Categorical Exclusion

(Version: FEB06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2006-063 PEPC Project Number: 15743)

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Title: Olmsted Point Interpretive Displays InstallationLocation: Tioga Road, Mariposa County, CaliforniaProject Manager: Michael Pieper, Facilities Management, Yosemite National Park

B. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

This project is an action that has been determined to result in no measurable environmental effects. It is therefore categorically excluded from further National Environmental Policy Act analysis under Categorical Exclusion: DO12 3.4 C(5) - Installation of signs, displays, and kiosks.

Necessary compliance coordination has been completed regarding the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act, as applicable. Environmental impacts will be minor or less when the project is implemented with the conditions stipulated under **Project Mitigations and Conditions** in **Section I** at the end of the attached *Environmental Screening Form*.

Additional supporting information for this determination and the stipulated conditions can be found in the following attachments (when checked):

Cultural Resource Effects Assessment Form (XXX)

Wilderness Minimum Requirement Analysis

Wild and Scenic River Section 7 Determination

Park Management Terms and Conditions

Other:

C. DECISION

On the basis of the environmental impact information in the statutory compliance file, with which I am familiar, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No exceptional circumstances or conditions in DO12 3.5 or 3.6 apply and the action is fully described in DO12, Section 3.4.

//MJTollefson//

Michael J. Tollefson

<u>8/11/06</u> Date

Original: Statutory Compliance File cc: Project Proponent

Attachments (2)

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



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Yosemite National Park P.O. Box 577 Yosemite, California 95389

IN REPLY REFER TO: L7617 (YOSE-PM)

Memorandum

To: Michael Pieper, Project Manager, Facilities Management, Yosemite National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: Notice to Proceed, 2006-063 Olmsted Point Interpretive Displays Installation (15743)

Your proposed project is an action that has been determined to result in no measurable environmental effects. It is therefore categorically excluded from further National Environmental Policy Act analysis under Categorical Exclusion: DO12 3.4 C(5) - Installation of signs, displays, and kiosks.

Necessary compliance coordination has been completed regarding the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act, as applicable. This project clearance is valid providing that you adhere to the conditions stipulated in the enclosed *Categorical Exclusion Form* and associated documents when implementing this project.

//*MJTollefson*// Michael J. Tollefson

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File

<u>8/11/06</u> Date

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

Environmental Screening Form

Compliance Tracking Number: 2006-063 PEPC Project Number: 15743

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Title: Olmsted Point Interpretive Displays Rehabilitation Location: Tioga Road, Mariposa County, California Project Manager: Michael Pieper, Facilities Management, Yosemite National Park

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

The proposed project includes installation of 5 new interpretive displays at Olmsted Point as part of the Olmsted Point Rehabilitation Project. The proposed displays will be placed within the existing disturbed area required for the rehabilitation of Olmsted Point. (Ref. CE-2005-030--Olmsted Point Rehabilitation) There will be no additional excavation required to install the proposed interpretive displays.

Table B1 – Background Information

		Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1.	Did NPS staff conduct a site visit? If yes, list attendees. If no, explain.		\square		Staff are familiar with site.
2a.	Is the project providing compliance for an action associated with but not covered by an approved plan? (Identify the plan and provide a section or page citation.); OR				2005-030 Olmsted Point Rehabilitation
2b.	Is the project in an approved plan? (Identify the plan and provide a section or page citation.		\square		
2c.	Is the project consistent with that plan?	\boxtimes			
2d.	Is the Plan's CE, FONSI, or ROD current?	\boxtimes			
3a.	Are there any interested or affected parties?		\boxtimes		
3b.	Has a diligent effort been made to communicate with them?				
4a.	Are there any affected agencies or tribes?		\boxtimes		
4b.	Has consultation been completed?				

Table B2 – Environmental Screening Form Attachments (provide Attachment letter—A, B, etc.)

		Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1.	Maps: 2 required (vicinity map & site map)	\boxtimes			Vicinity map; see Attachment A.
2.	Drawings (e.g., design, construction)	\square			Drawings of the proposed Display Options; see Attachment B.
3.	Site Plans		\boxtimes		
4.	Photographs		\boxtimes		
5.	Non-NEPA/NHPA Approvals (Explain)		\boxtimes		
6.	Other (Explain)		\boxtimes		

C. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL RESOURCE EFFECTS

	e any impacts possible on the following ources?	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
105	ources.				There would be no ground disturbance beyond
1.	Geologic resources: soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc		\square		that covered in 2005-030 Olmsted Point Rehabilitation.
2.	From geohazards		\boxtimes		
3.	Air quality		\boxtimes		
4.	Soundscapes	\boxtimes			Negligible: there would be some noise during installation.
5.	Water quality or quantity		\square		
6.	Stream flow characteristics		\boxtimes		
7.	Marine or estuarine resources			\square	
8.	Floodplains or wetlands		\boxtimes		
9.	Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use		\boxtimes		
	Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine		\bowtie		
11.	Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat		\boxtimes		
10	Unique acceptations historian recommend Would				Yosemite National Park is a World Heritage site; no historic properties would be adversely affected
12.	Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites	\square			by this project; see Section F. National Historic Preservation Act Checklist, below.
13.	Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat		\boxtimes		
14.	Unique or important fish or fish habitat		\boxtimes		
15.	Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)		\bowtie		
16.	Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	\boxtimes			The interpretive displays would interpret park recreation resources.
17.	Visitor experience, aesthetic resources	\boxtimes			The interpretive displays would improve the park visitor experience.
18.	Cultural resources including cultural landscapes, ethnographic resources	\boxtimes			Negligible: see Section F. National Historic Preservation Act Checklist, below.
19.	Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure		\boxtimes		
20.	Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.		\bowtie		
21.	Energy resources		\boxtimes		
22.	Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies		\bowtie		
23.	Resource, including energy, conservation potential		\bowtie		
24.	Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.		\boxtimes		
25.	Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	\boxtimes			The interpretive signs would increase park visitor understanding, which would improve conditions for the long-term management of park resources.
26	Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?		\boxtimes		
Con 1.	nments, Mitigations and Conditions: None				

D. MANDATORY CRITERIA

 Have adverse effects on such unique characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands; floodplains; or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the National Register of Natural Landmarks? Have highly controversial environmental effects? Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks? Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects? Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects? Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species 			Mitigated: see Section F. National Historic Preservation Act Checklist, below.
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 listing on the National Register of Historic Places? 8. Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species 		\boxtimes	
listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species	7		Mitigated: see Section F. National Historic Preservation Act Checklist, below.
or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat			
 9. Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act? 		\boxtimes	
10. Threaten to violate a federal, state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		\boxtimes	
11. Involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA sec. 102(2)(E)?		\boxtimes	
12. Have a disproportionate, significant adverse effect on low-income or minority populations (EO 12898)?		\boxtimes	
13. Restrict access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 130007)?		\boxtimes	
14. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of federally listed noxious weeds (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act)?			
15. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of non-native invasive species or actions that may promote the introduction, growth or expansion of the range of non-native invasive species (EO 13112)?			
16. Require a permit from a federal, state, or local agency to proceed, unless the agency from which the permit is required agrees that a CE is appropriate?		\boxtimes	
17. Have the potential for significant impact as indicated by a federal, state, or local agency or Indian tribe?		\boxtimes	
18. Have the potential to be controversial because of disagreement over possible environmental effects?			
19. Have the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values?		\boxtimes	
Comments, Mitigations and Conditions: 1. None			

E. SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST

Within the area of potential effect, are there:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes		
1. Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		\boxtimes				
2. Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		\boxtimes				
3. Park rare plants or vegetation?		\boxtimes				
4. Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		\square				
If "yes" to any of the above questions, a Special-Status Species Checklist must be completed and attached.						
Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:						

