

## Notice of Exemption

## Appendix E

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044  
County Clerk – County of: N/A

**From:** California Fish and Game Commission  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Project Title: Proposal to Amend Sections 29.80, 29.85, 195 and 701, Title 14, CCR, Regarding Recreational Crab Fishing Gear and Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessel Trap Validation

Project Applicant: N/A

Project Location: California ocean waters

Project Location - City: N/A

Project Location – County: N/A

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project amends sections 29.80, 29.85, 195 and 701, Title 14, CCR, to update the use of hoop nets, prohibit unique line marks required in other fisheries from being used, and provide additional tools to mitigate entanglement risk of federally-protected marine animals (humpback whales, blue whales and Pacific leatherback sea turtles). The regulatory amendments also improve data collection efforts to inform recreational fishery management by establishing a commercial passenger fishing vessel (CPFV) validation. The recreational entanglement evaluation process better aligns the management of the recreational sector to the commercial sector in mitigating entanglement risk of marine animals protected under the federal Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act. The proposal parallels U.S. West Coast efforts to uniquely mark gear in different fisheries, improving gear identification in confirmed entanglements by ensuring required marks in other fisheries are not allowed to be used in California recreational crustacean gear.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Fish and Game Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Exempt Status **(check one)**:

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, sections 15307 & 15308
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt: See attachment

Lead Agency: California Fish and Game Commission

Contact Person: Melissa Miller-Henson

Telephone: (916) 653-4899

**If filed by applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a notice of exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: 

Date: August 19, 2025

Title: Executive Director

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: