



**CEQA CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 04/2022)**

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Pit One Grade Rockfall Mitigation

DIST-CO-RTE: 02-SHA-299

PM/PM: 88.1/89.5

EA: 02-1J290

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0220000055

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), using state and federal funding, is proposing to replace rockfall fencing between post miles 88.1 through 89.5 on State Route 299 in Shasta County.

Continued on page 3.

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 1c.** (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

Julie McFall

Print Name

Signature

2/2/24

Date

Project Manager

Austin Buist

Print Name

Signature

02/02/2024

Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

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 4 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 December 23, 2016 and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Julie McFall
Print Name
Signature
Date 2/2/24

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Austin Buist
Print Name
Signature
Date 02/02/2024

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): 12/13/23
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 2/2/24

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).



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Continuation sheet:

Additional work

- Remove existing wire mesh rock slope protection system
- Excavate rock slope from roadway with excavator mounted hydraulic rock hammers and buckets (contractor can choose the preferred method) to establish a minimum of 8-ft of catchment adjacent to the roadway (westbound direction)
- Install new rockfall mitigation consisting of a combination of cable net drapery (CND), cable net attenuator (CNA), and double twisted wire mesh (DTWM) drapery systems
- Install anchored mesh on an area of large boulders
- Remove an area of large boulders by blasting
- Apply aesthetic coating to drapery systems
- Replace five culverts, install five drainage inlets (DIs), and extend one culvert
- Cold plane and overlay from edge of pavement (EP) to EP with 0.10-ft of HMA
- Create disposal site at PM 88.15 for construction activities and leave open for future maintenance activities

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to reduce maintenance costs and reduce the risk exposure of maintenance workers and the traveling public to rockfall.

Need: The existing rockfall catchment fence is inadequate to intercept material shed from the roadside slope. The existing shoulder lacks sufficient space for fallen material to be caught, increasing risk exposure for maintenance workers and the traveling public.

Right-of-Way

Temporary Construction Easements (TCE) and Permanent Acquisitions will be needed. TCEs will be needed to access the rockfall face location, Permanent Acquisitions will be needed for the installation for the rockfall fence.

Staging/Stockpiling

Staging areas will include existing shoulders, medians, lanes, and previously disturbed areas within Caltrans ROW.

Disposal/Borrow Sites

A disposal site has been proposed at PM 88.15; the site is 6.5 acres and has the potential to hold 40,000 cubic yards. Use of the space as a disposal site would not have a potentially significant impact to any sensitive resources. The area is privately owned. Prior to disposing of material at this location Caltrans will coordinate with the landowner and develop any necessary agreements for use.

The project will not utilize borrowed material.

Coordination/Consultation

To identify potential cultural resources, Caltrans staff conducted a review of internal and external agency resource records and databases. Additionally, a field review of the



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

project area was completed by cultural staff. Once review was completed it was determined the proposed scope of work has no potential to affect cultural resources.

Construction activities will require tribal monitoring for all ground disturbing activities.

Permits

No permits will be necessary based on the current scope of work.