

Timeline and Links to Materials and TVW Recordings

June 21, 2021

Rulemaking timeline for proposing a 2022 spring bear hunting season began on June 21, 2021 with the filing of a [preproposal \(CR-101\)](#).

- The preproposal tells the public that we are considering rulemaking and proposing amendments to a rule (Washington Administrative Code, WAC).

August 30, 2021

On Aug. 30, WDFW filed the [CR-102, Spring Bear Proposed Rule Making](#), which proposed changes to WAC 220-415-080 (changing, among other things, the year from 2021 to 2022) and described the rationale for a 2022 spring bear hunting season.

- The filing of the CR-102 initiates public comment as well as informs constituents of the briefing, public testimony, and decision information.
 - [Public Comment Period: August 30-October 21, 2021](#).
 - Briefing and Public Hearing scheduled for October 22 Commission meeting.
 - Decision scheduled for November 19, 2021 Commission meeting.

October 22, 2021

- Agenda Item 8. Spring Bear Hunting Season – Briefing and Public Comment.
 - Spring Bear [Summary Sheet](#).
 - Spring Bear [PowerPoint](#).
 - [TVW Recording](#). (Spring Bear starts at 2:26) Presentation by Stephanie Simek, Ph.D.
 - During this meeting, we had a very large group of constituents that spoke to the rule proposal during the public comment period.
 - Not all constituents had a chance to voice their opinion.
 - Chair Carpenter announced that WDFW would receive written comment in lieu of verbal public comment and all written comments would bear the same weight as verbal. (The public comment link above includes the extension of public comments.)
- Also resulting from this meeting, the Commissioners were asked to send their written comments to the WLP Staff.
 - Commissioners sent questions in to the Department and staff provided their answers in this document:
 - [Responses prepared by WDFW staff to Commissioner Questions after the Black Bear Spring Special Permit Rule on November 10, 2021](#).

November 15, 2021

- [TVW Recording of the Spring Bear Season Setting Briefing](#) –Commission and Wildlife Program staff – Question and Answer Session. Staff: Eric Gardner, WLP Director, Anis Aoude, WLP Game Division Manager, Rich Beausoleil, Biologist, Stephanie Simek, Carnivore Section Manager.
 - During the Commission meeting, the Commission voted on the proposed amendments to WAC 220-415-080. The vote on a motion to approve the proposed amendments resulted in a 4-4 tie, so the Spring Bear motion did not pass and the proposed amendments were not approved. On December 10, 2021, WDFW staff filed a [withdrawal notice](#) with the Washington State Code Reviser.

January 21, 2022

- After the Commission did not approve the 2022 spring bear rule proposal, WDFW received [six separate rulemaking petitions](#). January 21, 2022, the Commission held a special meeting:
 - [Presentation](#).
 - [TVW Recording of the Spring Bear Petition: Briefing and Decision](#).
 - Five petitions were denied and one petition was approved.
 - Commissioner McIsaac motion language:
 - Motion: I move the Commission deny the Lewis, Cannon, Magart, Jackman, and Martz petitions and accept the Neumiller/Inland NW Wildlife Council, et al. petition and initiative rulemaking for the 2022 season to begin soon and include a final Commission decision at the March 17-19 Commission meeting. The CR-102 notice for rulemaking should include amending WAC 220-415-080 by removing from the title and year “2021” as well as delegating to the Director the ability to alter permit allowances in response to changing circumstances.

February 1, 2022

- WDFW Staff filed the CR-102 to reinitiate a new spring bear rulemaking that proposes an annual season (i.e., not specific to a particular year):
 - [CR-102 Current Spring Bear Rulemaking](#). Current proposed WAC language has been combined w/the CR-102 (scroll to the bottom)
 - Public Comment Period: February 2-March 12, 2022.
 - Briefing and Public Hearing: March 11, 2022.
 - Intended date of adoption if approved: March 18, 2022.