



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

Project Information

DIST-CO-RTE: 05-SB-192

PM/PM: 20.1/20.1

EA: 1M590

Federal-Aid Project Number: N/A

Project Description

The project proposes to replace an existing, structurally deficient 30-inch Corrugated Steel Pipe (CSP) culvert crossing beneath State Route 192 (SR 192) at PM 20.1. It is anticipated the replacement culvert will be installed along the existing alignment by open-cut trenching and extended to move the outlet nearer the roadside ditch. The shoulder may require re-grading to improve drainage flow to the adjacent receiving waters, Lake Jocelyn.

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 2.** (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

Lara Bertaina

11/17/2020

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager

Joseph Arnold

11/17/2020

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:

[X] 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:

- [X] 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(26)
[] 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

Lara Bertaina (Print Name), Signature, 11/17/2020 (Date)

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Joseph Arnold (Print Name), Signature, 11/17/2020 (Date)

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 11/10/20
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 11/10/20

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:

The following measures would reduce the construction effects of this project:

Visual:

- Revegetate disturbed areas to the greatest extent possible, considering safety and horticultural appropriateness. The revegetation method shall be determined by Caltrans Biology and Landscape Architecture staff.
- Following construction, re-grade and re-contour all new construction access roads, staging areas, and other temporary uses as necessary to match the surrounding topography.

Biology:

- All trees will be retained and protected with temporary ESA fencing as defined by Caltrans environmental staff. If tree removal or trimming is deemed necessary, then a nesting bird survey will be required by Caltrans Biology.
- When vegetation trimming/removal becomes necessary, it will be timed to avoid the bird nesting season (February 1 to September 30) if feasible. If it is not feasible to conduct vegetation removal outside of the nesting bird season, then a qualified biologist will conduct a focused nest survey for active migratory bird and raptor nests in the vegetation to be removed or trimmed prior to vegetation trimming/removal.
- The contractor shall notify the RE within five (5) days of starting work to request a nesting bird survey, prior to vegetation removal during nesting bird season. If an active bird nest is found in vegetation proposed to be removed or trimmed. The Caltrans biologist will determine an appropriate exclusion buffer based on the habits and needs of the species. The nest area would be avoided until the nest is vacated and the juveniles have fledged and are no longer dependent on the nest area.

Air Quality:

- To minimize dust emissions from the project, Section 14-9.02 (Air Pollution Control) of the 2015 Standard Specifications states that the contractor is responsible for complying with all local air-pollution control rules, regulations, ordinances, and statutes that apply to work performed under the Contract, including those provided in Govt Code § 11017 (Pub. Cont. Code § 10231). By incorporating appropriate engineering design and storm water Best Management Practices during construction, minimal short-term air quality impacts are anticipated.

Noise:

- Notify the public in advance of the construction schedule when construction noise and upcoming construction activities likely to produce an adverse noise environment are expected. This notice shall be given two weeks in advance. Notice should be published in local news media of the dates and duration of proposed construction activity. The District 5 Public information office posts notice of the proposed construction and potential community impacts after receiving notice from the Resident Engineer.
- Shield loud pieces of stationary construction equipment if complaints are received;
- Locate portable generators, air compressors, etc. away from sensitive noise receptors as feasible.
- Limit grouping major pieces of equipment operating in one area to the greatest extent feasible;
- Use newer equipment that is quieter and ensure that all equipment items have the manufacturers recommended noise abatement measures, such as mufflers, engine covers, and engine vibration isolators intact and operational. Internal combustion engines used for any purpose on or related to the job shall be equipped with a muffler or baffle of a type recommended by the manufacturer.



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

- Consult District noise staff if complaints are received during the construction process.

Hazardous Waste:

- If yellow stripe or thermoplastic is going to be removed it will need to be managed differently depending on its age and the way it will be removed. If removal of hazardous yellow traffic stripe can be verified, then it will be appropriate to include SSP 84-9.03C that requires preparation of a lead compliance plan but does not require the stripe debris to be disposed of as a hazardous waste.
- If it cannot be determined if non-hazardous yellow stripe was used or if some of the alignment has older yellow paint that the lead content cannot be determined then SSP 14-11.12 must be included to collect the residue and determine if it needs to be disposed of as a hazardous waste.
- If the stripe is going to be removed as part of a cold plane or grinding operation where the stripe is being removed with the asphalt concrete, then use SSP 36-4.