

To Whom It May Concern:

Please find attached my "Petition For Adoption, Amendment, Or Repeal Of A State Administrative Rule"

I have checked the box, "1. New Rule – I am requesting the agency adopt a new rule."

As per the questions associated with the form:

The subject (of purpose) of this rule is: "begin Rule Making for the 2024 RECREATIONAL SPRING BEAR HUNTING SEASON"

- Spring bear hunting seasons protect female bears and their cubs from male bears.
- Male bears (boars) emerge from hibernation much earlier than female bears (sows) because sows are forced to stay in their dens with their cubs until the cubs are old enough to leave their den (usually 5-8 weeks after birth).
- Therefore, males have a physical advantage over sows – they have a head start on gaining strength and their weight back from hibernation.
- This is bad news for sows because boars will hunt them and their cubs.
- When females emerge from hibernation with their cubs, they have a daunting task ahead of them: gain weight, feed the cubs, and protect the cubs from predators.
- Boars are one of the biggest threats to cubs and sows.
- The hyper-aggressive predator aims to kill and eat cubs for two reasons: cubs are a good source of protein, and killing cubs stops sows from lactating and therefore allow the female to go back into estrus.
- Boars want sows to go into estrus so they can spread their genetics – males are biologically programmed to adhere to the rules of evolution.
- The term for the males' barbarous act against its own kind is infanticide.
- The ideal spring bear hunting season would reduce the number of male black bears, and allow females and their cubs to have a better chance of survival.

The above section is taken from the online article, "The Science of Conservation: Spring Bear Hunting", by The Great Outdoors, dated Jan 17, 2022

- It is time to address the unnecessary killing of sows and cubs.
- There is a three part video series on the WDFW website titled "Bear identification: male vs. female" It is not that hard to tell the difference between male and female bears.

Now is the time for this WDFW Commission to take action to protect Female Bears and Cubs in the Spring in Washington State.

Immediately begin Rule Making for the 2024 Recreational Spring Bear Hunting Season.

Thank-you

Brad Thompson
July 14, 2023



PETITION FOR ADOPTION, AMENDMENT, OR REPEAL OF A STATE ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

Print Form

In accordance with RCW 34.05.330, the Office of Financial Management (OFM) created this form for individuals or groups who wish to petition a state agency or institution of higher education to adopt, amend, or repeal an administrative rule. You may use this form to submit your request. You also may contact agencies using other formats, such as a letter or email.

The agency or institution will give full consideration to your petition and will respond to you within 60 days of receiving your petition. For more information on the rule petition process, see Chapter 82-05 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) at <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=82-05>.

CONTACT INFORMATION *(please type or print)*

Petitioner's Name Brad Thomson
Name of Organization _____
Mailing Address _____
City State WA Zip Code
Telephone Email

COMPLETING AND SENDING PETITION FORM

- Check all of the boxes that apply.
- Provide relevant examples.
- Include suggested language for a rule, if possible.
- Attach additional pages, if needed.
- Send your petition to the agency with authority to adopt or administer the rule. Here is a list of agencies and their rules coordinators: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/CodeReviser/Documents/RClst.htm>.

INFORMATION ON RULE PETITION

Agency responsible for adopting or administering the rule: _____

1. NEW RULE - I am requesting the agency to adopt a new rule.

- The subject (or purpose) of this rule is: Please See Attached
- The rule is needed because: Please See Attached
- The new rule would affect the following people or groups: Please See Attached

2. AMEND RULE - I am requesting the agency to change an existing rule.

List rule number (WAC), if known: _____

I am requesting the following change: _____

This change is needed because: _____

The effect of this rule change will be: _____

The rule is not clearly or simply stated: _____

3. REPEAL RULE - I am requesting the agency to eliminate an existing rule.

List rule number (WAC), if known: _____

(Check one or more boxes)

It does not do what it was intended to do.

It is no longer needed because: _____

It imposes unreasonable costs: _____

The agency has no authority to make this rule: _____

It is applied differently to public and private parties: _____

It conflicts with another federal, state, or local law or rule. List conflicting law or rule, if known: _____

It duplicates another federal, state or local law or rule. List duplicate law or rule, if known: _____

Other (please explain): _____