation I.D.5 describing Curry Village.

Per the request of the SHPO's office, discussions related to the proposed removal of an additional five bungalows associated with a boundary shift in the rockfall zone were postponed pending completion of the MRP. There are no immediate plans to remove these bungalows, so the park will be moving ahead with developing the amendments to the nominations for the Yosemite Valley and Camp Curry historic districts. These updates will include information about the recent history and revised lists of contributing and non-contributing features.

***2002 -- Memorandum of Agreement Between the National Park Service, Yosemite National Park, and the California State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Lower Yosemite Falls Project.***

The trail system at Yosemite Falls was completed in 2005. One of the project stipulations included the development of a gathering plan for the Valley. The park has implemented stipulations related to working with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County, developing guidance on trail width and signage, and restoring unused trail segments. The park entered into an agreement with Dr. Douglas Deur, who completed a study titled: *Yosemite National Park Traditional Use Study: Traditional Plant Use, Yosemite Valley and El Portal in 2006*. Further work may include a Traditional Use Guide to identify management techniques for traditional resources that may be used by the park to further traditional activities and enhance biodiversity. The park agreed to the development of a gathering plan for Yosemite Valley. That plan was temporarily put on hold pending release of policy guidance from WASO. The final rule was released publicly on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and titled: National Park Service Modifies Regulation for Gathering Plants for Federally-Recognized American Indian Tribes. The park is awaiting a formal request from one of the federally recognized Tribes to work with WASO on development of implementation guidelines on the rule.

***1986 -- Memorandum of Agreement Among the National Park Service, California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Regarding the Demolition, Relocation, and Rehabilitation of all Components of the Merced River Hydroelectric Generating System.***

The remaining obligation under this agreement is submittal of the revised National Register form to the SHPO, the ACHP, and the Keeper of the National Register, as directed in stipulation VII of the 1986 MOA. A revised National Register form was submitted to the SHPO in February 2007, requesting review and was returned with suggested revisions. The park is seeking funds to complete the required revisions in 2016.

## REPORT DISTRIBUTION

In accordance with stipulation XVIII of the 1999 PA, copies of this report are being sent concurrently to the National Park Service Federal Preservation Officer as well as all invited signatories of the 1999 PA, which include:

- California SHPO
- ACHP
- Seven traditionally associated American Indian tribes and groups
- National Trust for Historic Preservation

The report will also be sent to the National Park Service Pacific West Region Section 106 Coordinator and will be made available for public inspection in the Yosemite Research Library, Yosemite Archives, and at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectId=49315>.



*Ansel Adams Gallery: Completed exterior repair on Residential Duplex Unit*

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## **APPENDICES**

- A. Summary of 106 Compliance for 2015 Projects**
- B. Reporting Pursuant to the Merced River Plan Programmatic Agreement**
- C. Report of Effects of the 2015 Fires on Historic Properties in Yosemite National Park**
- D. Other Project Construction/Implementation Updates**
- E. 2016 Cultural Resources Team**

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**APPENDIX A - SUMMARY OF 106 COMPLIANCE FOR 2015 PROJECTS**

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Assess. of Effect</b>	<b>Supt. Approval Date</b>	<b>Documentation Method</b>	<b>SHPO</b>	<b>Tribes</b>	<b>Historical Landscape Architect</b>	<b>Historical Architect</b>	<b>Archeologist</b>	<b>Historian</b>	<b>Anthro-pologist</b>
El Portal Community Hall Rehabilitation	No Adverse Effect	1/26/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yosemite Valley Emergency Services Complex Rehabilitation	Adverse Effect	1/26/2015	Standard 4-Step Process	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
El Portal Administrative Site Kerr Reconstruction	No Adverse Effect	2/3/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
MRP Implementation: West of Yosemite Lodge Parking and Camp 4 Parking Addition	No Adverse Effect	3/11/2015	Standard 4-Step Process	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Cathedral Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep Reintroductions	No Adverse Effect	3/17/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Valley Fort Unsafe Door Replacement	No Adverse Effect	3/19/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Church Bowl Area Restroom Installation	No Adverse Effect	3/19/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
2015 Commercial Use	No Adverse	3/19/2015	Park Specific	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

Appendix A: Summary of 106 Compliance for 2015 Projects

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Authorization Commercial Stock Use	Effect		Programmatic Agreement							
Yosemite Lodge Generator Replacement	No Adverse Effect	3/31/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
El Portal Willow and Native Plant Community Restoration	No Adverse Effect	6/1/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Hetch Hetchy Entrance Well House Replacement	No Adverse Effect	6/1/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Merced Grove Giant Sequoia Restoration Fence Installation	No Adverse Effect	6/1/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yosemite Valley Non-Historic Non-Native Fruit Trees Removal	No Adverse Effect	6/1/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yellow Pine Campground Vault Toilets Installation	No Adverse Effect	6/11/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Little Yosemite Valley Composting Toilet Leach Field Installation	No Adverse Effect	6/15/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Hetch Hetchy Meteorological Station Consolidation and	No Adverse Effect	6/15/2015	Park Specific Programmatic	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes



Appendix A: Summary of 106 Compliance for 2015 Projects

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Assess. of Effect</b>	<b>Supt. Approval Date</b>	<b>Documentation Method</b>	<b>SHPO</b>	<b>Tribes</b>	<b>Historical Landscape Architect</b>	<b>Historical Architect</b>	<b>Archeologist</b>	<b>Historian</b>	<b>Anthro-pologist</b>
Automation			Agreement							
Vogelsang Backpacker Composter Toilet Removal	No Adverse Effect	6/15/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
MRP Implementation: Wawona Swinging Bridge Vault Toilet Installation	No Adverse Effect	7/8/2015	Streamlined Review (2008 PA) Per MRP PA	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Ackerson Meadow Minor Boundary Adjustment and Acquisition	No Potential to Cause Effects	7/30/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
White Wolf Water Utility Building Replacement	No Historic Properties Affected	7/30/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
TRP Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Office Addition	No Adverse Effect	7/30/2015	Standard 4-Step Process	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yosemite Valley Public Use Area Accessibility	No Adverse Effect	7/30/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
TRP Implementation: Tuolumne Meadows Gas Storage Tank and Pump Removal	No Adverse Effect	7/6/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

Appendix A: Summary of 106 Compliance for 2015 Projects

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Assess. of Effect</b>	<b>Supt. Approval Date</b>	<b>Documentation Method</b>	<b>SHPO</b>	<b>Tribes</b>	<b>Historical Landscape Architect</b>	<b>Historical Architect</b>	<b>Archeologist</b>	<b>Historian</b>	<b>Anthro-pologist</b>
Wawona Soil Investigation for Suitable Effluent Disposal Field	No Adverse Effect	9/1/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
CIF 5404 CVRA Propane Tank Relocation	No Adverse Effect	9/1/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Pacific Fisher Assisted Migration	No Potential to Cause Effects	9/9/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
El Portal Buckeye Road Erosion Control Measure Installation	No Historic Properties Affected	9/17/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
El Portal Administrative Site Ketron/Greenleaf Addition	No Historic Properties Affected	10/2/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
El Portal Sewer Replacement	No Adverse Effect	10/23/2015	Standard 4-Step Process	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Curry Village Mountain Shop Sewer Improvements	No Adverse Effect	10/28/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	-
Crane Flat Campground Soil Investigation for Wastewater Facilities	No Adverse Effect	10/28/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Appendix A: Summary of 106 Compliance for 2015 Projects

