

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section _____ Page _____

=====

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 14000414

Date Listed: 7/18/2014


Frog Creek Cabin
Property Name

Tuolumne
County

CA
State

Yosemite National Park MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

7/18/2014

Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Location:

The location is amended to read: *South shore Lake Eleanor, along Frog Creek.*

Classification:

The name of the related multiple property listing should read: *Yosemite National Park MPS.*
The Number of Previously Listed Resources should read: *0*

Significance:

The Period of Significance is revised to read: *1936—1956.*
[This reflects the date of construction and use of the contributing resource.]

The Significant Dates *1933 and 1934* are deleted.
[All selected significant dates must be contained within the selected period of significance.]

These clarifications were confirmed with the NPS FPO office.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

414

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Frog Creek Cabin
other names/site number Frog Creek Egg-collecting Station, Lake Eleanor Egg-Collecting Station
Yosemite National Park Building No.MA2300

2. Location

street & number N/A not for publication
city or town Yosemite National Park vicinity
state California code CA county Tuolumne code 109 zip code 95321

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide local

Robert L. Mott Signature of certifying official/Title FPO Date June 4, 2014
National Park Service State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Carol Roland-Nawi Signature of commenting official Date
Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D. State Historic Preservation Officer
California Office of Historic Preservation State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- other (explain:)
- determined eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 7/18/2014

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
	1	structures
		objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

- DOMESTIC – Institutional housing
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE – Trout egg-collecting station
- OTHER - Station for field operations

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

- DOMESTIC – Institutional housing
- OTHER - Station for field operations

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

- OTHER – National Park Service Rustic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

- foundation: STONE – granite rubble
- walls: WOOD – lap board siding
- roof: WOOD – Sugar pine shingles
- other: CHIMNEY – granite rubble

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Frog Creek Cabin is located on the southern shore of Lake Eleanor in the northwest region of Yosemite National Park in California. The boundary area is slightly less than two and a half acres and occupies a level parcel of land approximately 200 feet from the high water mark of the lake. The cabin is nestled amongst a sparse to moderately dense forest of cedars and pines that allows scenic views of the lake. The ruins of a former trout egg-collecting station are located in Frog Creek channel, 100 feet to the north of the cabin. The Frog Creek Cabin is a subdued, single-story frame cabin intended for utilitarian purposes. It was constructed in the National Park Service Rustic Style. The cabin is rectangular in plan, approximately 14' by 28', with a small screened porch extending from the west façade. The main portion of the building is clad in stained lap-board siding, while the porch has stained board and batten half -walls and upper screened panels. A wide, over-hanging gable roof and a granite rubble foundation wall serves to visually anchor the cabin to the surrounding landscape. The roof is clad in sugar pine shingles and is interrupted on its west slope by a granite rubble chimney flue. The interior living space consists of a single bunk room, kitchen, and enclosed screened porch. The cabin is in good condition and has had very minimal alteration since its construction.

Narrative Description

Setting

The Frog Creek Cabin was constructed to serve as seasonal housing for workers at the Frog Creek trout egg-collecting station in Yosemite National Park in California. During the period of significance, the station supplied the Happy Isles Fish Hatchery with over a million eggs annually and facilitated a self-sustaining fish propagation program within the park boundaries. The cabin and what remain of the station are strategically located along the southern shore of Lake Eleanor within the northwest region of the park. As discussed further in Section 8, Frog Creek was the ideal location for an egg-collecting station due to surrounding development and an ample supply of mature trout in Lake Eleanor. The Lake Eleanor reservoir is situated in a glacially carved valley at an elevation of 4605 to 4660 feet above sea level. High Sierra Nevada peaks visible to the northeast and the surrounding forested hills make for a very scenic setting at the lake level. The reservoir spans a distance of three miles with an average width of 0.7 mile, encompassing an area of 892 acres. Frog Creek is one of three tributaries to Lake Eleanor; however, it is the only tributary with a gradual elevation change and a current mild enough for spawning trout.

Access to the Frog Creek Cabin is now limited to foot traffic from the Lake Eleanor Ranger Station trailhead, approximately two and a half miles southwest, or by boat. The hike parallels the southern shore of Lake Eleanor and changes slightly in elevation from the natural contours of the landscape. The first mile and a half portion of the trail was once the corridor of the Lake Eleanor Road, out of service since 1984. Because of its former use, the trail corridor is much wider than a standard hiking trail and still contains sections of deteriorated asphalt. Remnants of the service road provide evidence of a time period when this area of the park was much more actively

The cabin is located on level terrain roughly thirty vertical feet above the lake level; approximately 200 feet southeast of Lake Eleanor's high water mark and 270 feet southwest of Frog Creek. Land beyond the boundary of the cabin rises steeply to the east and south forming a ridge line that roughly parallels the lake. The climate, typical of mid-elevation Sierra Nevada, is characterized by mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers, with virtually all of the precipitation occurring from October to May. At an elevation of 4700 ft, the vegetation immediately surrounding the cabin is lower montane needleleaf woodland with moderately dispersed incense cedar, yellow pine, and woody shrubs. Small glacial deposits and a few widely spaced boulders are shrewd about the surrounding forest floor. A dense tree canopy provides ample shading in the morning and afternoon. A small backpacker's campground, containing a metal bear box¹ and metal fire ring, is located eighty feet northwest of the cabin.

The mouth of Frog Creek to the northeast is the former site of the only permanent trout egg-collecting station erected in Yosemite National Park. The creek is made up of a main channel with large cobblestones and a smaller feeder channel, both draining into Lake Eleanor. The entire width of both channels spans roughly fifty yards. Today only ruins of the egg-collecting station remain. The remaining structure does add some degree of interpretation to the property; however, it lacks a significant amount of historic integrity and has been altered a great deal. The station is considered a non-contributing resource to the property and will be discussed below, as well as, within Section 8.

Frog Creek Cabin

The Frog Creek Cabin was built in 1936 to building specifications provided by the National Park Service's (NPS) Regional Branch of Plans and Designs. Construction blueprints specifically stated that plans were subject to change in the field; however, very few modifications were actually made. The cabin is a single-story frame building, rectangular in plan, with a screened porch extending from the west façade. The cabin's entry gable is oriented to the south and has a roof ridgeline running roughly north-south. This orientation affords ease of access to the cabin from the foot trail leading from the south and gives views of Lake Eleanor from the west facing porch. A foundation of local granite rubble wraps the perimeter of the building and contains a three-riser stair leading to the entry door. Interior living space consists of a single living room, kitchen and the enclosed screened porch.

Exterior

The footprint of the Frog Creek Cabin measures approximately 14' by 28' with a 13' by 4' projection from the southwest corner to encompass the porch. The building has a pier foundation with a veneered perimeter foundation wall of random granite rubble masonry. The interior piers are constructed of board-formed concrete, five feet on center. Stones for the foundation wall were harvested locally at the time of construction and set in a recessed mortar bed. The height of the foundation adjusts to the natural contour of the surrounding land as it gently slopes towards Lake Eleanor. The foundation wall increases from five inches on the east elevation to twenty inches along the west elevation. The east and west elevations of the wall are interrupted by a pair of foundation vents, 14" by 6", constructed of scrap sheet metal with small puncture holes. Entry steps were incorporated in the south elevation of the foundation wall and continued the random granite rubble masonry. Three steps rise to a height of 20" and are 42" wide. Overall the foundation is in good condition with some organic growth growing in the mortar beds.

¹ Bear boxes are metal food caches for hikers and campers provided by the park as a natural resource management tactic to deter wild bears from habituating to human food. The boxes are approximately 4' wide, 2'tall, and 2.5' deep.

The cabin's exterior walls are finished with redwood lapped siding with a ten-inch reveal and an unembellished water table. The building is anchored with redwood sill plates bolted directly to the foundation piers. The enclosed porch is original to the initial construction and serves as a transitional space between the exterior and interior. It is constructed of a square post frame and half walls of redwood board and batten. Upper sections of the porch walls contain metal screened mesh. Although the building materials of the porch differ slightly from the main portion of the building, the construction of the porch maintains a cohesive feel to the overall interpretation of the building and visually ties the two spaces together through the use of similar material. The only entry door to the cabin is located on the south elevation and opens into the porch space. The door has a lower panel of horizontal tongue and groove boards and the upper portion is screened with two horizontal metal supports. A push board and kick plate have been added to the door to maintain the original material. Each façade is punctuated with a pair of two-lite sash windows (with the lites set on the horizontal) complete with vertical plank shutters; the only exception is a pair of one-lite sash windows (again, with the lites set on the horizontal) along the south. Exterior sash profiles are painted in a contrasting Kelly green. It is highly likely that the sashes were originally painted with Paris Green, a popular coating for window sashes up until the 1950s. Paris Green contained copper arsenate and was a reliable weather resistant material. The shutters are constructed of vertical redwood boards with an exterior layer of galvanized sheet metal. This exterior layer was put in place during the time of construction to deter bears and aid in winterizing the cabin. A metal cross brace is fastened to the board siding to secure the shutters tight against the window sashes. The green detailing of the windows as well as the treatment of the shutters can be seen on other cabins throughout Yosemite's backcountry. An attic access door, approximately 2' by 2', is located on the north gable end and a wooden louvered attic vent, 10" by 2', is on the south gable end. All exterior fabric has been treated with a preservative stain, making it one of a limited number of NPS buildings in the park that has not been painted in the modern Park Service brown.

The gable roof of the building is oriented on a longitudinal axis roughly north-south and has a shallow pitch of seven over twelve. The wide over-hanging eaves of the cabin feature exposed dimensional lumber rafter tails and roof sheathing. The roof is clad in sugar pine shingles (10" reveal) and finished with a shingled ridge cap. A chimney flue is located on the west slope of the roof roughly near the building's center. The use of local granite rubble on the flue coordinates with the foundation wall and helps tie it to the building.

