Letter of Compliance Completion

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.

To: Michael Luecker, Project Manager, Denver Service Center

From: Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: (2022_177_SPPM) El Portal Administrative Camp (PEPC: 110960)

The Superintendent and Interdisciplinary team have reviewed the scope of work and supporting documentation provided in the Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) system, and all applicable associated compliance documentation and consultation (e.g. National Environmental Policy Act, National Historic Preservation Act, Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, Wilderness Act, Tribal consultation under EO13175, and other related laws and policies).

The subject proposed project/action(s), therefore, is/are now cleared for all compliance requirements. Project plans and specifications are approved, project funds may be released, and construction and/or project implementation can commence with the following mitigations and conditions/stipulations.

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:

Cultural Resources Mitigations

- CULTURAL RESOURCE EDUCATION: All workers will receive cultural resource education information either in-person with a subject specialist, or with an informational brochure or video. This includes the criminal penalties (Archeological Resources and Protection Act) for illegally collecting artifacts or intentionally damaging any cultural/natural resources. Information also includes types of archeological materials that are likely present in the specific project area, how to identify archeological materials, and the procedures in the event that archeological materials are encountered during restoration/construction activities. New workers will receive or schedule resource education training within two weeks of onboarding.
- Archeological monitoring is required for the duration of construction.
- Tribal monitoring by the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation is required for the duration of construction. The project manager will coordinate with the Park's American Indian Liaison well ahead of construction to coordinate and schedule the monitoring effort.

Vegetation Mitigations

- Measures shall be taken to prevent the introduction of exotic species in the project area and staging areas. All earth moving equipment must enter the Park free of dirt, dust, mud, seeds, or other potential contaminant. Examples of equipment that require inspection are excavators, skid steers, or boring equipment. Passenger vehicles do not need inspection but should be clean prior to entry in the park. Equipment exhibiting any dirt or other material attached to frame, tires, wheels, or other parts shall be thoroughly cleaned by the Contractor before entering the Park. Areas inspected shall include, but not be limited to, tracks, track guard/housings, belly pans/under covers, buckets, rippers, and other attachments. Equipment that does not pass inspection will be turned around to the nearest cleaning facility outside the park. The Contractor shall notify the Construction manager at least two work days (not including weekends) prior to bringing any equipment into the Park. Equipment found to have entered the Park with potential contaminants will be removed from the Park at the direction of the Contracting Officer at Contractor's sole expense.
    - 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, Section1335.
    - *Comment*: Please contact NPS Vegetation staff to arrange for equipment inspections at least two workdays prior to bringing equipment into the Park. For equipment entering the Park through the South Entrance, contact Guy Hernandez (guy_hernandez@nps.gov). For equipment entering the Park through any other entrance, contact David Campbell (david_m_campbell@nps.gov).
- Areas of disturbed soil requiring revegetation must use site-specific native materials and seed approved by the park biologist. Project leader shall consult with the Vegetation Branch early in project conception to plan for revegetation design, seed collection, plant and seed production in advance of construction, planting, and post-planting care after construction. No commercial seed or plants may be used without approval by park vegetation botanist.
- Disturbance in wetlands must be avoided in all phases of the project. NPS vegetation staff shall be promptly notified of any intrusions into wetlands.
    - *Comment*: Please contact Vegetation Branch Lead Athena Demetry (athena_demetry@nps.gov) if needed.
- Source of imported project materials, such as fill, gravel, aggregate, or erosion control materials must be approved by Park Vegetation staff. If use of in-Park material is possible, coordinate with Vegetation staff on source locations.
    - *Comment*: Please coordinate with Invasive Plant Manager David Campbell (david_m_campbell@nps.gov) when using out-of-Park sources. Sources may require vegetation staff site visits to inspect for invasive species prior to use in Park.
- During project planning and design, consult with Vegetation staff to survey project area, including buffer zone and staging areas, for special status plant species. Avoid during design, and flag for construction avoidance. If disturbance can't be avoided, consult with Vegetation staff on mitigation measures.
    - *Comment*: Please coordinate with Plant Ecologist Melissa Booher (melissa_booher@nps.gov) to arrange for surveys one year prior to project implementation.

