



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (June 2004)
(Implements RCW 34.05.310)
Do NOT use for expedited rule making

Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Subject of possible rule making: Recreational fishing rules and seaweed gathering rules.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 77.12.047 and 79.135.410

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: The department must amend recreational fishing rules on an annual basis to respond to population changes, Fish and Wildlife Commission assignments, housekeeping needs, and conservation issues. This year the department also needs to amend seaweed gathering rules because seaweed, and specifically eelgrass, is important habitat for fish life. All of the planned amendments are designed to perpetuate fish, shellfish and seaweed resources while maximizing recreational fishing/gathering opportunity.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: The Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) also regulates seaweed. WDFW will work with DNR on that part of this project.

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe)

How interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication:

(List names, addresses, telephone, fax numbers, and e-mail of persons to contact; describe meetings, other exchanges of information, etc.)

Contact Lori Preuss, WDFW Enforcement, 600 Capitol Way, N. Olympia, WA 98501-1091
Phone (360) 902-2930; fax (360) 902-2155; e-mail Lori.Preuss@dfw.wa.gov.

Contact by September 19, 2011. Expected filing date on or after September 21, 2011.

DATE
August 2, 2011

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)
Lori Preuss

SIGNATURE

TITLE
Rules Coordinator

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