



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

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** Burnt Ranch CAPM/LTL Geotech

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 02-TRI-299

**PM/PM:** 8.3/15

**EA:** 02-0J530/02-0J790 **Federal-Aid Project Number:** 0219000133/0219000161

**Project Description**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), using State funds, is proposing to complete geotechnical work in support of a project on State Route (SR) 299, between post miles (PM) 8.3-15, in Trinity County.

Continued to 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 6.** (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

Print Name

Signature

10/17/24

Date

**Project Manager**

Bill Barnes

Print Name

Signature

10/17/24

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)(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: 10/17/24

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:**

Continued from page 1.

**Additional Information:** The Office of Geotechnical Design North (OGDN) has developed a Site Investigation Plan (SIP) to carry out seismic refraction testing at two locations. This testing is part of a pavement overlay and culvert replacement project where trenchless replacement methods and elevation correction are being considered. The results of the survey will be used to determine the strength and depth of bedrock at the proposed trenchless location and cut fill lines. Both locations (PM 10.34 and approximately 190 ft up Burnt Ranch School Road) will be investigated with short seismic refraction lines and will be performed on both of the sides of the embankment.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the project is to conduct geotechnical investigation to determine the depth of bedrock below the existing road.

### **Need**

The existing pavement condition is in good to fair condition. In the delivery year 2026, it is predicted that the pavement condition will be fair. Geophysical testing is necessary to determine the depth of bedrock within the work limits of PM 10.34 and along a section of Burnt Ranch School Road.

### **Right of Way**

No ROW will be acquired for the purpose of Geotechnical surveys.

### **Staging/Stockpiling**

Staging will be limited to existing paved or gravel pullouts within the project limits and Caltrans ROW limits. No vegetation removal will occur for the purpose of staging/stockpiling.

### **Disposal/Borrow Sites**

The project would not utilize borrowed material. If any excess material is generated, it will be collected and disposed of in accordance with standard Caltrans disposal procedures.

### **Coordination/Consultation**

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

### **Utilities**

All utility conversations will be coordinated with Caltrans Right of Way.

### **Permits**

No permits will be necessary based on the current scope of work.