Implementation of Washington Guide Logbooks

Kelly Cunningham, Deputy A.D., Fish Program, WDFW
Chris Donley, Region 1 Fish Program Manager, WDFW
Presentation Outline

- Purpose/Objective
- Background
  - 2017 Legislative Session
  - 2018 Legislative Session
- Feedback Received from the Guide Industry
- Proposed Rule
- Next Steps
- Questions

2WDFW Commission Meeting April 6, 2019
Purpose/Objective

- Provide you a briefing on our proposed rule to gather information from the guide industry
- Will allow us to better understand and quantify guiding in Washington
  - Economic benefits-local and state economies
  - Recreational anglers who access fisheries through the industry
  - Assess distribution of effort
Background

- Bill language developed by an outside entity that would have drastically changed how the Department regulates the industry.

- 2017 Proviso Language: conduct public meetings, gather information, report back to the legislature, authority to require logbooks
  - 7 Public Meetings, 7 Meetings with various guide groups
  - Contracted two surveys-guide survey, recreational angler survey
  - Provided Report to the Legislature
  - 2018: 5 Guide Meetings, 4 meetings with individual guide associations
  - Gathered feedback and provided a web based comment option
Feedback from the guide Industry

- Consistent Themes:
  - Concerns about how the Department would use the data
  - Concerns associated with disclosure under the Public Records Act
  - Concerns associated with being required to report non-guiding activity
  - Concerns with providing put in and take out location information
  - Questions about other options for obtaining the information
    - Catch Record Cards
    - Creel
    - Department of Revenue
- Limited industry support for a logbook system
Proposed Rule

- Guide name/License number
- Date of trip
- Specific name of water body
- Site code of water body
- Species-hatchery/wild, kept/released
- Information “exempt” as provided for under Chapter 42.56.430 RCW
Next Steps

- CR-102 filed in February
- Collecting public comment via our website
- Commission briefing/public comment in June
- Complete the Concise Explanatory Statement (CES) in July
- Commission Decision in August
Questions?