



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: Garrett Chun, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2017-042 Glacier Point Leach Field Installation (77058)

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 to historical properties.
- 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:

- After topsoil replacement, bare soils will be covered either with organic litter and duff mulch or with erosion control matting. Erosion control matting will consist of natural materials only, no biodegradable plastics. Notify vegetation staff 2-4 weeks in advance of topsoil replacement to arrange for seeding prior to mulching or matting.
- Before disturbing new leach field location, trenches, and staging area, contractor will first salvage organic litter and duff, then top 6 to 8 inches of topsoil and store these two materials separately for replacement after finish grading.
- Work limits and trees to remain should be marked and closely protected.
- Import fill will come from an approved, weed-free source- -consult with Invasive Plant Botanist. (Note that intermediate fill storage at Badger Pass or Chinquapin makes this important). Import fill will not be used within 6 inches of the surface. Trenches will be capped with at least 6 inches of native local soil.
- Equipment will be cleaned and inspected prior to entry into the park. Arrange equipment inspections with vegetation staff (Victor Goldman) 1-2 weeks in advance.
- Survey for sensitive and rare plant species in 2018, for avoidance or possible replanting following construction.

- Active revegetation (seeding with native herbaceous plants) is required for establishing native vegetation and preventing invasive plant dominance in the sunny, open conditions when the tree overstory is removed.

Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations: None

For complete compliance information see PEPC Project 77058.

//Michael T. Reynolds//
Michael T. Reynolds, Superintendent

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: 2017-042 Glacier Point Leach Field Installation

PEPC Project Number: 77058

Project Description:

This project will install a new sewer effluent disposal system to service the Glacier Point area consisting of the Glacier Point flush restrooms, quarter's cabins, and backwash generated from the water treatment system. This system includes a new disposal field, new dosing tank, relocation of potable water line, pump replacement, and utility dirt road realignment. The new system will connect to the quarter's cabin sewer and will consist of a new septic tank, small pump station, and adding to the force main. Project will remove 21 red firs and seven boulders. Project equipment needed includes excavators, backhoes, loaders, dozers, and dump trucks.

Project dimensions:

- Leachfield measures 4100 feet long by 2 feet wide and 2.5 feet deep
- Quarters 4 inch sewer line measures 440 feet long, 2 feet wide and 3.5 feet deep
- Force main (quarters to the dosing tank) measures 480 feet long, 2 feet wide and 2 feet deep
- Septic tank (2000 gallon) measures 11 feet long by 6 feet wide and 7 feet deep
- Small pump station measures 3 feet diameter by 11 feet deep
- Equalization tank (5750 gallon) measures 17 feet long by 8 wide and 8 feet deep
- Water line (2 inch) measures 600 feet long by 2 feet wide and 2.5 feet deep
- Utility Dirt Road Realignment measures 320 feet long by 12 feet wide and 0.5 feet deep

Glacier Point Road will have to be shared between the visitors and contractor. Due to the tight roads and life/safety concerns the project will utilize an area at least 75 feet and 125 feet for an intermediate staging site. Larger trucks can dump their supplies there and smaller trucks can take it through the narrow and windy road sections to the project site. Intermediate staging will be either the area at the Yosemite Ski & Snowboard parking lot (Site A) or at the parking lot next to the Chinquapin Restrooms (Site B).

Project Locations:

Mariposa County, CA

Mitigations:

- After topsoil replacement, bare soils will be covered either with organic litter and duff mulch or with erosion control matting. Erosion control matting will consist of natural materials only, no biodegradable plastics. Notify vegetation staff 2-4 weeks in advance of topsoil replacement to arrange for seeding prior to mulching or matting.
- Before disturbing new leach field location, trenches, and staging area, contractor will first salvage organic litter and duff, then top 6 to 8 inches of topsoil and store these two materials separately for replacement after finish grading.
- Work limits and trees to remain should be marked and closely protected.

- Import fill will come from an approved, weed-free source- -consult with Invasive Plant Botanist. (Note that intermediate fill storage at Badger Pass or Chinquapin makes this important). Import fill will not be used within 6 inches of the surface. Trenches will be capped with at least 6 inches of native local soil.
- Equipment will be cleaned and inspected prior to entry into the park. Arrange equipment inspections with vegetation staff (Victor Goldman) 1-2 weeks in advance.
- Survey for sensitive and rare plant species in 2018, for avoidance or possible replanting following construction.
- Active revegetation (seeding with native herbaceous plants) is required for establishing native vegetation and preventing invasive plant dominance in the sunny, open conditions when the tree overstory is removed.

CE Citation: C.15 Installation of underground utilities in previously disturbed areas having stable soils, or in an existing utility right-of-way.

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: //Michael T. Reynolds// **Date:** 4/3/18
 Michael T. Reynolds

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 Environmental Planning
 Yosemite Na*

Extraordinary Circumstances:

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



ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

Updated Sept 2015 per NPS NEPA Handbook

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: 2017-042 Glacier Point Leach Field Installation
PEPC Project Number: 77058
Project Type: Capital Improvement/New Construction (CI)
Project Location:
County, State: Mariposa, California
Project Leader: Garrett Chun

B. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Air Air Quality	Potential	This project will generate temporary dust and air emissions during the leach field installation.
Biological Nonnative or Exotic Species	Potential	Equipment will be cleaned and inspected prior to entry into the park. Imported fill will come from an approved, weed-free source. Imported fill will not be used within six inches of the surface.
Biological Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat	Potential	Sensitive and rare plant species survey will occur prior to work. Active re-vegetation (seeding with native herbaceous plants) is required for establishing native vegetation and preventing invasive plant dominance in the sunny, open conditions when the tree overstory is removed.
Biological Vegetation	Potential	Vegetation staff is assured that the impact of the 30+ large (and presumably several hundred year-old) red fir trees to be removed is offset by the substantial improvement to visitor experience and operational efficiency obtained by a functional leach field, and that there is high confidence, based on monitoring of groundwater wells, that this new leach field will be functional (sufficiently above the water table) for the desired length of the season.
Biological Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species	None	
Cultural Archeological Resources	None	
Cultural	None	

Cultural Landscapes		
Cultural Ethnographic Resources	None	This project went on the January 2018 tribal spreadsheet; no comments were received.
Cultural Museum Collections	None	
Cultural Prehistoric/historic structures	None	No historic buildings or structures are present therefore no historical architect review is required.
Geological Geologic Features	Potential	Before disturbing new leach field location, trenches, and staging area, the contractor will first salvage organic litter and duff, then top six to eight inches of topsoil and store these two materials separately for replacement after finish grading. After topsoil replacement, bare soils will be covered either with organic litter and duff mulch or with erosion control matting. Erosion control matting will consist of natural materials only, no biodegradable plastics. Notify vegetation staff 2-4 weeks in advance of topsoil replacement to arrange for seeding prior to mulching or matting.
Geological Geologic Processes	None	
Lightscares Lightscares	None	
Other Human Health and Safety	None	
Other Operational	None	
Socioeconomic Land Use	None	
Socioeconomic Minority and low-income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	
Socioeconomic Socioeconomic	None	
Soundscares Soundscares	None	
Viewsheds Viewsheds	Potential	Construction of the leach field will result in temporary equipment noises.
Visitor Use and Experience	None	

Recreation Resources		
Visitor Use and Experience Visitor Use and Experience	None	
Water Floodplains	None	
Water Marine or Estuarine Resources	None	
Water Water Quality or Quantity	None	
Water Wetlands	None	
Water Wild and Scenic River	None	
Wilderness Wilderness	None	



ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. **Park:** Yosemite National Park

2. **Project Description:**

Project Name: 2017-042 Glacier Point Leach Field Installation

Prepared by: Renea Kennec **Date Prepared:** 01/23/2018 **Telephone:** 209-379-1038

PEPC Project Number: 77058

Locations:

County, State: Mariposa, CA

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

The project is located near Glacier Point. The existing septic and leach field system supports the Glacier Point restrooms. When completed, the project will also support the nearby Quarters Cabins. The drain field will be about three quarters of an acre. The old drain field will be abandoned in place. The majority of the project will not be visible and will be re-vegetated with grasses. The area is surrounded by trees however the above ground control panel may be visible from the adjacent housing to the north. The vertical APE for the leach and septic system will not exceed six feet in depth and would be specific to the leach field and force main and gravity lines. Excavation for the septic tanks, manholes and wet wells will not exceed ten feet in depth.

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: No

Historical Structures/Resources Affected: No

Historical Structures/Resources Notes: Project is adjacent to the Glacier Point Road Historic District and nearby residential buildings. Work will not affect historic properties.

Cultural Landscapes Affected: No

Ethnographic Resources Affected: No

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

Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure

Replace historic features/elements in kind

- No Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure
- No Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (inc. terrain)
- No Add non-historic features/elements (inc. visual, audible, or atmospheric) to 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
- No Begin or contribute to deterioration of historic features, terrain, setting, landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources
- No Involve a real property transaction (exchange, sale, or lease of land or 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:

[X] 106 Advisor

Name: Kimball Koch

Date: 03/19/2018

Comments: Per Cultural Resources Program Manager, no historic buildings or structures are present therefore no historical architect review is required.

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance []

Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process

[X] Anthropologist

Name: Scott Carpenter

Date: 03/19/2018

Comments: Project was on the January 2018 tribal consultation spreadsheet for 30-day review. Comment received from North Fork Rancheria. Park responded; response did not affect the project.

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance []

Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process

[X] Archeologist

Name: Sara Dolan

Date: 03/19/2018

Comments: No archeological sites in the project area.

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance []

Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process

[X] Historian

Name: Scott Carpenter

Date: 03/19/2018

Comments: No historic buildings or structures are present therefore no historical architect review is required.

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance []

Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process

[X] Historical Landscape Architect

Name: Kimball Koch

Date: 03/07/2018

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance []

Assessment of Effect: No Potential to Cause Effect No Historic Properties Affected No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Standard 4-Step Process

No Reviews From: Curator, Historical Architect, Other Advisor

C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Assessment of Effect:

- No Potential to Cause Effects
- No Historic Properties Affected
- No Adverse Effect
- Adverse Effect

2. Documentation Method:

A. Standard 36 CFR Part 800 Consultation

Further consultation under 36 CFR Part 800 is needed.

B. Streamlined Review Under the 2008 Servicewide Programmatic Agreement (PA)

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

**Applicable Streamlined Preview Criteria
(Specify 1-16 of the list of streamlined review criteria.)**

C. 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.

D. 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

E. Memo to Project File

3. Consultation Information

SHPO Required: No

THPO Required: Yes

THPO Sent: Jan 10, 2018

THPO Received: Comment received from North Fork Rancheria. Park responded; response did not affect the project.

SHPO/THPO Notes: January 2018 Tribal Spreadsheet; one comment received from Northfork Rancheria.

Advisory Council Participating: No

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.

6. Assessment of Effect Notes:

D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:

Kimball Koch //Kimball Koch// **Date:** 3/24/18

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: //Michael T. Reynolds// **Date:** 4/3/18

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