



IN REPLY REFER TO:
L7615(YOSE-PM)

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

Memorandum

To: Charles Cuvelier, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Acting Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2009-100 Hetch Hetchy Alarm Transmission Installation (27453)

The Management Team has reviewed the proposed project/action and completed its environmental assessment documentation, and we have determined that there:

- Will not be any effect on threatened, endangered, or rare species and/or their critical habitat.
- Will not be any effect on historical, cultural, or archeological resources.
- Will not be serious or long-term undesirable environmental or visual effects.

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

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

- Ensure that the color of the transmission boxes blend in with the surrounding area.

//Dennis Schramm// (acting)
David V. Uberuaga

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File

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



Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: 2009-100 Hetch Hetchy Alarm Transmission Installation

PEPC ID: 27453

Project Description:

The project has been identified as necessary to improve the security at the O'Shaughnessy Dam and Hetch Hetchy area. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), the Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office (TCSO), and the National Park Service (NPS) have developed a buffer-zone protection plan to address the issue. The plan identifies the need for interoperable voice communications, broadband data capability, and reliable/redundant alarm monitoring to improve communication services and emergency response capability.

This project includes installation of a transformer and a broadband hop. The broadband hop includes a Motorola point-to-point Ethernet bridge and a fiber optic cable. One point-to-point transmitter will be placed on telephone pole 98 with fiber optic cable strung to the second transmitter placed on telephone pole 96. The two transmitters will interface with one another to create a broadband connection that will enable data transmission from Early Intake to the O'Shaughnessy site. This system will provide the ability to send digital data and use Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) to support alarm monitoring. The availability of digital data enables Moccasin to monitor the site, retrieve visual imagery, and share intelligence with cooperating agencies. Similarly, the implementation of VoIP alarm monitoring would create reliability during natural or man-made disasters and allow shared monitoring through the Yosemite Emergency Communications Center. These improvements will also provide for interoperable communications among the agencies (SFPUC/TCSO/NPS) that share responsibility for emergency response operations and mutual aid to the Hetch Hetchy facilities. Rapid response and quality information-sharing capabilities will improve emergency-responder safety and facilitate appropriate emergency response.

The installation of the transmitter at telephone pole 98 will be replacement in-kind of an obsolete telephone patch-box and antenna with current technology. Telephone pole 96 will mirror telephone pole 98 with the same Ethernet bridge. Installing a new transformer on telephone pole 96 is necessary to provide power to the point-to-point transmitters.

The site is a SFPUC continuous-use utility corridor providing power and telephone service as authorized in the Raker Act. The Wilderness Office has been consulted regarding proposed wilderness areas. The corridor is not excluded from designated Wilderness; but it is recognized as an administrative error to the designated Wilderness boundary. The proposed action is consistent with maintaining telephone utilities to the O'Shaughnessy site. Furthermore, the Wilderness Act of 1964 provides a public safety exception. The placement of telecommunications equipment will provide reliable communications within the area and to the dispatch centers. The manufacturer will install the equipment with on-site support from the Yosemite Telecommunications shop.

Project Locations:

Tuolumne County, CA
District: 19
GIS Point: 0251211 4198616

Mitigations:

- Ensure that the color of the transmission boxes blend in with the surrounding area.

Describe the category used to exclude action from further NEPA analysis and indicate the number of the category (see Section 3-4 of DO-12):

C.12 Upgrading or adding new overhead utility facilities to existing poles, or replacement poles which do not change existing pole line configurations.

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 (e.g., all boxes in the ESF are marked "no") or conditions in Section 3-6 apply, and the action is fully described in Section 3-4 of DO-12.

