WSR 24-03-082 EMERGENCY RULES DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 24-05—Filed January 16, 2024, 4:35 p.m., effective January 22, 2024]

Effective Date of Rule: January 22, 2024.

Purpose: Opens sea cucumber harvest in Districts 1 and 2-2. Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 220-340-730.

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 opens harvest of sea cucumber in Districts 1 and 2-2, with a cumulative landing limit for each area, on January 22, 2024. Harvestable surpluses of sea cucumbers exist in the districts specified. 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Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.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: January 16, 2024.

Amy H. Windrope for Kelly Susewind Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-340-73000M Sea cucumbers Effective January 22 through February 4, 2024, the following provisions of WAC 220-340-730 regarding Puget Sound commercial sea cucumber harvest and sales shall be as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-340-730 not addressed herein, and unless otherwise amended, remain in effect:

(a) Sea cucumber harvest using shellfish diver gear is allowed in Sea Cucumber District 1 and District 2-2.

(b) The maximum cumulative landing of sea cucumbers for the period of January 22 through February 4, 2024, is 1,250 pounds per license from District 1.

(c) The maximum cumulative landing of sea cucumbers for the peri-od of January 22 through February 4, 2024, is 400 pounds per license from District 2-2.