

By Deputy: aambriz

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



TO: Office of Planning and Research
CEQAnet Web Portal
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FROM: San Joaquin County
Department of Public Works
1810 East Hazelton Avenue
Stockton, California 95205

County Clerk
County of San Joaquin California
44 North San Joaquin Street, Suite 260
Stockton, California 95202

Project Title: Dry Creek Road Bridge Replacement Project

Project Location: See attached vicinity map

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries: See attached project description

Public Agency Approving Project: San Joaquin County Public Works Department

Name of Agency Carrying Out Project: San Joaquin County Public Works Department

This is to advise that the San Joaquin County Public Works Department has approved the above described project on 9/17/2025 and has made the determination that the project is exempt due to the following:

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: Existing Facilities (Sec. 15301 (d))
- Statutory Exemption (Sec. 15282(l))

Reason(s) why project is exempt: The project will rehabilitate an existing deteriorated bridge to meet current standards.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Fatima Gutierrez, Associate Planner, (209) 468-3035

Signature: Fatima Gutierrez Title: Associate Planner Date: 4/28/2026

DRY CREEK ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Project Description

Project Location:

Dry Creek Road: 0.5 miles north of Liberty Road. See attached Vicinity Maps.

Project Justification:

The San Joaquin County Department of Public Works proposes to replace a structurally deficient existing timber bridge (Bridge No. 29C-276) along Dry Creek Road in San Joaquin County. The existing approximately 21-foot-long timber bridge crossing the North Fork of Coyote Creek will be removed and replaced with a reinforced concrete pipe culvert crossing to improve hydraulic capacity and maintain roadway stability.

The purpose of the Project is to maintain safe, reliable public access by addressing structural deficiencies in the Dry Creek Road bridge. The need for the Project arises from accelerated deterioration due to seasonal wet and dry conditions, which have compromised the bridge's structural components. Specifically, the abutment 1 pile caps are crushing at the south-side, the bridge stringers have extensive checks and splits and will soon fail, and the deck planks exhibit significant decay extending 18 to 24 inches toward the center of the structure. Without replacement of these elements, including removal of the deck to access and replace the stringers, the bridge would no longer meet safety standards and could pose a risk to public use.

Scope of Work:

The project will consist of:

1. Removing the existing bridge structure using heavy equipment operating from the roadway and channel bed.
2. Following removal, excavating the creek bed and banks as necessary to accommodate installation of the proposed culvert crossing, including pipe bedding and embedment. The replacement structure will consist of three parallel rows of 60-inch-diameter reinforced concrete pipes, each pipe measuring approximately 32 feet in length and composed of 8-foot pipe segments, installed within the existing channel alignment.
3. Placing Rock slope protection (RSP) at the upstream and downstream ends of the culverts to provide scour protection and structural stability. Approximately 40 cubic yards of existing RSP will be salvaged and reused onsite, and approximately 90 cubic yards of new RSP will be placed within the channel below the ordinary high-water mark. RSP on either side of the three culverts will measure approximately 34 feet long by 5 feet wide. RSP securing the culverts will measure approximately 22 feet long by 12 feet wide. Native material and aggregate base will be placed above the pipes to restore the roadway prism.
4. All work will occur during the dry season when the North Fork of Coyote Creek is dry. No water diversion, dewatering, or in-water work is proposed.
5. Completing construction using heavy equipment operating from the roadway and channel bed.
6. Restoring temporary impacts associated with excavation and construction activities to pre-project contours and conditions upon completion of work. Permanent impacts will consist of the installed reinforced concrete pipes and associated RSP.

DRY CREEK ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Project Description

7. Implementing standard erosion and sediment control best management practices throughout construction to minimize sedimentation and protect downstream resources.

