



# 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: Randy Fong, Project Manager, Project Management, Yosemite National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: Notice to Proceed, 2007-044 Henness Ridge Yosemite Institute Assimilative Soils Analysis

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 E (6) - *Non-destructive data collection, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), study, research, and monitoring activities.*

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 any conditions that may be stipulated in the enclosed *Categorical Exclusion Form* and associated documents when implementing this project.

//MJ Tollefson//  
Michael J. Tollefson

6/8/07  
Date

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

(Version: OCT06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2007-044

PEPC Project Number: 17937

### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Title:** Henness Ridge Yosemite Institute Assimilative Soils Analysis

**Location:** Chinquapin, Mariposa County, California

**Project Manager:** Randy Fong, Project 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 E (6) - *Non-destructive data collection, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), study, research, and monitoring activities.*

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 negligible 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):

- ☒ *Environmental Screening Form*
- ☒ *Preservation Assessment Form (YOSE-XXX)*
- ☐ *Wilderness Minimum Requirement Analysis*
- ☐ *Wild and Scenic River Section 7 Determination*
- ☐ 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.*

//MJ Tollefson//

Michael J. Tollefson, Superintendent

6/8/07

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.*

## Environmental Screening Form

(Version: NOV06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2007-044

PEPC Project Number: 17937

### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Title:** Henness Ridge Yosemite Institute Assimilative Soils Analysis

**Location:** Chinquapin, Mariposa County, California

**Project Manager:** Randy Fong, Project Management, Yosemite National Park

### B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

This project is to assess the hydraulic assimilative capacity of onsite soils for treated wastewater effluent. Based on the preliminary review of the site and the alternative campus layouts, a potential disposal area has been identified and is shown on the attached map. It is anticipated that the following field activities will be undertaken to evaluate site assimilative capacity: 1) soil survey of potential disposal area identifying soil type, texture, qualitative permeability, slope, drainage, vegetative cover, depth to an impermeable layer, depth to seasonal high water table and bedrock outcrops; 2) up to eight test pits in each potential disposal area; 3) each disposal area will have long-term hydraulic assimilative capacity tests; 4) up to five (5) piezometers installed to a maximum depth of 20' below ground surface in the preferred precise disposal area. This will require excavation of up to 20 soil test pits and the drilling of up to five (5) groundwater monitoring points. The test pits will be distributed between the potential disposal areas. Ideally, the test pits will be combined with an archeological study on the site (Conduct archeological investigations at a historic-era archeological site in the general vicinity of the proposed campus site. Investigations will include intensive surface inspection, mapping and documentation of all archeological resources, and controlled excavations. These excavations will be carried out in a series of shovel probes (50 cm diameter excavations up to 100 cm deep) and test excavation units (1m x 1m or 1m x 2m), estimated to extend between 50 and 100cm deep. A total of not more than 50 shovel probes and 5 excavation units are anticipated. All soils will be screened for archeological components, and artifacts collected for analysis. All soils will be returned to the excavations. All collected materials will be analyzed, and diagnostic items will be cataloged and accessioned into the Yosemite Museum collections. Results of research will be presented in a technical report of findings). The groundwater monitoring wells will be installed in the area with the most advantageous conditions for future construction of a disposal field. The soil pits will be excavated using a rubber tire mounted backhoe with a 24" bucket. The total number and specific location of test pits will be determined in the field based on the results of the initial test pit findings. Test pits will vary in size and the maximum size will be 6' deep x 2' wide x 10' long. Top soil will be segregated and preserved for restoration of each test pit site. Ingress and egress will be limited to specified corridors leading to each of the potential disposal fields. Where possible, tests will be excavated outside of the drip line of the trees. Up to three of the test pits will be utilized for a long term hydraulic capacity test. This will involve backfilling the base of the test pit with washed pea gravel and the placement of a plywood box to provide a reservoir for a constant head of water on the simulated drainfield. This constant head test will be run for a period of 2 to 5 days depending on acceptance rates of the soils. The groundwater monitoring wells will be constructed of 2" diameter PVC and will be installed to a maximum depth of 20' below ground surface. Drilling will be accomplished using a rubber tire truck mounted hollow-stem auger. One well will be sited to intercept groundwater upgradient of the disposal field and three/four wells will be installed to monitor potential impacts downgradient of the disposal field. Soil boring, well construction and well development will be conducted in accordance with NPS guidelines. If access is restricted due to tree density, alternative methods of excavation will be utilized (hand augers).

