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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Loyalton Culvert Rehabilitation

DIST-CO-RTE: 3-SIE-49 **PM/PM:** 57.20/61.85

EA: 03-3G800 **Federal-Aid Project Number:**

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes a maintenance project to prevent or delay the need for costly culvert rehabilitation on State Route (SR) 49 in Sierra County from post mile (PM) 57.20 to 61.85. This project is needed because the culverts on this stretch of the route are damaged and need to be replaced, lined and/or upsized.

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

Thaleena Bhattal	Thaleena Bhattal	8/7/25
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Gary Dekens	Gary Dekens	8/7/2025
Print Name	Signature	Date

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)(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

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: 7/30/25

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).

Continuation sheet:

Scope of Work:

- Remove and replace existing culverts with new culverts or CIPP lining and new culverts may be nominally upsized in diameter (no greater than 24”).

Scope of work at each location:

Location 1 - PM 57.40
- Remove/Replace wit new RCP or CSP

Location 2 - PM 57.65
- CIPP Lining or remove/replace with new RCP or CSP

Location 3 - PM 57.87
- CIPP lining or remove and replace with new RCP or CSP

Location 4 - PM 57.89
- Remove/Replace with new RCP or CSP

Location 5 - PM 58.68
- Remove/Replace with new double RCP or CSP

Location 6 - PM 59.01
- Remove/Replace with new RCP or RSP

Location 7 - PM 59.19
- Remove/Replace with new RCP or CSP

Location 8 - PM 59.20
- CIPP lining or remove/replace with new double RCP or CSP

Location 9 - PM 59.32
- Remove/Replace with new RCP or CSP

Location 10 - PM 59.37
- CIPP lining

Location 11 - PM 59.49
- Remove/Replace with ne double RCP or CSP

Location 12 - PM 59.54
- Remove/Replace with new RCP or CSP

Location 13 - PM 60.50
- CIPP lining or remove/replace with double new RCP or CSP

Location 14 - PM 61.82
- Remove/Replace with new RCP or CSP

Additional Information:
- Excavation required at remove/replace culvert locations.
- Traffic control is necessary to do this work.

Permits

- Encroachment permits are needed.

Right-of-Way

- All work will occur within the Caltrans Right-of-Way.

Environmental Commitments:

Cultural Resources

- Standard Special Provision (SSP) 14-2.03A Archeological Resources General