



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: Michael Pieper

From: Acting Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2009-030 Wawona Road Rehabilitation Pavement Borings (24609)

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.

//James F. Hammett// (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 NP
Date: 04/29/2009

Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: 2009-030 Wawona Road Rehabilitation Pavement Borings

PIN: 24609

Date: May 20, 2010

Project Description: Complete pavement borings on the Wawona Road between Yosemite Valley and South Entrance. These borings are needed to provide the design team with the necessary pavement and subgrade information required for the appropriate structural section to rehabilitate the Wawona Road. The work includes one hundred pavement borings over the 25 miles of the existing paved Wawona Road. This work will include flaggers with radio communication on each end of the road segment being investigated, which will allow one lane to remain open at all times with up to 15 minute delays. One hundred pavement borings will be required to design the appropriate structural section and asphalt pavement mix design for the roadway. There will be 75 borings 6" in diameter with a maximum depth of 1', and 25 borings 6" in diameter with a maximum depth of 5'. The exact location of the borings is currently unknown, however the boring locations can be adjusted as needed to avoid any park resources. The plan is to complete a boring every 1/4 mile.

Project Location:
Mariposa County, CA

Mitigation:

- 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.

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):

E.6. Non-destructive data collection, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), study, research, and monitoring activities (this is also a Departmental CE).

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.

//James F. Hammett// (Acting)
Acting Park Superintendent

5/29/09
Date



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite NP
Date: 04/29/2009

ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)
DO-12 APPENDIX 1

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

Today's Date: **May 20, 2009**

Date Form Initiated: **05/20/2009**

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: **Yosemite NP**

Project Title: **2009-030 Wawona Road Rehabilitation Pavement Borings**

PEPC Project Number: **24609**

Project Type: **Facility Rehabilitation (FR)**

Project Location: County, State: **Mariposa, California**

Project Manager: **Michael Pieper**

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Complete pavement borings on the Wawona Road between Yosemite Valley and South Entrance. These borings are needed to provide the design team with the necessary pavement and subgrade information required for the appropriate structural section to rehabilitate the Wawona Road. The work includes one hundred pavement borings over the 25 miles of the existing paved Wawona Road. This work will include flaggers with radio communication on each end of the road segment being investigated, which will allow one lane to remain open at all times with up to 15 minute delays. One hundred pavement borings will be required to design the appropriate structural section and asphalt pavement mix design for the roadway. There will be 75 borings 6" in diameter with a maximum depth of 1', and 25 borings 6" in diameter with a maximum depth of 5'. The exact location of the borings is currently unknown, however the boring locations can be adjusted as needed to avoid any park resources. The plan is to complete a boring every 1/4 mile.

Preliminary drawings attached? **Yes**

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

C. 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.		X			This project includes 75-6" diameter borings with a maximum depth of 1' and 25-6" diameter with a maximum depth of 5'.
2. From geohazards	X				
3. Air quality		X			The pavement boring operation will include temporary air emissions; maximum of three weeks.
4. Soundscapes		X			The drill rig will produce minimal heavy equipment noises temporarily.
5. Water quality or quantity	X				
6. Streamflow characteristics	X				
7. Marine or estuarine resources	X				
8. Floodplains or wetlands	X				
9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use	X				
10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine	X				
11. Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat	X				
12. Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites	X				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	X				
14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat	X				
15. Introduce or promote		X			See Comment 1, below.

non-native species (plant or animal)					
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	X				
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources		X			One lane will be open throughout the project with up to 15 minute delays.
18. Archeological resources	X				
19. Prehistoric/historic structure	X				
20. Cultural landscapes	X				
21. Ethnographic resources	X				
22. Museum collections (objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections)	X				
23. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	X				
24. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	X				
25. Energy resources	X				
26. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	X				
27. Resource, including energy, conservation potential, sustainability	X				
28. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	X				
29. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	X				
30. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	X				

Comments:

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

D. 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?		X		
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?		X		
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?		X		
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		X		
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		X		
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		X		
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?		X		
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		X		

Critical Habitat for these species?				
I. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		X		
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		X		
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)?		X		
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)?		X		Mitigated; see Comment 1, above.

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.

E. 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**

F. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES

Interdisciplinary Team	Field of Expertise
David V. Uberuaga Jim Hammett Linda Dahl Mark Butler Katariina Tuovinen Dennis Mattiuzzi Niki Nicholas Marty Nielson Tom Medema Steve Shackelton Michael Pieper Mark Butler Jeannette Simons Renea Kennec	Acting Superintendent Acting Deputy Superintendent Chief of Planning Chief of Project Management Acting Chief of Administration Management Chief of Facilities Management Chief of Resources Management & Science Chief of Business and Revenue Management Acting Chief of Interpretation and Education Chief Ranger Project Leader Acting Environmental Planning and Compliance Program Manager NHPA Specialist NEPA Specialist

G. 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>5/27/09</u>
<u>//Mark A. Butler//</u> Compliance Program Manager – Mark Butler	<u>5/27/09</u>
<u>//Mark A. Butler//</u> Chief, Project Management – Mark Butler	<u>5/27/09</u>

Approved:

Acting Superintendent	Date
<u>//James F. Hammett// (Acting)</u> David V. Uberuaga	<u>5/29/09</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: **May 20, 2009**

PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite NP

Project Number: 24609

Project Type: Facility Rehabilitation (FR)

Project Location: County, State: Mariposa, California

Project Manager: Michael Pieper

Project Title: 2009-030 Wawona Road Rehabilitation Pavement Borings

PARK ESF ADDENDUM QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1.SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST				
2. Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		X		
3. Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		X		
4. Park rare plants or vegetation?		X		
5. Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		X		
6.NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST				
7. Entail ground disturbance?	X			This project includes 75-6" diameter borings with a maximum depth of 1' and 25-6" diameter with a maximum depth of 5'.
8. Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?		X		
9. Entail alteration of a historic structure or cultural landscape?		X		
10. Has a National Register form been completed?			X	
11. Are there any structures on the park's List of Classified Structures in the area of potential effect?		X		
12.WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST				
13. Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor?		X		
14. Fall within the bed and banks AND will affect the free-flow of the river?		X		
15. Have the possibility of affecting water quality of the area?		X		
16. Remain consistent with its river segment classification?			X	
17. Protect and enhance river ORVs?			X	
18. Fall within the River Protection Overlay?		X		
19. If Yes, remain consistent with conditions of the River			X	

Protection Overlay?				
20. Remain consistent with the areas Management Zoning?			X	
21. Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		X		
22. Will the project encroach or intrude upon the Wild and Scenic River corridor?		X		
23. Will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?		X		
100.WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST				
101. Within designated Wilderness?		X		
102. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		X		

