

*Washington Dept. of  
Fish and Wildlife*

**2024**

*Puget Sound  
Commercial Salmon Regulations*



Washington  
Department of  
**FISH and  
WILDLIFE**



# Table of Contents

<b>1. PRESEASON RUN-SIZE AND SEASON EXPECTATIONS</b> .....	<b>1</b>
1.1 Catch, Forecast, and Schedule .....	1
<b>2. 2024 GENERAL PROVISIONS</b> .....	<b>6</b>
2.1 Commercial License Information.....	6
License Types, Fees, and Renewals:.....	6
Commercial Crewmember Licenses.....	6
Vessel Operation .....	8
2.2 Wholesale Fish Buying, Selling, and Reporting .....	9
Fish Dealer License .....	9
Wholesale Fish Buyer Endorsement .....	9
Limited Fish Seller Endorsement .....	10
Fish Tickets .....	10
Sale and Purchase of Commercial Caught Salmon .....	11
Quick Reporting Information .....	11
2.3 Fishing Rules and Regulations .....	12
General Possession and Retention of Fish .....	12
Fish Friendly Certification .....	13
2.4 Commercial Fishery Observers.....	14
The Puget Sound Commercial Salmon Monitoring Program .....	14
<b>3. 2024 COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSEL REGULATIONS</b> .....	<b>15</b>
3.1 Purse Seine Regulations.....	15
For this sub-chapter a Purse Seine is defined as:.....	15
Release of Incidentally Caught Salmon.....	15
Lawful Gear Requirements: Net and Mesh, Recovery Boxes, and Brailers.....	16
Special Purse Seine Mesh Size.....	16
Brailing and Deck Landing .....	16
Recovery Boxes.....	17
3.2 Gillnet and Skiff Gillnet Regulations .....	18
For this sub-chapter a Gillnet and Skiff Gillnet are defined as:.....	18
Release of Incidentally Caught Salmon.....	18
Lawful Gear Requirements: Net, Mesh, and Recovery Boxes .....	18
Recovery Boxes.....	19
3.3 Reef Net Regulations .....	20
For this sub-chapter a Reef Net is defined as:.....	20
Release of Incidentally Caught Salmon.....	20
Lawful Reef Net Gear Requirements .....	20

**3.4 Beach Seine Regulations ..... 21**

**For this sub-chapter a Beach Seine is defined as: ..... 21**

**Participation ..... 21**

**Release of Incidentally Caught Salmon..... 21**

**Lawful Beach Seine Gear Requirements ..... 21**

**4. 2024 PUGET SOUND SALMON MANAGEMENT AND CATCH REPORTING AREAS:  
EXCLUSION ZONES AND IN-SEASON RESTRICTIONS..... 22**

**4.1 Commercial Salmon Area Descriptions..... 22**

**4.2 Commercial Salmon Area Exclusions Zones ..... 27**

**4.3 Additional Commercial Salmon In-Season Restrictions ..... 30**

**5. 2024 EXCLUSION ZONES AND IN-SEASON RESTRICTIONS MAPS..... 31**

**5.1 North Puget Sound ..... 32**

**5.2 Central Puget Sound ..... 35**

**5.3 South Puget Sound ..... 36**

**5.4 Hood Canal ..... 38**

**5.5 Port Gamble ..... 39**

**5.6 Strait of Jaun De Fuca and Dungeness Bay..... 40**

**6. APPENDIX ..... 41**

**6.1 Reporting Derelict or Lost Gear ..... 41**

**6.2 Marbled Murrelet Handling and Reporting ..... 42**

**6.3 Marine Protected Areas and Artificial Reefs ..... 43**

**6.4 Southern Resident Killer Whale Vessel Regulations ..... 44**

**6.5 Testing Commercial Fishing Gear ..... 45**

**6.6 NOAA Large Whale Entanglement Program ..... 46**



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DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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Puget Sound Commercial License Holders,

The following 2024 Puget Sound commercial salmon fisheries regulations are the culmination of co-manager decision-making developed throughout this year's North of Falcon (NOF) process and adopted by the Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC). This pamphlet summarizes the agreed-to schedules, rules for non-treaty fisheries, marine catch and exclusion areas, and other pertinent information. Management highlights for the 2024 season include:

All Areas: Fisheries Monitoring and Observing

Beginning in 2024, Puget Sound Commercial Salmon Monitoring Program will implement changes to the Onboard Observer Purse Seine vessel selection. These changes have been proposed to facilitate a safe, effective, and efficient monitoring process that supports meeting our harvest objectives and achieving our conservation goals in-season. WDFW will communicate more information on the proposed monitoring and observer adjustments with gear groups prior to the season.

Area 7/7A: Reef Net Coho fisheries allotted a 972 unmarked Coho cap and associated marked in September. Fishery sampled during offloads. Chum-directed fisheries schedule pending in-season update on Inside Southern Chum Abundance.

Area 7B/C: Coho management period returns to week 35. For management weeks 33, 34, and 35, gillnet hours have been adjusted from 7PM to 8AM to 7PM to 10AM. Whatcom Creek Zone is open during Chinook, Coho, and Chum management periods.

Area 8, and 8A, No scheduled fisheries, due to forecasted low abundances and conservation implications on multiple North Puget Sound Chinook stocks.

Area 8D: Gillnet coho fisheries scheduled for weeks 38 – 43. Closed for Purse Seine.

Area 10/11: Fall Chum fisheries dependent on ISU information from the Apple Cove Point Test Fishery. Week 42 Full Fleet, and weeks 43 – 45 if ISU is between 350,000 and 460,000, a limited participation fishery will be opened with 14,000 fish trip limit per week. If the ISU is larger than 460,000 in weeks 43 – 45, the state will resume a full schedule with ISU derived share. Single Purse Seine Test fishery at Apple Cove Point weeks 41 – 47 to collect winter chum genetic information. East and West Pass Purse Seine research sampling fisheries to be operated in Area 11 weeks 42 – 47, to collect fall chum genetic information.

Area 12/12B: Fall Chum fisheries Scheduled weeks 42 – 47. Hazel Point Closure Area is CLOSED.

Area 12C: Adjustment to Hoodspoint Chinook Beach Seine fishery: Single day fishery (Mondays), weeks 31 – 36 with a 5,000 fish cap. Additional opportunity in-season based on achieving broodstock goals and co-manager agreement. Fall Chum fisheries dependent on agreed-to ISU.

Note to Readers: The regulations appearing in this pamphlet may be changed by subsequent emergency regulations at any time. Supplementary changes to the regulations will be available through the department's website. This pamphlet is intended as an informational guide only. To be certain of the current laws, refer to the official RCW and WAC.

Thank you,

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife

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# 1. PRESEASON RUN-SIZE AND SEASON EXPECTATIONS

## 1.1 Catch, Forecast, and Schedule

*This sub-chapter presents tables 1-4, outlining the forecasts, summaries of past run-sizes, catch, and days open for major non-treaty commercial fisheries, and table 5, the Puget Sound all-citizen Commercial salmon fishing schedule. The data presented herein is based on negotiated preliminary pre-season fishery expectations only. Actual openings may differ from those shown in this document, pending the in-season evaluations of run-sizes, catch, and allocation.*

*In-season fishery changes are announced on the Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) hotline.*

*More information can be found at:*

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regulations/commercial/salmon/rules>

## **WDFW**

### ***Puget Sound Commercial Salmon***

***HOTLINE: (360)-515-4475***

For updated regulatory information including season and emergency changes



### ***Fraser Panel (NOAA Fisheries)***

***HOTLINE: (800)-662-9825***

For Fraser River Panel fishery information during Fraser control. Fisheries directed at Fraser origin sockeye and pink salmon occurring in Areas 7 and 7A. Additional Fraser Panel and Pacific Salmon Commission information can be found at: <http://www.psc.org> or (604)666-8200



**Table 1. 2024 Preliminary Preseason Run Size Forecasts Compared to the 2014-2022 Puget Sound Actual Run Sizes.**

Region	Species	2024 Forecast	'14-'22 Average	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Dungeness	Pink	-	145,850	-	160,066	-	49,068	-	18,329	-	355,936	-
	Coho	14,305	-	-	37,400	18,700	8,100	11,000	17,200	17,100	5,500	18,900
Nooksack/ Samish	Chinook	45,458	-	-	27,900	14,700	14,200	17,200	18,900	16,000	18,800	25,700
	Pink	-	171,055	-	244,319	-	68,680	-	35,385	-	335,837	-
	Coho	107,424	-	-	78,600	50,100	63,000	78,700	45,000	62,800	43,300	51,300
Skagit	Chum	25,317	62,124	57,164	39,607	50,620	24,162	24,576	45,023	109,824	112,700	95,442
	Pink	-	363,621	-	619,352	-	307,424	-	116,551	-	411,155	-
Stillaguamish/ Snohomish	Chum	22,953	24,937	46,637	22,714	15,104	3,406	19,557	7,107	35,388	8,154	66,363
	Pink	-	641,729	-	1,099,096	-	681,813	-	93,828	-	692,178	-
South Sound	Coho	197,012	-	-	236,400	92,300	66,900	123,500	79,000	143,700	38,400	154,000
	Chum	24,819	32,100	70,410	19,291	35,662	5,336	29,226	23,656	27,372	13,668	64,275
	Pink	-	1,123,605	-	1,152,790	-	1,804,633	-	247,438	-	1,289,557	-
Hood Canal	Coho	239,998	-	-	256,800	205,600	157,000	227,800	177,500	212,200	64,200	145,400
	Chum	486,562	456,728	704,748	425,856	256,442	163,566	480,953	584,264	401,462	503,501	589,762
Hood Canal	Coho	103,742	-	-	99,800	64,800	32,000	5,900	84,500	100,300	47,700	61,600
	Chum	254,900	595,241	666,817	243,402	151,496	222,543	722,332	1,071,179	777,359	811,743	690,294

Notes: Run sizes are based upon hatchery and wild fish entering Puget Sound (Area 4B run size).

Chum run sizes are fall chum components only, and can also be found on the WDFW website.

The 2023 run sizes are not available at this time.

**Table 2. 2014-2023 Puget Sound All-Citizen Commercial Fishing Days.**

Region	Species	2023		2022		2021		2020		2019		2018		2017		2016		2015		2014	
		GN	PS	GN	PS	GN	PS	GN	PS	GN	PS	GN	PS	GN	PS	GN	PS	GN	PS	GN	PS
Dungeness	Coho	28	*	28	*	34	*	30	*	29	*	31	*	32	*	28	*	30	*		*
Nooksack/ Samish	Chinook	21	8	21	8	12	4	8	2	11	3	16	4	16	4	21	4	16	4	16	4
	Coho	42	38	42	38	41	36	50	42	49	42	35	31	52	48	45	41	45	41	45	41
	Chum	30	30	30	30	18	5	12	6	23	23	32	32	25	25	30	30	30	30	30	30
Skagit	Pink	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3	3	*	*
	Coho	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Chum	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Stillaguamish / Snohomish	Pink	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3	3	*	*
	Coho-8A	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3	2	*	*	*	*	3	2	3	2
	Coho-8D	30	30	*	*	*	*	*	*	35	8	30	6	21	9	*	*	35	8	35	8
	Chum-8A	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Chum-8D	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	14	5	12	3	*	*	3	2	4	3
South Sound	Pink	5	5	*	*	5	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	5	*	*	5	5	*	*	
	Coho	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
	Chum	1	1	6	4	4	4	7	*	3	2	7	5	7	5	8	4	11	5	14	7
Hood Canal	Coho	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
	Coho-9A	84	*	84	*	77	*	77	*	77	*	84	*	84	*	77	*	77	*	3	*
	Coho-12A	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
	Chum	8	6	10	6	5	4	11	7	5	4	10	7	6	4	6	4	6	4	7	4
	Beach Seine	Coho-12A	30	30	31	33	33	34	35	33	31	37									
	Chinook-12C	6	6	7	12	12	12	12	10												

\* Indicates no directed All-Citizen commercial fishery occurred.

GN = gillnet

PS = purse seine



**Table 3. 2014-2023 Puget Sound All-Citizen Commercial Salmon Net Catch (round numbers<sup>1</sup>).**

Region	Species	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Dungeness	Coho	1,378	5,100	5,200	3,100	1,000	2,300	3,000	2,700	100	1,800
Area 7/7A	Chum	154	25,900	600	47,270	600	37,800	56,800	66,500	60,000	60,100
Nooksack/ Samish	Chinook	9,991	9,400	1,200	1,200	2,200	700	5,100	1,700	3,300	4,200
	Coho	1,457	2,700	1,600	1,800	800	3,900	1,400	3,600	1,300	2,700
	Chum	1,156	1,700	100	2,100	1,300	1,100	6,900	14,369	19,000	13,900
Skagit	Pink	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	9,500	*
	Chum	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Stillaguamish/ Snohomish	Pink	2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	78,600	*
	Coho-8A	*	*	*	*	*	300	*	*	5	40
	Coho-8D	320	*	*	*	*	30	0	*	0	0
	Chum-8A	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Chum-8D	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	*	0	0
South Sound	Pink	91,421	*	23,300	*	*	*	50	*	25,200	*
	Coho <sup>2</sup>	*	30	60	*	20	90	300	*	80	100
	Chum	7,513	184,400	68,500	*	38,600	162,700	258,200	126,400	223,500	195,100
Hood Canal	Coho <sup>2</sup>	*	10	290	90	600	1,000	2,700	2,100	2,000	5,600
	Coho-9A	5,946	1,500	360	800	50	70	2,300	4,400	80	500
	Coho-12A	13	4	60	170	40	1,000	1,100	400	90	400
	Chum	51,013	259,200	15,800	53,600	94,700	187,300	390,900	237,300	257,600	276,700

Catch table includes All-Citizen commercial salmon catch in Puget Sound terminal areas only (does not include pre-terminal, sport or prior interceptions).

All catches over one hundred are rounded to the nearest one hundred, catches under are to the nearest ten.

\* Indicates no directed commercial fishery occurred.

\*\* 2023 Catch review in progress. Data to be provided online at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/commercial/salmon/information>

**Table 4. Table removed**

Notes: Treaty Indian commercial salmon catch in Puget Sound and freshwater terminal available upon Data Request to WDFW.

**Table 5. Weekly Open Periods by Management and Catch Reporting Areas, including Daily/Nightly Fishing Hours and Directed Species, for the 2024 Puget Sound All-Citizen Commercial Salmon Fishery as Agreed During the PFMC/North of Falcon Preseason Regulation Planning Process.<sup>1</sup>**

Mgt week	Week Begins	Gillnet		Purse Seine	Areas 7 & 7A <sup>2</sup>				Area 7B <sup>4,10</sup>			Area 8D						
		Daily Hours <sup>2</sup>	Nightly Hours <sup>2</sup>	Daily Hours <sup>2</sup>	mgt	GN <sup>7</sup>	PS	RN <sup>5</sup>	mgt	GN	PS	mgt	GN	PS				
30	21-Jul	6am-11pm	8pm-7am	6am-9pm	SO	Fraser Panel Control												
31	28-Jul	6am-11pm	8pm-7am	6am-9pm	SO													
32	4-Aug	6am-11pm	8pm-7am	6am-9pm	SO													
33	11-Aug	6am-11pm	7pm-10am	6am-8pm	SO								CK	Su,M,T	W			
34	18-Aug	5am-11pm	7pm-10am	6am-8pm	SO								CK	Su,M,T,W	W			
35	25-Aug	5am-11pm	7pm-10am	6am-8pm	SO								CO/CK	Su,M,T,W	W,Th			
36	1-Sep	5am-11pm	7pm-8am	6am-8pm	CO								CO/CK	Su-Th <sup>8</sup>	W			
37	8-Sep	5am-11pm	7pm-8am	7am-7pm	CO								CO/CK	Su-Th <sup>8</sup>	M,W,F			
38	15-Sep	6am-10pm	6pm-8am	7am-7pm	CO								CO	Su-Th <sup>8</sup>	M,W,F	CO	Su,M-W,Th	<sup>3</sup>
39	22-Sep	7am-9pm	6pm-8am	7am-7pm	CO							Su-Sa	CO	Su-Sa <sup>9</sup>	Su-Sa <sup>9</sup>	CO	Su,M-W,Th	<sup>3</sup>
40	29-Sep	7am-9pm	6pm-8am	7am-7pm	CO			Su-Sa	CO	Su-Sa <sup>9</sup>	Su-Sa <sup>9</sup>	CO	Su,M-W,Th	<sup>3</sup>				
41	6-Oct	7am-9pm	6pm-8am	7am-6pm	CM	F, Sa	F, Sa	Su-Sa	CO	Su-Sa <sup>9</sup>	Su-Sa <sup>9</sup>	CO	Su,M-W,Th	<sup>3</sup>				
42	13-Oct	7am-8pm	5pm-9am	7am-6pm	CM	M, T, F, Sa	M, T, F, Sa	Su-Sa	CO	Su-Sa <sup>9</sup>	Su-Sa <sup>9</sup>	CO	Su,M-W,Th	<sup>3</sup>				
43	20-Oct	7am-8pm	5pm-9am	7am-6pm	CM	Su-Sa	Su-Sa	Su-Sa	CO	Su-Sa <sup>9</sup>	Su-Sa <sup>9</sup>	CO	Su,M-W,Th	<sup>3</sup>				
44	27-Oct	7am-8pm	5pm-9am	7am-6pm	CM	Su-Sa	Su-Sa	Su-Sa	CM	M-F <sup>11</sup>	M-F <sup>11</sup>							
45	3-Nov	7am-7pm	4pm-8am	7am-5pm	CM	Su-Sa	Su-Sa	Su-Sa	CM	M-F <sup>11</sup>	M-F <sup>11</sup>							
46	10-Nov	6am-6pm	4pm-8am	7am-5pm	CM				CM	M-F <sup>11</sup>	M-F <sup>11</sup>							
47	17-Nov	6am-6pm	4pm-8am	7am-5pm					CM	M-F <sup>11</sup>	M-F <sup>11</sup>							
48	24-Nov	7am-6pm	4pm-8am	7am-5pm					CM	M-F <sup>11</sup>	M-F <sup>11</sup>							
49	1-Dec	7am-6pm	4pm-8am	7am-5pm					CM	M-F <sup>11</sup>	M-F <sup>11</sup>							
50	8-Dec	8am-6pm	3pm-9am	8am-4pm														

SPECIES:	FISHING GEARS:	FISHING HOURS AND DAYS: M=MONDAY, T=TUESDAY, W=WEDNESDAY, TH=THURSDAY, F=FRIDAY, Sa=SATURDAY, Su=SUNDAY
CK = Chinook	RN = Reef Net	< > = Daylight Gillnet Hours for days inside brackets
CO = coho	GN = Drift Gillnet	- = Days separated by dashes denote continuous hours (24 hours / day), except SK and BS gear, and in Areas 7/7A fisheries.
SO = sockeye	SK = Skiff Gillnet	Single days or days separated by commas denote that daily/nightly fishing hours are in effect.
CM = chum	PS = Purse Seine	
PK = pink	BS = Beach Seine	
MGT = Directed Management Species		

Gear and Fishing Restrictions Brief			
GN Restrictions	PS Restrictions	RN Restrictions	BS Restrictions
Area 7/7A sockeye fisheries: "Bird Strip" required	Chum fisheries: 5" strip required	Logbooks required for retention of marked Chinook.	Net Retrieval: nets must be hand pulled to beach.
Area 7/7A: 45 min soak and recovery box required	Area 7/7A: Brail and recovery box Area 7B/7C: Brail and recovery box, during Fraser Panel Control	300 marked Chinook cap for all.	Area 12A: release all non-Coho salmon.
GN release: See release requirements in Chapter 3	PS release: See release requirements in Chapter 3	RF release: See release requirements in Chapter 3	Area 12C: Release Chum prior to Oct. 1

**Table 5. (Continued)**

Mgt week	Week Begins	Areas 10 <sup>17</sup> & 11 <sup>17</sup>			Areas 12,12B <sup>16</sup> & 12C				Area 12A			Area 6D		Area 9A		Skiff Gillnet & Beach Seine Hours
		mgt	GN	PS	mgt	GN	PS	BS <sup>6</sup>	mgt	SK	BS	mgt	SK	mgt	SK <sup>12</sup>	
30	21-Jul				CK											
31	28-Jul				CK			M								7am-7pm
32	4-Aug				CK			M								7am-7pm
33	11-Aug				CK			M							Su-Sa	7am-7pm
34	18-Aug				CK			M					CO		Su-Sa	7am-7pm
35	25-Aug				CK			M	CO	<sup>3</sup>	M,T,W,Th,F		CO		Su-Sa	7am-7pm
36	1-Sep				CK			T	CO	<sup>3</sup>	M,T,W,Th,F		CO		Su-Sa	7am-7pm
37	8-Sep				CO				CO	<sup>3</sup>	M,T,W,Th,F		CO		Su-Sa	7am-7pm
38	15-Sep				CO				CO	<sup>3</sup>	M,T,W,Th,F		CO		Su-Sa	7am-7pm
39	22-Sep				CO				CO	<sup>3</sup>	M,T,W,Th,F	CO	M,T,W,Th,F	CO	Su-Sa	7am-7pm
40	29-Sep				CO				CO	<sup>3</sup>	M,T,W,Th,F	CO	M,T,W,Th,F	CO	Su-Sa	7am-7pm
41	6-Oct				CO							CO	M,T,W,Th,F	CO	Su-Sa	7am-7pm
42	13-Oct	CM	W	Th	CM	<T>	Th					CO	M,T,W,Th,F	CO	Su-Sa	7am-7pm
43	20-Oct	CM	Su,T	M	CM	<Su,T>	M					CO	M,T,W,Th,F	CO	Su-Sa	7am-7pm
44	27-Oct	CM	T,Th	M	CM	<T,Th>	M					CO	M,T,W,Th,F	CO	Su-Sa	7am-7pm
45	3-Nov	CM	Su,T	M,Th	CM	<Su,T>	M,Th									7am-7pm
46	10-Nov	CM	14	14	CM	<T,Th>	M	<sup>14</sup>								7am-7pm
47	17-Nov	CM	14	14	CM	<M,W>	T	<sup>14</sup>								7am-7pm
48	24-Nov	CM						<sup>14</sup>								7am-7pm
49	1-Dec															7am-7pm
50	8-Dec															7am-7pm

