

Notice of Exemption

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

From: Caltrans, District 2
1657 Riverside Drive
Redding, CA 96001

Project Title: Dixie Fire North Emergency Project

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Project Location - Specific: The project is located on State Route (SR) 32 in Tehama County from post mile (PM) 0 to 24.87, SR 36 (in Tehama County from PM 44.004 to 104.002, in Plumas County from PM 0.0 to 18.21, and in Lassen County from PM 0.0 to 19.2), SR 44 (in Shasta County from PM R19.01 to 71.389 and in Lassen County from PM 0.0 to 37.247), SR 89 (in Plumas County from PM 8.9 to 42.3, in Tehama County from PM 0.0 to 4.4, and in Shasta County from PM 0 to 21.72), and SR 147 (in Plumas County from PM 0 to 9.891 and in Lassen County from PM 0 to 1.79).

Project Location - City: Red Bluff, Paynes Creek, Mineral, Chester, Westwood, Shingletown, Inwood, Viola, Old Station, Burney, Cassel, Canyondam, Greenville, Crescent Mills

Project Location - County: Tehama, Plumas, Lassen, Shasta

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Dixie Fire has burned over 960,000 acres and has destroyed homes, caused the evacuation of residents, and damaged critical infrastructure in five counties in northern California. On July 23, 2021, Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency to exist in Plumas, Butte, and Lassen counties due to the Dixie Fire. On August 10, 2021, Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency to exist in Tehama County due to the Dixie Fire. As a result of the Dixie Fire, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), using state funding and federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Federal Highways Administration (FHWA), conducted emergency repairs within Caltrans' right-of-way on State Route (SR) 32 in Tehama County from post mile (PM) 0 to 24.87, SR 36 (in Tehama County from PM 44.004 to 104.002, in Plumas County from PM 0.0 to 18.21, and in Lassen County from PM 0.0 to 19.2), SR 44 (in Shasta County from PM R19.01 to 71.389 and in Lassen County from PM 0.0 to 37.247), SR 89 (in Plumas County from PM 8.9 to 42.3, in Tehama County from PM 0.0 to 4.4, and in Shasta County from PM 0 to 21.72), and SR 147 (in Plumas County from PM 0 to 9.891 and in Lassen County from PM 0 to 1.79).

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation

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

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: Section 15269 (Emergency Projects)

Reasons why project is exempt:

The California Department of Transportation has determined that the project qualifies for a statutory exemption in accordance with Section 15269 (Emergency Projects) - (d) Projects undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to maintain, repair, or restore an existing highway damaged by fire, flood, storm, earthquake, land subsidence, gradual earth movement, or landslide, provided that the project is within the existing right of way of that highway and is initiated within one year of the damage occurring.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Julie McFall

Phone number: (530) 812-4878

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: *Julie McFall* Date: 10/14/26 Title: Branch Chief - RM2

☒ 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.