Washington State Register

WSR 23-07-067 **EMERGENCY RULES** DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 23-39—Filed March 10, 2023, 4:40 p.m., effective March 13, 2023]

Effective Date of Rule: March 13, 2023.

Purpose: The purpose of this emergency rule is to close commercial harvest of sea urchins in all sea urchin districts.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-340-75000V.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: This emergency rule closes commercial harvest of sea urchins in all sea urchin districts. At this time, the urchin spawning period is near its peak, resulting in poor quality product for the market; while District 1 has green [sea] urchin quota remaining, all other districts have been closed as their quotas were reached. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0. Date Adopted: March 10, 2023.

> Kelly Susewind Director

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective March 13, 2023:

WAC 220-340-75000V Commercial sea urchin fisheries. (23-37)