

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: Merced

From: (Public Agency) Caltrans, Dist. 10
1976 E. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Stockton CA 95205

Project Title: 10-MER-152 Los Banos Maintenance Station Tree Removal

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location - Specific:

The project is located on all northbound and southbound on and off-ramps on State Route (SR) 99 within Merced and San Joaquin Counties (various post miles).

Project Location - City: Los Banos Project Location - County: MERCED

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Caltrans maintenance forces will remove approximately 7 large trees within the Caltrans maintenance facility in Los Banos, CA (no oak species). The project is expected to take 2-3 days. All work will be completed within Caltrans Right-of-Way. The purpose of the project is to detour a large colony of migrating egrets from roosting within the maintenance facility area. Previous avoidance measures such as tree trimming have been unsuccessful. The project is needed to address complaints from the City of Los Banos regarding bird waste and dead juvenile birds naturally occurring throughout the nesting season and to address safety concerns for the maintenance workers on-site.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation

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: Existing Facilities Section 15301
- Statutory Exemption. State code number: _____

Reason why project is exempt:

The project will not affect any sensitive species or their habitat, any cultural or scenic resources, or any other environmentally sensitive resources.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Dominic Vitali Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 209-948-7427

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: Dominic Vitali Date: 11/10/2020 Title: Senior Environmental Planner

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filing at OPR _____
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code