



## Memo To File

**To:** Files  
**From:** Superintendent, Deanna Dulen  
**Through:** Environmental Compliance and Planning Division  
**Subject:** Programmatic Categorical Exclusion Renewal

### Annual Updates to the Superintendent's Compendium

#### A. Project Information

Park Name: Devils Postpile National Monument

PEPC Project Number: 46909

Project Location: Madera County, California

Project Leader: Deanna Dulen

Administrative Record Location: DEPO and SEKI

Administrative Record Contact: Deanna Dulen

#### B. Project Description-PROGRAMMATIC CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

This programmatic categorical exclusion (PCE) initiates annual review of the Superintendent's Compendium. Proposed changes to the existing compendium would be considered and the compendium updated annually per authorization by the Superintendent.

The following changes/ clarifications have been incorporated into the 2018 programmatic CE and Superintendents Compendium:

Added:

#### 36 CFR §1.5 – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USES OR ACTIVITIES

##### Closures:

##### **Devils Postpile Campground**

A temporary closure of the Devils Postpile Campground will be in effect for the 2018 operating season (June-September)

##### *Justification section:*

*Devils Postpile National Monument has limited day-use facilities that do not meet the demands of the 150,000 annual visitors. There is a lack of day-use facilities due to congestion from parking lots and the campground. A higher quality recreation experience is needed for pleasant picnic areas and improved access to the river for fishing.*

*Extensive parking congestion occurs in the monument after Labor Day when the mandatory shuttle operations cease, and at times visitors are turned away due to lack of parking. Often, the current parking capacity of 65 spaces cannot accommodate fall shoulder season visitors, when, on average, 500 cars arrive daily. By using the campsites for overflow parking, many more vehicles can park and fewer vehicles will be turned away.*

The final 2018 Superintendent's Compendium is posted in PEPC Step 1- Project Set-Up under "File List."

### C. Required Mitigation

- As warranted, potential impacts to resources would be evaluated separately when implementation, updates, or modifications to the Superintendent's Compendium could affect them.

### D. Description of Previous Compliance Documentation

This programmatic categorical exclusion has been in place since 2013 and was prepared to cover routine activities that occur on an annual basis. There are no substantial changes to the project description or program activities mentioned in the previous document and project locations have not changed. Impact topics were evaluated and there is no change in the context, duration, or severity. There are no modifications in the affected environment (no newly listed threatened or endangered species, or listing of a resource in the National Register of Historic Places, etc.). The Project Lead is responsible for ensuring that all mitigation measures are followed and to notify the Environmental Compliance Specialist if any alterations to the said document occur.

### E. Categorical Exclusion Authority (Section 3-4 of D0-12)

A.8 Modifications or revisions to existing regulations, or the promulgation of new regulations for NPS- administered areas, provided the modifications, revisions or new regulations do not: a) Increase public use to the extent of compromising the nature and character of the area or causing physical damage to it, b) Introduce noncompatible uses which might compromise the nature and characteristics of the area, or cause physical damage to it, c) Conflict with adjacent ownerships or land uses, or d) Cause a nuisance to adjacent owners or occupants.

### F. Conclusion

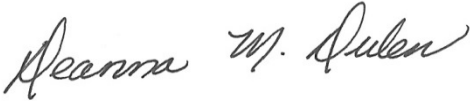
There are no substantial changes to project scope; project description, or project locations. The description of impacts (context, intensity, and duration) remains as described in the previous NEPA document, and site conditions have not changed. After careful review, I concur that the previous document adequately describes and analyzes the impacts for Annual Updates to the Superintendent's Compendium. On the basis of the environmental impact information in the statutory compliance file, with which I am familiar, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No exceptional circumstances or conditions in the Section 3-6 apply, and the action is fully described in the Section 3-4 of DO-12.

### G. Signatory

Recommended

Compliance Specialist	Date
NANCY HENDRICKS	Digitally signed by NANCY HENDRICKS Date: 2018.06.07 13:28:15 -07'00'

Approved

Superintendent	Date
	June 6, 2018