



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Tulare 198 ADA Ramps

DIST-CO-RTE: 06-TUL-198

PM/PM: 27.0/27.1

EA: 06-1G200

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0623000163

Project Description

The proposed project will involve the replacement of two non-compliant American with Disabilities Act (ADA) curb ramps at the intersections of State Route 198 and Avenue 328 and State Route 198 and Douglas Drive in Lemon Cove, located in Tulare County. Replacing the ramps will improve accessibility for pedestrians, bring the facilities into compliance with current ADA standards, and enhance pedestrian safety. All work will be conducted within Caltrans right-of-way.

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 1c.** (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

Judith Lopez

Print Name


Signature

10-5-2026

Date

Project Manager

Eltahir Ataelgeed

Print Name


Signature

10/08/2026

Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

☒ **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)()**

☐ **Activity 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

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Print Name

Signature

Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 10/5/2026

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:

Biology

Avoidance Measures:

- If construction occurs during the nesting season (February 1st to September 30th), then pre-construction nesting bird surveys will be required.
- If nesting birds are observed within the project footprint, then an appropriate no-disturbance buffer will be implemented, including a 500-foot buffer for raptors and a 100-foot buffer for other migratory birds.

Air Quality

Caltrans Standard Specifications pertaining to dust control and dust palliative requirements is a required part of all construction contracts and should effectively reduce and control emission impacts during construction. The provisions of Caltrans Standard Specifications, Section 14-9.02 "Air Pollution Control" and Section 10-5 "Dust Control" require the contractor to comply with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's rules, ordinances, and regulations and statutes that apply to work performed under the contract, including those provided in Government Code § 11017.

Noise

The project should comply with Caltrans Standard Specification Section 14-8 "Noise Control" regarding construction noise.

The following measures would minimize the temporary noise impacts from construction:

- Do not exceed 86 dBA Lmax at 50 feet from the job site activities from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
- Equip an internal combustion engine with the manufacturer-recommended muffler. Do not operate an internal combustion engine on the job site without the appropriate muffler.

Water Quality/ Stormwater

The proposed activities are anticipated to disturb less than 1 acre of soil, which would require a Water Pollution Control Program (WPCP) to be prepared by the contractor following Caltrans' Standard Specification, 13-2, Water Pollution Control Program.



Environmental Commitments Record (ECR)

DIST-CO-RTE: 06 - TUL - 198 **PM/PM:** 27.000/27.100

EA/Project ID: 06-1G200_ / 0623000163

Project Description: Remove and replace ADA curb ramps

Date (Last modification): 10/5/2026

Environmental Planner: Sandra Jimenez

Phone: 559-320-6045

Construction Liaison:

Phone:

Resident Engineer:

Phone:

PERMITS

Permit	Agency	Application Submitted	Permit Received	Permit Expiration	Permit Requirements Completed by	Permit Requirements Completed on	Comments
1- No Permits Required	n/a						

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

PS&E/BEFORE RTL

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in PS&E Package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA
Hazardous Waste	7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii) Unregulated Earth Material Containing Lead	ISA	SSP	HW	Include SSP in Bid Package					

PRE-CONSTRUCTION

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in PS&E Package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA
Biology	If nesting birds are observed within the project footprint, then an appropriate no-disturbance buffer will be implemented, including a 500-foot buffer for raptors and a 100-foot buffer for other migratory birds.	Env Doc		Bio/ECL	Pre-con survey for migratory birds					
Biology	Pre-construction nesting bird survey required if construction occurs during the nesting season (February 1st to September 30th).	Env Doc		Bio/ECL	Pre-construction nesting bird survey required if construction occurs during the nesting season (February 1st to September 30th).					
Hazardous Waste	7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii) Unregulated Earth Material Containing Lead	ISA	SSP	HW/ECL/RE	Contractor to prepare lead compliance plan and submit for approval					