

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the mission of the Department of Fish and Wildlife is to preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Department's employees are committed to meeting the challenges and threats to our fish and wildlife resources, and the habitats on which they depend, by increased emphasis on ecosystem processes and functions. This will ensure the long-term viability of fish, wildlife, and the continued consumptive and recreational use by Washingtonians; and

WHEREAS, the Department issues over 4,000 hydraulic permits per year; each with permit conditions designed to protect fish bearing streams and near shore marine areas throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the Department played a key role in revolutionizing the West Coast Groundfish fishery thereby providing for increased conservation, rebuilding of overfished rockfish stocks, and increasing the economic benefits derived by Washington small businesses in rural and urban communities; and

WHEREAS, the Department manages nearly one million acres of land around the state to preserve and protect critical fish and wildlife habitat, and to provide for a variety of wildlife-related recreation activities; and

WHEREAS, the Department's enforcement activities educate the public and ensure compliance with natural resource laws while its management efforts result in approximately 2.9 million hunter days of recreation, 9.8 million angler days of fishing enjoyment, and 2.3 million people participating in wildlife viewing;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby honor the employees of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife for their dedicated service to the citizens of our state and the work that is done to assure future generations will enjoy Washington's natural wonders.

Signed this 19th day of November, 2012

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christine Gregoire".

Governor Christine O. Gregoire

