



# United States Department of the Interior

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
L7615 (YOSE-PM)

### Memorandum

**To:** Madelyn Ruffner, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

**From:** Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

**Subject:** NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2017-039 Programmatic CE: Site Investigation Studies (74648)

The Superintendent and park interdisciplinary team have reviewed the proposed project and completed an impact analysis and documentation, and have determined the following:

- There will not be any effect on threatened, endangered, or rare species and/or their critical habitat.
- There will be no adverse effect on historical, cultural, or archeological resources.
- There will not be serious or long-term undesirable environmental or visual effects.

The subject proposed project, therefore, is now cleared for all NEPA and NHPA compliance requirements as presented above. Project plans and specifications are approved and construction and/or project implementation can commence.

For the proposed project actions to be within compliance requirements during construction and/or project implementation, the following mitigations must be adhered to:

- Coordinate activities involving ground disturbance with the park's Branch Chiefs of Cultural Resources, Utilities, and Wildlife, and Vegetation as identified in the programmatic CE SOPs and mitigations.
- Perform soil excavation in a previously developed area, to the extent practicable.
- In addition to the general programmatic CE mitigations for avoiding the spread of invasives, stage and store equipment near the drilling location. Where there is not enough space in the project area, use nearby road turnouts or parking areas.
- Fence or cover pits when not attended to prevent animal entrapment.
- Contain drilling fluids and transport off site. Place soils affected by spills or hydraulic leaks, along with soil cuttings from the drilling activities, in metal drums for disposal.
- Upon completion, backfill all borings with excavated soil. Stockpile cuttings (i.e., rock and soil) in a contained location on site and use to backfill holes. Excess soil material not used in backfilling materials are to be removed from the site. At the conclusion of the investigation, all materials, equipment, and markers will be removed from the site, and the site returned to the condition it was in prior to the investigation.

Letter of Compliance Completion – 2017-039 Programmatic CE: Site Investigation Studies - PEPC ID: 74648

- Minimize visual impacts of investigative and monitoring activities (e.g., flagging, aboveground equipment).

**Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:** None

For complete compliance information see PEPC Project 74648.

//Sula Jacobs//  
Palmer L. Jenkins

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File

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



## Categorical Exclusion Form

**Project:** 2017-039 Programmatic CE: Site Investigation Studies

**PEPC Project Number:** 74648

**Project Description:**

This Categorical Exclusion (CE) will serve as a programmatic record for investigation and monitoring activities including surface and subsurface actions. The activities covered by this programmatic CE are those intended to obtain information regarding soils and subgrade conditions. Investigations are often necessary to inform project scoping, funding requests, and compliance and design efforts. These investigations will inform the design and construction of new or improved infrastructure (structures, facilities, utilities, roads) which will undergo separate compliance determinations and approvals independent of this programmatic CE.

The following activities are covered by this programmatic CE. Activities not listed, but similar in scope and scale, may be covered with Compliance Office approval.

Geotechnical investigation activities: a. Exploratory borings, soil tests, soil profiling, percolation tests, trenching, monitoring wells, utility potholing, and digging of test pits. Work may be performed by hand tools (e.g., shovel, post hole digger, hand operated auger, gas powered auger) or automated machinery (e.g., truck-mounted drill rig, rubber tire backhoe, vacuum truck, tracked excavator, skip loader). b. Use of geophones to determine subsurface density using seismic refraction and ground penetrating radar c. Installation of piezometers d. Testing of soil bearing capacity, extraction of water and soil for hazardous substances testing and water quality testing. e. Soil and water sampling for visual examination, classification, and laboratory testing. Soil and water samples may be removed from the park for offsite classification and laboratory testing.

Wetland survey/delineation activities for the purpose of project design and/or implementation: a. Wetland survey and delineation involving soil borings, augers, or shovels to evaluate soils. Soil borings will be backfilled with the excavated soil immediately upon completion. Areas to be surveyed will be marked and delineated areas will be marked with flags (or similar) for documentation purposes.

Project managers implementing activities covered by this programmatic CE must follow the standard operating procedures (SOPs) and mitigation measures for programmatic CEs to ensure that potential impacts are minimized and the appropriate documentation and reporting of activities occurs. Refer to the programmatic CE SOPs on Sharepoint under the Project Management/Environmental Planning and Compliance link for the most up-to-date version of the SOPs as they will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary as new mitigation measures and best practices are identified. In addition to following the Programmatic CE SOPs and Mitigation Measures, the Project Manager must implement, in consultation with the park's subject-matter experts, mitigations specific to site investigation activities (see attached).

**Project Locations:**

Mariposa, Madera, and Tuolumne Counties, CA

**Mitigations:**

- Coordinate activities involving ground disturbance with the park's Branch Chiefs of Cultural Resources, Utilities, and Wildlife, and Vegetation as identified in the programmatic CE SOPs and mitigations.

- Perform soil excavation in a previously developed area, to the extent practicable.
- In addition to the general programmatic CE mitigations for avoiding the spread of invasives, stage and store equipment near the drilling location. Where there is not enough space in the project area, use nearby road turnouts or parking areas.
- Fence or cover pits when not attended to prevent animal entrapment.
- Contain drilling fluids and transport off site. Place soils affected by spills or hydraulic leaks, along with soil cuttings from the drilling activities, in metal drums for disposal.
- Upon completion, backfill all borings with excavated soil. Stockpile cuttings (i.e., rock and soil) in a contained location on site and use to backfill holes. Excess soil material not used in backfilling materials are to be removed from the site. At the conclusion of the investigation, all materials, equipment, and markers will be removed from the site, and the site returned to the condition it was in prior to the investigation.
- Minimize visual impacts of investigative and monitoring activities (e.g., flagging, aboveground equipment).

**CE Citation:** E.5 Nondestructive data collection, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), study, research, and monitoring activities.

**Decision:** I find that the action fits within the categorical exclusion above. Therefore, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No extraordinary circumstances apply.

