



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): MEN-175 Culvert Replacement Project

DIST-CO-RTE: 01-MEN-175

PM/PM: 3.08-9.82

EA: 01-0L730

Federal-Aid Project Number: N/A

Project Description

Caltrans Maintenance proposes to replace or repair 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.

Eight culverts are identified for repair or replacement. Table-1 on the continuation sheet identifies the location and the preliminary proposed construction. Culverts will be replaced as close to the existing alignment (horizontal/vertical) as possible. All work should be able to be done from the roadway and ample shoulder and turnout areas are available throughout the project limits for temporary material and equipment storage. All culverts are located on Route 175 in Mendocino County in various locations from Postmile 3.08 to Postmile 9.82 in the Hopland and Highland Springs 7.5" USGS quads. The project is State funded only.

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** Enter class. (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		10/10/22
Print Name	Signature	Date



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM**

Project Manager

Nanette Nickerson

Print Name

Signature

10/17/2022

Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

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/ DLA Engineer, with 'Not Applicable' text overlaid.

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 4/14/2022

Continuation sheet:

Table-1 – Culvert Locations



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

DS#	P.M.	Proposed Construction	Existing Dia. (ft.)	Proposed Dia (ft.)	Existing Length (ft.)	Proposed Length (ft.)
1	3.08	Place 24" CSP and 24" CSP DD w/ CABLE ANCHOR SYSTEM	1.5	2.0	62	61
2	3.38	Place Mod G1 DI and 24" CSP	2.0	2.0	54	54
3	3.59	Place SFES, and 24" CSP	2.0	2.0	82	82
4	3.86	Replace HW, Place 15" RCP	1.25	1.25	32	32
5	5.85	Abandon Existing CSP, Place MOD G1 DI , 24" CSP, 24" CSP DD w/ Cable Anchor System	1.25	2.0	68	68
6	6.23	Place 24" CSP with SFES	1.25	2.0	52	50
7	7.21	Abandon Existing CSP, Place Mod G1 DI, 24" CSP, 24" CSP DD w/ Cable Anchor System	1.25	2.0	68	71
8	9.82	Place 24" CSP w/ SFES, 24" CSP DD w/ Cable Anchor System	1.25	2.0	103	105



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM

Technical Studies Completed	Date Completed
Biological No Effects Memo	08/25/2022
Cultural Studies Screening Memo	09/30/2022
Visual Impact Review	08/05/2022
Hazardous Waste: Initial Site Assessment	03/21/2022
Water Quality Checklist	06/06/2022
Greenhouse Gas, Noise and Air Quality reviews	04/01/2022

Environmental Commitments

Hazardous Waste

- A Lead Compliance Plan as a contract item will be required for soil disturbance/removal
- For ground Disturbance of Aerially Deposited Lead comply with SSP 7-1.02K(j)(6)(iii)

Biological Resources

- Vegetation disturbance
 - Limit vegetation disturbance to the greatest extent feasible. Two valley oaks less than 10" in diameter are expected to be removed at PM 3.59. No other trees are expected to be removed.
 - To the greatest extent feasible, all vegetation trimming or tree removal will occur from Sept 16-January 31, outside the migratory bird nesting season.
- Migratory birds - Where vegetation will be trimmed or removed, comply with the following:
 - Conduct work outside the migratory bird nesting season of Feb 1-Sept 15; or
 - A qualified biologist/contractor supplied biologist will conduct preconstruction surveys within one week of planned construction during the months of Feb 1-Sept 15. If nests are found within the construction area, stop construction and consult with CDFW to determine the best course of action to avoid impact to the nesting bird species.

Permits

No regulatory permits are required.