



RULE-MAKING ORDER

CR-103E (July 2011)
(Implements RCW 34.05.350)

Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Emergency Rule Only

Effective date of rule:

Emergency Rules 15-83

- Immediately upon filing.
- Later (specify) _____

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

- Yes
 - No
- If Yes, explain:

Purpose: This emergency rule will allow non-treaty commercial fishing opportunities in the Columbia River while protecting fish listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This rule implements federal court orders governing Washington's relationship with Treaty Indian Tribes, federal law governing Washington's relationship with Oregon, and Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission policy guidance for Columbia River fisheries.

Citation of existing rules affected by this order:

Repealed: WAC 220-33-01000J
 Amended: WAC 220-33-010
 Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.04.130, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047

Other authority : *United States v. Oregon*, Civil No. 68-513-KI (D. Or.), Order Adopting 2008-2017 *United States v. Oregon* Management Agreement (Aug. 12, 2008) (Doc. No. 2546); *Northwest Gillnetters Ass'n v. Sandison*, 95 Wn.2d 638, 628 P.2d 800 (1981); Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission policies concerning Columbia River fisheries; 40 Stat. 515 (Columbia River Compact).

EMERGENCY RULE

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds:

- That immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.
- That state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.
- That in order to implement the requirements or reductions in appropriations enacted in any budget for fiscal year 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, or 2013, which necessitates the need for the immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the fiscal needs or requirements of the agency.

Reasons for this finding: (See Attachment)

Date adopted: April 21, 2015

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)

J W Unsworth

SIGNATURE

TITLE

Director

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: April 21, 2015

TIME: 2:59 PM

WSR 15-09-128

(COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE)

**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	<u>1</u>	Amended	_____	Repealed	<u>1</u>
Federal rules or standards:	New	<u>1</u>	Amended	_____	Repealed	<u>1</u>
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	<u>1</u>	Amended	_____	Repealed	<u>1</u>
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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	_____

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-33-01000K Columbia River seasons below Bonneville.

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-33-010, WAC 220-33-020, and WAC 220-33-030, it is unlawful for a person to take or possess salmon, sturgeon, and shad for commercial purposes from Columbia River Salmon Management and Catch Reporting Areas 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E and Select Areas, except during the times and conditions listed below:

(1) Deep River Select Area

- (a) **Dates:** Open 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM Tuesday and Thursday nights April 28 through May 1, 2015, and Monday and Thursday nights from May 4 through June 12, 2015.
- (b) **Area:** From USCG navigation marker #16 upstream to the Highway 4 Bridge.
- (c) **Gear:** Gillnets. 9 3/4-inch maximum mesh. Nets are restricted to 100 fathoms in length with no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is permissible. It is unlawful to tie off nets to stationary structures. It is unlawful for a net to fully cross a navigation channel. It is unlawful to operate in any river, stream or channel any gillnet longer than three-fourths the width of the stream (WAC 220-20-015)(1)). It is unlawful in any area to use, operate, or carry aboard a commercial fishing vessel a licensed net or combination of such nets, whether fished singly or separately, in excess of the maximum lawful size or length prescribed for a single net in that area, except as otherwise provided for in department rule (WAC 220-20-010) (17)).
- (d) **Miscellaneous:** Except for transport of fish to the sampling station, it is unlawful to transport or possess fish unless and until WDFW has biologically sampled individual catches. After sampling, fishers will be issued a transportation permit by WDFW staff. A sampling station will be established at WDFW's Oneida Road boat ramp, approximately 0.5 miles upstream of the lower Deep River area boundary (USCG navigation marker #16).
- (e) **Allowable possession:** Salmon and shad.

(2) Tongue Point/South Channel

- (a) **Dates:** April 28 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Thursday April 30 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Tuesday night May 5 from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM. Thursday night May 7 from 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM and Monday and Thursday nights from May 11 through June 12, 2015, 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM.
- (b) **Area:**
 - (i) The Tongue Point fishing area includes all waters bounded by a line extended from the upstream (southern most) pier (#1) at the Tongue Point Job Corps facility, through navigation marker #6 to Mott Island; a line from a marker at the southeast end of Mott Island, northeasterly to a marker on the northwest tip of Lois Island; and a line from a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island, westerly to a marker on the Oregon shore.
 - (ii) The South Channel area includes all waters bounded by a line from a marker on John Day Point through the green USCG buoy #7 to a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island, upstream to an upper boundary line from a marker on Settler Point, northwesterly to the flashing red USCG marker #10, and northwesterly to a marker on Burnside Island defining the upstream terminus of South Channel.

