



*A PDF text file of the project's approved environmental compliance package containing the letter of compliance completion, categorical exclusion form, environmental screening form, and any other associated environmental clearance forms, as applicable (e.g., Wilderness Minimum Requirement Analysis, Wild and Scenic River Section 7 Analysis). The signed originals of the package are on file in the Environmental Planning and Compliance Office at Yosemite National Park.*

## Letter of Compliance Completion

**To:** David Thorpe, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

**From:** Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

**Subject:** NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2022\_067 Broadband at Crane Flat Ranger Office (PEPC: 109311)

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 historic 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.

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

- Ideally, the cable and bracket should approach the color and darkness value of Wosky Brown, or at least be dark in color. Staff has attempted to limit visual impacts by placing the mount and antenna at the far (west) gable end of the building, mounted low so that it is minimally intrudes into the view from the road and lot entrances.
- Please advise staff to follow speed limits and ensure food/garbage are stored in accordance with park regulations to protect wildlife.

**Superintendent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ Cicely Muldoon

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ July 27, 2022

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



## Categorical Exclusion Documentation Form (CE Form)

**Project:** Broadband at Crane Flat Ranger Office

**PEPC Project Number:** 109311

**Description of Action (Project Description):**

The Crane Flat Ranger Office is operating on Hughes Net Satellite for network connectivity, but the throughput is very slow, and the latency is not acceptable. This project is to install a Starlink dish on the West end of the Generator shed located on the Southeast corner of the Tuolumne Grove parking lot. The generator shed is not a historic building. The associated hardware for the service will be located inside the generator shed and connected to the Tuolumne Ranger Office by fiber optic cable in the existing conduit. No digging will be necessary to access the conduit.

The Starlink dish will be mounted to a custom antenna bracket that will be lag bolted to the generator shed beam on the West end of the building. The point of entry data cable will be dressed and secured in place prior to entering the generator shed through an existing air vent grate resulting in no holes drilled in the building. The cable is thin enough to fit through the grate. The equipment will then be connected via fiber optic cable to the Ranger Office where the network equipment will reside providing significant throughput for operational connectivity.

The Starlink dish is approximately 19" in diameter and 12" high from the top of the dish to the mount. The dish will be visible from the parking lot.

Work will be performed by in-house by National Park Service (NPS) Telecommunications Technicians.

Generator shed pictures are attached.

**Mitigation(s):**

- See Letter of Compliance Completion Form for mitigations.

**CE Citation:** 3.3.C.3 Routine maintenance and repairs to non-historic structures, facilities, utilities, grounds, and trails.

**CE Justification:**

**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 Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cicely Muldoon** **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **July 27, 2022**

### Extraordinary Circumstances:

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Explanation
<b>A.</b> Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	The establishment of internet signal at the Crane Flat RO will improve public health and safety by allowing law enforcement officers to perform their duties and communicate via email.
<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	The installation of the ~12" by 12" Starlink dish on a non-historic building will not have a significant impact on any natural resources. The dish may be visible from the historic Crane Flat RO, but the size of the dish is small, and the visual impact is estimated to be minimal.
<b>C.</b> Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	There should be no, if any, environmental effects as a result of the installation of the Starlink dish.
<b>D.</b> Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	There should be no, if any, environmental effects as a result of the installation of the Starlink dish.
<b>E.</b> Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	The installation of this satellite dish does not preclude future actions from full environmental review.
<b>F.</b> Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	This is a standalone project.
<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	The Starlink dish is being installed on a non-historic building. While the dish may be visible from the historic Crane Flat RO, the visual impact of the small (12"x12") dish will be minimal.
<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	The location of this dish is on a maintenance shed in an existing, paved parking lot and should not affect T&E species or their habitat.
<b>I.</b> Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	No.
<b>J.</b> Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	There are no low income or minority populations located at Crane Flat.
<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	The location of this dish is not a sacred site nor would the placement of the dish limit access to anyone seeking to use the Crane Flat parking lot.

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Explanation
<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	There is no possibility that the Starlink dish will be contaminated with exotic or invasive plant seeds.



## ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

Updated Sept 2015 per NPS NEPA Handbook

### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project Title:** Broadband at Crane Flat Ranger Office

**PEPC Project Number:** 109311

**Project Type:** Engineering/Technical Services (ET)

**Project Location: County, State:** Tuolumne, California **District, Section:** Mather

**Project Leader:** David Thorpe

### B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

See Categorical Exclusion form.

### C. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
<b>Air</b> Air Quality	None	None
<b>Biological</b> Nonnative or Exotic Species	None	None
<b>Biological</b> Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat	None	None
<b>Biological</b> Vegetation	None	None
<b>Biological</b> Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species <i>Animals on roadway</i>	Potential	Issue: Project manager has been advised to drive the speed limit to and from the project location.  Impact: Potential for animals to be struck by vehicles on the roadway.
<b>Cultural</b> Archeological Resources	None	None

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Potential for Impact</b>	<b>Potential Issues &amp; Impacts</b>
<b>Cultural</b> Cultural Landscapes	None	None
<b>Cultural</b> Ethnographic Resources	None	None
<b>Cultural</b> Museum Collections	None	None
<b>Cultural</b> Prehistoric/historic structures	None	None
<b>Geological</b> Geologic Features	None	None
<b>Geological</b> Geologic Processes	None	None
<b>Lightscares</b> Lightscares	None	None
<b>Other</b> Human Health and Safety <i>Telecommunications</i>	Potential	Issue: The project seeks to improve network connectivity in the Crane Flat area.  Impact: Staff will have improved safety as they will be able to call for help using cell phones more easily.
<b>Other</b> Operational <i>Telecommunications</i>	Potential	Issue: The project seeks to improve network connectivity in the Crane Flat area.  Impact: Staff will have improved safety as they will be able to call for help using cell phones more easily. Staff will be able to use office computers, which they previously could not do.
<b>Other</b> Other	None	None
<b>Paleontological</b> Paleontological Resources	None	None
<b>Socioeconomic</b> Land Use	None	None
<b>Socioeconomic</b> Minority and low- income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	None
<b>Socioeconomic</b> Socioeconomic	None	None

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Potential for Impact</b>	<b>Potential Issues &amp; Impacts</b>
<b>Soundscapes</b>	None	None
<b>Viewsheds</b> Viewsheds <i>Non-historic structure</i>	Potential	Issue: Starlink dish is visible to the public.  Impact: Starlink dish is visible from the historic Crane Flat Ranger Office and from the parking lot.
<b>Visitor Use and Experience</b> Recreation Resources	None	None
<b>Visitor Use and Experience</b> Visitor Use and Experience	None	None
<b>Water</b> Floodplains	None	None
<b>Water</b> Marine or Estuarine Resources	None	None
<b>Water</b> Water Quality or Quantity	None	None
<b>Water</b> Wetlands	None	None
<b>Water</b> Wild and Scenic River	None	None
<b>Wilderness</b> Wilderness	None	None



## ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES

### A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. **Park:** Yosemite National Park

2. **Project Description:**

**Project Name:** Broadband at Crane Flat Ranger Office

**Prepared by:** Erin Gearty      **Date Prepared:** 05/16/2022      **Telephone:** (209) 379-1317

**PEPC Project Number:** 109311

**Locations: County, State:** Tuolumne, CA      **District, Section:** Mather

**Describe project:**

See Categorical Exclusion form.

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

The Area of Potential Effect includes the Generator Shed and Tuolumne Ranger Office in the Tuolumne Grove parking lot. The APE is bounded on the north by the Tuolumne Grove parking lot, on the east by Tioga Road, and on the south and west by the edge of the paved/hardened surface. The vertical APE extends approximately 12"-18" from the top of the Generator shed.

