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: Center for Coastal Marine Sciences (CCMS) Educational Collections

Project Location: Nearshore and estuarine waters of San Luis Obispo County

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to the California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo 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*) 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 California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo's permanent collections for educational classes. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to potentially capture coho salmon and Chinook salmon during surveys. The applicant will conduct year-round permanent collection sampling of nearshore and estuarine fishes, invertebrates, and zooplankton using hook & line – baited shrimp fly, hook & line – unbaited shrimp fly, beach seine, and fish trap through December 31, 2029.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Benjamin Ruttenberg, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

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 and estuarine waters of San Luis Obispo County. The Project will not cause serious or major disturbance to coho salmon or Chinook salmon listed under the California Endangered Species Act.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dylan Inskeep **Telephone:** (707) 317-3924

Signature: CLAIRE WAGGONER **Date:** 8/31/2026

Claire Waggoner, Habitat Conservation Program Manager, Marine Region

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