



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: June 05, 2025

TIME: 4:12 PM

WSR 25-13-010

Agency: Department of Fish and Wildlife (Order 25-107)

Effective date of rule:

Emergency Rules

- ☐ Immediately upon filing.
☒ Later (specify) June 6, 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 is needed to extend recreational salmon seasons in Columbia River below Bonneville Dam through June 15.

Citation of rules affected by this order:

New:
Repealed: WAC 220-312-03000E; WAC 220-312-06000K
Amended: WAC 220-312-030; 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 extends the 2025 spring recreational salmon season three days in the mainstem Columbia River from Rocky Point upstream to Bonneville Dam, rescinds hand-cast from shore restrictions from Beacon Rock to Hamilton Island boat ramp, and provides an additional adult hatchery Chinook in the daily limit upstream and downstream of Bonneville Dam. This rule also returns Deep River to permanent rules because the adult Chinook daily limit for Deep River in WAC 220-312-050 aligns with the adult Chinook daily limit for Columbia River with this rule. ESA impacts for wild fish are available to recreational fisheries in order to access hatchery fish. The fishery is consistent with the U.S. v Oregon Management Agreement and the associated Biological Opinion. Conforms Washington state rules with Oregon state rules. This regulation is consistent with Washington State Action and Compact Action on May 7, May 20 and June 4, 2025. The general public welfare is protected with the immediate and limited duration opening of recreational salmon fishing. This limited harvest allows for public use of the resource as well as the maintenance of a sustainable fish population.

Washington and Oregon jointly regulate Columbia River fisheries under the congressionally-ratified Columbia River Compact. Four Indian Tribes have treaty fishing rights in the Columbia River. The treaties preempt state regulations that fail to allow the Tribes an opportunity to take a fair share of the available fish, and the states must manage other fisheries accordingly. *Sohappy v. Smith*, 302 F. Supp. 899 (D. Or. 1969). A court order sets the current parameters. *United States v. Oregon*, Civil No. 68 513 KI (D. Or.), Order Adopting 2018-2027 *United States v. Oregon Management Agreement* (February 26, 2018) (Doc. No. 2607-1). Some salmon and steelhead

stocks in the Columbia River are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act. On February 23, 2018, the National Marine Fisheries Service issued a biological opinion under 16 U.S.C. § 1536 that allows for some incidental take of these species in the fisheries as described in the 2018-2027 U.S. v. Oregon Management Agreement. Some Columbia River Basin salmon and steelhead stocks are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Washington and Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commissions have developed policies to guide the implementation of such biological opinions in the states' regulation of non-treaty fisheries.

Columbia River non-treaty fisheries are monitored very closely to ensure compliance with federal court orders, the Endangered Species Act, and Commission guidelines. Because conditions change rapidly, the fisheries are managed almost exclusively by emergency rule. Representatives from the Washington and Oregon Departments of Fish and Wildlife convene public hearings and take public testimony when considering proposals for new emergency rules. WDFW and ODFW then adopt regulations reflecting agreements reached. There is insufficient time to promulgate 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	_____
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The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:

New	1	Amended	_____	Repealed	2
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The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
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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: June 5, 2025

Name: Amy Windrope for Kelly Susewind

Title: Director

Signature:



NEW SECTION

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

Effective June 6 through June 15, 2025, the provisions of WAC 220-312-060 regarding Columbia River salmon and steelhead seasons from Rocky Point to Hwy. 730 at the Washington/Oregon border, and shad seasons from the mouth to the Bonneville Dam, shall be modified as described in this section, 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 in this section remain in effect unless otherwise amended by emergency rule:

- (1) From a projected line from Rocky Point on the Washington bank through red buoy 44 to the red navigation marker 2 at Tongue Point on the Oregon Bank upstream to The Dalles Dam:** Salmon and steelhead:

Effective June 6 through June 15, 2025: Daily limit is 6, no more than 2 adults may be retained. Release all salmon other than hatchery Chinook.

- (2) From a line starting from a fishing boundary sign on the Washington north shore located approx. 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 approx. 200' above the fish ladder exit upstream to Hwy 730 at the Washington/Oregon border:** Salmon and steelhead:

Effective June 6 through June 15, 2025: Daily limit is 6, no more than 2 adults may be retained. Release all salmon other than hatchery Chinook.

REPEALERS

The following sections of Washington Administrative Code are repealed, effective June 6, 2025:

WAC 220-312-03000E Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Southwest. (25-89)

WAC 220-312-06000K Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Columbia. (25-89)