Notice of Exemption

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

From: California Department of Transportation District 9
50 South Main Street
Bishop, CA 93514

Project Title: Bishop Pavement Mitigation and Monitoring

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation District 9

Project Location - Specific: Approximately 5.5 miles north of Bishop from 0.2 miles south of Sawmill Road to the intersection of Sawmill Road and U.S. 395 from post mile 122.1 to 122.3

Project Location - City: Bishop Project Location - County: Inyo

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:
The purpose of the project is to mitigate impacts to California Department of Fish and Wildlife 1600 jurisdictional resources due to the construction activities for the Bishop Pavement project at the following locations: Matlick Ditch, B-1 Drainage and Noble Ditch. Proposed mitigation consists of direct planting of approximately 150 willow cuttings within Caltrans right-of-way from post mile 122.1 to 122.3. The planting sites will be prepared for willow cutting installation by removing invasive and non-native plants by hand or hand tools. No herbicide will be used to remove invasive or non-native species of plants. The removed vegetation will be bagged and properly disposed of at a waste facility. Any large dead organic matter will be left on site or moved within the vicinity to help with planting needs. There will be minimal groundwork for planting, and no topsoil will be removed. Any trash found will be removed from the site by hand and properly disposed of off-site.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation District 9

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation District 9

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: 15333 Small Habitat Restoration Projects Class 33

☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:
The proposed project will satisfy the requirements of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement obtained for the Bishop Pavement Project by replacing trees removed at a 3:1 ratio. All tree plantings will occur within Caltrans right-of-way and no impacts to known resources will occur.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Amber Stoerp Phone number: 760-937-4666

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: Kristopher Bason Date: 10/9/2026 Title: Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor

☒ 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.

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Final Audit Report 2026-10-09

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