



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Slope Repair

DIST-CO-RTE: 07-LA-605

PM/PM: R4.2

EA: 0Q9701

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0722000108

Project Description

The proposed scope of work is to repair the eroded slope and upgrade the existing drainage system. There is expected soil excavation to an average depth of about 5 feet for an average area of about 107 square feet and vegetation removal because of construction activities. The project is located on the northbound Route 605 (PM R4.2) in Cerritos at 183rd St in Los Angeles County.

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 1c.** (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

Jason Roach		3/28/22
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Samantha Venegas		3/28/2022
Print Name	Signature	Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

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)(25)

23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(l)

Activity 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

Jason Roach Signature 3/28/22

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Samantha Venegas Signature 3/28/2022

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: March 24, 2022



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Continuation sheet:

General

Should the proposed activities be modified or if additional locations are added, the environmental document will need to be reassessed by the Division of Environmental Planning.

Biological Resources

PLANT PALETTE FOR MONARCHS AND POLLINATOR SPECIES:

Caltrans Division of Landscape Architecture should include plant materials that are useful and provide nectar and shelter for Monarch butterflies and other native pollinating insects. Caltrans Unit will coordinate with CT Landscape to provide a plant palette of regionally appropriate native species to be planted in the fill area.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION MEASURES/COMPENSATORY MITIGATION (TREES):

The disturbance of tree root zones and removal of whole trees will be avoided to the maximum extent feasible. The resident engineer, contractor, and biologist will coordinate to minimize the disturbance area to the maximum extent feasible.

If there are any ornamental trees that must be removed and for which adjustments cannot be made, then those trees should be replaced at a 1:1 ratio with Caltrans Landscape Architecture deciding on the right species and siting of replacement trees.

Caltrans Environmental Division will review the plans, specifications, and estimates to ensure that the final project scope and design are consistent with this report. Likewise, Caltrans Environmental will attend the pre-construction meeting to ensure implementation and compliance with the necessary avoidance and minimization measures, which are specified in the following sections. Lastly, the project will implement Caltrans' standard construction BMPs, including erosion control and litter control to prevent unanticipated effects from occurring against special status habitats and other biological resources.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION MEASURES/COMPENSATORY MITIGATION (MIGRATORY BIRDS):

The project will avoid affecting nesting birds by scheduling construction outside of the nesting bird season. If the project is scheduled during the nesting bird season, then the project will implement Nesting Bird Pre-construction Surveys, to avoid "taking" migratory birds. The nesting bird pre-construction surveys will consist of a qualified biologist performing nesting bird surveys no later than three days before the scheduled initiation of vegetation removal. If active nesting songbirds are observed within the trees to be removed, then the biologist will establish a no-work buffer around the nest until



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

the fledglings are independent. The typical buffer is 150 feet away from the nest for songbirds and other non-raptors and 500 feet for raptors. If there is a lapse of three days or more after the initial survey, then the vegetation to be removed will be surveyed again.

The Caltrans biologist, Mario Mariotta (phone: 213-897-9362, email: Mario.mariotta@dot.ca.gov), must be notified about and invited to the pre-construction Meeting for this project to review the construction schedule and discuss the implementation of the project's avoidance and minimization measures.

Hazardous Waste

MATERIAL CONTAINING HAZARDOUS WASTE CONCENTRATIONS OF AERIALLY DEPOSITED LEAD (ADL):

OEE referenced relevant ADL Site Investigation (SI) reports within the Project vicinity to evaluate the extent and degree of ADL contamination in soil. This referenced report is applicable to the project as the data collected are within the same Area of Contamination (AOC). Furthermore, the Project Engineer confirmed that all excess soil (potentially contaminated with ADL) generated from the drainage system excavation will be disposed off-site.

To evaluate ADL soil condition, OEE performed a statistical analysis using EPA Approved ProUCL method to determine whether the excavated excess soil is: (1) clean/non-hazardous waste and can be reused on the project site and/or relinquished to the contractor without restriction; or (2) contaminated but non-hazardous waste that require a disclosure statement when relinquish to a third party for off-site usage; or (3) hazardous waste regulated by the State of California and declare as excess material that require off-site disposal at a permitted California

Class I hazardous waste disposal facility; or (4) hazardous waste regulated by federal agency and prohibit from reuse on-site and shall be disposed at a permitted California RCRA hazardous waste disposal facility.

