



# 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: February 10, 2025

TIME: 4:55 PM

WSR 25-05-030

**Agency:** Department of Fish and Wildlife (Order 25-21)

**Effective date of rule:**

**Emergency Rules**

- ☐ Immediately upon filing.  
☒ Later (specify) February 15, 2025

**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 opens one day of recreational white sturgeon retention from The Dalles Dam to John Day Dam on the Columbia River.

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

New:  
Repealed: WAC 220-312-06000D  
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 rule opens recreational sturgeon retention day in The Dalles Pool and maintains the previously adopted Bonneville Pool recreational sturgeon retention closure. There are 134 fish remaining on the harvest guideline and projections indicate this fishery can support an additional day of retention. These populations are managed under sustainable harvest guidelines. This action is consistent with decisions made by the States of Washington and Oregon during the Columbia River compact hearing on February 10, 2025. 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Federal statute:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Federal rules or standards:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____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	_____

<b>The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:</b>			
	New	_____	Amended _____ Repealed _____
<b>The number of sections adopted on the agency’s own initiative:</b>			
	New	1	Amended _____ Repealed 1
<b>The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:</b>			
	New	_____	Amended _____ Repealed _____
<b>The number of sections adopted using:</b>			
Negotiated rule making:	New	_____	Amended _____ Repealed _____
Pilot rule making:	New	_____	Amended _____ Repealed _____
Other alternative rule making:	New	_____	Amended _____ Repealed _____
<b>Date Adopted:</b> February 10, 2025		<b>Signature:</b> 	
<b>Name:</b> Kelly Susewind			
<b>Title:</b> Director			

## NEW SECTION

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

Effective February 15 through April 30, 2025, the provisions of WAC 220-312-060, WAC 220-312-030, and WAC 220-316-010 regarding white sturgeon retention seasons from Bonneville Dam to John Day Dam are as follows. All other provisions of WAC 220-312-060, WAC 220-316-010, and WAC 220-312-030 not addressed herein remain in effect unless otherwise amended by emergency rule:

#### **(1) From Bonneville Dam upstream to The Dalles Dam, including adjacent tributaries:**

White sturgeon: Closed to retention. Catch and release fishing only.

#### **(2) From The Dalles Dam upstream to John Day Dam, including adjacent tributaries:**

- (a) February 15, 2025: It is permissible to retain white sturgeon: Daily limit 1. Minimum fork length 43 inches. Maximum fork length 54 inches.
- (b) February 16 through April 30, 2025: White sturgeon: Closed to retention. Catch and release fishing only.

## REPEALER

The following section of Washington Administrative code is repealed, effective February 15, 2025:

WAC 220-312-06000D Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Columbia River. (25-01)