1. None

F. NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST

Wi	thin the area of potential effect:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes			
1.	Will there be ground disturbance?		\boxtimes					
2.	Are there any archeological sites?		\boxtimes					
3.	Are there any Native American Indian traditional cultural resources?		\square					
4.	Is the project within the boundary of an archeological or historic landscape or district?				Tioga Road Cultural Landscape/historic views; the assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect;" see Conditions, below, and the attached XXX.			
5a.	Is there a National Historic Landmark?		\boxtimes					
5b.	Is there a structure(s) on the park's <i>List of</i> <i>Classified Structures</i> ?		\square					
5c.	Is there a historic property with a DOE and concurrence by the SHPO or a completed National Register form?		\boxtimes					
5d.	Is there a cultural property requiring review under NHPA, Section 106?		\square					
6.	Would there be alteration of a structure or cultural landscape covered by 5a-d, above?		\boxtimes					
If "	yes" to any of the above, then an Assessment of	of Effe	cts fo	rm (YO	OSE-XXX) must be completed and attached.			
Mi	tigations and Conditions:							
1.	Project Option 2 is the preferred option. (Resources Management and Science)							

Project Option 2 is the preferred option. (Resources Management and Science)
 If possible, recess the panels into the stone. (Resources Management and Science)

G. WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST

Is the proposed project:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes		
1. Within designated Wilderness?		\boxtimes				
2. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		\boxtimes				
If "yes" to either of the above, then a Wilderness Minimum Requirements Analysis must be completed and attached.						
Mitigations and Conditions:						
1 None						

H. WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST

Does	s the proposed project:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
	Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor? If 'yes", name the river(s)		\boxtimes		
	Fall within the bed and banks AND affect the free-flow of the river?			\boxtimes	
3.	Potentially affect water quality of the area?			\boxtimes	
	Remain consistent with its river segment classification?			\boxtimes	
5.	Protect and enhance river ORVs?			\boxtimes	
6a. 1	Fall within the River Protection Overlay?			\boxtimes	
	If "yes", is it consistent with conditions of the River Protection Overlay?			\boxtimes	
	Remain consistent with the areas Management Zoning?			\boxtimes	
	Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		\boxtimes		
	If 9a is "yes", will the project affect the Wild and Scenic River corridor?			\boxtimes	
	If 9a is "yes", will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?			\boxtimes	
If "y	ves" to questions 2, 9b, or 9c, then a WSRA Se	ection	7 dete	ermination must b	e completed and attached.
Miti	gations and Conditions:				
1.	None				

I. NEPA Analysis and Approval Conditions

When implemented as detailed in the project description and following all Project Mitigations and Conditions listed below, this project meets the terms and conditions of a categorical exclusion to NEPA.

Applicable Categorical Exclusion:

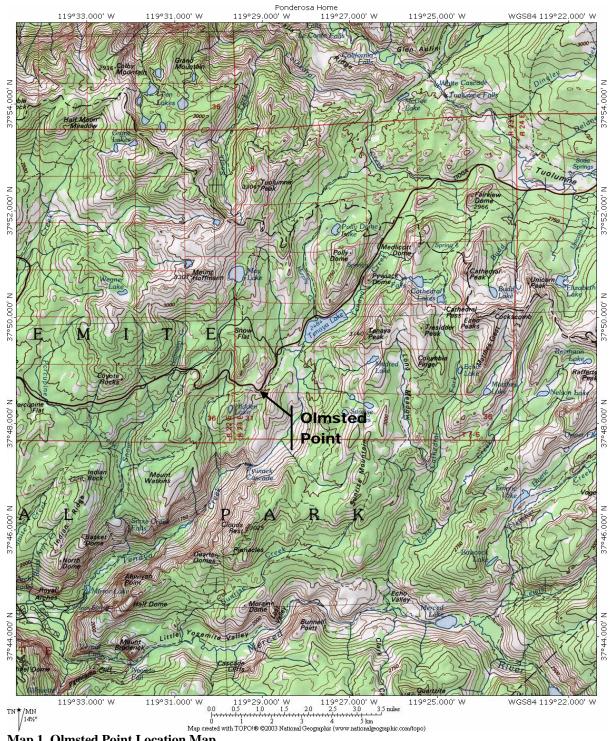
DO12 C (5) - Installation of signs, displays, and kiosks.