**TABLE FOOTNOTES**

1	Openings are subject to change by emergency regulation in-season; Exclusion zones and in-season restrictions applicable to Puget Sound fisheries are described in WAC 220-354.
2	Hours are expressed in local time and use Pacific Standard and Pacific Daylight Time (PDT) as defined per WAC 220-354-190; the hours listed in Table 5 are in effect unless otherwise noted. Fraser Panel fishing times will differ from these hours. WAC 220-354-150 prohibits gillnet openings in the Fraser sockeye or pink fisheries between midnight and 1½ hours after sunrise, to provide protection to seabirds.
3	Fisheries canceled or delayed to protect stocks of concern, per PFMC and North-of-Falcon pre-season agreements, opening possible per in-season run size adjustments.
4	Fishing days in Area 7C are scheduled for the same days as in 7B during weeks 33-37.
5	5:00 AM – 9:00 PM daily schedule for reef net gear.
6	Area 12C beach seine in Hoodsport Hatchery zone only.
7	Gillnets in Area 7/7A chum fisheries must use recovery boxes, release Chinook and coho, and limit soak time (first mesh in to last mesh out) for sets to not exceed 45 minutes in Areas 7 and 7A during weeks 41 and 42. Adjusted gillnet hours during Area 7/7A chum fisheries, 7AM-midnight.
8	Adjusted gillnet hours in Areas 7B/7C weeks 35-37 and Area 7B week 38: open 24 hours per day from 7:00 AM Sunday until 7:00 AM Friday.
9	Area 7B open 24 hours per day from 7:00 AM Sunday of Wk 39 until 11:59 PM (Gillnet) and 6:00PM (Purse Seine) Saturday of Wk 43.
10	7B Whatcom Creek Zone: Potential Closure determined by in-season management needs.
11	Gill Net Open from 'daily hours' start time to 4pm the following day. Purse Seine open 'daily hours'.
12	Area 9A open 24 hours per day from 7:00 AM 8/11 through – 7:00 PM 11/2.
13	When in place, modified gillnet hours in Area 10/11, close a 7:00am the following day
14	Openings pending in-season management discussion.
15	Additional opening is possible for 7/7A chum after co-managers call Oct. 10/14.
16	Hazel Point Closure - Closed to all gears

## 2. 2024 GENERAL PROVISIONS

### 2.1 Commercial License Information

*This sub-chapter presents portions of RCW 77, and WAC 220 which are applicable to commercial licensing requirements for any Puget Sound commercial salmon fishery. This information is not intended to present all laws and regulations pertaining to commercial salmon fishing. Fishers are advised to refer to the Washington State Legislature website for specific rules and regulations.*  
<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

#### License Types, Fees, and Renewals:

(RCW 77.65.160)

The following commercial salmon fishery licenses are required for the license holder to use the specified gear to fish for salmon in state waters. Only a person who meets the qualifications of RCW 77.70.090 may hold a license listed in this subsection. The licenses and their annual license fees, application fees, and surcharges under RCW 77.95.090 are:

License Type	Resident	Non-Resident
Salmon Gill Net - Puget Sound	\$585*	\$970*
Salmon Purse Seine	\$750*	\$1,135*
Salmon Reef Net	\$585*	\$970*
Non-Participant Renewal	\$115*	115*
Emerging Commercial Fishery Permit	\$185	\$295
Replacement fee	\$20	
Designated operator change	\$127	
Designated vessel change	\$140	
* Includes Application Fees and Surcharges		

Notwithstanding the annual license fees and surcharges, a person who holds a resident commercial salmon fishery license shall pay an annual license fee of one hundred dollars plus the surcharge and application fee if all of the following conditions are met: the license holder is at least seventy-five years of age; the license holder owns a fishing vessel and has fished with a resident commercial salmon fishery license for at least thirty years; and the commercial salmon fishery license is for a geographical area other than the Puget Sound. An alternate operator may not be designated for a license renewed at the one hundred dollar annual fee.

License renewal allowed only if license was held during the previous year, or if license was acquired by transfer. Non-participation renewal authorizes the holder of a salmon license to renew it for the following year but not to participate in the fishery during that calendar year.

If, for any reason, the department does not allow any opportunity for a commercial fishery during a calendar year, the director shall either: Waive the requirement to obtain a license for that commercial fishery for that year; or refund applicable license fees upon return of the license (RCW 77.65.060)

#### Commercial Crewmember Licenses

(RCW 77.65.610)

An individual age sixteen and older who works on board any vessel while operating in a commercial fishery regulated by the state must obtain a crewmember license from the department. A crewmember license is required for each individual who participates in the operation of the vessel or the harvest. For the purposes of this section, the term "harvest" includes participation in tending, deploying, retrieving, or baiting fishing gear, harvesting, or placing fish or shellfish in holds.

A crewmember license must be purchased in the name of the individual working as the crewmember. A crewmember license purchased by a crewmember may not be transferred to another individual.

Up to two crewmember licenses may be purchased and held by a commercial fishing license holder for use by any individual working on the vessel named in the commercial fishing license. Each crewmember license held by a commercial fishing license holder covers one crewmember per trip, but the same crewmember license may be used to authorize a different individual to act as a crewmember on a subsequent trip.

The fee for an annual crewmember license is **\$35** for residents and **\$110** for nonresidents. Additional application fees and surcharges do not apply except that if the license is purchased through the automated licensing system the fees authorized in RCW 77.32.050 apply. The annual crewmember license is valid for a calendar year.

Family members of the commercial license holder or alternate operators are exempt from the requirements of this section. For purposes of this section, family members include children, grandchildren, spouse, parents, or siblings of the commercial license holder.

### **Vessel Designation and Registration**

(RCW 77.65.100)

This section applies to all commercial fishery licenses, delivery licenses, and charter licenses. An applicant for a license subject to this section may designate a vessel to be used with the license. Except for emergency salmon delivery licenses, the director may issue a license regardless of whether the applicant designates a vessel. An applicant may designate no more than one vessel on a license subject to this section. A license for a fishery that requires a vessel authorizes no taking or delivery of food fish or shellfish unless a vessel is designated on the license. A delivery license authorizes no delivery of food fish or shellfish unless a vessel is designated on the license.

(WAC 220-351-030)

In any licensed fishery for which a vessel is required under chapter 77.65 RCW, or for any delivery of food fish or shellfish, or for any charter fishery, it is unlawful to fish for, harvest, deliver, or possess food fish or shellfish unless: The licensee has designated the vessel from which the food fish or shellfish are to be taken or delivered; The department has issued a commercial license to the licensee showing the vessel so designated; and The vessel operator has the commercial license in physical possession.

Every vessel designated to participate in a commercial fishery or to deliver food fish or shellfish must have the official Coast Guard documentation number, complete state registration number, or Alaska department of fish and game registration number permanently displayed in **ten-inch tall numbers**, or letters and numbers, of proportionate width, clearly visible from each side of the vessel. It is unlawful to participate in a commercial fishery or deliver food fish or shellfish without having such numbers displayed. This subsection does not apply to salmon guide, charter, or nontransferable emergency salmon delivery licensees, or to Canadian vessels delivering under a nonlimited entry delivery license.

(WAC 220-351-020)

At the time a vessel is first designated on any license pursuant to WAC 220-351-030, the department will issue a permanent vessel registration number and a set of two vessel registration decals. The vessel registration decals must be affixed to the registered vessel in a permanent manner and be clearly visible from each side of the vessel.

### **Alternate Operator**

(RCW 77.65.110, 440)

This section applies to all commercial fishery licenses and delivery licenses: A person designated as an alternate operator must possess an alternate operator license issued under RCW 77.65.130, and be designated on the fishery license prior to engaging in the activities authorized by the license. The holder of the commercial fishery license or delivery license may designate up to two alternate operators for the license, except: Whiting—Puget Sound fishery licensees may not designate alternate operators; Emergency salmon delivery licensees may not designate alternate operators. The fee to change the alternate operator designation is **\$22** in addition to the application fee of **\$105**. The fee for an annual alternate operator license is **\$185** for residents and **\$570** for nonresidents. The application fee for both resident and nonresident alternate operators is **\$70**

## Vessel Operation

(RCW 77.65.130)

A person who holds a commercial fishery license or a delivery license may operate the vessel designated on the license. A person who is not the license holder may operate the vessel designated on the license only if: The person holds an alternate operator license issued by the director; and the person is designated as an alternate operator on the underlying commercial fishery license or delivery license under RCW 77.65.110.

Only an individual at least sixteen years of age may hold an alternate operator license.

No individual may hold more than one alternate operator license. An individual who holds an alternate operator license may be designated as an alternate operator on an unlimited number of commercial fishery licenses or delivery licenses under RCW 77.65.110.

*For additional and most up to date information fishers are advised contact  
WDFW Licensing Division:  
(360) 902-2464.*

## 2.2 Wholesale Fish Buying, Selling, and Reporting

*This sub-chapter presents portions of RCW 77 and WAC 220 applicable to buying, selling, and reporting fish caught in any Puget Sound commercial salmon fishery. This information is not intended to present all laws and regulations pertaining to commercial salmon fishing. Fishers are advised to refer to the Washington State Legislature website for specific rules and regulations.*  
<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

### Fish Dealer License

(RCW 77.65.280)

A fish dealer license is required for a person in the state who: Takes possession of raw or frozen fish or shellfish, in whole or in parts, to prepare, repackage, process, or preserve. This includes, but is not limited to: Canning or processing of fish or shellfish for payment, whether the fish or shellfish is commercially harvested or taken for personal use; and the commercial manufacture or preparation of fertilizer, oil, meal, caviar, fish bait, or any other by-products from fish or shellfish.

A fish dealer license is required for a person in the state who engages in the wholesale selling, buying, or brokering of raw or frozen fish or shellfish. Certain buyers may be additionally required to obtain a wholesale fish buyer endorsement.

A fish dealer license is not required for: Licensed commercial fish or shellfish harvesters who either sell only to licensed wholesale fish buyers or who possess a limited fish seller endorsement; Retail businesses that purchase exclusively from Washington licensed wholesale fish buyers or from limited fish sellers for sale to end consumers.

A business engaged in any activity requiring a fish dealer license only needs to purchase one fish dealer license to cover the actions of all employees.

The annual license fee for a resident fish dealer is **\$400**. The fee for a nonresident fish dealer license is **\$785**. The application fee for both resident and nonresident licenses is \$105.

### Wholesale Fish Buyer Endorsement

(RCW 77.65.340)

A wholesale fish buyer endorsement is required for a licensed fish dealer: To take first possession or ownership of fish or shellfish directly from a commercial fisher that has landed into the state of Washington; To take first possession or ownership of raw or frozen fish or shellfish in the state of Washington from interstate or foreign commerce; or To engage in the wholesale buying or selling of fish or shellfish harvested by Indian fishers lawfully exercising fishing rights reserved by federal statute, treaty, or executive order, and the dealer is also responsible for documenting the commercial harvest and sales according to the rules of the department.

A business licensed as a fish dealer must purchase at least one wholesale fish buyer endorsement to engage in the activities of this section, which allows the business to buy or sell on its premises and which allows one named employee to buy and sell off premises. A business must obtain an additional wholesale fish buyer endorsement for each additional employee who buys and sells fish or shellfish off premises.

The annual fee for a resident wholesale fish buyer's endorsement for business operations with only one fish buyer is **\$50**. The annual fee for a resident wholesale fish buyer's endorsement for business operations with two or more employees is **\$245**. The annual fee for a nonresident wholesale fish buyer's endorsement is **\$630**. The application fee for both resident and nonresident endorsements is **\$105**.

A wholesale fish buyer endorsement is required for a licensed fish dealer to take first possession or ownership of fish or shellfish directly from a commercial fisher that has landed into the state of Washington.



## Limited Fish Seller Endorsement

(RCW 77.65.510)

The limited fish seller endorsement permits a license holder or alternate operator to clean, dress, and sell his or her commercially harvested catch directly to consumers at retail. The limited [fish] seller endorsement may be issued as an optional addition to all holders of a commercial fishing license issued by the department and may be purchased at the time of the underlying license sale or any time thereafter. The holder of a limited fish seller endorsement selling their own catch directly to consumers is exempt from the permitting requirements of chapter 246-215 WAC.

An individual need only add one limited fish seller endorsement to his or her license portfolio. If a limited fish seller endorsement is selected by an individual holding more than one commercial fishing license issued by the department, an endorsement is considered to be added to all commercial fishing licenses held by that individual, and is the only endorsement required for the individual to sell at retail any species permitted by any of the underlying endorsed licenses.

The fee for a resident limited fish seller endorsement is **\$70**. The fee for a nonresident limited fish seller endorsement is **\$455**. The application fee for both a resident and nonresident endorsement is **\$105**. The holder of a limited fish seller endorsement is responsible for documenting the commercial harvest and sales according to the rules of the department.

The limited fish seller endorsement is to be held by a natural person and is not transferable or assignable. If the endorsed license is transferred, the limited fish seller endorsement immediately becomes void, and the transferor is not eligible for a full or prorated reimbursement of the annual fee paid for the limited fish seller endorsement. Upon becoming void, the holder of a limited fish seller endorsement must surrender the physical endorsement to the department.

The holder of a qualifying commercial fishing license or an alternate operator designated on such a license, must either possess a limited fish seller endorsement or a wholesale fish buyer endorsement provided for in RCW 77.65.340 in order to lawfully sell their catch or harvest in the state to anyone other than a licensed wholesale fish buyer.

## Fish Tickets

(WAC 220-352-020)

Wholesale fish buyers must complete a state of Washington fish receiving ticket for: All fish and shellfish delivered in the state of Washington. This includes fish or shellfish transported into Washington from another state, territory, or country as well as fish or shellfish landed or harvested in Washington and delivered into interstate or foreign commerce. Additionally, any other fish or shellfish landed by the fisher and not delivered to the buyer, such as weigh-back, zero-value product, or take-home, must also be recorded on a fish receiving ticket. Purchase of fish or shellfish from a fisher who is also a dealer, if the fisher/dealer has not previously completed a fish receiving ticket or has not provided a copy of the fish receiving ticket or ticket number as proof.

State of Washington fish receiving tickets are required for retail sales offered under a limited fish seller endorsement (WAC 220-352-250).

If a fisher wishes to donate fish or shellfish to a nonprofit or other organization but does not possess a valid wholesale fish buyer or a limited fish seller endorsement, they must deliver to an original receiver who must report the fish or shellfish on a fish receiving ticket.

(WAC 220-352-140)

The fisher and original receiver of both treaty and non-treaty fish or shellfish must sign the appropriate completed fish receiving ticket paper form to certify that all entries on the ticket are accurate and correct.

If an agent of the fisher delivers fish or shellfish to the original receiver, the receiver and the agent must complete and sign the fish receiving ticket together with the transportation ticket. The receiver and fisher shall assume complete responsibility for the correctness of all entries on the fish receiving ticket.

Any employee of a licensed wholesale fish buyer who is authorized to receive or purchase fish or shellfish for that buyer on the premises of the primary business address or any of its plant locations as declared on the license application or agreement described under WAC 220-352-035(3), is authorized to initiate and sign fish receiving tickets on behalf of his or her employer. The business, firm, or licensed wholesale fish buyer that the receivers are operating under is

responsible for the accuracy and legibility of all documents initiated in their name by any employee or agent.

### **Sale and Purchase of Commercial Caught Salmon**

(WAC 220-354-030)

It is unlawful for any person licensed to take salmon for commercial purposes to:

Possess for personal use more than three (3) salmon per landing and delivery, regardless of species, provided that: The commercial season is open for the species taken; and the fish retained are lawful to possess when taken by the gear type for which the person is licensed to fish; and the daily limit and possession limit described in this subsection also apply to crew members of the fishing vessel designated on the commercial fishing license.

Fail to report and document all salmon taken during a commercial fishery on state of Washington fish receiving tickets, including fish retained for personal use. Sell any salmon taken under such license to anyone other than a wholesale fish buyer located within or outside the state of Washington: Except that a person who is a wholesale fish buyer or limited fish seller, may sell his catch to individuals or corporations other than licensed wholesale fish buyers. Sell, barter or attempt to sell or barter salmon eggs that have been removed from the body cavity of salmon unless all carcasses from which eggs have been removed are sold to the same buyer except this subsection does not apply to troll caught salmon or the eggs from such salmon. Discard salmon that may be lawfully retained except fishers may discard salmon that are unmarketable due to pinniped predation.

It is unlawful for a wholesale fish buyer to purchase or attempt to purchase salmon eggs without also purchasing all male and female salmon taken by the fisher, including the salmon carcasses from which the eggs were removed.

### **Quick Reporting Information**

(WAC 220-352-325)

**All Puget Sound salmon fisheries are designated as “quick reporting required” fisheries, and commercial purchasers and receivers must comply with the provisions of WAC 220-352-325.**

During any Puget Sound fishery opening that is designated as “quick reporting required,” An original receiver must report all purchases of salmon and sturgeon made (wholesale buyer) or offered for retail sale (limited fish seller) on the previous calendar day.

The report must include: The wholesale fish buyer or limited fish seller name and purchasing location; The date of purchase; Each fish receiving ticket number, including the first alphanumeric letter, used on the purchasing date; and The following catch data for each fish ticket used: The total number of days fished, gear, catch area, species, number, and total weight for each species purchased and all take home fish not purchased (wholesale fish buyer) or sold (limited fish seller).

When quick reporting is required, the original receiver must submit the report by 10:00 a.m. on the day after the purchase date unless otherwise specified in a voluntary electronic fish receiving ticket agreement. Submission of a report is not complete until the report arrives at the designated department location. In fisheries under Fraser Panel Control within Fraser Panel Area Waters (area defined under Art. XV, Annex II, Pacific Salmon Treaty 1985), other reporting requirements not listed in this subsection may be necessary under Subpart F of the International Fisheries Regulations, 50 C.F.R. Chapter III Sec. 300.93.

**QUICK REPORTING**  
**Transmit catch data by either:**

*FAX transmission to: (360) 902-2949*

*E-mail to: [psfishtickets@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:psfishtickets@dfw.wa.gov)*

*Telephone to: (866)-791-1279*

*State copies of fish receiving tickets must be received here within six (6) working days*

**FISH RECEIVING TICKETS**  
**State copies must be sent to:**

*Department of Fish & Wildlife  
Fish Tickets, PO Box 43200  
Olympia, Washington 98504-3200*

*For further information on fish receiving tickets: Contact WDFW at (360) 902-2661.*

## 2.3 Fishing Rules and Regulations

*This sub-chapter presents portions of RCW 77, and WAC 220 applicable to the general rules and regulations concerning Puget Sound commercial salmon fishing. Specific gear regulations will be detailed in chapter 3. This information is not intended to present all laws and regulations pertaining to commercial salmon fishing. Fishers are advised to refer to the Washington State Legislature website for specific rules and regulations.*

<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

### General Possession and Retention of Fish

The following regulations apply to the general conduct of commercial fisheries in Washington State. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife regulates the possession and retention of salmon and other species caught. Where applicable, these regulations also describe lawful and unlawful acts for commercial salmon fisheries upon the Puget Sound. Further specific gear regulations and restrictions are found in chapter 3: “Commercial Fishing Vessel Regulations”. The following excerpts from the WAC pertain to commercial Non-Treaty (All-Citizen) net fishery vessels:

(WAC 220-353-010)

It is unlawful for any person to possess any food fish or shellfish within the jurisdiction of the state of Washington, except in areas open to commercial fishing or where the possession of salmon or other food fish or shellfish for commercial purposes is permissible under state law or department rule.

It is permissible to fish for, possess, process, and otherwise deal in food fish and fish offal or scrap for any purpose, except it is unlawful to use any of the following listed species for purposes other than human consumption or fishing bait: “...Salmon Chinook (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), Coho (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Chum (*Oncorhynchus keta*), Pink (*Oncorhynchus gorbusha*), Sockeye (*Oncorhynchus nerka*)...” Violation of this section is punishable under RCW 77.15.550, Violation of commercial fishing area or time—Penalty.

(WAC 220-353-040)

It is unlawful to club, gaff, snag, snare, dip net, harass, spear, stone, or otherwise molest, injure, kill, destroy, or shoot with a firearm, crossbow, bow and arrow, or compressed air gun, any fish or shellfish or parts of fish or shellfish for commercial purposes, except: It is permissible to use a dip net, gaff, or club in the landing of food fish or shellfish. However, it is unlawful to use a fish pew, pitchfork, or any other instrument that penetrates the body of the fish or shellfish if the fish or shellfish will not be retained or are unlawful to possess.

(WAC 220-353-050)

It is unlawful to possess any food fish or shellfish in a condition where the species, length, weight, or sex cannot be determined if a species, species group or category, length, weight, or sex limit is prescribed for that species on a vessel engaging in commercial fishing or that has commercially caught fish aboard, except: It is permissible to possess fish or shellfish legally taken for commercial purposes, landed, and properly accounted for on a completed fish receiving ticket.

