

# CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

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02-PLU-CR	Dist.-Co.-Rte. (or Local Agency)	P.M./P.M.	E.A/Project No.	BRLO 5909(029) Federal-Aid Project No. (Local Project)/Project No.
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION:</b> (Briefly describe project including need, purpose, location, limits, right-of-way requirements, and activities involved in this box. Use Continuation Sheet, if necessary.) <p>Plumas County is proposing a bridge replacement project on the Blairsden-Graeagle Rd. at Middle Fork Feather River Bridge. The purpose of the project is to improve public safety and address the issue of the structurally deficient bridge. The new bridge will be placed on a slightly new alignment which will require a new paved two-lane roadway at each approach. The existing bridge will either be retained and rehabilitated to support pedestrian and bicycle usage or demolished and removed. Plumas County will permanently acquire the necessary right of way needed for construction and maintenance of the project. Temporary construction easements may be required for construction access and construction staging areas. Contractor access would be provided at each end of the project site using the existing road. It is anticipated that this access would be adequate for bridge construction. (See Continuation)</p>				
<b>CEQA COMPLIANCE</b> (for State Projects only) <p>Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the following statements are true and exceptions do not apply (See 14 CCR 15300 et seq.):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If this project falls within exempt class 3, 4, 5, 6 or 11, it does not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped and officially adopted pursuant to law.</li> <li>• There will not be a significant cumulative effect by this project and successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time.</li> <li>• There is not a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.</li> <li>• This project does not damage a scenic resource within an officially designated state scenic highway.</li> <li>• This project is not located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Govt. Code § 65962.5 ("Cortese List").</li> <li>• This project does not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.</li> </ul>				
<b>CALTRANS CEQA DETERMINATION</b> (Check one) <p><input type="checkbox"/> Exempt by Statute. (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)</p> <p>Based on an examination of this proposal, supporting information, and the above statements, the project is:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Categorically Exempt. Class _____ (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Categorically Exempt. General Rule 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 (CCR 15061[b][3].)]</p>				
Print Name: Environmental Branch Chief <hr/> Signature		Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer <hr/> Signature		
<b>NEPA COMPLIANCE</b> <p>In accordance with 23 CFR 771.117, and based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that this project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• does not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the environment as defined by NEPA and is excluded from the requirements to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and</li> <li>• has considered unusual circumstances pursuant to 23 CFR 771.117(b).</li> </ul>				
<b>CALTRANS NEPA DETERMINATION</b> (Check one) <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 23 USC 326: The State 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). As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act. The State has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to Chapter 3 of Title 23, United States Code, Section 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated June 07, 2013, executed between the FHWA and the State. The State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:         <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(____)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(3) Bridge Replacement</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Activity _____ listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and the State</p> </p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 23 USC 327: Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that the project is a CE under 23 USC 327.</p>				
Tom Balkow <hr/> Print Name: Environmental Branch Chief <hr/> Signature		Ian Howat <hr/> Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer <hr/> Signature		
Date: 5/13/14		Date: 05.19.2014		
Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 5/07/14		Date of ECR or equivalent : 5/13/14		

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet. Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., CE checklist, additional studies and design conditions).

**CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM**  
**Continuation Sheet**

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Continued from page 1:			

Feasible traffic detour routes around the proposed construction site are available along existing paved roads in the vicinity. The existing bridge and roadway would be closed during construction. Access to the County transfer station will be maintained throughout construction.

**Compliance with State and Local Environmental Laws**

Local agencies are responsible for insuring full compliance with other state and local environmental laws including California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements [Caltrans Local Assistance Procedures Manual (LAPM), p. 6-13]. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) requires proof of CEQA compliance before it will allocate funds [14 CCR 1503.1.2]. If STIP funds are being used and you have not already done so, please submit, for the administrative record, a Notice of Determination (NOD) or Notice of Effect (NOE) documenting that the appropriate level of CEQA for this project has been met.

**Environmental Commitments and Required Environmental Permits**

This project shall strictly adhere to all avoidance and minimization provisions stipulated in project documents, any issued permits, or other required environmental related processes, such as those outlined in the LAPM, Chpt. 6.

The local agency will certify that all required mitigation has been completed and/or is included in the Final Plans, PS&E, and that any required ongoing maintenance of mitigation are implemented [23 CFR 635, 771, & 772]

The local Agency will also provide copies of all related environmental permits and resubmit an updated Environmental Commitments Record *before* construction begins per NEPA delegation guidelines as outlined in the LAPM Chpt. 6 and the SER manual Chpt. 38. See also letter sent to all Public Works Directors from Terry Abbot, Caltrans Chief of Local Assistance dated 09-21-07.

*Project Documents that may have environmental commitments associated with them include*

- Natural Environment Study
- Historic Properties Survey Report/Archeology Survey Reports

**Project History:**

- PES: 10/15/2012
- Section 106: HPSR/ASR 5/01/2014
- Bio Resources: NES MI 10/31/2014
- Haz Mat: 10/01/2013
- Hydro/Floodplain: 12/16/2013