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

**Source or reference:** 1984 Tioga Road Survey (West); 1975 California State College, Stanislaus  
Surveys: Crane Flat, Hodgdon Meadow, Aspen Valley, Hetch Hetchy

4. **Potentially Affected Resource(s):**

**Archeological Resources Present:** No

**Historical Structures/Resources Present:** Yes

**Historical Structures/Resources Notes:** The Crane Flat Ranger Station is a historic building. This project will bring broadband to this structure; however, it will utilize existing conduit and will not include any exterior alterations to the building. The satellite dish installed on the non-historic Generator shed, however, may be visible from the Ranger Station and the parking lot in between these two buildings.

**Cultural Landscapes Present:** Yes

**Property Name:** Crane Flat Archeological District      **LCS:**

**Ethnographic Resources Present:** No



**Ethnographic Resources Notes:** This project focuses on adding broadband infrastructure to a non-historic building and does not require ground disturbance.

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

Yes/No	The proposed action will...
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
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
No	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)
No	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:** Hope Schear

**Date:** 07/11/2022

**Comments:** Compliance completed under YOSE PA streamlined category 8, no HLA required. No comments, concerns, or objections received from tribal partners within 30-day review period.

*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    \_\_\_Streamlined Review

**Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:**

**Doc Method:** Park Specific or Other Programmatic Agreement

**[ X ] Anthropologist**

**Name:** Hope Schear

**Date:** 07/08/2022

**Comments:** Traditionally associated tribes consulted on through June 2022 Tribal Project Spreadsheet. No comments, concerns, or objections received within 30-day review period.

***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:** Park Specific or Other Programmatic Agreement

[ X ] **Archeologist**

**Name:** Erin Gearty

**Date:** 05/16/2022

**Comments:** This project falls within the boundaries of the Crane Flat Archeological District. The project, however, will not take place within the boundaries of any archeological sites. Further, this project does not require ground disturbance. It will therefore not have any impacts to archeological resources.

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

**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:** Park Specific or Other Programmatic Agreement

[ X ] **Historical Architect**

**Name:** Donald Faxon

**Date:** 07/09/2022

**Comments:** The generator shed proposed as the location for the Starlink satellite dish is not historic, but is within the viewshed of Tioga Road as well as a historic site at the north end of the parking lot that contains an unusual late (c.1941) Park Rustic cross gabled duplex cabin, backed by what appears to be an earlier Rustic parking garage. Further, the historic Tuolumne Grove Road is accessed here.

Staff has attempted to limit visual impacts by placing the mount and antenna at the far (west) gable end of the building, mounted low so that it is minimally intrudes into the view from the road and lot entrances.

***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:** Ideally, the cable and bracket should approach the color and darkness value of Wosky Brown, or at least be dark in color.

**Doc Method:** Park Specific or Other Programmatic Agreement

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

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

### 1. Assessment of Effect:

Select with X	Assessment of Effect
Not selected	No Potential to Cause Effects
Not selected	No Historic Properties Affected
X	No Adverse Effect
Not selected	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.)

☒ **C. Undertaking Related to Park Specific or Another Agreement**

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under another document such as a park, region or statewide agreement established in accord with 36 CFR 800.7 or 36 CFR 800.14. This project falls within the scope of the 2020 Yosemite Parkwide Programmatic Agreement Category 8: Maintenance or Replacement of Non-Historic Utility Lines, Transmission Lines, and Fences.

☐ **D. Combined NEPA/NHPA Process**

Process and documentation required for the preparation of an EA/FONSI or an EIS/ROD to comply with Section 106 is in accord with 36 CFR 800.8.c.

☐ **E. Memo to Project File**

### 3. Consultation Information

**SHPO Required:** No

**SHPO Sent:**

**SHPO Received:**

**THPO Required:** Yes

**THPO Sent:** 6/1/22

**THPO Received:** 7/1/22

**SHPO/THPO Notes:** No comments received to date.

**Advisory Council Participating:** No

**Advisory Council Notes:**

**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.)

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

- Ideally, the cable and bracket should approach the color and darkness value of Wosky Brown, or at least be dark in color. Staff has attempted to limit visual impacts by placing the mount and antenna at the far (west) gable end of the building, mounted low so that it is minimally intrudes into the view from the road and lot entrances.