(WAC 220-353-090)

In order to prevent the sale of food fish or shellfish taken under personal-use fishing regulations, it shall be unlawful to sell, or offer for sale or purchase, or offer to purchase, any food fish or shellfish unless taken with lawful commercial gear, in an area open to commercial fishing for that species, and the fisherman has in his possession at the time of sale a valid commercial fishing license.

WAC 220-353-140

It shall be unlawful to take, fish for or possess salmon for personal use by angling from any vessel engaged in any type of commercial fishing or having commercially caught food fish aboard.

(WAC 220-354-010)

It is unlawful to operate in any river, stream or channel any gillnet gear longer than three-fourths the width of the stream; this provision shall supersede all other regulations in conflict with it.

It is unlawful to take, fish for or possess for commercial purposes chinook salmon less than 28 inches in length or coho salmon less than 16 inches in length, except as follows: In the Puget Sound, Grays Harbor, Willapa Bay and Columbia River commercial salmon net fisheries, there is no minimum size limit on salmon taken with gillnet gear .

It is unlawful to set, maintain, or operate any reef net gear at any location which places the stern ends of either or both reef net boats of said gear less than a distance of 800 feet in front of or behind the head buoys of any row or reef net gear, within the boundaries of the Lummi Island Reef Net Fisheries Area, as described in RCW 77.50.050. (3) of WAC 220-354-010 do not apply to salmon possessed under this subsection.

(WAC 220-355-040)

It is permissible to retain bottomfish for commercial purposes taken with commercial salmon gear incidental to a lawful salmon fishery in any waters of Puget Sound, except lingcod during closures provided in WAC 220-355-020.

(WAC 220-355-020 (12))

It is unlawful to retain any rockfish caught with commercial fishing gear in all Puget Sound Marine Fish-Shellfish Management and Catch reporting Areas.

### **Fish Friendly Certification**

Each year the Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife host a “Fish Friendly: Best Fishing Practice” workshop for new commercial fishers wanting to participate in any Area 7 or Area 7A commercial salmon fishery. This workshop details requirements such as brailing, recovery boxes, and limited soak times, needed for participation in the Area 7/7A fisheries. Upon completion of the workshop, fishers receive a department-issued “Fish Friendly” certification card. This certification does not expire, however, a valid card must be held by the licensed operator or alternate operator. Below, are the sections of the WAC authorizing this certification requirement:

(WAC 220-354-100 (8))

It is unlawful to fish for salmon with purse seine gear in Puget Sound Salmon Management and Catch Reporting Areas 7 and 7A unless the vessel operator has attended a “Fish Friendly” best fishing practices workshop and is in immediate possession of a department-issued certification card.

(WAC 220-354-140 (6))

It is unlawful to fish for salmon with gillnet gear in Areas 7 and 7A unless the vessel operator has attended a “Fish Friendly” best fishing practices workshop and is in possession of a department-issued certification card.

*For more information on the specific “Fish Friendly” gear requirements, see Section 3:  
Commercial Fishing Vessel Regulations.*

## 2.4 Commercial Fishery Observers

*This sub-chapter presents portions of RCW 77, and WAC 220 applicable to the Puget Sound Commercial Salmon Monitoring Program and Onboard Fisheries Observers. This information is not intended to present all laws and regulations pertaining to the prosecution of commercial salmon fishing. Fishers are advised to refer to the Washington State Legislature's website or specific rules and regulations.*

<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

### The Puget Sound Commercial Salmon Monitoring Program

In the late 1980's the WDFW, then the Washington Department of Fisheries, began a commercial fisheries observer program to better inform salmon management practices. This program continues Fisheries Observers are Department staff tasked with collecting several type of data while aboard commercial salmon vessels. These data include but are not limited to: location, catch per unit effort, species composition, fishing vessel gear and set data, and genetic stock identification. Due to the logistics and the nature of the Puget Sound commercial salmon fisheries, Fisheries Observers board underway via vessel to vessel transfers. The following RCW and WAC detail the authority and obligation of the Fisheries Observers:

(RCW 77.12.071)

Department employees, in carrying out their duties under this title on public lands or state waters, may: Collect samples of tissue, fluids, or other bodily parts of fish, wildlife, or shellfish; or Board vessels in state waters engaged in commercial and recreational harvest activities to collect samples of fish, wildlife, or shellfish. Department employees shall ask permission from the owner or his or her agent before boarding vessels in state waters. If an employee of the department is denied access to any vessel where access was sought for the purposes of this subsection, the department employee may contact an enforcement officer for assistance in applying for a search warrant authorizing access to the vessel in order to carry out the department employee's duties under this section.

Department employees must have official identification, announce their presence and intent, and perform their duties in a safe and professional manner while carrying out the activities in this section.

(WAC 220-305-010(7))

It is unlawful for any person or entity licensed by the department or bringing fish or shellfish into the state to fail to comply with the directions of authorized department personnel related to the collection of sampling data or material from fish or shellfish. It is also unlawful for any person or entity to fail to relinquish to the department, upon request, any part of a salmon or other fish containing coded-wire tags including, but not limited to, the snouts of salmon with clipped adipose fins.

***For more information on the Puget Sound Commercial Salmon Monitoring Program please contact WDFW Fish Program at: (360)-902-2677 or (564)-200-3642***

### 3. 2024 COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSEL REGULATIONS

The following regulations apply to the general conduct of commercial fisheries in Washington State. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife creates and regulates general commercial fishery gear rules. Where applicable, these regulations also describe lawful and unlawful acts for commercial salmon fisheries upon the Puget Sound. Further specific gear regulations and restrictions are found in section 3: “Commercial Fishing Vessel Regulations”. The following excerpts from the WAC pertain to commercial Non-Treaty (All-Citizen) net fishery vessels:

Violations of the following are punishable under RCW 77.15.520, Commercial fishing—Unlawful gear or methods—Penalty: Buoys affixed to unattended commercial food fish or shellfish gear must be visible on the surface of the water except during strong tidal flow or extreme weather conditions. It is unlawful to operate any gill net unless there is a buoy, float, or other marker affixed within 5 feet of each end of the net and visible on the cork line. The buoy, float, or other marker must be labeled legibly and permanently with the name and gill-net license number of the owner of the net. It is unlawful to leave a gill net unattended at any time in the commercial salmon fishery. It is unlawful to allow salmon, sturgeon, or fish unlawful to retain that are entangled in commercial nets to pass through a power block or onto a power reel or drum.

It is unlawful for any person who loses or abandons non-tribal commercial net fishing gear within the waters of the state to fail to: Contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife within 24 hours of the loss, by phone at 855-542-3935, or online at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/derelect/>; and Provide the following required information: Type of gear; General location of the gear; Latitude (if known) of the gear; Longitude (if known) of the gear; Estimated water depth where the gear is located; Date the gear was lost; Time the gear was lost; Name of gear’s owner; Telephone number of the gear’s owner; and Email address (if available) of the gear’s owner. Failing to report lost or abandoned non-tribal commercial net gear under this subsection is an infraction under RCW 77.15.160.

#### 3.1 Purse Seine Regulations

*This subchapter presents portions of RCW 77, and WAC 220 applicable to Purse Seine vessels prosecuting Puget Sound commercial salmon fishing. The specific gear regulations detailed herein apply at all times during the season. This information is not intended to present all laws and regulations pertaining to the prosecution of commercial salmon fishing. Fishers are advised to refer to the Washington State Legislature’s website for specific rules and regulations.*

<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

**For this sub-chapter a Purse Seine is defined as:**

(WAC 220-350-110)

“... including all types of fishing gear consisting of a lead line, cork line, auxiliary lines, purse line and purse rings and mesh net webbing fashioned in such a manner that it is used to encircle fish, and in addition prevents their escape under the bottom or lead line of the net by drawing in the bottom of the net by means of the purse line so that it forms a closed bag.”

“Bunt” is defined as the portion of the purse seine net located at the end of the net designed to form the bag that holds the net’s catch after the net is pursed and is the last portion of the net to be pulled aboard the catching vessel.

#### Release of Incidentally Caught Salmon

(WAC 220-354-120)

It is unlawful to retain the following salmon species taken with purse seine gear within the following areas during the following periods: Chinook salmon - At all times in Areas 7, 7A, 8, 8A, 8D, 10, 11, 12, 12B, and 12C, and after October 20 in Area 7B. Coho salmon - At all times in Areas 7, 7A, 10, 11, 12, 12B, 12C and prior to September 1 in Area 7B. Chum salmon - Prior to October 1 in Areas 7, 7A, prior to October 10 in 9A, and at all times in 8A. Sockeye – At all times in Areas 7, 7A, 7B, 7C, 8, 8A, 8D, 10, 11, 12, 12B, and 12C. Sockeye retention may be allowed in Areas 7 and 7A if authorized under the Fraser Panel.



## Lawful Gear Requirements: Net and Mesh, Recovery Boxes, and Brailers

(WAC 220-354-100)

Lawful purse seine salmon nets in Puget Sound must not exceed 1,800 feet in length along the cork line while wet, and purse seine and lead combined must not exceed 2,200 feet. Neither type can contain meshes of a size less than 3-1/2 inches. Meshes of the seine and lead cannot be lashed together to form one continuous piece of webbed gear. A person may have, as part of the purse seine, a bunt not more than 10 fathoms long. However, the mesh size must not be less than 3-1/2 inches.

It is unlawful to take or fish for salmon in Puget Sound with purse seine gear that contains mesh webbing constructed of a twine-size smaller than 210/30d nylon, 12-thread cotton, or the equivalent diameter in any other material.

It is unlawful for any purse seine vessel to carry an extra lead or portion thereof unless stowed below decks during the fishing operation. It is also unlawful to carry an extra lead or portion thereof aboard the skiff of the purse seine vessel.

Purse seine mesh size is defined as the distance between the inside of one knot to the outside of the opposite vertical knot of one mesh. Minimum mesh size is met if a wedge of legal size can be passed without undue force through the mesh while the mesh is wet.

A purse seine is not considered to be fishing once both ends of the seine are attached to the primary vessel.

It is unlawful to take or fish for salmon with purse seine gear in Puget Sound unless at least four sections, each measuring no less than 12 inches in length along the cork line in the bunt, and within 75 fathoms of the bunt, have no corks or floats attached. These four sections must be spaced such that one section is along the cork line in the bunt, within 5 fathoms of the seine net, and the other three sections are spaced at least 20 fathoms apart along the cork line within 75 fathoms of the bunt.

### Special Purse Seine Mesh Size

(WAC 220-354-110)

It shall be unlawful to take, fish for or possess salmon taken with purse seine gear in any Puget Sound Salmon Management and Catch Reporting Area exclusive of sockeye and pink salmon management unless said purse seine gear is constructed so that the first 100 meshes below the corkline that are within 75 fathoms of the bunt, excluding the bunt, are of a size not less than 5 inches stretch measure.

### Brailing and Deck Landing

(WAC 220-354-130)

The brailer must be constructed in the following manner and with the following specifications: A bag of web hung on a rigid hoop attached to a handle; the bag must be opened by releasing a line running through rings attached to the bottom of the bag; and the web must be of soft knotless construction, and the mesh size cannot exceed 57 mm (2.25 inches) measured along two contiguous sides of a single mesh. Hand-held dip nets must be constructed of a shallow bag of soft, knotless web attached to a handle.

Fish may be brought on board without using a brailer or dip net as specified in this section if the number of fish in the net is small enough that the crew can hand-pull the bunt onto the vessel without the use of hydraulic or mechanical assistance.

(WAC 220-354-130)

It is unlawful for any purse seine vessel operator landing salmon to do so directly into the hold. All salmon must be landed onto the deck or sorting tray or table of the harvesting vessel with the hold hatch cover(s) closed until all salmon that cannot be retained are released; and additionally:

In Areas 7 and 7A, and prior to the Fraser Panel relinquishing management control in Areas 7B and 7C, it is unlawful for any purse seine vessel operator to bring salmon aboard a vessel unless all salmon captured in the seine net are removed from the seine net using a brailer or dip net meeting the specifications in this section prior to the seine net being removed from the water, unless otherwise provided for in this section.



## Recovery Boxes

(WAC 220-354-100 (7))

When brailing is required, it is unlawful to take or fish for salmon with purse seine gear unless the purse seine vessel has aboard and uses operable recovery boxes as described in this subsection. Dimensions and capacities of required recovery boxes: Recovery boxes must have two chambers per box if one box is used, or one chamber per box if two boxes are used. Each recovery box chamber must have an inside length measurement of 48 inches, an inside width measurement of 10 inches, and an inside height measurement of 16 inches. Each chamber of the recovery box must have an inlet hole measuring between 3/4 inch and 1 inch in diameter. The inlet hole must be centered horizontally across the door or wall of the chamber, and the bottom of the hole must be located 1-3/4 inches above the floor of the chamber. Each chamber of the recovery box must include a water outlet hole on the opposite wall from the inlet hole, and the outlet hole must be at least 1-1/2 inches in diameter, with the bottom of the outlet hole located 12 inches above the floor of the chamber. Flow of water through each chamber of the recovery boxes must be not less than 16 gallons per minute, nor more than 20 gallons per minute.

Each box and chamber must be operating during any time that the net is in the water. The vessel operator must demonstrate to department employees, upon request, that the pumping system is delivering the proper volume of fresh seawater into each chamber. All salmon that will not be retained must be released immediately with care and with the least possible injury to the fish, or placed into the operating recovery box. Any fish that is bleeding or lethargic must be placed in the recovery box prior to being released. All fish placed in the recovery boxes must be released within the same catch area as the area of capture, and the release must occur prior to landing or docking.

In order for fishers to participate in openings where brailing is required, fishers must use a recovery box and operate the box in compliance with the provisions of WAC 220-354-100 (7)(a) through (f). **Recovery box must be operating during any time that the net is in the water. It is unlawful to fail to do so.**

### 3.2 Gillnet and Skiff Gillnet Regulations

*This sub-chapter presents portions of RCW 77, and WAC 220 applicable to Gillnet vessels prosecuting Puget Sound commercial salmon fishing. The specific gear regulations detailed herein apply at all times during the season. This information is not intended to present all laws and regulations pertaining to commercial salmon fishing. Fishers are advised to refer to the Washington State Legislature’s website for specific rules and regulations.*

<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

**For this sub-chapter a Gillnet and Skiff Gillnet are defined as:**

**WAC 220-350-060**

“...a gillnet of single web construction, not anchored, tied, staked, placed, or weighted in such a manner that it cannot drift.”

**WAC 220-350-170**

“...a gillnet of single web construction with floats along the corkline sufficient to float the net. A skiff gillnet may be laid in part on shore, but may not be anchored, tied, or staked, nor have a lead line so heavily weighted that the net cannot drift.”

#### Release of Incidentally Caught Salmon

(WAC 220-354-160)

It is unlawful to retain the following salmon species taken with Gillnet and Skiff gillnet gear within the following areas during the following periods: Chinook salmon - Areas 7, 7A: from 10/09 – 10/18, Areas 6D, 9A, 10, 11, 12A: at all times in. Coho salmon - Areas 7, 7A: from 10/09– 10/18. 10, 11. Pink salmon-Area 11 Chum salmon – Area 6D: prior to 10/15, Area 9A: prior to 10/1, 12A: at all times. Sockeye – At all times in Areas 7, 7A, 7B, 7C, 8, 8A, 8D, 10, 11, 12, 12B, and 12C. Sockeye retention may be allowed in Areas 7 and 7A if authorized under the Fraser Panel.

Puget Sound Release of Incidental Caught Salmon			
Area	Target Species	Release Species	Release Requirements
6D	Coho	Chinook	Release at All Times
6D	Coho	Chum	Release prior to Oct 15th
7,7A	Chum	Chinook, Coho, Sockeye	Release Oct 9th - Oct 18th
7B,7C	Chinook, Coho, Chum	Sockeye	Release at All Times
8D	Coho, Chum	Sockeye	Release at All Times
9A	Coho	Chum	Release Prior to Oct 10th
9A	Coho	Chinook	Release at All Times
10,11	Chum	Sockeye	Release at All Times
12A	Coho	Chinook, Chum	Release at All Times
12,12B,12C	Chum	Sockeye	Release at All Times

(WAC 220-354-140)

It is unlawful to use drift gillnet salmon gear in Puget Sound that exceeds 1,800 feet in length or contains meshes of a size less than 5 inches.

It is unlawful to use skiff gillnet salmon nets in Puget Sound that exceed 600 feet in length, 90 meshes in depth, or that contain meshes of a size less than 5 inches, except in Area 9A, where skiff gillnets are further restricted by not being more than 60 meshes deep. It is unlawful to retrieve skiff gillnets by any means except by hand (no hydraulics may be used). It is unlawful to fail to attend to skiff gillnets at all times.

Drift gillnets and skiff gillnets shall be operated substantially in a straight line. It is unlawful to set such nets in a circle or

to set them in other than a substantially straight line. It is unlawful to operate any drift gillnet, attended or unattended, unless there is affixed, within five feet of each end of the net, two red size A-3 buoys, marking the visible end of the cork line portion of the net. One of the two buoys shall be marked in a visible, legible, and permanent manner with the name and gillnet license number of the fisher. The cork line portion of the net shall be marked every 50 fathoms of the net with size A-1 buoys.

It is unlawful to take or fish for salmon with gillnet gear in Areas 7 or 7A sockeye or pink salmon fisheries unless said gillnet gear is constructed so that the first 20 meshes below the cork line are composed of five-inch mesh, white opaque, minimum 210/30d (#12) diameter, nylon twine.

Puget Sound Gillnet Mesh Restrictions	
Target Species	Mesh Size Restrictions (minimum inches)
Chinook	7"
Chinook Area 7C	7": through WK 37
Coho	5"
Coho Area 9A	5": with 60 mesh maximum depth
Pink:	5": min and max
Chum: All Areas	6.25"
Frasery Sockeye	5" min to 5.5" maximum

### Recovery Boxes

(WAC 220-354-140 (5))

It is unlawful to take or fish for salmon with gillnet gear when recovery boxes are required in areas defined under WAC 220-301-030 unless the gillnet vessel has aboard and uses said operable recovery boxes as described in this subsection. Dimensions and capacities of required recovery boxes: Recovery boxes must have two chambers, if one box, or one chamber in each box, if two boxes. Each recovery box chamber must have an inside length measurement of 48 inches, an inside width measurement of 10 inches, and an inside height measurement of 16 inches. Each chamber of the recovery box must have an inlet hole measuring between 3/4 inch and 1 inch in diameter. The inlet hole must be centered horizontally across the door or wall of the chamber, and the bottom of the hole must be located 1-3/4 inches above the floor of the chamber. Each chamber of the recovery box must include a water outlet hole on the opposite wall from the inlet hole, and the outlet hole must be at least 1-1/2 inches in diameter, with the bottom of the outlet hole located 12 inches above the floor of the chamber. Flow of water through each chamber of the recovery boxes must be not less than 16 gallons per minute, nor more than 20 gallons per minute.

***Each box and chamber must be operating during any time that the net is being retrieved or picked.*** The vessel operator must demonstrate to department employees, upon request, that the pumping system is delivering the proper volume of fresh seawater into each chamber. All salmon not to be retained must be released immediately with care and with the least possible injury to the fish, or placed into the operating recovery box. Any fish that is bleeding or lethargic must be placed in the recovery box prior to being released. All fish placed in the recovery boxes must be released within the same catch area as the area of capture, and the release must occur prior to landing or docking.

### 3.3 Reef Net Regulations

*This sub-chapter presents portions of RCW 77, and WAC 220 applicable to Reef Nets prosecuting Puget Sound commercial salmon fishing. The specific gear regulations detailed herein apply at all times during the season. This information is not intended to present all laws and regulations pertaining to commercial salmon fishing. Fishers are advised to refer to the Washington State Legislature's website for specific rules and regulations.*  
<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

**For this sub-chapter a Reef Net is defined as:**

(WAC 220-350-120)

"... a non self-fishing open bunt square or rectangular section of mesh netting suspended between two anchored boats fashioned in such a manner that to impound salmon passing over the net, the net be raised to the surface. The lead or leads of any "reef net" must be floating at all times, except under stress of tidal conditions, and shall not be fixed to any piling whatsoever, nor shall the lead or leads be constructed of any kind of mesh webbing. In the construction of any "reef net" no principle of a fyke net or fish trap may be employed.

#### **Release of Incidentally Caught Salmon**

(WAC 220-354-180)

For 2024, it is unlawful at all times to retain unmarked Chinook salmon taken with reef net gear, and it is unlawful to retain chum salmon taken with reef net gear prior to October 1.

**\*\* WDFW has mandated a 972 fish retention limit on unmarked Coho through September 30. The total unmarked and marked Coho salmon retention limit is not to exceed 1,000 in October.\*\***

**It is unlawful to retain marked Chinook with reef net gear if the fisher does not have in his or her immediate possession a department-issued Puget Sound Reef Net Logbook with all retained Chinook accounted for in the logbook. Marked Chinook are those with a clipped adipose fin and a healed scar at the site of the clipped fin. It is unlawful to retain unmarked coho with reef net gear if the fisher does not have in his or her immediate possession a department-issued Puget Sound Reef Net Logbook with all retained unmarked coho accounted for in the logbook. Unmarked coho are those with an intact adipose fin.**

*Completed logs must be submitted and received within six (6) working days to:  
Puget Sound Commercial Salmon Manager  
Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife  
PO Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504*

#### **Lawful Reef Net Gear Requirements**

(WAC 220-354-170)

Lawful reef net salmon nets in Puget Sound must not exceed 300 meshes on any side nor contain meshes of a size less than 3-1/2 inches nor utilize more than two leads. Each of the leads must not exceed 200 feet in length, measured from the bows of the reef net boats to the nearest end of the head buoys. The use of any false, detached, or auxiliary lead is unlawful.

