



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

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** Jacalitos Creek Bridge Planting II

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 06-FRE-033

**PM/PM:** 10.9/11.0

**EA:** 06-43262

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** 0622000206

**Project Description**

This project will replace trees that died under the mitigation planting with parent project 06-43260. Thirty trees will be replanted and a new irrigation system, including a water meter, will be installed. The project is located in Fresno County on the south side of State Route 33 at Jacalitos Creek, east of Calavaras Avenue. All work is within the State right-of-way.

**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**

Trais Norris

*J William "Trais" Norris, AIA*

4/17/2024

Print Name

Signature

Date

**Project Manager**

Ilda Thanas

*Ilda Thanas*

4/18/2024

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

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: 4/12/24

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:**

See attached Environmental Commitment Record.



## Environmental Commitments Record (ECR)

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 06 - FRE - 033 **PM/PM:** 11.000/11.000      **EA/Project ID:** 06-43262\_ / 0622000206

**Project Description:** Replacement Mitigation Landscape Planting.

**Date (Last modification):** 4/12/2024

**Environmental Planner:** Jeff Sorensen

**Phone:** 559-383-5566

**Construction Liaison:**

**Phone:**

**Resident Engineer:**

**Phone:**

### PERMITS

Permit	Agency	Application Submitted	Permit Received	Permit Expiration	Permit Requirements Completed by	Permit Requirements Completed on	Comments
1600	California Department of Fish & Wildlife	1/31/13	5/8/14	5/9/19			
1600 Additional Submittal	California Department of Fish & Wildlife						
404 Nationwide Verification	US Army Corps of Engineers	1/31/13	2/26/14				

### ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

#### PRE-CONSTRUCTION

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in PS&E Package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA
Biology	All workers must undergo environmental awareness training before commencement of ground-disturbing activities. After the start of project activities, new workers on the site must also need the environmental awareness training before commencing their work tasks. Workers must sign an attendance sheet to confirm that they understand the environmental protection measures and construction restrictions.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to coordinate with BIO at least one week prior to schedule WEAT.		_____ Signature	_____ Date		
Biology	If construction will start between February 1 and September 30, a nesting bird survey will need to be conducted and BIO should be notified at least 14 days before proposed start date. The engineer may approve the start of construction, if survey of the site by the Department's Biologist shows the absence of nesting birds.	SSP	SSP	RE/BIO	RE to notify BIO 14 days before start of project activities to conduct nesting bird surveys.		_____ Signature	_____ Date		

## Environmental Commitments Record for JACALITOS CREEK BRIDGE

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in PS&E Package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA
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### **CONSTRUCTION**

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in PS&E Package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA
Biology	All disturbed solids within the work area must be stabilized to reduce erosion potential, both during and following project implementation.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure that measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____ Signature	_____ Date		
Biology	All food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps will be disposed of in closed, secured containers and removed daily from the project site in order to reduce the potential for attracting predator species.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____ Signature	_____ Date		
Biology	All open holes and trenches must be filled or covered at the end of the day. Holes and trenches must be inspected for trapped animals prior to filling.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure that measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____ Signature	_____ Date		
Biology	All project activities shall be confined to daylight hours. No night work is allowed.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure that measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____ Signature	_____ Date		
Biology	All project generated debris, building materials, and rubbish must be removed from the work areas.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure that measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____ Signature	_____ Date		
Biology	All project-related vehicles will observe a daytime speed of no more than 20 miles per hour in all project areas, except on the highway. Off-road travel outside of designated project areas will be prohibited. Project personnel will be provided with guidance on vehicle use and speed limits.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure that measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____ Signature	_____ Date		
Biology	Disturbance to any potential or known dens identified during preconstruction surveys and/or construction will be avoided. Potential dens that are located at least 50 feet from work will be protected by a 50 ft. exclusion zone, while known dens that are located at least 100 ft. from work will be protected by a 100 ft exclusion zone. In instances where a 100 ft. exclusion zone cannot be maintained, known dens will be monitored for at least three consecutive nights using	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure that measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____ Signature	_____ Date		

## Environmental Commitments Record for JACALITOS CREEK BRIDGE

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in PS&E Package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA
	a remote sensor camera. If they are verified occupied, Caltrans will establish a reduced exclusion zone. Exclusion zones will be demarcated by types of fencing or flagging that do not entangle the San Joaquin kit fox or prevent ingress/egress.									
Biology	If any active nests are found during the nesting bird survey, the appropriate no-disturbance buffer must be established around the active nest.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure that measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____	_____		
Biology	If any wildlife is encountered during the course of Project Activities, said wildlife must be permitted to escape leave the work areas.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure that measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____	_____		
Biology	Pipes must be inspected for Giant kangaroo rats prior to being buried, capped, or moved. If a giant kangaroo rat is discovered, that section of pipe must not be moved until the Department biologist has consulted with the Fish and Wildlife Service and the animal is allowed to leave without harrassment.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure that measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____	_____		
Biology	Stagging and storage areas for equipment, materials, fuels, lubricants, and solvents must be located outside the work areas.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure that measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____	_____		
Biology	To eliminate the potential for disturbance or injury to, or death of, any species resulting from the presence of pets and firearms, neither (with the exception of firearms carried, or working animals handled, by authorized law enforcement officials) will be allowed on the project site.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure that measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____	_____		
Biology	To prevent the inadvertent entrapment of the San Joaquin kit fox or other wildlife during the project, all excavated, steep-walled openings more than 1 ft. deep will be covered at the close of each workday by plywood or similar materials, or be provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Before such openings are filled, they will be inspected throughly for trapped wildlife. If at any time a trapped or injured individual is discovered, Caltrans will stop work immediately and contact the Service.	SSP	SSP	RE/ECL/BIO	RE to ensure that measures are implemented and will notify BIO if any issues arise.		_____	_____		
Hazardous Waste	Contract to provide a Lead Compliance Plan per Standard Spec 7-1.02k(6)(j)(iii)	Std. Spec		Shawn Ogletree	Include Standard Spec 7-1.02k in bid		_____	_____		

### Environmental Commitments Record for JACALITOS CREEK BRIDGE

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package. Contractor to provide Lead Compliance plan to RE.

**Signature**

**Date**