

**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:** UC Davis San Francisco Bay Ecology Study

**Project Location:** San Francisco Bay

**Project Description:** The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the University of California, Davis pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for educational purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to take Longfin Smelt (*Spirinchus thaleichthys*), Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), and Delta Smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificus*) during the course of sampling, subject to terms and conditions set forth in the permit. The purpose of this sampling is for the University of California Davis' Meghan Holst to study how ecological relationships shift in relation to seasonal occurrences of adult elasmobranchs with resident juvenile elasmobranchs within the San Francisco Bay. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture Longfin Smelt, Chinook Salm, and Delta Smelt during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round research sampling of San Francisco Bay's elasmobranchs, fishes, invertebrates, and kelp through the use of hook & line – surface, hand, beach seine, and plankton net through December 31, 2024.

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

**Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Meghan M Holst, University of California, Davis

**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 research sampling within the San Francisco Bay which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to Longfin Smelt, Chinook Salmon, or Delta Smelt which are all listed under the California Endangered Species Act.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Dylan Inskeep

**Telephone:** (707) 576-2878



**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** 3/10/23

*Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region*

Signed by Lead Agency

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