



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

Project Information	
Project Name (if applicable): Dunn Creek Drainage Restoration - Fish Passage Project	
DIST-CO-RTE: 01-MEN-1	PM/PM: 92.8
EA: 01-0K720	Federal-Aid Project Number: 0121000001
Project Description	
This project will repair and install fish weirs in Dunn Creek to stabilize the channel, reduce sediment discharge, and improve fish passage in Dunn Creek. The work includes establishing an access road, dewatering the streambed, repairing weir 10, replacing weir 11, constructing a new weir (weir 12), constructing a key downstream of weir 12, and a rock apron downstream of the key to prevent erosion and reduce the need for continued maintenance. Additional work includes armoring of the channel between weirs with engineered streambed material, recontouring the access road, revegetating any disturbed areas, and applying temporary erosion control to meet water quality requirements.	

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 33.** (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		08/12/2024
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Kim Floyd		08/12/2024
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 (c)()
[] 23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)()
[] Activity 3 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

Jason Meyer (Print Name), [Signature] (Signature), 08/12/2024 (Date)

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Kim Floyd (Print Name), [Signature] (Signature), 08/12/2024 (Date)

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 6/17/24

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).



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Continuation sheet:

Studies completed in support of this determination consist of: Air, Noise, Green House Gasses, Cultural, Water Quality, Visual Impacts Assessment, Hazardous Waste, and Biology.

In addition to the BMPs listed below, Additional Best Management Practices (ABMPs) or Protection Measures associated with project-specific actions outlined in the NOAA Restoration Center's Programmatic Approach to ESA/EFH Consultation Streamlining for Fisheries Habitat Restoration Projects would be implemented as applicable.

- Water quality Best Management Practices (BMP) would be utilized for water quality.
- Construction would utilize BMPs to control silt and erosion of exposed soils and to prevent construction materials from entering the river or any drainages.
- A spill prevention and control plan would be developed by the contractor and approved by Caltrans prior to the commencement of work.
- In compliance with Executive Order (EO) 13112, Caltrans would implement Standard Invasive Species measures.
- All Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) would be identified on project layouts on-site with flagging or Temporary High Visibility Fencing (THVF) to indicate off-limit boundaries for personnel and equipment.
- ABMPs or Protection Measures would be implemented per NOAA Restoration Center's Programmatic for Fisheries Habitat Restoration Projects.
- All work adjacent to waters that are potential fish habitat would occur between June 15 and October 15. The work window could be extended to November 15 contingent on appropriate dry weather conditions and stream flows.
- The contractor would be required to prepare and submit a Temporary Clear Water Diversion System Plan to Caltrans for approval prior to any creek diversion.
- Use of artificial lighting would be limited to Cal/OSHA work area lighting requirements.
- Noise from work activities would not exceed 86 dBA LMax at 50 feet from the job site activities from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.
- Seasonally appropriate pre-construction surveys for active raptor nests, nesting birds, and sensitive plant species would be conducted prior to initiation of construction or vegetation clearing activities.
- A Revegetation Plan would be prepared which would include a plant palette, establishment period, watering regimen, monitoring requirements, and pest control measures. The Revegetation Plan would also address measures for wetland and riparian areas temporarily impacted by the project.
- An Aquatic Species Relocation Plan, or equivalent, would be prepared by a qualified biologist and include provisions for pre-construction surveys and the appropriate methods or protocols to relocate any species found.
- If cultural remains, human remains, or fossils are discovered at any point, appropriate action will be taken in accordance with current regulation.