



# 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 11, 2024

TIME: 2:01 PM

WSR 24-21-068

**Agency:** Department of Fish and Wildlife (Order 24-233)

**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 extend recreational salmon seasons for Cascade River and Skagit River, and to temporarily close a portion of Skagit River to all fishing.

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

- New:
- Repealed: WAC 220-312-04000Y
- Amended: WAC 220-312-040
- 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 rule is necessary to extend recreational salmon seasons in Cascade and Skagit rivers and to set a temporary all species closure in a portion of Skagit River. Cascade and Skagit River coho returns are greater than forecast and are sufficient to allow for an extension of recreational fishing seasons. The temporary closure in Skagit River from Gilligan Creek to Baker River is needed to avoid gear conflicts be recreational anglers and treaty fishers.

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 1 Amended \_\_\_\_ Repealed 1

**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 11, 2024

**Name:** Kelly Susewind

**Title:** Director

**Signature:**



## NEW SECTION

### **WAC 220-312-04000Z Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Puget Sound.**

Effective immediately, through December 31, 2024, the following provisions of WAC 220-312-040 regarding recreational fishing seasons for the Cascade River and Skagit River, shall be modified as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-312-040 not addressed herein, or unless otherwise amended, remain in effect:

#### (1) Cascade River (Skagit Co.) from mouth to Rockport-Cascade Rd. Bridge:

##### (a) Immediately through October 31: Gamefish and salmon open daily:

- (i) Anti-snagging rules.
- (ii) Night closure.
- (iii) Salmon: Daily limit 4 coho. Release all salmon other than coho.
- (iv) Game fish: Statewide length/daily limit, except:
  - (A) Cutthroat trout and wild rainbow trout: Minimum length 14 inches.
  - (B) Dolly Varden/bull trout: Minimum length of 20 inches, count as part of the trout daily limit.

##### (b) November 1 through November 30: Salmon open daily:

- (i) Salmon: Daily limit 4 coho. Release all salmon other than coho.
- (ii) Anti-snagging rules.
- (iii) Night Closure.

#### (2) Skagit River (Skagit Co.):

- ##### (a) Mouth (a line projected from the terminus of the jetty with McGlinn Island to the white monument on the easterly end of Ika Island, then to a white monument on the westerly end of Craft Island, then to a white monument near the corner of the levee on the westerly side of Dry Slough, and then to a white monument on the easterly side of Tom Moore Slough) to Gilligan Creek:

Salmon: Open immediately through December 31: Daily limit 2. Release all salmon other than coho. Night Closure in effect.

##### (b) Gilligan Creek to Baker River:

- (i) All species: Closed October 13 through 11:59 a.m. October 14.
- (ii) Salmon:
  - (A) Open immediately through October 12: Daily limit 2. Release all salmon other than coho. Night Closure in effect.
  - (B) Open 12:00 p.m. October 14 through December 31, 2024: Daily limit 2. Release all salmon other than coho. Night Closure in effect.

##### (c) Baker River to Cascade River Rd. (Marblemount Bridge):

Salmon: Open immediately through December 31: Daily limit 2. Release all salmon other than coho. Night Closure in effect.

#### REPEALER

The following section of Washington Administrative Code is repealed, effective immediately:  
WAC 220-312-04000Y Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Puget Sound. (24-226)