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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

December 18, 2006

David Graber GMP Coordinator Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks 47050 Generals Highway Three Rivers, CA 93271-9651

Subject: Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks/Middle and South Forks of the Kings River and North Fork of the Kern River General Management Plan and Comprehensive River Management Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) [CEQ# 20060468].

Dear Mr. Graber:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the document referenced above. Our review and comments are provided pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA Implementation Regulations at 40 CFR 1500-1508, and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

EPA has no objections to the preferred alternative. We recommend the National Park Service continue to explore options for expanding the shuttle system at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, which would reduce vehicle miles traveled within the parks, relieve traffic and parking congestion in high-use areas, and reduce emissions of ozone, particulates smaller than ten microns (PM10), and particulates smaller than 2.5 microns (PM2.5).

We appreciate the opportunity to review this Final EIS. Please send a copy of the Record of Decision to this office when it becomes available. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Geselbracht at (415) 972-3853 or geselbracht.jeanne@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

/S/

Paula Bisson, Manager Environmental Review Office

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