



Forest
Service

Sequoia National Forest and
Giant Sequoia National Monument
Kern River Ranger District

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File Code: 1950/2330

Route To:

Date:

JUL 9 2019

Subject: Greenhorn Summit Station Buildings Demolition

To: Rachel Smith, Acting Forest Supervisor

From: Dionne Uzès, Deputy District Ranger *DU*

I have determined that the Greenhorn Summit Station Buildings Demolition Project falls within a category of actions listed in the Forest Service Handbook (FSH) that may be excluded from environmental documentation. The particular category is found at FSH 1909.15, Chapter 32.12 (3) Categories Established by the Chief – Repair and maintenance of administrative sites [36 CFR 220.6(d)(3)].

This category is appropriate because the project involves decommissioning of unneeded infrastructure to facilitate care and maintenance of administrative facilities. Attached is a checklist completed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documenting there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with the project necessitating preparing an environmental analysis or environmental impact statement.

Enclosure



NEPA COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST
internal use only

**Sequoia National Forest
Kern River Ranger District**

Name of Project: Greenhorn Summit Station Buildings Demolition

Purpose and Need (Why here and why now): This project would involve demolishing two buildings at the Greenhorn Summit Fire Station. The facility is located in Kern County, California in T25S, R32E, section 20, MDB&M; 60824 Rancheria Road, Wofford Heights CA, southwest of the intersection of Rancheria Road and State Route 155.

The engine garage (metal building) was originally built by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to house their snow removal equipment. Caltrans later built a new facility to the north of Highway 155. Subsequently, Sequoia National Forest acquired the 875-square-foot building as part of a land exchange with Kern County (document 0209162536 recorded 9/15/2009). This building is shown on maps dating back to 1961, and is therefore over 50 years old. The building is not large enough to accommodate Engine 44 that is stationed at the Summit. It was poorly constructed with wood sills resting directly on dirt, is otherwise in poor condition, and has been condemned.

The wood-sided Fire Barracks (Building #1231) facility was installed at the Greenhorn Summit site in 1999. It is a 720-square-foot single-wide trailer with 2 bedrooms, a bathroom and kitchen. This structure has had problems with mold and is otherwise in poor condition.

These un-needed buildings add to both the agency's inventory of real property and to the deferred maintenance backlog in facilities. Because of this, decommissioning of unneeded buildings is a high priority for the agency. Following demolition, future improvements anticipated include construction of a new engine storage building with office and training room.

Purpose of Checklist: For projects categorically excluded under NEPA that do not require a decision memo, this checklist documents that there are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action that warrant further analysis and documentation in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Applicable Categorical Exclusions for Projects Not Requiring a Decision Memo	
For full description of each category and examples refer to FSH 1909.15, Chapter 30.	
32.11 Categories Established by the Secretary 7 CFR 1b.3	32.12 Categories Established by the Chief 36 CFR 220.6(d)
(1) Policy admin. development/planning	(1) Prohibit for resource protection
(2) Activities related to funding/money	(2) Admin procedures, processes, instructions
(3) Inventories, research activities, studies	X (3) Repair/maintain Admin. Sites
(4) Educational and information activities	(4) Repair/maintain roads, trails, landlines
(5) Law enforcement and investigation	(5) Repair/maintain Rec. Sites/Facilities
(6) Advisory or consultative activities	(6) Acquisition of land or interest in land.
(7) Trade representation/market develop	(7) Sale or exchange of land with same land use
	(8) Approve/modify/continue less than 1 year Special Use Permit
	(9) New Permit for existing ski area for administrative changes only
	(10) Amend/Replace existing Special Use Permit for administrative changes only
32.3 Categories Established by Statute	
42 USC 15942- Oil and Gas Leases	
16 USC 6554(d) – Applied Silvicultural Assessments	
32.4 Statutory NEPA Exception	
16 USC 6231 – Organization Camp Special Use Authorization	

Determination of Extraordinary Circumstances for the Proposal 36 CFR 220.6(a)			
Resource Conditions 36 CFR 220.6(b)	Resource Condition Present?	For Resource Conditions that are Present, the following Findings are made:	Reference material used to support finding of no extraordinary circumstance
	Y N		