It is unlawful to fish for salmon with reef net gear in Puget Sound Salmon Management and Catch Reporting Areas 7 and 7A unless the vessel operator has attended a "Fish Friendly" best fishing practices workshop and is in immediate possession of a department-issued certification card.

### 3.4 Beach Seine Regulations

*This sub-chapter presents portions of RCW 77, and WAC 220 applicable to Beach Seines prosecuting Puget Sound commercial salmon fishing. The specific gear regulations detailed herein apply at all times during the season. This information is not intended to present all laws and regulations pertaining to commercial salmon fishing. Fishers are advised to refer to the Washington State Legislature's for specific rules and regulations.*  
<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

**For this sub-chapter a Beach Seine is defined as:**

(WAC 220-350-040)

"... fishing gear consisting of a lead line, cork line, auxiliary lines and a mesh net webbing fashioned in such a manner that it can be used to encircle fish in waters adjacent to any beach, with the catch landed directly on the beach. It shall include gear commonly known as "beach seine" and "smelt drag bag net."

#### **Participation**

(WAC 220-354-200)

Permit holders are required to participate in the salmon beach seine experimental fishery. For purposes of this section, "participation" means the holder of the salmon beach seine experimental permit is aboard the designated vessel in the open fishery. If the salmon beach seine experimental permit holder fails to participate, the salmon beach seine experimental permit issued to that fisher will be voided, and a new salmon beach seine experimental permit will be issued through a random drawing from the applicant pool. The department may require permit holders to show proof of participation by maintaining a department approved logbook or registering with state officials each day the salmon beach seine experimental permit holder participates. Persons who participate in the fishery but violate conditions of a salmon beach seine experimental permit will have their permit voided, and a new salmon beach seine experimental permit will be reissued through a random drawing from the pool of the voided permit holder. The department will issue six salmon beach seine experimental fishery permits.

Any person who fails to purchase the license, fails to participate, or violates the conditions of a salmon beach seine experimental permit will have his or her name permanently withdrawn from the pools.

#### **Release of Incidentally Caught Salmon**

(WAC 220-354-210)

It is unlawful to take, fish for, or possess salmon taken with beach seine gear for commercial purposes from Puget Sound except in designated Puget Sound Salmon Management and Catch Reporting Areas.

It is unlawful to retain the following salmon species taken with beach seine gear within the following areas during the following periods: Chinook salmon - At all times in Area 12A. Chum salmon - In all areas prior to October 10. Sockeye salmon – At all times in Areas 12, 12A, 12B, and 12C.

#### **Lawful Beach Seine Gear Requirements**

(WAC 220-354-200)

It is unlawful to take salmon with beach seine gear that does not meet the requirements of this subsection. Beach seine salmon nets in Puget Sound shall not exceed 990 feet in length or 200 meshes in depth, or contain meshes of a size less than 3 inches or greater than 4 inches. Mesh webbing must be constructed with a twine size no smaller than 210/30d nylon, 12 thread cotton, or the equivalent diameter in any other material.

# 4. 2024 PUGET SOUND SALMON MANAGEMENT AND CATCH

## REPORTING AREAS:

### EXCLUSION ZONES AND IN-SEASON RESTRICTIONS

#### 4.1 Commercial Salmon Area Descriptions

(WAC 220-301-030)

*This sub-chapter presents the WAC applicable Puget Sound commercial salmon Management and Catch Reporting Areas. Fishers are advised to refer to the Washington State Legislature's website for specific rules and regulations.*

<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

**AREA 4B** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly of a line projected from Bonilla Point (48°35'43.5"N, 124°42'59.7"W) on Vancouver Island to the Cape Flattery Light on Tatoosh Island (Light List No. 16145 FI(2)20s112ft 14M, 48°23'31.2"N, 124°44'12.9"W), thence to the most westerly point on Cape Flattery (48°22'52.1"N, 124°43'54.3"W) and westerly of a line projected true north from the fishing boundary marker at the mouth of the Sekiu River (48°17'16.1"N, 124°23'43.4"W).

**AREA 5** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly of a line projected true north from the fishing boundary marker at the mouth of the Sekiu River (48°17'16.1"N, 124°23'43.4"W) and westerly of a line projected true north from Low Point (48°09'38.9"N, 123°49'36.5"W).

**AREA 6** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly of a line projected from the Angeles Point (48°09'03.3"N, 123°33'11.6"W) to the Race Rock Light (Light List No. 16225 FIW10s118ft19M, 48°17'52.9"N, 123°31'53.1"W), northerly of a line projected from the New Dungeness Light (Light List No. 16335 FIW5s67ft18M, 48°10'54.3"N, 123°06'36.9"W) to the Point Partridge Light (Light List No. 16400 FIW5s105ft13M, 48°13'28.8"N, 122°46'09.9"W), westerly of a line projected from the Point Partridge Light (Light List No. 16400 FI.W5s105ft13M, 48°13'28.8"N, 122°46'09.9"W) to the Smith Island Light (Light List No. 16375 FI10s97ft.14M, 48°19'14.4"N, 122°49'51.4"W), and southerly of a line projected from the Smith Island Light (Light List No. 16375 FI.10s97ft.14M, 48°19'14.4"N, 122°49'51.4"W) to Rosario Strait traffic separation lane entrance lighted Buoy R (Light List No. 16340 FIY25s6M"RA," 48°16'25.3"N, 123°06'34.6"W) to the Trial Island Light (Light List No. 16265 FIG5s93ft13M, 48°23'42.3"N, 123°18'18.6"W).

**AREA 6A** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly of a line projected from the Point Partridge Light (Light List No. 16400 FIW5s105ft13M, 48°13'28.8"N, 122°46'09.9"W) to the Smith Island Light (Light List No. 16375 FI10s97ft14M, 48°19'14.4"N, 122°49'51.4"W) to the northeasterly of the Lawson Reef Junction Lighted Bell Buoy (Light List No. 19320 RGFI(2+1)R6sBell, 48°24'03.3"N, 122°42'57.7"W) to the Initiative 77 marker on Fidalgo Island (48°25'14.2"N, 122°40'04.5"W) and westerly of a line projected from Reservation Head on Fidalgo Island (48°28'41.8"N, 122°39'28.1"W) to West Point on Whidbey Island (48°24'08.4"N, 122°39'46.1"W).

**AREA 6B** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly of a line projected from the New Dungeness Light (Light List No. 16335 FIW5s67ft18M, 48°10'54.3"N, 123°06'36.9"W) to the Point Partridge Light (Light List No. 16400 FIW5s105ft13M, 48°13'28.8"N, 122°46'09.9"W), westerly of a line projected from the Point Partridge Light (Light List No. 16400 FIW5s105ft13M, 48°13'28.8"N, 122°46'09.9"W) to the Point Wilson Light (Light List No. 16475 AIRW5s51ft15M, 48°08'39.0"N, 122°45'17.2"W) and easterly of a line projected 154 degrees true from New Dungeness Light (Light List No. 16335 FIW5s67ft18M, 48°10'54.3"N, 123°06'36.9"W) to Kulo Kala Point (48°07'13.1"N, 123°03'58.7"W).

**AREA 6C** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly of a line projected true north from Low Point (48°09'38.9"N, 123°49'36.5"W) and westerly of a line projected from the Angeles Point (48°09'03.3"N, 123°33'11.6"W) to the Race Rock Light (Light List No. 16225 FIW10s118ft19M).

**AREA 6D** shall include those waters of Puget Sound westerly of a line projected 155 degrees true from New Dungeness Spit Light (Light List No. 16335 FIW5s67ft18M, 48°10'54.3"N, 123°06'36.9"W) to Kulo Kala Point (48°07'13.1"N, 123°03'58.7"W).



**AREA 7** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly of a line projected true east-west through Sandy Point Light No. 2 (Light List No. 19880 FI R 4s 16ft 4M "2," 48°47'12.4"N, 122°42'44.7"W), northerly of a line projected from the Trial Island Light (Light List No. 16265 FIG5s93ft13M, 48°23'42.3"N, 123°18'18.6"W) to the Rosario Strait traffic separation lane entrance lighted Buoy R (Light List No. 16340 FIY2.5s6M"RA," 48°16'25.3"N, 123°06'34.6"W) to the Smith Island Light (Light List No. 16375 FI10s97ft14M, 48°19'14.4"N, 122°49'51.4"W) to the Lawson Reef lighted buoy (RGFI(2+1)R6sBell, 48°24'03.3"N, 122°42'57.7"W) to the Initiative 77 marker on Fidalgo Island (48°25'14.2"N, 122°40'04.5"W), and westerly of a line projected from Sandy Point Light 2 (Light List No. 19880 FIR4s16ft4M"2," 48°47'12.4"N, 122°42'44.7"W) to Point Migley (48°44'55.9"N, 122°42'54.3"W), thence along the eastern shore-line of Lummi Island to Carter Point (48°35'18.6"N, 122°38'35.0"W), thence to the most northerly tip of Vendovi Island (48°36'57.3"N, 122°36'39.1"W), thence to Clark Point (48°35'18.6"N, 122°38'35.1"W) on Guemes Island following the shoreline to Southeast Point on Guemes Island (48°31'43.4"N, 122°34'25.8"W), thence to March Point on Fidalgo Island (48°29'58.4"N, 122°33'55.8"W), excluding those waters of East Sound northerly of a line projected true west from Rosario Point on Orcas Island (48°38'36.5"N, 122°52'26.2"W).

**AREA 7A** shall include those waters of Puget Sound northerly of a line projected true east-west through Sandy Point Light 2 (Light List No. 19880 FIR4s16ft4M"2," 48°47'12.4"N, 122°42'44.7"W), terminating on the west at the International Boundary and on the east at the landfall on Sandy Point.

**AREA 7B** shall include those waters of Puget Sound westerly of a line projected 154 degrees true from Sandy Point Light 2 (Light List No. 19880 FIR4s16ft4M"2," 48°47'12.4"N, 122°42'44.7"W) to landfall on Gooseberry Point (48°43'56.7"N, 122°40'22.0"W), easterly of a line projected from Sandy Point Light 2 (Light List No. 19880 FIR4s16ft4M"2," 48°47'12.4"N, 122°42'44.7"W) to Point Migley on Lummi Island (48°44'55.9"N, 122°42'54.3"W), thence along the eastern shoreline of Lummi Island to Carter Point (48°35'18.6"N, 122°38'35.0"W), thence to the most northerly tip of Vendovi Island (48°36'57.3"N, 122°36'39.1"W), thence to Clark Point on Guemes Island (48°35'18.6"N, 122°38'35.1"W) following the shoreline to Southeast Point on Guemes Island (48°31'43.4"N, 122°34'25.8"W), thence to March Point on Fidalgo Island (48°29'58.4"N, 122°33'55.8"W), northerly of the Burlington Northern railroad bridges at the north entrances to Swinomish Channel (48°27'29.1"N, 122°30'54.0"W) and westerly of a line projected from William Point Light (Light List No. 19018 FIG6s30ft5M"3," 48°34'58.5"N, 122°33'37.8"W) on Samish Island 28 degrees true to Whiskey Rock (48°39'20.9"N, 122°30'12.5"W) on the north shore of Samish Bay and westerly of the Whatcom Creek Waterway, defined as a line projected approximately 14 degrees true from the southwest end of the Port of Bellingham North Terminal (48°44'38.6"N, 122°29'46.1"W) to the southernmost point of the dike surrounding the Georgia Pacific Treatment Pond (48°44'51.5"N, 122°29'38.6"W).

**AREA 7C** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly of a line projected from William Point Light 3 (Light List No. 19018 FIG6s30ft5M"3," 48°34'58.5"N, 122°33'37.8"W) on Samish Island 28 degrees true to Whiskey Rock (48°39'20.9"N, 122°30'12.5"W) on the north shore of Samish Bay.

**AREA 7D** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly of a line projected 154 degrees true from Sandy Point Light 2 (Light List No. 19880 FIR4s16ft4M"2," 48°47'12.4"N, 122°42'44.7"W) to landfall on Gooseberry Point (48°43'56.7"N, 122°40'22.0"W) and south of a line projected true east from Sandy Point Light 2 (Light List No. 19880 FIR4s16ft4M"2," 48°47'12.4"N, 122°42'44.7"W) to landfall on Sandy Point (48°47'12.5"N, 122°42'36.1"W).

**AREA 7E** shall include those waters of Puget Sound within East Sound northerly of a line projected true west from Rosario Point (48°38'36.5"N, 122°52'26.2"W) on Orcas Island.

**AREA 8** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly of a line projected from West Point on Whidbey Island (48°24'08.4"N, 122° 39'46.1"W) to Reservation Head on Fidalgo Island (48°28'41.8"N, 122°39'28.1"W), westerly of a line projected from East Point Light 3 (Light List No. 18620 FIG6s21ft6M, 48°05'49.1"N, 122°29'29.4"W) 340 degrees true to Camano Island Light 4 (Light List No. 18625 FIR4s15ft5M"4," 48°07'57.4"N, 122°30'39.1"W) southerly of the Burlington Northern railroad bridges at the north entrances to Swinomish Channel and northerly of the state highway 532 bridges between Camano Island and the mainland..

**AREA 8A** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly of a line projected from the East Point Light 3 (Light List No. 18620 FIG6s21ft6M, 48°05'49.1"N, 122°29'29.4"W) on Whidbey Island 340 degrees true to Camano Island Light 4 (Light List No. 18625 FIR4s15ft5M"4," 48°07'57.4"N, 122°30'39.1"W), northerly of a line projected from the southern tip of Possession Point 110 degrees true to the shipwreck on the opposite shore (47°53'35.1"N, 122°19'42.8"W), southerly of the State Highway 532 bridges between Camano Island and the mainland excluding those waters of Area 8D.



**AREA 8D** shall include those waters of Puget Sound inside and easterly of a line projected 225 degrees from the pilings at old Bower's Resort to a point 2,000 feet offshore, thence northwesterly to a point 2,000 feet off Mission Point, thence across the mouth of Tulalip Bay to a point 2,000 feet off Hermosa Point, thence northwesterly following a line 2,000 feet offshore to the intersection with a line projected 233 degrees from the fishing boundary marker on the shore at the slide north of Tulalip Bay.

**AREA 9** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly and easterly of a line projected from the Point Partridge Light (Light List No. 16400 FI5s105ft13M, 48°13'28.8"N, 122°46'09.9"W) to the Point Wilson Light (Light List No. 16475 AIRW5s51ft15M, 48°08'39.0"N, 122°45'17.2"W), northerly of the Hood Canal Bridge, northerly of a line projected true west from the shoreward end of the Port Gamble tribal dock on Point Julia (47°51'17.3"N, 122°34'35.5"W) to the mainland in the community of Port Gamble, excluding those on-reservation waters of Hood Canal north of Port Gamble Bay to the marker at the north end of the Port Gamble Indian Reservation, southerly of a line projected from the southern tip of Possession Point 110 degrees true to the shipwreck (47°53'35.1"N, 122°19'42.8"W) on the opposite shore and northerly of a line projected from the Apple Cove Point Light (Light List No. 16675 FIW4s18ft6M, 47°48'53.5"N, 122°28'54.7"W) to the Edmonds South Breakwater Light (Light List No. 16705 FIY4s18ftPriv, 47°48'25.0"N, 122°23'43.0"W) at Edwards Point.

**AREA 9A** shall include those waters of Puget Sound known as Port Gamble Bay southerly of a line projected true west from the shoreward end of the Port Gamble tribal dock on Point Julia (47°51'17.3"N, 122°34'35.5"W) to the mainland in the community of Port Gamble and those on-reservation waters of Hood Canal north of Port Gamble Bay to the marker at the north end of the Port Gamble Indian Reservation.

**AREA 10** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly of a line projected from the Apple Cove Point Light (Light List No. 16675 FIW4s18ft6M, 47°48'53.5"N, 122°28'54.7"W) to the Edmonds South Breakwater light (Light List No. 16705 FIY4s18ftPriv, 47°48'25.0"N, 122°23'43.0"W), westerly of a line projected 43 degrees true from the Shilshole Bay Light 8 (Light List No. 18155 FIR4s15ft4M"8", 47°40'17.2"N, 122°24'31.2"W) to landfall on the northeastern shore of the Shilshole Bay Entrance Range (47°40'20.7"N, 122°24'25.4"W), westerly of a line projected 185 degrees true from the southwest corner of Pier 91 (47°37'35.1"N, 122°23'01.2"W) through the Duwamish Head Light (Light List No. 16910 FIW2.5s25ft10M, 47°35'55.8"N, 122°23'16.5"W) to landfall on Duwamish Head (47°35'40.0"N, 122°23'19.2"W), northerly of a true east-west line projected through the Point Vashon Light (Light List No. 17100 FIW4s17ft7M, 47°30'49.3"N, 122°28'23.4"W) from Southworth (47°30'49.2"N, 122°29'57.0"W), to landfall south of Brace Point (47°30'49.4"N, 122°23'44.2"W), easterly of a line projected from Orchard Point (47°33'55.4"N, 122°31'56"W) to Beans Point (47°34'28.8"N, 122°31'20.4"W) on Bainbridge Island, and northerly and easterly of a line projected true west from Agate Point (47°43'15.7"N, 122°33'12.2"W) on Bainbridge Island to the mainland (47°43'15.7"N, 122°33'41.1"W).

**AREA 10A** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly of a line projected 185 degrees true from the southwest corner of Pier 91 (47°37'35.1"N, 122°23'01.2"W) through the Duwamish Head Light (Light List No. 16910 FIW2.5s25ft10M, 47°35'55.8"N, 122°23'16.5"W) to landfall on Duwamish Head (47°35'40.0"N, 122°23'19.2"W).

**AREA 10C** shall include those waters of Lake Washington southerly of the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge.

**AREA 10D** shall include those waters of the Sammamish River south of the state Highway 908 Bridge and Lake Sammamish.

**AREA 10E** shall include those waters of Puget Sound westerly of a line projected from Orchard Point (47°33'55.4"N, 122°31'56"W) to Beans Point (47°34'28.8"N, 122°31'20.4"W) on Bainbridge Island and southerly and westerly of a line projected true west from Agate Point (47°43'15.7"N, 122°33'12.2"W) on Bainbridge Island to the mainland (47°43'15.7"N, 122°33'41.1"W).

**AREA 10F** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly a line projected 49 degrees true from the Shilshole Bay Light 8 (Light List No. 18155 FIR4s15ft4M"8", 47°40'17.2"N, 122°24'31.2"W) to landfall on the North Eastern shore of the Shilshole Bay Entrance Range (47°40'20.7"N, 122°24'25.4"W) and those waters of the Lake Washington Ship Canal westerly of a line projected true south from Webster Point (47°38'53.0"N, 122°16'37.1"W) to the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge including the waters of Salmon Bay, the Lake Washington Ship Canal, Lake Union and Portage Bay.

**AREA 10G** shall include those waters of Lake Washington northerly of the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge, easterly of a line projected from Webster Point (47°38'53.0"N, 122°16'37.1"W) true south to the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge and those waters of the Sammamish River north of the state Highway 908 Bridge.

**AREA 11** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly of a true east-west line projected through the Point Vashon Light (Light List No. 17100 FIW4s17ft7M), from Southworth (47°30'49.3"N, 122°29'57.0"W) to landfall south of Brace Point (47°30'49.3"N, 122°23'44.2"W), northerly of a line projected 259 degrees true from Browns Point (47°18'20.3"N, 122°26'39.4"W) to the point of landfall on the opposite shore of Commencement Bay (47°17'51.8"N, 122°30'04.5"W), and northerly of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge.

**AREA 11A** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly of a line projected 259 degrees true from Browns Point (47°18'20.3"N, 122°26'39.4"W) to the point of landfall on the opposite shore of Commencement Bay (47°17'51.8"N, 122°30'04.5"W).

**AREA 12** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly of the site of the Hood Canal Bridge and northerly and easterly of a line projected from the Tskutsko Point Light (Light List No. 17865 FI4s15ft5MRaRef, 47°41'29.3"N, 122°49'59.1"W) to Misery Point (47°39'18.3"N, 122°49'46.5"W).

**AREA 12A** shall include those waters of Puget Sound northerly of a line projected from Pulali Point (47°44'15.3"N, 122°52'5.9"W) true east to landfall on Toandos Peninsula (47°44'15.3"N, 122°48'23.1"W).

**AREA 12B** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly of a line projected true east from Pulali Point (47°44'15.3"N, 122°52'5.9"W) to landfall on Toandos Peninsula (47°44'15.3"N, 122°48'23.1"W), northerly of a line projected true east from Ayock Point (47°30'25.8"N, 123°03'15.8"W) to landfall on the Kitsap (Great) Peninsula (47°30'25.8"N, 123°01'53.2"W), and westerly of a line projected from the Tskutsko Point Light (Light List No. 17865 FI4s15ft5MRaRef, 47°41'29.3"N, 122°49'59.1"W) to Misery Point (47°39'18.3"N, 122°49'46.5"W).

**AREA 12C** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly of a line projected true east from Ayock Point (47°30'25.8"N, 123°03'15.8"W) to landfall on the Kitsap (Great) Peninsula (47°30'25.8"N, 123°01'53.2"W) and northerly and westerly of a line projected from Ayres Point (47°22'26.9"N, 123°06'44.5"W) to the Union Boat Launch (47°21'27.5"N, 123°6'1.9"W).

**AREA 12D** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly of a line projected from Ayres Point (47°22'26.9"N, 123°06'44.5"W) to the Union Boat Launch (47°21'27.5"N, 123°06'01.9"W).