**Superintendent:** //Sula Jacobs// acting deputy **Date:** 11/20/17  
Palmer L. Jenkins

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Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in  
Yosemite National Park.*

**Extraordinary Circumstances:**

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Notes
<b>A.</b> Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	
<b>B.</b> Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas?	No	
<b>C.</b> Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	
<b>D.</b> Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	
<b>E.</b> Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	
<b>F.</b> Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	
<b>G.</b> Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?	No	
<b>H.</b> Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?	No	
<b>I.</b> Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	
<b>J.</b> Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	
<b>K.</b> Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 130007)?	No	
<b>L.</b> Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?	No	

## Site Investigations Mitigations

- a. Coordinate activities involving ground disturbance with the park's Branch Chiefs of Cultural Resources, Utilities, and Wildlife, and Vegetation as identified in the programmatic CE SOPs and mitigations.
- b. Perform soil excavation in a previously developed area, to the extent practicable.
- c. In addition to the general programmatic CE mitigations for avoiding the spread of invasives, stage and store equipment near the drilling location. Where there is not enough space in the project area, use nearby road turnouts or parking areas.
- d. Fence or cover pits when not attended to prevent animal entrapment.
- e. Contain drilling fluids and transport off site. Place soils affected by spills or hydraulic leaks, along with soil cuttings from the drilling activities, in metal drums for disposal.
- f. Upon completion, backfill all borings with excavated soil. Stockpile cuttings (i.e., rock and soil) in a contained location on site and use to backfill holes. Excess soil material not used in backfilling materials are to be removed from the site. At the conclusion of the investigation, all materials, equipment, and markers will be removed from the site, and the site returned to the condition it was in prior to the investigation.
- g. Minimize visual impacts of investigative and monitoring activities (e.g., flagging, aboveground equipment).



## ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

Updated Sept 2015 per NPS NEPA Handbook

### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project Title:** 2017-039 Programmatic CE: Site Investigation Studies  
**PEPC Project Number:** 74648  
**Project Type:** Feasibility Study (FS)  
**Project Location:**  
    **County, State:** Madera, California  
    **County, State:** Mariposa, California  
    **County, State:** Tuolumne, California  
**Project Leader:** Madelyn Ruffner

### B. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
<b>Air</b> Air Quality	Potential	Geotechnical investigation and wetland survey/delineation activities may produce temporary air emissions.
<b>Biological</b> Nonnative or Exotic Species	Potential	All project staff working on site shall be informed of, and follow best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species. Best management practices are outlined in the park's standard Division 1 Specifications and the park's Invasive Plant Management Plan. See the Programmatic CE Standard Operating Procedures for specific mitigation measures.
<b>Biological</b> Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat	None	
<b>Biological</b> Vegetation	None	
<b>Biological</b> Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species	None	
<b>Cultural</b>	Potential	Consultation with Cultural Resources Managers will occur before each

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Potential for Impact</b>	<b>Potential Issues &amp; Impacts</b>
Archeological Resources		activity is approved to confirm no adverse effect and to determine if tribal consultation is required.
<b>Cultural</b> Cultural Landscapes	Potential	Projects associated with this categorical exclusion have the potential to impact cultural landscapes. All projects will be reviewed by subject matter experts prior to starting work.
<b>Cultural</b> Ethnographic Resources	Potential	Consultation with Cultural Resources Managers will occur before each activity is approved to confirm no adverse effect and to determine if tribal consultation is required.
<b>Cultural</b> Museum Collections	None	
<b>Cultural</b> Historic structures	Potential	Consultation with Cultural Resources Managers will occur before each activity is approved to confirm no adverse effect and to determine if tribal consultation is required.
<b>Geological</b> Geologic Features	Potential	Soil disturbance is associated with all the activities in this categorical exclusion.
<b>Geological</b> Geologic Processes	None	
<b>Lightscapes</b> Lightscapes	None	
<b>Other</b> Human Health and Safety	None	
<b>Other</b> Operational	None	
<b>Socioeconomic</b> Land Use	None	
<b>Socioeconomic</b> Minority and low-income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	
<b>Socioeconomic</b> Socioeconomic	None	
<b>Soundscapes</b> Soundscapes	Potential	Many activities covered in this categorical exclusion will create temporary noises.
<b>Viewsheds</b> Viewsheds	None	
<b>Visitor Use and Experience</b> Recreation	None	



Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Resources		
<b>Visitor Use and Experience</b> Visitor Use and Experience	None	
<b>Water</b> Floodplains	None	
<b>Water</b> Marine or Estuarine Resources	None	
<b>Water</b> Water Quality or Quantity	None	
<b>Water</b> Wetlands	None	
<b>Water</b> Wild and Scenic River	None	
<b>Wilderness</b> Wilderness	Potential	

**Recommended:**

Compliance Specialists	Date
<u>//Renea Kennec//</u> Compliance Specialist – Renea Kennec	<u>11/8/17</u>
<u>//Madelyn Ruffner//</u> Compliance Program Manager – Madelyn Ruffner	<u>11/13/17</u>
<u>//Ron Gaunt//</u> Chief, Project Management – Ron Gaunt	<u>11/14/17</u>

**Approved:**

Superintendent	Date
<u>//Sula Jacobs// acting for</u> Palmer L. Jenkins	<u>11/20/17</u>

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Yosemite National Park.*



# ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

## A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. **Park:** Yosemite National Park

### 2. **Project Description:**

**Project Name:** 2017-039 Programmatic CE: Site Investigation Studies

**Prepared by:** Madelyn Ruffner    **Date Prepared:** 09/25/2017    **Telephone:** 209-379-1226

**PEPC Project Number:** 74648

#### **Locations:**

**County, State:** Madera, CA

**County, State:** Mariposa, CA

**County, State:** Tuolumne, CA

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

Parkwide (varies by project)

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

☐ No

☒ Yes

**Source or reference:**

### 4. **Potentially Affected Resources:**

#### **Archeological Resources Affected:**

**Archeological Resources Notes:** Activities may be within an archeological district but must be outside of defined archeological site. Proposed areas will have previous archeological survey information available or be surveyed by park archeologist before ground disturbing activities occur.

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

**Historical Structures/Resources Notes:** Activities may be within a historic property but will not adversely affect character-defining features as determined by the CRM team.

#### **Cultural Landscapes Affected:**

**Cultural Landscapes Notes:** Activities may be within a historic property but will not adversely affect character-defining features as determined by the CRM team.

#### **Ethnographic Resources Affected:**

**Ethnographic Resources Affected Notes:** Activities may be within a historic property with religious and cultural significance but will not adversely effect the property. Tribal consultation will occur for activities that have the potential to affect historic properties of religious and cultural significance.

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

Assessment of Effect Form – 2017-039 Programmatic CE: Site Investigation Studies - PEPC ID: 74648

No Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure  
No Replace historic features/elements in kind  
No Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure  
Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (inc.  
No terrain)  
Add non-historic features/elements (inc. visual, audible, or atmospheric) to  
Yes a historic setting or cultural landscape  
No Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible  
No Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible  
Yes Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources  
Begin or contribute to deterioration of historic features, terrain, setting,  
No landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources  
Involve a real property transaction (exchange, sale, or lease of land or  
No structures)  
Other (please  
specify): \_\_\_\_\_

#### 6. Supporting Study Data:

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

#### B. REVIEWS BY CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS

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

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[ X ] 106 Advisor

Name: Kimball Koch

Date: 09/25/2017

Comments: Each activity will be reviewed to ensure that the appropriate CRM team members review and sign off prior to project approval in consultation with the Cultural Resource Program Manager.

