

2019120678

Notice of Exemption**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: Hillgate Bridge Rail Upgrade (03-0J180)

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location - Specific:

The project is located at Post Mile 6.8 on Interstate 5 (I-5) in Colusa County.

Project Location - City: Arbuckle

Project Location - County: Colusa

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is purposing a project to upgrade bridge rails on Hillgate Undercrossing (BR. No. 105-0047) that has exceeded its useful design life to meet current standards to protect the traveling public.

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));

☒ 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: (916) 653-6207

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: [Signature] Date: 12-13-19 Title: Sr. Environmental Planner

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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: **DEC 31 2019**

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 942873, MS-49
SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001
PHONE (916) 654-6130
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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.*

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

DEC 31 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

December 31, 2019

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

03-COL-05
PM: 6.8
EA: 03-0J180
EFIS: 03-1900-0232

To Whomever it May Concern:

Attached is a copy of the Categorical Exemption (CEQA) and a copy of Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the Hillgate Bridge Rail Upgrade Project (03-0J180). Please return a stamped copy of the NOE.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sandeep Sandhu".

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

Enclosures: CEQA CE and a copy of the NOE

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

03-COL-05	6.8	03-0J180	0319000232
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 upgrade the bridge rails on Hillgate Undercrossing (Br. No. 15-0047) on Interstate 5 (I-5) in Colusa County at Post Mile 6.8. The purpose of this project is to protect the traveling public from a bridge rail system that has exceeded its useful design life by upgrading the bridge rails to meet current standards.

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:

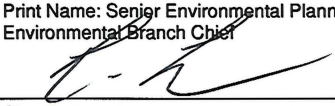
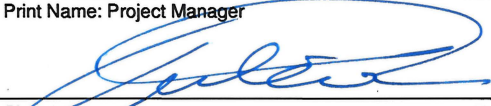
☐ Exempt by Statute. (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)

☒ **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].)]

<p>Encanta Engleby</p> <p>Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12-31-19 Date</p>	<p>Julio Torreiro-Casal</p> <p>Print Name: Project Manager</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12-31-2019 Date</p>
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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(e): activity (e)** ()
☐ **23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)** ()
☐ **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.

N/A	N/A
Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief	Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer
N/A	N/A
Signature	Signature
Date	Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: N/A Date of ECR or equivalent : 10/2/2019

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-COL-05	6.8	03-0J180	0319000232
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 upgrade bridge rails on Hillgate Undercrossing within the Caltrans Right-of-Way on Interstate 5 in Placer and Nevada Counties.

Staging

- Staging has not been identified in the project description above or in the current project plans. If staging is identified outside the current project study limits, it must be cleared by either Caltrans Environmental Staff or contractor provided Environmental specialists. Documentation must be provided to Caltrans Environmental staff for approval. Per *Design Information Bulletin Number 85, Guidance for the Consideration of Material Disposal, Staging, and Borrow Sites, Original signed by Mark Leja, Division Chief, Division of Design, May 15, 2007* and *Section 7-103 Protection of Environmental Resources, in Chapter 7 of the August 2006 Caltrans Construction Manual* the contractor will provide to Caltrans environmental documentation prepared by appropriately qualified environmental specialists. The contractor will also obtain or update all necessary permits, licenses, and agreements including supporting environmental documents from appropriate regulatory and governmental agencies.

Disposal/Borrow

- No Disposal/Borrowing is required.

Right-of-Way

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

Consultation/Coordination

- No Consultation/Coordination is required.

Permits

- No environmental permits will be required.

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