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Assess. of Effect</b>	<b>Supt. Approval Date</b>	<b>Documentation Method</b>	<b>SHPO</b>	<b>Tribes</b>	<b>Historical Landscape Architect</b>	<b>Historical Architect</b>	<b>Archeologist</b>	<b>Historian</b>	<b>Anthro-pologist</b>
Wawona Fiber Optic Installation	No Adverse Effect	11/2/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Temporary T-Mobile Cell on Wheels (COW) at Sentinel Site	No Historic Properties Affected	11/16/2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Routine Trail Maintenance and Repair	No Adverse Effect	Jan-Dec 2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Routine Grounds Maintenance	No Adverse Effect	Jan-Dec 2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Routine Road Maintenance and Repair	No Adverse Effect	Jan-Dec 2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Routine Sign Installation, Replacement, and Maintenance	No Adverse Effect	Jan-Dec 2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Routine Maintenance and Repair of Non-Historic Buildings/Structures	No Adverse Effect	Jan-Dec 2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Routine Maintenance and Repair of Historic Buildings/Structures	No Adverse Effect	Jan-Dec 2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies

Appendix A: Summary of 106 Compliance for 2015 Projects

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Assess. of Effect</b>	<b>Supt. Approval Date</b>	<b>Documentation Method</b>	<b>SHPO</b>	<b>Tribes</b>	<b>Historical Landscape Architect</b>	<b>Historical Architect</b>	<b>Archeologist</b>	<b>Historian</b>	<b>Anthro-pologist</b>
Routine Utilities Rehabilitation and Maintenance	No Adverse Effect	Jan-Dec 2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Forestry Work Plan	No Adverse Effect	Jan-Dec 2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Wilderness Restoration	No Adverse Effect	Jan-Dec 2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Yosemite Facelift Volunteer Event	No Adverse Effect	Jan-Dec 2015	Park Specific Programmatic Agreement	No	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies

## APPENDIX B - REPORTING PURSUANT TO THE MERCED RIVER PLAN PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT (STIPULATION IV.D)

***Programmatic Agreement Between the National Park Service, the California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan (executed on March 28, 2014)***

The MRP PA categorizes projects identified in the plan based on the anticipated level of effects to known historic properties. Category 1 actions are those with No Historic Properties Affected or No Adverse Effects. Category 2 actions have known Adverse Effects and would typically require development of an agreement document to mitigate adverse effects. Category 3 projects are those for which identification, evaluation and assessment of effects have yet to be completed and consultation will be conducted pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800 or the 2008 Nationwide PA.

This appendix is intended to meet the reporting requirements of *Stipulation IV.D: Annual Report and Meeting* of the 2014 MRP PA and provides an update on the identification, evaluation, assessment of effects determinations, and implementation of MRP actions:

*“The NPS will report annually regarding the Merced River Plan undertaking to the SHPO, ACHP, traditionally-associated American Indian tribes and groups. The annual report will provide an update on identification, evaluation, assessment of effects determinations, and implementation of actions. If requested by a signatory party, an annual meeting will be scheduled with all consulting parties to discuss the annual report and any other issues of interest regarding the undertaking.”*

### **Projects Completed**

#### **Wawona Fire Station – Category 3 (36 CFR Part 800) (Construction completed)**

The former Wawona Fire Station building was constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1934 to store tools and equipment. The building was located adjacent to the 100-year floodplain but within the 150-foot riparian buffer of the South Fork of the Merced River. It did not meet National Fire Protection Association standards, or seismic codes and standards for fire stations.

Construction of the new fire station was completed in 2015. The new building provides an adequate facility to protect and house the vehicles, equipment, and personnel necessary for the fire



*Wawona Fire Station, Southeast view*

and emergency response capability required by the park.

The NPS initiated consultation with the SHPO and associated American Indian tribes and groups in June 2014. In 2014, following tribal consultation, an archeological study and a documentation of the finding of ineligibility for the current Wawona Fire Station, the SHPO concurred with the finding of no adverse effects.

### **Projects Underway**

#### **Yosemite Village Day-Use Parking Area at Camp 6/Realignment of Northside Drive – Category 2**

This project will construct a new day-use parking area for about 400 vehicles in the vicinity of the existing Camp 6 parking area and re-align a portion of Northside Drive south of the Village parking area. This project is intended to eliminate hazardous conditions for pedestrians, improve automotive circulation, reduce the footprint of the existing parking area, increase parking efficiency, restore riparian wetlands, and provide a more scenic and enjoyable setting for park visitors as they arrive in Yosemite Valley. Existing non-historic structures within the project footprint are limited to a pre-fabricated modular toilet, a wood and canvas yurt, directional signs, and fencing.

The NPS initiated consultation for this project under the MRP PA in a letter dated February 13, 2015 (SHPO Reference #NPS\_2015\_1210\_001). The MRP PA classifies this project as a Category 2 project with likely “adverse effects to Northside Drive and Sentinel Drive due to re-routing, changing location of intersections, and construction of round-about.” As a Category 2 project, the MRP PA directs the park to consult using the standard section 106 review process (36 CFR Part 800). Through additional research, the NPS determined that the portions of Sentinel and Northside Drive affected by the project were not actually contributing sections. Through redesign, the park was able to avoid effects to archeological resources and anticipates avoiding any adverse effects from the project. The park intends to complete its assessment of effects determination in early 2016 and is scheduled to begin construction in fall 2016.

#### **Hydrological Study of the Merced River in the Vicinity of the Sugar Pine Bridge – (Stipulation XIV.C)**

On December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015, the park initiated implementation coordination for the Proposed Hydrological Study of the Merced River in the Vicinity of the Sugar Pine Bridge as part of the MRP PA. In the Merced River Plan, the selected action committed the park to retain Sugar Pine Bridge in place for the immediate future. To address the localized impacts that have been attributed to the bridge, the NPS committed to initiate a study to assess the merits of various long-term bridge management strategies. The study will assess the nature and extent of impacts associated with the bridge and then identify and test potential mitigation measures.

Completion of a hydrological study in the vicinity of the Sugar Pine Bridge is referenced in the MRP PA stipulation XIV.C: Hydrological Study of the Sugar Pine Bridge. The NPS will consult with the signatory and concurring parties to this agreement with regard to the content and structure of the study including

the development of the criteria for success in mitigating hydrological impacts and the array of alternative mitigation techniques to be tested.

