

June 3, 2007

Superintendent
Yosemite National Park
Attn: Merced River Plan
PO Box 577
Yosemite, CA 95389

RECEIVED
MRP-5815-36
JUN 07 2007
p. 1 of 1
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Dear Superintendent,

The High Sierra camps at May Lake, Merced Lake, Sunrise and Vogelsang severely pollute the Merced river. Use of these camps results in concentrated pollution of the Merced watershed from human waste from urine and excrement, gray water waste from showers, and kitchen waste from cooking grease and detergent use. With no sewage treatment these concentrated waste products directly pollute the water, meadows and soil of the Merced Watershed. In addition to the human caused waste pollution, the large number of stock animals needed to supply the camps result in excessive trail erosion and trails covered with stock manure and urine with the resulting flies and sickening dust.

Please include in the Merced River Plan an immediate closure of these camps and their restoration to pre-use conditions.

Please immediately implement the Yosemite Valley Plan of 2000 with regard to removal of the riding stables. Removal of these stables would reduce the stock travel necessary to maintain these stables. This would result in the reduction of eroded trails, contamination of water and trampled meadows. The particularly disgusting part of this stock travel is the urine, manure, flies, on the trail and the manure dust breathed in while walking on the trail.

Please specify in the Merced River Plan that the stables in Yosemite be closed immediately and the site restored to pre-use condition.

The Park Service has allowed the use of stock to increase too much in recent years. The increased use of commercial stock are causing increasing erosion and pollution of the trails and contaminated water.

Please have the Merced River Plan place severely reduced limits on these commercial enterprises in your effort to protect the Merced River and its meadows, wetlands and trails from pollution and erosion.

My personal recreation experience on the trails is very negatively affected by stock caused erosion and stock manure and urine which results in odors, flies and manure dust. I also worry about the resulting water pollution and its affect on my health.

Thank You for your consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,

David M Edlund

New Brighton MN 55112-7273

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John R. Klein, D.D.S.

SOLVANG, CA 93463

Superintendent
Yosemite National Park
Attn. Merced River Plan
PO Box 577
Yosemite,, CA 95389

RECEIVED
MRP-5E15-37
JUN 07 2007
P. 1 2/7
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Dear Superintendent,

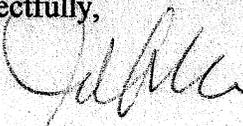
Re: the Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan revision, my wife and I urge the responsible committee to eliminate any thought of placing high density housing and/or more public campgrounds in Wawona. Since its founding as privately owned property, Wawona has offered visitors the opportunity to experience Yosemite in many unique and different ways. Today, visitors can still enjoy the character and quaintness of the Wawona Hotel, take a stage coach ride, walk through the restored pioneer village, rent their choice of rustic or modern cabins, enjoy the South Fork, swim and hike, and, generally step back in time to see how life "used to be."

We purchased land and built our cabin 25 years ago to be able to enjoy Wawona's uniqueness while escaping the crowds of suburbia. As parts of California continue to be inundated with huge growth and population density it is obvious to any observer that these areas soon lose the charm that attracted people in the first place!

High density housing, more public campgrounds and the like are not in keeping with the small mountain residential community and would certainly be detrimental to the current tranquility that exist here now. Whenever huge crowds with outside interests congregate in an area, i.e. campers, part time employees, or whatever, there is a greater chance of unlawful conduct and the trouble and strife that comes with it. As conscientious owners of property and taxpayers we need reassurance that our efforts to retain the peace and harmony within Wawona are supported.

Please keep Wawona as it is now so that future generations can enjoy what we all enjoy today.

Respectfully,



John and Lynn Klein, and family

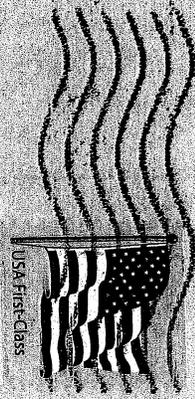
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WR

JOHN R. KLEIN DDS.

[Redacted]
Solvang, CA 93463

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CA 931 11
04 JUN 2007 PM



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Superintendent
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
ATTN: MERCED RIVER PLANT
P.O. Box 577
YOSEMITE, CA 95389
[Barcode]

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Phyllis Mattson
 [Redacted]
 06/05/2007 08:53 PM
 MST

To: yose_planning@nps.gov
 cc:
 Subject: Yosemite plan

RECEIVED
 MRP-SEIS-38
 JUN 07 2007
 P.1031
 YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

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Linda Dahl
 Management.
 Yosemite National Park
 Linda and all,

These are my main comments on the Merced Wild and ScenicRiver Comprehensive Management Plan which is now about 17 years overdue.

I've been a visitor at Yosemite for over 50 years, and a volunteer NPS for 8 seasons. I love Yosemite, and hate to see it become a playground for the rich. Nevermind the Ahwahnee--but the cabins and rooms have become so expensive, especially the tent cabins. I believe we need to have more of the low cost accommodations to allow families to enjoy the beauty. Also, I think there should be more places where people can cook out and picnic. When I stay in a tent cabin, it is impossible to store the food in the small lockers near the bathroom, then take it to the car to drive around the park to picnic at the Sentinel Bridge, the closest place. How about having some tables near parking in the car lot of Curry to avoid long drives around the park? Or set some of those areas in the old river campgrounds.