**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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Resources Management and Science and Project Management staff.
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2b. Is the project in an approved plan? (Identify the plan and provide a section or page citation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2c. Is the project consistent with that plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2d. Is the Plan's CE, FONSI, or ROD current?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3a. Are there any interested or affected parties?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3b. Has a diligent effort been made to communicate with them?	<input type="checkbox"/>			
4a. Are there any affected agencies or tribes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4b. Has consultation been completed?	<input type="checkbox"/>			

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

	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1. Maps: 2 requested (vicinity map & site map)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vicinity map; see Attachment A.
2. Drawings (e.g., design, construction)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Site Plans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Photographs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Non-NEPA/NHPA Approvals (Explain)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Other (Explain)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

### C. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL RESOURCE EFFECTS

Are any impacts possible on the following resources?	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Geologic resources: soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Soil disturbance includes soil tests that are 2" wide by 10" long by 6" deep and archeological tests that are 6' wide by 6' long by 5' deep.
2. From geohazards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Air quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negligible: temporary air emissions during soil and archeological testing.
4. Soundscapes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negligible: temporary noises during soil testing.
5. Water quality or quantity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Stream flow characteristics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Marine or estuarine resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. Floodplains or wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigated: see Section E. Special Status Species, below.
12. Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yosemite National Park is a World Heritage Site; no historic properties would be adversely affected by implementing this project; see Section F, National Historic Preservation Act Checklist, below.
13. Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
15. Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigated: see Section D. Mandatory Criteria, below.
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
18. Cultural resources including cultural landscapes, ethnographic resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negligible; the assessment of effect is "No Effect;" see Section F, National Historic Preservation Act Checklist and attached XXX.
19. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
20. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
21. Energy resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
22. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
23. Resource, including energy, conservation potential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
24. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
25. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Archeological investigations will provide resource information for the long-term management of the park.
26. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:**

1.

**D. MANDATORY CRITERIA**

<b>If implemented, would the proposed action:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Data Needed to Determine/Notes</b>
1. Have material adverse effects on public health or safety?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigated: the assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect;" see Section F, National Historic Preservation Act Checklist and the attached XXX.
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Threaten to violate a federal, state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA sec. 102(2)(E))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12. Have a disproportionate, significant adverse effect on low-income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of federally listed noxious weeds (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigated: see Condition 1, below.
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigated: see Condition 1, below.
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
17. Have the potential for significant impact as indicated by a federal, state, or local agency or Indian tribe?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
18. Have the potential to be controversial because of disagreement over possible environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
19. Have the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:**

1. Ensure that all equipment and materials brought into the park are free of non-native, invasive plants and animals, and noxious weeds. All staff working on site shall be informed of and follow best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species as described in Division 1 Specifications, Section 1355.

### 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)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown; project area needs to be surveyed; see Condition 1, below.
2. Species of special concern (Federal or State)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown; project area needs to be surveyed; see Condition 1, below.
3. Park rare plants or vegetation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown; project area needs to be surveyed; see Condition 1, below.
4. Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown; project area needs to be surveyed; see Condition 1, below.
If "yes" to any of the above questions, a Special-Status Species Checklist must be completed and attached.				

#### Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:

- Coordinate soil testing and archeological investigations with the park Botanist (Lisa Acree, 379-1217) prior to beginning work to ensure project area has been surveyed for Rare, Threatened or Endangered plants.

### F. NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST

Within the area of potential effect:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Will there be ground disturbance?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Soil disturbance includes soil tests that are 2" wide by 10" long by 6" deep and archeological tests that are 6' wide by 6' long by 5' deep.
2. Are there any archeological sites?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Archeological investigation would be included in the project; the assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect;" see the attached XXX.
3. Are there any Native American Indian traditional cultural resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Is there a historic property (a building, structure, feature, or all or any part of an archeological district or site, or a historic district or site, or any associated landscape element) that is listed or eligible for listing on the <i>National Register</i> ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect;" see the attached XXX.
5. Is there a National Historic Landmark?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Is there a structure(s) on the park's <i>List of Classified Structures</i> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is there any cultural resource requiring an evaluation of eligibility as a historic property under NHPA, Section 106, before an affect determination can be made?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. Would there be alteration of any historic property or associated landscape element covered by 2-7, above?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
If "yes" to <u>any</u> of the above, then an Assessment of Effects form (YOSE-XXX) must be completed and attached.				

