

**CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM**

<b>01-MEN-20</b>	<b>33.7/34.1</b>	<b>01-0J830 / 01-1900-0107</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<small>Dist.-Co.-Rte. (or Local Agency)</small>	<small>P.M./P.M.</small>	<small>E.A/Project No.</small>	<small>Federal-Aid Project No. (Local Project)/Project No.</small>

**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.)

**Warning Sign System Safety Project. See attached continuation sheet for project description and details**

**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**


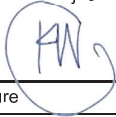
Based on an examination of this proposal, supporting information, and the above statements, the project is:

**Exempt by Statute.** (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)  
 **Categorically Exempt. Class 15301 – Existing Facilities 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].)]

<b>James McIntosh</b>	<b>Kristina Walker</b>
<small>Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief</small>	<small>Print Name: Project Manager</small>
	
<b>4-27-2020</b>	<b>28 April 2020</b>
<small>Signature</small>	<small>Signature</small>
<small>Date</small>	<small>Date</small>

**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.

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

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: **N/A**      Date of ECR or equivalent : **4/24/2020**

**CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM  
Continuation Sheet**

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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:			
<b>Warning Sign System Safety Project EA 01-0J830 California Department of Transportation</b>			

***Project Description***

Caltrans proposes a state funded maintenance project on Route 20 in Mendocino County near Calpella from 0.25 Miles west of Road 144 to 0.15 miles east of Road 144 (between post miles (PM) 33.7-34.1)

This project was initiated by District 1 Traffic Safety with the purpose to improve safety for motorists and reduce the frequency of collisions occurring within the project limits. Project work will consist of constructing warning sign systems with vehicle detectors to activate flashing beacons. To install the electrical conduit for the flashing beacon systems, trenching and backfill will occur in specified areas. In addition, placement of traffic striping in accordance with the 2018 Standard plans will occur at Road 144 to direct turning traffic into acceleration lane.

Detector loops will be placed on Road 144 that will activate flashing beacons when a vehicle is approaching the intersection. A "CROSS TRAFFIC AHEAD SIGN" (W709CA)) with flashing beacons will warn WB traffic, a merging traffic symbol sign (W4-3) with flashing beacons will warn EB traffic, and a flashing beacon will be added to the existing "STOP" (R1-1) and "CROSS TRAFFIC DOES NOT STOP" (W4-4P) on Road 144. Detector loops will also be placed in the Left Turn Channelization on EB Route 20 approaching the intersection which will activate the flashing beacons for WB traffic, and the Road 144 traffic, but not for EB traffic where there is no conflicting traffic movement.

The project is expected to commence in September 2020 and estimated to occur over 20 working days. Due to high traffic volumes, work activities will be conducted during the hours of 9pm-6am (night work).

Specific equipment will vary by contractor but may include the following: Water truck, Utility trucks, bobcat with miscellaneous attachment (grinder, saw blade, auger, etc.), Backhoe, drill truck, dump truck, viberplate, jumping jack, hot roller, and crack seal trailer with hot pot.

All work will be within the existing State right of way. Equipment staging will be confined to paved surfaces and existing non-vegetated turnouts. Construction Area Signs and Portable Changeable Message Signs will be with negligible soil disturbance.

***Traffic Control***

The contractor would be required to implement a traffic management plan approved by Caltrans in compliance with Caltrans' s 2018 standard specifications. Lane closures would be required and work would only occur within Caltrans's right of way.

***Sediment and Erosion Control***

The contractor will be required to implement all applicable measures within the contract including Caltrans's 2018 Standard Specifications and Plans.

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**Continuation Sheet**

***Environmental Analysis***

**Aesthetic/Visual**

A Visual Impact Assessment level questionnaire was completed on April 1, 2020. The project will result in minimal negative visual changes to the environment and will impacts will be less-than-significant.

**Air Quality/Noise/Greenhouse Gas**

An environmental document assessment for air quality, noise, and greenhouse gas (GHGs) impacts was conducted on March 5, 2020. According to the assessment, the project is a Type III project that will not cause an increase in operational or long-term impacts on air quality, noise, or GHGs, but will have construction related (short-term) impacts. Generation of short-term construction related noise, and the generation of short-term construction air emissions of fugitive dust and exhaust from construction equipment are to be controlled and reduced through the use of the 2018 standard specifications (e.g. Section 14-9). Additionally, the project will not generate operational GHG emissions, and would implement GHG reduction or avoidance measures (standard BMPs) where feasible to reduce construction GHG emissions. Therefore, project impacts are considered to be compliant with all applicable plans and will be less-than-significant. Lastly, the project would not contribute to a cumulatively considerable impact.

**Biological Resources**

A Biological Resources Evaluation Memo was completed by Caltrans on April 13, 2020. The memo concluded the project will have no effect on any federal or state listed threatened, endangered or sensitive species of concerns and will have no impact to designated critical habitat.

**Cultural Resources**

A screening memo was completed by Caltrans on April 14, 2020. Based on the scope of the construction activities, these undertakings have no potential to affect historic properties.

**Hazardous Waste**

An electronic Initial Site Assessment was completed by Caltrans on April 6, 2020. Based on the review, minor hazardous waste/materials will be encountered within project limits. These issues are routine construction issues that will be managed in the construction contract through standard BMPs and the inclusion of any Special Standard Provisions (SSPs). As a result, the project will not have any impacts related to hazardous waste and will be less-than-significant.

**Other Environmental Resources**

All work will be conducted within Caltrans's right of way. A water quality assessment checklist was completed and concluded that the project is exempt from a water quality assessment. Implementation of Standard BMPs and standard measures will ensure there are no impacts to environmental resources. In addition, the project qualifies for a categorical exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 -Existing Facilities (l)(c) and will not have any exceptions or significant impacts removing the project from the exemption.

***Permits***

No regulatory permits are required for this project.