



INYO COUNTY CLERK  
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET

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County of Inyo County

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Complete and attach this form to each CEQA Notice filed with the County Clerk

**TYPE OF PRINT CLEARLY**

**Project Title**

**Whitney Portal Road, Emergency Culvert Repair Project**

**Check Document being Filed:**

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)
- Notice of Exemption (NOE)
- Other (Please fill in type):



**Planning Department**  
**168 North Edwards Street**  
**Post Office Drawer L**  
**Independence, California 93526**  
**Phone: (760) 878-0263**  
**E-Mail: [inyoplanning@inyocounty.us](mailto:inyoplanning@inyocounty.us)**

### **Notice of Exemption - Inyo County**

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**To:**  Office of Planning and Research

1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:** (Public Agency) Inyo County  
Planning Department  
Post Office Drawer L  
Independence, CA 93514

County Clerk  
County of Inyo  
P.O. Drawer F  
Independence, CA 93526

**Project Title:** Whitney Portal Road, Emergency Culvert Repair Project

**Project Applicant:** Inyo County

**Project Location - Specific:** The subject area is located underneath Whitney Portal Road Lone Pine CA.

**Project Location - City:** Lone Pine, CA

**Project Location - County:** Inyo

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** The Inyo County Road Department will be conducting an emergency replacement of a 72" diameter, 150' long culvert that is at imminent risk of failure. This culvert is located 6.7 miles west of the junction of Whitney Portal Road and Highway 395 (see attached map). This culvert conveys the water of Lone Pine Creek under the road. A routine inspection on March 3, 2025 revealed structural failure of the culvert, settling, and voids in the fill material supporting the culvert. Failure of the culvert is imminent and could cause the collapse of the roadway. Upcoming spring runoff from snow melt will increase water flows in Lone Pine Creek and further undermine the culvert. The replacement culvert will be located approximately 10 feet from the existing culvert. It will be the same length and diameter as the existing culvert. The existing culvert will be removed and the area backfilled.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Inyo County

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Inyo County

**Exempt Status:** *(check one)*

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- General Rule (Sec. 15061(b)(3));
- Categorical (Section 15306);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project 15269

**Reasons why project is exempt:** This culvert conveys the water of Lone Pine Creek under Whitney Portal Road. A routine inspection revealed structural failure of the culvert, settling, and voids in the fill material supporting the culvert. Failure of the culvert is imminent and could cause the collapse of the roadway. The upcoming spring runoff from snowmelt will increase water flows in Lone Pine Creek and further undermine the culvert creating a potentially dangerous situation on Whitney Portal Road; therefore, the project qualifies for Exemption 15269 - Emergency Projects.

**Lead Agency:** Inyo County Planning Department

**Contact Person:** Cathreen Richards, Planning Director

**Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** (760) 878-0447

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

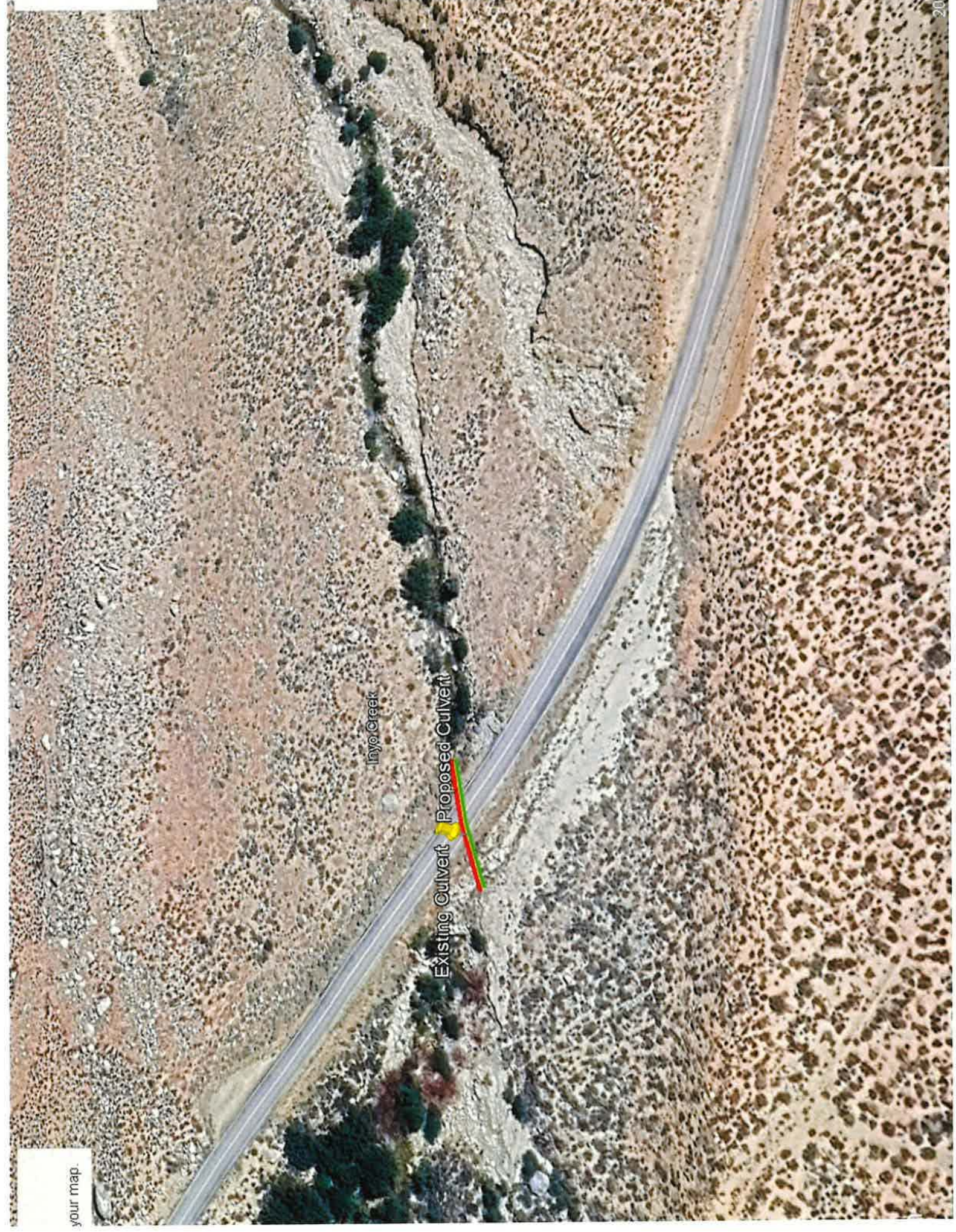


Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Cathreen Richards, Inyo County Planning Director





Inyo Creek

Existing Culvert

Proposed Culvert