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [   ]

Assessment of Effect:   No Potential to Cause Effect   No Historic Properties Affected   X  No

Adverse Effect   Adverse Effect   X  Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Streamlined Review (PA)

Streamlined Activity:

8. Installation of Environmental Monitoring Units

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[ X ] Anthropologist

Name: Scott Carpenter

Date: 09/25/2017

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [   ]

Assessment of Effect:   No Potential to Cause Effect   No Historic Properties Affected   X  No

Adverse Effect   Adverse Effect   X  Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: Consultation with CRM team will occur before each activity is approved to confirm no adverse effect and to determine if tribal consultation is required.

Doc Method: Streamlined Review (PA)  
Streamlined Activity:  
8. Installation of Environmental Monitoring Units

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[ X ] Archeologist  
Name: Sara Dolan  
Date: 09/25/2017

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [   ]  
Assessment of Effect: \_\_\_No Potential to Cause Effect \_\_\_No Historic Properties Affected     X  No  
Adverse Effect    \_\_\_Adverse Effect     X  Streamlined Review  
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: Projects will be reviewed by archeologist to ensure there is a no adverse effect.

Doc Method: Streamlined Review (PA)  
Streamlined Activity:  
8. Installation of Environmental Monitoring Units

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[ X ] Historian  
Name: Scott Carpenter  
Date: 09/25/2017

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [   ]  
Assessment of Effect: \_\_\_No Potential to Cause Effect \_\_\_No Historic Properties Affected     X  No  
Adverse Effect    \_\_\_Adverse Effect     X  Streamlined Review  
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: Consultation with CRM team will occur before each activity is approved to confirm no adverse effect.

Doc Method: Streamlined Review (PA)  
Streamlined Activity:  
8. Installation of Environmental Monitoring Units

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[ X ] Historical Landscape Architect  
Name: Kimball Koch  
Date: 09/25/2017

*Check if project does not involve ground disturbance* [   ]  
Assessment of Effect: \_\_\_No Potential to Cause Effect \_\_\_No Historic Properties Affected     X  No  
Adverse Effect    \_\_\_Adverse Effect     X  Streamlined Review  
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: Consultation with CRM team will occur before each activity is approved to confirm no adverse effect.

Doc Method: Streamlined Review (PA)  
Streamlined Activity:  
8. Installation of Environmental Monitoring Units

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**No Reviews From:** Curator, Historical Architect, Other Advisor

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## **C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **1. Assessment of Effect:**

Assessment of Effect Form – 2017-039 Programmatic CE: Site Investigation Studies - PEPC ID: 74648

☐ No Potential to Cause Effects  
☐ No Historic Properties Affected  
☒ No Adverse Effect  
☐ Adverse Effect

## 2. Documentation Method:

☐ A. STANDARD 36 CFR PART 800 CONSULTATION  
Further consultation under 36 CFR Part 800 is needed.

☒ B. STREAMLINED REVIEW UNDER THE 2008 SERVICEWIDE PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT (PA)

The above action meets all conditions for a streamlined review under section III of the 2008 Servicewide PA for Section 106 compliance.

APPLICABLE STREAMLINED REVIEW Criteria  
(Specify 1-16 of the list of streamlined review criteria.)

8. Installation of Environmental Monitoring Units.

☐ C. PLAN-RELATED UNDERTAKING

Consultation and review of the proposed undertaking were completed in the context of a plan review process, in accordance with the 2008 Servicewide PA and 36 CFR Part 800.  
Specify plan/EA/EIS:

☐ D. UNDERTAKING RELATED TO ANOTHER AGREEMENT

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under another document such as a statewide agreement established in accord with 36 CFR 800.7 or counterpart regulations.

☐ E. Combined NEPA/NHPA Process

Documentation is required for the preparation of an EA/FONSI or an EIS/ROD has been developed and used so as also to meet the requirements of 36 CFR 800.3 through 800.6

☐ G. Memo to SHPO/THPO

☐ H. Memo to ACHP

SHPO/THPO Notes:

## 3. Additional Consulting Parties Information:

**Additional Consulting Parties: No**

## 4. Stipulations and Conditions:

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

**5. Mitigations/Treatment Measures:**

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

No Assessment of Effect mitigations identified.

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

**Section 106 Coordinator:**

Kimball

Koch

//Kimball Koch//

**Date:** 11/7/17

**E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL**

The proposed work conforms to the NPS *Management Policies* and *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, and I have reviewed and approve the recommendations, stipulations, or conditions noted in Section C of this form.

**Superintendent:** //Sula Jacobs// acting Deputy  
Superintendent

**Date:** 11/20/17

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

# **Yosemite Standard Operating Procedures and Mitigation Measures for Programmatic Categorical Exclusions**

November 2017

## **Purpose**

Yosemite has developed a suite of programmatic categorical exclusions for specific routine activities. This document identifies the standard operating procedures (SOPs) for using these programmatic categorical exclusions (CE) and describes mitigation measures and best practices that apply to these routine activities. These SOPs apply to all programmatic CEs, and they are to be followed in addition to specific mitigations and conditions as listed in each programmatic CE.

## **Authorities**

Programmatic CEs provide National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for multiple instances of an ongoing or recurring activity, when the activity and its impacts are predictable.<sup>1</sup> Each programmatic CE established at Yosemite describes the specific activities and conditions that must be met for the programmatic CE to apply. Project managers must consider the cumulative impacts of the project, coordinate with park subject matter experts, and follow other required consultation processes when reviewing and implementing an activity covered by a programmatic CE.

## **Internal Staff Coordination/Activity Review**

If the compliance office determines that an activity is eligible under a programmatic CE, coordination with other park staff or park partners is likely still necessary to provide for a successful action and to minimize impacts. The compliance specialist will recommend that the project manager coordinate with specific subject matter experts who should be notified of the activity as 1) the activity may affect their operations, 2) they may provide suggestions or best practices for how the activity should occur, and 3) they may suggest ways to minimize impacts to resources or operations. Good communication leads to successful implementation of actions and avoidance or minimization of impacts to resources or park operations.

## **Compliance with Other Laws and Approvals**

All other applicable laws will be followed when streamlining review of activities under a programmatic CE. If an activity is covered by a programmatic CE, in addition to coordination with internal park staff, the activity may also require consultation with external agencies or parties.

