

# **Concise Explanatory Statement (CES)**

## **Mobile Licensing and Electronic Harvest Reporting**

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) filed the Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) on January 12, 2023 (WSR 23-03-067), and the Proposed Rulemaking (CR-102) on September 5, 2023 (WSR 23-18-083).

### **Rules amended as part of this rulemaking:**

WAC 220-416-060 2023-2024 Migratory gamebird seasons and regulations.  
WAC 220-413-100 Mandatory report of hunting activity.  
WAC 220-413-020 Tagging requirements.  
WAC 220-310-020 Catch record cards.  
WAC 220-310-010 Description of catch record cards and required information.  
WAC 220-220-020 Recreational license.  
WAC 220-220-010 Definitions.

### **Rules repealed as part of this rulemaking:**

None

### **Rules created as part of this rulemaking:**

None

### **1. Background/Summary of Project:**

The purpose of the proposal is to amend department rules to allow for the use of electronic recreational hunting and fishing licenses through the department's authorized mobile application and introduce electronic harvest reporting for recreational fishers.

Currently, individuals can purchase their hunting and fishing licenses at dealer locations, over the phone, and online, including by using their mobile devices. Before the rules were adopted, online reporting has only been available for hunter harvest reports and crab catch records.

#### Rule Amendments

The rules were amended in two ways:

- Allow the display and use of recreational hunting and fishing licensing documents on mobile devices.
- Facilitate the enforceability of recreational hunting and fishing laws as they relate to licensing compliance.

### **2. Reasons for adopting the rule:**

With the advent of mobile applications, the department has wanted to create more convenience and ease of use for individuals who wish to use their mobile devices to be able to display their fishing or hunting license as well as report their individual harvest.

Also, the new harvest reporting features on the mobile application allows for the prompt recording and transmission of harvest data to the department.

**3. Differences between the text of the proposed rule and the rule as adopted:**

There are no changes between the text of the proposed rules and the adopted rules.

**4. Public comments, response to comments, and consideration of comments**

The department received written comments from 13 commenters pertaining to the draft rule language. The public hearing on this rule making occurred on October 24, 2023 and no one attended from the public.

Each of the written comments received by the department supported the adoption of the amended rules.