CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Toxic Substances Control
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

Subject: FILING OF NOTICE OF DETERMINATION IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 21108 OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE

Project Title: Remedial Design for the Curry Former Waste Disposal Area

State Clearinghouse Number: 2022050242

Project Location: Yosemite National Park

County: Mariposa

Project Applicant: Yosemite National Park

Project Description: The project activities involve institutional controls and groundwater monitoring, plus grading and capping with a low hydraulic conductivity layer landfill cover. Surface grading and capping would target the entire target treatment area covering approximately 80,000 square feet. The prescribed landfill cover would serve as a protective barrier for human and ecological receptors from exposure to municipal waste materials, as well as prevent infiltration from surface water run-on and run-off. Surface grading would direct stormwater run-on and run-off to protect the integrity of the surface cover and prevent stormwater contact with waste materials.

The wilderness trailhead parking lot currently has a soil cover with thickness ranging from 0.5 to 4 feet. Cleanup activities would utilize the existing soil cover material and, if necessary, import soil during grading and the construction of the cover to achieve a foundation layer thickness of 24 inches while maintaining a graded slope of at least 3 percent. The foundation layer would be compacted to the extent practical using methods that are in accordance with accepted civil engineering practice. Another layer of imported soil would be placed on top of the foundation layer. The addition/mixing of fine grain materials and/or bentonite to the imported soil layer would be performed to create a low hydraulic conductivity layer. This low hydraulic conductivity layer would be 12 inches in thickness and would contain 5 percent by weight of bentonite. This imported soil layer would also be compacted in accordance with accepted civil engineering practice. An 8-ounce nonwoven geotextile layer and an erosion- resistant layer (e.g., gravel cover or equivalent) would then be added to serve as the surface cover. The erosion-resistant layer would also provide protection against fugitive dust. During remedial design, various types of erosion-resistant cover (e.g., gravel, asphalt pavement, alternative pavement methods) would be evaluated and selected based on adherence to applicable or relevant and appropriate restrictions (ARARs) and decisions by Park management. The final design of the landfill cover may contain layers in varying thickness with varying amount of additives but would be designed to meet requirements of California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 27, Section 21090 (maintain a protective seal to keep moisture and rain from penetrating the landfill waste, prevent exposure of the public and the environment to the disposed waste, and prevent breached by digging or other activities by wildlife or humans).

The final cover would be sloped to direct storm water run-off to swales or to downslope areas where the water would infiltrate. Performance of stormwater control within the FWDA extent would be equal to or better than the current existing cover.

The final cover would be designed such that minimum maintenance would be required. A cover- integrity monitoring and annual maintenance program would be implemented to ensure the long- term effectiveness of the landfill cover.

In addition, a drainage swale would be constructed at the perimeter of the FWDA (near the locations of the ephemeral streams, but outside the FWDA's horizontal extent) such that stormwater would be directed away from the FWDA. Swale design will consider available space and would be sized to accommodate future storm events to prevent erosion/scour within the swale and beyond the outflow area. Riprap would be installed to dissipate flow at the outflow of the drainage swale. The swale would be up to 9 feet wide with a 3-foot base, 18 inches deep, and 650 feet in length. The assumptions used in the preliminary sizing of the swale include a watershed area of 15 acres and an intensity of 0.387 inches in a 5-minute storm during a 100-year event. However, swale and riprap locations and sizing are subject to change during remedial design.

The landfill cover would cap the entire FWDA and isolate the wastes at the FWDA from human/ecological receptors as well as from precipitation. As a result, the potential mobility of contaminants in the wastes at the FWDA is significantly reduced. A soil management plan would provide protection for construction workers against exposure to COCs in the FWDA subsurface. A groundwater monitoring program would be in place to monitor any potential impact by the wastes at the FWDA to groundwater quality.

While there are roads that lead directly to the Site, traffic in the YNP can be congested especially during dry season, when the implementation is expected to commence. This alternative requires the import of approximately 13,000 tons of soil which

would require approximately 600 truckloads of materials (assuming 22 tons/truck and 1.5 tons/bank cubic yard), and 5 weeks of truck traffic (assuming 30 trucks per day). As mentioned above, traffic in the YNP can be congested especially during dry season, when the implementation is expected to commence. Therefore, in order to satisfy the enjoyment of park resources RAO, the implementation of this remedy must occur during weeks when tourist traffic is relatively low.

As Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC approved the above-described project on September 16, 2022, and has made the following determinations:

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of project approval.
4. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted for this project.
5. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA by DTSC.

This is to certify that the final environmental document and the record of project approval are available to the public at the following locations:

DTSC File Room
1515 Tollhouse Road
Clovis, California 93611
(559) 297-3901; call for appointment

DTSC website:
www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=80001261

Lynne Baumgras	Senior Engineering Geologist	559-297-3978
Contact Person Name	Contact Person Title	Phone #

Ed Walker	9/16/2022
Branch Chief Signature	Date

Ed Walker, P.E.	Supervising Hazardous Substances Engineer II	916-255-3676
Branch Chief Name	Branch Chief Title	Phone #

TO BE COMPLETED BY OPR ONLY

Date Received for Filing and Posting at OPR: