



State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
 Bay Delta Region  
 2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100  
 Fairfield, CA 94534  
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[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

**GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor**  
**VALERIE TERMINI, Acting Director**

**To:**

Office of Land Use and Climate  
 Innovation  
[CEQA Submit](#)

**From:**

CA Department of Fish and Wildlife  
 Bay Delta Region (CDFW)  
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**Lead Agency**

CA Department of Transportation, District 4,  
 Environmental Maintenance (CalTrans)  
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## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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**Project Title:** Storm Damage Repair- 3Y550/0422000260 (a.k.a. Interstate 580 Emergency Altamont Pass Repair Project) (04-3Y550), 3X950/0425000346 (Culverts in the City of Livermore, on I-580, PMs R4.6L to R4, 7L, in Alameda County), and 2Y860/0423000167 (Replace K-Rail-2Y860/0423000167) [California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2023-044-03 (ITP)]

**Project Location (Alameda County):** The Project has three locations associated with this Project. The first, Location 1, is located adjacent to the eastbound side of Interstate 580 (I-580) at post mile (PM) 4.76 through PM 4.83 near the city of Livermore in Alameda County. (Appendix B: Figure 1). Location 2 is also along eastbound I-580 at PM 4.62. Location 3 is along the westbound side of I-580 between PM 4.24 and 4.67. The Project area is within the Altamont United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle.

**Project Description:** The Project will restore the function of the slopes, retaining wall, and three storm drain systems, and preserve the structural integrity of the embankment and highway along I-580. The Project is expected to cause the temporary loss (that will restore within one year) of 1.368 acres, a prolonged temporary loss (that will not restore within one year) of 0.632 acres, and a permanent loss of 1.610 acres of habitat for the California tiger salamander. The project is expected to result in the incidental take of California tiger salamander, which is a species designated as threatened under CESA.

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION  
2081-2023-004-03  
January 22, 2026

The ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of California tiger salamander that may occur as a result of Project implementation.

**Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Exempt Status:**

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. (Class 1d, Existing facilities/Structures)
- Emergency Project (Section 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

**Reasons why project is exempt:** On January 11, 2023, August 9, 2023, and then on January 9, 2026, CalTrans, the CEQA Lead Agency, determined that the Project is exempt from CEQA. In making its determinations, CalTrans cited to Public Resources Code section 21080(b)(4), and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, sections 15269(b) & (c), and 15301(d). The Lead Agency determined that the Project meets certain qualifying criteria for the exemption. Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.1(a), the Lead Agency is responsible for determining whether the Project is exempt from CEQA and that determination shall be final and conclusive on all persons, including Responsible Agencies. As a result, CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, is bound by the Lead Agency's determination that the Project is exempt from CEQA.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Karen Taylor, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), (707) 287-2144, [Karen.Taylor@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Karen.Taylor@wildlife.ca.gov)

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*Erin Chappell*  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 1/23/2026  
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Erin Chapell, Regional Manager