#### Mitigations and Conditions:

- None

### G. WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST

Is the proposed project:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Within designated Wilderness?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
If "yes" to either of the above, then a Wilderness Minimum Requirements Analysis must be completed and attached.				

#### Mitigations and Conditions:

- None

## H. WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST

Does the proposed project:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor? If "yes", name the river(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Fall within the bed and banks AND affect the free-flow of the river?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Potentially affect water quality of the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Diminish or other wise change the values for which the river was designated as a Wild and Scenic River? If "yes", explain.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5a. Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5b. If 5a is "yes", will the project affect the Wild and Scenic River corridor?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5c. If 5a is "yes", will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If "yes" to questions 2, 5b, or 5c, then a WSRA Section 7 determination must be completed and attached.				
<b>Mitigations and Conditions:</b>				
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 3.4 E (6) - *Non-destructive data collection, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), study, research, and monitoring activities.*

### Project Mitigations and Conditions:

1. **Coordinate soil testing and archeological investigations with the park Botanist (Lisa Acree, 379-1217) prior to beginning work to ensure project area has been surveyed for Rare, Threatened or Endangered plants. (Resources Management and Science)**
2. **Ensure that all equipment and materials brought into the park are free of non-native, invasive plants and animals, and noxious weeds. All staff working on site shall be informed of and follow best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species as described in Division 1 Specifications, Section 1355. (Environmental Planning and Compliance)**

*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 further environmental review required under the 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 the Endangered Species Act.*

//Renea Kennec// 5/14/07  
**Compliance Specialist** **Date**

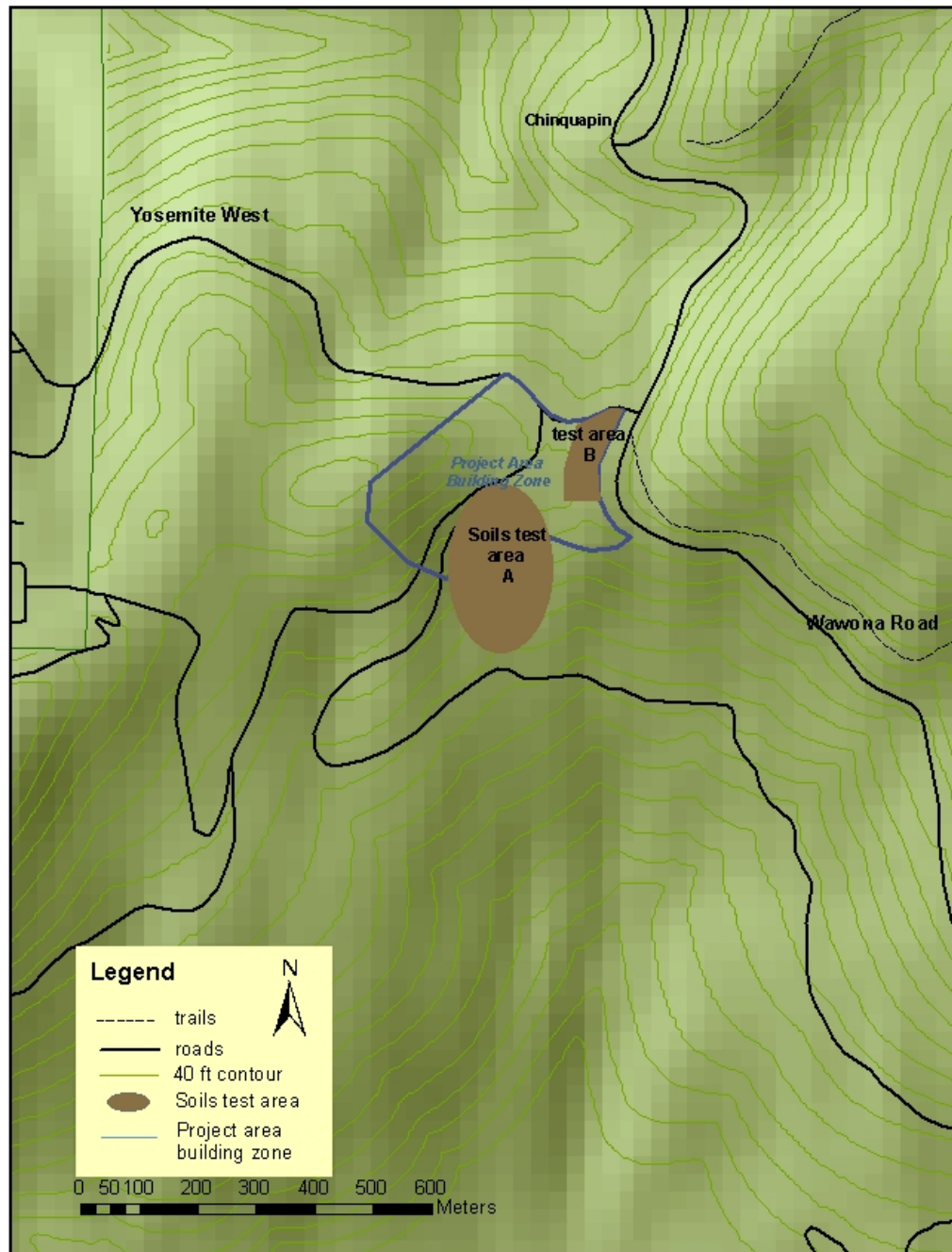
//Mark Butler// 5/10/07  
**Compliance Program Manager** **Date**