Park Acting Superintendent //Dennis Schramm// (acting)

Date 11-30-09

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Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in
Yosemite National Park.*



ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

DO-12 APPENDIX 1

Date Form Initiated: **11/03/2009**

Updated May 2007 - per 2004 DM revisions and proposed DO-12 changes

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite NP
Project Title: 2009-100 Hetch Hetchy Alarm Transmission Installation
PEPC Project Number: 27453
Project Type: Facility Maintenance (FM)
Project Location: County, State: Tuolumne, California District: Hetch Hetchy
Project Leader: Charles Cuvelier

Preliminary drawings attached? Yes

Is project a hot topic (controversial or sensitive issues that should be brought to attention of Regional Director)? No

B. RESOURCE EFFECTS TO CONSIDER:

Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Geologic resources – soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc.	No				
2. From geohazards	No				
3. Air quality	No				
4. Soundscapes	No				
5. Water quality or quantity	No				
6. Streamflow characteristics	No				
7. Marine or estuarine resources	No				
8. Floodplains or wetlands	No				
9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use	No				
10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian,	No				

Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
alpine					
11. Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat	No				
12. Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites	No				Yosemite National Park is a World Heritage site; no historic properties would be adversely affected by implementing this project.
13. Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat	No				
14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat	No				
15. Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)	No				
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	No				
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources	No				
18. Archeological resources	No				
19. Prehistoric/historic structure	No				
20. Cultural landscapes	No				
21. Ethnographic resources		Negligible			American Indian Traditional Cultural Property.
22. Museum collections (objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections)	No				
23. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	No				
24. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	No				
25. Energy resources	No				
26. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	No				
27. Resource, including energy, conservation potential,	No				

Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
sustainability					
28. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	No				
29. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	No				This project will improve the security of the alarm transmission system for the National Park Service, City of San Francisco, and Tuolumne County Sheriffs Office.
30. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	No				

C. MANDATORY CRITERIA

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?		N		
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?		N		
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?		N		
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		N		
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		N		
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		N		

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
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?		N		
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?		N		
I. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		N		
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		N		
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		N		
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)?		N		

For the purpose of interpreting these procedures within the NPS, any action that has the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values would constitute an action that triggers the DOI exception for actions that threaten to violate a federal law for protection of the environment.

D. OTHER INFORMATION

Are personnel preparing this form familiar with the site? Yes

Did personnel conduct a site visit? No

Is the project in an approved plan such as a General Management Plan or an Implementation Plan with an accompanying NEPA document? No

Are there any interested or affected agencies or parties? No

Has consultation with all affected agencies or tribes been completed? No

Are there any connected, cumulative, or similar actions as part of the proposed action? (e.g., other development projects in area or identified in GMP, adequate/available utilities to accomplish project)? No

E. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES

<u>Interdisciplinary Team</u>	<u>Field of Expertise</u>
David V. Uberuaga	Acting Superintendent
Jim Hammett	Acting Deputy Superintendent
Kristina Rylands	Acting Chief of Planning
Mark Butler	Chief of Project Management
Katariina Tuovinen	Chief of Administration Management
Dennis Mattiuzzi	Chief of Facilities Management
Niki Nicholas	Chief of Resources Management & Science
Marty Nielson	Chief of Business and Revenue Management
Tom Medema	Acting Chief of Interpretation and Education
Steve Shackelton	Chief Ranger
Charles Cuvelier	Project Leader
Elexis Mayer	Environmental Planning and Compliance Program Manager
Jeannette Simons	NHPA Specialist
Renea Kenec	NEPA Specialist

F. SUPERVISORY SIGNATORY

Based on the environmental impact information contained in the statutory compliance file and in this environmental screening form, environmental documentation for this stage of the subject project is complete.

Recommended:

Compliance Specialists	Date
<u>//Renea Kenec//</u> Compliance Specialist – Renea Kenec	<u>11/5/09</u>
<u>//Elexis Mayer//</u> Compliance Program Manager – Elexis Mayer	<u>11/17/09</u>
<u>//Mark Butler//</u> Chief, Project Management – Mark Butler	<u>11/17/09</u>

Approved:

Acting Superintendent	Date
<u>//Dennis Schramm// (acting)</u> David V. Uberuaga	<u>11/30/09</u>

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

PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: **November 3, 2009**

PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite NP

Project Number: 27453

Project Type: Facility Maintenance (FM)