Wildlife Mitigations

- Compliance with food-storage and garbage disposal requirements must be achieved at all times.
- AQUATIC SPECIES PROTECTIONS:
    - Work would be timed to avoid sensitive periods where Northwestern pond turtles utilize upland habitats for estivation and overwintering. Work should be implemented preferentially between May and August to avoid potential impacts to land-dwelling turtles.
    - Demolition and side cast materials will be contained immediately in dumpsters, plastic garbage cans, or bags, they will not be stored in piles or on the ground to reduce the likelihood that wildlife may take shelter in these materials.
    - Disturbance and access corridors, will be scraped to mineral soil before heavy equipment or ground disturbance occurs (rake duff layer off and cast outside disturbance area) to ensure turtles are not taking refuge under pine cast and leaf litter/duff.
    - Pits, holes, and trenches will be backfilled the same day they are excavated.
    - Workers will be reminded to follow all posted speed limits while driving in the park to protect wildlife from vehicle strikes. Workers will follow a 5mph speed limit on site and will maintain vigilance for turtles that may be crossing in front of equipment/vehicles.
    - If a suspected Foothill yellow-legged frog or Northwestern pond turtle is observed, or eggs are found, in or near the work area, work would immediately cease and the Park Aquatic Ecologist contacted (Rob_Grasso@nps.gov, 209-379-1438). Work can resume with the permission of the Aquatic Ecologist after potential impacts have been resolved (which may require consultation with USFWS).
- If project work involves vegetation modification and occurs during the songbird breeding season (May 1 - July 31), reach out to terrestrial wildlife, heather_mackey@nps.gov to coordinate a survey for nesting migratory birds before removal or trimming. Once surveyed the project has 1 week to perform project work, if work is not completed within 1 week, trees must be resurveyed. If an active nest is discovered, project work may not occur within a 100-foot radius buffer of the nest until nestlings fledge.

General Mitigations

- Only project actions described in Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) 110960 are approved for implementation. Modifications to plans or additional actions require additional review and approval from the Yosemite National Park Environmental Planning and Compliance Office.
- The project includes more than one acre of ground disturbance; therefore, according to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit, Order No. 2012-0006-DWQ, as amended, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) must be prepared, or exemption from SWPPP coverage must be demonstrated, before work begins on site. The project manager is responsible for SWPPP preparation and implementation, or for demonstrating that the project is exempt from SWPPP coverage.
- Dust control through watering or other approved method will be performed by construction crews during ground disturbing or demolition work to minimize air quality impacts.

Superintendent Signature: Cicely Muldoon **Date**: October 9, 2024

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: El Portal Administrative Camp
PEPC Project Number: 110960
Description of Action (Project Description):

This project was selected for implementation in the 2014 Record of Decision for the Merced River Plan/EIS (MRP) (PEPC 18982). This project shall adhere to mitigation and stipulations in the Final EIS/Record of Decision and the MRP programmatic agreement. This project was categorized as a Category 3 project in the MRP programmatic agreement.

This project will rehabilitate the El Portal Trailer Court for use as Recreational Vehicle (RV) camping. Infrastructure and utility systems will be rehabilitated or replaced in support of the RV Camping. The alignment and site design of the campground will also be updated to improve natural and cultural resource protection, while implementing current best practices for RV-based campground design and site layout. The MRP also recommends the restoration of a riparian buffer within 150-feet of the ordinary highwater mark. The project shall include the removal of development, asphalt and imported fill within the riparian buffer area, as well as recontouring as necessary and planting native riparian species.

The project scope originally included up to 40 RV camping sites. The scope has been reduced to include up to 30 RV camping sites for administrative use within the Trailer Court and Abbieville area.

