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: Cal Poly Pomona Course Fish Collections

Project Location: Nearshore and offshore waters of the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, and San Diego

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the California State Polytechnic University Pomona pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for educational purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to take Southern California Distinct Population Segment (DPS) steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss)* during the course of sampling, subject to terms and conditions set forth in the permit. The purpose of this sampling is for the California State Polytechnic University Pomona's educational classes and permanent collections. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture steelhead trout during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round research and permanent collection sampling of nearshore and offshore marine species through the use of bottom trawls, beam trawls, hook & line – baited dropper loop, dredge, and beach seines through December 31, 2027.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Jeremy Claisse, California State Polytechnic University Pomona

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 educational and permanent collection sampling within nearshore and offshore waters of the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, and San Diego 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:** __**5/7/2025**_____
Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region

☐ Signed by Lead Agency Date Received for filing at OPR: _____