



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

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** Susan River Pavement Geotech

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 02-LAS-36

**PM/PM:** R16.7/R22.4

**EA:** 02-2J740

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** 0221000130

**Project Description**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), using state funding, is proposing to complete geotechnical work in support of a project on State Route (SR) 36, at post miles (PM) R19.2 and R20.3, in Lassen County.

**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 6.** (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

02/23/2026

Print Name

Signature

Date

**Project Manager**

Michael Oguro

02/24/2026

Print Name

Signature

Date



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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)(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

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: 2/18/26

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).



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**Continuation sheet:**

**Additional Information:** The Office of Geotechnical Design North (OGDN) proposes drilling to obtain necessary geotechnical information. The project elements requiring a geotechnical site investigation include a new CMS sign and an upgrade CCTV. The investigation will include two hollow stem auger borings at PM R20.3 and R19.2.

**Table 1. Site Investigation Details**

<b>Project Element</b>	<b>Boring</b>	<b>Depth or Length</b>
New CMS sign @ PM R20.3	A-26-001	45 ft depth
Upgrade CCTV sign @ PM R19.2	A-26-002	45 ft depth

**Purpose**

The purpose of the proposed geotechnical borings will be to collect soil samples for laboratory testing and to perform in situ testing to characterize the subsurface conditions to aid in the type-selection and design for the overhead sign foundations.

**Need**

There is no subsurface soil information in the vicinity of the two proposed signs. Additionally, there is no groundwater level information in the vicinity of the proposed borings, but the groundwater elevations are less than elevation 4200 ft south of the city of Susanville.

**Right of Way**

No R/W will be acquired for the purpose of Geotechnical surveys. Boring will take place in Caltrans R/W.

**Staging/Stockpiling**

Staging will be limited to Caltrans R/W. A nearby Caltrans Maintenance yard may be utilized. No vegetation removal will occur for the purpose of staging/stockpiling.

**Disposal/Borrow Sites**

The project would not utilize borrowed material. If any excess material is generated, it will be collected and disposed of in accordance with standard Caltrans disposal procedures.

**Coordination/Consultation**

To identify potential cultural resources, Caltrans staff conducted a review of internal and external agency resource records and databases. Once review was completed it was determined the proposed scope of work has no potential to affect cultural resources.



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### **Utilities**

All utility conversations will be coordinated with Caltrans Right of Way.

### **Permits**

No permits will be necessary based on the current scope of work.

# 02-2J740 CECE Geotech 2-19

Final Audit Report

2026-02-24

Created:	2026-02-20
By:	Madison Pelland (s164107@dot.ca.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAEez8WGuZ4E3AXIQUifDRXa9iKPjIF2m1

## "02-2J740 CECE Geotech 2-19" History

-  Document created by Madison Pelland (s164107@dot.ca.gov)  
2026-02-20 - 11:37:13 PM GMT - IP address: 149.136.17.251
-  Document emailed to Julie Mcfall (s141825@dot.ca.gov) for signature  
2026-02-20 - 11:39:45 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Julie Mcfall (s141825@dot.ca.gov)  
2026-02-21 - 3:49:03 AM GMT - IP address: 35.173.112.52
-  Document e-signed by Julie Mcfall (s141825@dot.ca.gov)  
Signature Date: 2026-02-23 - 3:06:03 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 149.136.17.247
-  Document emailed to Michael Oguro (michael.oguro@dot.ca.gov) for signature  
2026-02-23 - 3:06:05 PM GMT
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2026-02-24 - 1:46:13 AM GMT - IP address: 98.87.66.95
-  Document e-signed by Michael Oguro (michael.oguro@dot.ca.gov)  
Signature Date: 2026-02-24 - 5:38:47 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 149.136.17.248
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2026-02-24 - 5:38:47 PM GMT



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