

Concise Explanatory Statement

Hunting and fishing rules that apply to individuals with disabilities

Rules amended as part of this rulemaking:

WAC 220-200-160 Definition of a person with a disability

WAC 220-200-170 Special use permits

WAC 220-305-120 Harvesting of shellfish, food fish or game fish by persons with a disability

WAC 220-413-140 Hunting of game birds and animals by persons with a disability

Rules created as part of this rulemaking:

WAC 220-200-180 Suspension of a special use permit—Appeal hearing

WAC 220-200-190 Disability Designation

WAC 220-413-210 Trapping of furbearing animals by persons with a disability.

Background/Summary:

The purpose of the new and amended rules is to better clarify hunting and fishing regulations for individuals with disabilities and ensure consistency with state law. The department developed these rules after carefully considering the requirements of individuals with disabilities who hunt and fish.

1. Reasons for adopting these rules:

The department seeks to better define hunting and fishing privileges that apply to the disabled and designated hunter companions.

2. Differences between the proposed rule and the rule as adopted

There were several changes made to the proposed rules before they were adopted and included the following:

- WAC 220-413-210 - added two sections to (4) -
“(a) The designated trapper companion must accompany the trapper with a disability during trap placement, baiting, and patrolling on behalf of the trapper with a disability.
(b) The designated trapper companion does not need to accompany the trapper with a disability while retrieving the catch on behalf of the trapper with a disability.”
- WAC 220-200-160 - added this phrase in (1) - “physical disability or permanent developmental disability”
- WAC 220-305-120 – divided section (5) to include a sub-section “(a)”

3. Comments received during the official public comment period:

The department did not receive any comments from the public concerning these proposed rules.