Subject: South Fork Recreation Site - Campground Host Site Project

To: Teresa Benson, Forest Supervisor

From: Alfred Watson, District Ranger

I have determined that the South Fork Recreation Site - Campground Host Site Project falls within a category of actions listed in the Forest Service Handbook (FSH) that may be excluded from environmental documentation. The particular category is found at FSH 1909.15, Chapter 32.12 (5) Categories Established by the Chief – Repair and maintenance of recreation sites and facilities [36 CFR 220.6(d)(12)].

This category is appropriate because the project involves improvement of a host site in order to facilitate care and maintenance of recreation facilities. Attached is a checklist completed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documenting there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with the project necessitating preparing an environmental analysis or environmental impact statement.

Enclosure
Sequoia National Forest
Kern River Ranger District

Name of Project: South Fork Recreation Site - Campground Host Site Project

Description of Project: This project will involve development of a campground host site at South Fork Recreation site. Construction of the host site will involve use of heavy equipment to create a back-in spur, approximately 18’ wide by approximately 138’ long and surfaced with aggregate. Additionally, electrical, sewage and water service will be installed via underground trenches. Electrical and sewage will be connected to existing service near adjacent restroom, and water service will be connected to existing waterline within campsites. See Site Map, attached. Work is expected to be performed using Forest Service staff, with the exception of electrical and sewage hook-ups which will be performed by private contractor.

Purpose of Project: This action is necessary to provide for improved visitor services and care and maintenance of recreation facilities within the South Fork Recreation Site, a recreation fee site. Providing a campground host site, and subsequently a campground host, will increase capacity to better manage this site, and provide for improved visitor services. Location of the campground host site provides for easy public access, high visibility/easy for public to locate the host, and overall area visibility from site in order to monitor activity within the area.

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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Determination of Extraordinary Circumstances for the Proposal 36 CFR 220.6(a)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resource Conditions 36 CFR 220.6(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource Condition Present? Yes No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For Resource Conditions that are Present, the following Findings are made:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference material used to support finding of no extraordinary circumstance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federally listed or Proposed, Threatened, or Endangered Species or Designated or Proposed Critical habitat, or FS sensitive wildlife species</td>
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<tr>
<td>Floodplains, wetlands or municipal watersheds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congressionally designated wilderness, wilderness study areas, or National Recreation Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventoried Roadless Areas or potential wilderness areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Natural Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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: ________________________________

ALFRED WATSON
District Ranger

Date: 11/16/2018
South Fork Recreation Site – Campground Host Site Project
Vicinity Map