//Bill Delaney// 5/23/07  
**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

### Proposed Campus Site Henness Ridge/Sand Lot



## Preservation Assessment Form (YOSE XXX)

(Version: AUG06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2007-044

PEPC Project Number: 17937

### A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

**Title:** Henness Ridge Yosemite Institute Assimilative Soils Analysis

**Project Location and Area of Potential Effect:**

Yosemite West, Mariposa County, California

Henness Ridge Environmental Education Campus proposed site

**Project Manager:** Randy Fong, Project Management, Yosemite National Park

**Project Manager:** Moose Mutlow, Yosemite Institute,

**Project Description:** This project is to assess the hydraulic assimilative capacity of onsite soils for treated wastewater effluent. Based on the preliminary review of the site and the alternative campus layouts, a potential disposal area has been identified and is shown on the attached map. It is anticipated that the following field activities will be undertaken to evaluate site assimilative capacity: 1) soil survey of potential disposal area identifying soil type, texture, qualitative permeability, slope, drainage, vegetative cover, depth to an impermeable layer, depth to seasonal high water table and bedrock outcrops; 2) up to eight test pits in each potential disposal area; 3) each disposal area will have long-term hydraulic assimilative capacity tests; 4) up to five (5) piezometers installed to a maximum depth of 20' below ground surface in the preferred precise disposal area. This will require excavation of up to 20 soil test pits and the drilling of up to five (5) groundwater monitoring points. The test pits will be distributed between the potential disposal areas. Ideally, the test pits will be combined with an archeological study on the site (Conduct archeological investigations at a historic-era archeological site in the general vicinity of the proposed campus site. Investigations will include intensive surface inspection, mapping and documentation of all archeological resources, and controlled excavations. These excavations will be carried out in a series of shovel probes (50 cm diameter excavations up to 100 cm deep) and test excavation units (1m x 1m or 1m x 2m), estimated to extend between 50 and 100cm deep. A total of not more than 50 shovel probes and 5 excavation units are anticipated. All soils will be screened for archeological components, and artifacts collected for analysis. All soils will be returned to the excavations. All collected materials will be analyzed, and diagnostic items will be cataloged and accessioned into the Yosemite Museum collections. Results of research will be presented in a technical report of findings). The groundwater monitoring wells will be installed in the area with the most advantageous conditions for future construction of a disposal field. The soil pits will be excavated using a rubber tire mounted backhoe with a 24" bucket. The total number and specific location of test pits will be determined in the field based on the results of the initial test pit findings. Test pits will vary in size and the maximum size will be 6' deep x 2' wide x 10' long. Top soil will be segregated and preserved for restoration of each test pit site. Ingress and egress will be limited to specified corridors leading to each of the potential disposal fields. Where possible, tests will be excavated outside of the drip line of the trees. Up to three of the test pits will be utilized for a long term hydraulic capacity test. This will involve backfilling the base of the test pit with washed pea gravel and the placement of a plywood box to provide a reservoir for a constant head of water on the simulated drainfield. This constant head test will be run for a period of 2 to 5 days depending on acceptance rates of the soils. The groundwater monitoring wells will be constructed of 2" diameter PVC and will be installed to a maximum depth of 20' below ground surface.

