

**Notice of Exemption**

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**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 Polytechnic University, Humboldt's Oceanography Department Field Sampling

**Project Location:** Humboldt Bay, Offshore Humboldt County, and Trinidad Harbor

**Project Description:** The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for research purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to take Longfin Smelt, Coho Salmon, Chinook 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 and educational opportunities for students. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture Longfin Smelt, Coho Salmon, Chinook Salmon, and steelhead trout during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round sampling of nearshore and coastal water fishes and invertebrates through the use of hand nets, plankton nets, midwater trawls, and otter trawls through August 31, 2023.

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

**Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Christine Cass, California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt

**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 Humboldt County nearshore and coastal waters which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to Longfin Smelt (*Spirinchus thaleichthys*), Coho Salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*) 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:** 8/18/2022  
Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_