

2019048055

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044
1400 Tenth Street, Rm 2
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Fish and Wildlife
Marine Region
1933 Cliff Drive, Suite 9
Santa Barbara, CA 93109

Project Title: Novo Aquatic Sciences Inc. Hopper Dredge Monitoring

Project Location: Estuarine and marine waters of San Francisco Bay, California

Project Description: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to Novo Aquatic Sciences Inc. pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2081(a) for research conducted aboard the USACE *Essayons* Hopper Dredge. The Section 2081(a) permit authorizes the applicant to collect Longfin Smelt, Delta Smelt, and Chinook Salmon during the course of monitoring dredged material, subject to terms and conditions set forth in the permit. The purpose of this research is to count and attempt to quantify total potential entrainment during the course of normal hopper dredging operations in Federal Navigational Channel inside San Francisco Bay. Monitoring of the dredged material is proposed to take place between June 1st and November 30th, 2019.

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

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Steven Novotny, Novo Aquatic Sciences Inc.

Exempt Status:

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

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project involves sampling during the course of required monitoring in estuarine and marine waters which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to Longfin Smelt, *Spirinchus thaleichthys*, a threatened species, Delta Smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus*, an endangered species, spring run Chinook Salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, a threatened species, winter run Chinook Salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, an endangered species.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Arn Aarreberg

Telephone: (707) 576-2889

Signature: 
Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region

Date: 4/3/19

Signed by Lead Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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