



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 04/2021)**

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Men-20 Culvert Replacement

DIST-CO-RTE: 01-MEN-20

PM/PM: 4.59/6.82

EA: 01-0K860

Federal-Aid Project Number: N/A

Project Description

Please see 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 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 15602.** (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

Darrell Cardiff		10/21/2021
_____	_____	_____
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Nanette Nickerson		10/21/2021
_____	_____	_____
Print Name	Signature	Date



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Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

[X] Not Applicable

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

Signature lines for Senior Environmental Planner and Project Manager, DCA Engineer, with 'Not Applicable' watermark.

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: Enter date

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).



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Continuation sheet:

**MEN-20 Culvert Replacements
EA: 01-0K860
California Department of Transportation (District 1)**

Project Description

Caltrans Maintenance proposes to replace drainage systems identified by the Culvert Inspection Program as deteriorated and beyond their useful service life. Without such repair or replacement, the roadway could be subject to washout, requiring more extensive roadway reconstruction. In the drainage systems, nine culverts are identified for replacement in-kind (no expansion).

Culverts will be replaced as close to the existing alignment (horizontal/vertical) as possible. All work will be done from the roadway and there are ample shoulder and turnout areas available throughout the project limits for temporary material and equipment storage. The culverts are located on Route 20 in Mendocino County in various location from Postmile 4.59 to Postmile 6.82 in the Noyo Hill 7.5" USGS quad. Table 1 outlines the proposed work for each culvert included in the project scope. The project is State funded only.

Table 1. Culvert Locations and Proposed Work

Location#	County	Route	P.M.	Existing Dia. (ft.)	Existing Pipe Type	Existing Pipe Removal Length (ft)	Proposed Construction
1	MEN	20	4.59	1.2	CSP	78	Replace existing culvert with 24" Corrugated Steel Pipe (CSP) with flared end section inlet or headwall, add fill, and reduce the culvert Length.
	MEN	20	4.59	1.2	CSP	40	Replace existing down drain with 24" CSP down drain
2	MEN	20	4.68	1.5	CSP	46	Replace existing culvert with 24" CSP. Install G1 Drain Inlet (G1 DI) with metal grate.
3	MEN	20	4.84	1.5	CSP	48	Replace existing culvert with 24" CSP. Install G1 DI with metal grate.
4	MEN	20	4.93	1.5	CSP	46	Replace existing culvert with 24" CSP. Install G1 DI with metal grate.
5	MEN	20	5.29	1.5	CSP	52	Replace existing culvert with 24" CSP. Install GO DI with metal grate and HMA paving around inlet.



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Location#	County	Route	P.M.	Existing Dia. (ft.)	Existing Pipe Type	Existing Pipe Removal Length (ft)	Proposed Construction
6	MEN	20	6.48	1.5	CSP	40	Replace existing culvert with 24" CSP. Install GO DI with metal grate and HMA paving around inlet.
7	MEN	20	6.55	1.5	CSP	49	Replace existing culvert with 24" CSP. Install GO DI with metal grate and HMA paving around inlet.
8	MEN	20	6.70	1.5	CSP	52	Replace existing culvert with 24" CSP. Install G1 DI with metal grate.
9	MEN	20	6.82	1.5	CSP	40	Replace existing culvert with 24" CSP and down drain. Install G1 DI with metal grate.

The project is expected to begin in the Summer of 2022 and estimated to occur over approximately 40 working days. Night work is not anticipated. If some activities are required during the night, the contractor would comply with Caltrans Standard Specifications and the Environmental Commitment Record. The project is expected to utilize a variety of equipment including excavators, backhoe, dump trucks, cement mixer or slurry truck, compactor, vibratory plate, asphalt pavement spreaders, rollers, loaders, pavement saws, and paint rigs.

Traffic

Traffic control will be maintained by the contractor in accordance with the Caltrans Traffic Management Plan (TMP) and the Standard Plans. The TMP includes requirements related to lane closures, flagging, notification, and coordination with other projects. The proposed project will include one-lane reversing closures where applicable and delays up to 15 to 20 minutes.

Environmental Commitments

- Use SSP 7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii) for earth materials containing lead

Environmental Analysis

Aesthetic/Visual Resources

A Visual Impact Assessment and Scenic Resource review was conducted August 2, 2021. The review determined the project scope and plans indicate that there will be no noticeable changes in the visual environment or to scenic resources. Therefore, impacts are less-than-significant.



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Air Quality, Noise, and Greenhouse Gases

An environmental document assessment for air quality, noise, and greenhouse gas (GHGs) impacts was conducted on February 26, 2021. 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, 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 Technical Memo was prepared on March 9, 2021 and determined there will be no impacts to federal or state listed species.

Cultural Resources

A screening memo was completed by Caltrans on May 18, 2021. Based on the scope of the construction activities, these undertakings have no potential to affect historic properties or cultural resources.

Hazardous Waste

An Initial Site Assessment was completed April 20, 2021. 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 Resources

All work will be conducted within Caltrans's right of way. Implementation of Standard BMPs and standard measures will ensure there are no impacts to environmental resources.

Permits

Regulatory permits are not required for this project.