CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

05-SCR-009	19.9	05-1K130	0518000126
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.)*

Caltrans is proposing a project that would restore the roadway and stabilize the east-facing slope of a hairpin turn on State Route 9 in Santa Cruz at PM 19.9 near the San Mateo/Santa Cruz County line. The purpose of this project is to restore the roadway and stabilize the east-facing slope. The eastern embankment failed during a heavy series of rain events in 2017 and currently has a temporary concrete barrier in place. The mainline has been realigned to allow travel in both directions. The reduced lane width pushes traffic into a steep curve making southbound turning movements for vehicles more difficult. Work will include trimming and/or tree removal of vegetation and trees and construction of a Soldier Pile Tieback retaining wall to restore the damaged roadway and facilities. The centerline will be moved to its original location and radius, the northbound shoulder will be widened to eight feet, and a barrier with bicycle railing will be installed on the northbound side of the roadway.

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].)

Matthew Fowler
Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Signature — Date: 5/01/19

Doug Hessing
Print Name: Project Manager

Signature: Doug Hessing — Date: 5/1/19

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)(___)**
- ☒ **Activity 4 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.

Matthew Fowler
Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Signature — Date: 5/01/19

Doug Hessing
Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer

Signature: Doug Hessing — Date: 5/1/19

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 5/1/19

Date of ECR or equivalent: 5/1/19

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

Continued from page 1:

Biology Avoidance and Minimization Measures:

1. The California Department of Transportation District Biologist or their designee will conduct a pre-construction survey prior to crew access into any vegetated area to flag workspace boundaries and to identify any occurrences of special-status species. In the unlikely event that special-status species are encountered during the pre-construction survey or during project activities, all work will halt until the special-status species leaves the work area. Special-status species may not be physically relocated from the area until the California Department of Transportation obtains approval from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and/or California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

2. If a special status species is found within the BSA, the Caltrans biologist will develop an environmental awareness training to be presented to the construction crew members prior to additional work in the area. The training will include a brochure for all crewmembers describing project contacts, special-status species, project avoidance and minimization measures, and potential consequences of impacts to special-status species.

3. During construction, Caltrans will ensure that the spread or introduction of invasive noxious plant species will be avoided to the maximum extent possible. When practicable, invasive noxious plants in the project site shall be removed and properly disposed.

5. To prevent impacts to potential wildlife species habitat, ESA fence will be erected around the eastern and southern perimeter of the work area on the downhill side of SR-9 Hairpin Turn. ESA fence installation will be monitored by Caltrans District Biologist or their designee.

6. Removal and trimming of trees and shrubs shall be scheduled to occur from October 1 to January 31, outside of the typical nesting bird season, to avoid potential impacts to nesting birds. If tree and shrub removal must be scheduled to occur during the nesting bird season (February 1–September 30), a pre-construction survey for nesting birds will be conducted within 48 hours prior to the start of construction, or if a lapse of more than 2 weeks occurs during construction. If any active nests are detected (containing eggs or chicks) during the pre-construction surveys or by crews during construction, readily visible exclusion zones where construction activity must be avoided shall be established by the Caltrans District Biologist or their designee (e.g., using high-visibility orange construction fencing, stakes and flagging, etc.) until it is determined that young birds have fledged (i.e., left the nest and are no longer reliant on parental care or nest site).

7. Erosion control measures shall be implemented in areas of ground disturbance and will specify the use of sterile or certified weed and plastic free mulches and straw applications and/or revegetation with the use of native species appropriate for the project vicinity. Tree removals in the BSA shall be replaced and watered manually for one year using a temporary irrigation system.

Hazardous Waste:

1. If yellow traffic stripe was not removed recently, SSP 14-11.12 must be included to collect the residue and determine if it needs to be disposed of as a hazardous waste. If the stripe is going to be removed as part of a cold plane or grinding operation where the stripe is being removed with the asphalt concrete, SSP 36-4 should be used.

Visual:

1. Concrete vegetation control (if used) should be colored to minimize contrast and noticeability. The color shall be determined and approved by District Five Landscape Architecture.

2. All metal roadside elements such as guardrail posts and beams, end treatments, and crash cushions should be stained to minimize contrast and noticeability. The color shall be determined and approved by District Five Landscape Architecture.

3. Metal bicycle and/or pedestrian rail associated with the concrete barrier should be stained to minimize contrast and noticeability. The color shall be determined and approved by District Five Landscape Architecture.

