



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

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** Merced Bridge Maintenance Work

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 10-MER-VAR

**PM/PM:** VAR

**EA:** 10-1T290

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** N/A

**Project Description**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes maintenance repairs at 8 different locations on State Routes (SR) 99, 152, and 165 in Merced County. The scope of work includes bridge deck resurfacing, removing Asphalt Concrete overlay, removing and patching unsound concrete and spalls on the bridge decks, treating the bridge decks with methacrylate, replacing joint seals, constructing approach slabs, and placing polyester concrete overlay on the bridge deck and approach slabs. See the Continuation sheet for location and scope of work details. All work will occur in Caltrans Right of Way. The purpose of this project is to provide preventative maintenance to deteriorating sections of these bridges. The project is needed to minimize future rehabilitation needs and maintain the bridge functionality.

**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**

Elizabeth Hummel

Print Name

*Elizabeth Hummel*

Signature

08/18/2025

Date

**Project Manager**

Jason Miller

Print Name

*Jason Miller*

Signature

08/18/2025

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)(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:** 07/23/2025

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).



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### Continuation sheet:

| LOCATION No. | BRIDGE No. | COUNTY | ROUTE | PM   | DESCRIPTION                 | DIRECTION | SCOPE OF WORK                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------|------------|--------|-------|------|-----------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1            | 39-0010L   | Mer    | 99    | 17.3 | BLACK RASCAL CANAL          | SB        | Replace the joint seals at both abutments of the bridge. Place polyester concrete overlay on approach slabs and deck surface.                                                                                                                                                |
| 2            | 39-0127    | Mer    | 99    | 22.8 | APPLEGATE ROAD OC           | SB/NB     | Place polyester concrete overlay on the deck.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 3            | 39-0122R   | Mer    | 152   | 15.1 | DELTA MENDOTA CANAL         | EB        | Resurface the bridge deck by removing the existing asphalt overlay and applying a new polyester concrete overlay. Additionally, repair the approach and departure roadways and replace the joint seals at both abutments as part of the resurfacing work.                    |
| 4            | 39-0041R   | Mer    | 152   | 15.4 | HIGHLINE CANAL              | EB        | Resurface bridge deck and place a polyester concrete overlay. Repair the deteriorated approach roadway adjacent to both abutments.                                                                                                                                           |
| 5            | 39-0189R   | Mer    | 152   | 32.4 | ROUTE 152/33 SEPARATION     | EB        | Replace the pourable joint seals at both abutments. Place a polyester concrete overlay on the approach and departure slabs following replacement of the existing slabs. Place a polyester concrete overlay on the bridge deck. Replace the approach slabs at both abutments. |
| 6            | 39-0189L   | Mer    | 152   | 32.4 | ROUTE 152/33 SEPARATION     | WB        | Place polyester concrete overlay on the new approach and departure slabs. Replace joint seals Place polyester concrete overlay on the deck bridge. Replace the approach slabs at both abutments.                                                                             |
| 7            | 39-0152    | Mer    | 165   | L0.1 | MERCY SPRINGS RD SEPARATION | SB/NB     | Replace the joint seals at both abutments. Place a polyester concrete taper on the approach slabs to provide a smooth transition onto the bridge deck. Place polyester concrete overlay on the bridge deck.                                                                  |
| 8            | 39-0199    | Mer    | 165   | 1.1  | CALIFORNIA AQUEDUCT         | SB/NB     | Resurface the approach roadway to provide an even transition on and off the bridge deck. Replace deck joints. Place polyester concrete overlay on the bridge deck. Patch deck spall located on the left edge of deck, above Pier 4.                                          |



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### General:

- Environmental reevaluation will be required if the scope of the project changes to include additional areas or activities, or if previously unknown cultural or other sensitive resources are discovered. Contact the Environmental Office if project changes occur or sensitive resources discovered.
- Contact the Environmental Office to attend the pre-construction meeting.

### Cultural:

- If cultural materials are discovered at the job site, do not disturb the resources and immediately:
  1. Stop all work within a 60foot radius of discovery
  2. Protect the discovery area
  3. Notify the Engineer
  4. The Department Investigates. Do not move cultural materials or take them from the job site. Retain a qualified archaeologist to assess the significance of the find. Do not resume work within the discovery area until authorized.
- If human remains are discovered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that further disturbances and activities shall cease in any area or nearby area suspected to overlie remains, and the County coroner contacted. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. If the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) who will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). At the same time the landowner will work with the MLD on the respectful treatment and disposition of the remains. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.

### Hazardous Waste:

- Caltrans Non-Standard Special Provision (nSSP) 14-11.16, pertaining to Asbestos Containing Building Materials (ACBM) in bridges, shall be included in the contract. All bridges with concrete disturbance or joint seal removal will require testing for ACBM prior to the start of construction related activities.
- Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM) are known to occur in bridge baring pad, shims, mastic material, and/or concrete. The National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) notification shall be completed by the contractor prior to the start of construction activities. Caltrans non-Standard Special Provision nSSP 14-9.02 shall be included in the construction contract.
- The Caltrans Standard Special Provision pertaining to nonhazardous waste striping, 84-9.03B, shall be added to the construction contract.

### No permits required.