



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: James N. Vandenberg, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Acting Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2010-007 Wawona Hotel Veranda Decking Replacement (29026)

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 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 1335.
- Submit a Safety Plan to the Safety Office, 379-1064, prior to beginning work.

//Nikki Stephanie Nicholas// (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.*



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park
Date: 02/04/2010

Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: 2010-007 Wawona Hotel Veranda Decking Replacement

PEPC Project Number: 29026

Project Description: The purpose of this project is to replace the decking on the second story veranda that wraps around the Wawona Hotel's main building. The veranda is constructed of tongue and groove decking and is covered with green outdoor carpeting. The green carpeting is worn and stained; the decking underneath is deteriorated due to water damage and wear in several areas. The decking would be replaced in-kind.

Potentially, the veranda decking substructure and the railing columns on the second story may also have water damage. If it is determined that these elements are deteriorated beyond repair, they would also be replaced in-kind to protect the building's historic character and to ensure public safety.

Scope of Work:

- Remove and discard green outdoor carpeting from the second story veranda.
- Remove existing tongue and groove decking. Reuse any pieces in good condition.
- Replace in-kind any substructure (support beams) that are structurally compromised. The architect has assumed that up to 25% of the substructure may require replacement, but this would be verified during construction.
- Replace railing columns that are structurally-compromised, if necessary, as discovered during construction. Specifications for substructure and column replacement are included in the design drawings, if needed.
- Install new tongue and groove decking to match original.
- Paint grey to match first story decking.

Special Considerations:

- Work would be scheduled during the winter closure period and completed when the hotel opens to visitors in March 2011. Construction would not impact visitors or hotel operations.
- This project would follow the United States Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties and would also replace historic finishes in-kind on the Wawona Hotel National Historic Landmark.
- The NPS Historic Architect would review and approve final tongue and groove decking dimensions, and would be consulted throughout the project.
- NPS would take quality photographs of the project and submit them to the NPS Archives.

Project Location:

Mariposa County, Ca

Mitigations:

- 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 1335.
- Submit a Safety Plan to the Safety Office (379-1064) prior to beginning work.

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.4 Routine maintenance and repairs to cultural resource sites, structures, utilities and grounds under an approved Historic Structures Preservation Guide or Cyclic Maintenance Guide; or if the action would not adversely affect the cultural resource.

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 Section 3-6 apply, and the action is fully described in Section 3-4 of DO-12.

Acting Park Superintendent //Nikki Stephanie Nicholas// (acting)

Date 3/4/10

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park
Date: 02/04/2010

ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

DO-12 APPENDIX 1

Date Form Initiated: 02/04/2010

Updated May 2007 - per 2004 Departmental Manual revisions and proposed Director's Order 12 changes

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite National Park
Project Title: 2010-007 Wawona Hotel Veranda Decking Replacement
PEPC Project Number: 29026
Project Type: Capital Improvement (CI)
Project Location: County, State: Mariposa, California District: Wawona
Project Leader: James Vandenberg

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 or natural 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		Negligible			Temporary air emissions from construction equipment.
4. Soundscapes		Negligible			This project will produce some temporary noises associated with construction. The hotel will be closed during the decking replacement.
5. Water quality or quantity	No				
6. Streamflow characteristics	No				
7. Marine or estuarine resources	No				
8. Floodplains or wetlands					
9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use	No				

Identify potential effects to the following physical or natural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine	No				
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.
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)		Negligible			This project is contingent on ensuring that all equipment and materials brought into the park are free of non-native, invasive plants and animals.
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	No				
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources	No				Visitor experience will not be affected due to the closure of the hotel during decking replacement.
18. Museum collections (objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections)	No				
19. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	No				
20. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	No				
21. Energy resources	No				
22. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	No				
23. Resource, including energy, conservation potential, sustainability	No				
24. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	No				

Identify potential effects to the following physical or natural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
25. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	No				
26. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	No				

Identify potential effects to the following cultural resources	No Historic Properties Affected	No Adverse Effect	Adverse Effect	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Archeological resources	X			
2. Prehistoric/historic structure		X		Wawona Hotel National Historic Landmark; the assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect."
3. Cultural landscapes		X		Wawona Historic District.
4. Ethnographic resources	X			

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?		No		
B. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas?		No		Mitigated; the assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect."
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?		No		
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		No		