Noise:

1. Each internal combustion engine, used for any purpose on the job, or related to the job, shall be equipped with a muffler of a type recommended by the manufacturer. No internal combustion engine shall be operated on the job site without an appropriate muffler.

2. Notify the public in advance of the construction schedule when construction noise and upcoming construction activities likely to produce an adverse noise environment are expected. This notice shall be given two weeks in advance. Notice should be published in local news media of the dates and duration of proposed construction activity. The District 5 Public Information Office posts notice of the proposed construction and potential community impacts after receiving notice from the Resident Engineer.

3. Shield especially loud pieces of stationary construction equipment;

4. Locate portable generators, air compressors, etc. away from sensitive noise receptors;

5. Limit grouping major pieces of equipment operating in one area to the greatest extent feasible;

6. Place heavily trafficked areas such as the maintenance yard, equipment, tool, and other construction-oriented operations in locations that would be the least disruptive to surrounding sensitive noise receptors;

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7. Use newer equipment that is quieter and ensure that all equipment items have the manufacturers' recommended noise abatement measures, such as mufflers, engine covers, and engine vibration isolators intact and operational. Internal combustion engines used for any purpose on or related to the job shall be equipped with a muffler or baffle of a type recommended by the manufacturer; and,

8. Consult District noise staff if complaints are received during the construction process.

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

Dist/Co/Rte/PM:	05-SCR-009	Fed. Aid No. (Local Project):	0518000126	EA/Project No.:	05-1K130

SECTION A: TYPE OF CE: Use the information in this section to determine the applicable CE and corresponding activity for this project.

1. Project is a CE under CE Assignment 23 USC 326. ☒ Yes ☐ No

If "yes", check applicable activity in one of the three tables below (activity must be listed in 23 CFR 771.117 (c) or (d) list or included in activities listed in Appendix A of the CE Assignment MOU to be eligible for 23 USC 326).

Activity Listed in 23 CFR 771.117(c)	
1 ☐	Activities that do not involve or lead directly to construction, such as planning and research activities; grants for training; engineering to define the elements of a proposed action or alternatives so that social, economic, and environmental effects can be assessed; and Federal-aid system revisions that establish classes of highways on the Federal-aid highway system.
2 ☐	Approval of utility installations along or across a transportation facility.
3 ☐	Construction of bicycle and pedestrian lanes, paths, and facilities.
4 ☐	Activities included in the State's *highway safety plan* under 23 U.S.C 402.
5 ☐	Transfer of Federal lands pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 107(d) and/or 23 U.S.C. 317 when the land transfer is in support of an action that is not otherwise subject to FHWA review under NEPA.
6 ☐	The installation of noise barriers or alterations to existing publicly owned buildings to provide for noise reduction.
7 ☐	Landscaping.
8 ☐	Installation of fencing, signs, pavement markings, small passenger shelters, traffic signals, and railroad warning devices where no substantial land acquisition or traffic disruption will occur.
9[1]	The following actions for transportation facilities damaged by an incident resulting in an emergency declared by the Governor of the State and concurred in by the Secretary, or a disaster or emergency declared by the President pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Act (42 U.S.C 5121):[2]
☐	(i) Emergency repairs under 23 U.S.C 125;
☐	(ii) The repair, reconstruction, restoration, retrofitting, or replacement of any road, highway, bridge, tunnel, or transit facility (such as a ferry dock or bus transfer station), including ancillary transportation facilities (such as pedestrian/bicycle paths and bike lanes), that is in operation or under construction when damaged and the action: (A) Occurs within the existing right-of-way and in a manner that substantially conforms to the preexisting design, function, and location as the original (which may include upgrades to meet existing codes and standards as well as upgrades warranted to address conditions that have changed since the original construction); and (B) Is commenced within a 2-year period beginning on the date of the declaration.
10 ☐	Acquisition of scenic easements.
11 ☐	Determination of payback under 23 U.S.C 156 for property previously acquired with Federal-aid participation.
12 ☐	Improvements to existing rest areas and truck weigh stations.
13 ☐	Ridesharing activities.
14 ☐	Bus and rail car rehabilitation.
15 ☐	Alterations to facilities or vehicles in order to make them accessible for elderly and handicapped persons.
16 ☐	Program administration, technical assistance activities, and operating assistance to transit authorities to continue existing service or increase service to meet routine changes in demand.
17 ☐	The purchase of vehicles by the applicant where the use of these vehicles can be accommodated by existing facilities or by new facilities that themselves are within a CE.
18 ☐	Track and railbed maintenance and improvements when carried out within the existing right-of-way.
19 ☐	Purchase and installation of operating or maintenance equipment to be located within the transit facility and with no significant impacts off the site.

