



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 05/2020)**

Project Information

DIST-CO-RTE: 01-DN-101

PM/PM: 39.6/46.5

EA: 01-0K470

Federal-Aid Project Number: N/A

Project Description

Del Norte Micro-surfacing Project. See Continuation sheet for more details.

Caltrans CEQA Determination (Check one)

- Not Applicable** – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency
 - Not Applicable** – Caltrans has prepared an IS or EIR under CEQA
- Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the project is:
- Exempt by Statute.** (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)
 - Categorically Exempt. Class 15301 (1)(c).** (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)
 - No exceptions apply that would bar the use of a categorical exemption (PRC 21084 and 14 CCR 15300.2). See the [SER Chapter 34](#) for exceptions.
 - Covered by the 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].)

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

James McIntosh		7-9-2020
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Eric Lund for C. Ghidinelli		7-17-2020
Print Name	Signature	Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

Caltrans 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). See SER Chapter 30 for unusual circumstances. As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under NEPA and is included under the following:

[] 23 USC 326: Caltrans has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to 23 USC 326 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated April 18, 2019, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

- [] 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(Enter activity number)
[] 23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(Enter activity number)
[] Activity Enter activity number listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and Caltrans

[] 23 USC 327: Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, Caltrans 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.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

N/A Signature Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

N/A Signature Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: N/A

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 7/8/2020

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet if needed (i.e., not necessary if included on an attached ECR). Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., additional studies and design conditions).



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM

Continuation sheet:

**Del Norte Micro-Surfacing
EA 01-0K470
California Department of Transportation**

Project Description

Caltrans proposes a state funded maintenance project on Route 101 in Del Norte County near the town of Smith River from 0.2 Miles North of Rowdy Creek Bridge to the Oregon State Line (between Post Miles (PM) 39.6-46.5).

The work will consist of a microsurfacing over the existing AC traveled way pavement. Other work includes installing construction area signs and placing traffic striping.

Staging is anticipated to utilize paved shoulders and developed gravel turnouts. With the exception of construction area signs, no soil or vegetation disturbance will occur outside the pavement limits. All work will be within the existing State right of way.

The project is expected to be awarded in Summer of 2021 and estimated to occur over approximately 40 working days. Work activities will be conducted during the daytime or nighttime. Specific equipment will vary by contractor but may include the following: macro-paver, striping trucks, utility trucks, diamond grinder, power broom/vacuum

Traffic Control

The contractor would be required to manage traffic in compliance with Caltrans' s 2018 standard specifications. Lane closures are 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.

Environmental Analysis

Aesthetic/Visual

A Visual Impact Assessment level questionnaire was completed on June 4, 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 May 1, 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

EA: **01-0K470**

Federal-Aid Project Number: **N/A**



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

specifications (e.g. Section 14-9). Additionally, the project will not generate operational GHG emissions, nor contribute to a cumulatively considerable impact, and would implement GHG reduction or avoidance measures (standard BMPs) where feasible to reduce construction GHG emissions. Therefore, project impacts are compliant with all applicable plans and will be less-than-significant.

Biological Resources

A Biological Resources Evaluation Memo was completed by Caltrans on May 11, 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 July 2, 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 15, 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 will not need a permit or additional water quality assessments. Implementation of Standard BMPs and standard measures will ensure there are no impacts to environmental resources. The project is part of a scenic highway, but project activities will not affect or change its designation. The project is also near the Smith River, a wild and scenic river, and micro-surfacing activities will not occur over water or on bridges nor have any impacts to the river or its designation. Lastly, there are residences/communities either adjacent or close to the highway that may be impacted by construction activities of the project. Based upon further review, the type of work is expected to create temporary impacts (e.g. noise) that would be of short duration and would not disrupt or divide communities. Post-maintenance activities related to traffic and noise levels will return to normal. The project qualifies for a categorical exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 - Existing Facilities (I)(c) and will not have any exceptions or significant impacts removing the project from the exemption.

Permits

No permits are required for project activities.