Other laws that may apply to an activity covered by a programmatic CE include, but are not limited to, the Clean Water Act (e.g., 404 permitting), Endangered Species Act, the Wilderness Act (e.g., minimum requirements analysis), and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Compliance with NEPA and other laws must be completed prior to the activity occurring. In addition, other approvals must occur before the action can take place (e.g., research or collection permits). The compliance office will guide project managers through any permitting or consultation requirements if they apply. The project manager is responsible for ensuring that all requirements are met prior to implementing the activity/action.

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<sup>1</sup> NPS NEPA Handbook section 3.6. (<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nepa/policy.htm>)



A programmatic minimum requirement analysis may need to be completed for routine work occurring in Wilderness. Project managers should check with the Wilderness office for a complete listing of approved programmatic minimum requirement analysis. For non-routine related work occurring in Wilderness, project managers should work with the park's wilderness planning and compliance specialist who will review project proposals to determine the necessary Wilderness Act requirements. Early consultation is the key to success.

### **Compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act**

In addition, programmatic agreements (PAs) developed under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) provide for streamlining of routine, low-impact, and repetitive activities. Activities eligible for streamlined review under a programmatic CE must also be eligible for streamlined review under NHPA.<sup>2</sup> Yosemite's Parkwide PA allows the park's cultural resource managers (CRM) team to review and sign off on activities that have no adverse effects to historic properties if they meet the criteria for streamlined review. Consultation and review by traditionally associated American Indian tribes and groups may be required for an activity eligible for streamlined review as determined by the park's American Indian Liaison.

### **Activities Covered**

Each programmatic CE describes the scope and scale of the ongoing or recurring activities covered by the programmatic compliance. Activities of similar scope, scale, and effect may be covered by the programmatic CE if determined so by the compliance office based on coordination with park subject matter experts.

### **Steps to Determine Whether an Activity is Covered by a Programmatic CE**

The compliance office determines whether a proposed activity can be completed under a programmatic CE in consultation with other park staff.

*Program managers are encouraged to work with the compliance office to review workplan activities to determine if activities are covered programmatically.*

Step 1: The Project Manager emails the assigned compliance specialist the following information regarding an activity or workplan of activities:

- Brief description (e.g., paragraph) of the scope of the activity and where and how it will occur. Maps (showing the context and location of the proposed activity), design drawings, and/or photos are helpful in describing the proposed activity. Work performed under

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<sup>2</sup> Yosemite is in final negotiations with the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to develop the Yosemite Parkwide PA. Until such time when the Yosemite Parkwide PA is available for use, Section 106 compliance for an activity, if eligible, may be streamlined under the 2008 Programmatic Agreement among the National Park Service (U.S. Department of the Interior), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State historic Preservation Officers for Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act [2008 NPS Nationwide PA]. The 2008 NPS Nationwide PA is on [Sharepoint](#) under Project Management/Environmental Planning and Compliance. (The Yosemite Parkwide PA will be posted once signed and executed.) If an activity is not eligible for streamlined review under the 2008 NPS Nationwide PA, then standard consultation must occur per 36 CFR Part 800.

programmatic CEs must apply the techniques, protocols, and methodologies described in the programmatic CE. Examples of activities include routine operational activities and in-kind repair and maintenance.

- Timing of when work is anticipated to start once compliance is complete.

#### Step 2: The compliance office

- Determines the appropriate compliance pathway for the project (e.g., covered by programmatic CE, standalone CE, EA or EIS).
- Confirms with the CRM team whether the activity is eligible for streamlined review under NHPA.
- Notifies the project manager whether the action requires tribal consultation or notification under NHPA, and of any other laws or procedures that must be followed before the activity can occur (e.g., minimum requirement analysis, permits).
- Recommends subject matter experts to review the activity/work plan.

Step 3: Any significant changes in the scope of work discussed during work plan review require consultation with the compliance office and subject-matter experts to determine whether a modified activity is still covered under the programmatic CE.

### **Project Planning Meeting**

The park's Project Planning Meeting is an effective tool for planning a work activity and providing for an interdisciplinary review of an action to avoid or minimize impacts to resources. The compliance office may suggest that a project leader present an activity/project at the Project Planning Meeting. Presentations are optional and are meant to provide access to subject matter experts to better inform the project.

### **Periodic Review of Programmatic CEs and Associated Standard Operating Procedures**

Per the NEPA Handbook, Yosemite programmatic CEs will be reviewed periodically (approximately every five years at a minimum) at the park's Monthly Planning Forum, Project Planning Meeting, and CRM meetings. The compliance office will facilitate review of programmatic CEs to ensure the documentation is still accurate and that no circumstances have changed that would warrant additional compliance review.<sup>3</sup> The SOPs for programmatic CEs may be periodically updated and are available on Sharepoint (under Project Management/Environmental Planning and Compliance/Programmatic CEs).