[1] On the CE form, distinguish between c9i or c9ii

[2] Include copy of the emergency declaration in the file

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

Dist/Co/Rte/PM: 05-SCR-009	Fed. Aid No. (Local Project): 0518000126	EA/Project No.: 05-1K130

20 ☐	Promulgation of rules, regulations, and directives.
21 ☐	Deployment of electronics, photonics, communications, or information processing used singly or in combination, or as components of a fully integrated system, to improve the efficiency or safety of a surface transportation system or to enhance security or passenger convenience. Examples include, but are not limited to, traffic control and detector devices, lane management systems, electronic payment equipment, automatic vehicle locaters, automated passenger counters, computer-aided dispatching systems, radio communications systems, dynamic message signs, and security equipment including surveillance and detection cameras on roadways and in transit facilities and on buses.
22[3] ☐	Projects, as defined in 23 U.S.C. 101, that would take place entirely within the existing operational right-of-way. Existing operational right-of-way means all real property interests acquired for the construction, operation, or mitigation of a project. This area includes the features associated with the physical footprint of the project including but not limited to the roadway, bridges, interchanges, culverts, drainage, clear zone, traffic control signage, landscaping, and any rest areas with direct access to a controlled access highway. This also includes fixed guideways, mitigation areas, areas maintained or used for safety and security of a transportation facility, parking facilities with direct access to an existing transportation facility, transportation power substations, transportation venting structures, and transportation maintenance facilities. Note: As a clarifying example, if title 23 (or certain title 49) funds were authorized for the acquisition of the real property, then that property was acquired for an eligible purpose, which was construction, operation, or mitigation, and thus is part of the operational right-of-way. Real property interests acquired with title 23 funds, or otherwise conveyed for title 23 purposes, are eligible for this categorical exclusion as long as the interests are devoted exclusively to the purposes of that facility and the facility is preserved free of all other public or private alternative uses, unless such non-highway alternative uses are permitted by Federal law (including regulations) or the FHWA (23 CFR 710.403(b)).
23[4] ☐ ☐	Federally-funded projects: Enter project cost $ and Federal funds $ (i) That receive less than $5,500,515.05 of Federal funds; or (ii) With a total estimated cost of not more than $33,003,090.30 and Federal funds comprising less than 15 percent of the total estimated project cost.
24 ☐	Localized geotechnical and other investigation to provide information for preliminary design and for environmental analysis and permitting purposes, such as drilling test bores for soil sampling; archeological investigations for archeology resources assessment or similar survey; and wetland surveys.
25 ☐	Environmental restoration and pollution abatement actions to minimize or mitigate the impacts of any existing transportation facility (including retrofitting and construction of stormwater treatment systems to meet Federal and State requirements under sections 401 and 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1341; 1342) carried out to address water pollution or environmental degradation.
26 ☐	Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, adding shoulders, or adding auxiliary lanes (including parking, weaving, turning, and climbing lanes), if the action meets the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section [771.117(e)]. **Note: In order to use this CE, certain constraints must be met.** **Complete Section A, Item 2 below.**
27 ☐	Highway safety or traffic operations improvement projects, including the installation of ramp metering control devices and lighting, if the project meets the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section [771.117(e)]. **Note: In order to use this CE, certain constraints must be met.** **Complete Section A, Item 2 below.**
28 ☐	Bridge rehabilitation, reconstruction, or replacement or the construction of grade separation to replace existing at-grade railroad crossings, if the actions meet the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section [771.117(e)]. **Note: In order to use this CE, certain constraints must be met.** **Complete Section A, Item 2 below.**
29 ☐	Purchase, construction, replacement, or rehabilitation of ferry vessels (including improvements to ferry vessel safety, navigation, and security systems) that would not require a change in the function of the ferry terminals and can be accommodated by existing facilities or by new facilities that themselves are within a CE.
30 ☐	Rehabilitation or reconstruction of existing ferry facilities that occupy substantially the same geographic footprint, do not result in a change in their functional use, and do not result in a substantial increase in the existing facility's capacity. Example actions include work on pedestrian and vehicle transfer structures and associated utilities, buildings, and terminals.
Activity Listed in Examples in 23 CFR 771.117(d)	
1	*Reserved.*
2	*Reserved.*
3	*Reserved.*
4 ☐	Transportation corridor fringe parking facilities.
5 ☐	Construction of new truck weigh stations or rest areas.

