



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

Project Information

Project Name: North Bridges 23/24

DIST-CO-RTE: 01-HUM-VAR

PM/PM: VAR

EA:01-0L950

Federal-Aid Project Number: N/A

Project Description

This routine maintenance project would consist of polyester concrete overlays, methacrylate deck seal, replacing joint seals, cold planing 0.33-.25 feet of existing deteriorated asphalt concrete at structure approaches and departures, and replacing it with 0.33-.25 feet Hot Mix Asphalt (Dense Graded). Other work would include installing construction area signs and placing traffic striping. Staging is anticipated to utilize paved shoulders and developed gravel turnouts. With the exception of construction area signs, no soil or vegetation disturbance will occur outside the pavement limits.

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.** (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

Cassie Nichols

Cassie Nichols

08/31/2023

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager

Caren Coonrod

Caren Coonrod

8/31/2023

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

N/A

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

N/A

Print Name

Signature

Date

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

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 8/28/2023

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:

Biological, Cultural, Water Quality, Visual and Hazardous Waste reviews have been completed. A Notice of Waste Discharge (WDR) would be required from the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board for bridges crossing jurisdictional waters (Bear Creek, Jordan Creek, Janes Creek).

Measures would be incorporated into the project to avoid impacts to Biological Resources:

- *Species Protection for Northern Spotted Owls and Marbled Murrelets* at Bear Creek Bridge (PM R42.99), Jordan Creek Bridge (PM R46.19) and Patrick's Point OC (PM R106.07)
 1. No proposed activity generating sound levels 20 or more decibels above ambient sound levels or with maximum sound levels (ambient sound level plus activity-generated sound level) above 90 decibels (excluding vehicle back-up alarms) may occur between February 1 to August 5.
 2. Between August 6 (date when most marbled murrelets have fledged in coastal northern California) and September 15 (end of marbled murrelet nesting season) of any year, project activities, with adjacent suitable nesting habitat, that will generate sound levels ≥ 10 dB above ambient sound levels will observe a daily work window beginning 2 hours post-sunrise and ending 2 hours pre-sunset.
 3. No human activities shall occur within a visual line-of-sight of 40 m (131 feet) or less from any known nest locations within the action area.
- *Species Protection for Bats*
 1. A Contractor Supplied Biologist (CSB) is required and shall submit a preconstruction survey report within 5 days before start of work.
 2. Bat and Bird Exclusion Device Installation - A qualified biologist must oversee installation, maintenance, and removal of the exclusion device. For bat exclusion: only install exclusion devices from March 1 through April 15, or September 16 through November 15 two hours after sunset when the evening temperatures are not below 50 degrees F.

The following provisions would be required to address minor hazardous waste issues:

- SSP 7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii) UNREGULATED EARTH MATERIALS CONTAINING LEAD
- SSP 14-11.12 REMOVAL OF YELLOW TRAFFIC STRIPE AND PAVEMENT MARKING WITH HAZARDOUS WASTE RESIDUE will be required for residue from grinding activities that may contain lead from paint or thermoplastic on the Outlet Creek Bridge.
- SSP 84-9.03B REMOVE TRAFFIC STRIPES AND PAVEMENT MARKINGS CONTAINING LEAD will be required for pavement delineation removal, if this method is preferred.
- A Lead Compliance Plan as a contract item will be required for soil, thermoplastic and paint disturbance/removal
- If bridge maintenance requires disturbance of Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM) contained in guardrail shims or guardrail bolt thread compound on identified bridges, it



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will be required to use SSP 14-11.16 ASBESTOS CONTAINING CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL IN BRIDGES.

- An Asbestos Compliance Plan as a contract item will be necessary if ACM disturbance/removal is required.
- Since this project includes renovation to existing structures, a NESHAP notification to the Mendocino County Air Quality Management District (MCAQMD) will be required. It will be required to include SSP 14-9.02 NESHAP NOTIFICATION in the project specification package.