



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: October 09, 2024

TIME: 2:35 PM

WSR 24-21-054

Agency: Department of Fish and Wildlife (Order 24-225)

Effective date of rule:

Emergency Rules

- Immediately upon filing.
- Later (specify) October 16, 2024

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

- Yes No If Yes, explain:

Purpose: This emergency rule will open coho and hatchery steelhead seasons in portions of the upper Columbia River and Methow river.

Citation of rules affected by this order:

- New:
- Repealed:
- Amended: WAC 220-312-060; WAC 220-312-050
- 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 open hatchery steelhead and coho seasons in portions of the upper Columbia River and Methow River.

Hatchery steelhead returning to these areas of the Upper Columbia River and Methow River are in excess of spawning escapement and broodstock needs. This conservation fishery will help remove excess hatchery steelhead while increasing the proportion of wild steelhead on the spawning grounds. Returns of coho to the Upper Columbia River Methow River are sufficient to allow recreational angler harvest in-kind with steelhead retention.

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Federal statute:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Federal rules or standards:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____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

The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:


New 2 Amended ____ Repealed ____

The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

New ____ Amended ____ Repealed ____

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: October 9, 2024	Signature: 
Name: Kelly Susewind	
Title: Director	

NEW SECTION

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

Effective October 16, 2024, until further notice, the provisions of WAC 220-312-060 regarding recreational salmon and steelhead seasons from the Beebe Bridge (Highway 97) to the Highway 173 Bridge at Brewster, 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:

Beebe Bridge (Highway 97) to Highway 173 Bridge at Brewster: Salmon and steelhead:

- (a) Daily limit 2 salmon or 2 hatchery steelhead or 1 of each. Release all salmon other than coho. Release wild steelhead.
- (b) Mandatory retention of hatchery steelhead.
- (c) Selective gear rules, except use of bait is allowed.
- (d) Night Closure.

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-312-05000A Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Eastside.

Effective October 16, 2024, until further notice, the provisions of WAC 220-312-050 regarding recreational salmon and steelhead seasons for Methow River from the mouth to County Road 1535 (Burma Road) Bridge, shall be modified as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-312-050 not addressed herein remain in effect unless otherwise amended by emergency rule:

Methow River from mouth to County Road 1535 (Burma Road) Bridge: Salmon and steelhead:

- (a) Daily limit 2 salmon or 2 hatchery steelhead or 1 of each. Release all salmon other than coho. Release wild steelhead.
- (b) Mandatory retention of hatchery steelhead.
- (c) Selective gear rules.
- (d) Night Closure.
- (e) Fishing from a floating device is prohibited from the second powerline crossing (1 mile upstream from the mouth) to the first Highway 153 Bridge (4 miles upstream from the mouth).