

## Notice of Exemption

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**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:** California Department of Transportation, District 9  
500 South Main Street  
Bishop, CA 93514

Project Title: Mammoth Lakes 395 Wildlife Crossing (Geotech Drilling Operations)

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation, District 9

Project Location - Specific: On U.S. Route 395, from post miles R16.1 to 27.12

Project Location - City: Unincorporated Project Location - County: Mono

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is planning to collect soil information for two proposed wildlife crossings on U.S. Route 395 for the Mammoth Lakes 395 Wildlife Crossing project. The information is needed to provide foundation recommendations for both wildlife crossing structures. A total of five mud-rotary borings up to 70 feet deep are proposed; 2 borings at post mile R19.79 and 3 borings at post mile 20.23. The cuttings settle out in the mud tub and are collected in 55-gallon drums for disposal offsite. The 4-inch diameter hole will be backfilled to the ground surface with cement ground. All proposed borings will occupy an approximate area of 30 feet by 30 feet. No impacts to vegetation are anticipated. This project will take place completely within the Caltrans Right-of-Way.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation, District 9

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation, District 9

Exempt Status (**check one**):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15306 Class 6
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

All work will be on disturbed areas within Caltrans right-of-way. No known environmental resources will be impacted by the project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dennee Alcala Phone number: 760-784-4236

Signature: *Dennee Alcala* Date: 09/02/2025 Title: Supervising Environmental Coordinator

Signed by Lead Agency       Signed by Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.






# 09-38160\_NOE\_geotech drilling

Final Audit Report

2025-09-02

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