The majority of exterior building fabric is original to the design and initial construction of the building. Preservation maintenance conducted in 1995 resulted in a new, in-kind roof and replacement of some exterior siding. All work was accomplished in keeping with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, and therefore does not diminish the integrity of the building. The cabin is presently in good overall condition with some deterioration to the board siding from bears. Claw marks are evident and small sections of boards have been ripped off, especially on the rear (east) façade. Thoughtful construction of the Frog Creek Cabin exemplifies the National Park Service Rustic Style and stays true to the style's fundamental principles. Architectural elements found on the cabin that are characteristic of the style include: use of local materials, wide overhanging eaves, stained board siding, wood shingles, and an overall low profile. The use of local materials and natural elements is a key element in the Rustic Style and serves to tie the building to the surrounding landscape.

Interior

The interior rectangular plan of the Frog Creek Cabin consists of a main living room, kitchen and screened porch and constitutes approximately 445 square feet. Flooring throughout the cabin, including the porch, is 3" wide, stained tongue and groove Douglas-fir. Interior walls and ceiling of the kitchen and living room have been finished

with a narrow beadboard, stained a reddish brown color. A 4" high baseboard wraps the perimeter of the rooms and a similar wide trim has been used on the windows and doors. A small quarter round trim serves as the crown molding. The interior wall material and trim were in fact the only modifications to the building specifications made during construction. Original plans called for wallboards with battens rather than the beadboard paneling and all interior trim was to be quarter-round. Interior doors are standard hollow-core with brass deadbolts and appear to be modern replacements. Built-in cabinets and a basin sink are located along the south wall of the kitchen. During the period of significance, a creek-fed plumbing system supplied the cabin with running water. However, the plumbing has since been disassembled and the sink fixtures have been removed. A small "food cache" bunker is located under the northeast corner of the kitchen to hold perishables. The cache is accessed through a hinged door in the floorboards and extends down four feet from the kitchen floor (3'4" below grade). It is constructed of 6" thick board-formed concrete walls. Both the cabinetry and food cache are original features within the cabin and were included on the building specifications. Furniture throughout the cabin consists of modest movable pieces such as table and chairs, metal framed beds, and a dresser. The dresser was constructed from scraps of beadboard and wooden crate material. The use of such materials leads to the supposition that CCC workers constructed the dresser shortly after completion of the cabin. A kitchen cast iron stove, original to the period of significance, is intact but no longer functioning. Camping lanterns currently provide the only source of artificial lighting within the cabin; there are several wall mounted oil lamps in the cabin but they are non-functioning. The sole heat source for the cabin is a wood stove located along the south wall of the living room. Material evidence suggests that this stove dates to the period of significance; however, it is unclear when it was initially installed. Finishes of the screened porch allow the space to be interpreted as a transitional space between the exterior and interior. Exterior lap-board siding extends into the interior space of the porch along the east and north walls. The other walls have exposed framing and exterior boards. The ceiling has been finished with narrow beadboard, mimicking the interior rooms of the cabin. The majority of hardware present throughout the cabin appears to be contemporary to the period of significance. Surprisingly, there is even a fish can (specially designed container to transport young fish and fish eggs) still present in the kitchen even though the cabin was last utilized by egg-collecting employees in 1956.

Modifications

The Frog Creek Cabin maintains a high degree of historic integrity and has had very minimal modifications since its construction in 1936. The overall usage of space, footprint, layout, and materials has remained constant since the period of significance.

Exterior changes:

- Roofing shingles were originally treated with creosote green stain; today they are treated with a brown tint preservative to blend with the other materials of the building.
- A pushboard and kickplate have been added to entry door to protect the exterior fabric.

Interior Changes:

- Creek-fed water system to the cabin has been decommissioned and is no longer functioning.
- Original building specifications called for single-paneled interior doors. The doors leading from the porch to the kitchen and living room have been replaced with modern hollow-core doors. The door between the kitchen and living room has been removed.

Non-Contributing Structure

The Frog Creek egg-collecting station was built in 1934 for purposes of supplying the Happy Isles Fish Hatchery in Yosemite Valley. Like the Frog Creek Cabin, building specifications were provided by the National Park Service Regional Branch of Plans and Designs. The station facilitated a self-sustaining rainbow trout propagation program in Yosemite National Park and was the only egg-collecting station to be erected within its boundaries. The original egg-collecting station consisted of a fish ladder, wooden fish traps, and a concrete spillway. *(A detailed description of the egg-collection station as-built is provided in Section 8.)* The facility spanned across two channels that make up Frog Creek, approximately 250 feet.

Today only ruins of the facility remain. One hundred year floods during the spring snowmelt of 1997 caused significant disturbance to both the creek bed and the structures. The spillway located in the north-channel was destroyed and the ruins were obscured by creek channel realignment. The spillway within the south-channel is now partially buried, with only a 130 foot section and original metal pole railing visible today. The metal railing was severely warped during the floods but remains relatively in place. A log and debris dam has built up on the backside of the spillway and continues to cause structural stress on the ruins. A substantial ninety foot portion of the fish ladder is also present along the south bank of the creek. The ladder suffered structural cracking and has been filled in with rubble debris and organic materials from the flooding. Although the egg-collecting station does add some degree of interpretation to the property, it has been substantially damaged and is not in its original configuration. All wooden components that were part of the original design and construction of the structure are no longer in place. Overall, the structure does not retain a notable degree of historic integrity and is therefore considered non-contributing.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

CONSERVATION

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1933 - 1956

Significant Dates

1933 – Egg-collecting station erected

1934 – Station apparatuses were damaged by spring floods and had to be repaired

1936 – Frog Creek Cabin completed in September to house seasonal workers

1937 – Station damaged from floods, rebuilt

1940s – operations temporarily halted

1956 – Aerial fish propagation makes station obsolete; station is abandoned and cabin used for other natural resource management activities

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Architect: National Park Service Regional Branch of Plans and Designs

Constructed by: Civilian Conservation Corps

Period of Significance (justification)

1933 – 1956

The period of significance for the Frog Creek Cabin and its contributing resource is 1933 – 1956. This timeframe corresponds to the development of the built environment at the Frog Creek facility for functions associated with National Park Service administration and its usage as a trout egg-collecting station. The specific placement of the facility was selected by park administrators and strategically located near the primary spawning tributary of Lake Eleanor. In 1933, a concrete spillway and wooden fish traps were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps to span the entire width of Frog Creek. These structures would be repaired multiple times while the Frog Creek egg-collecting station was in operation due to damage incurred from spring run-off floods. In 1936, a nearby cabin was constructed to house seasonal workers during the trout spawning months. Designs for the cabin and egg-collecting station were produced by the National Park Service Regional Branch of Plans and Designs and constructed by Civilian Conservation Corps members. The cabin retains its original footprint and has not been significantly altered since its original construction date. Egg-collecting activities at Frog Creek ceased in 1956 with the closing of a state owned fish hatchery within Yosemite Valley. The period from 1933 to 1956 both aligns with the architectural development of the Frog Creek facility, for Criterion C, and helps illustrate the implementation of a self-sustaining fish propagation program and changing park philosophy of natural resource management, for Criterion A.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Frog Creek Cabin is locally and regionally significant under *Criterion A* as a building associated with the evolution of natural resource management and conservation philosophies within Yosemite-National Park. The cabin also serves as a lasting testament to a larger contextual history of fish propagation and planting throughout the Sierra Nevada region. An egg-collecting station was constructed near the mouth of Frog Creek in 1933 to promote a self-sustaining fish propagation program within Yosemite National Park. A few years later, the Frog Creek Cabin was constructed by Civilian Conservation Corps members to house seasonal workers for the facility. Although the egg-collecting station has been damaged by floods, the cabin remains unaltered and continues to serve its original capacity as an outlying patrol cabin for natural resource management activities. The period of significance for the Frog Creek Cabin is 1933-1956. This time frame corresponds with the development of the built environment at Frog Creek and its use as an egg-collecting facility. The cabin was constructed in the National Park Service Rustic Style, making it locally significant under *Criterion C*.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Historical Context

History of Fish Planting in the Yosemite Region

The Yosemite region of California has been recognized as a pioneer in fish propagation in part to its early introduction of fish planting in the 19th century and also because of the innovative techniques by which individuals transported young trout to the high, rugged alpine lakes and streams. Prior to Euro-american settlement in the region, these tributaries were devoid of fish due to extreme elevation changes in the landscape. Only two native species are said to have been found in the Lower Merced River, the rainbow trout and western sucker, but their journey up stream was always halted by the insurmountable waterfalls that plummeted from the valley rims. The introduction of non-native fish species to the barren waters of the Sierra Nevada began primarily as a food supply for those homesteading the rugged landscape. Later on, in the 20th century, propagation continued as a means to maintain an ample supply of game for visitors and attract tourism to the area.

The first well-known distribution of trout within the Yosemite region was made in 1877 in what is now the northwest region of the park by Horace G. Kibbe. Kibbe had established a permanent homestead prior to 1877 near the outlet of Lake Eleanor for himself and his Native American wife. Kibbe applied for a patent to his claim in 1881 and remained in the area until 1913 raising cattle. Kibbe stocked Lake Eleanor and other waterways with rainbow trout to serve as a food supply while he resided at Lake Eleanor. Soon after, other private individuals also began rearing and planting trout into Yosemite's waters - the Lyell Fork of the Tuolumne River, Kibbie Lake, Lake Vernon, Tenaya Lake, and Laurel Lakes. A tradition had begun to plant fish within any and all readily accessible lakes and waterways within the Yosemite region; and the practice would only continue to increase in popularity.

During these formative years of fish planting in Yosemite, young fingerling trout were purchased from hatcheries in northern California or the San Francisco Bay area and then transported into the region. The most common method to transport fish eggs was using a coffee percolator, later referred to as the "coffee pot method". The trips into the high country were not only lengthy but covered some of the most rugged and steepest terrain in the country. Transport of the fragile young trout proved to be an arduous endeavor and many did not survive the journey. The first large-scale fish planting in the Yosemite high country occurred in 1892 as a collaborative effort between the California Fish and Game Commission and Yosemite park administrators. An account of the event demonstrates the complexities involved in the transporting process:

"On this first successful planting the shipment [from the old Sisson hatchery, now the Mt. Shasta hatchery] arrived at Raymond, from whence it was sent in stages furnished by the Washburn Brothers of Wawona. Here the fish were held overnight in the stream and the following morning were transported by means of government ambulance to Mono Meadows, then transported by pack trains delivering them to Ostrander and Merced Lakes, to Bridal Veil creek and several other lakes and streams..."

