

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 St
Bishop, CA 93514

Project Title: Little Lakes Thin Blanket

Project Applicant: California Dept of Transportation

Project Location - Specific: US 395 Post Miles R8.4 -R15.2

Project Location - City: N/A Location - County: Inyo

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project proposes to perform a 0.1' hot mix asphalt (HMA) overlay in Inyo County near Little Lake, from PM R8.4 to PM R15.2, including driveways and roadway connection conforms. The edge of pavement will include standard 3-foot-wide shoulder backing, and all existing AC dike will be replaced in kind. Rumble strips will be installed, with gaps in the shoulder rumble strip to allow bicycle movement between lanes and shoulders.

Conform grind operations will be performed at the beginning of construction from PM R8.4 to PM R11.8. Grinding involves tapering the roadway profile from the overlay height down to the existing roadway height.

All shoulder backing will occur within the existing road prism width and depth on previously disturbed compacted dirt.

The work also includes grinding and repaving several failed pavement areas (0.4' deep) between PM R11.8 and PM R15.2. There will be one long dig out section from PM 10.2 to PM 10.4 in the southbound direction and shoulder. It will be 0.2' deep.

The existing paved median (PM R8.55 to PM R11.25) will receive a fog seal treatment.

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: 15301 – Class 1
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

This Project is exempt because it involves:

Pavement maintenance activities, including a thin HMA overlay, localized pavement repairs, shoulder backing within the existing road prism, rumble strip installation, conform grinding, and fog seal treatment. All work would occur within the existing roadway footprint on previously disturbed areas, would not expand capacity or alter the roadway alignment, and would not result in significant environmental impacts; therefore, the project is exempt from CEQA.

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: Heather Elder Date: 2/19/2026 Title: Senior Environmental Scientist

- 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.