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: Amend Section 29.15 of Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Regarding Recreational Take of Abalone

Project Applicant: N/A

Project Location: Ocean Waters, Statewide Project Location - City: N/A Project Location - County: N/A

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The proposed amendment to Section 29.15 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) will extend the fishery closure/moratorium ten years to April 1, 2036. No other changes to Section 29.15 are being proposed.

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

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

Exempt Status:

- ☐ 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: Title 14, CCR, Sections 15307 and 15308
- ☐ Statutory Exemption:

Reasons why project is exempt: For purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act, the Commission relied on the Class 7 and Class 8 categorical exemptions. In general, both exemptions apply to agency actions to protect natural resources and the environment. The current regulation closed the abalone recreational fishery until April 1, 2026. The continued trend of unprecedented environmental and biological stressors (including warmer than normal waters and decreasing food resources leading to starvation conditions) have substantially decreased the abalone population below sustainable levels. Keeping the fishery closed for an additional ten years, until April 1, 2036 will further protect the population and improve the chances of recovery.

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

Melissa A. Miller-Henson	December 23, 2025	Executive Director
Signature	**Date**	**Title**

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

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Revised 2011