



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: March 18, 2025

TIME: 2:41 PM

WSR 25-07-098

Agency: Department of Fish and Wildlife (Order 25-46)

Effective date of rule:

Emergency Rules

- ☐ Immediately upon filing.
☒ Later (specify) 8:00 a.m. March 21, 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 a portion of Quinault Special Management Area to state commercial crab fishers.

Citation of rules affected by this order:

New:
Repealed: WAC 220-340-42000D; WAC 220-340-45000W
Amended: WAC 220-340-420; WAC 220-340-450
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 a portion of the Quinault Special Management Area (SMA), with a pot limit, to state fishers. Tribal SMA descriptions conform with State/Tribal Agreements and State/Tribal discussions regarding in-season modifications. 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Federal statute:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Federal rules or standards:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____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	New	_____	Amended	_____ Repealed _____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	New	2	Amended	_____ Repealed 2
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: March 18, 2025			Signature: 	
Name: Kelly Susewind				
Title: Director				

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-340-42000E Commercial crab fishery—Unlawful acts.

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-340-420, 8:00 AM March 21, 2025, until further notice:

- (1) It is unlawful for any fisher or wholesale dealer or buyer to land or purchase Dungeness crab taken from Grays Harbor, Willapa Bay, Columbia River, or Washington coastal or adjacent waters of the Pacific Ocean from any vessel, unless:
 - (a) A valid Washington crab vessel inspection certificate has been issued to the delivering vessel. Vessel hold inspection certificates dated from January 14, 2025, through February 9, 2025, are only valid for the area south of 46°28.00' N. Lat. until 8:00 A.M. March 18, 2025; and
 - (b) The vessel inspection certificate numbers are recorded on all shellfish tickets completed for coastal Dungeness crab landings until March 18, 2025.
 - (2) It is unlawful for a vessel to use more than 200 pots in the Makah SMA beginning 8:00 A.M. March 13, 2025, until 8:00 A.M. April 12, 2025. Fishers must pre-register with the Department of Fish and Wildlife 24 hours prior to deploying gear in this area by one of the following methods:
 - E-mail to Jamie Fuller at Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov; or
 - Telephone call to Jamie Fuller at 360-580-0875.
 - (3) It is unlawful for a vessel to use more than a total of 100 pots in the Quinault SMA as described below from 8:00 AM on March 21, 2025, until 8:00 AM on April 21, 2025. The area of the Quinault SMA open to state fishers is defined by the following coordinates:

(a) Raft River (East):	47° 28.00' N. Lat.	124° 20.70' W. Lon.
(b) Raft River (West):	47° 28.00' N. Lat.	124° 34.00' W. Lon.
(c) Split Rock (East):	47° 24.50' N. Lat.	124° 20.00' W. Lon.
(d) Split Rock (West):	47° 24.50' N. Lat.	124° 28.50' W. Lon.
(e) Joe Creek (East):	47° 12.25' N. Lat.	124° 12.28' W. Lon.
(f) Joe Creek (West):	47° 12.25' N. Lat.	124° 19.00' W. Lon.
(g) Copalis River (East):	47° 08.00' N. Lat.	124° 11.20' W. Lon.
(h) Copalis River (West):	47° 08.00' N. Lat.	124° 25.50' W. Lon.
- Fishers must pre-register with the Department of Fish and Wildlife 24 hours prior to deploying gear in this area by one of the following methods:
- E-mail to Jamie Fuller at Jamie.Fuller@dfw.wa.gov; or
 - Telephone call to Jamie Fuller at 360-580-0875.
- (4) Unless otherwise amended all other provisions of the permanent rule remain in effect.

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-340-45000X Commercial crab fishery—Seasons and areas—Coastal.

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-340-450 8:00 AM March 21, 2025, until further notice: it is unlawful to fish for Dungeness crab in Washington coastal waters, the Pacific Ocean, Grays Harbor, Willapa Bay, or the Columbia River, except as provided in this section.

- (1) Open area: The area from the WA/OR border (46°15.00) to the US/Canada border including Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay.
- (a) For the purposes of this section, the waters of Willapa Bay include the marine waters east of a line connecting 46°44.76' N, 124°05.76' W and 46°38.93' N, 124°04.33' W.
- (b) Licenses and vessels designated to those licenses that participate in the coastal commercial Dungeness crab fishery in the waters from Point Arena, California, to Klipsan Beach, Washington (46°28.00), including Willapa Bay, before the area north of Klipsan Beach (46°28.00') opens, are prohibited from fishing in the following area for the duration specified:

The waters between Oysterville (46°33.00') and US/Canada Border until 8:00 A.M. March 18, 2025.

- (c) The Makah special management area (SMA) includes the waters between 48° 02.15' N. Lat. and 48° 19.50' N. Lat. east of a line connecting those points and approximating the 25-fathom line according to the following coordinates:
- (i) Northeast Corner: (Tatoosh Island)
 - (ii) Northwest Corner: 48° 19.50' N. Lat. 124° 50.45' W. Lon.
 - (iii) Southwest Corner: 48° 02.15' N. Lat. 124° 50.45' W. Lon.
 - (iv) Southeast Corner: 48° 02.15' N. Lat. 124° 41.00' W. Lon.
- (2) The Quinault secondary special management area (SSMA) is closed to fishing for Dungeness crab. The SSMA includes the area shoreward of a line approximating the 17-fathom depth curve between Split Rock (47° 24.50') and Joe Creek (47° 12.25') according to the following coordinates:
- (a) Northeast Corner (Split Rock): 47° 24.50' N. Lat. 124° 20.00' W. Lon.
 - (b) Northwest Corner: 47° 24.50' N. Lat. 124° 28.50' W. Lon.
 - (c) Southwest Corner: 47° 12.25' N. Lat. 124° 19.00' W. Lon.
 - (d) Southeast Corner (Joe Creek): 47° 12.25' N. Lat. 124° 12.28' W. Lon.
- (3) The Quileute special management area (SMA) is closed to fishing for Dungeness crab until further notice. The SMA includes the area shoreward of a line approximating the 30-fathom depth curve between Destruction Island and Cape Johnson according to the following coordinates:
- (a) Northeast Corner (Cape Johnson): 47° 58.00' N. Lat. 124° 40.40' W. Lon.
 - (b) Northwest Corner: 47° 58.00' N. Lat. 124° 49.00' W. Lon.
 - (c) Southwest Corner: 47° 40.50' N. Lat. 124° 40.00' W. Lon.
 - (d) Southeast Corner (Destruction Island): 47° 40.50' N. Lat. 124° 24.43' W. Lon.

- (4) Unless otherwise amended all other provisions of the permanent rule remain in effect.

REPEALERS

The following sections of Washington Administrative Code are repealed, effective 8 AM March 21, 2025:

WAC 220-340-42000D Commercial crab fishery—Unlawful acts. (25-35)

WAC 220-340-45000W Commercial crab fishery—Seasons and areas—Coastal. (25-35)