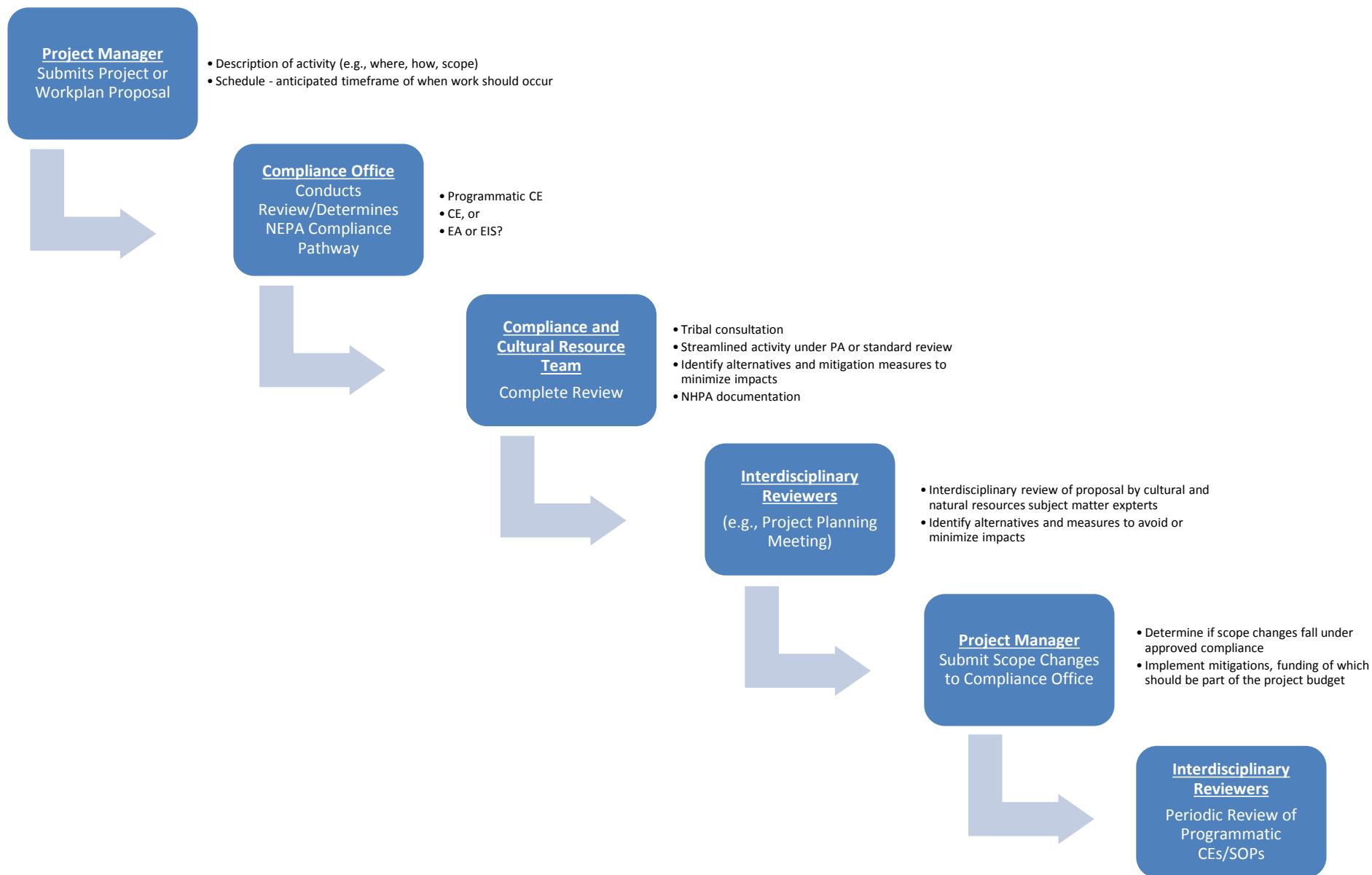
### **NHPA Documentation and Reporting**

The compliance office must document reviews and sign-offs for activities covered under programmatic CEs in collaboration with the CRM team. Review and sign-off on projects occurs at regularly scheduled CRM team meetings during which proposed activities are reviewed, discussed, and documented through sign-offs by each CRM discipline to ensure that adverse effects to historic properties are avoided. (If an adverse effect to historic properties cannot be avoided, the activity cannot be streamlined per NEPA or NHPA.)

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<sup>3</sup> NPS NEPA Handbook section 3.6

The compliance office also must report annually to the State Historic Preservation Officer, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the traditionally associated American Indian tribes and groups regarding activities covered under streamlined review under NHPA. The park's annual Section 106 report summarizes the undertakings reviewed via the streamlined process under NHPA.



**Mitigations Measures and Other Best Practices that Apply to all Programmatic CE Activities (as Applicable to the Activity)**

<b>If...</b>	<b>Then the following actions must occur</b>	<b>Why</b>
Outside contractors or new employees are managing, supervising, or working on the project	<p>The project manager shall ensure that project personnel (managers, supervisors, and staff) attend a resources protection briefing prior to working on site to become familiar with statutory and contractual environmental requirements and protection measures for archeological sites, sensitive habitats, water resources, and wildlife. Required topics include proper storage and disposal of food and trash, safe behavior around wildlife, protection of cultural resources, avoidance of introduction of exotic plants, and specific protections for any threatened and endangered or sensitive species found on or around the project site.</p> <p>Contractors will watch the “Working in Yosemite” video prior to starting work.<sup>4</sup></p>	Promote understanding of the environment and potential impacts to properly avoid, minimize, and mitigate effects
Work entails driving vehicles or other equipment to, from, or around the work site and staging area (all projects)	Personnel will obey all park speed limits. On-site speed limits will be limited to 25 miles per hour.	Protect human and wildlife safety
Food will be consumed or stored (all projects)	<p>All personnel will be trained in proper storage and disposal of food and trash by wildlife management staff upon arrival at Yosemite (see resource protection briefing above).</p> <p>Food and trash will be removed from the project site at the close of work each day.</p> <p>Food storage and trash systems must follow park regulations. Exceptions, such as open-top dumpsters for construction materials must be approved by park wildlife staff (e.g., dumpster must be clearly marked and stored away from visitor pathways).</p>	Protect wildlife from human food conditioning, reduce pest management issues, and protect human safety

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CuRn-tZ8SL4&feature=youtu.be>. Also available on the compliance Sharepoint page (under Project Management/Environmental Planning and Compliance/Programmatic CEs).

If...	Then the following actions must occur	Why
Soil will be disturbed	<p>Coordinate with Resource Management and Science (RMS) Branch Chiefs to determine subject matter experts needed for archaeology, hydrology, vegetation, and wildlife to ensure avoidance of resource damage and to plan revegetation treatments, if necessary.</p> <p>Coordinate with park cultural resources program staff to ensure that all project staff planning and working on site are informed of archeological and historic resource values and protocols. Park cultural resource staff will provide information to ensure that inadvertent discoveries be immediately followed by notification of the park's Cultural Resource Program Manager for proper treatment.</p> <p>All project staff working on site shall be informed of, and follow best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species. Best management practices are outlined in the park's standard Division 1 Specifications and the park's Invasive Plant Management Plan.</p> <p>Coordinate with the Utilities Branch. Ensure that Underground Service Alert (USA Dig) is contacted a minimum of seven days prior to any planned digging to locate utilities.</p>	<p>Protect rare plants</p> <p>Restore native plant cover after project</p> <p>Prevent introduction of non-native plant seeds</p> <p>Avoid archeological/historic resources</p> <p>Avoid historic properties with cultural and religious significance</p> <p>Avoid impacts to utilities</p>
The park's archeologist determines that project will occur in previously disturbed locations	<p>Work with the Cultural Resource Program Manager in advance to determine 1) if the area and level of disturbance is well known and includes potentially undisturbed cultural deposits; and 2) if an archeological or tribal monitor needs to be on site or if other stipulations are needed to avoid adverse effects.</p> <p>Any ground disturbing activity requires archeological clearance by the park compliance archeologist or Cultural Resource Program Manager (if qualified as an archeologist).</p> <p>Coordinate with the park's American Indian Liaison to determine tribal consultation requirements and associated review periods. New disturbance will likely require consultation with the park's traditionally associated American Indian tribes and groups and requires advance planning (minimum of 60-90 days).</p>	<p>Avoid adverse effects to historic properties and ensure consultation with appropriate external parties occurs</p>

