CODE REVISER USE ONLY



# RULE-MAKING ORDER EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

# CR-103E (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.350 and 34.05.360)

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER STATE OF WASHINGTON FILED

DATE: September 25, 2018 TIME: 3:33 PM

WSR 18-20-042

Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (18-263)

# Effective date of rule:

## **Emergency Rules**

 $\boxtimes$  Immediately upon filing.

□ Later (specify)

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule? □ Yes ⊠ No If Yes, explain:

**Purpose:** The purpose of this rule-making is to provide for Treaty Indian fishing opportunity in the Columbia River while protecting salmon listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This rule-making implements federal court orders governing Washington's relationship with Treaty Indian Tribes and federal law governing Washington's relationship with Oregon.

## Citation of rules affected by this order:

New: Repealed: WAC 220-359-02000X Amended: WAC 220-359-020 Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.04.130, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047

**Other authority:** *United States v. Oregon*, Civil No. 68-513-KI (D. Or.), Order Adopting 2008-2017 United States v. Oregon Management Agreement (Aug. 12, 2008) (Doc. No. 2546); *Northwest Gillnetters Ass'n v. Sandison*, 95 Wn.2d 638, 628 P.2d 800 (1981); Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission policies concerning Columbia River fisheries; 40 Stat. 515 (Columbia River Compact).

## 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.

**Reasons for this finding:** This rule extends tribal fall salmon fisheries, along with continuing commercial sales to Washington wholesale buyers and the public. The URB run-size has not changed since the last Compact and room is still available for the current expected harvest. The season is consistent with the 2008-2017 Management Agreement and the associated Biological Opinion. This rule is consistent with action of the Columbia River the Compact on July 26, August 14, and September 6,, and September 18, 2018. Conforms state rules with tribal rules. There is insufficient time to promulgate permanent regulations.

The Yakama, Warm Springs, Umatilla, and Nez Perce Indian Tribes have treaty fishing rights in the Columbia River and inherent sovereign authority to regulate their fisheries. Washington and Oregon also have some authority to regulate fishing by treaty Indians in the Columbia River, authority that the states exercise jointly under the Congressionally-ratified Columbia River Compact. <u>Sohappy v. Smith</u>, 302 F. Supp. 899 (D. Or. 1969). The Tribes and the States adopt parallel regulations for Treaty Indian fisheries under the supervision of the federal courts. A court order sets the current parameters. <u>United States v. Oregon</u>, Civil No. 68-513-KI (D. Or.), Order Adopting 2008-2017 United States v. Oregon Management Agreement (Aug. 12, 2008) (Doc. No. 2546). Some salmon and steelhead stocks in the Columbia River are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal

Endangered Species Act. On May 5, 2008, the National Marine Fisheries Service issued a biological opinion under 16 U.S.C. § 1536 that allows for some incidental take of these species in the fisheries as described in the 2008-2017 <u>U.S. v. Oregon</u> Management Agreement.

Columbia River fisheries are monitored very closely to ensure consistency with court orders and Endangered Species Act guidelines. Because conditions change rapidly, the fisheries are managed almost exclusively by emergency rule. As required by court order, the Washington and Oregon Departments of Fish and Wildlife convene public hearings and invite tribal participation when considering proposals for new emergency rules affecting treaty fishing rights. <u>Sohappy</u>, 302 F. Supp. at 912. WDFW and ODFW then adopt regulations reflecting agreements reached.

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## NEW SECTION

#### WAC 220-359-02000Y Columbia River salmon seasons above Bonneville Dam.

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-359-010, WAC 220-359-020, WAC 220-359-030, and WAC 220-359-090, effective immediately until further notice, it is unlawful for a person to take or possess salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass, or yellow perch taken for commercial purposes in Columbia River Salmon Management and Catch Reporting Areas 1F, 1G, and 1H. However, those individuals possessing treaty fishing rights under the Yakima, Warm Springs, Umatilla, and Nez Perce treaties may fish for salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, shad, carp, catfish, walleye, bass, or yellow perch under the following provisions:

## (1) Open Areas: SMCRA 1F, 1G, 1H (Zone 6)

(a) Season: 6 AM Wednesday September 26 to 6 PM Saturday September 28
(b) Gear: Set and Drift gillnets with an 8-inch minimum mesh restriction
(c) Allowable sale: Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool and sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day pools may be kept for subsistence purposes
(d) Standard river mouth and dam closed areas applicable to gillnet gear. The Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary is reduced to 150 feet around the hatchery ladder.

## (2) Open Areas: SMCRA 1F, 1G, 1H (Zone 6)

(a) Season: Effective immediately until further notice.

(b) Gear: Hoop nets/bag nets, dip nets, and rod and reel with hook and line.(c) Allowable sale: Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon of legal size may be sold if landed during the open area and period for the setline fishery within that pool, otherwise sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool and sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools may be kept for subsistence purposes. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes.

(d) Standard river mouth and dam sanctuary closures remain in place for this gear.

## (3) Open Areas: Drano Lake and Klickitat River

(a) Season: Effective immediately until further notice and only during days and times open under lawfully enacted Yakama Nation tribal subsistence fishery regulations for enrolled Yakama Nation members.

(b) Gear: Hoop nets/bag nets, dip nets, and rod and reel with hook and line. Gillnets may only be used in Drano Lake.

(c) Allowable sale: Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold. Sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length may be kept for subsistence.

 (4) Open Areas: Areas downstream of Bonneville Dam defined in tribal/state MOU's/MOA's.
 (a) Season: Effective immediately through 11:59 PM Wednesday, October 31, 2018 and only during days and times opened under tribal rules.

(b) Gear: Hook and line and/or platform gear identified in tribal rules.

(c) Allowable sale: Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be retained in fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam. Sales of fish are not

authorized on COE property downstream of Bonneville Dam. Fish must be transported elsewhere for sale. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes.

(5) 24-hour quick reporting is required for Washington wholesale dealers for all areas as provided in WAC 220-352-315, except that all landings from treaty fisheries described above must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket (not 24-hours after the period concludes).

(6) Fish caught during the open period may be sold after the period concludes.

# REPALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 220-359-02000X Columbia River salmon seasons above Bonneville Dam. (18-251)