

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: Tolowa Dee-ni' Marine Program Surfperch Baseline Population Abundance Monitoring

Project Location: Del Norte County (1. Yan'naa-svt; Kellogg Beach 2. Dat-naa-svt; Pyramid Point SMCA)

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for research 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*) during the course of sampling, subject to terms and conditions set forth in the permit. The purpose of this sampling is for the Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation to capture chii-la'-ihsrik (redtail surfperch, *Amphistichus rhodoterus*) to gather baseline population data to inform the creation of regulations of cultural keystone species within the Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation Harvest Title. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture coho salmon, Chinook salmon, and steelhead trout during surveys. The applicant will conduct research from May - November of chii-la'-ihsrik (redtail surfperch) through the use of hook & line – baited dropper loop and hook & line – Carolina rig through December 31, 2027.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Jennifer Jacobs, Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation


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 in Del Norte County at Yan'naa-svt (Kellogg Beach) and Dat-naa-svt (Pyramid Point SMCA) 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) 317-3924

Signature:  _____ **Date:** 5/14/2024
Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____