



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Porterville Roundabout Leg Reconstruction

DIST-CO-RTE: 06-TUL-190

PM/PM: 20.90/21.20

EA: 06-1C710

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0621000137

Project Description

The purpose of this project is to improve the roadway along the southern leg of the intersection to eliminate flooding during heavy rain events. The project is needed to level the low point at the southern profile of the roundabout to prevent flooding during heavy rain. This project is located in Tulare County near Porterville on State Route 190 from 0.20 mile west of Road 284 to 0.10 mile east of Route 284 (post mile R20.9 to post mile R21.2). This project proposes to improve the roadway drainage along the southern leg of the intersection of State Route 190 and Ave 284 to mitigate flooding during heavy rain events. Work will include constructing a drainage basin on the South-east corner of the intersection. Right of way will need to be acquired to build the drainage basin. In addition, a 2-foot-deep and 12-foot bottom width trapezoidal ditch will be built on the southwest side of the intersection along State Route 190. Along Road 284 the existing ditch will be improved within the available right of way. Two 24-inch culvert pipes across the southern leg will be bored and jacked under the roadway to convey runoff from the drainage basin to the ditch on west side. This project is expected to generate excess soil.

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 3.** (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

<u>Chelsea Starr</u>	<u><i>Chelsea Starr</i></u>	<u>9/28/2022</u>
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

<u>Ernesto Garcia</u>	<u><i>Ernesto Garcia P.</i></u>	<u>09/28/2022</u>
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)
[] 23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)
[] 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 May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Print Name Signature Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Ernesto Garcia Ernesto Garcia P. 09/28/2022
Print Name Signature Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable):
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 9/22/2022



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Continuation sheet:

Air Quality

A Dust Control Plan approved by the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District is needed if at least 2,500 cubic yards of material are moved in a day for at least three days of project activity, or 5 or more acres of land will be disturbed during construction.

Biology

- Preconstruction surveys for migratory birds will be required if construction is to occur during the avian nesting season (February 1 to September 30). Surveys for migratory birds and raptors shall be completed by a qualified biologist no more than 30 days prior to construction.
- If staging areas are required, they must be approved by the project biologist and shall be clearly designated with stakes/flagging. Storage of equipment and materials shall not extend beyond the designated staging area.
- Preconstruction surveys for rare plants and signs of other wildlife will be conducted.
- If trees are removed, a biologist will have to survey trees for nests before removal. Remove trees outside of nesting season to avoid delays to the project from nests in the trees preventing removal.

Cultural

- If buried cultural resources are encountered during construction, it is Caltrans' policy that work will be stopped in the area of the find until a qualified archaeologist evaluates the nature and significance of the resources encountered.
- Additional surveying will be required if the project changes to include areas not previously surveyed.

Hazardous Waste

- As a result of excess soil being generated, the project will require a Task Order for a Preliminary Site Investigation/Aerially Deposited Lead study (Resource ID 06.CC32) that will cost \$25,000 and will be completed in the design phase of the project. The Aerially Deposited Lead study will take approximately 6 months to complete.
- A Lead Compliance Plan and an Asbestos Compliance Plan developed by a certified industrial hygienist is required. The estimated cost of the Lead Compliance Plan and an Asbestos Compliance Plan is \$3,000 each.

Noise

- Do not exceed the maximum sound level of 86 A-weighted decibels at 50 feet from job site activities from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.
- All internal combustion engines should be equipped with the manufacturer-recommended muffler. Do not operate an internal combustion engine on the job site without the appropriate muffler.



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Paleontology

If an unexpected fossil discovery occurs during construction, Caltrans' 2018 Standard Specifications Section 14-7.03 identifies the procedures required to protect the resource.

Right-of-Way Acquisition

Hydraulics recommended a permanent Right-of-Way acquisition of 0.334 acre on the southeast section of the intersection in order to help mitigate flooding during heavy rain events. The parcel (APN# 282-070-043-000) will be used to create the drainage basin on the southeast corner of the intersection and relocate several underground utility components. The one acquisition is currently used as Agricultural Residential land and is currently vacant.

Water Quality

- If the project disturbs 1 acre or more of soil, the following would be required:
 - A Notice of Intent is to be submitted to the appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board at least 30 days before construction starts.
 - A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan is to be prepared and implemented during construction to the satisfaction of the Resident Engineer.
 - A Notice of Termination will be submitted to the appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board upon completion of construction and site stabilization. The project will be considered complete when the criteria for final stabilization in the Construction General Permit are met.
- If the project disturbs less than 1 acre of soil, the contractor would be required to prepare a Water Pollution Control Program per Caltrans' 2018 Standard Specifications Section 13-1 Water Pollution.