

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: Fish Communities in Unstudied Coastal Environments

Project Location: Sonoma County (Abbotts Lagoon, Bodega Harbor, North Horseshoe Cove),
Humboldt County (Mattole River Estuary)

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 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 to study the community composition of fishes in relatively unstudied systems within California. 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 sampling of relatively unstudied systems for the community composition of fishes through the use of a beach seines through December 31, 2025.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: John Durand, UC 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 nearshore waters of Sonoma and Humboldt counties 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:** 6/20/2024
Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____