[3] On the CE form, identify in the project description that all work is within operation right-of-way.

[4] On the CE form, distinguish between c23i or c23ii.

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

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6 ☐	Approvals for disposal of excess right-of-way or for joint or limited use of right-of-way, where the proposed use does not have significant adverse impacts.
7 ☐	Approvals for changes in access control.
8 ☐	Construction of new bus storage and maintenance facilities in areas used predominantly for industrial or transportation purposes where such construction is not inconsistent with existing zoning and located on or near a street with adequate capacity to handle anticipated bus and support vehicle traffic.
9 ☐	Rehabilitation or reconstruction of existing rail and bus buildings and ancillary facilities where only minor amounts of additional land are required, and there is not a substantial increase in the number of users.
10 ☐	Construction of bus transfer facilities (an open area consisting of passenger shelters, boarding areas, kiosks and related street improvements) when located in a commercial area or other high activity center in which there is adequate street capacity for projected bus traffic.
11 ☐	Construction of rail storage and maintenance facilities in areas used predominantly for industrial or transportation purposes where such construction is not inconsistent with existing zoning, and where there is no significant noise impact on the surrounding community.
12 ☐	Acquisition of land for hardship or protective purposes. Hardship and protective buying will be permitted only for a particular parcel or a limited number of parcels. These types of land acquisition qualify for a CE only where the acquisition will not limit the evaluation of alternatives, including shifts in alignment for planned construction projects, which may be required in the NEPA process. No project development on such land may proceed until the NEPA process has been completed. (i) Hardship acquisition is early acquisition of property by the applicant at the property owner's request to alleviate particular hardship to the owner, in contrast to others, because of an inability to sell his property. This is justified when the property owner can document on the basis of health, safety or financial reasons that remaining in the property poses an undue hardship compared to others. (ii) Protective acquisition is done to prevent imminent development of a parcel that may be needed for a proposed transportation corridor or site. Documentation must clearly demonstrate that development of the land would preclude future transportation use and that such development is imminent. Advance acquisition is not permitted for the sole purpose of reducing the cost of property for a proposed project.
13 ☐	Actions described in paragraphs (c)(26), (c)(27), and (c)(28) of this section that do not meet the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section.
Activity Listed in Appendix A of the CE Assignment MOU for State Assumption of Responsibilities for Categorical Exclusions	
1 ☐	Construction, modification, or repair of storm water treatment devices (e.g., detention basins, bioswales, media filters, infiltration basins), protection measures such as slope stabilization and other erosion control measures throughout California.
2 ☐	Replacement, modification, or repair of culverts or other drainage facilities.
3 ☐	Projects undertaken to assure the creation, maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife (e.g., revegetation of disturbed areas with native plant species; stream or river bank revegetation; construction of new, or maintenances of existing fish passage conveyances or structures; restoration or creation of wetlands).
4 ☒	Routine repair of facilities due to storm damage, including permanent repair, to return the facility to operational condition that meets current standards of design and public health and safety without expanding capacity (e.g., slide repairs, construction or repair of retaining walls).
5 ☐	Routine seismic retrofit of facilities to meet current seismic standards and public health and safety standards without expansion of capacity.
6 ☐	Air space leases that are subject to Subpart D, Part 710, title 23, Code of Federal Regulations.
7 ☐	Drilling of test bores/soil sampling to provide information for preliminary design and for environmental analyses and permitting purposes.

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

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2. This section must be completed in order to use a CE under 23 CFR 771.117(c)(26), (c)(27), or (c)(28).

☒ The action **DOES NOT** include any of the following constraints found in 23 CFR 771.117(e):

A.
- An acquisition of more than a minor amount of right-of-way or that would result in any residential or nonresidential displacements

B.
- A bridge permit from the U.S. Coast Guard; OR
- An action that does not meet the terms and conditions of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers nationwide or general permit under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (i.e., does the project require a Standard 404 permit [Individual Permit or Letter of Permission]?) AND/OR
- A permit required under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899

C.
- A finding of ''adverse effect'' to historic properties under the National Historic Preservation Act; OR
- The use of a resource protected under 23 U.S.C. 138 or 49 U.S.C. 303 (section 4(f)) except for actions resulting in *de minimis* impacts; OR
- A finding of ''may affect, likely to adversely affect'' threatened or endangered species or critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act

D.
- Construction of temporary access or the closure of existing road, bridge, or ramps that would result in major traffic disruptions

E.
- Changes in access control

F.
- A floodplain encroachment other than functionally dependent uses (e.g., bridges, wetlands) or actions that facilitate open space use (e.g., recreational trails, bicycle and pedestrian paths); OR
- Construction activities in, across, or adjacent to a river component designated or proposed for inclusion in the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers

If the action includes any of the constraints listed above, it **MAY NOT** be processed under 23 CFR 771.117(c)(26), (c)(27), or (c)(28), however, the project may qualify for a CE under 23 CFR 771.117(d)(13).