Design elements include:

- Rehab/replace/install utilities along the southern utility corridor using the exiting southern sewer line (location and depth) to the extent possible and provide utility hookups to RV sites
- Base designs around the existing alignment of the wastewater system to the extent possible (wastewater is the least flexible of the utility systems to relocated to maintain gravity feed and minimize new subsurface disturbance).
- Minimize disturbance to topography and vegetation to the exent possible
- Use areas previously disturbed with hardened surfaces to the extent possible
- Honor the 150 ft riparian buffer zone
- Avoid rock outcroppings
- Install wastewater back up system and new pumps in the sewer lift station
- The Administrative Camp is used for admin/contractor use only and not the public
- For vehicle circulation and access, retain the existing asphalt on the G Loop and the Laundry Building spur, add an "H" Loop turnaround
- Access to RV pads will be back in and include two parking spaces (parking spaces may be offset from the RV pad depending on space available)
- Bear boxes will be located on the tow vehicle passenger side
- If possible, final design will include additional parking for single vehicles (extra vehicle/visitors) where possible
- No fire pits at common areas or individual RC sites

- Sites will be clustered to create a community feel as possible
- RV pads will be 25 to 40 feet in length, with the goal of as long as possible while avoiding resources, placement under major branches, large boulders, and more than minor cut/fill, and maximizing the number of RV sites that can fit.
- Undergrounding of electrical, utilizing existing power poles to start undergrounding outside of sensitive resource areas.
- New asphalt vehicle parking areas and repaving the southern road
- Picnic tables
- Rehabilitating the gravel emergency egress road through Abbieville, keeping it a gravel road
- Hazardous fuel reduction
- Demolition of pavement outside of RV area

Mitigation(s): See Letter of Compliance Completion Form

CE Citation: 3.3.B.1 Changes or amendments to an approved plan, when such changes would cause no or only minimal environmental impact.

CE Justification:

The project is Action FAC-4-002, and RES-4-008 in the Merced River Plan (MRP) EIS - 2014. Restoration within 150 feet of the Merced River riverbank was common to all alternatives. Development of RV campsites was described in Alternative 5, the preferred and chosen alternative. This project is a Category 3 project in the MRP PA and required SHPO and Tribal Consultation. Actions are generally covered by the 2014 Record of Decision for the Merced River Plan/EIS (MRP, PEPC 18982). This action, however, was described in the MRP, but not fully developed with in-depth project descriptions and associated maps. The specifics of this project that were not covered by MRP are addressed in this CE, Mitigations, and Natural/Cultural Compliance sections.

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**: October 9, 2024

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

Extraordinary Circumstances:

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Explanation
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	This project will improve contractor and employee health and safety by removing the remaining Trailer infrastructure that contains hazardous materials and restoring the project area within 150 feet of the Merced River.
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	An interdisciplinary team of subject matter experts analyzed the potential impacts of the project on natural and cultural resources and determined no significant impacts would result. Archeological investigations were undertaken to identify and avoid sensitive and/or intact archeological resources during project design. Further, removing infrastructure within 150 feet of the Merced River, improves the condition of the river's ORVs as well as terrestrial habitats for aquatic species.
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	This project was identified as an action in the preferred and selected alternative in the MRP. An interdisciplinary team reviewed the details of this project and the park has conducted ongoing notification and consultation with traditionally affiliated tribes regarding an inadvertent discovery during archeological investigations. There are no unresolved conflicts.
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	This project has predictable, positive outcomes for the Merced River ORVs and aquatic wildlife species. Archeological investigation and a Determination of Eligibility for the El Portal Trailer Court Village and Abbieville informed project design to avoid significant impacts to eligible historic properties. A wetland delineation was conducted to avoid impacts to wetlands. The Merced River Plan Floodplain Statement of Finding describes the rationale for continued use of the floodplain and mitigation measures developed to minimize harm to floodplain values or risks to life and property. All of these elements indicate that environmental effects will not be significant, unique, or unknown.
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	This project was proposed in the Merced River Plan and EIS (2014). Its implementation is not precedent setting and will not have a bearing on future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Explanation
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	This project was proposed in the Merced River Plan and EIS (2014). No cumulatively significant environmental effects were identified. Additionally, no cumulative impacts of this project in relation to other current and known future park projects were identified.
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	The archeological site within the project area is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and contributes to the El Portal Archeological District. Archeological investigations within this site were conducted to identify sensitive and/or intact archeological features. This information was used during project design to avoid adverse impacts to this site. Archeological and tribal monitoring will occur during ground disturbing activities to ensure no adverse effect to this site. The historic structures and features in the El Portal Trailer Court Village and Abbieville were found to be ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Eligible historic structures will therefore not be impacted during this project. Even though ineligible, historic-era structures/features, such as the Laundry Building and streetlamps, will be protected during the project.
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	The proposed re-development of the area as an administrative camp may pose short-term impacts to the Northwestern pond turtle (NWPT) population (proposed for listing as a threatened species), but long term it concentrates human use of the area away from the river and improves the habitat overall for NWPT. Due to the low potential for individual impacts to NWPT that may be traveling through the work area, estivating in/nearby, and nesting in/near the work area, the project has been determined to "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" the NWPT and if the species gets listed on the List of Threatened Species during the course of project work, the park would need to seek USFWS consultation and concurrence with this determination.
I. Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	A thorough review of federal, state, local or tribal laws or requirements determined that this project is not in violation.