**6. Assessment of Effect Notes:**

This project falls within the scope of the 2020 Yosemite Parkwide Programmatic Agreement Category 8: Maintenance or Replacement of Non-Historic Utility Lines, Transmission Lines, and Fences.

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

**Section 106 Coordinator** Hope Schear **Date:** July 21, 2022  
**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**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 Signature:** Cicely Muldoon **Date:** July 27, 2022  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Other Compliance/Consultations Form

**Park Name:** Yosemite National Park

**PEPC Project Number:** 109311

**Project Title:** Broadband at Crane Flat Ranger Office

**Project Type:** Engineering/Technical Service

**Project Location:**

**County, State:** Tuolumne, CA District, Section: Mather,

**Project Leader:** David Thorpe

### ESA

**Any Federal Species in the project Area?** No

**If species in area:** No Effect

**Was Biological Assessment prepared?** No

**If Biological Assessment prepared, concurred?**

**Formal Consultation required?** No

**Formal Consultation Notes:**

The project area is outside of the known contemporary range of the Yosemite Toad, Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog, and Yosemite toad in Yosemite National Park and is anticipated to have "no effect" on these species.

Please advise staff to follow speed limits and ensure food/garbage are stored in accordance with park regulations to protect wildlife.

**Formal Consultation Concluded:**

**Any State listed Species in the Project Area?**

**Consultation Information:**

**General Notes:**

### ESA Mitigations

See Letter of Compliance Complete.

### Floodplains/Wetlands/404 Permits

Question	Yes/No	Details
A.1. Is project in 100- or 500-year floodplain or flash flood hazard area?	No	Not in floodplain or flash flood hazard area.
A.2. Is Project in wetlands as defined by NPS/DOI?	No	Not in wetland as defined by NPS/DOI.
B. COE Section 404 permit needed?	No	No placement of fill in waters of the United States.

Question	Yes/No	Details
C. State 401 certification?	No	None
D. State Section 401 Permit?	No	Issue Date: Expiration Date:
E. Tribal Water Quality Permit?	No	None
F. CZM Consistency determination needed?	No	Date Review Requested: Date Reply Received: Date State Concurred:
G. Erosion & Sediment Control Plan Required?	No	None
H. Any other permits required?	No	Permit Information:
Other Information:	No	None

### Floodplains & Wetlands Mitigations

*No Floodplains & Wetlands mitigations are associated with this project.*

### Wilderness

Question	Yes/No	Details
A. Does this project occur in or adjacent to Designated, Recommended, Proposed, Study, Eligible, or Potential Wilderness?	No	None
B. Is the only place to conduct this project in wilderness?	No	None
C. Is the project necessary for the administration of the area as wilderness?	Yes	None
D. Would the project or any of its alternatives adversely affect (directly or indirectly) Designated, Recommended, Proposed, Study, Eligible, or Potential Wilderness? (If Yes, Minimum Requirements Analysis required)	No	None
E. Does the project or any of its alternatives involve the use of any of the Wilderness Act Section 4(c) prohibited uses: commercial enterprise, permanent road, temporary road, motor vehicles, motorized equipment, motorboats, landing of aircraft, mechanical transport, structure, or installation? (If Yes, Minimum Requirements Analysis required)	No	None
If the answer to D or E above is "Yes" then a Minimum Requirements Analysis is required. Describe the status of this analysis in the column to the right.	N/A	Initiation Date: Completed Date: Approved Date:
Other Information: This project takes place in an established, paved parking lot.	Yes	See question column

Data Entered By: Meredith Dennis

Date: Jul 20, 2022

**Other Permits/Laws**    *Questions A & B are no longer used.*

Question	Yes/No
C. Wild and scenic river concerns exist?	No
D. National Trails concerns exist?	No
E. Air Quality consult with State needed?	No
F. Consistent with Architectural Barriers, Rehabilitation, and Americans with Disabilities Acts or not Applicable? (If N/A check Yes)	Yes
G. Other:	No

**Other Information:**

**Data Entered By:** Meredith Dennis

**Date:** Jul 20, 2022