3. Project is a CE for a highway project under NEPA Assignment 23 USC 327. ☐ Yes ☒ No

(Use only if project does not qualify under CE Assignment 23 USC 326 [activities not included in three previous lists above].)

4. Independent Utility and Logical Termini

☒ The project complies with NEPA requirements related to connected actions and segmentation (i.e. the project must have independent utility, connect logical termini when applicable, be usable and be a reasonable expenditure even if no additional transportation improvements in the area are made and not restrict further consideration of alternatives for other reasonably foreseeable transportation improvements). (FHWA Final Rule, "Background," *Federal Register* Vol. 79, No. 8, January 13, 2014.)

5. Categorical Exclusions Defined (23 CFR 771.117[a]).

FHWA regulation 23 CFR 771.117(a) defines categorical exclusions as actions which:

- do not induce significant impacts to planned growth or land use for the area;
- do not require the relocation of significant numbers of people;
- do not have a significant impact on any natural, cultural, recreational, historic or other resources;
- do not involve significant air, noise, or water quality impacts;
- do not have significant impacts on travel patterns; or
- do not otherwise, either individually or cumulatively, have any significant environmental impacts.

☒ Checking this box certifies that project meets the above definition for a Categorical Exclusion.

6. Exceptions to Categorical Exclusions/Unusual Circumstances (23 CFR 771.117[b]).

FHWA regulation 23 CFR 771.117(b) provides that any action which normally would be classified as a CE but could involve *unusual circumstances* requires the Department to conduct appropriate environmental studies to determine if the CE classification is proper. Unusual circumstances include actions that involve:

- Significant environmental impacts;
- Substantial controversy on environmental grounds;
- Significant impact on properties protected by section 4(f) of the DOT Act or section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; or
- Inconsistencies with any Federal, State, or local law, requirement or administrative determination relating to the environmental aspects of the action.

All of the above unusual circumstances have been considered in conjunction with this project. (Please select one.)

☒ Checking this box certifies that **none of the above conditions apply** and that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion.

☐ Checking this box certifies that unusual circumstances **are involved.** However, the appropriate studies/analysis have been completed, and it has been determined that the CE classification is still appropriate.

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

SECTION B: Compliance with FHWA NEPA policy to complete all other applicable environmental requirements[5] prior to making the NEPA determination:

During the environmental review process for which this CE was prepared, all applicable environmental requirements were evaluated. Outcomes for the following requirements are identified below and fully documented in the project file. [NOTE: EVERY SECTION BELOW MUST BE COMPLETED, DO NOT SKIP ANY SECTIONS.]

FSTIP

☒ The project description on the Categorical Exemption/Categorical Exclusion Form matches the project description in the FSTIP and RTP, and the appropriate page of the FSTIP is in the project file.

Air Quality

☒ Air Quality Conformity Findings Checklist has been completed and project meets all applicable AQ requirements.
☐ For 23 USC 326 projects which require an air quality conformity determination (this will apply to certain projects under 23 CFR 771.117(c)(22), (c)(23), (c)(26), (c)(27), and (c)(28)), list the date of the Caltrans conformity determination: _____
☐ For 23 USC 327 projects, list date of FHWA concurrence on conformity determination: _____

Cultural Resources

☐ Section 106 compliance is complete. ☒ Screened Undertaking
Select appropriate finding: ☒ No Historic Properties Affected ☐ No Adverse Effect with Standard Conditions
☐ No Adverse Effect without Standard Conditions ☐ Adverse Effect/MOA ☐ Phasing/Project PA

Noise

23 CFR 772
☐ Is this a Type 1 project? ☐ Yes ☒ No (skip this section.)
☐ Future noise levels with project either approach or exceed NAC or result in a substantial increase.
If yes, ☐ Abatement is reasonable and feasible ☐ Abatement is not reasonable or feasible