- (c) **Gear:** Gillnets. 9 3/4-inch maximum mesh. In the Tongue Point fishing area, gear is restricted to a maximum net length of 250 fathoms, and weight must not exceed two pounds on any one fathom. In the South Channel fishing area, gear is restricted to a maximum net length of 250 fathoms, there is no weight restriction on leadline, and the use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is permissible.
- (d) **Miscellaneous:** Permanent transportation rules are in effect.
- (e) **Allowable possession:** Salmon and shad

(3) Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Select Area

- (a) **Dates:** Tuesday and Thursday nights from April 28 through May 1, and Monday and Thursday nights from May 4 through June 12, 2015. Open hours are 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM.
- (b) **Area:** Blind Slough and Knappa Slough areas are both open. From May 4 through June 12, 2015, the lower boundary of the Knappa Slough fishing area is extended downstream to boundary lines defined by markers on the west end of Minaker Island to markers on Karlson Island and the Oregon Shore (fall season boundary).
- (c) **Gear:** Gillnets. 9 3/4-inch maximum mesh. Nets are restricted to 100 fathoms in length, with no weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is permissible.
- (d) **Allowable possession:** Salmon and shad

(4) The following provisions apply to all seasons listed above:

- (a) **24-hour** quick reporting is in effect for Washington buyers (WAC 220-69-240(14)(d)). Permanent transportation rules are in effect.
- (b) **Multi- Net Rule:** It is permissible to possess onboard a vessel nets not specifically authorized for use in these areas so long as they are properly stored (WAC 220-33-001(2)).
- (c) **Lighted Buoys:** Nets fished at any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net unless the net is attached to the boat. If the net is fished while attached to a boat, then one lighted buoy on the opposite end of the net from the boat is required.

R E P E A L E R

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 220-33-01000J Columbia River seasons below Bonneville. (15-65)

Attachment

Adjusts the Spring Select Area commercial seasons which were set in January 2015. Harvest of upriver (non-local) Chinook was unusually high during the winter season. In order to keep the harvest of additional upriver Chinook at a minimum, the early portion of the spring season has been modified. The fisheries are consistent with the *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement and the associated Biological Opinion. Conforms Washington state rules with Oregon state rules. Regulation is consistent with Compact Action of January 28 and April 20, 2015. There is insufficient time to promulgate permanent rules.

Washington and Oregon jointly regulate Columbia River fisheries under the congressionally-ratified Columbia River Compact. Four Indian Tribes have treaty fishing rights in the Columbia River. The treaties preempt state regulations that fail to allow the Tribes an opportunity to take a fair share of the available fish, and the states must manage other fisheries accordingly. *Sohappy v. Smith*, 302 F. Supp. 899 (D. Or. 1969). A federal court order sets the current parameters for sharing between treaty Indians and others. *United States v. Oregon*, Civil No. 68-513-KI (D. Or.), Order Adopting 2008-2017 United States v. Oregon Management Agreement (Aug. 12, 2008) (Doc. No. 2546).

Some Columbia River Basin salmon and steelhead stocks are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act. On May 5, 2008, the National Marine Fisheries Service issued a biological opinion under 16 U.S.C. § 1536 that allows for some incidental take of these species in treaty and non-treaty Columbia River fisheries governed by the 2008-2017 *U.S. v. Oregon* Management Agreement. The Washington and Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commissions have developed policies to guide the implementation of such biological opinions in the states' regulation of non-treaty fisheries.

Columbia River non-treaty fisheries are monitored very closely to ensure compliance with federal court orders, the Endangered Species Act, and Commission guidelines. Because conditions change rapidly, the fisheries are managed almost exclusively by emergency rule. Representatives from the Washington and Oregon Departments of Fish and Wildlife convene public hearings and take public testimony when considering proposals for new emergency rules. WDFW and ODFW then adopt regulations reflecting agreements reached.

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