

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: San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) Marine Mitigation Project

Project Location: Counties of Santa Barbara & San Diego (San Dieguito Lagoon, Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve, Mugu Lagoon, Carpinteria Salt Marsh Nature Park, Los Peñasquitos Lagoon)

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for educational purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to take Southern California DPS 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 UCSB's monitoring of restored wetlands for SONGS operations. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture steelhead trout during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round monitoring sampling of estuarine species through the use of beach seines through December 31, 2027.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Andres Deza, UCSB


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 monitoring sampling within estuarine water of San Diego and Santa Barbara counties which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to steelhead trout which are listed under the California Endangered Species Act.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dylan Inskeep

Telephone: (707) 317-3924

Signature:  _____ **Date:** 2/13/2025
Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____