

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044
1400 Tenth Street, Rm 2
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Fish and Wildlife
Marine Region
1933 Cliff Drive, Suite 9
Santa Barbara, CA 93109

Project Title: California State Water Board Statewide Anadromous Waterbodies Bioaccumulation Monitoring – 2081(a) Memorandum of Understanding

Project Location: Statewide

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to Moss Landing Marine Laboratory – Marine Pollution Studies Lab (MLML) pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) to sample fish statewide for the California State Water Board Statewide Anadromous Waterbodies Bioaccumulation Monitoring. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the MLML to incidentally take Longfin Smelt, Coho Salmon, Chinook Salmon, and Steelhead Trout during the course of its sampling subject to terms and conditions set forth in the permit. The purpose of this assessment is to conduct bioaccumulation monitoring in fish and shellfish for the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program. Covered methods of take are limited to hook and line, beach seine, fish trap, bottom trawl, midwater trawl, cast net, gill net, and electrofishing.

California Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Marco Sigala, Principal Investigator, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories – Marine Pollution Studies Lab.


Exempt Status:

- Ministerial;
- Declared Emergency;
- Emergency Project;
- Categorical Exemption. Type and section number: Section 15306, Information Collection, Class 6.

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project involves research and the collection of information pertaining to management and human health which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to Longfin Smelt (*Spirinchus thaleichthys*) a threatened species, Sacramento River spring run Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), a threatened species, Sacramento River winter run Chinook Salmon, an endangered species, Coho Salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) south of Punta Gorda an endangered species, Coho Salmon north of Punta Gorda, a threatened species, and Northern California Summer Steelhead Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) a candidate species.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Arn Aarreberg Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (707) 791-4195

Signature: _____

DocuSigned by:

343995CB95354BC

Date: 6/10/21

Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____