

**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:** Understanding the diversity of Southern California organisms and ecosystems at Occidental College: field collection and observations of organisms for marine biology courses

**Project Location:** Nearshore and offshore waters of Los Angeles County

**Project Description:** The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the Occidental College Biology Department pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for research and educational purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to take Southern California Distinct Population Segment 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 Occidental College Biology Department's marine biology courses. The applicant will conduct year-round research and educational sampling of nearshore and estuarine fishes, invertebrates, and algae through the use of hook & line, bottom trawl, otter trawl, and beach seines through December 31, 2027.

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

**Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Dr. Amber Stubler, Occidental College Biology Department


**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 and educational sampling within nearshore and offshore waters of Los Angeles County which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to steelhead trout which are all listed under the California Endangered Species Act.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Dylan Inskeep

**Telephone:** (707) 317-3924

**Signature:**  \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** 10/25/2024  
*Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region*

Signed by Lead Agency

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