



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): SR 41 Capital Maintenance

DIST-CO-RTE: 06-MAD-41

PM/PM: 22.1/34.1

EA: 06-1E960

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0622000123

Project Description

The potholing work will be performed on State Right of Way at two locations. The first location is on State Route 41 approximately at Post Mile 28.03, near Road 415. This location will have 8 potholes that will be used to locate two underground telephone lines owned by Sierra Telephone. The second location is located on State Route 41, approximately at Post Mile 32.05. This location will have 2 potholes to locate an underground telephone line owned by Sierra Telephone. The potholing will use compressed air and vacuum excavation to expose the underground telephone lines. For each potholing location, the contractor will excavate a 1' by 1' hole that may reach a maximum depth of 10 feet. Finally, all work will take place within Caltrans right-of-way.

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 2(c).** (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

Judith Lopez

Print Name

Judith Lopez
Signature

8/6/2026

Date

Project Manager

Ilda Thanas

Print Name

Ilda Thanas
Signature

8/7/2026

Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

☐ **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)(2)**

☐ **23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(i)**

☐ **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

Judith Lopez

Print Name

Judith Lopez

Signature

8/6/2026

Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Ilda Thanas

Print Name

Ilda Thanas

Signature

8/7/2026

Date

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

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 8/19/2025

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).



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Continuation sheet:

Biology:

No work shall occur within the bed, bank, or channel of the creek at PM 28.03 or within the wetland at PM 32.05, including potholing, utility relocation, or other construction activities.

However, if the scope of work changes and activities would impact the creek or wetland, the appropriate aquatic permits would need to be obtained before any work could proceed.