

**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:** USD Educational Collections

**Project Location:** Nearshore waters of San Diego County

**Project Description:** The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the University of San Diego pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for educational 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 University of San Diego's Ocean Sciences educational collections. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture steelhead trout during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round educational collection sampling of nearshore marine species through the use of hook & line – baited dropper loop and beach seines through December 31, 2027.

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

**Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Russell Harrel, University of San Diego


**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 collection sampling within nearshore waters of San Diego 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 Inskip

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

**Signature:**  \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** 6/23/2025  
*Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region*

Signed by Lead Agency

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