

# Notice of Intent to Adopt Negative Declaration

Lead Agency:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Fisheries Branch  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento, CA 92444-2090

Subject:

Notice of Intent to adopt negative declaration pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act, Article 6, Section 15074

Project Title:

Chinook Salmon Coastal Release: Pillar Point Harbor

Project Location:

San Mateo County  
Pillar Point Harbor (37.501278°, -122.482722°)

Project Description:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Mokelumne River Hatchery (MOK) would deliver 750,000 Central Valley fall-run Chinook Salmon (CV FRCS) smolts each spring to the Project location for acclimation and subsequent release in Pillar Point Harbor or nearby open ocean in 2022, 2023 and 2024. Trucks would be loaded, and fish transported according to MOK established standard operating procedures for transportation of salmon. Water in the trucks would be salted prior to adding fish at the hatchery. CDFW would deliver MOK CV FRCS smolts to Pillar Point Harbor in spring of 2022, 2023 and 2024. Exact dates and times would be scheduled as the time draws near and are dependent on fish size, growth rates, and environmental conditions in Pillar Point Harbor. Smolts would be transported in small batch increments on a weekly basis and acclimate in a net pen for 5 days followed by ocean release. This will occur for several weeks until all 750,000 smolts are released. CFC is

implementing this project. CFC would provide all necessary boats for towing and servicing pen and fish as well as any other operational logistics. The Project's objective is to enhance the commercial and recreational salmon ocean fishery.

Location and Custodian of the Negative Declaration Document:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Fisheries Branch  
<https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=199079>

Attention: Robyn Bilski  
916-206-3758  
[Robyn.Bilski@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Robyn.Bilski@wildlife.ca.gov)

Determination:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife finds that the Project would not have a significant effect on the environment.

The completed Initial Study, attached to this negative declaration, documents the basis for this finding, and CDFW's determination that no significant effect on the environment would occur as a result of Project implementation, and there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before CDFW, that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment (see Initial Study and environmental checklist). Therefore, a Negative Declaration has been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resource Code Section 21080, subd. (c)(1).

The Initial Study concluded that the Project would have less than significant impacts to biological resources, greenhouse gas emissions, and public services. The Project would have no impacts to aesthetics, agriculture and forestry, air quality, cultural resources, energy, geology/soils, hazards/hazardous materials, hydrology/water quality, land use/planning, mineral resources, noise, population/housing, recreation, transportation, tribal cultural resources, utilities/service systems, and wildfire.

Negative Declaration:

A copy of the Negative Declaration, Initial Study, and supporting documents can be found on the Department's web site at <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=199079>

Comments on the Negative Declaration will be received from February 28, 2022, through April 14, 2022.