

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

855 "M" Street, Suite 200  
FRESNO, CA 93721  
PHONE (559) 445-5286  
FAX (559) 445-6236  
TTY (559) 488-4066  
www.dot.ca.gov

2019078034



Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life.

July 9, 2019

Ref: 06-MPA 41  
PM: 2.0/2.2  
06-0Y910  
Repair Slipout and Replace  
Culvert

State Clearinghouse  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Re: Notice of Exemption for Sugar Pine Slipout on State Route 41

Enclosed, please find the Notice of Exemption and copy of the CEQA Categorical Exemption for the State Route 41 Sugar Pine Slipout project.

The project proposes to conduct emergency work to remove a 18-inch culvert and replace with a 36-inch culvert to allow burn scar debris to flow through without obstruction. An underdrain will be installed to re-direct newly developed drainage sources to the new culvert. The project also includes slope repair by rock gabions, removal and replacement of unsuitable roadbed material and pavement. Additional work includes erosion control, traffic control and lane stripping. The purpose of this project is to avoid the failure or threat of failure to the transportation system and to prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property or essential public services.

All work is within the existing right-of-way. The project is categorically exempt under CEQA as an existing facility project having no significant environmental impacts.

Please date stamp the Notice of Exemption after the State Clearinghouse number has been assigned and email it to Ben Munoz at [ben.munoz@dot.ca.gov](mailto:ben.munoz@dot.ca.gov). Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact me at (559) 445-6447.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Sorensen".

JEFF SORENSEN

Southern San Joaquin Valley Management Branch 2, Chief

c: Caltrans' Environmental Files

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

*"Provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system  
to enhance California's economy and livability"*

**JULY 09 2019**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

State Clearinghouse  
July 9, 2019  
Page 2

Attachments: Notice of Exemption  
Categorical Exemption

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**JULY 09 2019**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

# Notice of Exemption

## Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency) Caltrans, Dist. 6  
855 M Street  
Fresno CA 93721

County Clerk

County of: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: Sugar Pine Slipout (EA: 06-0Y910)

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location:

In Mariposa County, near Fish Camp, from 2.0 miles north of Mariposa and Madera County line to 2.7 miles south of Yosemite National Park.

Project Location - City: Between Sugar Pine/Fish Camp Project Location - County: Mariposa

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to conduct emergency work to remove a 18-inch culvert and replace with a 36-inch culvert to allow burn scar debris to flow through without obstruction at PM 2.03. An underdrain will be installed to re-direct newly developed drainage sources to the new culvert. The project also includes slope repair by rock gabions, removal and replacement of unsuitable roadbed material and pavement. Additional work includes erosion control, traffic control, and lane stripping. The purpose of this project is to avoid the failure or threat of failure to the transportation system and to prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property or essential public services.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation

Exempt Status: (check one):

Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);

Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));

Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));

Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15301, Class 1 (c) existing highways

Statutory Exemption. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason why project is exempt:

This project is exempt because it falls under section 15301, existing facilities class 1 (c), and involves no expansion of existing use. The project aims to repair a section of existing highway and associated drainage facilities.

Furthermore, the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

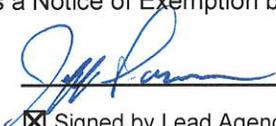
Lead Agency

Contact Person: Jeff Sorensen Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 559-445-6447

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.

2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  YES  NO

Signature:  Date: 7/9/19 Title: Senior Environmental Planner

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR \_\_\_\_\_

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code

Revised 2011

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JULY 09 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

06-MPA-41 2.0/2.2 06-0Y910
Dist.-Co.-Rte. (or Local Agency) P.M./P.M. E.A./Project No. Federal-Aid Project No. /Local Project/Project No.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Briefly describe project including need, purpose, location, limits, right-of-way requirements, and activities involved in this box. Use Continuation Sheet, if necessary.)

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to conduct emergency work to remove a 18-inch culvert and replace with a 36-inch culvert to allow burn scar debris to flow through without obstruction at PM 2.03. An underdrain will be installed to re-direct newly developed drainage sources to new culvert. The project also includes slope repair by rock gabions, removal and replacement of unsuitable roadbed material and pavement. Additional work includes erosion control, traffic control, and lane stripping. The purpose of this project is to avoid the failure or threat of failure to the transportation system and to prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property or essential public services.

CALTRANS CEQA DETERMINATION (Check one)

Not Applicable - Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency Not Applicable - Caltrans has prepared an Initial Study or Environmental Impact Report under CEQA

Based on an examination of this proposal, supporting information, and the above statements, the project is:

Exempt by Statute. (PRC 21080(b); 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)
Categorically Exempt, Class 1. (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the following statements are true and exceptions do not apply:

- If this project falls within exempt class 3, 4, 5, 6 or 11, it does not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law.
There will not be a significant cumulative effect by this project and successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time.
There is not a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.
This project does not damage a scenic resource within an officially designated state scenic highway.
This project is not located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Govt. Code § 65962.5 ("Cortese List").
This project does not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Common Sense Exemption. (This project does not fall within an exempt class, but it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR 15061(b)(3).)

Jeff Sorensen Begered Ghazi
Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief Print Name: Project Manager

Signatures and dates for Jeff Sorensen (5/30/19) and Begered Ghazi (7/5/19)

NEPA COMPLIANCE

In accordance with 23 CFR 771.117, and based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that this project:

- does not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the environment as defined by NEPA, and is excluded from the requirements to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and
has considered unusual circumstances pursuant to 23 CFR 771.117(b).

CALTRANS NEPA DETERMINATION (Check one)

2 3USC 32 6: The State has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act. The State has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to Chapter 3 of Title 23, United States Code, Section 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 31, 2016, executed between the FHWA and the State. The State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

- 2 3CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)
2 3CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)

Activity 2 listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and the State
2 3USC 32 7: Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 USC 327. The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 USC 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016 and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Jeff Sorensen Begered Ghazi
Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief Print Name: Project Manager/OLA Engineer

Signatures and dates for Jeff Sorensen (5/30/19) and Begered Ghazi (7/5/19)

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 5/29/2019 Date of ECR or equivalent: 5/29/2019

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet. Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., CE checklist, additional studies and design conditions).