



RULE-MAKING ORDER EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

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

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: December 21, 2018

TIME: 1:57 PM

WSR 19-02-028

Agency: Department of Fish and Wildlife (Order No. 18-338)

Effective date of rule:

Emergency Rules

- Immediately upon filing.
 Later (specify) 8:00 a.m. December 22, 2018

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

- Yes No If Yes, explain:

Purpose: Amends Puget Sound commercial crab rules

Citation of rules affected by this order:

New:
Repealed: WAC 220-340-45500Q
Amended: WAC 220-340-455
Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045 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.

Reasons for this finding: This rule is a simple pot limit increase in Region 1. It will maintain the current closures of Region 2 East and Region 2 West. It will continue the Puget Sound commercial crab harvest in Region 1, 3-1, 3-2, 3-3 East and 3-3 West. This rule increases the pot limits in Region 1 from 35 pots per license to 40 pots per license. Pot limits in Region 3-2, 3-3 East and 3-3 West will remain at 60 pots per license. In Region 3-1, fishers are still allowed to use their maximum of 100 pots per license. There is sufficient allocation available in the commercial regions to accommodate the continued opening. 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.

**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 on the agency's own initiative:

New	1	Amended	___	Repealed	1
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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	___

Date Adopted: December 21, 2018

Name: Kelly Susewind

Title: Director

Signature:



NEW SECTION

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

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-340-455:

(1) Effective at 8:00 a.m. December 22, 2018, until further notice, it is unlawful for any license holder or alternate operator to fish for crabs for commercial purposes with more than 40 pots per license in Crab Management Region 1. Region 1 includes Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 20A, 20B, 21A, 21B, 22A, and 22B.

(2) Effective immediately, until further notice, Crab Management Region 2W is closed. Region 2 West includes Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 25B, 25D and 26AW.

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

(4) Effective immediately, until further notice, it is unlawful for any license holder or alternate operator to fish for crabs for commercial purposes with more than 60 pots per license in Crab Management Region 3-2, Region 3-3 East or Region 3-3 West. These regions include Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 25A, 25E, 23D, 23C and 29.

(5) Effective immediately, until further notice, it is unlawful for any license holder or alternate operator to fish for crabs for commercial purposes with more than 100 pots per license in Crab Management Region 3-1. This region includes Marine Fish-Shellfish Catch Reporting Area 23A and 23B.

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

(7) Effective immediately, until further notice, it is permissible to fish for Dungeness crab for commercial purposes in the following areas:

- (a) Those waters of Marine Fish-Shellfish Management and Catch Reporting Area 20A between a line from the boat ramp at the western boundary of Birch Bay State Park to the western point of the entrance of the Birch Bay Marina and a line from the same boat ramp to Birch Point.
- (b) Those waters of Marine Fish-Shellfish Management and Catch Reporting Area 22B in Fidalgo Bay south of a line projected from the red number 4 entrance buoy at Cape Sante Marina to the northern end of the eastern most oil dock.
- (c) Those waters of Marine Fish-Shellfish Management and Catch Reporting Area 22A in Deer Harbor north of a line projected from Steep Point to Pole Pass.

(8) Effective immediately, until further notice, 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.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative code is repealed effective 8:00 a.m. December 22, 2018:

WAC 220-340-45500Q Commercial crab fishery—Seasons and areas—Puget Sound. (18-334)