— H.C. Bryant, Director Yosemite School of Field Natural History, 1892

Fish planting activities in Yosemite and other national parks was seen as an opportunity to attract visitors and provide for their recreation. Fish planting was, in fact, the "one exception" in Yosemite's wildlife policy and the induced territorial expansion of trout and other fish species proliferated tremendously. Aside from the high recreational use, fish stocking was further justified from the perception that "fish populations are less easily

destroyed and can be more readily replaced than any other type of animal.”² Yosemite National Park administrators began working in collaboration with the California Fish and Game Commission to establish fish propagation facilities within the park boundary to provide a localized source to supply the demand from visiting anglers.

Fish Propagation Facilities in Yosemite National Park

The Wawona Hatchery was the first facility built within the park boundaries to support fish planting activities. The hatchery was built in 1895 and served as a more convenient and localized source for fish propagation until 1928. Funding for the facility was provided by the Wawona Hotel Company then it later operated under the California Fish and Game Commission. Even with the new facility at Wawona operating at full capacity, the demand for trout proved to be too great and the park continued to be dependent on outside hatcheries. In 1918 and 1919 an experimental hatchery in Yosemite Valley was operated by the Fish and Game Commission. Incentive to build an additional hatchery to alleviate the demand on the Wawona hatchery would not escalate until the late 1920s.

California Route 140, or known by its marketed name the “All-Weather Highway”, was completed in 1926 to provide a safer and more efficient thoroughfare into Yosemite National Park. For the first time in its history, Yosemite had become a year-round park. The highway permitted access to Yosemite Valley throughout the winter months and increased summer tourism exponentially. In anticipation of the crowds and increased anglers, park administrators teamed up with the Fish and Game Commission in 1927 to begin work on the new Happy Isles Fish Hatchery³, also known as the Yosemite Hatchery. The new building took the place of the former experimental hatchery and was constructed in the National Park Service Rustic Style. All funding and operations of the facility were provided by the Fish and Game Commission on land leased from the Department of the Interior. Unlike the hatchery at Wawona, there was also an emphasis on providing interpretation and visitor interaction. National Park Service Rangers led guided nature tours through the operating facility to teach visitors about fish propagation and to help instill wildlife conservation ethics.

In heavily fished river areas, such as those found in Yosemite Valley, very few trout ever reached a mature spawning age before being captured. Great effort was put forth by both the Fish and Game Commission and Yosemite administrators to conserve a plentiful supply of trout. Streams and rivers on the valley floor alone were stocked with as many as 250,000 to 300,000 fish annually, depending on supply. While some of the trout eggs reared at the Happy Isles Hatchery were collected within the park boundary using primitive methods, the Fish and Game Commission still continued to rely on outside hatcheries to keep up with demand. The process of transporting young trout became much more complex and far removed from the much earlier “coffee pot” method. Specialized metal fish cans with oxygen intakes were used during the transporting process and ensured more young trout were able to reach their destination. The fish eggs would travel by railroad cars from the hatcheries to holding facilities near Yosemite. Here they would be transported by truck to Happy Isles and be reared until ready to stock. National Park Service Rangers would take over the operation at this point and transport the fish by mule train into the backcountry.

² Evans, Willis A., Orthello L. Wallis, “Fishes of Yosemite National Park”, Yosemite Nature Notes Special Edition, Yosemite Naturalist Department and the Yosemite Natural History Association, Vol. XXIII, No.1, Jan. 1944 (Revised 1948)

³ The Happy Isles Fish Hatchery (presently referred to as the Happy Isles Nature Center) is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing structure to the Yosemite Valley Historic District, entered Dec. 2006.

Yosemite National Park had become heavily involved in the fish propagation activities that had formerly been left more to the discretion of the Fish and Game Commission. Through this involvement, park administrators began to better understand how fish populations were affecting ecosystems within the park boundary and a more progressive conscious of natural resource management took root. The first policies specifically targeting the management of fish species were enacted while the Happy Isles hatchery was in operation. A contract was maintained with the Fish and Game Commission that all fish hatched from eggs collected within the park boundaries must be returned to park waters, while leniency was given for the outcome of fish hatched from eggs collected outside the park. By the early 1930s, Yosemite administrators began to tighten the reigns of natural resource management even further. Restrictions began being placed on importing fish eggs from outside of the park boundaries and administrators pushed towards a self-sustaining fish propagation program. Hatchery activities were now fully focused on supplementing the natural propagation of existing fish populations, rather than introducing new exotic species.

Frog Creek Egg-Collecting Station

In order to maintain these newly formed natural resource management ideals and keep up with angler's high demand of game it was necessary to develop permanent egg-collecting stations within the park. During the summer season of 1932, park administrators strategically sought out and selected a location for such a facility. It would be constructed at Frog Creek, a tributary of Lake Eleanor, in the northwest region of the park. The location proved to be ideal for numerous reasons: the lake had a plentiful supply of rainbow trout, Frog Creek was a suitable tributary for spawning trout, the location was easily accessible, and it was within an area of park development.

The administrators sought out a location with a plentiful supply of rainbow trout because it was one of only two native species within the park boundary. Even though the rainbow trout in Lake Eleanor were most likely the descendants of those planted by Kibbe in the 1880s, rearing eggs from a population similar to the native species would align with the conservation stocking program. Of the lakes three main tributaries, Frog Creek was the only one with a gradual elevation change and a current mellow enough for the spawning trout. The property was also readily accessible either by boat or by way of a foot trail leading from the Lake Eleanor Road. The Lake Eleanor and Hetch Hetchy Valley regions in the northwest corner of the park had become a hub for development in the late 1910s through the 1930s. The precedent for infrastructure in the area attracted park administrators who preferred not to disrupt other, more pristine areas of the park.

In 1933, the National Park Service's Regional Branch of Plans and Designs produced design plans for the egg-collecting station near the mouth of Frog Creek. The initial construction was initiated in two phases while the lake was at low water level; the project began in 1933 and completed in October of 1934. All construction labor for the project was completed by CCC enrollees under the supervision of park staff. It is unclear how much of the facilities were actually constructed during the 1933 season, however the completed project consisted of a spillway, fish ladder, holding tanks, and trap cages. The fish ladder was constructed of board formed concrete and dimensional lumber. It followed the diagonal line of the natural creek bank, running up stream approximately ninety feet until it abutted the spillway at its southern end. Two spillways, dam structures with three open channels each, were located 150 feet from the high water mark of Lake Eleanor's southern shore. They were also constructed of board-formed concrete and spanned the width of the Frog Creek channel, approximately 150 feet for the north channel and 100 feet for the adjacent south channel. The section profile of the spillway had a narrow walkway on

top and then tapered out to approximately five feet wide at the creek bed. The overall height of the structure was approximately seven feet. Board planks and a metal pole railing spanned each of the spillway channels as a continuation of the walkway to assist facility workers. Each plank was fastened to the spillway by metal tie straps. Three wooden fish traps were located along the southern bank of the creek a few feet upstream from the spillway. These structures resembled wooden, cubed crates approximately five and a half feet in width and rested on the creek bed. As rainbow trout swam up Frog Creek to spawn they would be captured by facility workers and placed into the holding tanks until they were ready to be milked. Eggs were removed from each female by gently squeezing either side of the fish, and then artificially fertilized with the milt taken from the male fish. Fertilized eggs were then transported by truck to the Happy Isles hatchery where they would be reared until ready to plant. While the Frog Creek facility was operating, the park closed Lake Eleanor to public fishing to ensure a healthy population of spawning trout.

The first capture of rainbow trout at the Frog Creek facility occurred in April of 1934 before the project had even reached its completion. During that first year, the egg-collecting operations proved to be extremely successful and were able to supply over half of the total million fertilized fish eggs needed yearly by the Happy Isles Hatchery. It was expected that if operating at maximum capacity the Frog Creek Egg-Collecting station would be able to supply the entire amount in the upcoming years and make the hatchery facility fully self-sustaining.

Seasonal workers, consisting of both state employees and park staff, were stationed at Frog Creek during the spring and fall spawning months. Initially, the men working at the station stayed in a tent camp. However, after the operation proved successful, the park began planning for permanent housing on site. Preliminary plans for the Frog Creek Cabin were prepared by the NPS Regional Branch of Plans and Designs in July of 1935. The initial design called for a rustic log building⁴, but the park superintendant quickly declined this recommendation and requested a frame structure instead. It is believed a frame structure was desired to suit the surrounding areas of Miguel Meadows and Lake Eleanor which were more developed than backcountry wilderness. Plans for the frame building were revised to incorporate the rectangular footprint and shallow pitched gable roof of the original design but modified the overall structural components and layout. The final blueprints were approved September 1935 by the Director of the National Park Service in Washington D.C. The Frog Creek Cabin was completed in September 1936 by CCC workers under the supervision of Yosemite National Park.

The cabin was constructed between the south bank of Lake Eleanor reservoir and the south bank of Frog Creek, approximately 200 feet from the high water mark of the lake. Minimal clearing was done to maintain the natural surroundings. Design plans called for a single story frame building, rectangular in plan, with a screened porch extending from the west façade. The main portion of the cabin that contained the living space was clad with horizontal board siding, while the porch differentiated slightly with half walls of board and batten with upper screen panels. The building was capped with a shallow, pitched gable roof comprised of wide over-hanging eaves and exposed rafter tails. The western slope of the roof was interrupted by a granite rubble chimney. A small foundation wall wrapped the perimeter of the building and was also constructed of local granite rubble. The only entry door to

⁴ The initial plans for Frog Creek Cabin produced by the National Park Service Regional Branch of Plans and Designs called for a rustic log building in keeping with the National Park Service Rustic Style. The modest building would be approximately 30' by 12' rectangular in plan and capped with a shallow pitched gable roof. Exterior details included 10"-12" logs, log rafter tails, exposed overhanging eaves, wood shingles, and a battered chimney at one of the gable ends comprised of large rough-cut stone. Exterior walls were interrupted on each façade by pair(s) of vertical six-lite casement windows and the exterior door on the front elevation was asymmetrical. The interior space consisted of a main bunk room, kitchen, dining nook, and storage closet.

the cabin was placed along the south façade into the porch. Each façade was punctuated with a pair of sash windows complete with vertical plank shutters. The interior living space consisted of a main “living room” (or sleeping room), kitchen, and enclosed porch. A small “food cache” bunker was constructed under the kitchen floor to hold perishables. The kitchen also contained built-in cabinets and a basin sink with creek-fed, running water.