**AREA 13** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge and a line projected from Green Point (47°16'55.2"N, 122°41'41.8"W) to Penrose Point (47°15'53.6"N, 122°44'11.5"W) and northerly and easterly of a line projected from the Devil's Head Light (Light List No. 17365 FIR6s164M"4," 47°09'58.9"N, 122°45'53.3"W) to Treble Point (47°09'09.6"N, 122°44'31.3"W), thence through the Nisqually Flats Light 3 (Light List No. 17360 FIG4s15ft4M"3") to landfall (47°06'40.7"N, 122°45'08.8"W) and westerly of the railroad trestle at the mouth of Chambers Bay.

**AREA 13A** shall include those waters of Puget Sound northerly of a line projected from Green Point (47°16'55.2"N, 122°41'41.3"W) to Penrose Point (47°15'53.6"N, 122°44'11.5"W).

**AREA 13C** shall include those waters of Puget Sound easterly of the railroad trestle at the mouth of Chambers Bay.

**AREA 13D** shall include those waters of Puget Sound westerly of a line projected from the Devil's Head Light (Light List No. 17365 FIR6s164M"4," 47°09'58.9"N, 122°45'53.3"W) to Treble Point (47°09'09.6"N, 122°44'31.3"W), thence through the Nisqually Flats Light 3 (Light List No. 17360 FIG4s15ft4M"3", 47°07'15"N, 122°45'0.1"W) to landfall (47°06'40.7"N, 122°45'08.8"W), northerly of a line projected from Johnson Point (47°10'35.7"N, 122°49'13.2"W) to Dickenson Point (47°09'54.4"N, 122°51'06.4"W), northerly of a line projected 291 degrees true from Dofflemeyer Point Light (Light List No. 17400 FI4s30ft7M, 47°09'58.9"N, 122°45'53.3"W) through Cooper Point (47°08'44.2"N, 122°55'33.4"W), to the southeastern shore of Hunter Point (47°8'55.9"N, 122°56'18.1"W), easterly of a line projected 005 degrees true from the northern tip of Steamboat Island (47°11'12.3"N, 122°56'20.6"W) to Hungerford Point (47°12'18.8"N, 122°56'11.5"W) and southerly of a line projected true east-west from 47°18'53.5"N, 122°50'32.9"W through the southern tip of Stretch Island to landfall on the easterly shore of the Key Peninsula (47°18'53.5"N, 122°47'35"W).

**AREA 13E** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly of a line projected from Johnson Point (47°10'35.7"N, 122°49'13.2"W) to Dickenson Point (47°09'54.4"N, 122°51'06.4"W).

**AREA 13F** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly of a line projected from Dofflemeyer Point Light (Light List No. 17400 FI4s30ft7M, 47°08'25.8"N, 122°54'26.2"W) to Cooper Point (47°08'44.2"N, 122°55'33.4"W).

**AREA 13G** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southerly of a line projected 291 degrees true from Cooper Point (47°08'44.2"N, 122°55'33"W) to the southeastern shore of Hunter Point (47°8'55.9"N, 122°56'18.1"W).

**AREA 13H** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southwesterly of a line projected 005 degrees true from the northern tip of Steamboat Island (47°11'12.3"N, 122°56'20.6"W) to the light at Arcadia to Hungerford Point (47°12'18.8"N, 122°56'11.5"W) and those waters easterly of a line projected 064 degrees true from Kamilche Point (47°09'08.3"N, 123°01'07.5"W) to the opposite shore (47°09'14"N, 123°00'49.3"W).

**AREA 13I** shall include those waters of Puget Sound southwesterly of a line projected 064 degrees true from Kamilche Point (47°09'08.3"N, 123°01'07.5"W) to the opposite shore (47°09'14"N, 123°00'49.3"W).

**AREA 13J** shall include those waters of Puget Sound, Hammersley Inlet and Oakland Bay, westerly of a line projected from Arcadia Point Boat Launch (47°11'51.4"N, 122°56'18.5"W) to Hungerford Point (47°12'18"N, 122°56'11"W).

**AREA 13K** shall include those waters of Puget Sound northerly of a line projected true east-west from 47°18'53.5"N, 122°50'32.9"W through the southern tip of Stretch Island at 47°18'53.5"N to landfall on the easterly shore of the Key Peninsula (47°18'53.5"N, 122°47'35"W).

## 4.2 Commercial Salmon Area Exclusions Zones

(WAC 220-354-080)

*This sub-chapter presents the WAC applicable Puget Sound commercial salmon Closed Areas. Fishers are advised to refer to the Washington State Legislature for specific rule and regulations.*

*These can be found on the Washington State Legislature's website at:*

<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

**Areas 4B, 5, 6, 6B, and 6C:** The Strait of Juan de Fuca Preserve as defined in WAC 220-354-330: "The Strait of Juan de Fuca Salmon Preserve" shall include those waters and tributaries thereto lying within three miles off shore between a line projected 30 degrees true from a point (48°19'06.9"N, 124°27'19.4"W) three miles west of the Sekiu River mouth to a line projected 45 degrees true from a point (48°07'35.4"N, 123°04'14.4"W) three miles east of the Dungeness River mouth excluding the waters of Puget Sound Salmon Management and Catch Reporting Area 6D."

**Area 6D Exclusion:** Waters within 1/4 nautical mile of the Dungeness River mouth (48°9'16"N 123°7'48"W, east to waters within 500 feet of Meadowbrook creek mouth (48°9'7"N 123°7'19"W).

**Area 7 Exclusions:** The San Juan Island Preserve, as defined in WAC 220-354-320. "San Juan Island Salmon Preserve" shall include those waters of Puget Sound lying inside the following lines: A line projected 199 degrees true from Lopez Pass Light 2 (Light List No. 19375 FIR4s21ft4M"2," 48°28'52"N, 122°49'5"W) across Lopez Pass to Lopez Island (48°28'42.1"N, 122°49'10.7"W), a line projected 359 degrees true from Fautleroy Point on Decatur Island (48°31'28.4"N, 122°47'18.8"W) through Lawson Rock Light 2 (Light List No. 19410 FIR4s15ft4M"2," 48°31'51"N, 122°47'19"W) to Blakely Island (48°32'27.2"N, 122°47'21.2"W); a line projected 184 degrees true from Deer Point on Orcas Island (48°36'5.1"N, 122°47'59.7"W) across Spindle Rock (48°35'4.2"N, 122°48'6.2"W) to Blakely Island; a line projected 91 degrees true from Limestone Point on San Juan Island (48°37'21.0"N, 123°6'27.1"W) to the northernmost point of Jones Island (48°37'16.9"N, 123°2'59.3"W); then 90 degrees true to Orcas Island (48°37'16.8"N, 123°1'49.6"W); a line projected 38 degrees true from Reef Point on San Juan Island (48°31'43.1"N, 122°58'12.3"W) to the southernmost point of Shaw Island (48°32'47.6"N, 122°56'55.8"W); and a line projected 321 degrees true from Flat Point on Lopez Island (48°33'3.7"N, 122°55'10.9"W) to the most westerly point on Canoe Island (48°33'19"N, 122°55'29.6"W), thence true north to the shoreline of Shaw Island (48°33'51.3"N, 122°55'43.7"W), excluding the waters of Puget Sound Salmon Management and Catch Reporting Area 7E.

Those waters within 1,500 feet of shore on Orcas Island from Deer Point (48°36'5.1"N, 122°47'59.7"W) northeasterly to Lawrence Point (48°39'38.1"N, 122°44'31"W), thence west to a point intercepting a line projected from the northernmost point of Jones Island (48°37'17"N, 123°2'11.4"W), thence 90 degrees true to Orcas Island.

Those waters within 1,500 feet of the shore of Cypress Island from Cypress Head (48°34'3.1"N, 122°40'5.5"W) to the northernmost point of Cypress Island (48°36'31.5"N, 122°42'42.2"W).

Those waters easterly of a line projected from Iceberg Point (48°25'20.2"N, 122°53'41.1"W) to Iceberg Island (48°25'20.2"N, 122°53'41.1"W), to the easternmost point of Charles Island (48°26'25.8"N, 122°54'18.5"W), then true north from the northernmost point of Charles Island (48°26'41.1"N, 122°54'34.3"W) to the shore of Lopez Island (48°26'47.1"N, 122°54'34.2"W).

Those waters northerly of a line projected from the southernmost point of land at Aleck Bay (48°25'25.6"N, 122°51'8.2"W) to the westernmost point of Colville Island (48°24'56"N, 122°49'31.9"W), thence from the easternmost point of Colville Island (48°24'53.5"N, 122°49'10.7"W) to Point Colville (48°25'17.1"N, 122°48'50.7"W).

Those waters easterly of a line projected from Biz Point on Fidalgo Island (48°26'33.1"N, 122°40'42.3"W) to the Williamson Rocks Lighted Buoy 4 (Light List No. 19335 FIR4s4M"4"RED, 48°26'51"N, 122°42'27.8"W), thence to the Dennis Shoal Buoy 6 (Light List No. 19345 Red Nun, 48°27'27"W, 122°42'57"N), thence to Burrows Island Light (Light List No. 19350 FIW6s57ft7MHornBl(2)30s, 48°27'27.6"N, 122°42'59.3"W) on the westernmost point of Burrows Island, thence to the southwestern-most point of Fidalgo Head (48°29'31.2"N, 122°42'10.6"W), and including those waters within 1,500 feet of the western shore of Allan Island, those waters within 1,500 feet of the western shore of Burrows Island, and those waters within 1,500 feet of the shore of Fidalgo Island from the southwestern-most point of Fidalgo Head (48°29'31.2"N, 122°42'10.6"W) northerly to Shannon Point (48°30'32.8"N, 122°41'2.5"W).



Additional Fraser sockeye and pink seasonal closure: Those waters within 1,500 feet of the shore of Fidalgo Island from the Initiative 77 marker (48°25'14.2"N, 122°40'04.5"W) northerly to Biz Point (48°26'33.1"N, 122°40'42.3"W).

Those waters within 1,500 feet of the eastern shore of Lopez Island from Point Colville (48°25'17.1"N, 122°48'50.7"W) northerly to Lopez Pass (48°28'42.1"N, 122°49'10.7"W), and those waters within 1,500 feet of the eastern shore of Decatur Island from the southernmost point of land (48°28'52"N, 122°49'5"W) northerly to Fauntleroy Point (48°31'28.4"N, 122°47'18.8"W), and including those waters within 1,500 feet of the shore of James Island.

**Area 7A Exclusion:** Closed in the Drayton Harbor Salmon Preserve, defined in WAC 220-354-310: "shall include all the waters of Drayton Harbor and tributaries thereto lying inside and easterly of a line projected 66 degrees true from Semiahmoo Spit (48°59'25.8"N, 122°46'16.5"W) to the northern breakwater of the Port of Bellingham's Blaine Harbor (48°59'30.5"N, 122°46'0.4"W).

**Area 7B Exclusion:** Closed in that portion south and east of a line from William Point on Samish Island (48°34'55.2"N, 122°33'38.2"W) to Saddlebag Island (48°32'7.2"W, 122°33'32.6"N) to Casperson Point on Guemes Island to landfall on March Point (48°29'58.4"N, 122°33'55.9"W), and that portion northerly of the railroad trestle in Chuckanut Bay. **Lummi Reservation closure:** That portion of Bellingham Bay and Portage Bay adjacent to Lummi Indian Reservation is closed north and west of a line from the intersection of Marine Drive and Hoff Road (48°46'59"N, 122°34'25"W) projected 180 degrees true for 1.80 nautical miles (nm) to a point at 48°45'11"N, 122°34'25"W, then 250 degrees true for 0.92 nm to a point at 48°44'50"N, 122°35'42"W, then 270 degrees true for 0.95 nm to 48°44'50"N, 122°37'08"W, then 228 degrees true for 0.65 nm to 48°44'24"N, 122°37'52"W, then 200 degrees true for 0.69 nm to 48°43'45"N, 122°38'12"W, then 90 degrees true for 0.64 nm to a point just northeast of Portage Island (48°43'45"N, 122°37'14"W), then 155 degrees true for 0.97 nm to a point just east of Portage Island (48°42'52"N, 122°36'37"W) then 247 degrees true for 80 yards to landfall on Portage Island (48°42'51.1"N, 122°36'40.3"W). **Additional Coho Seasonal Closure: Hale Pass – Not in place for 2023. Additional chum Seasonal Closure: That portion of Bellingham Bay referred to as the Whatcom Creek Zone is closed east of a line projected 180 degrees true from the Bellingham Breakwater North Entrance Light 4 (Light List No. 19280 Fl(1)R6s17m5M, 48°45'26.3"N, 122°30'41.5"W) at the West Entrance to Squalicum Harbor, to landfall East of Post Point (48° 43' 18" N, 122° 30' 41.5" W)**

**Area 7C Exclusion:** That portion southeasterly of a line projected from the mouth of Oyster Creek (48°36'51.6"N, 122°26'27.8"W) 237 degrees true to the fishing boundary marker on Samish Island (48°34'33.1"N, 122°31'49.3"W).

**Area 8 Exclusion:** That portion of Skagit Bay easterly of a line projected from Brown Point on Camano Island (48°16'12.6"N, 122°27'52.8"W) to a white monument on the easterly point of Ika Island (48°21'40.1"N, 122°29'52.8"W), thence across the Skagit River to the terminus of the jetty with McGlenn Island (48°22'18.3"N, 122°30'18.3"W).

Those waters within 1,500 feet of the western shore of Camano Island south of a line projected true west from Rocky Point (48°15'1.3"N, 122°31'47.2"W).

**Area 8A Exclusions:** Those waters easterly of a line projected from Mission Beach (48°3'19.3"N, 122°17'23.1"W) to Gedney Island Light 1 (Light List No. 18480 FIG25s15ft4M"1," 48°0'15.5"N, 122°17'49.7"W), excluding the waters of Area 8D, thence through the Snohomish River Light 5 (Light List No. 18535 FIG4s16ft5M, 47°59'16.3"N, 122°13'47.4"W) and across the mouth of the Snohomish River to landfall on the eastern shore (47°59'13.3"N, 122°13'35"W), and those waters northerly of a line from Camano Head (48°3'23.2"N, 122°21'24.6"W) to the northern boundary of Area 8D, except when open for pink fisheries.

Additional coho seasonal closure prior to October 3: Those waters southerly of a line projected from the Washington State Ferry Clinton terminal (47°58'28.8"N, 122°21'5.2"W) to land fall on the eastern shore at (47°56'57"N, 122°18'15.7"W).

**Area 8D Exclusion:** Those waters easterly of a line projected from the northerly most point of Mission Beach (48°3'19.3"N, 122°17'23.1"W) to Hermosa Point (48°3'42.7"N, 122°17'36.4"W).

**Area 9 Exclusion:** Those waters lying inside and westerly of a line projected from the Point No Point Light (Light List No. 16550 Fl(3)W10s27ft14M, 47°54'43.9"N, 122°31'36.3"W) to the traffic separation lane Lighted Buoy SE (Light List No. 16540 FlY2.5s5MY"SE," (47°55'26.8"N, 122°29'30.7"W), thence to landfall at (47°55'4.2"N, 122°32'46"W) on Norwegian Point.

**Area 9A Exclusion:** Those waters north of a line projected from the southern edge of the old mill site (47°51'05.5"N, 122°34'59"W) to the fallen tree on the opposite shore (47°51'6.6"N, 122°34'15.9"W). Those waters within 1000 feet of Port Gamble Creek and Martha John Creek.

**Area 10 Exclusions:** Those waters easterly of a line projected from Meadow Point (47°41'35.9"N, 122°24'21.6"W) to West Point (47°39'43.6"N, 122°26'8.5"W).

Those waters of Port Madison westerly of a line originating from Point Jefferson (47°44'51.7"N, 122°28'25.6"W) to the northernmost portion of Point Monroe (47°42'32"N, 122°30'43.5"W).

Pink Seasonal Closure: The area east inside of the line projected from West Point (47°39'43.6"N, 122°26'8.5"W) and extending west to the traffic separation lane Lighted Buoy SG (Light List No. 16815 FIY2.5s5MY"SG," (47°39'41.6"N, 122°27'52.6"W), thence 20 degrees true until reaching latitude 47°44'30.0"N, thence extending directly east to the shoreline (47°44'30"N, 122°22'40.5"W).

Additional Purse Seine Pink Seasonal Closure: The area within 500 feet of the eastern shore in Area 10 is closed to purse seines north of latitude 47°44'30.0"N.

**Area 10E Exclusion:** Those waters of Liberty Bay north of a line projected true east from 47°41'56.4"N, 122°36'53.5"W to 47°41'56.4"N, 122°36'17.4"W, those waters of Dyes Inlet north of the Manette Bridge, and those waters of Sinclair Inlet southwest of a line projected true east from the Washington state ferry Bremerton terminal (47°33'43.9"N, 122°37'31.1"W) to landfall at Port Orchard (47°33'43.9"N, 122°35'31.1"W).

**Area 11 Exclusion:** The waters of Gig Harbor, northerly of a line projected true west from the Gig Harbor Light (Light List No. 17221 FIR4s13ft3MPriv., 47°19'35.7"N, 122°34'29.2"W). The of waters Commencement Bay, south of a line from Browns Point (47°18'20.3"N, 122°26'39.4"W) to the northernmost point of land on Point Defiance (47°19'7.7"N, 122°32'23.9"W).

**Areas 12, 12B, and 12C Exclusion:** Those waters within 1,000 feet of the eastern shore.

**Area 12 Exclusions:** Those waters inside and easterly of a line projected from Lone Rock (47°39'46"N, 122°46'11"W) to Hood Canal Light 13 (Light List No. 17855 FIG2.5s20ft4M"13," 47°39'45.5"N, 122°47'14.4"W) off Big Beef Creek, thence southerly to the outermost northern headland of Little Beef Creek (47°39'24.4"N, 122°47'23.4"W).

**Area 12A Exclusions:** Those waters north of a line projected due east from Broad Spit (47°48'37.8"N, 122°48'59.3"W) to landfall on the Toandos Peninsula (47°48'37.8"N, 122°47'42.5"W). Those waters within 1,000 feet of the mouth of the Quilcene River.

**Area 12B Exclusions:** Those waters within 1/4-mile of the mouths of the Dosewallips, Duckabush, and Hamma Hamma rivers and Anderson Creek. Additional Chinook seasonal closure: Those waters north and east of a line projected from Tekiu Point (47°35'6.6"N, 122°57'52.8"W) to Triton Head (47°36'10.9"N, 122°59'0.5"W). Closed in those waters within a line from Waketickeh Creek perpendicular to the shore for 500 yards then parallel to shore northeast 1,700 yards, thence back to shore along a line perpendicular to shore (WAC 220-303-090).

**Area 12C Exclusions:** Closed to purse seines and gillnets within 2,000 feet of the western shore between the dock at Glen Ayr R.V. Park (47°25'14.1"W, 23°7'50.7"N) and the Port of Hoodspport marina dock (47°24'12.6"N, 123°8'29.5"W). This area is also referred to as the Hoodspport Hatchery Zone and may open to beach seines by emergency regulation. Those waters south of a line projected 107 degrees true from the Cushman Powerhouse (47°22'11.2"N, 123°09'35.9"W) to the Union boat launch (47°21'27.5"N, 123°6'1.9"W).

Those waters within 1/4-mile of the mouth of the Dewatto River.

Closed in those waters on the western shore of Hood Canal known as Octopus Hole within a line projected due east from shore at 47°27'01"N for 200 yards, thence southerly parallel to shore for 628 yards to 47°26'40", thence due west to the shore (WAC 220-303-040).

**Area 13A Exclusion:** Those waters of Burley Lagoon north of State Route 302; those waters within 1,000 feet of the outer oyster stakes off Minter Creek Bay from 47°21'47.5"N, 122°41'10.1"W to 47°21'9.8"N, 122°41'57.7"W, including

## 4.3 Additional 2024 Commercial Salmon In-Season Restrictions

(WAC 220-301-080)

*This sub-chapter contains descriptions of the in-season area and fishery restrictions, adopted for the 2023 Commercial Salmon season. Fishers are advised to refer to the Washington State Legislature for specific rule and regulations.*

*These can be found on the Washington State Legislature's website at:*

<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

**Area 7A Possible In-Season Exclusion:** The "East Point Line" shall be defined as a line projected 184 degrees true from Boundary Bay Light D (Light List No. 19972 FIY4s36ft4M"D," 49°0'7.6"N, 123°1'13"W) on the Canada/United States border, through the eastern portion of Point Roberts to the Saturna Island Sector Light (Light List No. 19810 FIW15s102ft17M,FR85ft8M, 48°46'58"N, 123°2'45"W) on East Point Saturna Island British Columbia, Canada. The "Iwersen Dock Line" shall be defined as a line projected 233 degrees true from ruins of the Iwersen Dock (48°58'30.6"N, 123°5'6.5"W) on Point Roberts to the Active Pass Light (List of Lights CA No. 275 FLW10s57ft17M, 48°52'23"N, 123°17'26"W) on Georgina Point, Mayne Island, British Columbia, Canada.

**Area 7B Possible Chum seasonal closures:** Additional chum Seasonal Closure: That portion of Bellingham Bay referred to as the Whatcom Creek Zone is closed east of a line projected 180 degrees true from the Bellingham Breakwater North Entrance Light 4 (Light List No. 19280 FI(1)R6s17m5M, 48°45'26.3"N, 122°30'41.5"W) at the West Entrance to Squalicum Harbor, to landfall at East of Post Point (48°43'18"N, 122°30'41.5"W).

**Area 11 Exclusion:** Additional Chum seasonal closure: Those waters south of a line projected from the Gig Harbor Light (Light List No. 17221 FIR4s13ft3MPriv., 47°19'35.7"N, 122°34'29.2"W) to the Washington State Ferry Tahlequah terminal (47°19'58.3"N, 122°30'25.5"W), south of a line projected from Neill Point (47°19'53"N, 122°29'33"W) to Piner Point (47°20'37"N, 122°27'17"W), west of a line projected from Piner Point (47°20'37"N, 122°27'17"W) to Dash Point (47°19'10"N, 122°25'47"W), and north the Area 11/11A line.

