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: Electronic Tagging of Sharks in Central California

Project Location: Nearshore and offshore waters of the counties of Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Mateo, San Francisco, Marin, and San Luis Obispo

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to Stanford University pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for educational purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to take Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch),* and white sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*) during the course of sampling, subject to terms and conditions set forth in the permit. The purpose of this sampling is for Stanford University's research study on elasmobranch species within Central California. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture Chinook salmon, coho salmon, and white sturgeon during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round research sampling of elasmobranch species through the use of hook & line – surface and hook & line – baited dropper loop through December 31, 2027.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Barbara Block, Stanford University

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 sampling within nearshore and offshore waters of the counties of Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Mateo, San Francisco, Marin, and San Luis Obispo which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to Chinook salmon, coho salmon, or white sturgeon which are all listed under the California Endangered Species Act.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dylan Inskeep **Telephone:** (707) 317-3924

Signature: CLAIRE WAGGONER **Date: August 8, 2025**
Claire Waggoner, Habitat Conservation Program Manager, Marine Region

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