

Notice of Exemption

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

From: Caltrans
1976 E. Charter Way
Stockton, CA 95205

Project Title: DO- Merced Culvert Replacement

Project Applicant: Caltrans

Project Location - Specific: Merced County Interstate 5, Post Mile 19.39

Project Location - City: Los Banos Project Location - County: Merced

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The scope of work includes replacing approximately 25 feet of damaged culvert with 18 inch corrugated steel pipe from the bed to the culverts outlet and installing an 18 inch metal flared end section.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Caltrans

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: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The work is needed to prevent or minimize an emergency.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Claudia Torres

Phone number: 510-932-2197

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: Claudia Torres Date: 6/17/2026 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.