**Area 12 Additional Chum seasonal closures:** Those waters of Area 12 south and west of a line projected 94 degrees true from south Hazel Point (47°41'29.1"N, 122°46'22.6"W) to the Hood Canal Light 11 on the opposite shore (Light List No. 17845 FLG4s15ft5M"11," 47°41'24.6"N, 122°44'50.4"W), bounded on the west by the Area 12/12B boundary line are CLOSED to purse seines and gillnets.



# 5. 2024 EXCLUSION ZONES AND IN-SEASON RESTRICTIONS MAPS

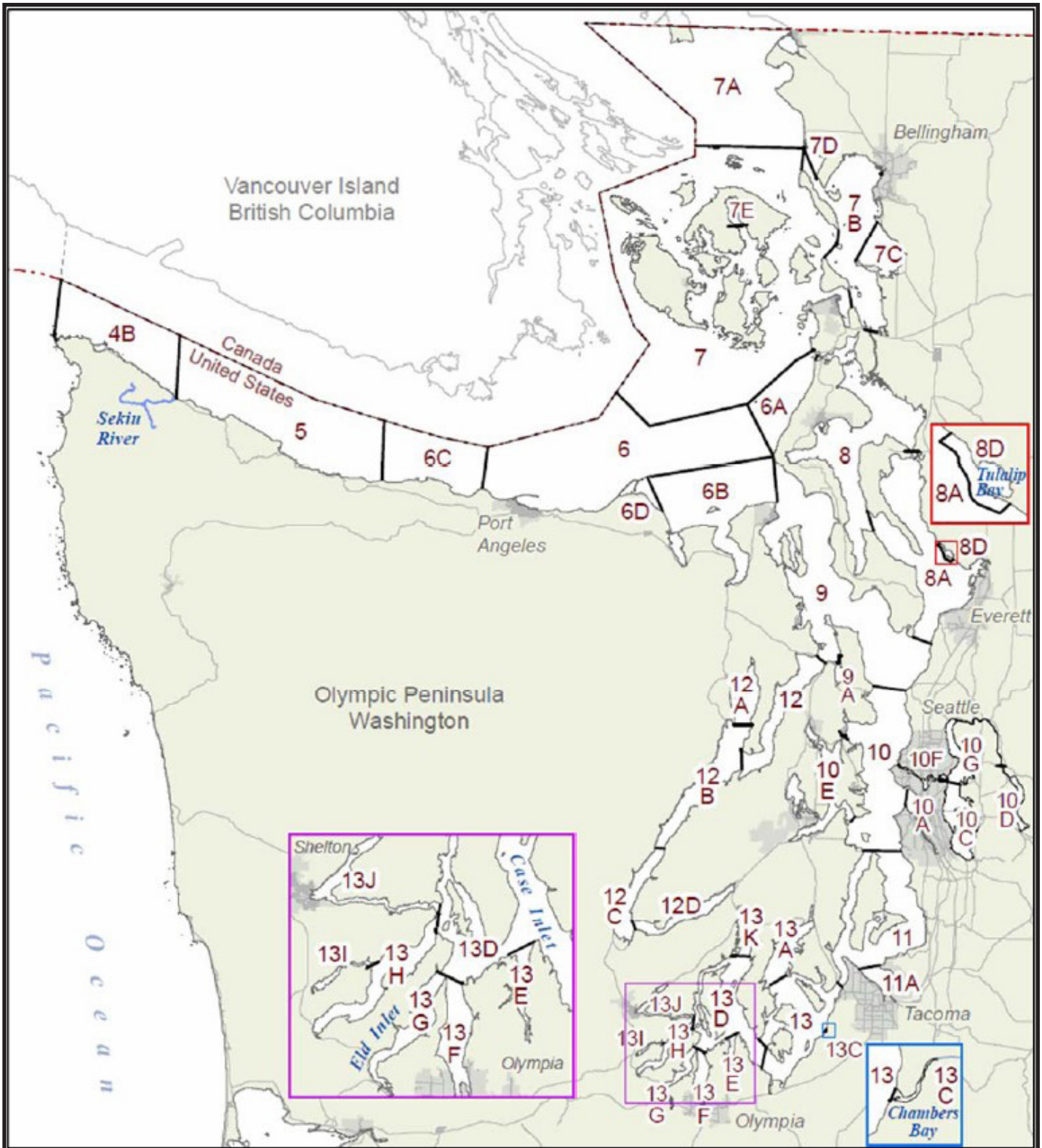
(WAC 220-301-030)

*This sub-chapter contains maps of the in-season area and fishery restrictions described in sub-chapters 4.1 - 4.3. Fishers are advised to reference these maps, prior to fishing. These maps are NOT for navigational use.*

*Maps are presented in the order of the Schedule.*

*These maps may be found on the Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife's website at:*

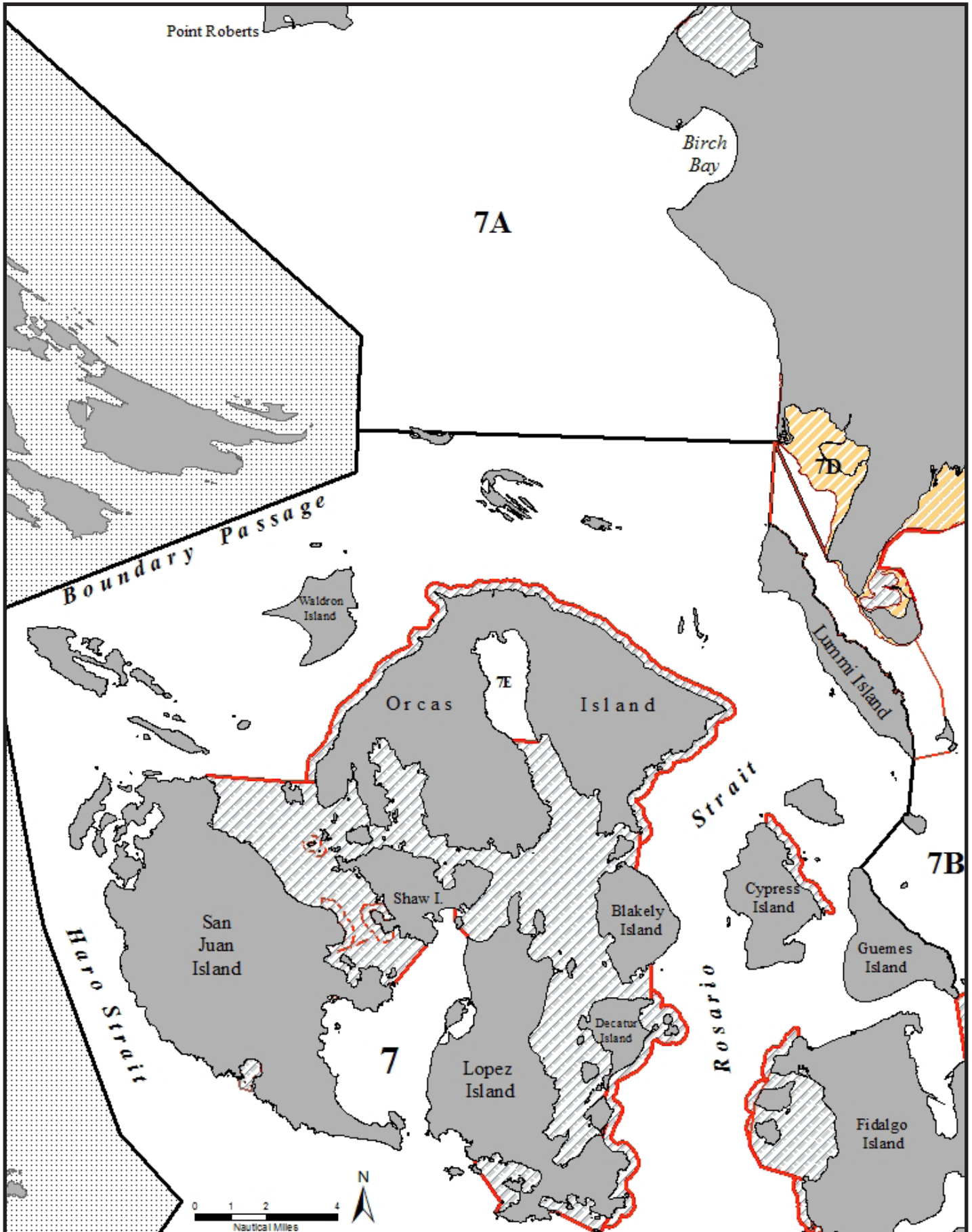
<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regulations/commercial/salmon>



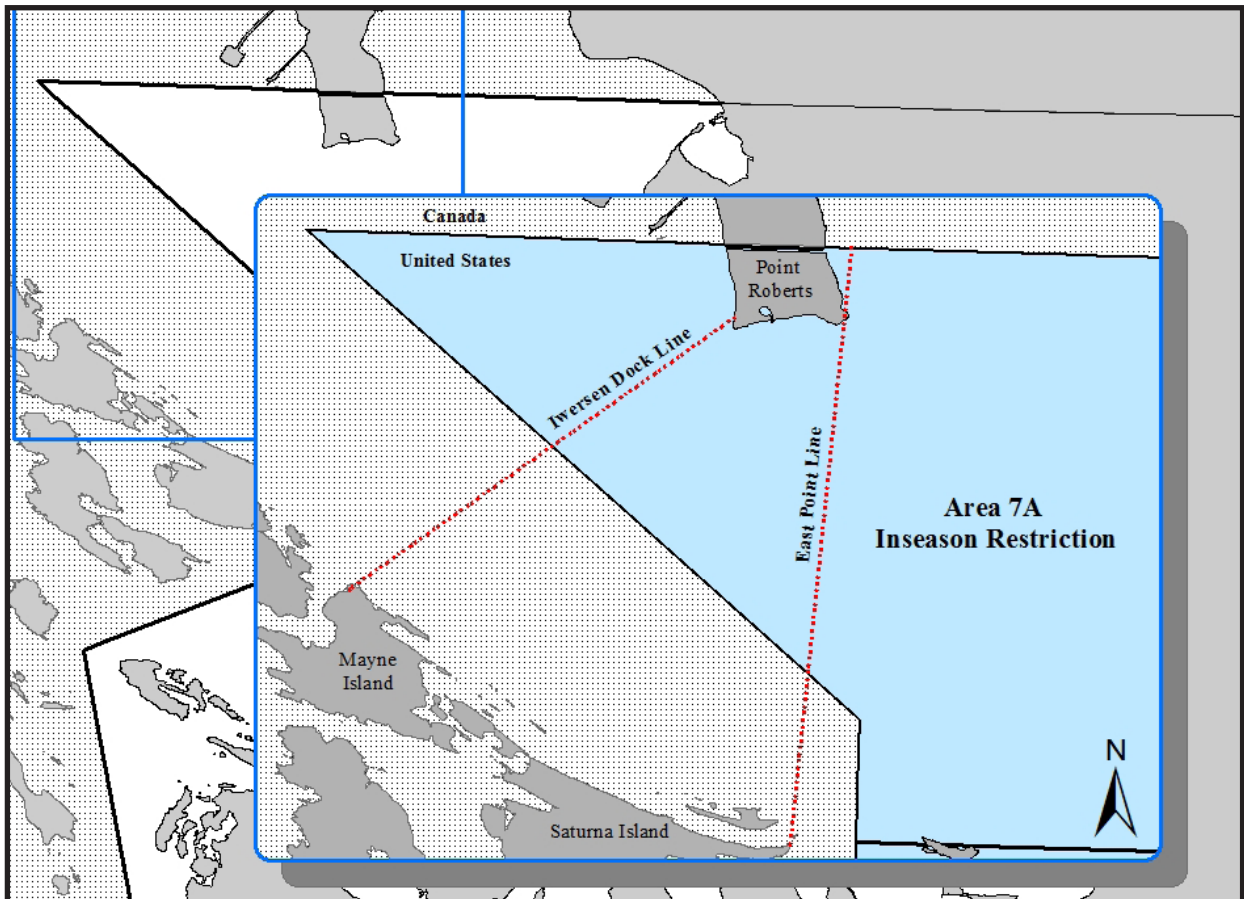
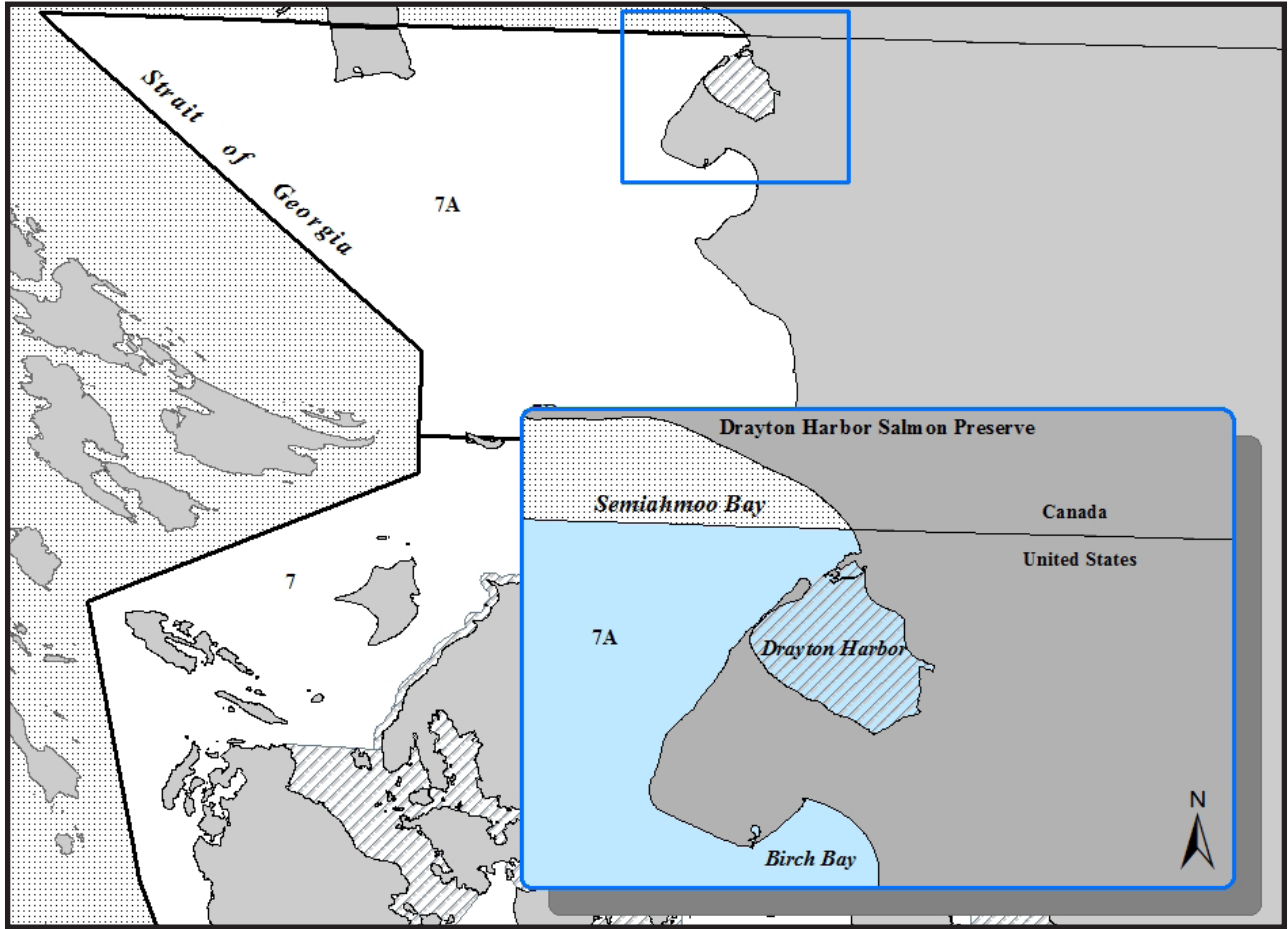
# 5.1 North Puget Sound

Areas 7 and 7A

(WAC 220-354-080)

