



RULE-MAKING ORDER PERMANENT RULE ONLY

CR-103P (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: July 09, 2020

TIME: 6:29 AM

WSR 20-15-049

Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (Order 20-128)

Effective date of rule:

Permanent Rules

- 31 days after filing.
- Other (specify) (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

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

- Yes No If Yes, explain:

Purpose: This rule change incorporates revisions to RCW 77.50.500 resulting from the passage of HB 2250 by the Washington State Legislature in 2020 into WAC 220-340-490.

This rule change would allow the recovery of derelict crab gear as early as May 1, prior to the close of the commercial Dungeness crab season. Gear recovery would be allowed after May 1 when a reduced pot limit is in effect and summer buoy tags are required. This measure would allow crab fishers to recover gear that is not properly marked with a summer buoy tag. Removal of this gear would avoid this gear becoming lost or abandoned and potentially increasing the likelihood of entangling a whale or other marine life.

Citation of rules affected by this order:

- New:
- Repealed:
- Amended: WAC 220-340-490
- Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCWs 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047

Other authority:

PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 20-10-038 on April 28, 2020 (date).
Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: None

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

- Name:
- Address:
- Phone:
- Fax:
- TTY:
- Email:
- Web site:
- Other:

**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Federal statute:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
Federal rules or standards:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___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	<u>1</u>	Repealed	___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	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
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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: July 7, 2020

Name: Kelly Susewind

Title: WDFW Director

Signature:



WAC 220-340-490 Commercial crab fishery—Coastal gear recovery permits. (1) **Emergency coastal crab gear recovery permit.** Emergency permits are granted on a case-by-case basis to allow crab fishers to recover shellfish pots that were irretrievable at the end of the lawful season opening due to extreme weather conditions. The director or director's designee may grant an emergency coastal crab gear permit once a commercial crab season is closed. Crab fishers must notify and apply to the department's enforcement program for such emergency permits within 24 hours prior to the close of the commercial crab season.

(2) **Coastal crab gear recovery permit.** 15 days after the close of the primary coastal commercial crab season and from May 1 through September 15, the director or director's designee may grant a coastal crab gear recovery permit for licensed coastal Dungeness crab fishers to recover crab pots that remain in the ocean and belong to state licensed fishers.

(3) It is unlawful to fail to follow the provisions of a coastal crab gear recovery permit. Violation of this section is a misdemeanor, punishable under RCW 77.15.750 Unlawful use of a department permit—Penalty.