

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Yosemite National Park



Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan

Cultural Outstandingly Remarkable Values
April 2011



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The Merced ORVs

- Biological
- Recreation
- Geologic/
Hydrologic
Processes
- Scenery
- Cultural



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Yosemite Valley Archeological District

- Dense concentrations of resources/sites
- Reflect thousands of years of settlement
- Many identified in ethnographic literature and/or oral traditions
- Connection to native ancestors



Yosemite Valley Ethnographic Resources

- Plant species
- Historic village sites
- Archeological resources
- Spiritual areas
- All emphasizing continuity of human connection to Yosemite.



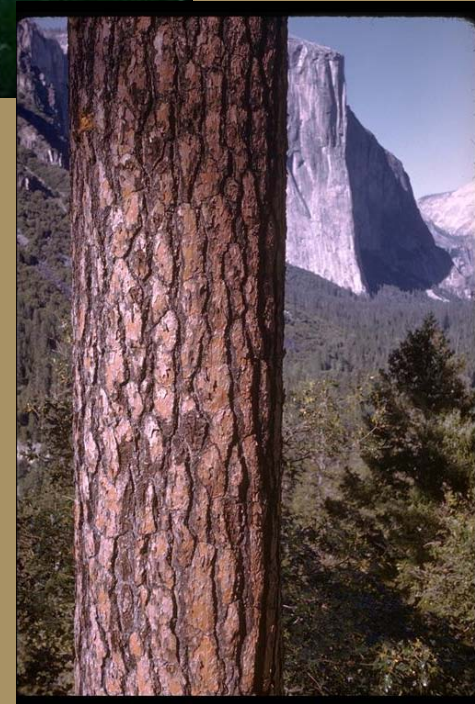
Bracken fern



Wormwood/Mugwort/ Douglas' sagewort



Yerba santa



Ponderosa pine

El Portal Archeological District

- Crossroads of settlement, subsistence, and trade
- Level terraces for building and farming
- Great Basin and Pacific Coast artifacts
- Some of Sierra foothills oldest deposits (~9,500 yrs)
- Johnny Wilson Ranch



Wawona: Camp A. E. Wood

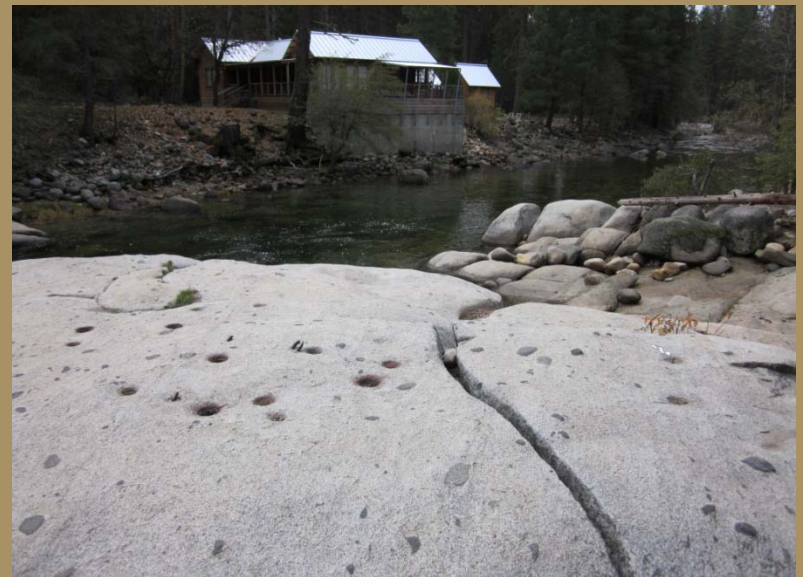
- African-American buffalo soldiers (U.S. Army Cavalry)
- First army headquarters in the park
- Present in Yosemite for 3 years between 1899-1904



Arboretum, nature trails,
wilderness trail network

Wawona Archeological District

- Dense clusters of historic and prehistoric sites
- Far-reaching traffic and trade
- Great Basin and Pacific Coast artifacts
- Valuable to tribes as connection to ancestors



Wawona Covered Bridge

- Built 1858
- One of few in the region
- Only one in Pacific West region of NPS
- Provided for recreation, transportation, and entertainment



South Fork Rock Ring Structures

- Substantial rock ring features with wooden remains
- Adjacent to the river
- Use of river as water source, wildlife corridor, or other strategic purpose
- Important data potential for summer high country use



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