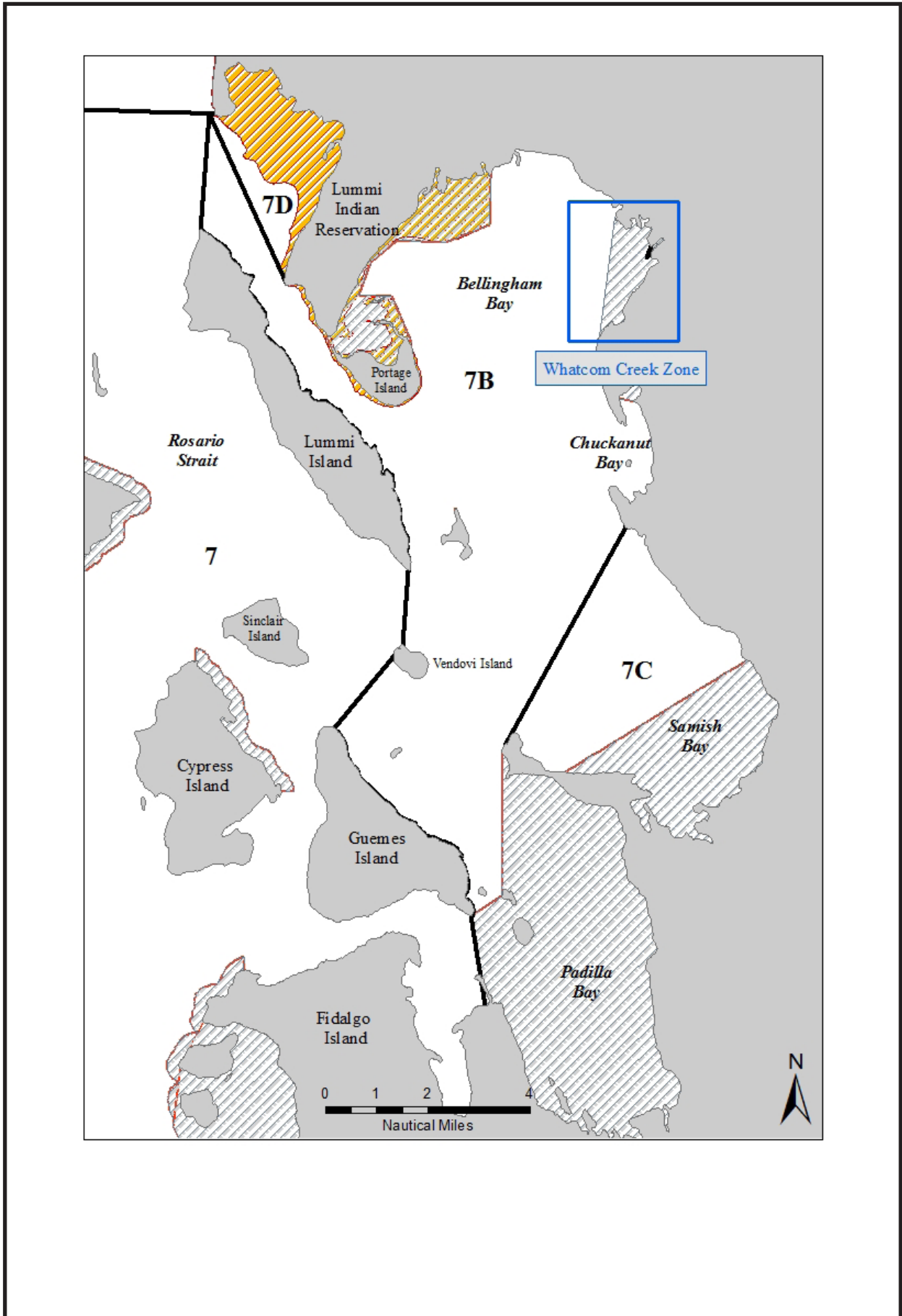


**Area 7A Drayton Harbor and Iwersen Line**





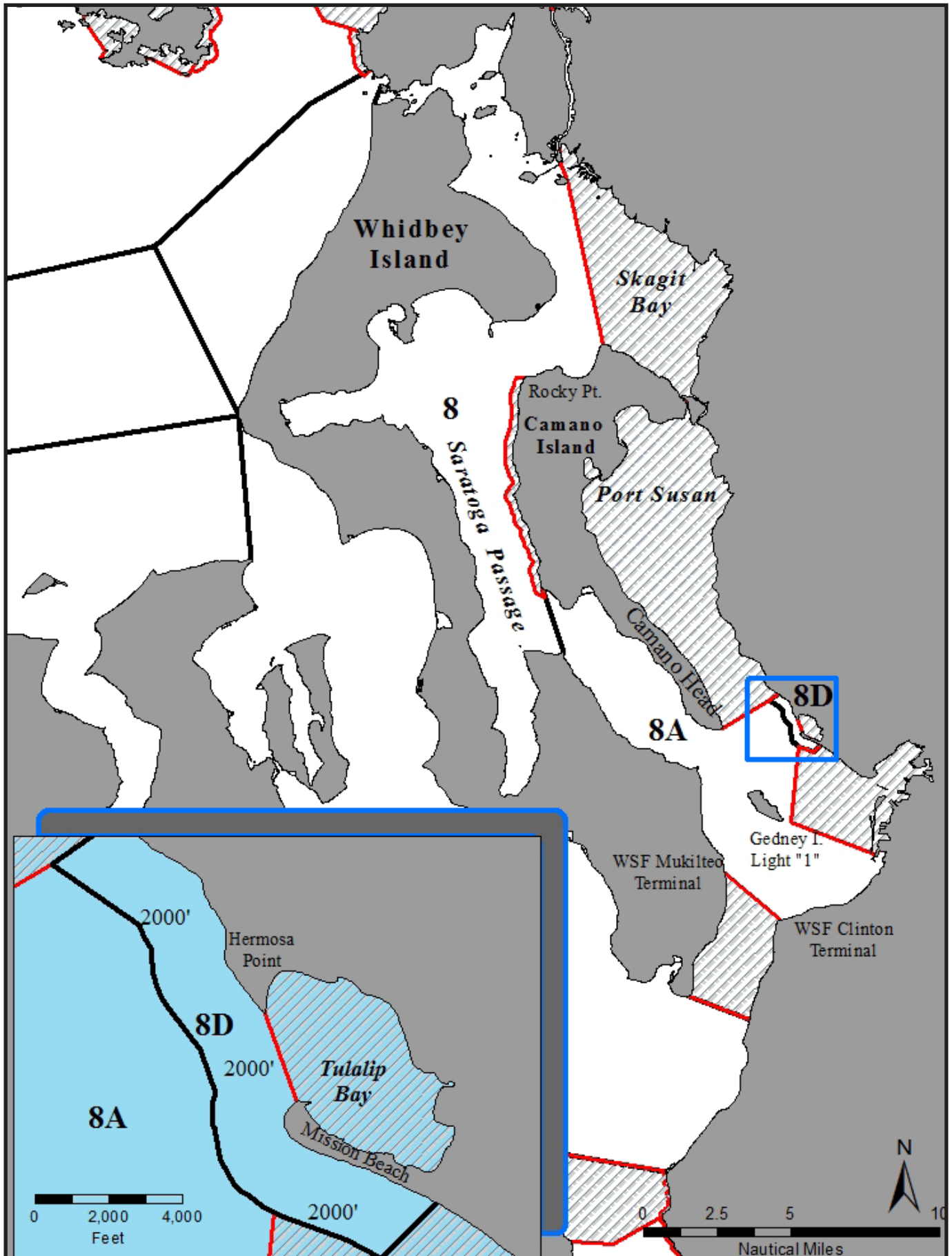
**Areas 7B, 7C, and 7D**



## 5.2 Central Puget Sound

Areas 8, 8A, and 8D

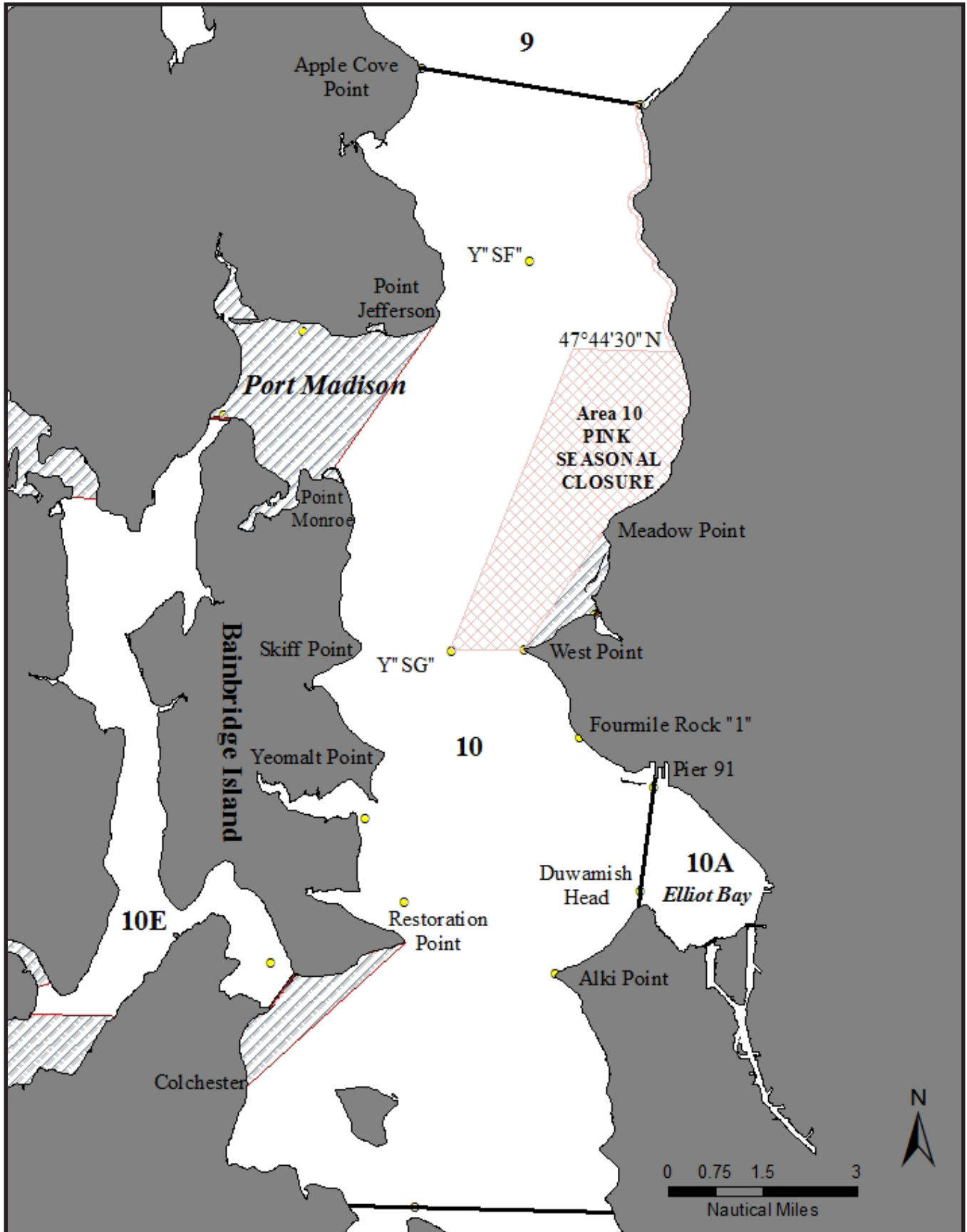
(WAC 220-354-080)



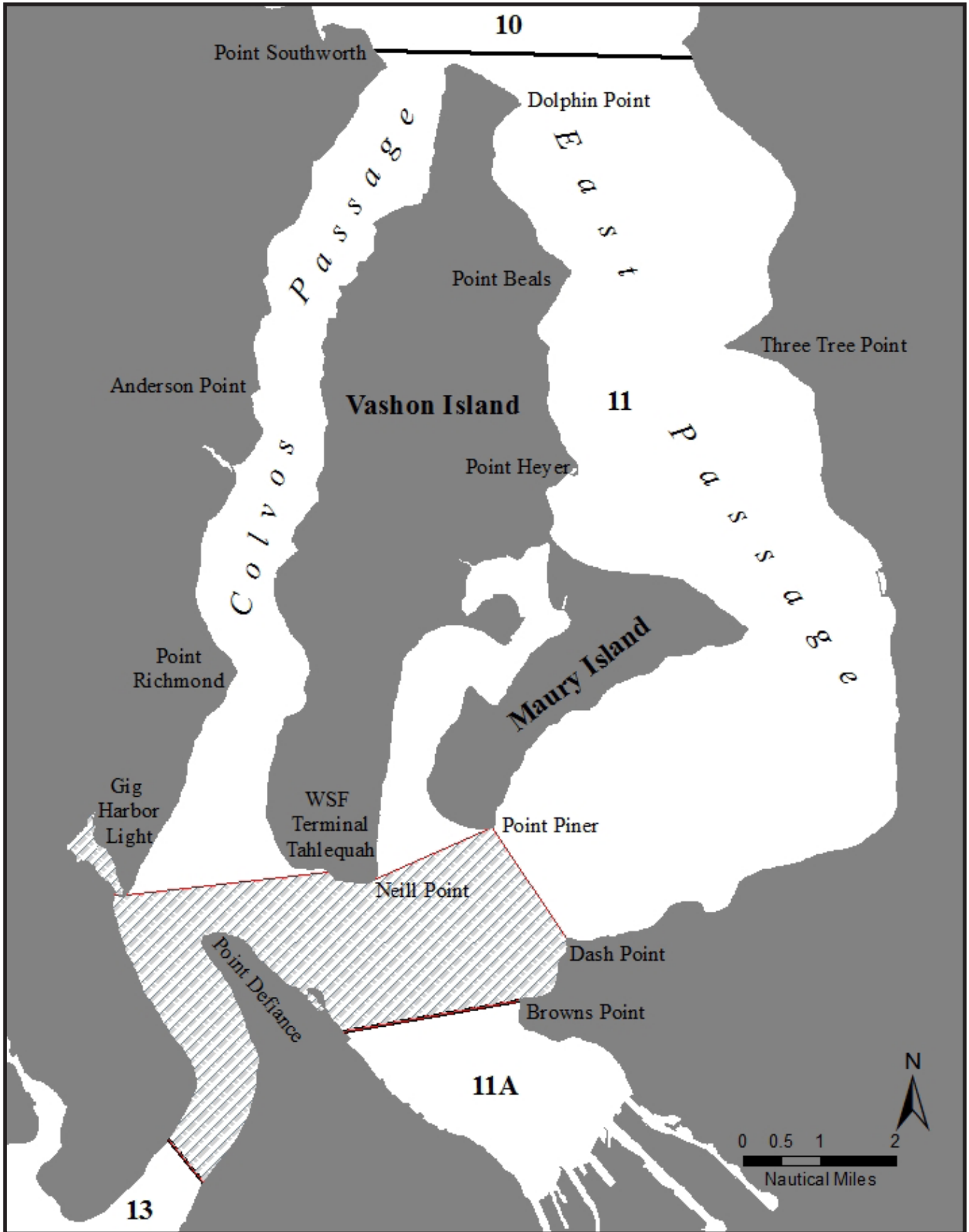
### 5.3 South Puget Sound

**Area 10**

(WAC 220-354-080)



**Area 11**

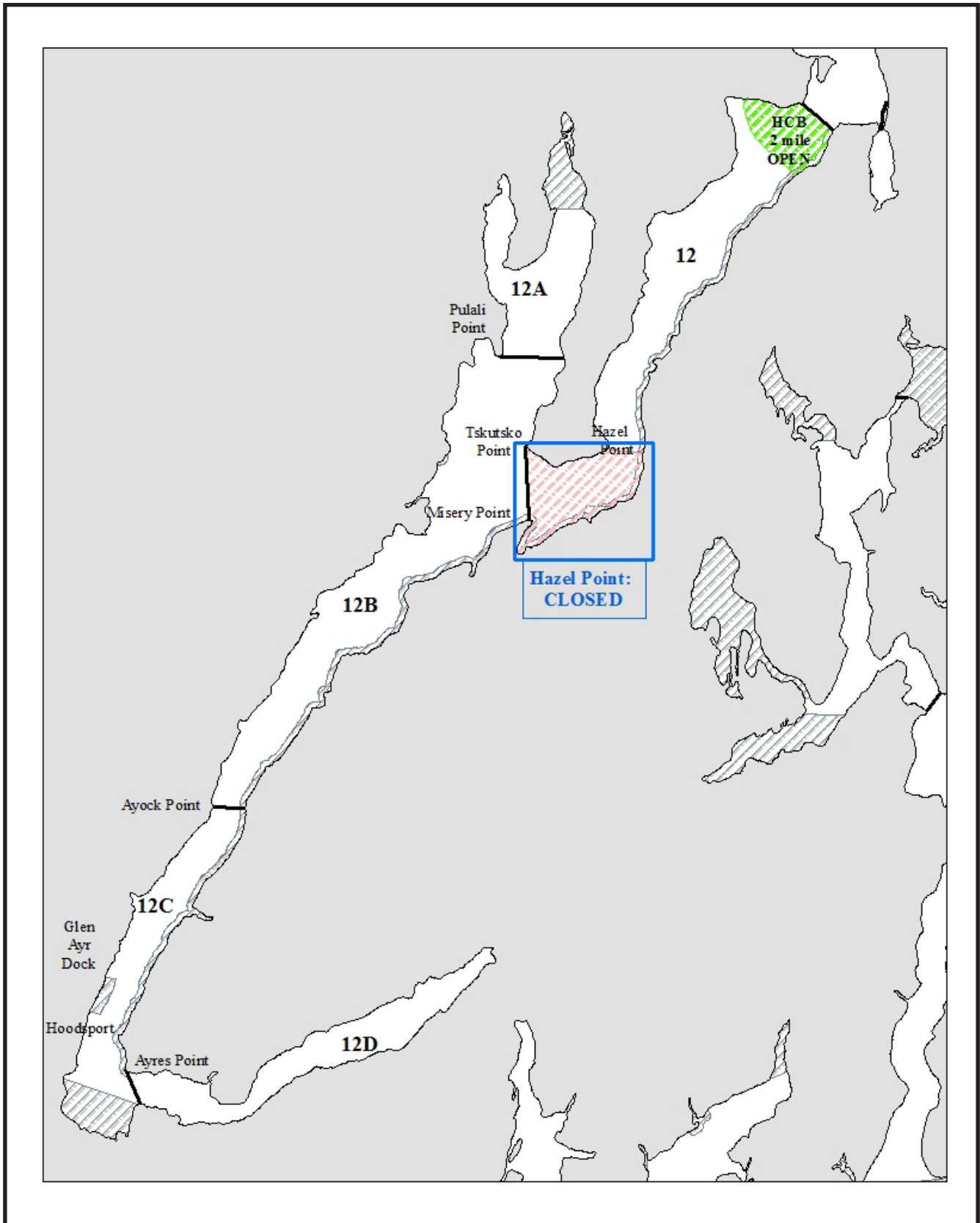




## 5.4 Hood Canal

(WAC 220-354-080)

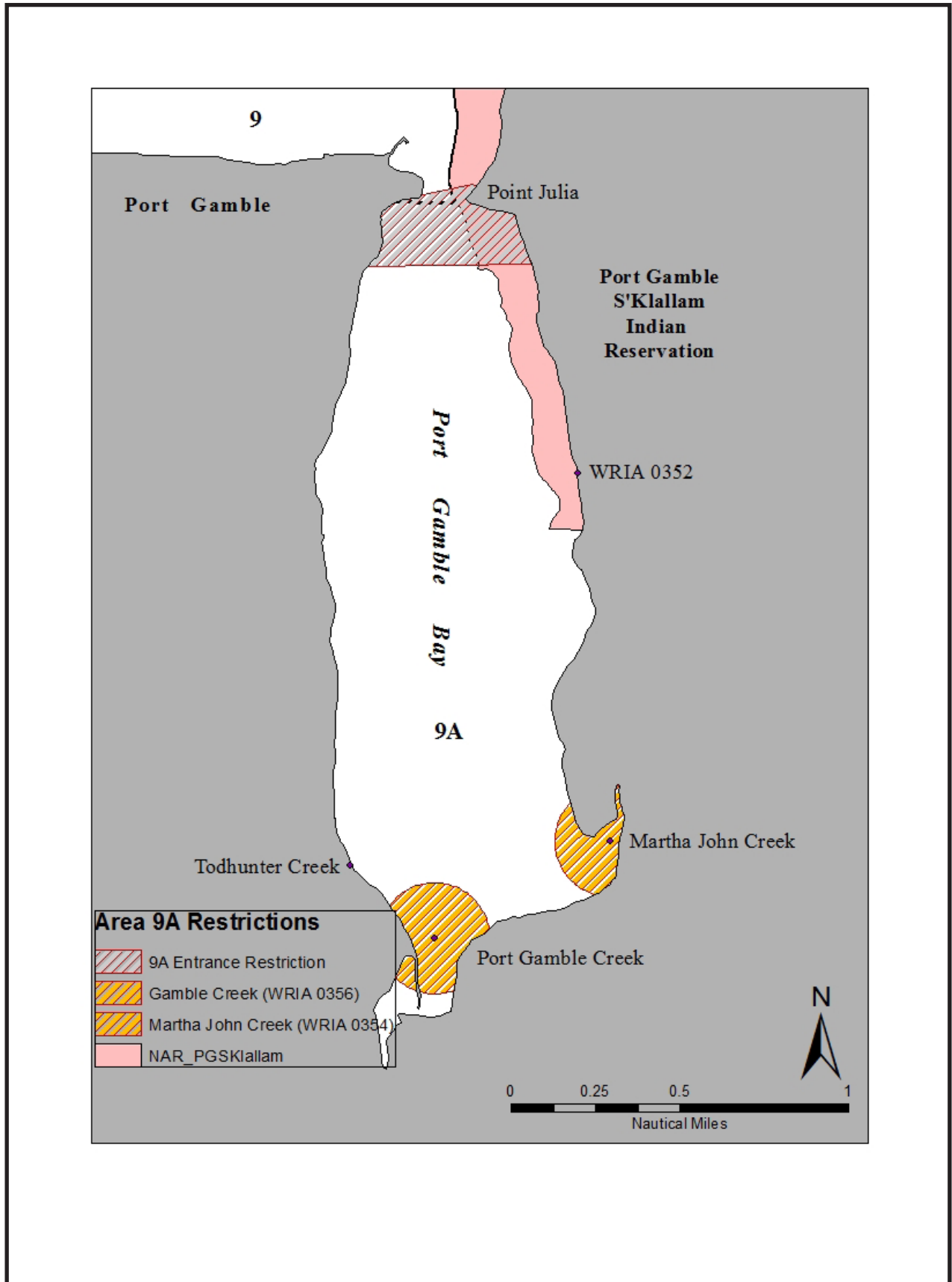
### Area 12, 12A, 12B, and 12C



# 5.5 Port Gamble

(WAC 220-354-080)

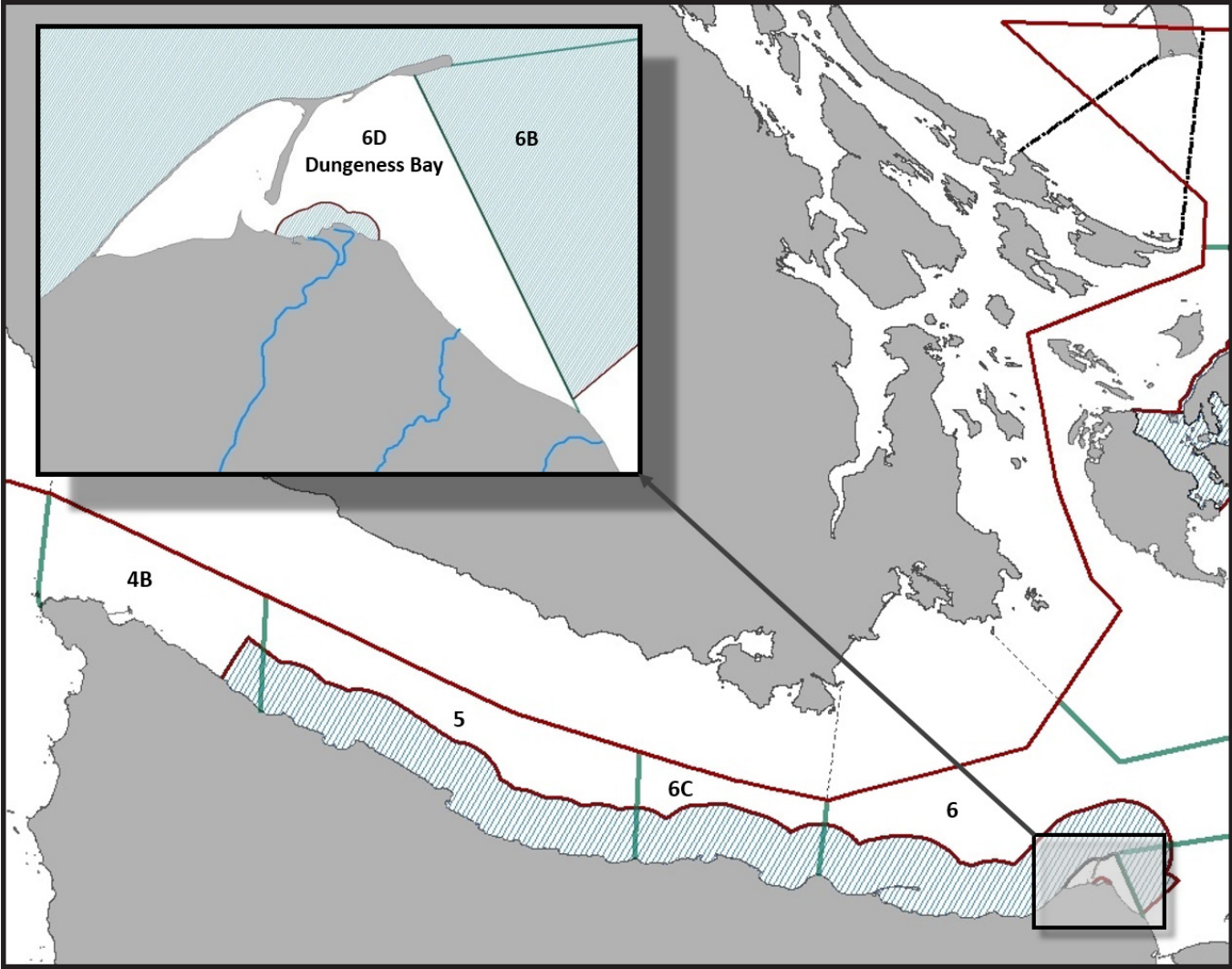
## Area 9A



# 5.6 Strait of Jaun De Fuca and Dungeness Bay

(WAC 220-354-080)

## Area 4B, 5, 6C, 6, 6B, and 6D



## 6. APPENDIX

### 6.1 Reporting Derelict or Lost Gear

(WAC 220-353-020)

*This appendix presents information pertinent to the protection and conservation of Puget Sound's ecosystem, through the prevention and reporting of lost fishing gear.*

*More information can be found at:*

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/habitat-recovery/derelict-gear>

*or the Washington State Legislature's website at:*

<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

In 2002 the Northwest Straits Initiative, a program authorized by Congress to protect and restore marine resources in the Northwest Straits, began a comprehensive program to locate and remove harmful derelict fishing gear from Puget Sound. In cooperation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife and other federal and state agencies, it developed removal guidelines, created a database of known derelict gear, established a phone and web-based reporting system and began removing derelict fishing gear, primarily gillnets and crab pots. Since 2002, the Initiative had removed over 5,900 pieces of derelict gear. Trained commercial divers and vessels locate derelict gear with side-scan sonar and camera surveys and then physically remove and dispose of the gear from the waters of Puget Sound and the Northwest Straits.

In 2012 the state legislature passed a law making it mandatory for commercial fishermen to report lost/abandoned nets to the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife.

It is unlawful for any person who loses or abandons non-tribal commercial net fishing gear within the waters of the state to fail to: Contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife within 24 hours.

### ***REPORT within 24 hours of the loss!***



Washington Department of  
**FISH and WILDLIFE**

#### **Derelict Gear Hotlines**

855-542-3935

(WDFW)

360-733-1725

(Northwest Straits)



**NORTHWEST STRAITS**  
marine conservation initiative

#### **Online Reporting System:**

<http://www.derelictgeardb.org/reportgear.aspx>

When reporting lost gear, provide the following required information: Type of gear; general location of the gear; latitude (if known) of the gear; longitude (if known) of the gear; estimated water depth where the gear is located; date the gear was lost; time the gear was lost; name of gear's owner; telephone number of the gear's owner; and email address (if available) of the gear's owner. Failing to report lost or abandoned non-tribal commercial net gear under this subsection is an infraction under RCW 77.15.160.

## 6.2 Marbled Murrelet Handling and Reporting

*This appendix presents information pertinent to the protection and conservation of Puget Sound's ecosystem, through the reporting of any encountered Marbled Murrelets.*

*More information can be found at:*

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/species/brachyramphus-marmoratus>

*or the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service:*

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp0/profile/speciesProfile?sId=4467>

In 2017, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) issued the 20 year Marbled Murrelet Biological Opinion (Bi-Op). Under ESA Section 7 Consultations, the opinion outlined and addressed the impacts the Puget Sound Treaty and Non-Treaty (All Citizen) salmon fisheries have on Marbled Murrelets. Below are the regulations commercial fishers are required to follow.

If a Marbled Murrelet is recovered alive, it should be retained until or unless it exhibits all of the following signs (if a recovered marbled murrelet exhibits all of these signs and has no obvious wounds, it should be released immediately):

- a. The bird is capable of holding its head erect;
- b. The bird breathes without noise;
- c. The bird can flap both wings, and it can retract the wings to a normal folded position on the back; and
- d. The bird is capable of elevating itself to stand on both feet, with its toes pointed forward.

If a recovered marbled murrelet exhibits all of these signs and has no obvious wounds, it should be released immediately. Fishers and observers shall report to USFWS, NOAA Fisheries, WDFW, BIA or a Tribal biologist (as appropriate) the approximate location, timing and date of the captured bird and, if possible, provide photographs of the bird. If the capture is reported to NOAA Fisheries, BIA and/or supporting staff, they shall relay the information to one of the USFWS personnel listed below.

If the recovered bird **does not** exhibit all of the above traits, it must be retained aboard the vessel, and the USFWS should be contacted immediately. Marbled murrelets that must be held should be handled as little as possible and only while wearing gloves. They should be placed in a darkened, ventilated box along with a towel; if this is not possible, the closest equivalent should be used in order to keep the bird as calm as possible. The appropriate USFWS personnel shall be contacted (by availability, in the order listed) for further instructions:

### ***REPORT encounters within 24 hours!***



Washington Department of  
**FISH and WILDLIFE**

#### **Reporting Hotlines**

360-902-2677

(WDFW)

1-877-326-8837 (1-87-SEA-OTTER)

360-753-9593

(USFWS)



If USFWS personnel cannot be reached, NOAA Fisheries, BIA and/or supporting staff shall contact the Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) at 425-787-2500. People contacting either USFWS staff or PAWS about an injured marbled murrelet should be ready to describe the condition of the bird.



## 6.3 Marine Protected Areas and Artificial Reefs

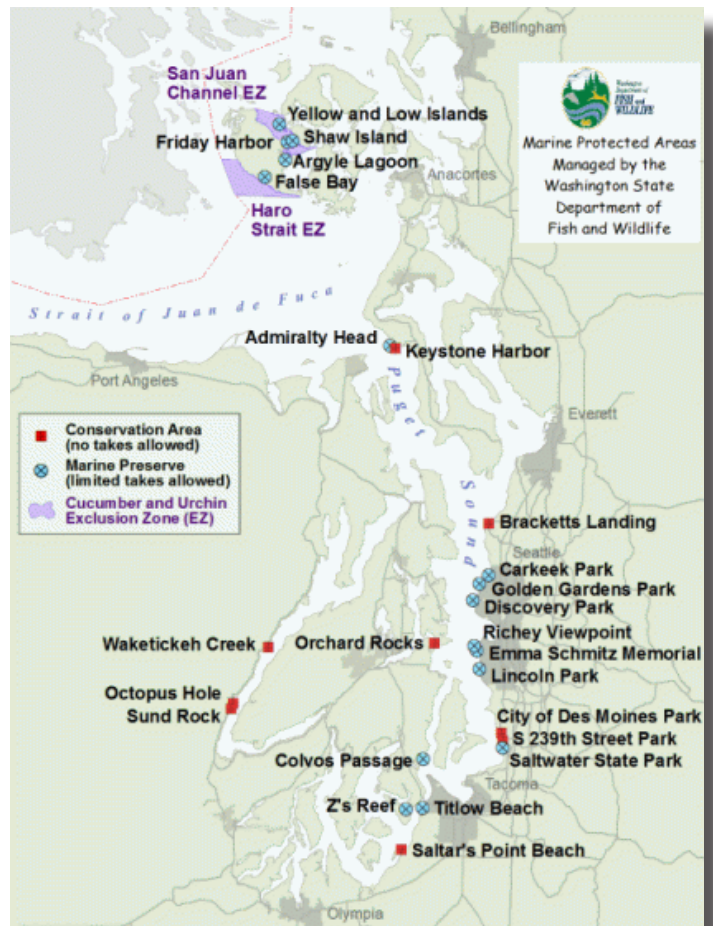
*This appendix presents information pertinent to the protection and conservation of Puget Sound's ecosystem, through the establishment of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Artificial Reefs.*

*More information can be found at:*

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/mpa>

To protect and preserve a variety of marine fish, shellfish, and habitats, WDFW has established marine reserves at several sites in Puget Sound. These are generally known as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), and have either broad or focused restrictions on the harvest of marine resources within specified boundaries.

- San Juan Island Marine Preserve Area
- Admiralty Head Marine Preserve
- Keystone Conservation Area
- Brackett's Landing Shoreline Sanctuary Conservation Area
- Carkeek Park Marine Preserve
- Golden Gardens Park Marine Preserve
- Discovery Park Marine Preserve
- Richey Viewpoint Marine Preserve
- Emma Schmitz Memorial Marine Preserve
- Lincoln Park Marine Preserve
- Orchard Rocks Conservation Area
- Waketick Creek Conservation Area
- Octopus Hole Conservation Area
- Sund Rock Marine Preserve
- City of Des Moines Park Conservation Area
- South 239th Street Park Conservation Area
- Saltwater State Park Marine Preserve
- Colvos Passage Marine Preserve
- Titlow Beach Marine Preserve
- Zee's Reef Marine Preserve
- Saltar's Point Beach Conservation Area.



**Artificial Fishing Reef Locations:** Artificial fishing reefs have been constructed by the Department of Fish and Wildlife to provide recreational anglers access to a wide variety of fishes. Fishers should avoid these areas, to avoid unnecessary gear loss. These reefs may not be marked with buoys. Please exercise caution when setting gear in the vicinity of these reefs and other known obstructions. Underwater surveys, particularly at the Blake Island and Misery Point reefs, revealed severe gillnet entanglement which is detrimental not only to people who fish but to many fishes, birds, and mammals as well.

Area	Location	Description	Latitude	Longitude
8	Onamac Point	1,000 ft. north of Onamac navigational light	48° 11' 09"N	122° 32' 17"W
8A	Gedney Island	3,000 ft. south of southern tip of Gedney Island	47° 59' 58"N	122° 18' 37"W
10	The Trees	2.1 miles south of Point Wells	47° 41' 56"N	122° 23' 12"W
10	Blake Island	800 ft. south of the southern tip of Blake Island	47° 31' 43"N	122° 29' 30"W
10	Alki	1.2 miles south of Alki Point	47° 33' 23"N	122° 24' 26"W
11	Point Heyer	1,000 ft. southeast of KVI radio tower on the point	47° 25' 13"N	122° 25' 40"W
12/12B	Misery Point	600 ft. north of the Misery Point navigational light	47° 39' 28"N	122° 49' 49"W

## 6.4 Southern Resident Killer Whale Vessel Regulations

(RCW 77.15.740)

*This appendix presents sections of RCW 77 applicable to the Protection of Southern Resident Orca Whales. This information is not intended to present all laws and regulations pertaining to commercial salmon fishing.*

*More information can be found at:*

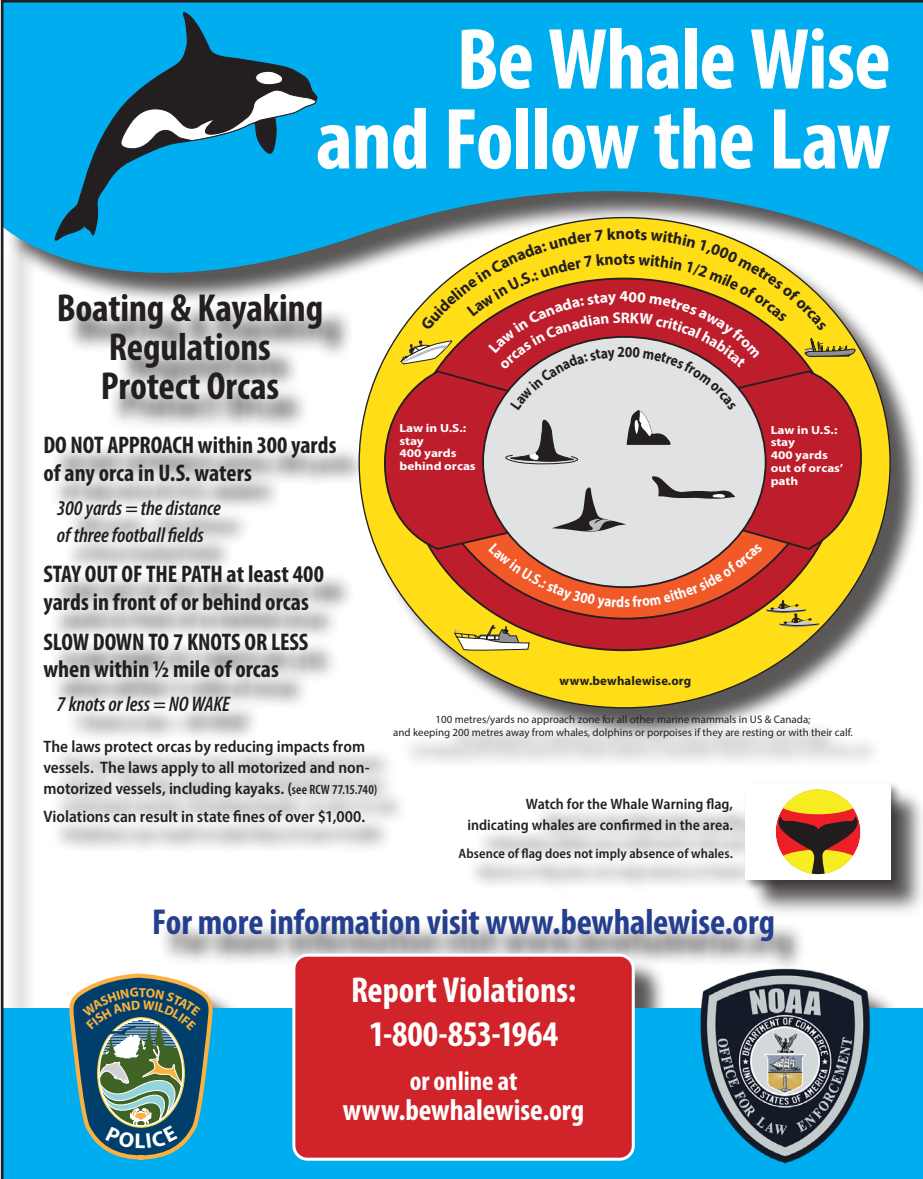
<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>  
and [bewhalewise.org](http://bewhalewise.org)

Except as provided in the subsection below, it is unlawful to:

Cause a vessel or other object to approach, in any manner, within 300 yards of a southern resident orca whale; Position a vessel to be in the path of a southern resident orca whale at any point located within 400 yards of the whale. This includes intercepting a southern resident orca whale by positioning a vessel so that the prevailing wind or water current carries the vessel into the path of the whale at any point located within 400 yards of the whale; Fail to disengage the transmission of a vessel that is within 300 yards of a southern resident orca whale

A person is **exempt** from the subsection above if that person is:

- Operating a federal government vessel in the course of his or her official duties,
- Operating a state, tribal, or local government vessel when engaged in official duties involving law enforcement, search and rescue, or public safety;
- Operating a vessel in conjunction with a vessel traffic service established under 33 C.F.R. and following a traffic separation scheme, or complying with a vessel traffic service measure of direction;
- Engaging in an activity, including scientific research, pursuant to a permit or other authorization from the National Marine Fisheries Service and the department;
- **Lawfully engaging in a treaty Indian or commercial fishery that is actively setting, retrieving, or closely tending fishing gear;**
- Conducting vessel operations necessary to avoid an imminent and serious threat to a person, vessel, or the environment, including when necessary for overall safety of navigation and to comply with state and federal navigation requirements..."



**Be Whale Wise and Follow the Law**

**Boating & Kayaking Regulations Protect Orcas**

**DO NOT APPROACH** within 300 yards of any orca in U.S. waters  
*300 yards = the distance of three football fields*

**STAY OUT OF THE PATH** at least 400 yards in front of or behind orcas

**SLOW DOWN TO 7 KNOTS OR LESS** when within 1/2 mile of orcas  
*7 knots or less = NO WAKE*

The laws protect orcas by reducing impacts from vessels. The laws apply to all motorized and non-motorized vessels, including kayaks. (see RCW 77.15.740)  
Violations can result in state fines of over \$1,000.

100 metres/yards no approach zone for all other marine mammals in US & Canada; and keeping 200 metres away from whales, dolphins or porpoises if they are resting or with their calf.

Watch for the Whale Warning flag, indicating whales are confirmed in the area.  
Absence of flag does not imply absence of whales.

For more information visit [www.bewhalewise.org](http://www.bewhalewise.org)

Report Violations:  
**1-800-853-1964**  
or online at [www.bewhalewise.org](http://www.bewhalewise.org)

WASHINGTON STATE FISH AND WILDLIFE POLICE

NOAA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OFFICE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT



## 6.5 Testing Commercial Fishing Gear

(WAC: 220-353-080)

*This appendix presents sections of WAC 220 applicable to testing commercial fishing gear. This information is not intended to present all laws and regulations pertaining to commercial salmon fishing. More information can be found at:*

<http://leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules/Pages/default.aspx>

It is unlawful to test commercial fishing gear, except as follows:

All tows or sets are limited to 20 minutes, exclusive of setting and retrieving time.

All testing must only occur between **8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.**

Cod ends of trawl nets must be left open, all hooks of set line gear must be unbaited, and no lures or baited hooks may be used with jig or troll gear.

All incidentally caught fish and shellfish must be returned to the waters immediately. It is unlawful to retain fish or shellfish aboard the vessel at any time during a gear test operation.



Washington Department of  
**FISH and WILDLIFE**

***NOTIFY prior to testing gear!***

**Contact**

360-902-2936

(WDFW Enforcement)



Designated Commercial Gear Testing Areas	
Area	Description
Bellingham Bay	Inside and northerly of a line from Governor's Point to the south tip of Eliza Island to Point Frances, in waters 10 fathoms and deeper.
Boundary Bay	North of a line from Birch Point to Point Roberts, and south of the international boundary, in waters 10 fathoms and deeper during times not under control of the Pacific Salmon Commission.
San Juan Channel	Within a 1-mile radius of Point Caution during times not under control of the Pacific Salmon Commission.
Port Angeles	Inside and westerly of a line projected from the east tip of Ediz Hook through buoy C "1" to the mainland.
Port Gardner	Within a 2-mile radius of the entrance to Everett breakwater, in waters 10 fathoms and deeper.
Central Puget Sound	Between lines from Meadow Point to Point Monroe, and Skiff Point to West Point, in waters 50 fathoms and deeper
East Pass	Between lines from Point Robinson true east to the mainland, and from Dash Point to Point Piner, in waters 50 fathoms and deeper.
Port Townsend	Westerly of a line from the Coast Guard station in Port Townsend to Walan Point to Kala Point, in waters 10 fathoms and deeper.

## 6.6 Large Whale Entanglement Response Program

*This appendix presents sections of WAC 220 applicable to testing commercial fishing gear. This information is not intended to present all laws and regulations pertaining to commercial salmon fishing. More information can be found at:*

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/west-coast/marine-mammal-protection/west-coast-large-whale-entanglement-response-program>

Over the last few years, NOAA Fisheries has responded to an increasing number of large whale entanglements reported to the West Coast Marine Mammal Stranding Network and Large Whale Entanglement Response Network. Large whales periodically become entangled in active or derelict fishing gear, or other ropes/lines/chains in the marine environment. Some whales that become entangled are able to shed the gear on their own. However, other whales may be unable to shed the gear and can carry it for days, months, or even years. Whales that are entangled can suffer from injuries, infection, and wrapping that can impair their ability to feed or swim. The drag from the gear or debris can cause whales to expend more energy to swim, can make it harder for them to feed, and can result in starvation.


### What to do in the case of a Large Whale becoming entangled:

- Prompt reporting is the best way to help entangled whales. Please stay with the whale as long as it is safe to do so.

- Safety First! Because whales in distress may act unpredictably, do not closely approach the animal. Never attempt disentanglement or to remove any gear without training and authorization.

- Video or photos showing the entangling gear can be helpful for our efforts to reduce these entanglements in the future. Please collect and provide video or photos to NOAA Fisheries, but remember to stay at least 100 yards from the whale, and beware that lines in the water could snag your vessel.

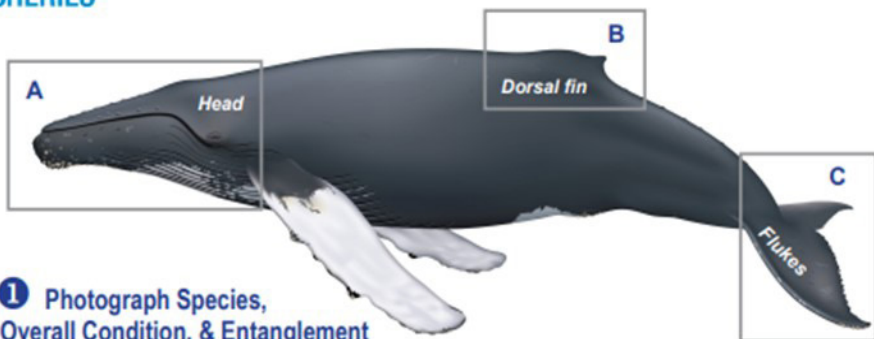
***Do NOT attempt to disentangle a whale yourself!***



### Large Whale Entanglement Photo Documentation Checklist

*Humpback whale*

Entanglement Reporting Hotline:  
1-877-SOS-WHAL or  
1-877-767-9425



**1 Photograph Species, Overall Condition, & Entanglement**

- Head (Box A above)
- Flukes, especially underside if raised (Box C above)
- Side view of dorsal fin (Box B above)
- Any part of the body where the entanglement or gear may be present

**2 Photograph Fishing Gear**

- Buoys (and other gear if present)
- Lines on the body
- Netting if present
- Other gear if present
- Tags (color, numbers, and letters if present)
- Trailing lines including the distance from the whale
- Line Markings - colored sections of line if present

**3 Submit the photos and identifying information**

Email photographs to [wcr.entanglement@noaa.gov](mailto:wcr.entanglement@noaa.gov). Underwater documentation can also be obtained but only by trained large whale entanglement responders.

**Camera Specifics**

A high quality camera (Single Lens Reflex (SLR) for example) is ideal to document an entangled whale as it results in higher resolution. A cell phone can also be used if that is the only option.

**Entangled whales are unpredictable and dangerous.**

**Keep a safe distance. Do not approach the whale.**

**Watch for lines in the water that may entangle your boat.**

**Learn more about the West Coast Large Whale Entanglement Response Program:**  
[www.fisheries.noaa.gov/west-coast/marine-mammal-protection/west-coast-large-whale-entanglement-response-program](http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/west-coast/marine-mammal-protection/west-coast-large-whale-entanglement-response-program)



**This program receives Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. The U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex (in educational programs). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, please contact the Civil Rights Coordinator at 833-885-1012, email: [CivilRightsTeam@dfr.wa.gov](mailto:CivilRightsTeam@dfr.wa.gov) or by mail at P.O. Box 43139, Olympia, WA 98504, or write to:**

**Department of the Interior  
Chief, Public Civil Rights Division  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington D.C. 20240**