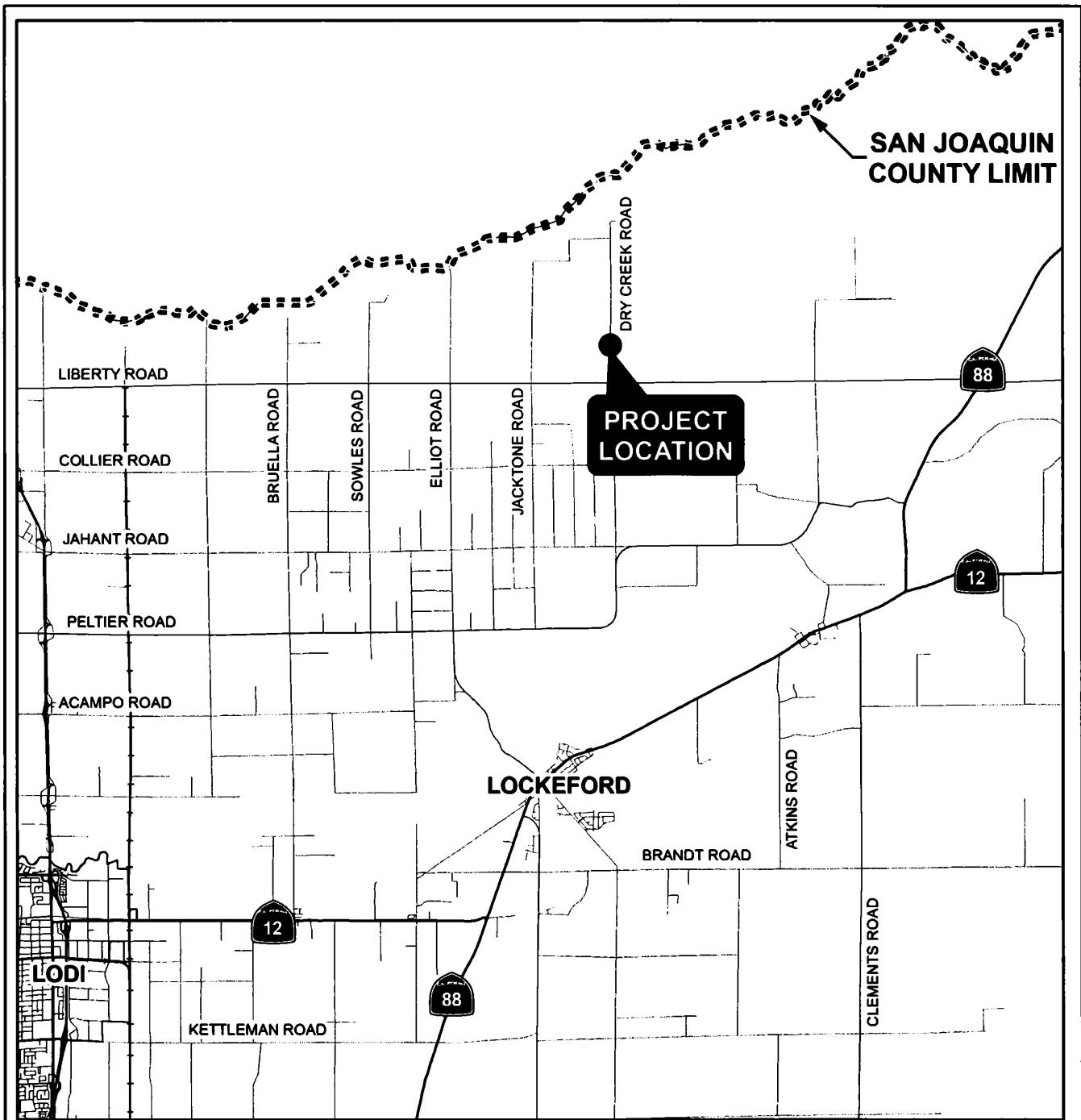
Environmental Setting:

In these portions of the San Joaquin County, land usage is primarily **agricultural**.

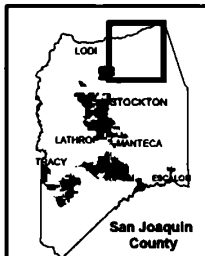
There are many large trees adjacent to the project area. Nesting and migratory birds, protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, may nest within these trees. Furthermore, the Swainson's Hawk, a raptor species of concern within the State of California and listed as threatened may nest adjacent to or within the project area. A pre-construction survey for nesting Swainson's Hawks and other migratory birds is recommended if construction is scheduled to occur from February 15th to September 1st.

Beneficiaries:

The public will see increased safety and fewer hazards with bridge replacement. Overall, there will be reduced maintenance concerns and more reliability within the project area.



NO SCALE



Vicinity Map
Dry Creek Road Bridge 29C-276 Replacement
 Across Coyote Creek North Fork