The Frog Creek Cabin was constructed well out of harm’s way of high water but the egg-collecting station certainly did not fare as well. Only a year after its completion CCC crews had to restore apparatuses on the fish ladder from damages of spring run-off floods. In December 1937, a flood washed away the egg-collecting station entirely and had to be rebuilt. Portions of the structures built in 1937 are still present today and serve as the remaining evidence of the egg-collecting activities. Reoccurring spring floods would eventually lead to the final ruin of the facility.

The operations at Frog Creek would lead the park into a new era of conservation and natural resource management concerning fish populations. By 1939, over 900,000 fertilized rainbow trout eggs were supplied by the Frog Creek facility. For the first time, eggs of a native fish species were being harvested, propagated, and planted all within the park boundaries. The operations were briefly shut down in the 1940s during World War II, but quickly resumed when park visitation returned to normal. In 1944, the first National Park Service “Fish Policy”⁵ was initiated by officials. The management document heavily restricted stocking virgin waters with fish, forbid introduction of new fish species, and stated any continued use of stocking exotic species previously introduced must be approved by the Director of the National Park Service and Superintendent of the park. The “Fish Policy” was an important and progressive step for natural resource management in the national parks. However, by this time few barren waters remained in Yosemite – 490 miles of streams and 150 lakes had been stocked with native and/or non-native fish species.

In 1946, the state of California began experimental aerial drops to stock high alpine lakes. It was found that young fingerling trout could withstand the drops from aircraft quite well and the use of airplanes cut down transport time and cost dramatically. By the mid-1950s, Yosemite also began using aerial fish stocking in cooperation with the Fish and Game Commission. This decision reversed some of the conservation ethics that the park had adopted during the operations at Frog Creek. Trout for stocking activities would be produced from larger, more efficient stations outside of the park boundary. The Happy Isles Hatchery soon became obsolete and the state abandoned the facility and egg-collecting station at Frog Creek in 1956.

Rather than raze the fish hatchery buildings in Yosemite Valley and the Frog Creek Facility, the Fish and Game Commission offered them to the National Park Service for continued interpretive purposes. Title to the buildings, tanks, and equipment was transferred on March 1st, 1957. The commission also donated funds for exhibits on Yosemite fish rearing and stocking activities. Several exhibits were provided by the National Foundation for Junior Museums. During the transformation process, the building was renamed the “Happy Isles Nature Center” and was one of Yosemite’s first “Mission 66” projects.⁶ The Yosemite Junior Ranger Program made the

⁵ Evans, Willis A., Orthello L. Wallis, “Fishes of Yosemite National Park”, Yosemite Nature Notes Special Edition, Yosemite Naturalist Department and the Yosemite Natural History Association, Vol.XXIII, No.1, Jan.1944 (Revised 1948)

⁶ The National Park Service Mission 66 initiative sought to improve infrastructure, buildings, and visitor use services within the parks. The initiative incorporated Modernist architectural style and planning concepts of the 1950s.

center its official headquarters. The Frog Creek Cabin continued to be maintained as an outlying field post for natural resource management activities.

Beginning in the 1960s, natural resource managers viewed unnatural fishery activities to be in conflict with the National Park Service's mission to conserve the natural resources unimpaired for future generations. In 1969, the National Park Service adopted a policy to phase out and eventually end fish stocking in all national parks. In Yosemite, limited stocking activities continued until the early 1990s to provide recreational activities. The push to terminate fish stocking programs in Yosemite was primarily a reactive measure to protect wildlife species and ecosystems affected by fish planting. By this time, the programs had provided some 33 million fish for lakes and streams throughout the park. The voracious appetite of all the trout had decimated vertebrate populations such as those of the Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog and the Yosemite toad. In 1991, an agreement was reached between the National Park Service and the California Department of Fish and Game (formerly the California Fish and Game Commission) to stop fish planting – ending over 100 years of the practice. Today great lengths are taken to preserve all natural resources and more natural ecosystem life cycles are encouraged. To improve habitats for native frogs, an experimental fish removal program was begun in 2007 and continues to this day. Fishing continues to be a visitor-use activity today, along with camping, backpacking, and non-motorized boating.

In addition to the termination of fish planting activities, the Wilderness Act of 1964 also made sweeping repercussions to natural resource management objectives within the National Park Service. During the 1980s large acreages throughout the park were designated "wilderness", including all lands surrounding Lake Eleanor. This designation called for the "rewilding" of the Lake Eleanor service road, more or less meaning that the park would stop maintaining the roadway and let the corridor revert back to a more natural state. Today it is utilized and maintained as a foot trail in accordance with a wilderness management plan.⁷ The park removed a car campground that had been located near Miguel Meadows and established a backpacker camp near the Frog Creek Cabin complete with picnic tables and metal fire rings. A National Park Service ranger, occupying the ranger station at the southern end of Lake Eleanor during the late spring through fall, oversees visitor use and natural and cultural resource protection today.

The Frog Creek Cabin remains as the only intact evidence of the fish egg-collecting operations that once existed on the shore of Lake Eleanor. The cabin has been recognized as a significant cultural resource by National Park Service staff. In 1987, Linda Greene, a regional National Park Service Historian, recommended that the cabin be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places in her multi-volume historic resource study of Yosemite.⁸ The cabin served to document a former time in the history of natural resource management within the park. In 1988, the egg-collecting station was in poor condition and park service personnel conducted experimental blasting on the concrete spillway to see if it could be safely removed. However, full demolition of the facility never occurred and what remained was left in-situ. Beginning in the 1990s, the park began preserving the cabin as an important historic resource. In 1995, a major preservation maintenance project was completed on the building by the Yosemite Historic Preservation Crew. The crew enlisted the help of Youth Conservation Corps members to re-roof the entire building and repair siding using in-kind materials. In 1997, Yosemite experienced a devastating 100-year flood that caused damage to resources park-wide. The intensity of the flood was so great that part of Frog Creek

⁷ Mackie, Ronald and James Snyder, *Wilderness Management Plan*, Yosemite National Park, 1989.

⁸ Greene, Linda Wedel. *Historic Resource Study, Yosemite: The Park and Its Resources, A Brief History of the Discovery, Management, and Physical Development of Yosemite National Park, California*. Sept., 1987.

was rerouted and the spillway on the north fork of the creek was completely buried. The spillway, fish ladder, and any remnants that existed of the fish traps in the south fork were destroyed and left in ruins. Although the egg-collecting station does a trivial amount of interpretation to the property, it is considered a non-contributing resource due to the lack of historic integrity. The cabin was added to the National Park Service's List of Classified Structures database in 1999. Today, the cabin remains intact and is utilized seasonally by park resource management staff for field operations.

Architectural Significance

The Frog Creek Cabin was constructed in the National Park Service Rustic Style. Rustic architectural style dominated National Park Service architectural design from 1916 to 1942. With the Rustic Style, early park administrators sought to create a unifying theme for all park structures that tied them together into a cohesive unit that was distinct from the larger world and still remained unobtrusive from the surrounding environment. It reflected the growing conservation ethic and fostered development of a unique architectural style with the building as an accessory to nature. Ultimately the Rustic style enabled the National Park Service to project an image as the federal agency most concerned with preservation of the nation's treasured natural heritage.

*"Rustic style, when successfully handled, through the use of native materials in proper scale and through the avoidance of rigid, straight lines, and over-sophistication, gives the feeling of having been executed by pioneer craftsmen with limited hand tools. It thus achieves sympathy with natural surroundings, and with the past."*⁹

The National Park Service Rustic style is characterized by use of local materials, battered masonry foundations and chimneys, horizontal emphasis, shallow pitched roof, exposed structural members, wide overhanging eaves, and most importantly harmonizing with the surrounding landscape.

The design of Frog Creek Cabin embodies philosophies and distinct characteristics associated with the National Park Service Rustic Style. It was constructed by skilled CCC workers to design specifications provided by the National Park Service Regional Branch of Plans and Designs. The building was constructed as a utilitarian frame structure, with strong emphasis on straight lines. Natural finishes and use of local materials were utilized to harmonize with the surrounding environment. Miguel Meadow Fire Guard Station (1934) is a comparable structure within the northwest region of the park. The Fire Guard Station was also constructed by CCC workers and has many of the same architectural details.

Exterior character defining features include:

- Use of local materials (such as a granite rubble foundation and chimney)
- Horizontal emphasis
- Stained board siding
- Two-lite sash windows, painted Kelly green
- Board plank shutters

⁹ Good, Park Structures and Facilities, 3-4

- Single course sugar pine shingles
- Low profile and shallow pitched roofline
- Wide, over-hanging eaves with exposed rafter tails of dimensional lumber

Additional historic context information

Historic Integrity

The Frog Creek Cabin retains all seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Register's standards: **location, setting, design, material, workmanship, feeling, and association.**

The Frog Creek Cabin remains in its original **location** at the mouth of the Lake Eleanor tributary Frog Creek. Frog Creek was strategically selected as the best location for a trout egg-collecting station due to access, plentiful supply of spawning trout in the lake, and the surrounding development of the Lake Eleanor and Miguel Meadows areas. Because of the remote location the **setting** has remained relatively unchanged, or if anything has become less intrusive. Beginning in the early 1900s, the Hetch Hetchy region of Yosemite saw major civil service engineering projects, most notably the O'Shaughnessy Dam. Infrastructure, such as roads, tramways, gravel pits, and buildings, were put in place to support this massive endeavor. In 1984, lands immediately surrounding Lake Eleanor were designated wilderness. All road systems were abandoned and left to revert to a more natural state. Today the service road serves as a trail corridor and access to the property is limited to foot traffic. With the exception of a backpacker camp near the cabin, no new development has occurred within the cabin's boundary or viewshed since the period of significance.

