



Badger Pass Ski Lodge Rehabilitation



Photo by Kenny Karst, DNC

Where is the project located?

The Badger Pass Ski Lodge Rehabilitation project area is located at an elevation of 7200 feet at the Badger Pass Ski Area, midway between Wawona and Yosemite Valley in Yosemite National Park. The lodge is situated in Monroe Meadow on the south side of Glacier Point Road, approximately 5.1 miles east of Chinquapin. The lodge is accessible year round via Glacier Point Road.

Why undertake this project?

Since its construction in 1935, Badger Pass Ski Lodge has supported winter recreation at the Badger Pass Ski Area, a site that is historically significant as one of California's earliest developed downhill ski areas. The original ski lodge building is characteristic of NPS Rustic architecture with Swiss chalet influences. From 1936 through the 1990s, the original building underwent multiple expansions and modifications to meet the changing needs of the ski industry. Some of the changes implemented after 1953 were not compatible with the original NPS Rustic architecture of the 1935 building. Its location in a high-elevation alpine meadow has exposed the lodge to temperature extremes, heavy snow loads, snowmelt runoff, and saturated ground conditions. These environmental stresses, coupled with inadequate site drainage and snow-melt management systems, have contributed to structural deterioration of the lodge. In addition, the building does not fully meet current building code standards. Repair and rehabilitation of the ski lodge are necessary to protect its historic integrity, ensure visitor safety, and maintain ski-area visitor services while preserving the natural and cultural resources at the ski area.

Current Status

In May/June 2010, the park released an environmental assessment analyzing the No Action Alternative and four action alternatives for the rehabilitation of the Badger Pass Ski Lodge. On June 30, 2011, the National Park Service signed a Finding of No Significant Impact identifying Alternative 3 (Rehabilitation and Improvements) as analyzed in the environmental assessment, as the Selected Action.

What does the Selected Action entail?

The Selected Action addresses project requirements while protecting the historic character of the lodge, enhancing building performance, and improving facility operations and levels of visitor service. The existing lodge footprint will be maintained with some physical alteration. The Selected Action will:

- remove a portion of later additions that do not contribute to historic character of the site and reorganize program uses to better accommodate functional needs
- maintain and strengthen existing features that contribute to the historic character of the site
- improve accessibility through improved path of travel and other building changes to areas such as the restrooms
- improve visitor circulation to include an entry plaza, exterior passages, and new orientation and wayfinding mechanisms throughout the lodge
- maintain all current program functions at the lodge
- remodel and reconfigure the west building
- include other visitor service improvements on the first and second floors of the lodge
- repair and replace systems to improve structural integrity and energy efficiency
- improve site drainage
- replace the temporary Nordic and Alpine rental facilities with permanent structures.

How will this plan be implemented?

Rehabilitation of the Badger Pass Ski Lodge will occur in a phased manner as funding becomes available. Immediate structural improvements to the lodge exterior deck are planned for Summer 2012. First rehabilitation phases will consist of work to the main lodge, west building, exterior decks, and site work in the immediate building vicinity and include required code upgrades for life-safety, fire protection, accessibility, and building infrastructure (civil, structural mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems). Later phases will include removal of the Winter Club room and breezeway connection, modifications and additions to the west building and main lodge, replacement of the temporary buildings, and engineering and related site improvements.

How can I learn more?

To download a copy of the decision document and environmental assessment, visit the project webpage at www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/badgerlodge.htm.

Add your name to the park's planning list to receive periodic planning-related electronic notices on this and other park projects by e-mailing your request to yose_planning@nps.gov.

Or send a written request to:

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