



State of Washington  
**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

Mailing Address: PO Box 43154, Olympia, WA 98504 • (360) 902-2464 • TDD (360) 902-2207  
Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

February 14, 2018

**Re: Public hearing on geoduck dive license application and issuance process**

Dear Geoduck Dive License Holder and Applicants:

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) held a meeting on December 19, 2017 to gather public input on the **geoduck dive license application and issuance process**. For WAC 220-340-070, we discussed clarifying the application submittal dates and the issuance process for new applicants.

The outcome of that meeting include the following changes (updated in the enclosed WAC):

- Keeping the renewal application submittal date as December 31<sup>st</sup>
- Changing the new application submittal date to January 10<sup>th</sup>
- Holding a drawing ten business days after January 10<sup>th</sup> for all eligible new applicants
- Clarifying the drawing and first-come first-serve process for new applicants

The WDFW Commission will review these changes during the public hearing in April.

**Public Hearing Scheduled**

**April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> 2018**

Natural Resource Building; **Room 172**

1111 Washington St SE; Olympia, WA 98501

Date and time for the hearing is still to be determined

Please check the following site closer to the date:

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/commission/meetings.html>

**Licensing Contact Information**

If you would like to provide input, but cannot attend the public hearing, please provide feedback by April 12<sup>th</sup> to Trisha Anderson, Licensing Division Business Analyst at (360) 902-2211 or

[Trisha.Anderson@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Trisha.Anderson@dfw.wa.gov).

If you have any questions regarding commercial license requirements for specific activities, please contact our Licensing Division at (360) 902-2464, and select option 4, or send an e-mail to:

[commercialsales@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:commercialsales@dfw.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Peter Vernie  
Licensing Division Manager

cc: Bob Sizemore  
Jenika Stinkeoway  
Trisha Anderson  
Linda Farr

Enclosed: WAC 220-340-070

**WAC 220-340-070 Commercial geoduck harvest—Geoduck diver license application and issuance process.** (1) ~~((The department will not consider incomplete applications for a geoduck diver license.))~~

The following information is required to apply for or renew a geoduck diver license:

- (a) A complete, legible, and signed application form;
- (b) The application and license fees as provided in RCW 77.65.440;
  - (i) Applicants renewing a geoduck diver license must submit the completed application, application fee and license fee by December 31st;
  - (ii) New geoduck diver license applicants and renewing applicants who missed the December 31st deadline must submit the completed application and only the application fee by January 10th. The license fee will be required within forty-eight hours if the individual is selected.
- (c) ~~((Proof of))~~ Completion of the department of natural resources (DNR) geoduck diver safety program to be verified by the department of fish and wildlife (DFW) with DNR; ~~((and))~~
- (d) ~~((For applications to renew only, a copy of a))~~ All applicants must be on a DNR geoduck harvest agreement plan of operation ((that lists the applicant on the agreement)) during the applicable current calendar year and be verified by the department with DNR on an annual basis; and
  - (e) The department will not consider incomplete applications for a geoduck diver license.
- (2) No more than 77 geoduck diver licenses may be issued per calendar year.
- (3) Applicants may submit applications to the department:
  - (a) By mailing to ~~((600 Capitol Way N., Olympia, WA 98501-1091))~~ P.O. Box 43154, Olympia, WA 98504-1091;
  - (b) By faxing to 360-902-2945; or
  - (c) In person at the ~~((WDFW))~~ DFW licensing front desk, first floor, natural resources building at 1111 Washington St. S.E., Olympia, WA 98501 during licensing window hours.
- (4) The department ~~((must receive applications to renew a geoduck diver license by December 31st of the year the licensee's current geoduck diver license expires))~~ will renew any geoduck diver license if all requirements listed in subsection (1) of this section are met by December 31st. If less than 77 geoduck diver licenses have been issued after the department approves all qualifying applications to renew a geoduck diver license, then the department will issue additional licenses, up to the 77 geoduck diver license limit, to ((qualified)) new geoduck diver license applicants ((in the order they are received. If the department receives more than one application for a geoduck diver license in a calendar day, and issuing licenses to all applicants received in that calendar day would exceed 77 geoduck diver licenses, the department will conduct a random drawing among the applications received that calendar day to determine which of the applications received in that calendar day will be issued a geoduck diver license)) and renewing applicants who missed the December 31st deadline. The department will complete the following process for issuing licenses to new geoduck diver license qualified applicants and renewing applicants who missed the December 31st deadline:
  - (a) New geoduck diver license applicants and renewing applicants who missed the December 31st deadline will be eligible if all requirements listed in subsection (1) of this section are met by January 10th. A drawing will be held ten business days after January 10th for all eligible new applicants.

(b) After the initial drawing, if there are remaining licenses available up to the 77 geoduck diver license limit, then the department will issue licenses to new geoduck diver applicants and renewing applicants who missed the December 31st deadline based on the calendar date the application is received on a first-come first-serve basis. In the event there are multiple applications received on the same calendar day that exceed the quantity of remaining licenses, a drawing will be held to issue the remaining licenses.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.12.047. WSR 17-05-112 (Order 17-04), recodified as § 220-340-070, filed 2/15/17, effective 3/18/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.12.047, and 77.65.410. WSR 14-20-009 (Order 14-267), § 220-52-01905, filed 9/19/14, effective 1/1/15.]