The park is working with researchers from the University of California, Santa Barbara to gather information needed to address questions that were left unresolved in previous studies. The park initiated consultation with the PA consulting partners (SHPO, ACHP, NTHP and Historic Bridge Foundation) consistent with the park's commitment to involve the PA consulting partners in the scoping of the project. Meetings to discuss the formulation of the studies are scheduled in 2016.

#### **West of Yosemite Lodge/Camp 4 Parking Area – Category 3 (36 CFR Part 800)**

Construction on this project began in 2015 and is expected to conclude at the end of 2017. The undertaking includes construction of a gravel parking area west of the Yosemite Lodge (300 spaces) and reconfigure and expand the parking area at Camp 4. These actions are part of a comprehensive strategy to reduce traffic congestion and crowding in Yosemite Valley. The MRP PA classifies the undertaking as a "Category 3" which includes actions that necessitate further identification, evaluation, and/or assessment of effects determinations consistent with 36 CFR Part 800.

In 2014, the NPS initiated SHPO consultation and with the traditionally associated American Indian tribes and groups requesting assistance with identification of any additional historic properties with religious and cultural significance in the Camp 4 area. The park also notified the other MRP consulting parties including the ACHP, National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) and the Historic Bridge Foundation of the project on November 26, 2014, and invited them to participate in the consultation process. None of these consulting parties replied with a request to participate. On March 11, 2015, the SHPO sent a letter (SHPO Reference #NPS\_2015\_1202\_001) concurring with the park's no adverse effect assessment for the project.

The West of Yosemite Lodge parking area was graded and graveled in early 2015. An archeologist and a tribal representative monitored ground-disturbing actions during construction. The parking area opened to the public on Memorial Day, 2015.

In the fall of 2016 through 2017, the NPS will finalize the West of Yosemite Lodge parking area construction by paving drive aisles and delineating parking spaces. The NPS will also expand and reconfigure the parking area across Northside Drive at Camp 4 (41 new spaces). An archeologist and a tribal representative will continue to monitor ground-disturbing actions in the project area.

#### **MRP Projects Anticipated in 2016**

##### **Category 1: No Historic Properties Affected or No Adverse Effects (tribal consultation only)**

- Ecological Restoration along the Merced River in East Yosemite Valley

**Category 2: Adverse Effect** (signatory and tribal consultation required: resolution through development of an MOA)

- Concessioner Headquarters Building Removal (General Office)
- Half Dome (Curry) Village Design
- Yosemite Valley Group Utility Building Site and Structures Design (Fort Yosemite)

**Category 3: Identification, Evaluation & Assessment of Effects to be Determined** (signatory and tribal consultation required)

- Ahwahnee Meadow Ecological Restoration
- Selected Rip-rap Removal along the Merced River in Yosemite Valley
- Removal of the Tennis Courts and other Abandoned Infrastructure from the Ahwahnee grounds
- Expansion of the Camp 4 Walk-in Campground
- Valley Comfort Station Installation (multiple locations) – This design effort includes the installation of comfort stations at the Yosemite Lodge day-use parking area, the Camp 4 Campground Addition, and the Yosemite Village day-use parking area (south).



**National Park Service**

**U.S. Department of the Interior**

**Yosemite, California**



# **Yosemite National Park**

## **APPENDIX C - REPORT OF THE EFFECTS OF THE 2015 FIRES ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES IN YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, CALIFORNIA**



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## Yosemite National Park

### *Appendix C: Report of the Effect of the 2015 Fires on Historic Resources in Yosemite National Park, California*

*In accordance with Stipulation XI(g) of  
The 1999 Programmatic Agreement Among The National Park Service at Yosemite,  
the California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding Planning, Design, Construction,  
Operations and Maintenance,  
Yosemite National Park, California*

**National Park Service**

**U.S. Department of the Interior**

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## 0 INTRODUCTION

### 0.1 Purpose

Approximately 1226 acres burned within Yosemite National Park during 2015. This report documents the park's efforts to consider and address historic properties during 69 emergency incidents and planned management fire actions, per Stipulation XI of the *Programmatic Agreement Among The National Park Service At Yosemite, The California State Historic Preservation Officer, And The Advisory Council On Historic Preservation Regarding Planning, Design, Construction, Operations and Maintenance, Yosemite National Park, 1999* (hereafter referred to as the 1999 PA).

The 1999 PA requires Yosemite National Park to do the following during natural disasters:

- Undertake emergency actions to stabilize historic properties, and prevent further damage
- Assign cultural resource specialists to work closely with the emergency operations team, participate in discussions regarding emergency response activities, and monitor work that has the potential to affect historic properties
- Consult with traditionally associated American Indian tribes and groups regarding emergency actions
- Make every effort to avoid known or discovered historic properties during emergency response activities; and where not feasible to avoid, document affected historic properties
- Undertake emergency actions in a manner that does not foreclose future preservation or rehabilitation, unless integrity is permanently lost
- Submit to SHPO, Council and Federal Preservation Officer a report that documents how any effect of disaster or emergency response operations on historic properties were taken into account

In addition to addressing Stipulation XI, this report also describes actions taken to date to consider and protect historic properties from the potential effects of fuels treatments including prescribed fire, in accordance with the 2004 Final Yosemite Fire Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement. Of the 1226 acres burned in the park, 276 of those acres were a result of prescribed fire projects. Natural ignitions managed for multiple objectives including resource benefit accounted for 459 of the total 1226 acres.

### 0.2 Context

Yosemite National Park employs one fire archeologist and several Resource Advisors (READs) archeologists and other technical specialists in efforts to avoid and minimize impacts of the fire and fire suppression actions to natural and cultural resources where possible, and to document impacts to resources when avoidance is impossible. The fire archeologist is responsible for planning and coordinating the program.



