

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: Monitoring & Research of Marine and Freshwater Fish, Invertebrates, Plankton, & Benthic Communities in Coastal and Inland Waters of SoCal

Project Location: Nearshore waters of the counties of Ventura, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to Karin Wisenbaker, Aquatic Bioassay & Consulting Laboratories pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for educational purposes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to take coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), and Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) during the course of sampling, subject to terms and conditions set forth in the permit. The purpose of this sampling is for the Aquatic Bioassay & Consulting Laboratories' mandatory National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for the following agencies/programs: City of Avalon, City of Oxnard, City of Santa Barbara, Goleta Sanitation District, Montecito Sanitation District, Carpinteria Sanitation District, South San Luis Obispo Sanitation District, Avila Beach Community Services District, and the San Gabriel River Regional Monitoring Program. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture coho salmon, steelhead trout, and Chinook salmon during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round monitoring sampling of nearshore marine species using bottom trawls and hook & line - swimbait through December 31, 2029.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Karin Wisenbaker, Aquatic Bioassay & Consulting Laboratories

Exempt Status:

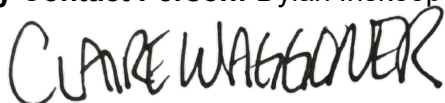
- ☐ Ministerial;
☐ Declared Emergency;
☐ Emergency Project;
☒ Categorical Exemption. Type and section number: Calif. Code Regs., § 15306, Information Collection, Class 6

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project involves required NPDES monitoring sampling within nearshore waters of the counties of Ventura, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to coho salmon, steelhead trout, and Chinook salmon which are all listed under the California Endangered Species Act.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dylan Inskeep

Telephone: (707) 317-3924

Signature:



Date: 7/8/2026

Claire Waggoner, Habitat Conservation Program Manager, Marine Region

☐ Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____