



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): MPA Culvert Replacement

DIST-CO-RTE: 10-MPA-49

PM/PM: 1.80, 3.64, 6.11, 6.31

EA: 10-1M050

Federal-Aid Project Number: n/a

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes culvert replacement at four locations on State Route 49 at various postmiles in Mariposa County (See Continuation Sheet for details). The scope of work includes removing existing culverts, trenching/excavation, backfill, pavement striping, and any additional roadway improvements. All work will occur within the existing Caltrans Right of Way. The purpose of this project is to address the deteriorated drainage system and to extend the service life of State Route 49. The project is needed to prevent the potential failure of the overlying highway due to the culvert deterioration.

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

Elizabeth Hummel		02/09/2024
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Edujie I. Imoisili		02/09/2024
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 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: 02/06/24

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:

Culvert Locations:

- **Location 1:** PM 1.80: The existing culvert is a 24" Corrugated Metal Pipe (CMP) with a metal Flared End Section (FES) at the inlet. The project proposes to replace and upsize the existing culvert with a 36" Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP), a Type G2 drainage inlet (DI) with bicycle friendly grate at the junction, a 36" Corrugated Steel Pipe (CSP) and a 36" Steel FES at the inlet.
- **Location 2:** PM 3.64/3.65: The existing culvert is a 24" CMP with a Type GMP drainage inlet. The project proposes to replace and upsize the existing culvert with a 36" RCP and a Type G2 Manhole at the inlet.
- **Location 3:** PM 6.09/6.11: The existing culvert is a 36" CMP with a metal FES at the inlet and no protection at the outlet. The project proposes to replace and upsize the existing culvert with a 48" RCP, 48" Concrete FES at the inlet and outlet, install Rock Slope Protection (RSP) with geotextile filter fabric at the inlet and outlet.
- **Location 4:** PM 6.31/6.32: The existing culvert is a 12" CMP with metal FES at the inlet and outlet. The project proposes to replace and upsize the existing culvert with a 24" RCP and 24" Concrete FES at the inlet and outlet.

General:

- Environmental reevaluation will be required if the scope of the project changes to include additional areas or activities, or if previously unknown cultural or other sensitive resources are discovered. Contact the Environmental Office if project changes occur or sensitive resources discovered.

Cultural:

- If cultural materials are discovered at the job site, do not disturb the resources and immediately:
 - o Stop all work within a 60-ft radius of discovery
 - o Protect the discovery area
 - o Notify the engineer
 - o The Department Investigates:
 - Do not move cultural materials or take them from the job site. Retain a qualified archaeologist to assess the significance of the find. Do not resume work within the discovery area until authorized.
- If human remains are discovered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that further disturbances and activities shall cease in any area or nearby are suspected to overlie remains, and the County coroner contacted. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. If the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) who will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). At the same time the landowner will work with the MLD on the respectful treatment and disposition of the remains. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.



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Hazardous Waste:

- The Caltrans Standard Special Provision 7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii), which pertains to Earth Material Containing Lead, shall be added to the construction contract. A Lead Compliance Plan prepared by a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) is required and all soil must remain on-site.

Biology:

- If construction will occur during migratory bird season (February 1st – September 30th), a pre-construction bird survey will be required around the project area. If an active bird nest is observed, a 100' buffer will be established around the nest until the young have fledged. Caltrans Standard Special Provision (SSP) 14-6.03A will be added to the construction contract to request a 300' buffer be established around any active hawk nest that is observed. A 600' buffer would be established for Swainson's hawk. Contractors must submit a request to the Caltrans District 10 Environmental Office to have a qualified Caltrans Biologist conduct a nesting bird survey within 14 days prior to the start of any construction related activities. Construction activities will not begin until authorized. If approved, construction related activities must commence within 14 days of a locations nesting bird survey completion. If the contractors fail to commence the construction related activities within 14 days, or if there is a halt to the activities with a delay or more than 14 days, another nesting bird survey must be performed by the Caltrans qualified biologist. Construction cannot recommence until authorized.

No Permits Required.