The Frog Creek Cabin was **designed** by the National Park Service Branch of Plans and Designs to serve as a permanent building for purposes of natural resource management. The cabin was built by Civilian Conservation Corps crew members under the supervision of Yosemite rangers in accordance to the design specifications. The cabin serves as a fine example of National Park Service Rustic style, which incorporates rustic detailing on functional park buildings. The cabin has had very minor alteration over the decades and still retains the majority of its original **material** including: wooden lap-board siding, granite rubble foundation wall, dimensional lumber rafter tails, interior built-in cabinetry and finishes, as well as hardware both on the exterior and interior of the building. The cabin has been preserved intact in part due to its remote setting and continued use by the National Park Service in a comparable function, and outpost for natural resource management activities. Present day maintenance work on the building is conducted by the Yosemite Historic Preservation Crew, in accordance to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. If and when materials need to be replaced, the crew does so with in-kind materials using historic techniques. Although the egg-collecting station has been disturbed, **materials** dating to the period of significance are still present. Board-formed concrete, used on the spillway and fish ladder, was very common during the period of significance. The cabin is in very good condition and has only received minor repairs over the years, which serve to demonstrate the high level of **workmanship** that went into the construction of the cabin. The cabin was intended to be a permanent building and was constructed accordingly by skilled CCC workers. Great effort went into harvesting local materials for entry steps and the veneer foundation wall that surrounds the cabin. Both exterior and interior walls are complete with finish trim and architectural detailing. The **workmanship** of the egg-collecting station is also of import. Like the cabin, the spillway and fish

ladder were intended to be permanent structures and constructed accordingly by skilled CCC workers. Local materials, such as granite rubble, were utilized to reinforce structural walls.

The architectural styling of the Frog Creek Cabin unifies the building with other National Park Service facilities and portrays a *feeling* of utilitarian purpose for the management of park resources. The close proximity and orientation of the cabin to the remaining structures of the egg-collecting station allow visitors to interpret all contributing resources as a singular unit. Although, the spillway and associated structures have been damaged by flooding, there is ample evidence to suggest that what remains was once the site of a natural resource management facility. The property conveys a time period when the northwest region of the park saw much more activity and development. The surrounding land designation as wilderness places heavy restrictions on new development outside of the property boundary and ensures that remaining structures in the Yosemite backcountry are of special interest to the park. This designation protects the context of the property to be interpreted as a significant natural resource management facility. The Frog Creek Cabin and its contributing resource are *associated* with the evolution of natural resource management and conservation philosophies within Yosemite National Park and serves as a lasting testament to a larger contextual history of fish rearing and planting throughout the Sierra Nevada region. Frog Creek egg-collecting station was intended to provide a self-sustaining fish propagation program within Yosemite National Park and provided millions of fertilized trout eggs to the Happy Isles Hatchery. The hatchery has since been recognized as a significant contributing resource to Yosemite Valley Historic District and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Although, the egg-collecting station is no longer in operation, the Frog Creek Cabin remains functioning in a comparable capacity as an outpost for natural resource management activities.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Boinano, Daniel M., Thesis "Predicting the Presence of Self-Sustaining Trout Populations in High Elevation Lakes of Yosemite National Park, California.", Humboldt State University, May 7, 1999.

Building Files for "Frog Creek", Yosemite National Park, Facilities Management, Historic Preservation Crew, El Portal, California.

- Building Files for "Frog Creek Cabin, Bldg. #2300", Facilities Management Customer Service Center, Yosemite National Park, El Portal, California. Nov. 1950.
- Evans, Willis A., Orthello L. Wallis, "Fishes of Yosemite National Park", Yosemite Nature Notes Special Edition, Yosemite Naturalist Department and the Yosemite Natural History Association, Vol.XXIII, No.1, Jan.1944 (Revised 1948)
- Gerdes, Marti, "DRAFT Hetch Hetchy Cultural Landscape Inventory" National Park Service, Yosemite National Park, 2008
- Good, Albert H., Park and Recreation Structures, Princeton Architectural Press, New York. 1999 (Original publishing date: 1938)
- Greene, Linda Wedel. *Historic Resource Study, Yosemite: The Park and Its Resources, A Brief History of the Discovery, Management, and Physical Development of Yosemite National Park, California.* Sept., 1987.
- Hawkins, Dale H., "Narrative Report to Regional Landscape Architect – Region IV Through the Superintendent: Emergency Conservation Work, Camps YNP- 3 YNP-6 YNP-7". Nov 17, 1936. Yosemite National Park Archives, Old Central Files, Monthly Narrative Reports to Chief Architect.
- Keefe, Timothy M., Bruce M. Kahl, and Suzanna T. Montague, The Ackerson Post-Fire Archeological Project, Yosemite National Park, California, Vol. 1, pp.19, Yosemite Research Center, Yosemite National Park, National Park Service, U.S. Dept of the Interior, Yosemite Research Center Technical Report No.5, Feb. 1999
- Kirk, Andy, Richard Coop, Charles Palmer, (UNLV Public History) Draft Nomination for the National Register of Historic Places. Henness Ridge Fire Lookout, Yosemite National Park. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service. March 8, 2004 (Preparation Date)
- Kirn, Laura, Draft Nomination for the National Register of Historic Places. Yosemite Museum, Yosemite National Park. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service. March 8, 2004 (Preparation Date)
- Leitritz, Earl, "Fish Bulletin 150, A History of California's Fish Hatcheries 1870-1960", March 1, 1969, Scripps Institution of Oceanography Library, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego.
- ¹ Mackie, Ronald and James Synder, Wilderness Management Plan, Yosemite National Park, 1989.
- Montague, Suzanna T., "Archeological Survey and Site Documentation at Lake Eleanor", Yosemite Archeology Office, Division of Resources Management & Science, 2000
- National Park Service, List of Classified Structures database, "Frog Creek Patrol Cabin"
- Pavlik, Robert C. "A History of Yosemite's Fish Hatcheries" Rough Draft #1 and accompanying edit notes, Yosemite Research Center, Dec. 13, 1984
- Superintendent's Monthly Reports, Yosemite National Park, [Digital copy accessed through Branch of History, Architecture, and Landscapes digital folders]
- United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Yosemite National Park, Office of Park Engineer, Blueprints for "Fish Egg Collecting Works at Frog Creek" July, 1938. [Digital copy obtained from original, Technical Information Center (TIC) repository, Denver Service Center, National Park Service. Blueprint address: YOSE5356]
- United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Yosemite National Park, Office of Park Engineer, Blueprints for "Window and Door Details for Cabin at Frog Creek" Aug. 22, 1935. [Digital copy obtained from original, Technical Information Center (TIC) repository, Denver Service Center, National Park Service. Blueprint address: YOSE 3161]
- United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Branch of Plans and Designs, Building blueprints for "Cabin at Frog Creek/Miguel Meadow" Aug. 13, 1935. [Digital copy obtained from original, Technical Information Center (TIC) repository, Denver Service Center, National Park Service. Blueprint address: 3161]
- United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Branch of Plans and Designs, Building blueprints for "Cabin at Frog Creek/Miguel Meadow" June 30, 1935. (Proposed plans) [Digital copy obtained from original, Technical Information Center (TIC) repository, Denver Service Center, National Park Service. Blueprint address: YOSE 3161]

Frog Creek Cabin
Name of Property

Tuolumne, CA
County and State

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "Trout of Yosemite" factsheet, illus. Kelly Finan

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "Yosemite National Park: Fish" factsheet,
<http://www.nps.gov/yose/naturescience/fish.htm>, May, 2010.

Yosemite National Park, Nature Notes 1927, 1928, 1930, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1940, 1944

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.35 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>11S</u> Zone	<u>0250203</u> Easting	<u>4207777</u> Northing	3	<u>11S</u> Zone	<u>250296</u> Easting	<u>4207734</u> Northing
2	<u>11S</u> Zone	<u>0250200</u> Easting	<u>4207706</u> Northing	4	<u>11S</u> Zone	<u>0250335</u> Easting	<u>4207831</u> Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property encompasses 2.35 acres along the southern shore of Lake Eleanor in the northwest region of Yosemite National Park. The boundary designation has been determined by the Branch of History, Architecture and Landscapes for purposes of this nomination. The boundary perimeter is shown on an accompanying reference map.

- Western boundary – The western boundary begins at the high water mark of Lake Eleanor (UTM coordinate: 11S 0250203 Easting, 4207777 Northing) and runs due south for 234’ to the social trail (UTM coordinate: 11S 0250200 Easting 4207706 Northing).
- Southern boundary – The southern boundary begins at the social trail and forms an arc, 730’ in length, through a arbitrary point 128’ southeast of the cabin (UTM coordinate 11S 250296 Easting 4207734 Northing) to a northeast point located on the Frog Creek channel (UTM coordinate: 11S 0250335 Easting 4207831 Northing).
- Northern boundary – The northern boundary run southwest from the Frog Creek channel, following the northern edge of the Frog Creek Egg-Collecting Station ruins, to the beginning point at the high water mark of Lake Eleanor. Connection points along the boundary route include: south end of the fish ladder (UTM coordinate: 11S 0250270 Easting 4207796 Northing) and the north end of the fish ladder (UTM coordinate: 11S 0250242 Easting 4207802 Northing). The northern boundary measures 487’ in length.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The Frog Creek Cabin is strategically located at the mouth of Frog Creek for purposes of natural resource management activities. The boundary perimeter encompasses the immediate area surrounding the cabin and its contributing resource, the ruin of a fish egg-collecting facility. This designation contains all that is significant and contributing to the historic character of the property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jennifer Self, Architectural Historian

organization Yosemite National Park
Division of Resources Management and Science
Branch of History, Architecture and Landscapes date _____

street & number 5083 Foresta Road telephone _____

city or town El Portal state CA zip code 95318

e-mail Jennifer_Self@partner.nps.gov

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

I. Property Location Map:

Lake Eleanor Quadrangle, California – Tuolumne County, 705 Minute Series (topographic), United States Department of the Interior, Geological Survey, 1992.

II. Reference and Boundary Map:

Reference map showing the area of Lake Eleanor in the northwest region of Yosemite National Park. Includes insert map showing the location of the cabin in relation to its immediate surroundings and boundary designation.

