PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (August 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.310)
Do NOT use for expedited rule making

Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

Subject of possible rule making: The Department is considering rule making for the following: deer and elk seasons and permits; cougar seasons and regulations; black bear seasons and regulations; mountain goat, bighorn sheep, and moose seasons, permits, and regulations; bighorn sheep marking requirements; wildlife management and wildlife interactions; game bird regulations; small game seasons; game farms and shooting preserves; trapping; landowner hunting permit program; deer and elk area boundaries; game management units, special closures and firearm restriction areas; unlawful methods for hunting; hunting equipment rules; special hunting season permits; hunters with disabilities; general recreational licensing rules; general rules; and other hunting regulations.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: Amendments are needed to provide clarification, expand recreational opportunity, and mitigate wildlife conflicts, while maintaining sustainable game populations.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: Migratory birds are also regulated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and coordination is managed through the Pacific Flyway Council. State regulations are designed to fit within the parameters of the USFWS regulation guidelines.

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):
☐ Negotiated rule making
☐ Pilot rule making
☒ Agency study
☐ Other (describe)

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting:

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Additional comments:

Date: December 6, 2017
Signature: Scott Bird

Name: Scott Bird
Title: Rules Coordinator