Washington State Register

WSR 24-12-065 **EMERGENCY RULES** DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 24-83—Filed June 3, 2024, 4:31 p.m., effective June 3, 2024, 4:31 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: This emergency rule is necessary to close commercial razor clam seasons.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-340-12000L.

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: An emergency closure due to increasing marine toxins is needed to protect human health. The Washington department of health has confirmed biotoxin levels are increasing rapidly and will soon exceed the regulatory threshold. This emergency rule is needed to close the commercial razor clam season in Razor Clam Area 2. 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Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.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: June 3, 2024.

> Amy H. Windrope for Kelly Susewind Director

REPEALER

The following section of Washington Administrative Code is repealed, effective immediately:

WAC 220-340-12000L Commercial razor clams. (24-48)