

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.*

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

NOV 20 2019

November 18, 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

State Clearing House
Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

03-NEV-080
PM: 31.4-31.8
EA: 03-2H690
EFIS: 0317000172

To Whomever it May Concern:

Attached is a copy of the Categorical Exemption (CEQA) / Categorical Exclusion (NEPA) and 2 copies of Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the County Line Rock Fall Protection Project. Please return a stamped copy of the NOE in the SASE provided.

For additional information or questions concerning this environmental approval, please contact me at (530) 741-4404.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sandeep Sandhu".

Sandeep Sandhu, Associate Environmental Planner
North Region Office of Environmental Management, M5

Enclosures: CE and 2 copies of NOE

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

03-NEV-80	31.4-31.8	03-2H690	0317000172
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) is proposing a project to improve roadway maintainability and reduce the risk to the traveling public due to rock falls on Interstate Route 80 between Post Miles (PM) 31.4 to 31.8 in Nevada County. The purpose of this project is to install double twisted wire mesh drapery on five cut slopes, which will control the falling of rock and depositing them at the slope toe for safer removal by Maintenance Crews.

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].)]

Encanta Engleby
 Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

 Signature _____ Date 11-18-19

Martin Clark
 Print Name: Project Manager

 Signature _____ Date 11/13/19

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)

23 USC 326: 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:

- 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c) ()
- 23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d) (13)
- Activity ___ listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and the State

23 USC 327: 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.

Encanta Engleby
 Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

 Signature _____ Date 11-18-19

Martin Clark
 Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer

 Signature _____ Date 11/18/19

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: _____ Date of ECR or equivalent : _____

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

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM
Continuation Sheet

03-NEV-80	31.4-31.8	03-2H690	0317000172
Dist.-Co.-Rte. (or Local Agency)	P.M./P.M.	E.A/Project No.	Federal-Aid Project No. (Local Project)/Project No.

Continued from page 1:

Scope of work:

The project proposes to install double twisted wire mesh drapery on five cut slopes, which will control the falling of rock and depositing them at the slope toes for Maintenance Crew removal.

Staging

- Existing pullout and shoulder were identified as a staging area in the current project plan, which is within the Caltrans Right-of-Way.

Disposal/Borrow

- The project is expecting to generate approximately 591.1 CY of excess material, which will to be relinquished to the contractor for disposal. No borrow would be required.

Right-of-Way

- All work will occur in the Caltrans Right-of-Way.

Consultation/Coordination

- No Consultation/Coordination is required.

Permits

- No permits were required.

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Notice of Exemption

2019110406

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): Caltrans
703 B Street
Marysville, CA 95901
(Address)

Project Title: County Line Rockfall Protection (03-2H690)

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location - Specific:
The project is located on Interstate Highway 80 (I-80) in Nevada County between PM 31.3 to 31.8.

Project Location - City: Kingvale / Soda Springs Project Location - County: Placer / Nevada

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:
The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing to improve roadway maintainability and reduce the risk to the traveling public due to rock falls. The purpose is to install double twisted wire mesh drapery or a cable net drapery to control rock falls and Maintenance Crew safety during removal.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Caltrans

- 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));
[X] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1
[] Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:
The project is exempt because this is a maintenance project for an existing highway facility and does not have the potential to have an adverse effect on the environment.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Encanta Engleby Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 741-4538

- 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? [X] Yes [] No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 11/18/2019 Title: Sr. Environmental Planner

[X] Signed by Lead Agency [] Signed by Applicant

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Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: NOV 20 2019

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