Project Mitigations and Conditions:

- 1. Project Option 2 is the preferred option. (Resources Management and Sciences)
- 2. If possible, recess the panels into the stone. (Resources Management and Sciences)

	//GWColliver//	8/7/06
This project has been reviewed in accordance with the above criteria and it has been determined that the project will result in no or minimal environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from	Compliance Specialist	Date
further environmental review required under the	//Mark Husbands, Acting//	8/8/06
National Environmental Policy Act. Additionally, the necessary compliance coordination has been completed with regard to the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and	Compliance Program Manager	Date
the Endangered Species Act.	//Bill Delaney//	8/9/06
	Chief, Project Management	Date

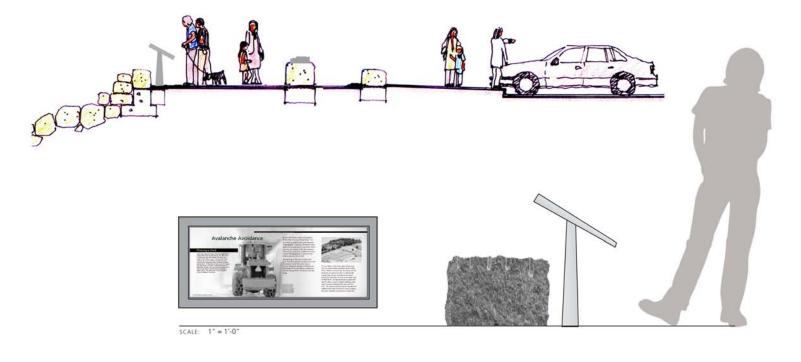
The signed original of this document is on file at the Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in Yosemite National Park.



Attachment A



Attachment B



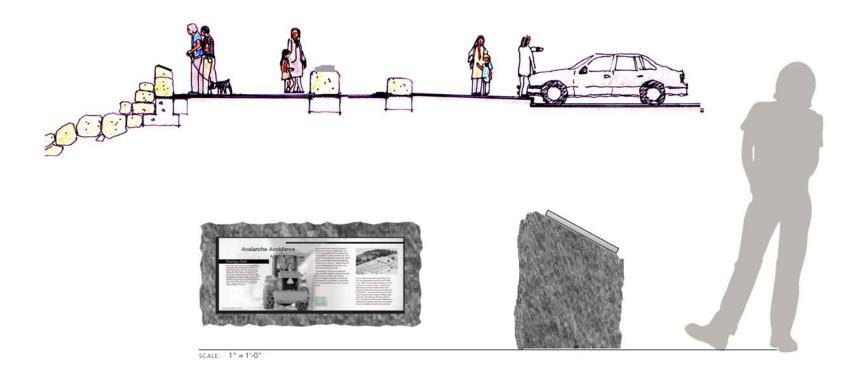
Option 1: Cor-Ten Steel Frame with Porcelain Enamel Panel 42"x`16"

Olmstead Point / Yosemite National Park

LESLIE STONE ASSOCIATES 104 CALEDONIA ST., SAUSALITO, CA 94965 P:415-332-3306 F: 415-332-3309



DRAWING TIFLE: **Interpretive Signage - Option 1** DATE: March 22, 2006 SCALE: 1" = 1'-0"



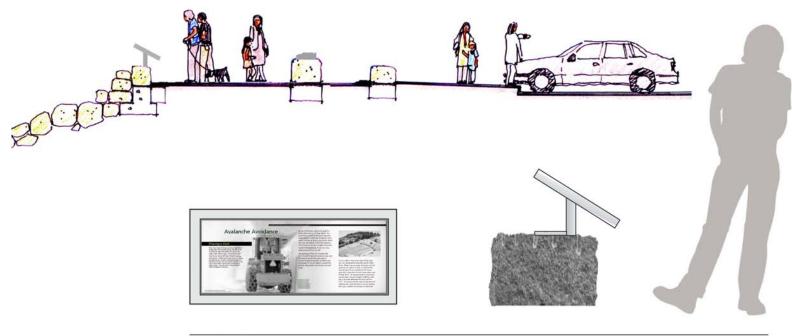
Option 2: Porcelain Enamel Panel 42"x`16" mounted on granite block

Olmstead Point / Yosemite National Park





DRAWING TITLE: Interpretive Signage - Option 2 DATE: March 22, 2006 SCALE: 1" = 1'-0"