Waters, Wetlands

- **Section 404 of the Clean Water Act**
  Impacts to Waters of the U.S.: ☐ Yes ☒ No; If yes, approval anticipated:
  ☐ Nationwide Permit ☐ Individual Permit ☐ Regional General Permit ☐ Letter of Permission
- **Section 401 of the Clean Water Act**
  ☐ Exemption ☐ Certification ☒ Not Applicable
- **Wetland Protection (Executive Order #11990)**
  ☒ No Wetland Impact
  ☐ Permanent Wetland Impact; Only Practicable Alternative Finding is included in a separate document in the project file

Biology

- **USFWS,** Species List Date: 1/29/19 (must be < 180 days old)
  ☐ No Effect Section 7 (Federal Endangered Species Act)
  Consultation with USFWS Findings (Effect determination):
  ☐ Not Likely to Adversely Affect with USFWS Concurrence. Date: _____
  ☐ Likely to Adversely Affect with Biological Opinion Date: _____
- **NOAA Fisheries,** Species List Date: _____ (must be < 180 days old) ☒ N/A: Project outside of NOAA jurisdiction
  ☐ No Effect Section 7 (Federal Endangered Species Act)
  Consultation with NOAA Fisheries Findings (Effect determination):
  ☐ Not Likely to Adversely Affect with NOAA Fisheries Concurrence. Date: _____
  ☐ Likely to Adversely Affect with Biological Opinion Date: _____
- **Essential Fish Habitat (Magnuson-Stevens Act)** Findings (Effect determination):
  ☒ Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act does not apply
  ☐ No Adverse Effect ☐ Adverse Effect and consultation with NOAA Fisheries

[5] Please consult the SER for a complete list of applicable laws, statutes, regulations, and executive orders that must be considered before completing the CE.

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

Floodplains

Floodplains (Executive Order #11988)

☒ No Floodplains ☐ No Significant Encroachment ☐ Significant Encroachment

Section 4(f) Transportation Act (23 CFR 774)

Section 4(f) regulation was considered as a part of the review for this project and a determination was made:

☒ Section 4(f) does not apply

(Project file includes documentation that property is not a Section 4(f) property, that project does not use a Section 4(f) property, or that the project meets the criteria for the temporary occupancy exception.)

☐ Section 4(f) applies

☐ *De Minimis*

☐ Programmatic: Type _____ (List one of the five appropriate categories as defined in 23 CFR 774.3)

☐ Individual: ☐ Legal Sufficiency Review complete ☐ HQ Coordinator Review Complete

Section 6(f) – Properties Acquired with Land and Water Conservation Fund grants

Was the above property purchased with grant funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund?

☒ No, Section 6(f) does not apply. No additional documentation required.

☐ Yes ☐ Documentation of approval from National Park Service Director (through California State Parks) has been received for the conversion/and replacement of 6(f) property.

Coastal Zone

Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972

☒ Not in Coastal Zone ☐ Qualifies for Exemptions ☐ Qualifies for Waiver ☐ Coastal Permit Required

☐ Consistent with Federal State and Local Coastal Plans ☐ Federal Consistency

Coast Guard – Bridge Over Navigable Waters of the U.S.

☒ Not applicable

☐ 23 USC 144(c) USCG Bridge Permit Exception

☐ 33 CFR 115.70 Advance Approval

☐ USCG Bridge Permit

Relocation and Right of Way

- **Relocations**

☒ No Relocations

☐ Project involves _____ (#) relocations and will follow the provisions of the Uniform Relocation Act.

- **Right of Way Acquisitions/Easements**

☐ No right of way acquisitions or easements

☒ Project involves _____ (#) acquisitions and 2 (#) easements.

Hazardous Waste and Materials

- Are hazardous materials or contamination exceeding regulatory thresholds (as set by U.S. EPA, Cal EPA, County Environmental Health, etc.) present? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- If yes, is the nature and extent of the hazardous materials or contamination fully known? ☐ Yes ☐ No

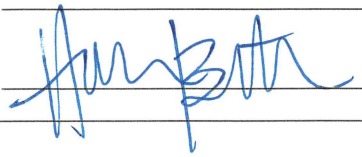
  If no, briefly discuss the plan for securing information:

SECTION C: Certification

Based on the information obtained during environmental review process and included in this checklist, the project is determined to be a Categorical Exclusion pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and is in compliance with all other applicable environmental laws, regulations, and Executive Orders.

Prepared by (print name): Hannah Butler

Title: Environmental Planner

Signature:  Date: 5/1/19