

WSR 23-21-087  
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Filed October 17, 2023, 11:28 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: The department of fish and wild-  
life (WDFW) is considering changes to rules for recreational clam,  
mussel, and oyster harvest seasons.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject:  
RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, and 77.60.070.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They  
Might Accomplish: WDFW must annually amend recreational clam, mussel,  
and oyster season rules on some public tidelands in response to shell-  
fish population changes, shifts in recreational effort, conservation  
issues, and negotiations with treaty tribes and other state agencies.  
Such amendments are designed to perpetuate shellfish resources while  
maximizing recreational harvest opportunity for the public.

Other Federal and State Agencies that Regulate this Subject and  
the Process Coordinating the Rule with These Agencies: The Washington  
department of health (DOH). WDFW works closely with DOH to monitor and  
close beaches, if necessary, to recreational clam, mussel, and oyster  
harvest if there is a risk to public health.

Process for Developing New Rule: Agency study.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the  
new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by  
contacting Title VI/ADA compliance coordinator, phone 360-902-2349,  
TTY 1-800-833-6388 or 711, email Title6@dfw.wa.gov; or Camille Speck,  
Intertidal Bivalve Manager, 375 Hudson Street, Port Townsend, WA  
98368, phone 360-302-3030 ext. 313, fax 360-302-3030, email  
Camille.speck@dfw.wa.gov.

October 17, 2023  
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Rules Coordinator