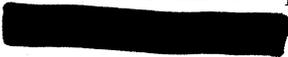
As an old person I need to stay in a cabin with bath, but that shouldn't prohibit me from enjoying outdoor cooking that is convenient (lockers near cars, tables close by)

We need to encourage young people and nature lovers to visit and enjoy the park. They will be the potential supporters of parks in the future. After all, the park was established to protect the beautiful natural setting for future generations. It was not set aside as a means of making money. " Parking spaces are limited and not convenient for picnicking. A carrying capacity study is needed before making any changes.

Refusing to do the River plan for almost 20 years, has wasted park (tax-payer's) money and time on law suits.

Sincerely,

Thanks,
 Phyllis Mattson
 Author of War Orphan in San Francisco:
 Letters Link a Family Scattered by World War II, ISBN:0-9761656-1-9
 www.stevenscreekpress.com





"Glen Rothell"
 [REDACTED]
 06/05/2007 04:11 PM
 MST

To: yose_planning@nps.gov
 cc:
 Subject: Merced River Plan Comments

RECEIVED
 MRP-SEIS-39
 JUN 07 2007
 p. 1072
 YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Please see attached



MRP Scoping Comments.doc

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June 5, 2007

Merced River Plan Public Scoping Comments

1. The plan needs to include design guidelines

The plan should include design guidelines for the built environment that is in close proximity to the river. Such items as road and trail bridges, retaining walls, rip rap, etc that are built across or adjacent to the river need to be addressed in these guidelines. I raft the lower Merced frequently and always admire the masonry retaining walls that support Hwy 140. These walls are built of the same metamorphic rock that is present in this section of the river. On the other hand I am offended by the grouted granite rip rap that was placed following the flood. The grouted rip rap and granite materials are out of place in this section of the river.

In the park there need to be guidelines that designers would have to adhere to whenever developing plans for development/reconstruction of facilities along the river. I recently referred to the section 7 guidelines for guidance on a project and the guidelines said to refer to the respective river plan for guidance. This river plan needs to include the guidance referred to. I would recommend all trail bridges be constructed of wood with stone masonry abutments/piers. For example, whenever Swinging Bridge needs replacement the formed concrete cribbed piers need to be replaced with stone masonry. I would also recommend the banning of grouted rip rap. A portion of the El Portal Road is scheduled to be reconstructed this fall. The grouted rip rap in this section needs to be replaced with masonry or dry laid retaining walls. Whenever rip rap is placed to protect a historic bridge the materials chosen need to match those present in vicinity of the bridge. These are but a few of the examples where guidelines are needed.

The park has design guidelines for Yosemite Valley however these are not specific to the river environ and they do not apply to areas of the river outside the Valley.

2. The plan should include noise management

The park should manage noise within the river corridor. I find it very disturbing to hear loud unnatural noise while visiting the park. In particular the park should limit motorcycles access to the park if they do not meet certain noise levels. Many motorcycles have been modified to remove or limit their mufflers. These motorcycles should not be permitted to pass the park entrance station. Decibel meters could be available at each entrance for the staff to check the noise emitted by motorcycles. Those that exceed the standard should be denied access.

Thank you for considering these comments

Glen Rothell

[REDACTED]
Mariposa, Ca 95338



Elexis Mayer
 06/06/2007 08:57 AM
 PDT

To: YOSE Planning@NPS
 cc:
 Subject: Public Scoping Comments from Jim Brohm

RECEIVED
 MRP-SEIS-40
 JUN 07 2007
 p. 1031
 YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Chris,

Here is Jim's response to my inquiry and please include these as well.

Thanks, Lex

Elexis Mayer, Project Manager - Merced River Plan
 Division of Planning
 Yosemite National Park

5083 Foresta Rd. El Portal, CA 95318

(o) (209) 379-1377

(f) (209) 379-1294

--- Forwarded by Elexis Mayer/YOSE/NPS on 06/06/2007 08:56 AM ---



"James Brohm"
 06/05/2007 06:49 PM
 MST

To: Elexis_Mayer@nps.gov
 cc:
 Subject:

Elexis: That Town Hall Meeting was held on the 29th of May. Sorry about that. You can use these comments as part of the public scoping. As far back that I can remember part of the master plan in the early 1980's was to ban vehicles within the valley and have staging areas for parking?? I thought one proposal was to have two areas one near El Capitan and the other at Foresta? If the surrounding communities were pro active they would work to develop staging area's near their communities. Maybe this would be on National Forest land which would include first class campsites. YARTS and Yosemite Transportation would shuttle to the Valley.

Jim Brohm

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"Gene Spindler"
 [Redacted]
 06/06/2007 07:12 PM
 MST

To: <yose_planning@nps.gov>
 cc:
 Subject: Merced River Plan Scoping Comments

RECEIVED
 MRP-SEIS-41
 JUN 07 2007
 P. 1001
 YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Thank you for the opportunity to provide scoping comments for the preparation of the Merced Wild and Scenic River Management Plan. I own a residence on Chilnualna Falls Drive in Wawona and the focus of my comments pertains to the portion of the South Fork of the Merced River as it traverses Section 35 in Wawona. As the NPS contemplates various land uses along this corridor I would urge that public campgrounds and high density employee housing not be considered as potential uses. These uses would be incompatible with the existing small mountain community of predominantly private dwellings in Section 35, many of which have absentee ownership. Among other things, the security issues raised by the potential of campers and concessionaire employees intruding on, and periodically making unauthorized use of private property would pose great opportunity for conflict and would in all likelihood create a heavier law enforcement burden on the Park than currently exists.

Thank you again for this opportunity to offer comments and for your consideration of these remarks.

Sincerely,

Gene Spindler

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