E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		No		
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		No		
G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?		No		
H. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		No		
I. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		No		
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		No		
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)?		No		
L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		No		

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
Katariina Tuovinen	Acting Deputy Superintendent
Kristina Rylands	Acting Chief of Planning
Mark Butler	Chief of Project Management
Katariina Tuovinen	Chief of Administration Management
Paul Laymon	Acting Chief of Facilities Management
Niki Nicholas	Chief of Resources Management & Science
Marty Nielson	Chief of Business and Revenue Management
Tom Medema	Chief of Interpretation and Education
Steve Shackelton	Chief Ranger
Jim Vandenberg	Project Leader
Elexis Mayer	Environmental Planning and Compliance Program Manager
Jeannette Simons	NHPA Specialist
Renea Kennec	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 Kennec//</u> Compliance Specialist – Renea Kennec	<u>2/4/10</u>
<u>//Elexis Mayer//</u> Compliance Program Manager – Elexis Mayer	<u>2/25/10</u>
<u>//Mark A. Butler//</u> Chief, Project Management – Mark Butler	<u>3/3/10</u>

Approved:

Acting Superintendent	Date
<u>//Nikki Stephanie Nicholas// (acting)</u> David V. Uberuaga	<u>3/4/10</u>

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park
Date: 02/04/2010

PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: **February 4, 2010**

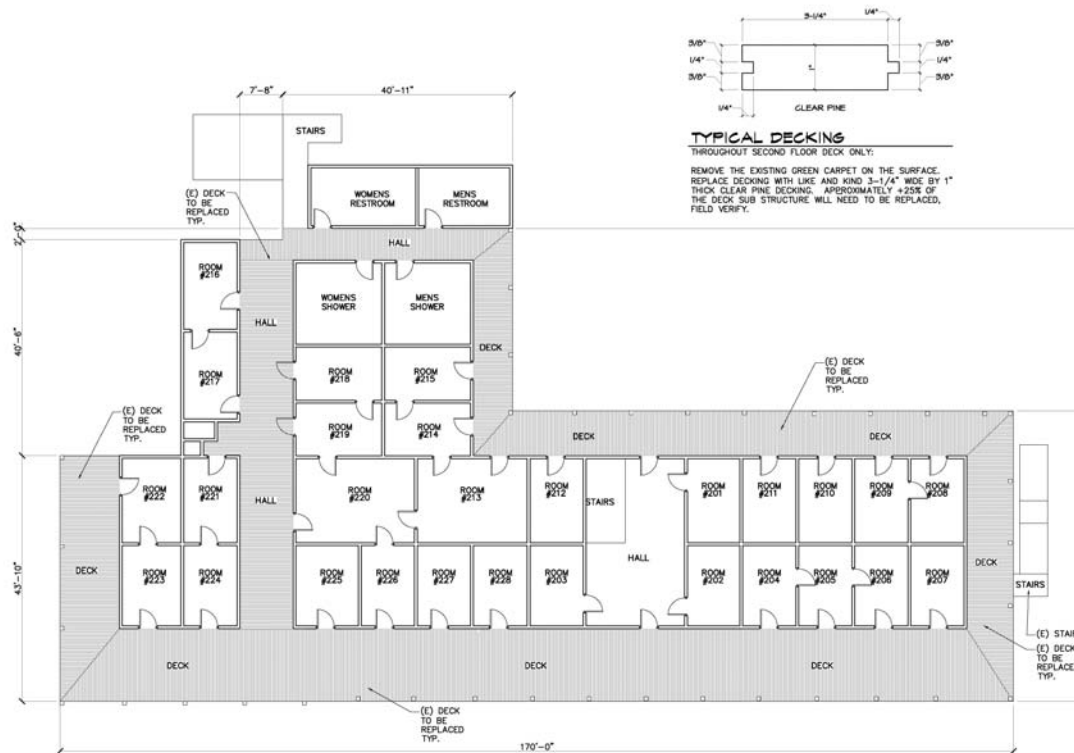
PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite National Park
Project Title: 2010-007 Wawona Hotel Veranda Decking Replacement
PEPC Project Number: 29026
Project Type: Capital Improvement (CI)
Project Location: County, State: Mariposa, California District: Wawona
Project Leader: James Vandenberg

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)?		No		
2. Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		No		
3. Park rare plants or vegetation?		No		
4. Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		No		
NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST				
5. Entail ground disturbance?		No		
6. Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?	Yes			Wawona Archeological District; the assessment of effect is "No Historic Properties Affected."
7. Entail alteration of a historic structure or cultural landscape?		No		The materials used in the veranda replacement will be in-kind to the existing materials.
8. Has a National Register form been completed?	Yes			National Historic Landmark #75000223.