<b>If...</b>	<b>Then the following actions must occur</b>	<b>Why</b>
Previously unknown cultural resources are encountered	Temporarily suspend work in the immediate area and contact the Cultural Resource Program Manager who will evaluate and determine appropriate action to protect resources, which could include consultation with appropriate parties (e.g., tribes, SHPO). Although not expected under routine activities, should previously unknown American Indian burial sites be discovered, the Cultural Resource Program Manager will provide direction to follow provisions Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act requirements.	Avoid adverse effects to historic properties and ensure consultation with appropriate external parties occurs
Work entails a historic property (e.g., building, structure, historic landscape)	Coordinate with the Cultural Resource Program Manager to ensure that the work is performed consistent with the <i>Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties</i> (available on the compliance <a href="#">Sharepoint</a> site) and has been reviewed by the park's CRM team.	Avoid adverse effects to historic properties
Work will occur within the built environment (e.g., buildings, pathways, signage, and/or facilities used publicly or internally)	Project manager will consult with the park's accessibility coordinator to review the proposed action.	To ensure adherence to Architectural Barriers Accessibility Act Standards (ABAAS) <sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Available on the compliance Sharepoint page (under Project Management/Environmental Planning and Compliance/Programmatic CEs)

If...	Then the following actions must occur	Why
<p>Heavy equipment will be used, or tools and materials needed for the project are brought in from outside the park</p> <p>(If action is in wilderness, see wilderness section below; use of mechanized equipment in wilderness is prohibited.)</p>	<p>Contact the Vegetation and Ecological Restoration Branch Chief to arrange for equipment cleaning and inspection before entering park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>All earth moving equipment must be thoroughly cleaned to minimize the introduction of non-native plants.</i></li> <li>• <i>Equipment exhibiting any dirt, mud seeds or other potential contaminant attached to frame, tires, wheels, or other parts will be thoroughly cleaned and inspected by trained park staff before entering the park.</i></li> <li>• <i>Areas inspected will include, but not be limited to, tracks, track guard/housings, belly pans/under covers, buckets, rippers, and other attachments.</i></li> <li>• <i>Equipment that does not pass inspection will be turned around to the nearest cleaning facility outside the park.</i></li> <li>• <i>Re-clean equipment before returning to the project or staging area if it is removed from the general vicinity of the project or staging area.</i></li> <li>• <i>Before moving vehicles or equipment to a new job site within the park, visually inspect and clean thoroughly to remove all mud, dirt, and plant parts.</i></li> </ul> <p>Use measures to prevent and control spills of fuels, lubricants, or other contaminants. Before equipment enters the park, staff will tighten hydraulic fittings, ensure hydraulic hoses are in good condition (and replace if damaged), and repair petroleum leaks.</p> <p>Ensure all actions are consistent with state water quality standards and Clean Water Act Section 401 certification requirements.</p> <p>Ensure that all pumps, tanks, live wells, buckets, or other containers that may carry water contaminated with exotic species are drained and flushed prior to arrival in the park. Make sure no exotic species are attached to the outside of the equipment.</p>	<p>Avoid weed seeds in dirt from previous projects</p> <p>Avoid water contamination by leaky or poorly functional equipment with fuels or hydraulic fluids</p> <p>Avoid import of aquatic organisms</p>



If...	Then the following actions must occur	Why
Fill will be imported	<p>Exhaust options for using on site, local fill before importing.</p> <p>Off site or imported fill must be approved by the Park Botanist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>To avoid the spread of non-native, invasive plant species, imported materials (sand, gravel, rock, and all mineral and earthen materials; mulch, seed, container plants, sod) must come from an approved source; consult with the invasive plant botanist in advance of project work. Use weed-free, locally-staged fill or on-site fill when it can be extracted from the project site without causing adverse impacts to the native vegetation, soils, or hydrology.</i></li> </ul> <p>All areas considered for fill acquisition shall be surveyed for historic properties/archeological sites by the CRM team.</p>	<p>Avoid contamination with invasive plants and seeds.</p> <p>Avoid moving cultural artifacts</p>
Staging areas are required	<p>Locations of staging areas must be reviewed by RMS Branch Chiefs.</p> <p>Establishment of off-site staging areas on non-hardened surfaces requires consultation with RMS Branch Chiefs (e.g., through the Project Planning Meeting), prior to project activities.</p> <p>All equipment/materials storage and staging areas must be included in defined project area to avoid/minimize potential adverse effect to natural and cultural resources (as defined by RMS Branch Chiefs and subject matter experts).</p> <p>Staging areas must be maintained within their defined/approved boundaries.</p> <p>Staging areas must be localized to job sites to prevent spread of non-native, invasive species from one area of the park to another.</p> <p>Pollution prevention measures and erosion control measures must be in effect and natural features protected from scarring or damage while staging areas are in use.</p> <p>Upon project completion all temporary staging areas must be restored to conditions as required by park staff. Plans and funds for this work should be included in the initial proposal of the activity.</p>	Limit project disturbance to as small a footprint as possible

<b>If...</b>	<b>Then the following actions must occur</b>	<b>Why</b>
Debris will be disposed of	Side casting of material and debris is prohibited in the park and must be transported to an established staging area reviewed by RMS Branch Chiefs. Construction debris, municipal waste, old asphalt and concrete, sheet metal, and treated lumber will be transported outside the park. These materials may be staged temporarily at established staging areas.	Protect downhill habitat  Avoid disturbed soil for invasive species
Stock will be used	Pack stock used in the park will either be fed by grazing or by weed-free feed, with strict adherence to the current stock-use management plan.  Grazing in wilderness must occur within established grazing dates and capacities at identified sites.	Avoid potential plant seeds in stock feed or guts that could introduce invasive plants
Trees will be removed	Removal of trees requires review by the RMS Branch Chiefs and the compliance office.  Retain snags that do not pose a threat to public safety.  If working in wilderness, refer to hazard tree removal policy for wilderness areas.	Protect habitat and native species  Protect culturally significant species  Minimize impacts to archeological resources
Work occurs near tree canopy, trunk, or roots	Consult with park forester prior to work.  Consult with Vegetation and Ecological Restoration Branch Chief for project design review and to determine tree protection measures during construction (e.g., trenching alignments and root retention, fencing, other measures as contained in the Division 1 Specifications, Section 1335.)	Protect the health of high-value trees by preventing damage to roots, boles, and branches (e.g., oaks, giant sequoia, sugar pines, and whitebark pine)
Project occurs in an area that may affect special status plant species	Consult with Vegetation and Ecological Restoration and Wildlife Branch Chiefs to avoid impacts to special status species.	Protect special status plants
Project will disturb native vegetation (e.g., ditches)	Consult with Vegetation and Ecological Restoration Branch Chief to potentially salvage and replant vegetation before and after the project.	Maintain native vegetation, prevents erosion and reduces invasive plant establishment

