



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

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** SIS 97 PM 27.2 AND 28.7

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 02-SIS-97

**PM/PM:** 27.22/28.7

**EA:** 02-0K580

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** N/A

**Project Description**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), using state funding only, has complete culvert maintenance on two failed culverts in Siskiyou County, State Route 97, Post Mile 27.22 & PM 28.7. The cause of the culvert failures was a separation of culvert sections which allowed fill material around the culverts to become mobile after a series of unusually heavy winter storms. This project is needed to prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property, and essential services.

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 |  | 3-20-2024 |
| Print Name   | Signature  | Date      |

**Project Manager**

|              |  |           |
|--------------|--|-----------|
| Austin Buist |  | 3-20-2024 |
| Print Name   | Signature  | Date      |



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

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, N/A Signature, N/A Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

N/A Print Name, N/A Signature, N/A Date

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

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 3/14/2024

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).



## CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

### **Continuation sheet:**

Continued from page 1.

Caltrans performed the following:

- Replaced the damaged culverts at PM 27.22 and PM 28.7 with new culverts of the same material type, dimension, profile, and grade.
- Replaced culvert end sections, restore pavement structural section and traffic striping, restore shoulder material, and provide traffic control.
- Both locations were non-jurisdictional. Both culverts were replaced in kind, cut and cover.
- 48" Corrugated Steel Pipe (CSP) culvert at PM 27.22.
- 60" CSP culvert at PM 28.73

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this project was to repair two failed culverts created by sinkholes in the paved shoulder along SR 97. The required repairs were beyond the capabilities of field maintenance. The culvert at PM 27.22 was scheduled for replacement in 2025. The culvert at 28.7 was not scheduled for replacement in any upcoming projects. Field staff assessed the culvert and determined that replacement was necessary.

### **Need**

The purpose of this project was to complete necessary culvert repairs due to the risk of further catastrophic failure and risk to the traveling public's safety.

### **Utilities**

All utilities in proximity to the locations of work were protected in place; no utility conflicts occurred.

### **Right-of-Way**

Acquisitions or TCEs were not needed for this project due to work being confined to Caltrans Right of Way.

### **Staging/Stockpiling**

Staging and stockpiling took place on graveled pullouts within Caltrans Right of Way.

### **Disposal/Borrow Sites**

The project did not utilize borrowed material.

### **Coordination/Consultation**

Caltrans had an environmental evaluation conducted, consisting of a review of resource records and databases, consultation, and coordination with applicable agencies and individuals, including the Native American Heritage Commission and local tribes. Once review was completed it was determined the proposed scope of work has no potential to affect cultural resources.



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION  
DETERMINATION FORM**

**Permits**

No permits were needed with the scope of work performed.