



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 06/2022)**

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): South Willits Median

DIST-CO-RTE: 01-MEN-101

PM/PM: 41.2/43.3

EA: 1-0K410

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0120000081

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to construct a project to install a Concrete Median Barrier Type 60M and 60C in Mendocino County on United States (US) Highway 101 within one mile of the southern end of the Willits Bypass between postmile 41.2 and postmile 43.3. The project will also include wildlife fencing, installation of guardrail, earth retaining systems, and related drainage improvements. Additionally, the project will necessitate converting six driveway and roadway approaches to “right-in/right-out” only movements.

The purpose of this project is to reduce the frequency and severity of collisions involving vehicles traveling in opposite directions. There is a need for this project because this highway segment was identified in the Multilane Cross Median Collisions Monitoring Program Report due to multiple occurrences of cross median collisions.

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(c).** (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

Rob Wall

Robert Wall

10/27/2022

Print Name

Signature

Date



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Project Manager

Robert King

Print Name

Robert King

Signature

10/24/2022

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, 2022, 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 May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Rob Wall (Print Name), Robert Wall (Signature), 10/27/2022 (Date)

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Robert King (Print Name), Robert King (Signature), 10/27/2022 (Date)

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

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 03/30/2022

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:

Staging

- The staging area is identified in the current project plan, which is within the Caltrans Right-of-Way.

Right-of-Way

- All work will occur within the Caltrans Right-of-Way.

Consultation/Coordination

- No Consultation/Coordination is required.

Permits

- No environmental permits will be required.

Utility

- The work will not require any utility relocation

SSP's

- **14-1.02:** Install fencing and/or flagging to protect sensitive biological resources.
- **14-6.03A:** Conduct preconstruction surveys for Sonoma Tree Vole nests.
- **14-6.03D:** CSB to conduct pre-construction surveys for Sonoma Tree Vole at the
- **14-6.03D1:** Conduct environmental awareness training for red-bellied newt, Sonoma tree vole, and Northern Spotted Owl.