RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Discussion and possible action to provide Scoping Comments for the Revised Comprehensive Management Plan for the Merced River Plan.

A draft letter is being prepared for the Board’s consideration.

A letter from the Wawona Town Planning Advisory Committee concerning this matter is attached.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

None on the Revised Plan.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Impact? ( ) Yes (X) No</th>
<th>Current FY Cost: $</th>
<th>Annual Recurring Cost: $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budgeted in Current FY? ( ) Yes ( ) No ( ) Partially Funded</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount in Budget: $</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Funding Needed: $</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source:
- Internal Transfer
- Unanticipated Revenue
- Transfer Between Funds
- Contingency
- ( ) General  ( ) Other

List Attachments, number pages consecutively

Letter from Wawona TPA Committee

CLERK’S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: 9S-110
Vote - Ayes: 5
Absent: ___

Approved
Minute Order Attached  ( ) No Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: ________________

Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California
By: ________________
Deputy

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

______ Requested Action Recommended
______ No Opinion
Comments: _________________________________
CAO: ________________
MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTE ORDER

TO: BOB PICKARD, Chairman

FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION PROVIDING SCOPING COMMENTS FOR THE REVISED COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE MERCED RIVER PLAN

Resolution No. 05-110

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ADOPTED THIS Order on March 22, 2005

ACTION AND VOTE:

Discussion and Possible Action to Provide Scoping Comments for the Revised Comprehensive Management Plan for the Merced River Plan (Chairman Pickard)

BOARD ACTION: Chairman Pickard initiated discussion. (M)Bibby, (S)Fritz, Res. 05-110 was adopted approving the letter of scoping comments to be sent, along with the letter of comments from the Wawona Town Planning Advisory Committee, to the Yosemite National Park Superintendent so that it can be included in the comments received for the Revised Plan. Discussion was held relative to the reference to day-use reservations in the alternative sections of the Plan, and further commenting during the comment period for the final EIS. Ayes: Unanimous.

cc File
March 22, 2005

Superintendent Tollefson  
Yosemite National Park  
Draft Revised Merced River Plan/SEIS  
Post Office Box 577  
Yosemite, California  95389

Dear Superintendent Tollefson:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Revised Merced River Plan/SEIS. The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance of this process as it relates to the two primary objectives for addressing the user capacity mandate of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act along with the requirement to better define the narrow river boundary drawn for the El Portal Administrative Site as it did not define or account for the location of some of the Outstandingly Remarkable Values in that segment.

Attached is a copy of the Wawona Town Planning Advisory Committee comments that have been approved and adopted by the Board of Supervisors. The Wawona Town Planning Advisory Committee prepared their comments as a result of a presentation that was given to them and the community on March 12, 2005.

The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Revised Merced River Plan/SEIS and urges the National Park Service to seriously consider the response contained herein.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
BOB PICKARD
Chairman

cc:  Board of Supervisors  
     County Administrative Officer  
     Planning Director  
     Wawona Town Planning Advisory Committee

bcc:  Margie Williams, Clerk of the Board
WAWONA TOWN PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 12, 2005

Mr. Bob Pickard
Supervisor
Mariposa County
Mariposa, California

Dear Supervisor Pickard:

On March 12, 2005 a quorum of the WTPAC heard a presentation by YNP Ranger Mark Butler on the Revised Comprehensive Management Plan for the Merced River Plan. This 25 minute presentation was followed by about 45 minutes of Q & A. Based on this we submit the following concerns which we hope you will relay to Yosemite Park personnel:

1. Parking Capacity at Wawona Store. This is misrepresented in the Management Plan. There are not as many useable parking places as sited. Further, out-of-area cars are being parked there. Visitors to the Mariposa Grove of Big Trees have very limited parking at the park entrance to, or inside, the Grove. They are instructed to park at the Wawona Store and be shuttled to the Grove. The proposed preferred option moves vehicles from the area of the Mariposa Grove, which is outside the Merced River area, to parking facilities that are inside the river boundary established by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Further still, it is anticipated that, at least during the construction phase, the SDA Camp will be shuttling visitors that will park at the Store. The result is artificially limited parking and premature saturation of the lot. This will cause more frequent implementation of Management Action than would occur if the lot were used for local traffic only. The congestion already impeded ingress and egress by residents, particularly on Forest Drive. (ref.-Pg. D4, ff and Table D2 of Revised Plan)
Correction: Mariposa Grove needs its own parking, as it has had for over 50 years.

2. Revision of River Corridor in El Portal. The Committee urges that the chosen Alternative be # 1 (No Action). Since the 1958 Act establishing El Portal as an Administrative Site, YNP has been increasing its presence there. If present structures are deemed inappropriate, or if new construction is banned by more restrictive alternatives, the Park Service will have to look elsewhere. Wawona has been declared an alternative administrative site, if better sites are not available. The historic, low-density, residential nature of Wawona would be seriously affected. Many other problems, including housing, winter access, and resident protest, limit the usefulness of this site.

We trust you will convey our strong feelings in these areas.

Sincerely,

Edward Mee
Chairman, WTPAC