Notice of Exemption

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

From: California Dept of Transportation
500 South Main Street
Bishop, CA 93514

Project Title: Hwy 395 Beaver Dam Flood Control

Project Applicant: California Dept of Transportation

Project Location - Specific: Hwy 395 Post Mile 121.90

Project Location - City: Bishop Project Location - County: Inyo

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Beaver dam activity at this location is causing the inlet side of the culvert to clog causing the water level to rise and run onto the travel way. To address this issue maintenance crews constructed a small, trapezoidal fence-like structure at inlet side of the culvert. This structure should prevent the beaver from accessing the inlet of the pipe and will slow down the rate at which flooding will occur.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Dept of Transportation

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Dept of Transportation

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: _____
- ☒ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: 15269(b)

Reasons why project is exempt:

At this location, beaver dam activity is obstructing the inlet side of an existing culvert, causing water to back up, resulting in flooding on the highway. To address this maintenance crews will construct a small, trapezoidal fence-like structure at the culvert inlet. This structure is intended to prevent beavers from blocking the pipe and to slow the rate at which flooding occurs, thereby restoring the drainage function.

Because these activities constitute emergency repairs to essential transportation infrastructure and are necessary to avert or mitigate a clear and present safety hazard, the project meets the criteria of CEQA Section 15269(b). Therefore, the project is statutorily exempt from CEQA under this emergency provision.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Stephen Pfeiler Phone number: 760-874-8329

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: Stephen Pfeiler Date: 12/4/2025 Title: Sr. Environmental Scientist Supervisor

☐ 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.