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Explanation
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	This project will develop RV spaces for administrative camping. The project has no bearing on surrounding low income or minority populations.
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	The project area includes tribal cultural resources, including an archeological site and traditional use plants. Tribal members will not be restricted from accessing this area. Additionally, this project reduces the footprint of infrastructure within the El Portal Trailer Court Village area and concentrates administrative camping along the southern end of the Trailer Court Village/Abbieville areas.
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	Implementation of mitigation measures will prevent the introduction or spread of noxious, non-native species.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

Updated Sept 2015 per NPS NEPA Handbook

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: El Portal Administrative Camp

PEPC Project Number: 110960

PMIS Number:

Project Type: Repair/Rehabilitation (REHAB)

Project Location:

County, State: Mariposa, California **District, Section:** El Portal,

Project Leader: Michael Luecker

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

See Categorical Exclusion Form.

C. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Air Air Quality	Potential	Issue: Construction may cause dust during ground disturbing activities. Impact: Dust control measures will minimize air quality impacts.
Biological Nonnative or Exotic Species	Potential	Issue: Heavy equipment may act as vectors that could introduce non-native plants. Impact: Follow resource protections outlined with regard to heavy equipment cleaning and inspection.

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Biological Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat *Northwestern pond turtle*	Potential	Issue: Northwestern pond turtle may occur in the project area. Impact: The population is thought to be a low-density and the number of individuals potentially impacted by the work is anticipated to be very few. Although the general area is considered suitable terrestrial habitat, the project pulls back the existing envelope of development and restores terrestrial habitats closest to the rivers – improving their condition. The proposed re-development of the area as an administrative camp may pose short-term impacts to the turtle population, but long term it concentrates human use of the area away from the river and improves the habitat overall for NWPT. Due to the low potential for individual impacts to NWPT that may be traveling through the work area, estivating in/nearby, and nesting in/near the work area, the project has been determined to "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" the NWPT and if the species was listed the park would need to seek USFWS consultation and concurrence with this determination before the project work commences.
Biological Vegetation	Potential	Issue: Special status plant species may be present within the project area. Impact: Coordination with park Vegetation staff will ensure special status plants are protected.
Biological Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species	Potential	Issue: Vegetation modification during bird nesting season could impact nesting birds in the project area. Impact: Nests could be impacted if vegetation modification timing does not avoid nesting season or if nest surveys are not conducted.
Biological Wildlife and/or Wildlife Habitat including terrestrial and aquatic species	Potential	Issue: Work and contractor housing in this area could attract wildlife, such as bears. Impact: Wildlife could damage property and become accustomed to the project area if food and scented objects are not properly stored.
Cultural Archeological Resources	Potential	Issue: Project activities occur within the boundaries of an archeological site. Impact: Undocumented intact, subsurface archeological deposits could be encountered and disturbed, as could human remains.
Cultural Cultural Landscapes	None	None