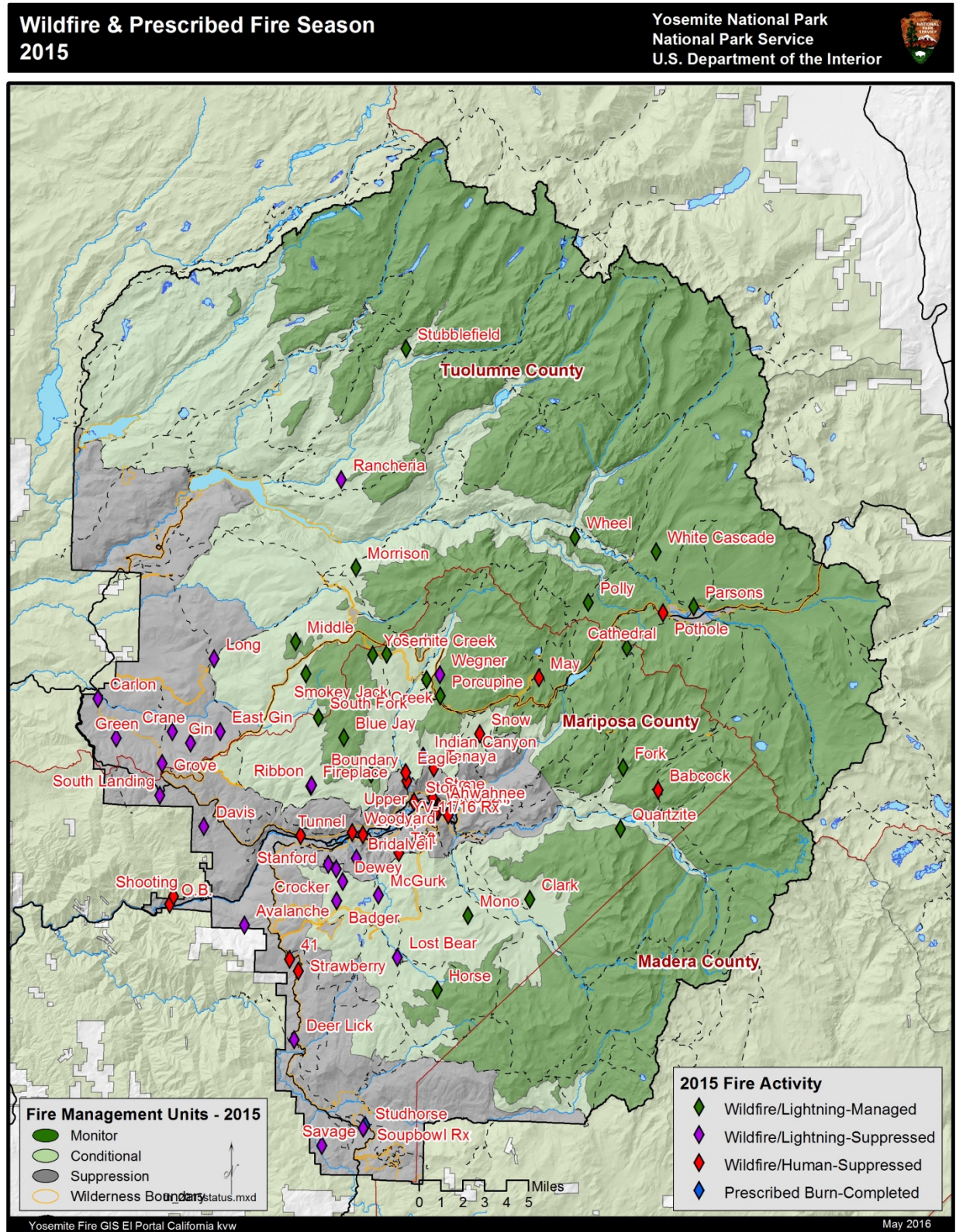


Figure 1. 2015 Fires in Yosemite National Park.



Beyond the work of the Fire Archeologist, the work of the READs was the park's primary effort to address historic properties during the fire season. READs acted under the direction of the park's Fire Archeologist to work closely with the Incident Commander and/or Incident Command Team, participated in discussions regarding emergency response activities, and monitored work that had the potential to affect historic properties. READs also directed emergency actions to stabilize historic properties and prevent further damage, recommended (where feasible) actions to avoid known or discovered historic properties during emergency response activities; and documented affected historic properties where avoidance was not feasible. READ staff also provided regular updates to the park's cultural resources management and leadership teams to support tribal and SHPO notifications.

### **0.3 Incident Notification and Consultation**

Yosemite National Park did not experience large, complex or other fires that warranted separate notification of SHPO. The park notified American Indian tribes and groups of the fires through regular e-mails. This notification consisted of fire updates sent to representatives of the seven traditionally-associated American Indian tribes and groups including the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians, the Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, and the American Indian Council of Mariposa County, Inc. (aka Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation).

# 1 METHODS and DEFINITIONS

Archeologists and cultural resource specialists assigned to the fires used the Yosemite pre- and post-fire assessment forms (Appendix B) and daily logs to document fire-related changes in historic properties. Use of these forms systematically captures information that documents potential and actual direct, indirect and operational effects to resources. Direct effects are typically documented as loss or alternation of historic fabric, features, or artifacts due to the fire. Indirect effects typically consist of post-fire risk conditions or processes such as erosion, access and exposure. Operational effects are those that were caused by the emergency actions undertaken as agency efforts to control or manage fires (Figure 4).

## 1.1 Direct Effects of Fire on Historic Properties

The ecosystems of the Sierra Nevada are adapted to fire and anthropogenic fire is also well documented for the area. Prehistoric sites in particular may have a long history of fire and associated direct effects. However, a century of fire suppression, may have elevated fuel loading resulting in fire effects above those experienced in the past. Historic sites may not have yet been exposed to fire as a site formation process and therefore may be more vulnerable to loss of form or function.

## 1.2 Indirect Effects

Fire severity, typically assessed based on vegetation and soil characteristics, is a standard indicator of the extent and degree of post-fire indirect effects. Burn severity categories reflect changes in the above ground vegetation. These maps compare pre-fire and post-fire satellite imagery and classify the changes in vegetation between them to provide landscape-scale burn severity measures. These measures can be used to interpolate soil burn severity, which in turn can predict large-scale erosion and other post-fire indirect effects to downstream resources such as archeological sites and historic structures.

## 1.3 Operational Impacts

Operational Impacts are caused by the fire suppression or treatment actions, such as fireline construction, spike camp installation, creation of vehicle or equipment parking areas, and clearing to create helicopter landing spots (helispots). Operational impacts can also stem from actions taken to protect historic resources, such as fire retardant application that can stain stone walls or encourage growth of vegetation on wood structures. Thinning around historic structures can affect a property's historic setting. READs and archeologists worked with operations field staff (when and where they could safely do so) to anticipate and prevent these types of impacts where possible, and document impacts that did occur. READs and archeologists worked with fire managers to repair damage caused by suppression operations while avoiding further impacts.

## 2 RESULTS

### 2.1 Observations: Archeological Sites

Of the 69 fire incidents during 2015, 28 had at least partial prior archeological survey. Seven of the 69 intersected with archeological sites. Two of those incidents were planned ignitions. All of these ignitions are presented in Table 1 below.

Two previously undocumented sites were documented as a result of monitoring and opportunistic inventory work during the 2015 fire season. These are listed below in Table 2.