SCALE: 1" = 1'-0"

Option 1: Galvanized Steel Frame mounted in granite block with Porcelain Enamel Panel 42"x`16"

Olmstead Point / Yosemite National Park





Interpretive Signage - Option 3 DATE: March 22, 2006 SCALE: 1" = 1'-0" ×

Preservation Assessment Form (YOSE XXX)

(Version: FEB06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2006-063 PEPC Project Number: 15743

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

Title: Interpretive Displays for Olmsted Point Rehabilitation

Project Location and Area of Potential Effect:

Tuolumne Road Cultural Landscape Historic District, Tuolumne County, California

Olmsted Point Viewing Area

Project Manager: Michael Pieper, Facilities Management, Yosemite National Park

Project Description: The proposed project includes installation of 5 new interpretive displays at Olmsted Point as part of the Olmsted Point Rehabilitation Project. The proposed displays will be placed within the existing disturbed area required for the rehabilitation of Olmsted Point (Ref-2005-030--Olmsted Point Rehabilitation) There will be no additional excavation required to install the proposed interpretive displays.

1. Atta	ched Sensitive Information**	Yes	No	Explanation/Source/Notes
a.	Maps		\boxtimes	
b.	Drawings		\boxtimes	
с.	Site Plans		\boxtimes	
d.	Photographs		\boxtimes	
e.	Sample		\boxtimes	
f.	List of Materials		\boxtimes	
g.	Other (Explain)		\boxtimes	

** Sensitive documents not for duplication or distribution beyond park management, subject matter experts, and the project statutory compliance file.

B. DESCRIPTION OF EFFECTS

		Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1.	Has the Area of Potential Effect been surveyed to identify historic properties?		\boxtimes		
	If Yes, provide reference for the Survey (s). a. Would the proposed action affect a known historic property?	\square			Tioga Road Cultural Landscape/historic views.
	· · · ·				
2.	List all Historic Properties in the Area of Potential Effect:	Affec Yes	ted? No		Explanation/Notes
	a. Tioga Road Cultural Landscape/historic views			Add	visual elements.
	b.	Ц	Ц		
	с.				
3.	List resources in the Area of Potential	Affec	ted?		
	Effect to which American Indians attach	Yes	No		Explanation/Notes
	cultural and religious significance:	res			
	a. Unknown resources	Ц			
	b.		H		
	с.				
4	The proposed action will:	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Note
	• Destroy, remove, or alter features or				Daplanation/1000
	elements from a historic structure		\bowtie		
	• Replace historic features/elements in kind		\boxtimes		
	 Add nonhistoric features/elements to a historic structure 		\boxtimes		
	• Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (including terrain)				
	• Add nonhistoric features/elements (including visual, audible, or atmospheric) to a historic setting or cultural landscape	\boxtimes			visual
	• Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible, or alter associated terrain				
	• Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible, or alter associated terrain		\boxtimes		
	• Begin or contribute to the deterioration of historic fabric, terrain, setting, landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources				
	• Involve a real property transaction affecting historic cultural properties (i.e., the exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures)		\boxtimes		
	• Potentially affect presently unidentified		\boxtimes		
	historic resources				
	• Other		\bowtie		

5. Describe any measures that are incorporated as part of this project that will be taken to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of prehistoric or historic fabric, setting, integrity, or data:

Checklist prepared by: Jeannette Simons Title: Historic Preservation Officer Date: 6/14/06

C. SPECIALIST SECTION

Specialists: Your comments here (or attached) show that you have reviewed this proposal for conformity with requirements of *National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106*; with the 1995 *Servicewide Programmatic Agreement* (if applicable); with applicable parts of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*; with the NPS *Management Policies* and *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*; and have given your best professional advice about this project and the issues relevant to the Section 106 process, including identification and evaluation of historic properties and further consultation needs.