Project Location: County, State: Tuolumne, California District: Hetch Hetchy

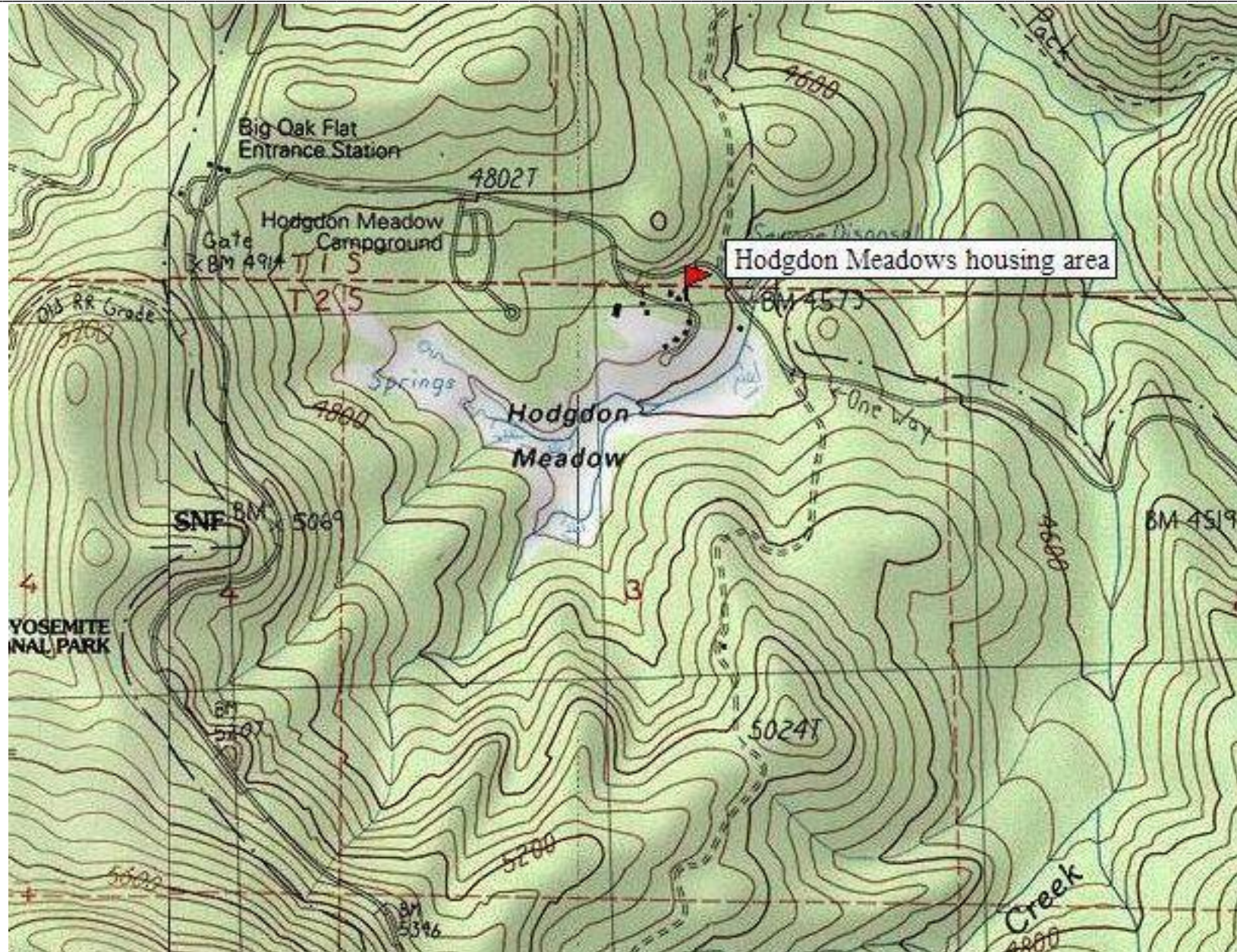
Project Manager: Charles Cuvelier

Project Title: 2009-100 Hetch Hetchy Alarm Transmission Installation

PARK ESF ADDENDUM QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST				
1. Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		X		
2. Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		X		
3. Park rare plants or vegetation?		X		
4. Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		X		
NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST				
5. Entail ground disturbance?		X		
6. Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?		X		The assessment of effect is "No Historic Properties Affected."
7. Entail alteration of a historic structure or cultural landscape?		X		
8. Has a National Register form been completed?		X		
9. Are there any structures on the park's List of Classified Structures in the area of potential effect?		X		
WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST				
10. Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor? (Name the river corridor)	X			
11. Fall within the bed and banks AND will affect the free-flow of the river?		X		
12. Have the possibility of affecting water quality of the area?		X		
13. Remain consistent with its river segment classification?			X	
14. Protect and enhance river ORVs?			X	
15. Fall within the River Protection Overlay?		X		
16. If Yes, remain consistent with conditions of the River Protection Overlay?			X	

