

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

06-MAD-41	1.45D	06-0Y480	
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.)

This project is located on State Route 41 in Madera County south of Fish Camp near the old Sugar Pine Railroad at post mile 1.45D. The project would replace an existing 18-inch diameter corrugated steel pipe with a 36-inch diameter reinforced concrete pipe. A concrete headwall would be constructed at the upstream end of the culvert. Approximately 4 cubic yards of rock slope protection (using small rocks) would be placed below the culvert outlet. (continued on next page)

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.)
X Categorically Exempt. Class 1(c) (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

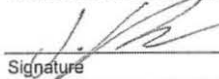
Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the following statements are true and exceptions do not apply:

- 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].)]

Juergen Vespermann

Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief



Signature

Rene Sanchez

Print Name: Project Manager



Signature

3-3-20

Date

3/3/20

Date

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 ___ 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.

Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Signature

Date

Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer

Signature

Date

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

06-MAD-41	1.45D	06-0Y480	
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:

All work would take place within Caltrans right-of-way. During construction, one highway lane would be available for traffic at all times. No work would be done at night.

The project will apply for the following permits:

Streambed Alteration Agreement 1602 permit from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Regional Quality Control Board, and Section 404 Non-reporting permit (Pre-Construction Notification) from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Avoidance and minimization measures will include the following:

Biological Resources

- Botanical surveys will be performed this spring and summer, prior to construction, at the project area.
- These measures are proposed for any special status plants (California Native Plant Society-listed); if identified within the project footprint during surveys, the location will be noted prior to any soil disturbance. The plants will be excavated along with enough surrounding soil as to ensure the root structure remains intact. The plants and soil will be placed in a safe location near the work site and kept moist. Upon completion of the work, the plants will be carefully replaced within or as close to their original location as possible.
- Preconstruction surveys of the project area for plants and animals would be completed 30 days or less before the start of construction.
- If any nesting birds are found within or adjacent to the project footprint, a 100-foot buffer zone would be established for any migratory birds except for raptors, which would have a 500-foot buffer.
- Worker Environmental Awareness Training would be performed by a qualified biologist for all workers to inform them of the special status species potentially within the work area, protective measures, reporting procedures, and consequences of violating environmental laws and permit requirements.

Water Quality

- Caltrans Stormwater Best Management Practices are to be selected and implemented for the project.
- Because less than one acre of soil would be disturbed by construction, a Water Pollution Control Plan will be prepared by the contractor and approved by Caltrans prior to construction.

Hazardous Waste

- A Lead Compliance Plan is required to be prepared by the contractor.