Table 1. Wildland Fires in 2015 Yosemite

FIRE ID	NAME	ACRES	CAUSE	STARTDATE	OUTDATE	CR Present
CA-YNP-0001	Ahwahnee	0.1	HC	1/24/2015	1/24/2015	S
CA-YNP-0003	Soupbowl Rx	178.0	MI	2/26/2015	5/14/2015	S, A, V
CA-YNP-0004	Green	0.1	LTG	3/11/2015	3/31/2015	
CA-YNP-0005	Stop: 21	0.1	HC	4/14/2015	4/14/2015	S
CA-YNP-0006	Davis	0.1	LTG	4/23/2015	4/25/2015	
CA-YNP-0007	Stone	0.1	HC	5/3/2015	5/4/2015	S
CA-YNP-0010	O.B.	0.1	HC	5/29/2015	5/30/2015	S, A, V
CA-YNP-0017	Parsons	0.1	LTG	6/4/2015	6/12/2014	S, A
CA-YNP-0008	Shooting	0.1	HC	5/27/2015	5/27/2015	
CA-YNP-0020	Boundary	0.1	LTG	6/5/2015	6/22/2015	
CA-YNP-0021	South Fork	0.1	LTG	6/5/2015	6/22/2015	
CA-YNP-0018	May	0.1	HC	6/5/2015	6/6/2015	
CA-YNP-0022	South Landing	0.1	LTG	6/6/2015	6/7/2015	S
CA-YNP-0024	Yosemite Creek	0.1	LTG	6/6/2015	7/2/2015	
CA-YNP-0025	Woodyard	0.1	HC	6/8/2015	6/8/2015	S
CA-YNP-0026	Wheel	0.1	LTG	6/6/2015	7/3/2015	
CA-YNP-0028	41	0.2	HC	6/8/2015	6/9/2015	S
CA-YNP-0042	Babcock	0.1	HC	6/24/2015	6/25/2015	S
CA-YNP-0049	Indian Canyon	4.1	LTG	7/2/2015	8/18/2015	
CA-YNP-0050	Porcupine	0.1	LTG	7/2/2015	7/15/2015	
CA-YNP-0051	White Cascade	73.0	LTG	7/2/2015	11/9/2015	
CA-YNP-0052	Smokey Jack	0.1	LTG	7/2/2015	7/9/2015	
CA-YNP-0053	McGurk	0.1	LTG	7/2/2015	8/3/2015	
CA-YNP-0047	Deer Lick	0.1	LTG	7/2/2015	7/3/2015	S
CA-YNP-0056	Blue Jay	0.1	LTG	7/2/2015	7/30/2015	
CA-YNP-0057	Dark	38.0	LTG	7/8/2015	10/18/2015	S, V
CA-YNP-0058	Grove	0.1	LTG	7/8/2015	7/10/2015	S
CA-YNP-0059	Gin	0.1	LTG	7/8/2015	7/14/2015	
CA-YNP-0060	East Gin	0.1	LTG	7/8/2015	7/10/2015	

Appendix C: Report of Effects of the 2015 Fires on Historic Properties in Yosemite National Park

CA-YNP-0061	Morrison	0.1	LTG	7/8/2015	7/23/2015	
CA-YNP-0062	Horse	0.1	LTG	7/8/2015	8/1/2015	
CA-YNP-0063	Clark	0.1	LTG	7/8/2015	8/1/2015	
CA-YNP-0064	Taft	0.1	HC	7/12/2015	7/13/2015	
CA-YNP-0065	Fork	0.1	LTG	7/3/2015	8/1/2015	S
CA-YNP-0068	Polly	0.1	LTG	7/19/2015	7/23/2015	S
CA-YNP-0071	Studhorse	0.1	LTG	7/20/2015	7/21/2015	S
CA-YNP-0072	Carlton	0.3	LTG	7/20/2015	7/28/2015	S
CA-YNP-0073	Creek	0.1	LTG	7/20/2015	8/4/2015	
CA-YNP-0077	Quartzite	0.2	LTG	7/20/2015	8/28/2015	
CA-YNP-0078	Middle	325.0	LTG	7/20/2015	11/9/2015	V
CA-YNP-0081	Lost Bear	0.8	LTG	7/31/2015	8/2/2015	
CA-YNP-0081	Dewey	0.1	LTG	7/31/2015	8/3/2015	
CA-YNP-0082	Crocker	0.3	LTG	7/31/2015	8/2/2015	
CA-YNP-0085	Crane	0.1	LTG	7/31/2015	8/11/2015	
CA-YNP-0086	Long	0.1	LTG	7/30/2015	8/2/2015	S
CA-YNP-0087	Cathedral	43.0	LTG	7/31/2015	10/18/2015	V
CA-YNP-0090	Stanford	0.1	LTG	7/31/2015	8/3/2015	
CA-YNP-0091	Stubblefield	3.0	LTG	8/1/2015	8/28/2015	
CA-YNP-0096	Rancheria	0.1	LTG	8/1/2015	8/5/2015	
CA-YNP-0097	Fireplace	0.1	LTG	8/1/2015	8/6/2015	
CA-YNP-0099	Ribbon	0.1	LTG	8/1/2015	8/18/2015	
CA-YNP-0100	Tunnel	0.1	HC	8/8/2015	8/8/2015	
CA-YNP-0101	Upper	3.8	HC	8/10/2015	8/14/2015	V
CA-YNP-0102	Badger	0.1	LTG	7/31/2015	8/11/2015	
CA-YNP-0105	Stop 6	0.1	HC	8/14/2015	8/14/2015	S, A, V
CA-YNP-0108	Strawberry	0.1	HC	8/18/2015	8/18/2015	S
CA-YNP-0109	Wellness	0.1	HC	8/18/2015	8/18/2015	S
CA-YNP-0118	Eagle	0.1	HC	8/28/2015	8/28/2015	S
CA-YNP-0123	Tenaya	415.0	HC	9/8/2015	9/15/2015	S, A, V
CA-YNP-0120	Pothole	0.1	HC	9/2/2015	9/2/2015	S
CA-YNP-0125	Pine	0.1	HC	9/21/2015	9/21/2015	S
CA-YNP-0127	El Cap	0.1	HC	9/22/2015	9/22/2015	S
CA-YNP-0131	Wegner	0.1	HC	10/4/2015	10/6/2015	
CA-YNP-0132	Bridalveil	38.0	HC	10/5/2015	10/18/2015	A, V
CA-YNP-0134	Avalanche	0.1	LTG	10/17/2015	11/9/2015	
CA-YNP-0135	Savage	0.1	LTG	10/17/2015	10/19/2015	
CA-YNP-0133	YV-11/16 Rx	98.0	MI	10/15/2015	11/23/2015	S, A, V
CA-YNP-0138	Snow	0.1	HC	10/27/2015	10/27/2015	S
CA-YNP-0140	Mono	0.1	LTG	10/30/2015	11/9/2015	

Key:

Cause: HC; Human Caused, LTG: Lightning, MI; Management Ignited

CR Present: S: Surveyed prior (at least partially) for archeological resources, A: Archeological site(s) present. V: Visited by archeologist or READ during or after incident.

Table 2. Newly discovered archeological sites

Temporary Number	Description	Trinomial
YOSE 2013K-01	Bridalveil Fire, sparse lithic scatter.	CA-TUO-
YOSE 2013K-02	Bridalveil Fire, sparse lithic scatter.	CA-TUO-

A discussion of the particular unplanned ignitions that intersected with archeological resources is provided below. The Out of Bounds (O.B.) and Parsons Fires were not visited but were suppressed at less than 1/10 of an acre (the smallest default size recorded in the database) and impacts are expected to be minimal.

#### **Stop 6 Fire**

This human-caused fire exhibited was quickly suppressed by the Yosemite Valley engine crew.

