



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): 2024 Deadman Pavement Repairs

DIST-CO-RTE: 09-MNO-395/09-MNO-158

PM/PM: 34.0-43.3/000-6.1

EA: 09-40230

Federal-Aid Project Number: N/A

Project Description

The 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 winters produced heavy snow and rain fall which accelerated pavement damage resulting in unsafe driving conditions on US 395 from Post Mile (PM) 34.0 near Crestview to PM 40.3 at the June Lake Junction, and on State Route (SR) 158 from PM 0.0 at the Junction to PM 6.1 just south of Silver Lake. The entirety of the project occurs within the Caltrans Right of Way.

Erosion due to snowmelt combined with prolonged heavy chain and studded tire use during these winters led to significant degradation of the pavement along US 395 and SR 158 for approximately 12 miles and caused major damage in 53 locations. This damage included wide-spread potholing and localized complete failures of the top layer of pavement.

To repair the damage to these facilities, the top 0.25' of pavement will be cold planed and removed, the roadway will be repaved with Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA), and safety striping will be replaced.

Caltrans has determined that the project will have negligible impacts on environmental resources, with no anticipated adverse environmental effects.

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.

Categorically Exempt. 15301(c) 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

Stephen Pfeiler

Stephen Pfeiler

06/17/2024

Print Name

Signature

Date



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Project Manager

Justin Castleberry

06/18/2024

Print Name

Signature

Date



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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
[] 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

Signature

Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

N/A

Print Name

Signature

Date

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

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 6/10/2024



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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).

Biology – Environmental Measures

- To avoid impacts to nesting birds, a nesting bird survey will be conducted within 72 hours prior to construction.
- If nests are found during construction biological monitoring will be conducted to ensure construction activities are not affecting nesting birds. A no work buffer may be implemented if the monitor determines that project activities are impacting nesting behaviors.
- Notify the Biologist at least 2 weeks prior to construction start.
- If additional staging or contractor use areas are required or identified, they must be approved by the Biologist prior to their use.

Cultural – Environmental Avoidance Measures

- No work or vehicles will be on the shoulders of the road during the construction of the project.









09-40230 CE

Final Audit Report

2024-06-18

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