



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

<u>Project Information</u>	
Project Name (if applicable): PLA 28 Rehab	
DIST-CO-RTE: 03-PLA-28	PM/PM: 0.85/11.0
EA: 03-0J010	Federal-Aid Project Number: 0319000184
<u>Project Description</u>	
<p>The project is located in Placer County on State Route (SR) 28 from post mile (PM) 0.085 (near the SR 89 and 28 Junction) to PM 11.0 (the California and Nevada State Line). Caltrans proposes to preserve the pavement of SR 28 by replacing the structural section in Tahoe City (PM 0.085 to PM 0.80). The remainder of SR 28 will be cold-planned and overlaid to the state line. Caltrans proposes to extend the life of existing drainage systems in poor condition by replacing or lining culverts. In addition, the project will upgrade non-ADA compliant curb ramps, upgrade existing Metal Beam Guard Railing to meet current standards, install two Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons and incorporate bike lanes in Tahoe City.</p>	

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 1.** (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

Mike Bartlett	<i>Mike Bartlett</i>	11/1/2021
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Daniel Cuellar Vite	<i>Daniel Cuellar</i>	11/1/2021
Print Name	Signature	Date



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Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

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)(1)
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

Mike Bartlett
Signature: Mike Bartlett
Date: 11/1/2021

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Daniel Cuellar Vite
Signature: Daniel Cuellar
Date: 11/1/2021

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): 10/15/21
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 10/15/21

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:

No permits or consultation required, and no cultural resources identified in the project area. The following avoidance and minimization measure are required.

At Watson Creek, work will be performed during no flow or flows low enough to be conveyed by the culvert that is not being worked on. At the wetland environmental sensitive area (ESA) fencing will be put up to keep construction equipment and personnel out of the wetland. Lining will occur when system is dry.

The ESA fencing will be used to keep construction equipment/personnel out of riparian zones when appropriate. Riparian vegetation may be trimmed (if trimmed within bird nesting season a nesting survey will be conducted no earlier than 10 days prior to trimming) when necessary to access culverts.

Additional surveys during the 2022 growing season and appropriate blooming periods for the species are proposed to increase the certainty that no special status plants are present within the project's limits. If special status plants are found during future surveys, avoidance and minimization measures such as translocation, soil salvage, and/or seed collection will be incorporated into the project.

Monarch butterfly:

If any milkweed plants are found during the targeted botanical survey, then those individual plants will have ESA fencing installed surrounding them to preserve habitat for reproduction and foraging.

Yellow Warbler:

If vegetation trimming happens between February 1 and September 30 then a bird nesting survey will be conducted no more than 10 days prior to trimming using Spec 14-6.03A.

Northern Leopard frog:

No work will occur during wet conditions and ESA fencing will be constructed within wetlands to keep construction equipment/personnel out of wetlands.