#### **CA-MRP-749**

Previous Investigations: This prehistoric site was documented.

Current Results: The site was visited after the fire but the fire could not be relocated.

Direct Effects: The site was visited after the fire but the location of the fire could not be determined. The fire was kept very small so no direct impacts are expected if the fire was within the site boundary.

Operational Effects: The site was visited after the fire but the fire could not be relocated. The fire was kept very small and water was the primary means of extinguishment so minimal operational impacts are expected if the fire was within the site boundary.

Indirect Effects: No indirect impacts to the site are anticipated.

#### **Tenaya Fire**

This lightning strike-ignited fire exhibited active fire behavior and was suppressed to reduce smoke impacts to Yosemite Valley and potential impacts to the Tioga Road traffic.

**CA-MRP- 2084**

Previous Investigations: This prehistoric site is characterized by debitage concentrations. The site was first documented in 2011.

Current Results: The site was visited during the fire, and no operational impacts beyond some retardant on the site. No new features or artifacts were observed.

Direct Effects: The site is outside the final fire perimeter.

Operational Effects: Retardant was splashed across the site. No action is recommended and because the retardant is the fugitive formula, no long-term visual impacts are anticipated. It is difficult to say how the retardant may impact site data such as hydration-based or radio-carbon dates.

Indirect Effects: No indirect impacts to the site are anticipated.

**CA-MRP- 2085**

The site is well outside the fire perimeter and no direct, indirect or operational impacts were anticipated.

**CA-MRP- 2086**

The site is well outside the fire perimeter and no direct, indirect or operational impacts were anticipated.

**CA-MRP- 2090**

Current Results: The site is well outside the fire perimeter and no direct or indirect impacts were anticipated. The site was visited in during the fire, and no operational impacts beyond some retardant on the site and features were observed. No new features or artifacts were observed.

Direct Effects: The site is outside the final fire perimeter.

Operational Effects: Retardant was splashed across the site including features. No action is recommended and because the retardant is the fugitive formula, no long-term impacts are anticipated. It is difficult to anticipate what impact the retardant will have on site data such as hydration-based or radio-carbon dates.

Indirect Effects: No indirect impacts to the site are anticipated.

The site did receive a retardant drop as illustrated in figure 3. This photo recreates the 2011 viewpoint from the site record.





Figure 2. CA-MRP-2090 Site overview showing retardant drop.

#### **CA-MRP- 2229**

The site is well outside the fire perimeter and no direct, indirect or operational impacts were anticipated.

#### **Bridalveil Fire**

This lightning strike-ignited fire exhibited active fire behavior and was suppressed to reduce smoke impacts to Yosemite Valley and potential impacts to the Tioga Road traffic.

#### **YOSE 2016K-1**

Previous Investigations: This prehistoric site was partially documented by a READ during operations.





Figure 3. YOSE 2016K-1 Site overview.

Current Results: The site was visited during the fire.

Direct Effects: The site within the area that was potentially going to be burned out but did not.

Operational Effects: Handline did traverse the site area between YOSE 2016K-1 and YOSE 2016K-2, through thick duff that obscured visibility. The two sites along with an isolate may be related.

Indirect Effects: No indirect impacts to the site are anticipated.

#### **YOSE 2016K-2**

Previous Investigations: This prehistoric site was partially documented by a READ during operations.





Figure 4. YOSE 2016K-2 Site overview.

Current Results: The site was visited during the fire.

Direct Effects: The site outside the fire perimeter.

Operational Effects: None observed.

Indirect Effects: No indirect impacts to the site are anticipated.

### **Soupbowl Rx**

This prescribed burn project was implemented in two stages during late February and early March to take advantage of dry spring conditions as a result of drought. Several documented archeological sites were visited prior to implementation for pre-burn assessments. The prescribed fire project did not reach those sites and a fire archeologist was present during operations to ensure that no sites were affected.

### **YV-11/16 Rx**

This prescribed burn project was ignited over the course of one day in October. Several documented sites were within the units. These sites were visited prior to implementation and pre-burn assessments were completed. Treatments, including fuels reduction were recommended and implemented. Post-fire site visits and assessments were also completed. The implemented treatments along with the presence of the fire archeologist on the burn were successful and direct, indirect and operational impacts were minimized. At least one site, an additional historic trash scatter was identified during the post-fire assessment.

## **3 SUMMARY**

### **3.1 Implications of fire severity and size**

The 2015 fire season was active but did not see large fires within the park. Managed fires were successful in the higher country while most fires in the lower and mid elevations were suppressed. Given the four years of significant drought for the region, fire behavior and associated control challenges could have resulted in higher severity direct, indirect and operational impacts.

### **3.2 Summary of Effects**

Impacts to documented sites were minimized through the use of red-carded archeologists and READs. Retardant stains on CA-MRP-2084 were already fading when the site was revisited during rehabilitation efforts in October.

### **3.3 Treatment Needs**

No treatment needs were identified.

In summary, during the 2015 fire season, Yosemite National Park took into account the effect of wildland fire, both planned and unplanned ignitions, on historic properties in accordance with the 1999 PA stipulation for natural disasters. The park worked closely with fire managers through the Incident Command System and provided Resource Advisors and archeologists. The park consulted with and continues to consult with associated American Indian tribes and groups. Finally, this report provides to SHPO documentation of how the park considered and continues to treat historic properties during the 2015 Fire season.

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## APPENDIX D - OTHER PROJECT CONSTRUCTION/IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

PROJECT/PLAN & NEPA PATHWAY	SECTION 106 PATHWAY	PROJECT/PHASING	FINDING OF EFFECT	TRIBAL CONSULTATION	UPDATE
Ahwahnee Hotel Comprehensive Rehabilitation (2011 EA)	2011 Ahwahnee Programmatic Agreement	East Wing Improvements Phase	Adverse Effect	Throughout plan implementation	<p>The park has contracted for the construction of the east wing improvements phase in early 2016. This phase includes the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct secondary egress from the upper floors of the east wing of the hotel by replacing the non-compliant 2nd and 3rd floor fire egress (spiral stairway)</li> <li>• Provide two accessible guest suites to fully meet accessibility guest room ratio requirements</li> <li>• Add a limited use/limited access elevator to provide accessibility to the south mezzanine meeting rooms</li> <li>• Reconfigure the bar to correct accessibility deficiencies; restore the historic footprint and improve operational efficiency, health code compliance, and visitor service</li> <li>• Replace failing water and sewer lines servicing the bar</li> </ul>
Ansel Adams Gallery Rehabilitation (2014 EA)	1999 PA	Phase 1– Rehabilitation of gallery and family residence, buildings 900a, 900b and 901	No Adverse Effect	Yes	Construction began in November 2014 on the main gallery building (#900A), the family residence (#900B) and the dark room (#901) Tribal monitoring occurred throughout all ground disturbing activities during construction in 2014, 2015. The first