Archeologist Comments:	Name: Laura Kirn	Date: 6/22/06					
Ground Disturbance Involved Assessment of Effect: "No Effect" Recommended Conditions: No addit	Yes: No: 🔀						
Signature of Archeologist: //Laura Kirn// (signed original on file)							
Cultural Anthropologist Comments:	Name: Sonny Montague	Date:					
Assessment of Effect:							
Recommended Conditions:							
Signature of Cultural Anthropologist:							
Curator Comments:	Name: Jonathan Bayless	Date:					
Assessment of Effect:							
Recommended Conditions:							

Signature of Curator: _____

Historian Comments: Prefer Option 2	Name: Charles Palmer	Date: 6/20/06		
Assessment of Effect: "No Adverse Recommended Conditions:	e Effect''			
Signature of Historian: //Charles Palmer// (singed original on file)				
Historic Architect Comments: Option 2 would have th if the panels were recessed in the sta	Name: Sueann Brown e least impact on the historic character of the road. one.	Date: 6/20/06 It would be better		
Assessment of Effect: "No Adverse Recommended Conditions:	e Effect''			

Signature of Historic Architect: //Sueann Brown// (signed original on file)

Historic Landscape Architect Name: Steven Torgerson

Comments: Option 2 is the preferred option as it would have the least impact on the historic & visitor character of the road.

Assessment of Effect:

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Historic Landscape Architect: //Steven D Torgerson// (signed original on file)

Date: 6/21/06

Preservation Specialist	Name: Rod Kennec	Date: 6/20/06
Comments: Prefer Option 2.		

Assessment of Effect: **''No Adverse Effect''** Recommended Conditions: Recommended Conditions

Signature of Preservation Specialist: //Rod Kennec// (signed original on file)

Native American Liaison Comments:	Name: Jeannette Simons	Date:
Assessment of Effect: Recommended Conditions:		

Signature of Native American Liaison:

D. RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND SCIENCE DIVISION AND PARK 106 COORDINATOR REVIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Review by specialists: The appropriate subject-matter experts have reviewed the project and entered their comments and recommendations in Section C, above.

The foregoing assessment is adequate: the proposed action is consistent with all applicable NPS management policies, standards, guidelines, or US DOI standards and guidelines, Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings, or others, and incorporates measures to avoid Adverse Effects.

Reviewed and Accepted by:

Signature://Niki Stephanie Nicholas// (signed original on file)Date: 7/26/06Chief of Resources Management & Science Division

2. Assessment of Effects: No Adverse Effect

3. Compliance Requirements: The following is the park's assessment of Section 106 process needs and requirements for this undertaking.

□ Standard 36 CFR Part 800 Consultation

Consultation under 36 CFR is needed subsequent to the preparation of this form and its review by appropriate historic resource management advisors.

Undertaking related to the 1995 NPS Programmatic Agreement

The above action meets all conditions for a programmatic exclusion under Stipulation IV. A of the 1995 NPS programmatic agreement, and is listed in Stipulation IV. B (12)

□ Plan-Related Undertaking

Consultation and review of the proposed undertaking were completed in the context of a plan review process, in accordance with the 1995 NPS programmatic agreement and 36 CFR Part 800.

Undertaking Related to Another Agreement

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under a document such as a statewide agreement written in accordance with 37 CFR Part 800.7 or counterpart regulations.

Agreement:

□ Flood-Recovery Related Undertaking

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under the letter-based agreement between the NPS, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the Council for Historic Preservation for "Highwater 97" flood repair and recovery

Undertaking Related to the 1999 Yosemite Programmatic Agreement

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under the park's 1999 programmatic agreement for planning, design, construction, operations and maintenance; the undertaking meets the stipulations identified in Article VII.C.2.

4. Project Stipulations and Conditions

Following are listed any stipulations or conditions necessary to ensure that the assessment of effects above is consistent with 36 CFR 800 criteria of effect or to mitigate potential adverse effects:

a. Option 2 preferred.

Recommended by Park Section 106 Coordinator:

Title: Historic Preservation Officer

Signature: //Jeannette Simons

Date: 7/31/06

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL

The proposed work conforms to NPS Management Policies and NPS-28 and I approve the recommendations, stipulations, and conditions noted in Section B of this form.

Signature of Superintendent: _//MJTollefson//

Date: <u>8/11/06</u>

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