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Cultural Ethnographic Resources	Potential	Issue: Tribal cultural resources, such as archeological resources and traditional use plants, are located within the project area. Impact: Undocumented intact, subsurface archeological deposits could be encountered and disturbed, as could human remains. Additionally, traditional use plants could be damaged or removed during the course of this project.
Cultural Museum Collections	None	None
Cultural Prehistoric/historic structures	None	Issue: The historic structures and features in the El Portal Trailer Court Village and Abbieville were found to be ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Eligible historic structures will therefore not be impacted during this project. Even though ineligible, historic-era structures/features, such as the Laundry Building and streetlamps, will be protected during the project.
Cultural Prehistoric/historic structures	Potential	Issue: Historic-era rock walls and landscaping features from the Hennessey Ranch are located within the project area. Impact: These historic walls could be disturbed or damaged during construction.
Geological Geologic Features	None	None
Geological Geologic Processes	None	None
Lightscapes Lightscapes	Potential	Issue: Lighting will be added to select areas, such as the entrance gate, for this project. Impact: New lighting will be limited and will follow the Yosemite night lighting guidelines.
Other Greenhouse Gas Emissions	None	None
Other Human Health and Safety	Potential	Issue: Hazardous materials have been identified within the remaining trailers at the El Portal Trailer Court Village. Impact: Contractor staff could be exposed to health hazards if hazardous materials are not disposed of properly.
Other Operational	None	None

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Other Other	None	None
Paleontological Paleontological Resources	None	None
Socioeconomic Land Use	Potential	Issue: In Abbieville, work will occur around partner housing. Impact: The utilities and emergency egress for the partner housing will be improved by this project. However, this work will cause limited and temporary disturbance (noise, potentially utility service) during construction.
Socioeconomic Minority and low-income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	None
Socioeconomic	None	None
Soundscapes	Potential	Issue: This project will cause noise disturbances during construction. Impact: Noise disturbances will be limited and temporary.
Viewsheds	Potential	Issue: This project will result in the presence of RVs within the El Portal Historic and Archeological districts. Impact: An administrative camp within the El Portal Trailer Court Village and Abbieville areas do not significantly change the appearance and nature of these areas as housing locations during the historic and modern eras.
Visitor Use and Experience Recreation Resources	None	None
Visitor Use and Experience Visitor Use and Experience	None	None
Water Floodplains	Potential	Issue: This project occurs within the Merced River floodplain. Impact: This project has been assessed in the Merced River Plan Floodplain Statement of Finding.

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Water Marine or Estuarine Resources	None	None
Water Water Quality or Quantity	None	None
Water Wetlands	Potential	Issue: Wetlands have been documented in the southern project area. Impact: Wetland vegetation and soils could be impacted if not avoided during construction.
Water Wild and Scenic River	Potential	Issue: This project removes infrastructure within 150 feet of the Merced River bank. Impact: This project was analyzed in the Merced River Plan. Removal of infrastructure within 150 feet of the riverbank will improve the condition of river ORVs.
Wilderness Wilderness	None	None

D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:

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 the Assessment of Actions Having an Effect on Historic Properties (see project decision file).

Section 106 Coordinator Signature: Hope Schear **Date**: September 27, 2024

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL

Superintendent Signature: Cicely Muldoon **Date**: October 9, 2024

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

Other Compliance/Consultations Form

Park Name: Yosemite National Park
PEPC Project Number: 110960
Project Title: El Portal Administrative Camp
Project Type: Repair/Rehabilitation
Project Location:
County, State: Mariposa, CA District, Section: El Portal,
Project Leader: Michael Luecker

ESA

Any Federal Species in the project Area? No
If species in area: Not Likely to Adversely Affect
Was Biological Assessment prepared?
If Biological Assessment prepared, concurred?
Formal Consultation required? No
Formal Consultation Notes:
This project is anticipated to have no effect to terrestrial listed species based on the nature and extent of the work.