Appendix D: Other Project Construction/Implementation Updates

PROJECT/PLAN & NEPA PATHWAY	SECTION 106 PATHWAY	PROJECT/PHASING	FINDING OF EFFECT	TRIBAL CONSULTATION	UPDATE
		water/sewer			phase was completed in summer 2015.
		Phase 2: Rehabilitation of buildings 902 and 904 (employee duplexes) and replacement of waterline servicing both buildings	No Adverse Effect	Yes	Work in 2016 will include the rehabilitation of the two duplex cabins including the installation of fire suppression systems. Work will be completed in summer 2016.
Badger Pass Ski Lodge Rehabilitation (2011 EA)	1999 PA	No imminent work funded	No Adverse Effect	No	None
Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Projects	1999 Parkwide PA	Phase 1: Investigation and Testing	No adverse effects: notification of SHPO of any changes to the finding	Ongoing	<u>The Cascades Creosote Dip Tank Site:</u> The tank had previously been removed from the site but due to the nature of dip tank operations, there are a number of contaminants of potential concern (COPCs) within soil and possibly the groundwater that are being investigated. In November 2015, the contractor excavated soil trenches to delineate the main source area of contaminated soils (approx. 30-ft x 60-ft area). One monitoring well was installed. Work in 2016 will include the installation of additional groundwater monitoring wells.

Appendix D: Other Project Construction/Implementation Updates

PROJECT/PLAN & NEPA PATHWAY	SECTION 106 PATHWAY	PROJECT/PHASING	FINDING OF EFFECT	TRIBAL CONSULTATION	UPDATE
					<p><u>Curry Former Waste Disposal Area:</u> There are no planned soil-disturbance activities in 2016.</p> <p><u>El Capitan Former Waste Disposal Area:</u> In 2016, the first phase of a field investigation within the surface and subsurface soil at the site will be conducted.</p>
Curry Village Cabin Rehabilitation (2012 Cat Ex)	1999 Parkwide PA	Phase 3	No adverse effects	Yes	Work was begun in 2014 on the rehabilitation of four duplex and one fourplex cabin. Work was completed in spring 2015 and included replacement of failing foundation, repair and replacement of building envelope, repair of roofs, seismic/utility upgrades and updated fire alarm systems.
Environmental Education Center (2010 EIS)	1999 PA	Phase 1- Staff, Maintenance & Fire Station Bldg Construction 90% complete. Began Bathhouse 2 (65% complete) & Cabins 1 & 2 with completion of footings & foundations.	Adverse Effect	Yes	Project construction suspended indefinitely to secure additional funding.
	1999 PA	Crane Flat buildings	Adverse	Ongoing	Demolition projected for 2017- actual start date

Appendix D: Other Project Construction/Implementation Updates

PROJECT/PLAN & NEPA PATHWAY	SECTION 106 PATHWAY	PROJECT/PHASING	FINDING OF EFFECT	TRIBAL CONSULTATION	UPDATE
		demolition/ecological restoration	Effect		depends on funding availability. 1999 PA standard mitigation measures (photo-documentation, salvage analysis, etc.) likely to take place in 2017.
Fire Management Plan (2004 EIS)	1999 PA	Ongoing	Adverse Effects	Yes	See Appendix C for Report of Effects of the 2015 Fires on Historic Properties in Yosemite National Park.
Invasive Plant Management Plan Update (2010 EA)	1999 PA	Ongoing	No Adverse Effect	Yes	Park CRM Team reviews annual work plans to develop avoidance, minimization, and mitigation strategies. In 2015, invasive plant program personnel surveyed 3,993 acres of the park for invasive species. 29 species were prioritized for eradication. Over 260 acres were treated, including the yellow star-thistle, Himalayan and cut-leaf blackberry, wall hawkweed, bull thistle, spotted knapweed, oxeye daisy, velvet grass, and cheatgrass.
Parkwide Communication Data Network (2010 EA)	1999 PA	Ongoing implementation	Varies	Ongoing	Park CRM Team reviews projects to develop avoidance, minimization, and mitigation strategies. Projects reviewed in 2015 include the Wawona Point Communication Tower, Sentinel Temporary Cell-on-Wheels (COW), and the May Lake Junction Tower modification.



Appendix D: Other Project Construction/Implementation Updates

PROJECT/PLAN & NEPA PATHWAY	SECTION 106 PATHWAY	PROJECT/PHASING	FINDING OF EFFECT	TRIBAL CONSULTATION	UPDATE
Reconstruct Critically Eroded Sections of the El Portal Road (2007 EA) FONSI signed 2007	1999 PA	Remaining work (repair or replacement of 7 culverts and rehab of road surface) scheduled for 2017.	Adverse effect from removal of guardwall (work completed in 2010). No adverse effect on culvert repair/replace (remaining work)		<p>The NPS completed the most critical work in the project, which was to repair failing retaining walls along a 950-foot section of road.</p> <p>The remaining work, which does not have an adverse effect of historic resources, involves the repair and repaving of the eastern 450-feet of road and repair/replacement of 7 culverts. The remaining work has gone out to bid in conjunction with the Yosemite Valley Day-Use Parking area project. Work will begin in Summer 2016 and is expected to be completed in Fall 2017.</p>
Repaving of Mariposa Grove Road (2016 Cat. Ex)	1999 PA	Repaving of the Mariposa Grove Road between the Grove and the intersection with Wawona Road (~ 2 miles)	No adverse effects	yes	<p>Compliance was completed under the 99 PA (no adverse effect assessment by the CRM team.)</p> <p>Compliance on two specific pieces associated with the restoration of the Grove were completed under the EIS/MOA for the Grove restoration including realignment of the intersection with Wawona Road and for installation of a rock retaining wall at the entrance to the Grove. The lowering of the road at the entrance to the new Grove parking area was addressed under an amendment to the Mariposa Grove MOA.</p>

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PROJECT/PLAN & NEPA PATHWAY	SECTION 106 PATHWAY	PROJECT/PHASING	FINDING OF EFFECT	TRIBAL CONSULTATION	UPDATE
Repaving of Wawona Road (2016 Cat. Ex.)	1999 PA	Phase 2: Repaving of Wawona Road: Final phase of paving from park boundary at South Entrance Wawona Road (~1 mile)	No adverse effects	yes	Approximately 26.5 miles of Wawona Road were previously paved. This project, being completed in conjunction with the paving of the Mariposa Grove Road, will complete the resurfacing project for the Wawona Road and extends from the park boundary to approximately 1/4 mile west of the South Entrance Station.
Repaving of Yosemite Valley Loop Road (2006 EA)	1999 PA	Final pulverizing/paving of the remaining 4.24 miles to occur between Fall 2016 and Summer 2017	No Adverse Effect	Yes	The NPS completed approximately 70% of this road rehabilitation project from 2006 to 2009. Utility-related complications and funding availability halted the project before it was completed. This last portion of work will go out to bid shortly in conjunction with the Yosemite Valley day-use parking area project.
Scenic Vista Management Plan (2011 EA)	1999 PA	Ongoing implementation by annual funding allocation	No Adverse Effect	Ongoing	Park CRM Team reviews annual work plans to develop avoidance, minimization, and mitigation strategies. During 2015, numerous sites were improved upon through tree removal including Parsons Lodge, Bridalveil Fall footbridge, Chapel view, Hutchings view, and North Country View. Work primarily occurs in the fall and winter to minimize impacts to visitors.
Tenaya Lake Area Plan (2011 EA)	1999 PA	Phasing determined by available funding	No Adverse Effect	Ongoing	Boardwalk and trail installation from East Beach parking area to East Beach.

