



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 15-384

- Immediately upon filing.
- Later (specify) October 18, 2015

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

- Yes
 - No
- If Yes, explain:

Purpose: Amend Puget Sound commercial crab fishing rules

Citation of existing rules affected by this order:

Repealed: WAC 220-52-04000F, WAC 220-52-04600M
 Amended: WAC 220-52-040, WAC 220-52-046
 Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020 and 77.12.047

Other authority:

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: The provisions of this rule will maintain openings for commercial harvest in certain areas of Puget Sound. There is sufficient State commercial allocation available in Region 1, Region 3-1 and Region 3-3 to remain open. Both Region 2 East and Region 2 West have reached the current State commercial allocation and are closed. Region 3-2 will reach the current State commercial allocation on October 18 and will be closed at that time. These provisions are in conformity with agreed management plans with applicable tribes. These management plans are entered into as required by court order. The Puget Sound commercial season is structured to meet harvest allocation objectives negotiated with applicable Treaty tribes and outlined in the management plans. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Date adopted: October 15, 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: October 15, 2015

TIME: 2:04 PM

WSR 15-21-036

(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	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Federal rules or standards:	New	_____	Amended	_____	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	<u>2</u>	Amended	_____	Repealed	<u>2</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 220-52-04000G Commercial crab fishery—Lawful and unlawful gear, methods, and other unlawful acts.

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-52-040:

- (1) Effective 6:00 p.m., Sunday, October 18, 2015, until further notice, it is unlawful for any person to fish for crabs for commercial purposes with more than 50 pots per license per buoy tag number in Crab Management Regions 1 or Region 3-1. These regions include Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 20A, 20B, 21A, 21B, 22A, 22B, 23A and 23B.
- (2) The remaining buoy tags per license per region must be onboard the designated vessel and available for inspection.
- (3) Effective immediately until further notice, Region 2 East and Region 2 West are closed. Region 2 East includes Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 24A, 24B, 24C, 24D and 26A-E. Region 2 West includes Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 25B, 25D and 26A-W.
- (4) Effective 6:00 p.m., Sunday, October 18, 2015, until further notice Region 3-2 will be closed. Region 3-2 includes Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 23D, 25A and 25E.

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-52-04600N Puget Sound crab fishery--Seasons and Areas.

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-52-046, effective 6:00 p.m., Sunday, October 18, 2015, until further notice, it is permissible to fish for Dungeness crab for commercial purposes in the following areas:

- (1) Those waters of Marine Fish-Shellfish Management and Catch Reporting Area 20A between a line from the boat ramp at the western boundary of Birch Bay State Park to the western point of the entrance of the Birch Bay Marina and a line from the same boat ramp to Birch Point.
- (2) Those waters of Marine Fish-Shellfish Management and Catch Reporting Area 22B in Fidalgo Bay south of a line projected from the red number 4 entrance buoy at Cape Sante Marina to the northern end of the eastern most oil dock.
- (3) Those waters of Marine Fish-Shellfish Management and Catch Reporting Area 22A in Deer Harbor north of a line projected from Steep Point to Pole Pass.

REPEALERS

The following sections of the Washington Administrative code are repealed effective 6:00 p.m. October 18, 2015:

WAC 220-52-04000F Commercial crab fishery--Lawful and unlawful gear, methods, and other unlawful acts (15-365)

WAC 220-52-04600M Puget Sound crab fishery--Seasons and Areas (15-365)

EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds:

- (x) 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 years 2009, 2011, or 2012, 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 finding: The provisions of this rule will maintain openings for commercial harvest in certain areas of Puget Sound. There is sufficient State commercial allocation available in Region 1, Region 3-1 and Region 3-3 to remain open. Both Region 2 East and Region 2 West have reached the current State commercial allocation and are closed. Region 3-2 will reach the current State commercial allocation on 10/18 and will be closed at that time. These provisions are in conformity with agreed management plans with applicable tribes. These management plans are entered into as required by court order. The Puget Sound commercial season is structured to meet harvest allocation objectives negotiated with applicable Treaty tribes and outlined in the management plans. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.
(15-384, 10/15/2015)