III. Sketch Map with Photograph Key:

Reference map showing the approximate location of each photograph taken. Information pertaining to each individual photograph can be found below in the "Photograph Index" section.

IV. As-Constructed Building Drawings:

Design specifications produced by the National Park Service Regional Branch of Plans and Designs, No. YOS-3161-A approved by Yosemite National Park Superintendent and National Park Service Director, drawn Aug. 1935, constructed Sept. 1936. Original copy located at the National Park Service Denver Service Center. Digital copy obtained by Yosemite National Park, Division of Resources Management and Science, Branch of History, Architecture and Landscapes.

V. Historic Photographs

Frog Creek Cabin
Name of Property

Tuolumne, CA
County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of property: Frog Creek Cabin
City or Vicinity: Yosemite National Park
County: Tuolumne
State: CA
Name of photographer: Jennifer Self
Date of photographs: September 2009
Location of original digital files:
Yosemite National Park
Division of Resources Management and Science
Branch of History, Architecture and Landscapes
5083 Foresta Rd., Bldg.759, El Portal, CA 95318

Photo #1 (CA_Tuolumne County_Frog Creek Cabin_0001)
South elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #2 (CA_Tuolumne County_Frog Creek Cabin_0002)
West façade, camera facing south.

Photo #3 (CA_Tuolumne County_Frog Creek Cabin_0003)
Interior view of living room, camera facing east.

Photo #4 (CA_Tuolumne County_Frog Creek Cabin_0004)
Interior view of kitchen, camera facing southwest.

Photo #5 (CA_Tuolumne County_Frog Creek Cabin_0005)
View of Egg-Collecting Station ruins, camera facing northeast.

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Yosemite National Park
street & number 5083 Foresta Road telephone _____
city or town El Portal state CA zip code 95318

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Frog Creek Cabin

Name of Property

Tuolumne County, CA

County and State

Historic Resources of Yosemite National Park

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 24

Association with *Historic Resources of Yosemite National Park Multiple Property Submission*

The Frog Creek Cabin is associated with the *Historic Resources of Yosemite National Park Multiple Property Submission*. It is representative of the following historic contexts, as defined in Section E of the MPS cover document: State and Federal Administration of Yosemite, 1864-1966. It is an example of the following property types, as defined in Section F: Resources Associated with State and Federal Administration of Yosemite (1864-1966), with a subtype of NPS Administration.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Frog Creek Cabin

Name of Property

Tuolumne County, CA

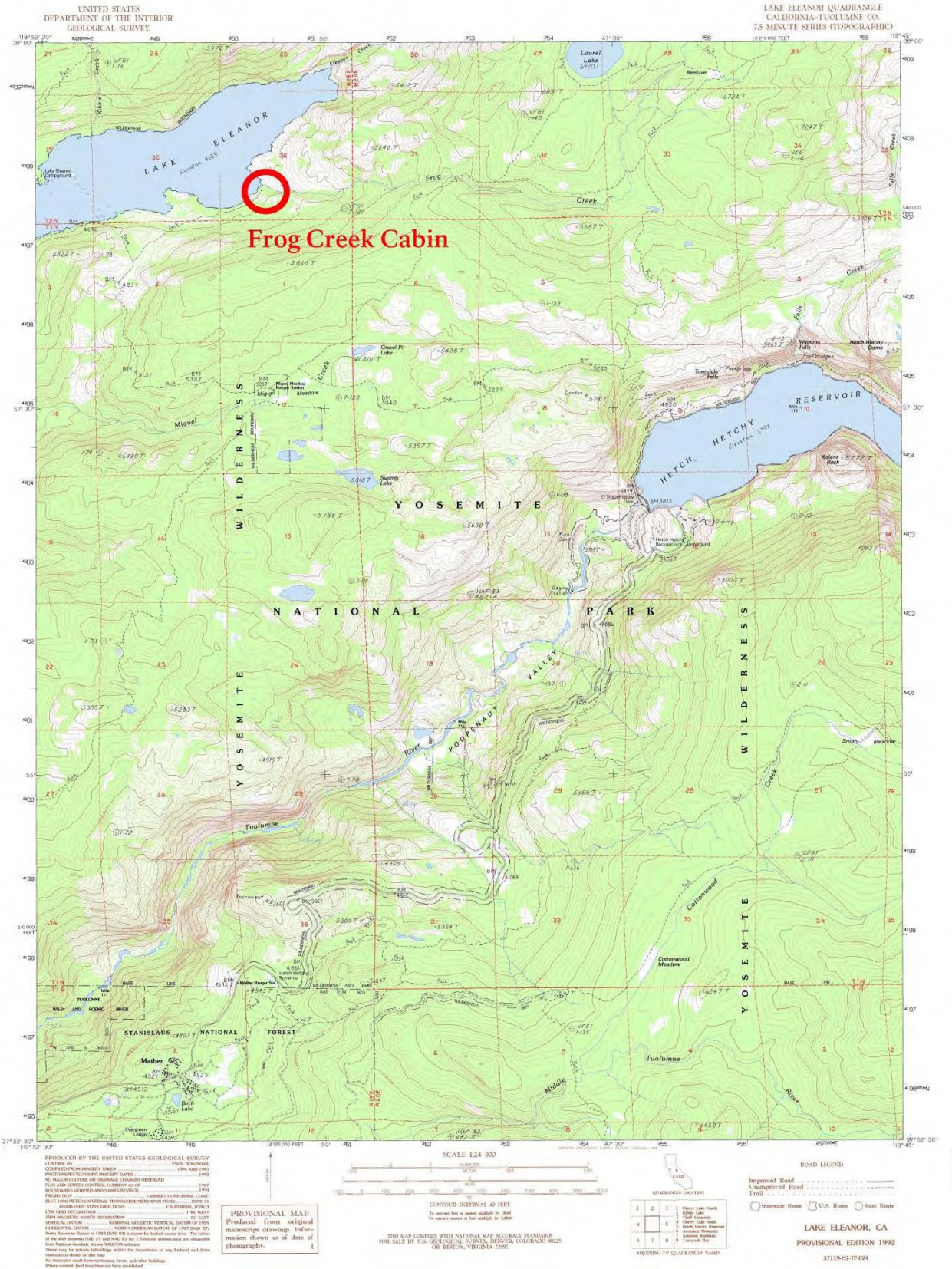
County and State

n/a

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 1



PROVISIONAL MAP
Produced from original
manuscript drawings. Infor-
mation shown as of date of
photograph.

CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET
To assure that in scales smaller than 1:50,000
the contour interval is not smaller than 40 feet.

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ADJOINING 7.5 QUADRANGLE NAMES

ROAD LEGEND

Improved Road
Unimproved Road
Trail

Intermittent Stream
US. Route
State Route

LAKE ELEANOR, CA
PROVISIONAL MAP 1992

57110497-TP-024

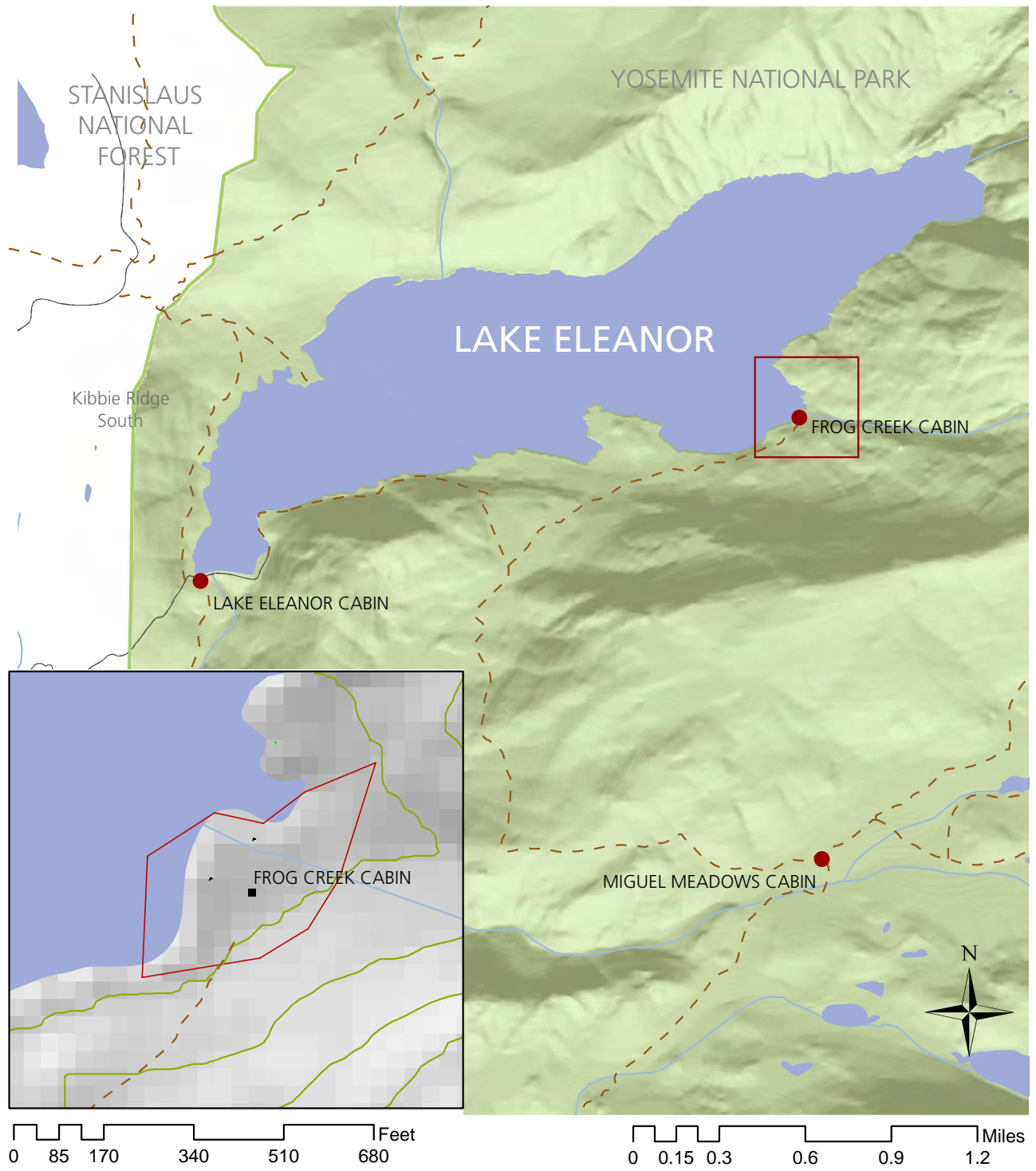
**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Frog Creek Cabin
Name of Property
Tuolumne County, CA
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 2

