

Notice of Exemption

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

From: Caltrans, District 2
1657 Riverside Drive
Redding, CA 96001

Project Title: Hilt Pavement Rehabilitation

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Project Location - Specific: The project is located on Interstate 5 in Siskiyou County from post mile R58.2 to R69.293

Project Location - City: Hilt

Project Location - County: Siskiyou

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), using state and federal funding, is proposing to rehabilitate pavement and make other associated improvements along Interstate 5 (I-5) in Siskiyou County from post mile (PM) R58.2 to R69.293. These improvements include repaving the roadway and ramps; replacing guard rail, lighting, and signs; upgrading TMS and ITS elements; installing wildlife exclusionary fencing; and repairing 4 culvert pipe segments, rehabilitating 18 culvert pipe segments, replacing 8 culvert pipe segments (this includes replacing 1 downdrain), abandoning 7 culvert pipe segments, and installing 6 new culvert pipe segments (this includes installing 2 new downdrains). Other drainage work would adjust inlets and overside drains to match new flowline and replace edge drains and install cross drain interceptors where necessary. The purpose of this project is to reduce distressed lane miles, improve ride quality, minimize future maintenance and capital efforts and costs, reduce worker exposure, extend the useful pavement life for a minimum of 20 years, and improve safety and facility reliability for all modes for travel and goods movement. The project will restore the pavement, culvert segments, and TMS elements to a good condition.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Caltrans

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: Existing Facilities, Section 15301

☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The California Department of Transportation has determined the project to be categorically exempt in accordance with Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) Class 1 — Operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. The project would have no significant effect on the environment.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Keith Pelfrey

Phone number: (530) 941-3340

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.

2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: Keith Pelfrey Date: 10/17/25 Title: Branch Chief - R3

☒ 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.