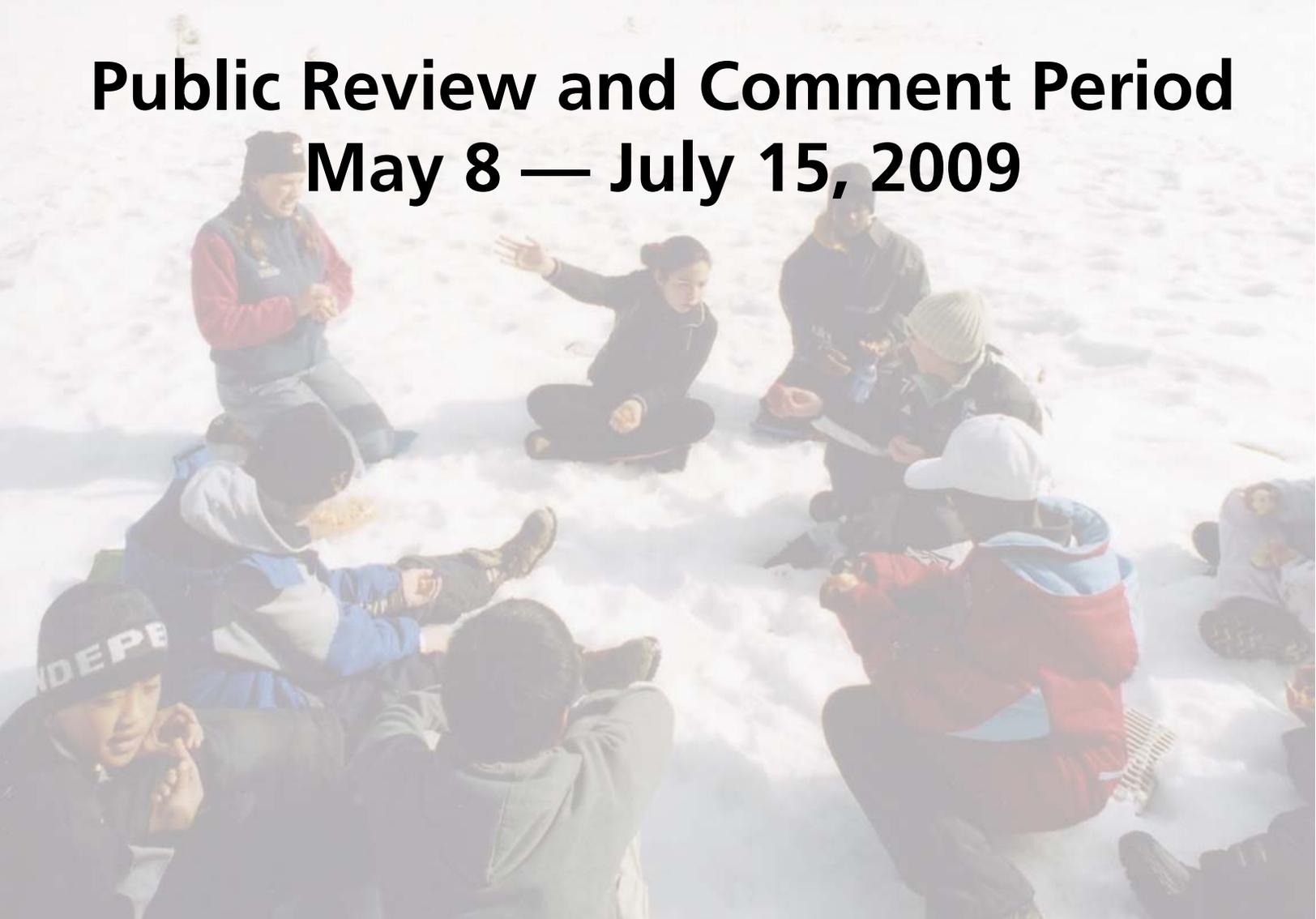




# Participant Guide

to the  
Yosemite Institute  
Environmental Education Campus  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

**Public Review and Comment Period**  
**May 8 — July 15, 2009**





## What Alternatives have been explored and developed?

The alternatives summarized below represent different options for achieving the project's goals. These alternatives include ideas from the public who have participated in an extensive five-year alternatives development and refinement process.