Reference and Boundary Map



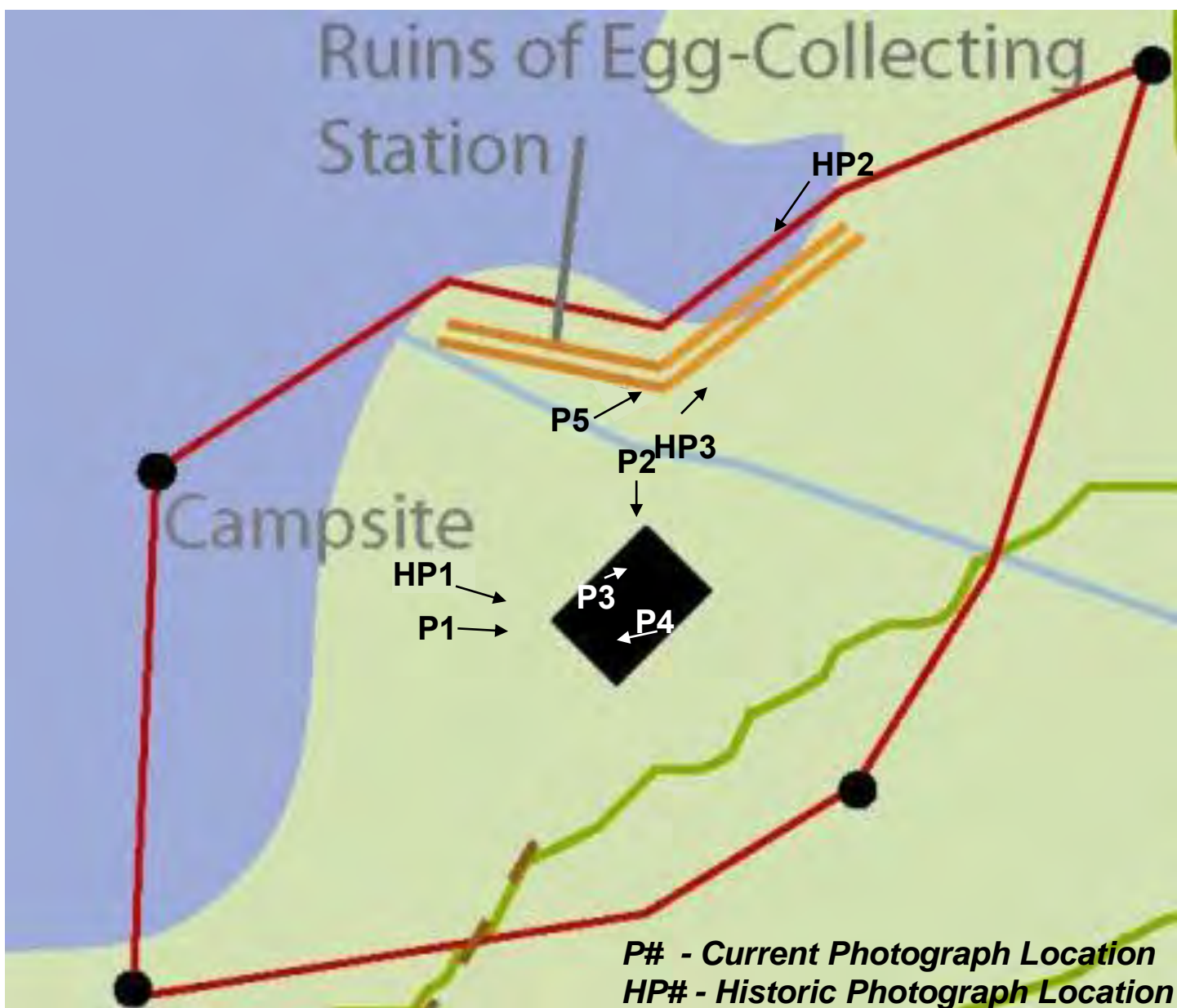
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Frog Creek Cabin
Name of Property
Tuolumne County, CA
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 3



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Frog Creek Cabin

Name of Property

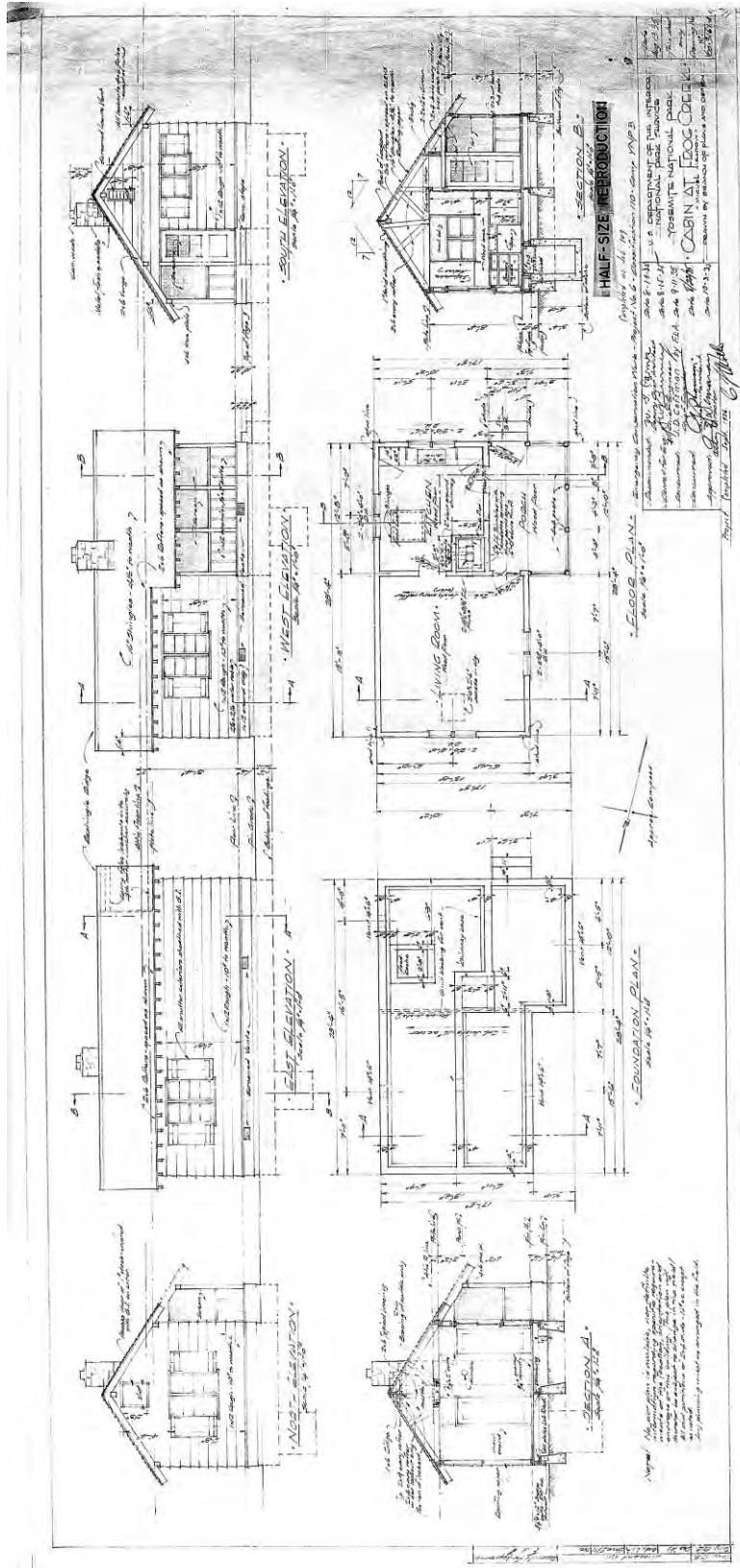
Tuolumne County, CA

County and State

n/a

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 4



**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Frog Creek Cabin

Name of Property
Tuolumne County, CA

County and State
N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 5

Historic Photos



Historic Photo 1

Frog Creek Cabin shortly after construction. This photo is the same image seen on the Oct.1936 Monthly Report. Photographer: unknown. Date Photographed: October, 1936.

Photo: Yosemite National Park Division of Facilities Management Building Files.



Historic Photo 2

Construction photograph of egg-collecting station in the south fork of Frog Creek, facing southwest.

