



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

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** Far North TMS

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 02-SIS-5/97

**PM/PM:** VAR/VAR

**EA:** 02-2J810

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** 0221000137

**Project Description**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), using state funding, is planning to upgrade or replace Transportation Management Systems (TMS) elements on Interstate (I) 5 and United States Route (US) 97 in Siskiyou County for various post miles.

Continued on page 3...

**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 1f.** (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**

Julie McFall

*Julie McFall*

02/12/2026

Print Name

Signature

Date

**Project Manager**

Mohammad Rahmani

*Mohammad Rahmani*

02/12/2026

Print Name

Signature

Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

[X] 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)()
[ ] 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

N/A Print Name, N/A Signature, N/A Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

N/A Print Name, N/A Signature, N/A Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 1/28/26

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).



## CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

### Continuation sheet:

This project proposes upgrading 17 Traffic Management Systems (TMS) elements on I-5 and US 97 in Siskiyou County.

These system upgrades consist of:

- 9 Closed Circuit Television Systems (CCTV)
- 1 Changeable Message Sign (CMS)
- 2 Extinguishable Message Sign (EMS)
- 3 Highway Advisory Radios (HAR)
- 2 Roadside Weather Information Systems (RWIS)

It also includes approximately 4,000 lineal feet of new communication line. Along with these electrical systems, their foundations and support structures, this project includes construction of four maintenance vehicle pullouts (MVPs) and approximately 592 lineal feet of guard railing (MGR).

Co-Rte-PM Location	Type	Proposed Scope
SIS-5-17.82 South Weed	EMS	Upgrade EMS, rebuild walkway, new electrical and telephone service (trench 100 LF), trench 260 LF walkway to EMS
SIS-5-18.38 South Weed	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV, rebuild walkway, rebuild service walkway across highway, construct MVP. Use existing conduit to connect new service to CCTV walkway.
SIS-5-19.26 I-5 - US 97	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV, no foundation or earthwork
SIS-5-20.25 Weed Sandhouse	HAR	Upgrade HAR and rebuild walkway
SIS-5-20.66 North Weed	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV, rebuild walkway, rebuild service walkway, upgrade existing conduit, construct MVP, trench (105 LF) for new electrical and telephone service, trench (500 LF) communication conduit to RWIS
SIS-5-20.72 North Weed	RWIS	Upgrade RWIS tower, upgrade NIPS tower, construct MVP at NIPS, upgrade communication link from RWIS to NIPS
SIS-5-23.00 Shasta River Bridge	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV and rebuild walkway



## CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

SIS-5-25.59 Weed SRRA	EMS	Upgrade EMS and rebuild walkway
SIS-5-44.31 Walters Road	HAR	Upgrade HAR, rebuild walkway, construct MVP, rebuild communications walkway across highway, trenchless excavation (160 LF) and trench (3,500 LF) to CCTV at PM 45.12
SIS-5-45.12 South Yreka	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV, rebuild walkway, co-located with CMS, rebuild service walkway to the south
SIS-5-45.12 South Yreka	CMS	Upgrade CMS, co-locate walkway with CCTV, upgrade guardrail, add communication link to Walters Road, requires trenching (4,000 LF)
SIS-5-47.82 South Yreka	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV tower and rebuild walkway
SIS-5-52.75 Anderson Grade	HAR	Upgrade HAR and rebuild walkway
SIS-5-53.08 Anderson Grade	RWIS	Upgrade RWIS, no foundation or earthwork
SIS-5-53.08 Anderson Grade	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV Tower, use existing walkway
SIS-97-20.2 Grass Lake	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV, rebuild walkway, trenchless excavation (290 LF) to connect utilities at Caltrans Grass Lake Maintenance Station
SIS-97-34.46 Mt Hebron	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV tower, technology upgrade, rebuild walkway

### Safety Elements

Guardrail at the following location will be upgraded to meet current standards:

- CMS/CCTV at South Yreka (SIS-5-PM 45.12)

New guardrail at the following location will be constructed to meet current standards:

- NIPS at North Weed (SIS-5-PM 20.72)

### Needed Structure Rehabilitation and Upgrading

One CMS sign structure will be upgraded as part of the project. Standard Plan foundation for the new CMS will be used.



## CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

**Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to upgrade or replace TMS elements to improve traffic operations and reliability of the TMC, as well as facilitate accurate, timely, and reliable traveler information. The project will restore the TMS elements to good condition.

**Need:** Within the project limits, some TMS elements have reached the end of their service life, have obsolete technology, have lower than desired reliability, or do not meet current District 2 TMS standards. In the 2027 delivery year, the TMS elements will be beyond their service life, resulting in poor performance.

### **Right-of-Way**

Acquisitions or TCEs will not be needed for this project due to work being confined to within Caltrans ROW.

### **Staging/Stockpiling**

There are multiple pullout locations within Caltrans right of way that can be utilized as staging areas within the project limits. Only existing pullouts will be utilized for staging and stockpiling.

### **Disposal/Borrow Sites**

The project would not utilize borrowed material. If any excess material is generated, it will be a small enough quantity to become property of the contractor.

### **Consultation/Coordination**

Caltrans has performed an environmental evaluation consisting of a review of resource records and databases, consultation, and coordination with applicable agencies and individuals. Based on the current scope of work it is anticipated that known resources can be avoided.

### **Utilities**

All utilities in proximity to the locations of work would be protected in place. If any relocations are needed, they will be coordinated within Caltrans Right of Way.

### **Permits**

No permits are necessary based on the current scope of work.









# 02-2J810 CE\_CE

Final Audit Report

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