

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: California Science Center Foundation Collections

Project Location: Nearshore waters of the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Santa Barbara, and Ventura

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the California Science Center Foundation 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 California Science Center Foundation's permanent collections. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture steelhead trout during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round permanent collection sampling of marine species through the use of hook & line – surface, beach seine, purse seine, and midwater trawls through December 31, 2028.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Erin Shusterman, California Science Center Foundation

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 permanent collection sampling within nearshore waters of the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Santa Barbara, and Ventura 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 Inskeep

Telephone: (707) 317-3924

Signature: Claire Waggoner **Date:** 6/24/2026
Claire Waggoner, Habitat Conservation Program Manager, Marine Region

☐ Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____