

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: Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific's Collections

Project Location: Nearshore and offshore waters of Los Angeles, Monterey, Sonoma, Orange, San Diego, and Ventura counties & San Francisco Bay

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the Aquarium of the Pacific pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for educational purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to take Coho Salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), and steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus*) the course of sampling, subject to terms and conditions set forth in the permit. The purpose of this sampling is for the Aquarium of the Pacific's permanent collections. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture Coho Salmon, Chinook Salmon, and steelhead trout during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round permanent collection sampling of nearshore and estuarine fishes, invertebrates, and phytoplankton through the use of hook & line – surface and soft bottom trawl through December 31, 2025.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Nathan D. Jaros, Aquarium of the Pacific

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 permanent collection sampling within nearshore and offshore waters Statewide which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to Coho Salmon, Chinook Salmon, or steelhead trout which are all listed under the California Endangered Species Act.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dylan Inskeep

Telephone: (707) 576-2878

Signature: 

Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region

Date: 11.16.2023

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____