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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Repair, Replace, Reline Culverts

DIST-CO-RTE: 06-MAD-41 **PM/PM:** Various

EA: 06-1H910 **Federal-Aid Project Number:** NA

Project Description

The proposed project will repair, replace, and reline culverts at post miles 21.18, 25.4, 27.18, 29.71, 33.35, 33.45, 34.13, 45.23, D1.38, D1.58 and D1.81 on State Route 41 in Madera County. Work includes replacing, repairing and relining culverts as needed. Some locations will have placement of flared end section and drain inlets. Soil disturbance is expected to be minimal for liner replacements. All work will be restricted to within Caltrans right of way and up to 5 feet past the end of the culvert for the replacement culverts.

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** 1c. (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

Pedram Mafi		9/22/25
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Gurpaul Bath		09/23/2025
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): NA
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent:

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:

A lead compliance plan (LCP) developed by a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) is recommended for ground disturbing activities, as stated in Caltrans' Standard Special Provision (SSP) 7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii) Earth Material Containing Lead.

If previously unidentified cultural materials are unearthed during construction, work shall be halted in that area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find.

Apply avoidance and/or minimization measure as required for nesting birds/night work. Pre-construction surveys for nesting migratory birds shall be required if vegetation removal work is done during the nesting bird season, February to September.