



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Plumas 70 Landslide DO

DIST-CO-RTE: 02-BUT/PLU-70 **PM/PM:** 22/43

EA: 02-0K150 **Federal-Aid Project Number:** 0223000116

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), using state funding, has completed repairs related to damage caused by landslides in 2023. This emergency repair work was located in Butte and Plumas Counties on State Route (SR) 70 between Postmiles 22.0 through 43.0. While only state funding was used for repairs, documentation has been prepared to NEPA standards in case federal reimbursement becomes available at a later date.

Continued on page 3.

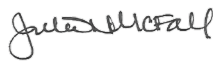
Caltrans CEQA Determination (Check one)

- 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		04/29/2024
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Austin Buist	<i>Austin Buist</i>	04/29/2024
Print Name	Signature	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)(9(ii))
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 December 23, 2016 and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Julie Mcfall Signature Date 04/29/2024
Print Name Signature Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Austin Buist Signature Date 04/29/2024
Print Name Signature Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): 4/10/24
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 4/8/24

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:

Continued from page 1.

Additional work

In 2021, the Dixie Fire burned a total of 963,309 acres in Butte, Plumas, Shasta, Lassen, and Tehama Counties. Since the fire, soil has become unstable, and landslides and debris flows have been observed within the burn scar.

Inclement weather throughout early 2023 resulted in additional slides and the need for drainage/culvert repairs. As a result, SR 70 was affected in several locations in Butte and Plumas Counties. The main landslide occurred at PLU-70-PM 22.7, depositing approximately 20,000 cubic yards (CY) of material onto the roadway. Supplemental Director’s Orders have been approved to repair damage caused by an additional 6 major slides (Table 1.), plus smaller minor slides, and repairs and/or cleaning out of 28 drainages that were damaged and/or plugged in the storms and resulting slides.

Rockslide, debris flow, and landslide material have been removed, and culverts/drainages have been replaced as needed throughout the project limits.

Table 1.

PLU-70-PM 15.2	This area showed signs of potential failure in the first week of January 2023. Field maintenance made note of large earthen cracks forming on the hillside and small amounts of rockfall deposited on the roadway at that time. Since then, 5 separate slide events occurred at this location resulting in over 80,000 CY of material being deposited on the roadway.
PLU-70-PM 0.0	Multiple slides happened at this location with over 1,500 CY of material, including large granite boulders, landing on the roadway.
PLU-70-PM 25.4	This area slid twice, and maintenance needed the hired contractor’s help to manage the material.
PLU-70-PM 12.38	Field maintenance workers stored slide material in turnouts until a permanent disposal location was determined.
BUT-70-PM 44.39	Flooding at this location caused erosion on the downhill slope from the roadway and near the parking lot of the Crest Dam PG&E Power House. Slide material was removed, and roadside drainage was repaired.
BUT-70-PM 42.68	A down drain separated during the slide at this location and approximately 300 CY of material was deposited on the roadway.

Project work included: clearing the slide material off the traveled way, providing 24 hour traffic control, replacement of damaged asphalt concrete surfacing and pavement markings, replacement of damaged culverts, hauling off slide material to approved disposal sites, and replacement of damaged guardrail and signs.



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Purpose: The purpose of this project was to remove hazards, replace damaged assets, and repair facilities to Caltrans standards in order to restore public safety.

Need: The project was needed because landslides prohibited travel for the public and damaged Caltrans assets.

Right-of-Way

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

Staging/Stockpiling

Staging and stockpiling took place on paved or graveled pullouts within the construction zone, within Caltrans right of way.

Disposal/Borrow Sites

No borrow sites were needed.

Material was disposed of at several locations, including privately-owned land at PLU-70-PM 27.3, and publicly-owned land at PLU-70-PM 9.04, BUT-70-PM 35.5, and PLU-70-PM 31.8.

Coordination/Consultation

To identify potential cultural resources, Caltrans staff conducted a review of internal and external agency resource records and databases. Additionally, a visual review of the project area was completed by cultural staff. Once review was completed it was determined emergency work had no potential to affect cultural resources.

Permits

Caltrans submitted a notification of emergency repair work to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) which led to the issuance of a 1610 permit.

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency) Caltrans
1657 Riverside Drive
Redding, CA 96001

(Address)

County Clerk
County of: Shasta

Project Title: Plumas 70 Slide

Project Applicant: Caltrans

Project Location—Specific:

Project Location—City: Tobin Project Location—County: Butte/Plumas

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Caltrans

Exempt Status: **(check one)**


- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15301 Existing Facilities, Class 1c
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Lead Agency _____ Area Code/Telephone/
Contact Person: Julie McFall Extension: 530-812-4878

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature:  Date: 04/29/2024 Title: Sr. Environmental Scientist

Signed by:

- Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date received for filing at OPR: _____









02-0K150 Plumas 70 Slide 2023

Final Audit Report

2024-04-29

Created:	2024-04-29
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