### Alternative 1: No Action



- ◆ YI programs, necessary maintenance, and repairs would continue, but no major improvements to utilities or construction of new buildings would occur.
- ◆ No change in the overnight lodging capacity (76 students and 8 staff) would occur at Crane Flat; the majority of students (about 100) would continue to rely upon commercial lodging in Yosemite Valley or outside the park.
- ◆ No major improvements would be made to create a more sustainable energy- or water-efficient facility. Maintenance staff would continue to face challenges of retrofitting older structures and utilities, attempting to meet modern standards for health, safety, and accessibility.

### Alternative 2: Redevelop Crane Flat



- ◆ Crane Flat campus would be redesigned and enlarged to accommodate approximately 100 more students (with chaperones, teachers, and staff). The new campus would achieve modern standards for health, safety, and accessibility.
- ◆ Most campus buildings (including two historic structures) would be removed and replaced with new sustainable, energy-efficient facilities.
- ◆ Well-water use would be closely regulated to maintain essential levels in surrounding meadows; water would be hauled from off-site during low water periods.
- ◆ YI programs and operations would continue to be focused in and around sensitive Crane Flat meadows (with mitigation measures to protect resources).

### Alternative 3: Heness Ridge campus, (NPS-preferred)



- ◆ Yosemite Institute would relocate programs and operations to a new upland campus that would be constructed at Henness Ridge; YI programs would discontinue in and around sensitive meadows at Crane Flat.
- ◆ The Crane Flat campus site would be restored to natural forest/ meadow conditions. All existing campus structures (including 4 historic buildings, utilities, and parking) would be removed; the site would be reseeded.
- ◆ A new campus would accommodate up to 224 students per session (w/chaperones, teachers, and essential staff), reducing the number of students relying upon commercial lodging in Yosemite Valley by about 100.
- ◆ On-site utilities would be developed (water storage, a solar array, and wastewater treatment). A Chinquapin drinking water treatment system would provide potable water to the visitor comfort station and campus.
- ◆ The campus would be universally accessible and meet all fire, health and safety standards. A new fire station would serve the campus and improve response time for visitor areas and communities between Yosemite Valley and Wawona.

## May 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Open House & Site Visits at Crane Flat and Henness Ridge from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Public meeting at Mariposa County Government Center, Board of Supervisors Chambers; from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

## June 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Open House & Site Visits at Crane Flat and Henness Ridge from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Public Meeting at Fort Mason, GGNRA from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

## Public Review & Comment Period: May 8 — July 15, 2009

### Why is commenting important?

Although the NPS has expertise in Yosemite, it would be impossible to know all the issues of importance to visitors and those with special ties to that area—this wealth of knowledge and input comes from the visitors themselves. Park plans are enriched by contributions of ideas from the public...*one comment can make a difference!*

### When can I talk to park staff in person about the DEIS?

The public review and comment period **for the DEIS is open from May 8, 2009** through July 15, 2009. **Public Open Houses with site visits will be held in Yosemite on May 27 and June 24, 2009 from 1-4 pm (call 209-379-1365 for details).** Public meetings will also be held on May 28, 2009 at the Mariposa County Government Center, Board of Supervisors Chambers from 4-7pm and at Fort Mason, Golden Gate National Recreation Area on June 17, 2009 from 4- 8 pm. Park staff will be available to discuss the plan, answer questions, and accept comments.

### How can I get a copy of the DEIS and submit my written comments?

Copies of the document can be obtained in person at public meetings or on the park website at <http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/eecampus.htm>

Comments must be submitted in writing using one of the following means::

By email to: [yose\\_planning@nps.gov](mailto:yose_planning@nps.gov)

By fax to: (209)379-1294

By mail to: Superintendent, Attn: YIEEC DEIS, PO Box 577, Yosemite, CA 95389