

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
PO Box 3044
1400 Tenth Street, Rm 2
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Fish and Wildlife
Marine Region
1010 Riverside Parkway
West Sacramento, CA 95605

Project Title: Legally Required City of Los Angeles Environmental Monitoring Division's Monitoring Programs for NPDES permits or CIMPs

Project Location: Los Angeles County (Los Angeles Harbor, Long Beach Harbor, Santa Monica Bay, Ballona Creek, Ballona Wetlands, and Marina Del Rey)

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the City of Los Angeles – Environmental Monitoring Division pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for scientific purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to take 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 City of Los Angeles Environmental Monitoring Division's legally required monitoring sampling for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Programs (CIMPs). The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture steelhead trout during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round monitoring of benthic macrofauna, fish & invertebrate tissue chemistry sampling, trawl-caught marine & estuarine organisms, & debris sampling through the use of bottom trawl, beach seine, fish trap, beam trawl, hoop net, hook & line – surface, and hook & line – swimbait through December 31, 2027.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Craig Campbell, City of Los Angeles – Environmental Monitoring Division

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 sampling within nearshore and estuarine waters of Los Angeles County 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: Claire Waggoner **Date:** June 12, 2025
Claire Waggoner, Habitat Conservation Program Manager, Marine Region

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____