

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2018082039

Project Title: Pacific Herring Fishery Management Plan and Regulatory Amendments

Lead Agency: California Fish and Game Commission

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Project Location: San Francisco Bay, Napa County; Tomales Bay, Marin County; Humboldt Bay, Humboldt; and Crescent
City County

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The proposed project is the adoption of a fishery management plan (FMP) for Pacific herring fishing under the State's jurisdiction. The project includes both commercial and recreational fishing as an element of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (Department) Pacific herring management program. Herring are primarily harvested commercially for their roe (eggs) during the months of January through March (spawning season) using small-mesh, set gill nets to take whole fish.

Minor fisheries are also conducted for roe on kelp, human consumption, and bait purposes. Once an FMP is adopted, regulations implementing the FMP and the State's policies for managing the commercial and recreational take of Pacific herring will be considered for inclusion in the California Code of Regulations (CCR). The proposed project includes recommendations for continuation, amendment, or change to an existing body of regulations (sections 27.60, 163, 163.5, and 164, Title 14, CCR). The recommendations are based on fishery modeling, biological assessments of existing stock conditions, and comments received from an FMP steering committee (composed of fishery representatives and members of the conservation community), interested individuals, commercial fishermen, and from the Department Director's Herring Advisory Committee.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

Mitigation Measures
Fishing activities will result in the removal of a small proportion of Herring from the population. However, specific safeguards included in this Herring FMP such as management based on a conservative harvest control rule, designed to ensure that removal of those fish will not exceed sustainable levels, reduction in the number of permitted vessels, an adaptive management framework, the use of ecological indicators to buffer against environmental uncertainty, while including industry and public support which should lead to greater compliance with regulations. These provisions allow for the conservation of Herring in California waters. Since no significant negative effect of this proposed project is expected on the Herring population, and no significant effects on the environment overall, mitigation measures are not being provided.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

N/A

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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