<b>If...</b>	<b>Then the following actions must occur</b>	<b>Why</b>
Natural water sources will be withdrawn	<p>Consult with the Park Hydrologist to determine how much water can be withdrawn without impact the source and how water body and banks/shores will protected when accessed for pumping.</p> <p>Consult with park Aquatic Ecologist to ensure that water withdrawal at specific sites will not impact sensitive species or spread aquatic invasive organisms</p> <p>Ensure that water pumps, wells, and other equipment has been emptied, thoroughly decontaminated using high pressure hot water, and dried completely before entering the park.</p>	<p>Protect water resources and wildlife</p> <p>Prevent the introduction of non-native organisms</p>
Project will bring in equipment that has been in other water bodies	Project managers will ensure that all pumps, tanks, live wells, buckets, or other containers that carry water contaminated with exotic species (e.g., zebra mussels) are drained, flushed and cleaned with hot pressurized water, and completely dried prior to arrival in the park. The outside of all containers will be inspected to ensure no exotic species are adhering to the outside.	Prevent the introduction of non-native species
Work will occur in wetlands or other waters	<p>Contact the compliance office to determine if permits are necessary to comply with the Clean Water Act.</p> <p>Consult with Wildlife Branch Chief to ensure that sensitive wildlife species will not be harmed and that aquatic invasive species will not be spread.</p> <p>Avoid moving wet gear/clothing between sites.</p> <p>Decontaminate items that have contacted water at other sites by removing organic material and drying completely for 48 hours.<sup>6</sup></p>	Protect water resources and wildlife, prevent the spread of aquatic invasive organisms

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<sup>6</sup> [www.nps.gov/yose/learn/nature/upload/Didymo-fact-sheet-04-10.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/yose/learn/nature/upload/Didymo-fact-sheet-04-10.pdf)

<b>If...</b>	<b>Then the following actions must occur</b>	<b>Why</b>
<p>Project will occur within designated (or proposed) critical habitat for federal or state or state endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or within the known range of species or within the known range of those species.<sup>7</sup></p> <p>Project will occur within the habitat or known range of other sensitive species including the Pacific fisher and migratory birds</p>	<p>Provide compliance and/or the RMS Wildlife Branch Chief with project locations, proposed activities, and the proposed timing of activities to ensure activities are consistent with the Endangered Species Act and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biological opinion for the Tuolumne River Plan; the Migratory Bird Treaty Act; the Bald and Golden Eagle Act; and that they adequately protect species and their habitat. To prepare, provide compliance and/or the RMS Wildlife Branch Chief with project locations, proposed activities, and the proposed timing of activities.</p> <p>All employees/contractors will be trained on the Endangered Species Act and any relevant terms and conditions and conservation measures from relevant biological opinions from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (see resource protection briefing above).</p> <p>If a species that is listed (or proposed for listing) under the federal or state Endangered Species Act is found at a work site, immediately halt work and contact the wildlife branch prior to resuming.</p>	Protect sensitive wildlife species
Project will remove or alter any potential wildlife habitat (biotic/abiotic)	Provide the Wildlife Branch Chief with project locations, proposed activities, and the proposed timing of activities to ensure projects avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential negative impacts to species (spatial or temporal) whenever possible.	Protect wildlife habitat
Project activities will include noise, light, the presence of humans, or night disturbance	Provide the Wildlife Branch Chief with project locations, proposed activities, and the proposed timing of activities to ensure projects avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential negative impacts to species (spatial or temporal) whenever possible. Temporal considerations include hibernation in bats, rearing of young in birds/mammals, and breeding and larval periods in amphibians. Refer to Protection Measures chart below.	Prevent disturbances to wildlife during sensitive times in their life cycle
If work entails any holes, gaps, or hollow spaces greater than 0.75 inches in diameter	<p>Cap any open-ended posts (solid posts are preferred).</p> <p>Install wildlife escape ramps in open holes and trenches.</p>	Prevent entrapment of cavity-nesting birds or other wildlife

<sup>7</sup> Projects occurring over 5,000 feet in elevation (e.g., Tuolumne Meadows) may impact federally endangered Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frogs or federally threatened Yosemite Toads. Projects occurring in Yosemite Valley may impact federally threatened California red-legged frogs. Projects occurring in high elevation areas in the Cathedral Range and other mountainous terrain in the eastern section of the park may impact federally endangered Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep. Projects in or near park meadows may impact state-listed Willow flycatchers or Great grey owls. Designated critical habitat exists for the Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog, the Yosemite toad, and the Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep.

<b>If...</b>	<b>Then the following actions must occur</b>	<b>Why</b>
Work activities are proposed during evening hours	Consult with Wildlife Branch Chief to identify if sensitive wildlife are known to occur near work site and plan mitigations.  Conduct demolition, construction, and maintenance activities during daylight hours.	Avoid disturbance to nocturnal wildlife.
Fences are proposed (including temporary construction fencing)	If mesh fencing will be used, ensure that holes are either no larger than 0.25 inches across or are over 3 by 3 inches in dimension. Fences should have at least a 16 inch gap at the bottom (from the soil to the first barrier) to allow wildlife to pass underneath and be no taller than 40 inches from the ground allow for the safe passage of wildlife.  Locations of all fences shall be reviewed by CRM team, prior to construction	Protect wildlife passages and avoid entrapment hazards to wildlife  Avoid impacts to archeological sites
If erosion or temporary sediment control products are to be used	Materials are to be made of natural fiber. If straw is used or is a material component, it is to be of certified weed free origin. Materials are to be removed in a timely manner once they are no longer necessary.  If mesh or netting is used, it is to be of loose weave construction with moveable joints (“leno weave” or “gauze weave”) and with holes either no larger than 0.25 inches across or they must be over 3 by 3 inches in dimension.	Avoid entrapment hazards to wildlife and the introduction of noxious plants
Work entails any changes to aesthetics or visual impacts (e.g., changes to outdoor lighting)	Follow NPS guidelines (e.g., downshielding light).  Follow <i>A Sense of Place: Design Guidelines for Yosemite National Park</i> . <sup>8</sup>	Protect nightsky and viewsheds  Ensure design is compatible with existing park infrastructure

