

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
1700 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

Project Title: Climate Change Research in Central Coast Fishes

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

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the Moss Landing Marine Laboratories pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for scientific purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to take coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), and 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 Moss Landing Marine Laboratories' climate change research study. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture coho salmon, Chinook salmon, and steelhead trout during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round research sampling of nearshore marine fishes using hook & line – baited shrimp fly, hook & line – surface, bottom trawl, beach seine, fish traps, and fence nets through December 31, 2029.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Scott Hamilton, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

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

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dylan Inskeep

Telephone: (707) 317-3924

Signature: 

Date: 5/29/2026

Claire Waggoner, Habitat Conservation Program Manager, Marine Region

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____