MINIMAL DISTURBANCE OF REGULATED MATERIAL CONTAINING ADL:

The project will require installation of a Midwest Guardrail System (MGS) and temporary stationary mounted construction area signposts (for traffic control system/construction staging) at the unpaved areas. This work is considered as "Minimal Soil Disturbance" work. According to Caltrans' ADL guidance document (2010), US EPA allows certain discrete areas of generally dispersed contamination to be considered as individual waste management unit. These discrete areas are defined as AOCs. An AOC is equated to a single unit, and therefore movement, consolidation, or in-situ treatment of hazardous waste within the AOC does not create a new point of hazardous waste generation. For an AOC, contamination must be contiguous but can have various concentrations. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) allows Caltrans to apply the AOC approach to projects that will only cause minimal disturbances of soil containing hazardous waste concentrations of ADL. All soil disturbed must remain in the



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

immediate area of disturbance and not be transported elsewhere. Health and safety precautions and dust control for hazardous waste must be implemented. It is important to notify the GC that lead is present and to allow for preparation of a task-specific Lead Compliance Plan (LCP) and implementation of lead awareness training as required by Title 8, Section 1532.1 of the California Code of Regulations (8CCR Section 1532.1) and Cal-OSHA Construction Safety Order.

TREATED WOOD WASTE:

Treated Wood Waste (TWW) can occur when replacing MBGR/MGS, temporary stationary construction area signposts for traffic control system, and/or exiting roadside signs that are removed for disposal. Typically, these wood products are treated with potentially hazardous (carcinogenic) preserving chemicals that protect against insect attack and fungal decay including, but not limited to arsenic, chromium, copper, creosote, and pentachlorophenol. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) requires that TWW is either tested as a hazardous waste, or if not tested, the generator may presume that TWW is a hazardous waste. The handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of TWW is subject to California regulations. Treated wood waste must be disposed in an approved treated-wood-waste facility. Field personnel who handle treated-wood waste (TWW) or may encounter TWW must receive training that includes all applicable requirements of Title 8 California Code of Regulations (8CCR), procedures for identifying and segregating treated-wood waste (TWW), safe handling practices, requirements of Title 22 California Code of Regulations (22CCR), Division 4.5, Chapter 34, and proper disposal methods.



Environmental Commitments Record (ECR)

DIST-CO-RTE: 07 - LA - 605 **PM/PM:** 4.200/4.200 **EA/Project ID:** 07-0Q970_ / 0722000108

Project Description: Repair eroded slope and upgrade drain.

Date (Last modification): 3/28/2022

Environmental Planner: Alex Brown

Phone: 213-310-2590

Construction Liaison:

Phone:

Resident Engineer:

Phone:

PERMITS

Permit	Agency	Application Submitted	Permit Received	Permit Expiration	Permit Requirements Completed by	Permit Requirements Completed on	Comments
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ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

PRE-CONSTRUCTION

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in PS&E Package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA
Biology	Caltrans Division of Landscape Architecture should include plant materials that are useful and provide nectar and shelter for Monarch butterflies and other native pollinating insects. Caltrans Unit will coordinate with CT Landscape to provide a plant palette of regionally appropriate native species to be planted in the fill area.	Env Doc	n/a	Biological Unit/RE						
Biology	The Caltrans biologist, Mario Mariotta (phone: 213-897-9362, email: Mario.mariotta@dot.ca.gov), must be notified about and invited to the pre-construction meeting for this project to review the construction schedule and discuss the implementation of the project's avoidance and minimization measures.	Env Doc	n/a	Biological Unit/RE						

CONSTRUCTION

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in PS&E Package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA
Hazardous Waste	Use Standard Special Provision (SSP) 14-11.03. Material Containing HW Concentrations of ADL	Env Doc	SSP	Hazardous Waste Unit/RE						
Hazardous Waste	Use Standard Special Provision (SSP) 14-11.04. Minimal Disturbance of Material Containing HW Concentrations of ADL	Env Doc	SSP	Hazardous Waste Unit/RE						
Hazardous Waste	Use Standard Special Provision (SSP) 14-11.09. Treated Wood Waste	Env Doc	SSP	Hazardous Waste Unit/RE						