

WSR 24-21-093
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 24-17—Filed October 17, 2024, 10:03 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: The department of fish and wildlife (department) 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: The department must annually amend recreational clam, mussel, and oyster season rules on some public tidelands in response to shellfish population changes, shifts in recreational effort, conservation issues, and negotiations with treaty tribes and other state agencies. These 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). The department works closely with DOH to close beaches 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 Rules Coordinator, P.O. Box 4320, Olympia, WA 98504, phone voicemail comments 855-925-2801, project code 10842, TTY 1-800-833-6388 or 711, email 2025clamandoystercr101@publicinput.com, website <https://publicinput.com/2025clamandoystercr101>.

Additional comments: Title VI/ADA compliance coordinator, phone 360-902-2349, TTY 1-800-833-6388 or 711, email Title6@dfw.wa.gov.

October 17, 2024
Scott Bird
Rules Coordinator