



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 17-34

- Immediately upon filing.
- Later (specify) 8:00 a.m. February 25, 2017

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

- Yes
 - No
- If Yes, explain:

Purpose: Amend recreational smelt fishing rules

Citation of existing rules affected by this order:

Repealed: WAC 220-56-27000N
 Amended: WAC 220-56-270
 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: Sets a limited sport fishery for eulachon smelt. The regulations are consistent with a reduced Level One fishery as described in the "Washington and Oregon Eulachon Management Plan" for the Columbia River. Returns of eulachon to the Columbia River have improved since 2010. The modest return expected in 2017 has been substantiated by results from the ongoing research test fishery in the mainstem Columbia River. The fishery serves as an important test fishery to monitor run strength and timing and to collect biological data. National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration Fisheries concurs that the limited fishery is consistent with recovery of eulachon smelt. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Date adopted: February 21, 2017

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)
 Joe Stohr for J W Unsworth

SIGNATURE

TITLE
 Director

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
 STATE OF WASHINGTON
 FILED

DATE: February 21, 2017
TIME: 3:18 PM

WSR 17-06-020

**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>1</u>	Amended	_____	Repealed	<u>1</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 220-56-27000N Smelt—Areas and Seasons.

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-56-270, WAC 220-56-240, WAC 220-56-265, and WAC 220-56-275, it is unlawful to fish for or possess eulachon smelt in those waters of the Columbia River and Washington tributaries except as provided below:

Open Dates: Saturday February 25, 2017.

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (5-hour period).

Open Area: Cowlitz River (bank only) from the HWY 432 Bridge upstream to the Al Helenberg Memorial Boat Ramp located approximately 1,300 feet upstream of the HWY 411/A Street Bridge in Castle Rock.

Daily limit: 10 pounds. Possession limit equal to one daily limit.

Gear: Dip net.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective 1:01 p.m. February 25, 2017:

WAC 220-56-27000N Smelt – Areas and Seasons.