



RULE-MAKING ORDER

CR-103P (May 2009)
(Implements RCW 34.05.360)

Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Permanent Rule Only

Effective date of rule:

Permanent Rules 11-30

31 days after filing.

Other (specify) _____ (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?

Yes No If Yes, explain:

Purpose: The purpose of the proposal is to provide additional protection for bottomfish resources in Marine Catch Area 4 east of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line by reducing the aggregate bottomfish daily limit from 15 to 10 in WAC 220-56-235.

Reasons supporting proposal: Although public comments indicated more support for the status quo than for other alternatives that the Department recommended and the Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted, these rule changes are necessary to provide additional protection to bottomfish resources in this area. The reduced aggregate bag limit falls in line with the changes made early in 2010 that reduced the daily sub-limit for rockfish from 10 to 6, which is part of the aggregate bag limit. These rule changes do not close areas that the public felt would create negative economic impacts, and they do not limit access for small-boat fishermen.

Citation of existing rules affected by this order:

Repealed:
Amended: WAC 220-56-235 Possession limits--Bottomfish
Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047

Other authority : 50 CFR, Parts 223 and 224

PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 10-21-117 on October 10, 2010 (date).

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: The Fish and Wildlife Commission considered but decided not to make changes to WAC 220-16-890, 220-16-900, 220-16-910, 220-16-920, 220-16-930, 220-16-940 and WAC 220-20-100. These WACs will be withdrawn.

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name: _____ phone () _____
Address: _____ fax () _____
e-mail _____

Date adopted: February 5, 2011

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)
Miranda Wecker

SIGNATURE
Miranda Wecker

TITLE
Chair, Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: March 23, 2011

TIME: 11:13 AM

WSR 11-07-107

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

Federal statute:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Federal rules or standards:	New	_____	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	_____
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____

The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted in the agency's own initiative:

New	_____	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted using:

Negotiated rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Pilot rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Other alternative rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____

ALTERNATIVE 1 - OPTION 2

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 10-64, filed 3/19/10, effective 5/1/10)

WAC 220-56-235 Possession limits--Bottomfish. It is unlawful for any person to take in any day more than the following quantities of bottomfish for personal use. The possession limit at any time shall not exceed the equivalent of two daily limits in fresh, frozen or processed form. Unless otherwise provided bottomfish fishing is open the entire year.

(1) Coastal (Catch Record Card Areas 1 through 4) - 15 fish in the aggregate, except east of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line - 10 fish in the aggregate, of all species and species groups of bottomfish, which may include no more than:

(a) Lingcod - 2 fish:

(i) Minimum length 22 inches in Catch Record Card Areas 1 through 3.

(ii) Minimum length 24 inches in Catch Record Card Area 4.

(b) Rockfish - 10 fish. Release all canary and yelloweye rockfish. In Marine Area 4 east of the Bonilla Tatoosh Line: 6 fish. Only black or blue rockfish may be retained.

(c) Surfperch (excluding shiner perch) - 15 fish.

(d) Wolfeel - 0 fish from Catch Record Card Area 4.

(e) Cabezon - 2 fish east of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line.

(2) Inner Puget Sound (Catch Record Card Areas 5 through 13):

(a) Catch Record Card Areas 5 and 6 - 15 fish in the aggregate of all species and species groups of bottomfish, which may include no more than:

Rockfish in Marine Area 5 except	1 fish May 1 through September 30 only black or blue rockfish may be retained.
in Marine Area 5 west of Slip Point	3 fish only black or blue rockfish may be retained.
in Marine Area 6.	0 fish
Surfperch	10 fish
Pacific cod	2 fish
Pollock	2 fish
Flatfish (except halibut)	15 fish
Lingcod	1 fish

Wolf-eel	0 fish
Cabezon	2 fish
Pacific hake	2 fish

(b) Catch Record Card Area 7 - 15 fish in the aggregate of all species of bottomfish, which may include no more than:

Rockfish	0 fish
Surfperch	10 fish
Pacific cod	2 fish
Flatfish (except halibut)	15 fish
Lingcod	1 fish
Wolf-eel	0 fish
Cabezon	2 fish
Pollock	2 fish
Pacific hake	2 fish

(c) Catch Record Card Areas 8-1 through 11 and 13 - 15 fish in the aggregate of all species and species groups of bottomfish, which may include no more than:

Rockfish	0 fish
Surfperch	10 fish
Pacific cod	0 fish
Pollock	0 fish
Flatfish (except halibut)	15 fish
Lingcod	1 fish
Wolf-eel	0 fish
Cabezon	2 fish
Pacific hake	0 fish

(d) Catch Area 12: Closed.

(e) It is unlawful to possess lingcod taken by angling or by spear fishing less than 26 inches in length or greater than 36 inches in length.

(f) It is unlawful to retain cabezon taken from Catch Record Card Areas 5 through 11 and 13 from December 1 through April 30.

(g) It is unlawful to retain six-gill shark taken from Catch Record Card Areas 5 through 13.

(h) In Catch Record Area 5, the daily limit for rockfish is the first legal rockfish caught, except west of Slip Point the daily limit for rockfish is the first three legal rockfish caught. Only black or blue rockfish may be retained. After the daily limit of rockfish is caught, all subsequent rockfish must be released.

(i) In Catch Record Card Area 5, it is unlawful to take rockfish by spear fishing except when this area is open to spear fishing for lingcod.