

**WSR 24-20-124
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE**

[Order 24-217—Filed October 1, 2024, 2:41 p.m., effective October 2, 2024]

Effective Date of Rule: October 2, 2024.

Purpose: The purpose of this emergency rule is to temporarily close recreational fishing in Skagit River from Gilligan Creek to Baker River.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 220-312-040.

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 rule is necessary to temporarily close a portion of the Skagit River to avoid gear conflicts with treaty fisheries. 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Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.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: October 1, 2024.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-312-04000X Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Puget Sound. Effective October 2 through October 3, 2024, the following provisions of WAC 220-312-040 regarding fishing seasons for the Skagit River from Gilligan Creek to Baker River shall be modified as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-312-040 not addressed herein, unless otherwise amended by emergency rule, remain in effect:

Skagit River (Skagit Co.): From Gilligan Creek to Baker River:
All species: Closed Waters.