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Comments: I have been working on Forest Service proposed projects for four years, and land use issues for ten years. This project impacts lands that are culturally and historically important to Native Americans, and meaningful consultation with all concerned groups must be conducted. The project will increase traffic to the peak during construction and throughout the life of the project. Just because a site has been disturbed does not mean that further and persistent additional disturbance will not include additional damage and impacts to plants, animals, birds, soils, watershed, and cultural resources. Noise pollution, increased litter, and other types of pollution are also likely to occur with increased visitation.

A study of cumulative impacts is needed. The use of categorical exclusions is designed for projects that are not expected to increase impacts, like repairing existing buildings, or for projects that require very resolution to meet a timely need. This project is neither for the above reasons. Therefore, an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement is required under NEPA.