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<sup>8</sup> Available on the compliance Sharepoint page (under Project Management/Environmental Planning and Compliance/Programmatic CEs)

<b>If...</b>	<b>Then the following actions must occur</b>	<b>Why</b>
Work will occur in wilderness	<p>Contact the Wilderness Branch Chief to determine if a minimum requirement analysis needs to be completed before work can occur.</p> <p>Use of mechanized equipment in wilderness is prohibited.</p> <p>Employees will follow all wilderness regulations imposed on wilderness permit holders (<a href="http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildregs.htm">www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildregs.htm</a>) and stipulated in the current version of the Superintendent's Compendium.</p> <p>Work groups will travel in accordance with Yosemite National Park Directive #15: Yosemite Wilderness Travel.</p>	Protect wilderness character, human safety, water quality, and resources
<b>Public Health and Safety</b>		
All projects	Supervisors and employees shall treat safety as a top priority in their daily operations. This includes providing safety training, providing and utilizing personal protective equipment, maintaining safe working conditions, exercising vigilance, and complying with all safety related guidance, regulations, and policies. All employees are encouraged to report potentially unsafe or unhealthful working conditions to the YOSE Safety Office. (See <a href="#">Sharepoint</a> for YOSE Directives #3: Personal Protective Equipment, #5: Incident Reporting, #9: Hantavirus Risk Reduction Program, #10: Hazardous Materials Communication, #11: Job Hazard Analysis, #12 Report of Unsafe or Unhealthful Working Conditions, #13 Forklift Safety, #17 Lockout-Tagout #18: Defensive Driving Policy, #19, Blood Borne Pathogens, #20: Respiratory Protection, and #37: Plague Risk Reduction).	Adherence to federal and state regulations
<b>Occupational Health and Safety Hazards</b>		
Work entails confined spaces <sup>9</sup>	Contact the Safety Office for requirements and considerations.	Protect human safety
Work entails trenching/shoring	For trenching/shoring operations and excavations deeper than five feet, contact the Safety Office for requirements and considerations.	Protect human safety
Work involves chemicals or toxic substances	Contact the Safety Office to adhere to OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, including maintaining product labels, safety data sheets, worker training regarding proper chemical handling and use, and storage considerations.	Protect human safety

<sup>9</sup> "Confined Space" refers to a space which, by design, has limited openings for entry and exit, unfavorable natural ventilation which could contain or produce dangerous air contaminants, and which is not intended for continuous worker occupancy. Specific safety considerations are required by OSHA.

<b>If...</b>	<b>Then the following actions must occur</b>	<b>Why</b>
Work involves excessive noise	Hearing protection is required for employees working around sources of noise greater than or equal to 85 decibels (A-weighted scale) as an eight hour time-weighted average. When decibel levels are unknown, contact the Safety Office for an assessment of the noise source and recommendations for mitigation (e.g., engineering controls, administrative controls, personal protective equipment options such as earplugs, earmuffs, or both). Noise sources should be quantified utilizing a Sound Level Meter and (as warranted) personal noise dosimetry. Noise mapping may be necessary to discern noise levels in different areas of a given workspace.	Protect human safety
Work involves exposure to respiratory hazards	Contact the YOSE Safety Office for a hazard assessment and to ensure appropriate respirator type. See YOSE Directive #20 for specific considerations (e.g., requirements for medical evaluation and fit testing). For respiratory hazards unable to be addressed via engineering or administrative controls, respirator use may be warranted.	Protect human safety by preventing exposure to respiratory hazards (e.g., particulates, chemicals, gases)
Work involves lockout-tagout of gas or water service	Contact the YOSE Safety Office to ensure appropriate safeguards and procedures during the installation, maintenance, service or repair of machines and/or equipment. Consult YOSE Directive #17 for specific requirements.	Protect human safety by preventing exposures to uncontrolled release of hazardous energy
<b>Public Health Hazards</b>		
There are live rodents/ droppings/ evidence of rodent activity in work space	Contact the Environmental Health Specialist for a risk assessment to determine level of infestation, proper clean-up procedures, mitigation steps, and necessary personal protective equipment. Clean-up must occur in accordance with YOSE Directive #9.	Protect human safety
Dead rodents are discovered (with no obvious sign of trauma)	Contact wildlife staff or the Environmental Health Specialist for collection and testing for disease.	Protect human safety
Gaps/openings to building exteriors are discovered	Contact Environmental Health Specialist for proper exclusions to prevent entry of pests and rodents. Exclusion work must occur in accordance with specifications listed in the NPS Rodent Exclusion Manual.	Protect human safety

# Yosemite National Park Standard Bat and Bird Protection Measures

JAN	FEB	MARCH	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Bird Protection											
No bird survey required prior to tree removal		Limit construction activities in bird nesting habitat. Bird survey required no more than 1 week prior to construction.						No bird survey required prior to tree removal.			
Bat Protection - See two options below											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>PREFERRED OPTION - CONDUCT ACTIVITIES DURING PERIODS OF THE YEAR WHEN IMPACTS TO BATS ARE NOT LIKELY<sup>10</sup>. Construction activities are not likely to impact bats during the periods listed below. Activities may take place without surveys or special provisions.</li></ul>											
				Bat impacts unlikely (4/15-5/15)					Bat impacts unlikely (8/15 - 10/31)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>OPTION TWO - If it is not possible to conduct activities as above, survey at any time to identify trees that are likely to support bats during maternity periods or hibernation. If likely trees are found, conduct work in timeframes displayed above or delay demolition, construction, or tree/snag removal during maternity and hibernation periods or until a qualified biologist determines action would not adversely affect bat survival or survival of young.</li></ul>											
Hibernation (10/31 - 4/15)						Maternity period (5/15 - 8/15)					Hibernation (10/31-4/15)

<sup>10</sup> Adjust dates as necessary for unusual weather. For example, a late spring may delay emergence from hibernation or an early winter may initiate an early onset of hibernation. Contact the NPS Wildlife Biologist for additional information.



## **Yosemite National Park Standard Bat and Bird Protection Measures**

### **Additional Bird Protection Information**

If nesting special-status bird species are observed during bird surveys-

- Determine if construction will impact an active nest or disrupt reproductive behavior
- If yes - Delay construction within 500 feet of nest until a qualified biologist determines that the subject birds are no longer nesting or until all juvenile birds are no longer using the nest as their primary day and night roost.
- If no - construction may proceed.

If nesting birds are observed that are not special-status species-

- Determine if construction will impact an active nest or disrupt reproductive behavior
- If yes - Avoid disruptive activities if possible.
- If no - construction may proceed.