



# 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: July 06, 2023

TIME: 2:57 PM

WSR 23-15-010

**Agency:** Department of Fish and Wildlife (Order 23-115)

**Effective date of rule:**

**Emergency Rules**

- 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 emergency rule is to raise sockeye limits in the Hanford Reach area of the Columbia River.

**Citation of rules affected by this order:**

- New:
- Repealed: WAC 220-312-06000R
- Amended: WAC 220-312-060
- 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 emergency rule is necessary to raise sockeye limits in the Hanford Reach area of the Columbia River.

The U.S. v Oregon Technical Advisory Committee updated the sockeye salmon run from 234,500 pre-season to approximately 331,000. At this updated run size there are additional Sockeye available for harvest in the Columbia River upstream of the Snake River.

This emergency rule also maintains lower Columbia River salmon and steelhead rules, previously filed in WSR 23-14-074 (Order 23-107), filed June 29, 2023.

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Federal statute:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Federal rules or standards:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____



NEW SECTION

**WAC 220-312-06000S Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Columbia River.**

Effective immediately, through August 15, 2023, the provisions of WAC 220-312-060 regarding recreational salmon and steelhead seasons from the Megler-Astoria Bridge to Priest Rapids Dam, shall be modified as described below, except in areas closed to fishing for salmon and steelhead year-round in WAC 220-312-060. All other provisions of WAC 220-312-060 not addressed herein remain in effect unless otherwise amended by emergency rule:

**(1) From the Megler-Astoria Bridge upstream to The Dalles Dam: Salmon and steelhead:**

Effective immediately, through July 31, 2023: Daily limit 6, no more than 2 adults may be retained of which up to 1 may be a hatchery steelhead. Release all salmon and steelhead other than hatchery jack Chinook, sockeye and hatchery steelhead.

**(2) From The Dalles Dam upstream to a line starting from a fishing boundary sign on the Washington north shore located approximately 1300' upstream of The Dalles Dam and Lock boat ramp projected easterly across the Columbia River to a boundary sign on the Washington southern shore located approximately 200' above the fish ladder exit: Salmon and steelhead:**

Effective immediately, until further notice: Closed to fishing for and retention of salmon and steelhead.

**(3) From a line starting from a fishing boundary sign on the Washington north shore located approximately 1300' upstream of The Dalles Dam and Lock boat ramp projected easterly across the Columbia River to a boundary sign on the Washington south shore located approximately 200' above the fish ladder exit upstream to Hwy. 395 Bridge at Pasco: Salmon and steelhead:**

Effective immediately, through July 31, 2023: Daily limit 6, no more than 2 adults may be retained of which up to 1 may be a hatchery steelhead. Release all salmon and steelhead other than hatchery jack Chinook, sockeye and hatchery steelhead.

**(4) From Columbia Point (approximately 1/3 mile downstream of I-182 Bridge) upstream to I-182 Bridge: Salmon:**

Effective immediately through July 15, 2023: Closed to angling from a floating device or by any method except hand-cast lines from the west shore (Richland side of the river).

**(5) From I-182 Bridge upstream to Priest Rapids Dam: Salmon:**

Effective immediately, through August 15, 2023: Daily limit 6, no more than 4 sockeye may be retained. Release all salmon and steelhead other than jack Chinook and sockeye.

## REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed, effective immediately:  
WAC 220-312-06000R Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Columbia River. (23-107)

**Reasons for this finding:** This emergency rule is necessary to raise sockeye limits in the Hanford Reach area of the Columbia River.

The U.S. v Oregon Technical Advisory Committee updated the sockeye salmon run from 234,500 pre-season to approximately 331,000. At this updated run size there are additional Sockeye available for harvest in the Columbia River upstream of the Snake River.

This emergency rule also maintains lower Columbia River salmon and steelhead rules, previously filed in WSR 23-14-074 (Order 23-107), filed June 29, 2023.

There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules. **(23-115, 7/6/2023)**