



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 17-58

- Immediately upon filing.
- Later (specify) 8:00 a.m. March 24, 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 fishing rules for the Puget Sound commercial crab fishery

Citation of existing rules affected by this order:

Repealed: WAC 220-340-42000B, WAC 220-340-45500B
 Amended: WAC 220-340-420, WAC 220-340-455
 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: This regulation extends the Region 3-2 fishery starting March 24 through March 26 for the remaining 45,000 pounds of State allocation that remains. This rule will keep the commercial crab harvest open in Region 1, Region 3-1 and Region 3-3 until 8 PM March 31. There is sufficient allocation available in these regions to accommodate the continued fishery. This regulation maintains the closure of the fishery in Region 2 East. This regulation will maintain the closure of the commercial crab fishery in Region 2 West. The commercial fishery has reached its current allocation in that Region. These provisions are in conformity with agreed management plans with applicable tribes. These management plans are entered into as required by court order. The Puget Sound commercial season is structured to meet harvest allocation objectives negotiated with applicable Treaty tribes and outlined in the management plans. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Date adopted: March 23, 2017

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)
J W Unsworth

SIGNATURE

TITLE
Director

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: March 23, 2017

TIME: 4:35 PM

WSR 17-08-005

(COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE)

**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>2</u>	Amended	_____	Repealed	<u>2</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	_____

ORDER NO. 17-58

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-340-42000B Commercial crab fishery—unlawful acts.

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-340-420:

(1) Effective 8:00 AM, Friday, March 24, 2017, until 8:00 PM, Sunday, March 26, 2017, it is unlawful for any person to fish for crabs for commercial purposes with more than 30 pots per license per buoy tag number in Crab Management Region 3-2. This region includes Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 23D, 25A, and 25E.

(2) Effective immediately, until further notice, it is unlawful for any person to fish for crabs for commercial purposes with more than 75 pots per license per buoy tag number in Crab Management Region 1, and Region 3-3. These regions include Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 20A, 20B, 21A, 21B, 22A, 22B, 23C and 29.

(3) Effective immediately, until further notice, it is unlawful for any person to fish for crabs for commercial purposes with more than 50 pots per license per buoy tag number in Crab Management Region 3-1. The region includes Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 23A, and 23B.

(4) All remaining buoy tags per license per region must be onboard the designated vessel and available for immediate inspection.

(5) Effective 8:01 PM, Sunday, March 26, 2017, Crab Management Region 3-2 is CLOSED. This region includes Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 23D, 25A, and 25E.

(6) Effective 8:01 PM, Friday, March 31, 2017, Crab Management Region 1, Region 3-1 and Region 3-3 are CLOSED. These regions include Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 20A, 20B, 21A, 21B, 22A, 22B, 23A, 23B, 23C and 29.

(7) Effective immediately, until further notice, Crab Management Region 2 East is CLOSED. This region includes Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 24A, 24B, 24C, 24D and 26A East.

(8) Effective immediately, until further notice, Crab Management Region 2 West is CLOSED. This region includes Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 25B, 25D and 26A West.

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-340-45500B Commercial crab fishery--Seasons and areas--Puget Sound.

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-340-455:

(1) Effective 8:00 AM, Tuesday, March 24, 2017, until 8:00 PM, Friday, March 26, 2017, the following areas are closed to commercial crab fishing:

- (a) That portion of Marine Fish-Shellfish Management and Catch Reporting Area 25A west of the 123° 7.0' longitude line projected from the new Dungeness light due south to the shore of Dungeness Bay.
- (b) That portion of Marine Fish-Shellfish Management and Catch Reporting Area 23D west of a line from the eastern tip of Ediz Hook to the ITT Rayonier Dock.

REPEALERS

The following sections of the Washington Administrative code are repealed effective 7:59 a.m. March 24, 2017:

WAC 220-340-42000A Commercial crab fishery—Lawful and unlawful gear, methods, and other unlawful acts. (17-52)

WAC 220-340-45500A Commercial crab fishery--Seasons and areas--Puget Sound. (17-52)

Reasons for finding: This regulation extends the Region 3-2 fishery starting March 24 through March 26 for the remaining 45,000 pounds of State allocation that remains. This rule will keep the commercial crab harvest open in Region 1, Region 3-1 and Region 3-3 until 8 PM March 31. There is sufficient allocation available in these regions to accommodate the continued fishery. This regulation maintains the closure of the fishery in Region 2 East. This regulation will maintain the closure of the commercial crab fishery in Region 2 West. The commercial fishery has reached its current allocation in that Region. These provisions are in conformity with agreed management plans with applicable tribes. These management plans are entered into as required by court order. The Puget Sound commercial season is structured to meet harvest allocation objectives negotiated with applicable Treaty tribes and outlined in the management plans. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.
(17-58, 3/23/2017)