



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Angels Camp Drainage System Improvements

DIST-CO-RTE: 10-CAL-49

PM/PM: 7.17, 7.20

EA: 10-1P310

Federal-Aid Project Number: N/A

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes drainage repairs in the City of Angels Camp on State Route (SR) 49, at Post Miles (PM) 7.17 and 7.20, in Calaveras County. The scope of work at PM 7.17 includes replacing the existing 12" Corrugated Steel Pipe (CSP) sections with 24" Reinforced Concrete Pipes (RCP) and replacing two existing drainage inlets to include bicycle-friendly grates. The scope of work at PM 7.20 includes replacing a section of the existing 18" CSP with new 18" RCP and adjusting the elevation of the existing drainage inlet to better catch water from higher elevations. All work will occur within Caltrans Right of Way. The purpose of this project is to improve the function of these drainage systems and increase flow capacity. The project is needed to extend the service life of SR-49 and ensure motorist safety.

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

Elizabeth Hummel

Print Name

Elizabeth Hummel

Signature

10/13/2023

Date

Project Manager

Jason Miller

Print Name

Jason Miller

Signature

10/13/2023

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: 10/13/2023

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:

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 Environmental Office if project changes occur or sensitive resources discovered.

Cultural

- If cultural resources are discovered at the job site, do not disturb the resources and immediately:
 1. Stop all work within a 60-foot radius of the 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 archeologist 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 should be 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) which will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). At that 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.
- Angels Creek Bridge (30-0019) is a historic resource that lies near and/or within the project limits, near the outlet of the drainage system at Post Mile 7.17. This is considered an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) and Caltrans Standard Special Provision (SSP) 14-1.02 shall be included in the contract. Prior to the start of construction related activities, install a temporary, high-visibility fence to delineate and protect the northwestern portion of the bridge. The ESA shall be denoted on the project plans. No project-related activities shall take place within the ESA limits (including storing or staging of equipment or materials). The ESA barrier will remain in-place for the duration of construction. The Caltrans Professionally Qualified Staff (PQS), in coordination with the Resident Engineer (RE) and Contractor, will be responsible for identifying the ESA location and for monitoring the installation of the temporary ESA fencing prior to the start of construction.
- Angels Hotel is a historic resource that lies near and/or within the project limits, near the drainage inlet at Post Mile 7.20. This is considered an ESA and Caltrans SSP 14-1.02 shall be included in the contract. Prior to the start of construction related activities, install a temporary, high-visibility fence to delineate and protect the southwestern corner of the building. The ESA shall be denoted on the project plans. No project-related activities shall take place within the ESA limits (including storing



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or staging of equipment or materials). The ESA barrier will remain in-place for the duration of construction. The Caltrans PQS, in coordination with the RE and Contractor, will be responsible for identifying the ESA location and for monitoring the installation of the temporary ESA fencing prior to the start of construction.

- Prior to the project construction start date, the Caltrans Architectural Historian will meet with the RE, Contractor, and any responsible parties who will be working on the project near the ESAs to discuss the significance of the historic resources in the project area and to explain why protection and avoidance of these resources are necessary.
- During construction, Caltrans PQS will inspect the ESAs weekly to verify no prohibited activities have occurred within the ESA boundaries.
- Post construction, The Caltrans PQS will review the ESAs, take photos of the completed work, and document the results. Contact the Caltrans District 10 Environmental Office once construction is complete.

Hazardous Waste

- The Caltrans SSP 7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii), which pertains to Earth Material Containing Lead, shall be added to the construction contract. A Lead Compliance Plan prepared by a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) is required and all soil must remain on-site.

Biology

- For the PM 7.17 culvert outlet only: The contractor shall install silt net fencing at the outlet that connects to Angels Creek, prior to the start of any construction related activities. The silt net fencing will be placed in a "U" formation, parallel to Angels Creek, and above the Ordinary High-Water Mark. The silt net fencing will encompass the entire portion of hillside that has potential to allow debris movement toward Angles Creek, as a result of project activities. The Caltrans District 10 qualified biologist will inspect the silt net fencing installation prior to the start of construction related activities. Work shall not commence until authorized by the Caltrans District 10 Environmental Office. The silt net fencing shall remain in-place at the culvert outlet for the duration of construction at PM 7.17. The silt net fencing shall be removed once all construction related activities are complete at PM 7.17. Include Caltrans SSP 14-6.03A in the construction contract.
- Include Caltrans Standard Special Provision 14-6.03A in the construction contract. If work occurs during the migratory bird nesting season (February 1 – September 30), preconstruction surveys must be conducted by a qualified Caltrans biologist within 14 days prior to the start of any construction activities. If active nests are observed, buffers will need to be established around each nest until the young have fledged, per California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) guidelines. A 100-foot buffer will be established around active nests. For hawks, a 300-foot buffer will be established. For Swainson's hawks, a 600-foot buffer will be established. If construction activities do not commence within 14 days of the cleared survey, or if construction activities stop for more than 14 days, a subsequent bird survey may be required before construction commences or recommences.