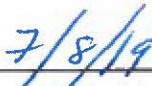
(1) Federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat, species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat, or Forest Service sensitive species		X	There are no known federally listed plant or animal species or their habitats within the project area, nor are there any Forest Service sensitive species that would be affected by the project.	Forest Wildlife Biologist
(2) Flood plains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds;		X	The project is within the Bakersfield Municipal watershed. Refueling and/or servicing of vehicles or equipment such as generators shall occur at least 100 feet from a waterbody. With use of BMPs, the project will not adversely affect any flood plains, wetlands, or watersheds.	District Hydrologist
(3) Congressionally designated areas, such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas;		X	The project is not within any wilderness or the congressionally designated Wild and Scenic North Fork of the Kern River.	District Recreation Officer
(4) Inventoried roadless areas or potential wilderness areas;		X	The project is outside any inventoried roadless or potential wilderness area. The project will not enter or impact these designations.	District Planner
(5) Research natural areas;		X	No research natural areas are present. RNAs will not be <u>adversely</u> affected by this action. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	District Planner
(6) American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites, and		X	Implementation of the Proposed Action would not <u>adversely</u> affect American Indian religious or cultural sites. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	National Register Evaluation of the Summit Station (R2019051354002) By KRRD staff determined the project will not pose an adverse effect to cultural resources. SHPO has provided a letter of concurrence dated 6/21/2019.
(7) Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas.		X	No archeological sites or sites eligible for National Historic Register listing will be <u>adversely</u> affected by this proposal. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	See (6) above.

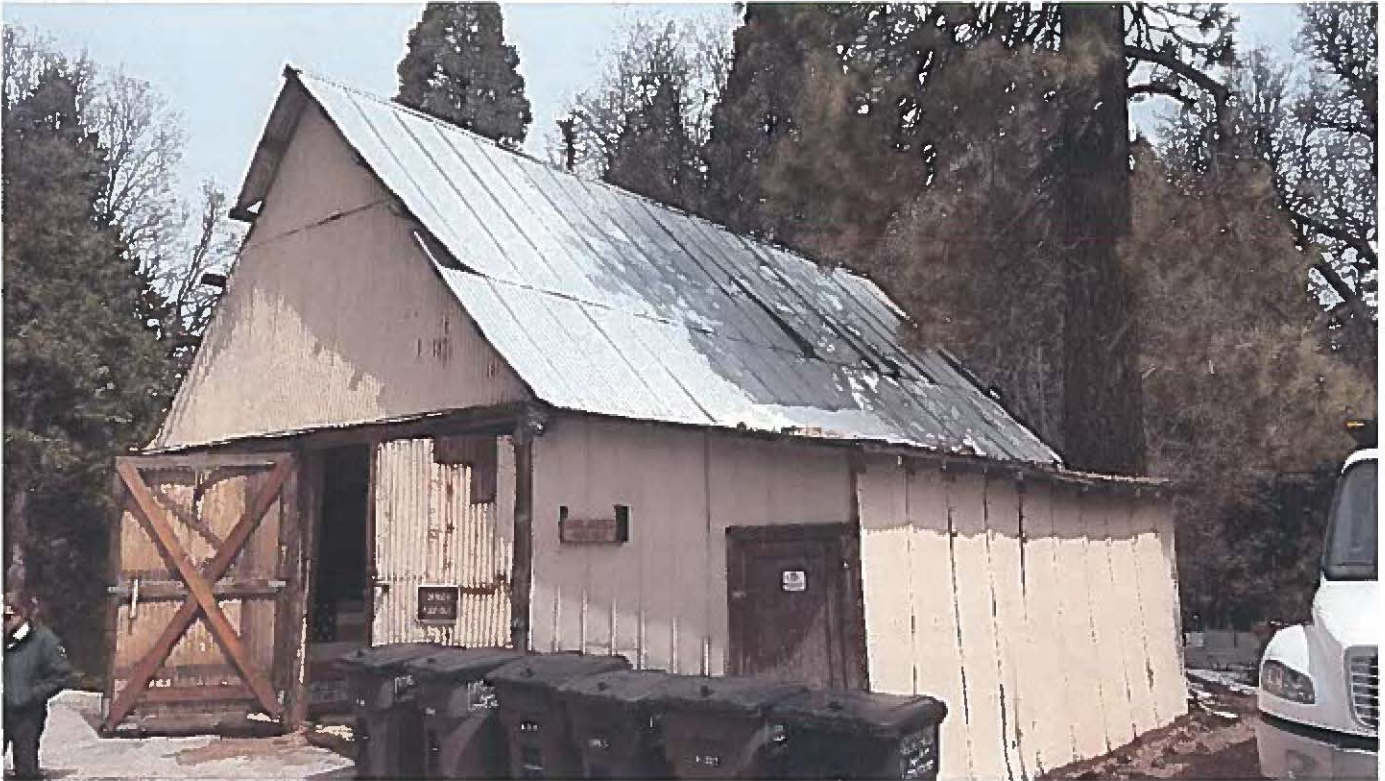
I have considered the above listed resource conditions and determined there are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action that warrant further analysis and documentation in an EA or EIS. None of the extraordinary circumstances described in 36 CFR 220.6 (b) exist.

Signature


DIONNE UZES
Deputy District Ranger

Date





Engine Garage (metal building) at Summit Station proposed for demolition



Fire Barracks Building (1231) proposed for demolition