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
17. Remain consistent with the areas Management Zoning?			X	
18. Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		X		
19. Will the project encroach or intrude upon the Wild and Scenic River corridor?		X		
20. Will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?		X		
WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST				
21. Within designated Wilderness?	X			Wilderness Minimum Requirement Analysis attached.
22. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		X		





Existing Weight Room



New location for Weight Room



ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. **Park:** Yosemite NP **Park District:** Hetch Hetchy

2. **Project Description:**

a. **Project Name:** 2009-100 Hetch Hetchy Alarm Transmission Installation

Date: October 28, 2009

PEPC Project ID Number: 27453

3. **Has the area of potential effects been surveyed to identify cultural resources?**

No

Yes, Source or reference: Hetch Hetchy American Indian Traditional Cultural Property.

Check here if no known cultural resources will be affected. (If this is because area has been disturbed, please explain or attach additional information to show the disturbance was so extensive as to preclude intact cultural deposits.)

4. **Potentially Affected Resources:**

Ethnographic resources affected?

Name and number(s): Hetch Hetchy American Indian Traditional Cultural Property

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

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

Replace historic features/elements in kind

Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure

Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (inc. terrain)

Add non-historic features/elements (inc. visual, audible, or atmospheric) to a historic setting or cultural landscape

Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible

Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible

Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources

Begin or contribute to deterioration of historic features, terrain, setting, landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources

Involve a real property transaction (exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures)

Other (please specify)

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

No Assessment of Effect mitigations identified.

7. Supporting Study Data:

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

8. Attachments:

Maps Archeological survey, if applicable Drawings Specifications Photographs
 Scope of Work Site plan List of Materials Samples Other:

Prepared by: Renea Kennec **Date:** October 28, 2009 **Title:** Environmental Protection Specialist
Telephone: 209-379-1038

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:

Archeologist
Name: Laura Kirn
Date: 10/13/2009
Comments:

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance
Assessment of Effect: No Historic Properties Affected No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect
 Streamlined Review
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: No Potential to Cause Effects [800.3(a)(1)]

Anthropologist
Name: Jeannette Simons
Date: 10/28/2009
Comments: American Indian Liaison. The project area is within a known American Indian traditional use area, but the project will not impact the resource.

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance
Assessment of Effect: No Historic Properties Affected No Adverse Effect Adverse Effect
 Streamlined Review
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: No Potential to Cause Effects [800.3(a)(1)]

[X] Historical Landscape Architect
Name: David Humphrey
Date: 10/08/2009
Comments: None.

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance []
Assessment of Effect: X No Historic Properties Affected ___ No Adverse Effect ___ Adverse Effect
Effect ___ Streamlined Review
Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:
None.

Doc Method: No Potential to Cause Effects [800.3(a)(1)]

No Reviews From: Curator, Historical Architect, Historian, 106 Advisor, Other Advisor

C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Assessment of Effect:

X No Historic Properties Affected ___ No Adverse Effect ___ Adverse Effect

2. Compliance requirements:

[] 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. PLAN-RELATED UNDERTAKING

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

[] D. UNDERTAKING RELATED TO ANOTHER AGREEMENT

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under another document such as a

statewide agreement established in accord with 36 CFR 800.7 or counterpart regulations.
Specify: _____

E. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS SATISFIED BY USE OF NEPA

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

F. No Potential to Cause Effects [800.3(a)(1)]

G. STIPULATIONS/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.

Recommended by Park Section 106 coordinator:

Signature of Historic Preservation officer //Jeannett Simons//

Date: 11/5/09

D. 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.

Signature of Acting Superintendent //Dennis Schramm// (acting)

Date: 11/30/09

*The signed on
Environment*