

**NEPA COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST**

*internal use only*

**Sequoia National Forest  
Western Divide Ranger District**

**Name of Project: Mountain Hardware Still Photography - Temporary Special Use Permit.**

**Description of Project:**

Authorizing Ted Hesser Photography to take still photography on Forest Service lands, specifically at the Needles. Activities will take place on the Western Divide Ranger District in the Giant Sequoia National Monument.

**Filming Dates:** 10/03/19 – 10/06/19.

**Parking (vehicles, equipment, aircraft):** Vehicles will be parked at Needles trailhead

**Filming activities:** Four people (including photographer) will be rock climbing on the Needles. Still shots will be taken of climber using advertised equipment. Climbing will be done on well used routes with traditional trad gear.

**Ground Disturbance**

Ground disturbing activities (such as vehicle parking, walking, and campsite set up) is expected to be minimal and similar to the casual visitor in the already established parking area. No impact to rock formations is expected.

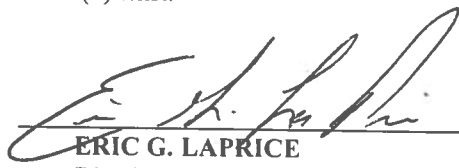
**Purpose of Checklist:** For projects categorically excluded under NEPA that do not require a decision memo, this checklist documents that there are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action that warrant further analysis and documentation in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

<b>Applicable Categorical Exclusions for Projects Not Requiring a Decision Memo</b>		
For full description of each category and examples refer to FSH 1909.15, Chapter 30.		
32.11 Categories Established by the Secretary 7 CFR 1b.3		32.12 Categories Established by the Chief 36 CFR 220.6(d)
(1) Policy admin. development/planning		(1) Prohibit for resource protection
(2) Activities related to funding/money		(2) Admin procedures, processes, instructions
(3) Inventories, research activities, studies		(3) Repair/maintain Admin. Sites
(4) Educational and information activities		(4) Repair/maintain roads, trails, landlines
(5) Law enforcement and investigation		(5) Repair/maintain Rec. Sites/Facilities
(6) Advisory or consultative activities		(6) Acquisition of land or interest in land.
(7) Trade representation/market develop		(7) Sale or exchange of land with same land use
	X	(8) Approve/modify/continue less than 1 year Special Use Permit
		(9) New Permit for existing ski area for administrative changes only
		(10) Amend/Replace existing Special Use Permit for administrative changes only
32.4 Statutory NEPA Exception		
		16 USC 6231 – Organization Camp Special Use Authorization

Determination of Extraordinary Circumstances for the Proposal 36 CFR 220.6(a)				
Resource Conditions 36 CFR 220.6(b)	Resource Condition Present?		For Resource Conditions that are Present, the following Findings are made:	Reference material used to support finding of no extraordinary circumstance
	Yes	No		
(1) Federally listed threatened or endangered <b>Terrestrial Wildlife Species</b> or their designated critical habitat, species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat, or Forest Service sensitive species	X		Peregrine falcon have been known to nest within the project area, however timing of project is outside of nesting season. No impacts are expected.  No federally listed threatened or endangered terrestrial wildlife species or designated critical habitat, species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat, or Forest Service sensitive species will be <u>adversely</u> affected by this proposal.	District Wildlife Biologist
(4) Flood plains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds;		X		
(5) Congressionally designated areas, such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas; <sup>1</sup>		X		
(6) Inventoried roadless areas or potential wilderness areas;		X		
(7) Research natural areas;		X		
(8) American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites, and		X		
(9) Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas.		X		

I have considered the above listed resource conditions and determined there are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action that warrant further analysis and documentation in an EA or EIS. None of the extraordinary circumstances described in 36 CFR 220.6 (b) exist.

Signature



ERIC G. LAPRICE  
District Ranger

Date

9/25/19