Photographer: unknown. Date Photographed: 1934

Photo: Yosemite National Park Research Library

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Frog Creek Cabin

Name of Property

Tuolumne County, CA

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 6

Historic Photos



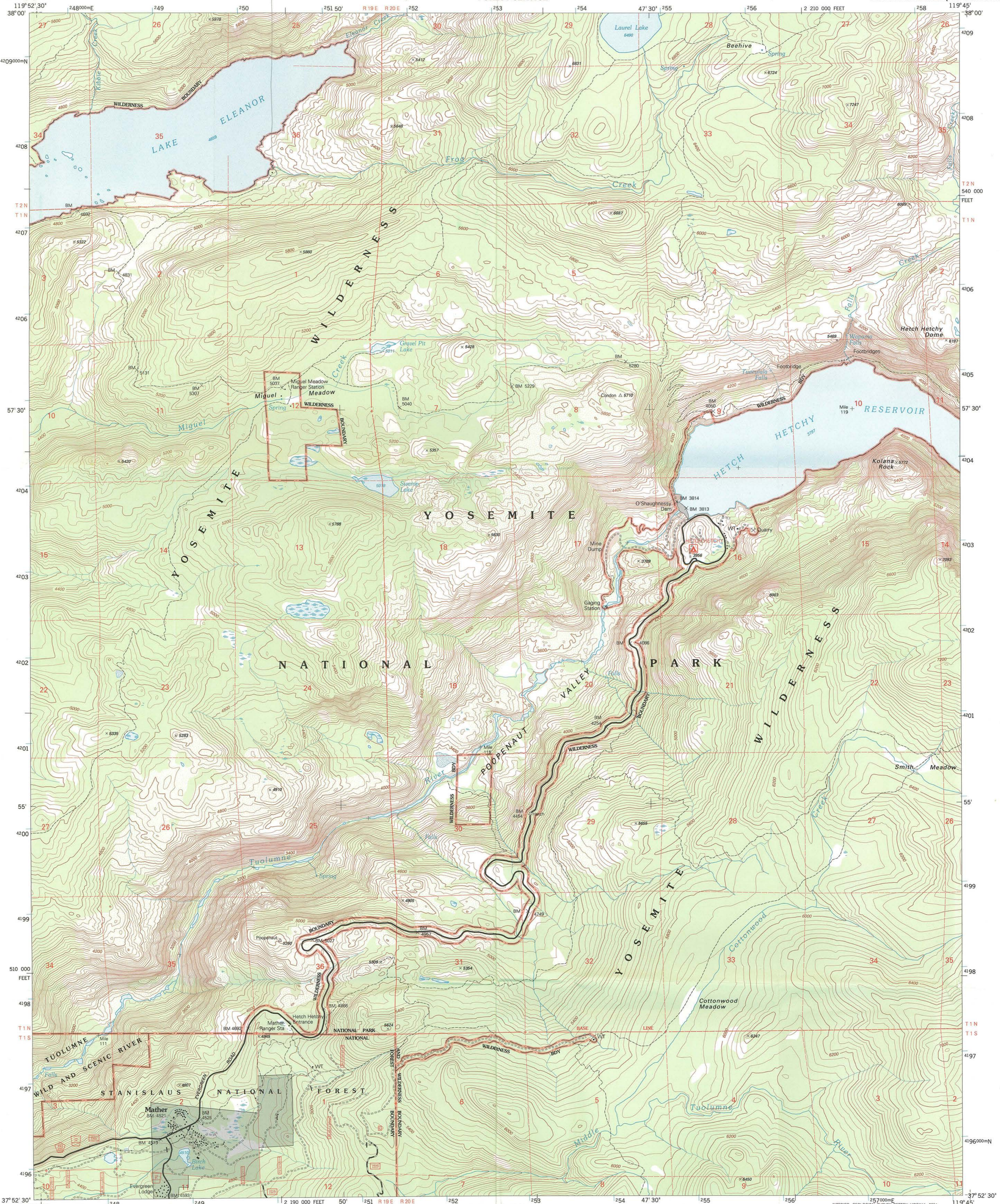
Historic Photo 3

Construction photograph of egg-collecting station at Frog Creek, facing northeast.

Photographer: unknown

Date Photographed: 1934

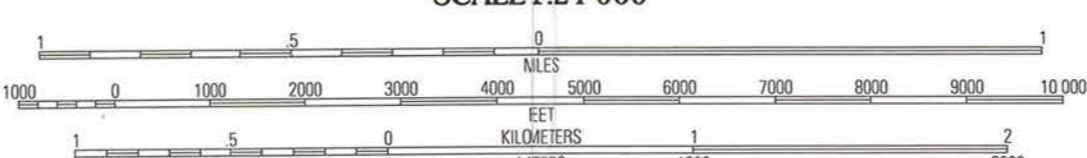
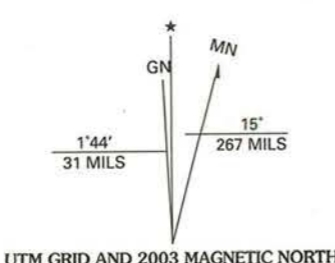
Photo: Yosemite National Park Research Library



Produced by the United States Geological Survey 1992
Revision by USDA Forest Service 2001

Topography compiled 1984. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1998 and other sources. Public Land Survey System and survey control current as of 2003. Boundaries current as of 2003.
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 10 000-foot ticks: California coordinate system, zone 3 (Lambert conformal conic).
Blue 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator ticks, zone 11

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geographic Survey NADCON software.
Non-National Forest System lands within the National Forest. Inholdings may exist in other National or State reservations. This map is not a legal land line or ownership document. Public lands are subject to change and leasing, and may have access restrictions; check with local offices. Obtain permission before entering private lands.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
TO CONVERT FROM FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, I.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

1	2	3	1 Cherry Lake North
			2 Kibbie Lake
			3 Hill Mountain
4		5	4 Cherry Lake South
			5 Hetchy Reservoir
			6 Anacostan Mountain
6	7	8	7 Ackerson Mountain
			8 Tamarack Flat

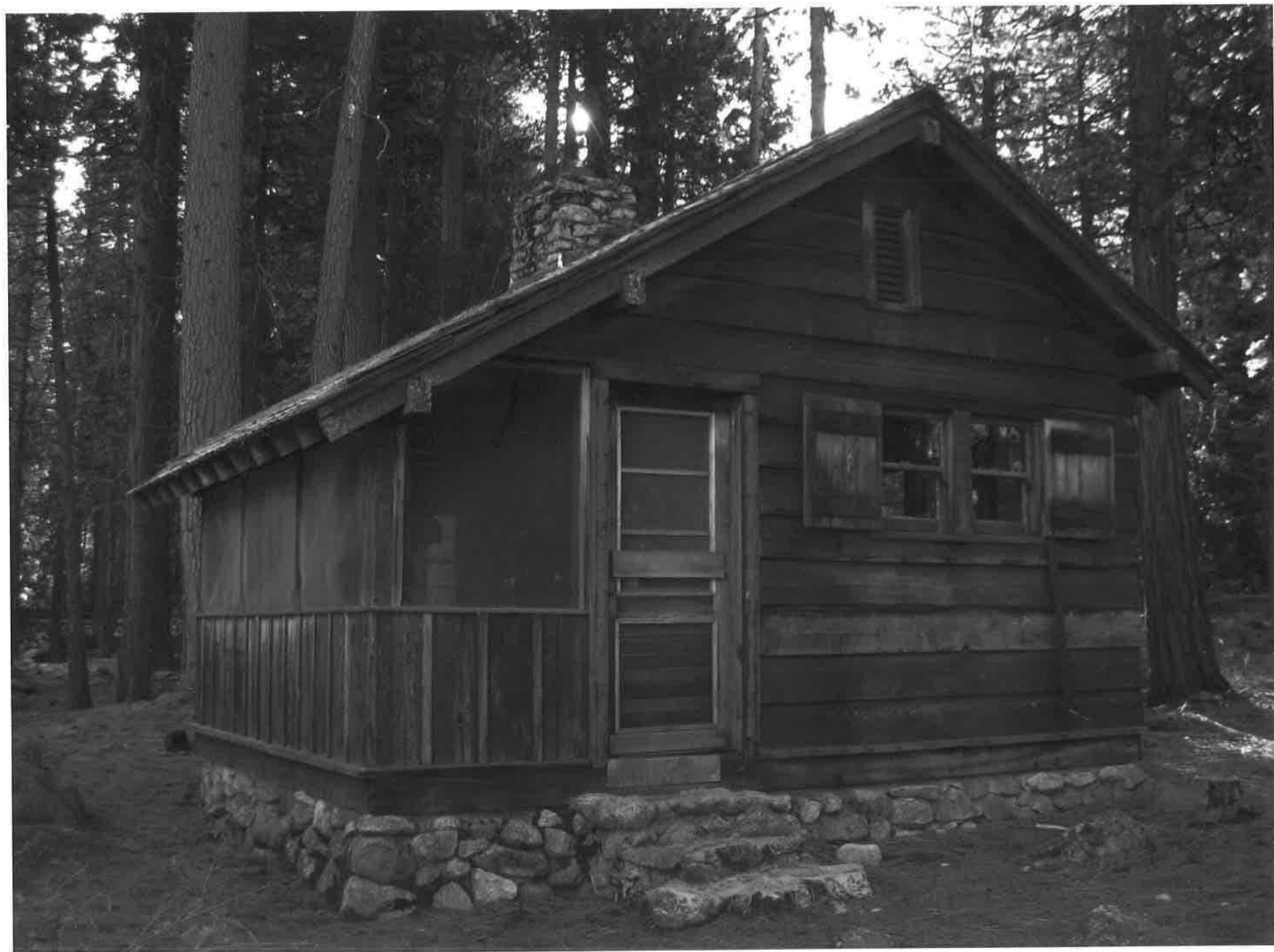
ADJOINING 7.5' QUADRANGLES

HIGHWAYS AND ROADS

Interstate	Primary highway
U.S.	Secondary highway
State	Light-duty road
County	Composition: Unspecified
National Forest, suitable for passenger cars	Paved
National Forest, suitable for high clearance vehicles	Dirt
National Forest Trail	Unimproved; 4 wheel drive
	Trail
	Gate; Barrier

LAKE ELEANOR, CA
2001
37119-H7-TF-024
NGA 2059 IV NE-SERIES V895





CA_Tuolumne County_Frog Creek Cabin_0001



CA_Tuolumne County_Frog Creek Cabin_0002



CA_Tuolumne County_Frog Creek Cabin_0003



CA_Tuolumne County_Frog Creek Cabin_0004



CA_Tuolumne County_Frog Creek Cabin_0005

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Frog Creek Cabin

MULTIPLE NAME: Yosemite National Park MPS

STATE & COUNTY: CALIFORNIA, Tuolumne

DATE RECEIVED: 6/02/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/25/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/10/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/19/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000414

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

 ACCEPT RETURN REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Frog Creek Cabin is locally significant under National Register Criterion A and C, in the areas of Architecture and Conservation. Built to serve as seasonal housing for workers at the Frog Creek trout-egg collecting station, the 1936 property is a fine local example of rustic-style design. The egg-collecting station was a key element of the Park's self-sustaining fish propagation program and reflected the evolving nature of Yosemite's conservation and natural resource management philosophy during the early twentieth century. The CCC-built property meets the registrations requirements set out in the Yosemite MPS.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criteria A & C

REVIEWER Paul Lusignan DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 7/18/14

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.