



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION  
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 11/2020)**

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** Timbers Blvd Safety

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 01-DN-101

**PM/PM:** 39.20/39.60

**EA:** 01-0L430

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** 0122000010

**Project Description**

The proposed safety project is located between post miles 39.2 and 39.6 on US 101 in Del Norte county near Smith River. The project would construct a left turn channelization for northbound US 101 traffic turning onto Timbers Blvd. The roadway prism would be widened to accommodate the proposed new left turn channelization. Due to the cut slope on the northbound alignment between East Denny St. and Timbers Blvd., removal of multiple trees would be required to maintain eight-foot shoulders at this location. Additional safety features include new intersection lighting and shoulder widening. Work would also include drainage improvements. Biological, air quality, climate change, noise, water quality, hazardous waste, visual, and cultural reviews have been completed for the project.

**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(c).** (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**

Jason Meyer		03/12/2024
Print Name	Signature	Date

**Project Manager**

David Melendrez	<i>David L. Melendrez</i>	03/12/2024
Print Name	Signature	Date



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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, 2019, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(27)

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 December 23, 2016 and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Jason Meyer [Signature] 03/12/2024
Print Name Signature Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

David Melendrez [Signature] 03/12/2024
Print Name Signature Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 1/11/2024
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 3/11/2024

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:

- Non-native species control would be implemented.
- ESAs would be identified, and protections installed prior to the start of work.
- Vegetation removal would be limited to the period outside of the bird breeding season.
- An appropriate stormwater plan would be developed by the contractor and approved prior to ground disturbing activities. Water quality BMPS would be utilized during construction.
- To accommodate requests from the Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation, a provision would be incorporated into the project specifications to facilitate tribal monitoring if the Tribe requests.
- A Lead Compliance Plan would be required for soil, thermoplastic, and paint disturbance/removal.
- Treated Wood Waste generated from sign post removal would be managed in the construction contract as a disposal item.