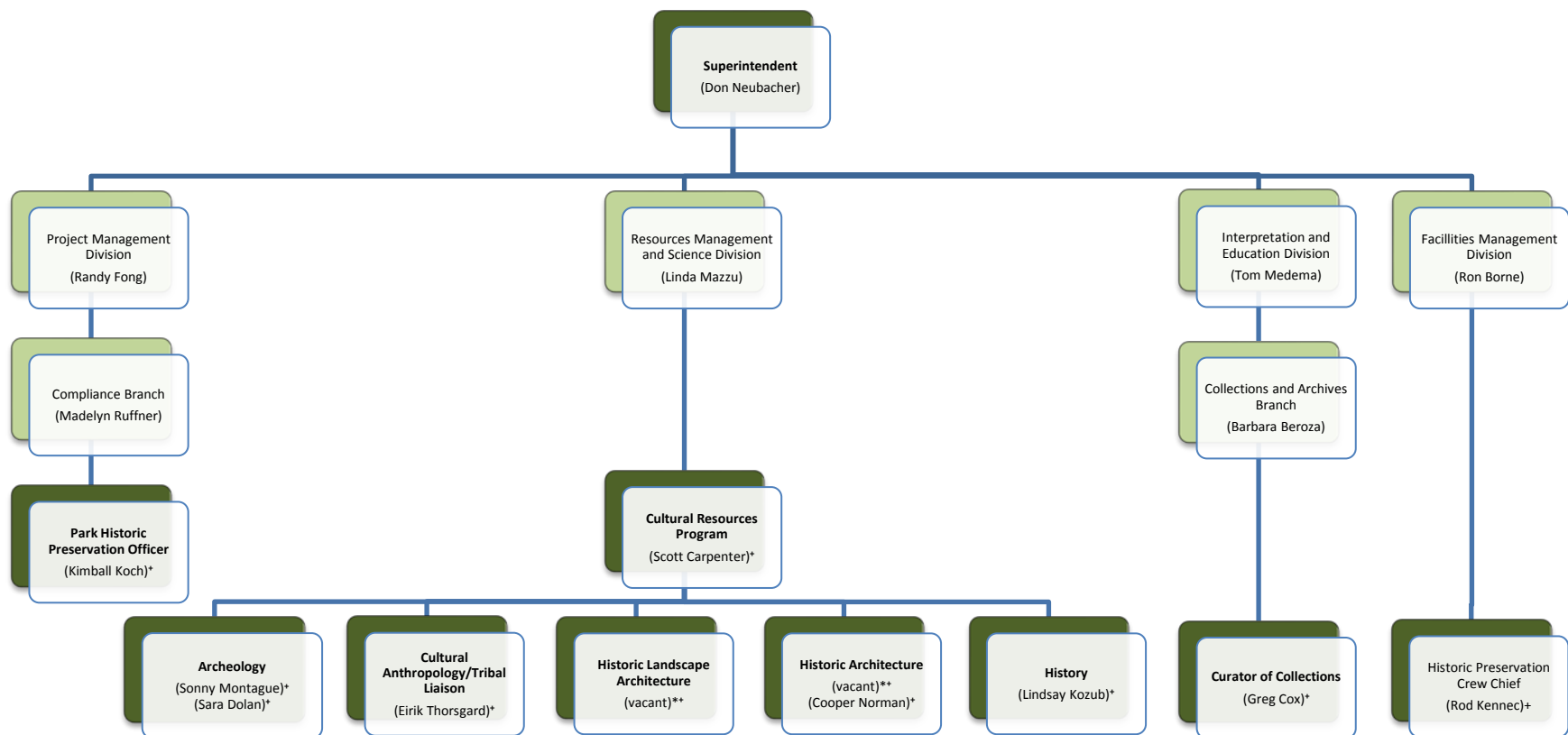
Appendix D: Other Project Construction/Implementation Updates

PROJECT/PLAN & NEPA PATHWAY	SECTION 106 PATHWAY	PROJECT/PHASING	FINDING OF EFFECT	TRIBAL CONSULTATION	UPDATE
Tioga Road Rehabilitation (2012 EA)	1999 PA	Phase 1- Rehabilitation of road from Crane Flat to White Wolf	Adverse Effect to Tioga Road Historic District	Completed in 2015	Completed
	1999 PA	Phase 2- White Wolf to Blue Slide	Adverse Effect to Tioga Road Historic District	Ongoing	<p>As noted in the letter to the SHPO dated 04/05/2012 with a "no objection" email from the SHPO dated 11/02/2012:</p> <p><b>Recordation [VIII.A.1(b)]</b> - Documentation will be by black and white 5 x 7 photographic prints and a Historic Record that includes a narrative history. Copies will be deposited in the Yosemite Archives and with the SHPO.</p> <p><b>Salvage (VIII.A.2)</b> - The original headwall components affected by installation of larger culverts will be salvaged and reused in the new structures in a manner consistent with the original design for the headwalls. Additional stone needed to complete the larger walls will match the color and character of the existing granite headwalls. A date stamp identifying the year of the work will be marked in the mortar in a location that will be evident for future reference.</p> <p>Project is scheduled for construction in 2020 or beyond.</p>

Appendix D: Other Project Construction/Implementation Updates

PROJECT/PLAN & NEPA PATHWAY	SECTION 106 PATHWAY	PROJECT/PHASING	FINDING OF EFFECT	TRIBAL CONSULTATION	UPDATE
White Wolf Lodge Rehabilitation (2014 EA)	1999 PA	Phase 1 – Rehabilitation of main lodge (to be completed summer 2016)	No Adverse Effect	Yes (completed under EA)	The park constructed a new annex to the west of the kitchen, as well as conducted repairs the foundation, floor system, siding, roof, and interior finishes of the main lodge building. The project also updated the site electrical, lodge utilities (electrical, water, sewer), and brought the kitchen up to code.
	36 CFR Part 800	Phase 2 (late spring of 2017) – Construction of a cold storage addition to the main lodge and rehabilitation of White Wolf Duplex Cabins 1&2 and 3&4	To be determined	No	Phase 2 is under separate consultation from phase 1 and will begin late spring 2017 after finalizing the DOE (currently under contract).

## APPENDIX E - 2016 CULTURAL RESOURCES TEAM



Dark green background denotes integrated team.

\*Vacancies supported by Regional Office and other park staff.

+Staff who sign on Section 106 documentation.