

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 Collaborative Fisheries Research Program

Project Location: Statewide - Offshore

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the California Collaborative Fisheries Research Program pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for research purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to take Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, and steelhead trout during the course of sampling, subject to terms and conditions set forth in the permit. The purpose of this sampling is for research to better inform fisheries management. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, and steelhead trout during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round sampling of nearshore and coastal water fishes through the use of hook and line – baited dropper loop, baited shrimp fly, lingcod bar, swimbait, and unbaited shrimp fly through July 31, 2025.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Scott L Hamilton, California Collaborative Fisheries Research Program

Exempt Status:

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

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project involves sampling within nearshore and coastal waters of the State which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), Coho Salmon (*O. kisutch*), or steelhead trout (*O. mykiss*), which are all listed under the California Endangered Species Act.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dylan Inskeep

Telephone: (707) 576-2878

Signature:  _____ **Date:** 07/18/2022
Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Date Received for filing at OPR: _____