Proposed actions would take place outside of the range of the Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog (listed, endangered), Yosemite Toad (listed, threatened), and California red-legged frog (listed, threatened). Proposed actions are located outside of suitable habitat for the South Sierra DPS of Foothill yellow-legged frog (listed, endangered), which are closely tied to aquatic habitat, and the species is thought to be extirpated in the vicinity. The Foothill yellow-legged frog is known to be extirpated in the park and recent surveys using visual and eDNA methods failed to detect the species in the Merced River or its tributaries in the project vicinity. For these reasons, the project is anticipated to have no effect to the aforementioned species. The project is located outside of Designated Critical Habitat for listed aquatic species.

The proposed actions fall within suitable terrestrial habitat for the Northwestern pond turtle (NWPT; proposed for listing), adjacent to the Merced River (which is occupied by the species) and have the potential to be occupied by the turtle. The NWPT population in the area is thought to be a low-density and the number of individuals potentially impacted by the work is anticipated to be very few. Although the general area is considered suitable terrestrial habitat, the project pulls back the existing envelope of development and restores terrestrial habitats closest to the rivers - improving their condition. The proposed re-development of the area as an administrative camp may pose short-term impacts to the turtle population, but long term it concentrates human use of the area away from the river and improves the habitat overall for NWPT. Due to the low potential for individual impacts to NWPT that may be traveling through the work area, estivating in/nearby, and nesting in/near the work area, the project has been determined to "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" the NWPT and if the species was listed the park would need to seek USFWS consultation and concurrence with this determination before the project work commences.

Formal Consultation Concluded:
Any State listed Species in the Project Area? No
Consultation Information:
General Notes:

Data Entered By: Ninette Daniele **Date:** Jul 11, 2024

ESA Mitigations: See Letter of Compliance Completion Form.

Floodplains/Wetlands/§404 Permits

Question	Yes/No	Details
A.1. Is project in 100- or 500-year floodplain or flash flood hazard area?	Yes	**Statement of Findings approval date:** Mar 31, 2014
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.
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?	N/A	N/A
G. Erosion & Sediment Control Plan Required?	Yes	None
H. Any other permits required?	No	**Permit Information:**
Other Information:	Yes	This project is covered under the Floodplain Statement of Findings in the 2014 Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan (MRP). With respect to natural resource values, continued presence of the facilities within the floodplain will interfere with flood flows and floodplain hydrology during major flood events, but will not cause major disruptions or constrictions of natural flood flows. The MRP also included a Wetland Statement of Finding, but that document did not include this project area. There are documented wetlands in the Trailer Court/Abbieville area. This project has been designed to protect the wetlands and the area of disturbance completely avoids wetland areas.

Data Entered By: Erin Gearty **Date:** Aug 23, 2024

Floodplains & Wetlands Mitigations: See Letter of Compliance Completion Form

Notes: Disturbance in wetlands must be avoided in all phases of the project. NPS vegetation staff shall be promptly notified of any intrusions into wetlands.

Wilderness

Question	Yes/No
A. Does this project occur in or adjacent to Designated, Recommended, Proposed, Study, Eligible, or Potential Wilderness?	No
B. Is the only place to conduct this project in wilderness?	No
C. Is the project necessary for the administration of the area as wilderness?	No
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
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
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
Other Information:	None

Data Entered By: Erin Gearty **Date:** Aug 23, 2024

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

Question	Yes/No
C. Wild and scenic river concerns exist?	Yes
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:

This project will enhance the Merced Wild and Scenic River by removing infrastructure within 150 feet of the riverbank, as described in the Merced River Plan. This project includes 3 accessible RV spots.

Accessibility review was completed during the quality assurance review completed by the Denver Service Center review team.

Data Entered By: Erin Gearty **Date:** Aug 23, 2024