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
9. Are there any structures on the park's List of Classified Structures in the area of potential effect?	Yes			List of Classified Structures #7158.
WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST				
10. Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor?	Yes			South Fork of the Merced River.
11. Fall within the bed and banks AND will effect the free-flow of the river?		No		
12. Have the possibility of affecting water quality of the area?		No		
13. Remain consistent with its river segment classification?		No		
14. Protect and enhance river ORVs?			N/A	
15. Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		No		
16. Will the project encroach or intrude upon the Wild and Scenic River corridor?		No		
WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST				
17. Within designated Wilderness?		No		
18. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		No		
19. Consistent with the provisions in the Merced River Plan Settlement Agreement?	Yes			



EXISTING / PROPOSED DECKING PLAN - SECOND FLOOR
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

MARK	DATE

WAW FOUNDATION REPAIR
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK



Webster Ingersoll
ASSOCIATES, INC.

6750 N. First, Suite 311
Fresno, CA 93711
TEL 209-276-0900
DATE: 11-20-09
JOB No.: 2010-007

A 9
OF - SHEETS



Existing green carpeting will be removed and decking below will be replaced in kind.



Second story veranda on the back side of the main hotel (east).



Water damage/stain on veranda carpet.



New 2nd story decking will look similar to this decking which is located on the first floor of the main building at Wawona Hotel.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park
Date: 02/08/2010

ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. Park: Yosemite National Park **Park District:** Wawona

2. Project Description:

a. Project Name: 2010-007 Wawona Hotel Veranda Decking Replacement

b. Date: February 8, 2010

c. PEPC Project ID Number: 29026

d. Describe the area of potential effects (as defined in 36 CFR 800.2[c])

Wawona Historic District (CLI/DOE in prep) Wawona Hotel National Historic Landmark

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

 No

 X Yes, Source or reference: Wawona Hotel National Historic Landmark; Wawona Historic District.

 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:

Historical structures/resources affected?

Name and number(s): Wawona Hotel National Historic Landmark

NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

Cultural landscapes affected?

Name and number(s): Wawona Historic District (CLI/DOE in prep) Location:

Wawona

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

 No Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure

 Yes 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)

_____ 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.)

- **Consult with park Historical Architect throughout the project. Document the consultation and submit to EP&C for project files. Work completed without consultation that fails to meet the Secretary of Interior Standards may be subject to redo.**

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: Jeannette Simons **Date:** February 8, 2010 **Title:** Historic Preservation
Officer **Telephone:** 209-379-1372

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: 01/20/2010

Comments:

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance ☐

Assessment of Effect: X 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)]

☒ Historical Architect

Name: Sueann Brown

Date: 01/21/2010

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:

Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

[☒] 106 Advisor

Name: Jeannette Simons

Date: 02/08/2010

Comments: This project meets the criteria for streamline review pursuant to the 2008 Service Wide PA, Article III. A. & C. 1., and Article V.

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: Streamlined Review (PE)

Exclusion ID's: 1. Preservation Maintenance and Repair of Historic Properties

[☒] Anthropologist

Name: Jeannette Simons

Date: 02/08/2010

Comments: American Indian Liaison. There are no American Indian traditional or contemporary resources impacted by this project.

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:

[☒] Historical Landscape Architect

Name: David Humphrey

Date: 01/20/2010

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:

No Reviews From: **Curator, Historian, Other Advisor**

C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Assessment of Effect:

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

2. Compliance requirements:

[] A. STANDARD 36 CFR PART 800 CONSULTATION

Further consultation under 36 CFR Part 800 is needed.

[**X**] 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.)

1) Preservation Maintenance and Repair of Historic Properties

Explanation: ____

[] 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 //Jeannette Simons//

Date: 2/8/10

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 //Nikki Stephanie Nicholas// (acting)

Date: 3/4/10

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the Environmental Planning and Compliance
Office in Yosemite National Park.*