



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

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** Alpine SR-89 Emergency Storm Repairs

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 10-ALP-89

**PM/PM:** 14.9/17.3

**EA:** 10-1Q490

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** N/A

**Project Description**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes an emergency Director’s Order project to immediately repair damages near the community of Markleeville, along State Route (SR) 89, from post mile (PM) 14.9 to 17.3, in Alpine County. On August 3, 2022, an extreme storm event inundated Millberry Creek that runs adjacent to SR-89, and the surrounding areas, causing severe damages to the roadway, roadside ditches, and drainage facilities. Debris and sediment were deposited approximately 2-6 feet thick at various locations along the creek, roadway, and drainages. Several headwalls and culvert pipes were severely damaged. The culvert at PM 15.21 washed downstream, leaving the roadway unsupported with a void of approximately 10’ wide by 10’ high by 100’ long, making SR-89, one of the main access routes for the Markleeville community, unsafe for travel (See Continuation sheet)...

**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**

Elizabeth Hummel		12/09/2022
Print Name	Signature	Date

**Project Manager**

Tanya Sanguinetti		12/12/2022
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, 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

Print Name Signature Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Print Name Signature Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: See Continuation sheet

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:**

... The scope of work includes installing a temporary creek crossing, clearing debris and sediment, reestablishing drainage ditches, pavement repairs, placing shoulder backing, placing Rock Slope Protection (RSP), and replacing culverts and headwalls. At PMs 14.91, 14.99, 15.05, and 15.15 the existing 18" Corrugated Steel Pipes (CSP) will be replaced with 24" CSPs and new concrete headwalls will be installed at the inlets. At PM 15.21 the washed out 48" CSP will be replaced with a 96" CSP. At PM 15.22 the existing 24" CSP will be replaced with a new 24" CSP and a new concrete headwall will be installed. The purpose of this project is to immediately rectify structural and drainage damages caused by the extreme storm event and to re-open SR-89 to the traveling public. The project is needed to prevent the loss or impairment of life, property, or essential public services.

### **General:**

- Environmental reevaluation will be required if the scope of the project changes to include additional areas or activities, or if previously unknown cultural or other sensitive resources are discovered. Contact the Environmental Office if project changes occur or sensitive resources discovered.

### **Cultural:**

- If cultural materials are discovered at the job site, do not disturb the resources and immediately:
  1. Stop all work within a 60foot radius of discovery
  2. Protect the discovery area
  3. Notify the Engineer
  4. The Department Investigates. Do not move cultural materials or take them from the job site. Retain a qualified archaeologist to assess the significance of the find. Do not resume work within the discovery area until authorized.
- If human remains are discovered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that further disturbances and activities shall cease in any area or nearby area suspected to overlie remains, and the County coroner contacted. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. If the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) who will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). At the same time the landowner will work with the MLD on the respectful treatment and disposition of the remains. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.

### **Permits:**

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 permitting under the Clean Water Act - Regional General Permit #8 for emergency projects
- California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) Emergency 1610 Lake & Streambed Alteration notification