Drilling will be accomplished using a rubber tire truck mounted hollow-stem auger. One well will be sited to intercept groundwater upgradient of the disposal field and three/four wells will be installed to monitor potential impacts downgradient of the disposal field. Soil boring, well construction and well development will be conducted in accordance with NPS guidelines. If access is restricted due to tree density, alternative methods of excavation will be utilized (hand augers).

1. Attached Sensitive Information**	Yes	No	Explanation/Source/Notes
a. Maps	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
b. Drawings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
c. Site Plans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
d. Photographs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
e. Sample	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
f. List of Materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
g. Other (Explain)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

\*\* 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
<b>1. Has the Area of Potential Effect been surveyed to identify historic properties?</b> If Yes, provide reference for the Survey (s).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	YOSE 1999 HH, 1998Y, 1990 A/C
a. Would the proposed action affect a known historic property?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>2. List all Historic Properties in the Area of Potential Effect:</b>	<b>Affected?</b> Yes	No		<b>Explanation/Notes</b>
a. Archeological site..see attached map	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Project will be coordinated with archeological investigations.
b.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
c.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>3. List resources in the Area of Potential Effect to which American Indians attach cultural and religious significance:</b>	<b>Affected?</b> Yes	No		<b>Explanation/Notes</b>
a. Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Investigations to identify resources currently planned.
b.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
c.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>4. The proposed action will:</b>	Yes	No	N/A	<b>Explanation/Note</b>
• Destroy, remove, or alter features or elements from a historic structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Replace historic features/elements in kind	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Add nonhistoric features/elements to a historic structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (including terrain)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Add nonhistoric features/elements (including visual, audible, or atmospheric) to a historic setting or cultural landscape	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible, or alter associated terrain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible, or alter associated terrain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Begin or contribute to the deterioration of historic fabric, terrain, setting, landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Involve a real property transaction affecting historic cultural properties (i.e., the exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Potentially affect presently unidentified historic resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
• Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**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:**

Ideally the test pits will be combined with an archeological study on the Site (Conduct archeological investigations at a historic-era archeological site in the general vicinity of the proposed campus site. Investigations will include intensive surface inspection, mapping and documentation of all archeological resources, and controlled excavations.

**Checklist prepared by:** Jeannette Simons

**Date:** 04/10/07

**Title:** Historic Preservation Officer

### 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 *Service-wide 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.

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**Archeologist**

Name: **Laura Kirn**

Date: 4/10/07

Comments:

Ground Disturbance Involved      Yes: ☒      No: ☐

Assessment of Effect: **"No Adverse Effect"**

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Archeologist: //Laura Kirn//

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**Cultural Anthropologist**

Name: **Sonny Montague**

Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **<Choose Effect> or write it here >>**

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Cultural Anthropologist: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Curator**

Name: **Jonathan Bayless**

Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **<Choose Effect> or write it here >>**

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Curator: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Historian**

Name: **Charles Palmer**

Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **<Choose Effect> or write it here >>**

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Historian: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Historic Architect**

Name: **Sueann Brown**

Date: 4/11/07

Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **No Adverse Effect**

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Historic Architect: //Sueann Brown//

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**Historical Landscape Architect**

Name: **Dave Humphrey**

Date: 4/11/07

Comments: None

Assessment of Effect: **No Adverse Effect**

Recommended Conditions: None

Signature of Historic Landscape Architect: //David Humphrey//



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**Preservation Specialist**

Name: **Rod Kennec**

Date: 4/11/09

Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **No Effect**

Recommended Conditions: Recommended Conditions

Signature of Preservation Specialist: //RB Kennec//

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**Native American Liaison**

Name: **Jeannette Simons**

Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **<Choose Effect> or write it here >>**

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of Native American Liaison: \_\_\_\_\_

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**<Enter Specialist Title>**

Name:

Date:

Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **<Choose Effect> or write it here >>**

Recommended Conditions:

Signature of <Enter Specialist's Title>: \_\_\_\_\_

**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//  
Chief of Resources Management & Science Division

**Date:** 4-12-07

- 2. 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, as:

<Choose Type of Undertaking>

☐ **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:** <Enter Agreement Information>

☐ **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.

**3. Assessment of Effects: No Adverse Effect**

**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. None

**Recommended by Park Section 106 Coordinator:**

Name: **Jeannette Simons**

Title: **Historic Preservation Officer**

Signature: //Jeannette Simons// Date: 4/17/07

**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: // MJ Tollefson // Date: 6/8/07  
Michael J. Tollefson

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