



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: Increasing the maximum bid price for a commercial sea urchin license under the Sea Urchin License Reduction Program (WAC 220-95-100). Increasing the maximum bid price for a commercial sea cucumber license under the Sea Cucumber License Reduction Program (WAC 220-95-110).

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 77.04.020, 77.12.047, 77.70.150, and 77.70.190.

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: The commercial sea urchin and sea cucumber License Reduction Programs are scheduled to discontinue on December 31, 2013. In order to promote program participation (i.e. sale of licenses back to the state), industry representatives have recommended that the maximum bid price for sea urchin and sea cucumber licenses be adjusted upward. A surplus of funds currently exists in both license-buyback accounts.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:
None

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.)

Industry comment regarding maximum bid price was solicited in a November 2011 letter to the industry. As a means to meet the program goal of reducing the number of commercial permits to 20 sea urchin and 20 sea cucumber, industry members have recommended increasing the maximum bid price for both sea cucumber and sea urchin licenses.

Contact: Richard Childers at (360) 301-2626 or by email at rich.childers@dfw.wa.gov

Contact by April 10, 2012. Expected proposal filing on or after April 18, 2012.

DATE
February 14, 2012

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)
Lori Preuss

SIGNATURE

TITLE
Rules Coordinator

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
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