

WSR 07-05-001
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 07-18—Filed February 8, 2007, 2:50 p.m., effective February 8, 2007, 2:50 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately.

Purpose: Amend commercial fishing rules.

Citation of Existing Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-52-04600A; and amending WAC 220-52-046.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 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: California Assembly Bill 2773 (effective January 1, 2007) limits the geographic area where a California coastal Dungeness crab license is valid to the state and federal waters adjacent to the coast of California. The Washington department of fish and wildlife agreed to adopt reciprocal regulations limiting the area that Washington coastal Dungeness crab licenses are valid to the state and federal waters adjacent to the coast of Washington. Similar reciprocal rules between Oregon and Washington were in place at the beginning of the 2005-2006 season. Special management area closures according to state-tribal management plans. Special management areas for tribal fishing are included as part of the crab management plan agreements. There is insufficient time to promulgate 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Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's Own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted Using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.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: February 8, 2007.

J. P. Koenings
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-52-04600B Coastal crab season. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-52-046, effective immediately until further notice, it is unlawful to commercially fish for Dungeness crab in Washington coastal waters of the Pacific Ocean, including Grays Harbor, Willapa Bay,

and the Columbia River, except as provided for in this section.

(1) The Quinalt primary special management area (QIN SMA) is closed to fishing for Dungeness crab: The QIN SMA includes the coastal waters shoreward of a line approximating the 25-fathom depth curve from Raft River to Copalis River as described by the following coordinates

- Northeast Corner: 47°28.00 N Lat. - 124°20.70 W Lon.
- Northwest Corner: 47°28.00 N Lat. - 124.33.00 W Lon.
- Southwest Corner: 47°08.00 N. Lat. - 124°23.50 W Lon.
- Southeast Corner: 47°08.00 N. Lat. - 124°11.20 W Lon.

(2) The Quileute special management area (SMA) is closed to fishing for Dungeness crab through 7:59 a.m. May 1, 2007. The Quileute SMA is described as the area from Cape Johnson to Destruction Island shoreward of a line approximating 30 fathoms according to the following points:

- Northeast corner; Cape Johnson 47°58.00 N Lat. - 124°40.40 W Lon.
- Northwest corner; 47°58.00 N Lat. - 124°49.00 W Lon.
- Southwest corner; 47°40.50 N Lat. - 124°40.00 W Lon.
- Southeast corner; 47°40.50 N Lat - 124°24.43 W Lon.

(3) The Makah special management area (SMA) is closed to fishing for Dungeness crab from 12:01 a.m., February 13, 2007 through 7:59 a.m. April 14, 2007. The Makah SMA is described as the coastal waters between 48°02.15 N to 48°20.00 N east of a line connecting those points approximating the 25-fathom depth line according to the following coordinates:

- Northeast corner; Tatoosh Island
- Northwest corner; 48°20.00 N Lat. - 124°50.45 W Lon.
- Southwest corner; 48°02.15 N Lat. - 124°50.45 W Lon.
- Southeast corner; 48°02.15 N Lat. - 124°41.00 W Lon.

(4) It is unlawful to fish for or possess Dungeness crabs or to set crab gear in waters of the Pacific Ocean adjacent to the states of Oregon or California without the licenses or permits required to commercially fish for Dungeness crab within the state waters of Oregon or California. Washington coastal Dungeness crab permits are valid only in Washington state waters, the Columbia River, Willapa Bay, Grays Harbor and the Pacific Ocean in federal waters north of the Washington/Oregon border (46°15.00 N. Latitude), extending 200 nautical miles westward.

(5) All other provisions of the permanent rule remain in effect.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 220-52-04600A Coastal crab season. (07-16)

WSR 07-05-002
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 07-19—Filed February 8, 2007, 2:51 p.m., effective February 16, 2007, 12:01 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: February 16, 2007, 12:01 p.m.

Purpose: Amend personal use rules.

Citation of Existing Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-56-36000Z; and amending WAC 220-56-360.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 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: Survey results show that adequate clams are available for harvest in Razor Clam Areas 1, 2 and those portions of Razor Clam Area 3 opened for harvest. Washington department of health has certified clams from these beaches to be safe for human consumption. There is insufficient time to promulgate 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 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 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: February 8, 2007.

J. P. Koenings
 Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-56-36000Z Razor clams—Areas and seasons. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-56-360, it is unlawful to dig for or possess razor clams taken for personal use from any beach in Razor Clam Areas 1, 2, or 3, except as provided for in this section:

1. Effective 12:01 p.m. February 16 through 11:59 p.m. February 17, 2007, razor clam digging is allowed in Razor Clam Area 1.

2. Effective 12:01 p.m. February 16 through 11:59 p.m. February 18, 2007, razor clam digging is allowed in Razor Clam Area 2.

3. Effective 12:01 p.m. February 16 through 11:59 p.m. February 17, 2007, razor clam digging is allowed in that portion Razor Clam Area 3 that is between the Copalis River and

the southern boundary of the Quinault Indian Nation (Grays Harbor County) and that portion of Razor Clam Area 3 that is between Olympic National Park South Beach Campground access road (Kalaloch area, Jefferson County) and Browns Point (Kalaloch area, Jefferson County). Digging is allowed from 12:01 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. only.

4. It is unlawful to dig for razor clams at any time in Long Beach, Twin Harbors Beach or Copalis Beach Clam sanctuaries defined in WAC 220-56-372.

Reviser's note: The typographical error in the above section occurred in the copy filed by the agency and appears in the Register pursuant to the requirements of RCW 34.08.040.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective 12:01 a.m. February 19, 2007:

WAC 220-56-36000Z Razor clams—Areas and seasons.

WSR 07-05-003
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 07-20—Filed February 8, 2007, 2:51 p.m., effective February 12, 2007]

Effective Date of Rule: February 12, 2007.

Purpose: Amend commercial fishing rules.

Citation of Existing Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-52-07300K; and amending WAC 220-52-073.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 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: Harvestable amounts of red sea urchins exist in the areas described. Prohibition of all diving from licensed sea urchin harvest vessels prior to scheduled sea urchin openings discourages the practice of fishing on closed days and hiding the unlawful catch underwater until the legal opening. There is insufficient time to promulgate 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 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 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: February 8, 2007.

J. P. Koenings
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-52-07300L Sea urchins. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-52-073, effective February 12, 2007 until further notice, it is unlawful to take or possess sea urchins taken for commercial purposes except as provided for in this section:

(1) Red sea urchins: Sea Urchin Districts 1 and 2 are open only on Monday through Friday of each week. In Sea Urchin Districts 1 and 2 it is unlawful to harvest red sea urchins smaller than 4.0 inches or larger than 5.5 inches (size in largest test diameter exclusive of spines).

(2) It is unlawful to dive for any purpose from a commercially licensed sea urchin fishing vessel on Saturday and Sunday of each week, except by written permission from the Director.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective February 12, 2007:

WAC 220-52-07300K Sea urchins. (07-04)

WSR 07-05-004
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 07-21—Filed February 8, 2007, 2:53 p.m., effective February 12, 2007]

Effective Date of Rule: February 12, 2007.

Purpose: Amend commercial fishing rules.

Citation of Existing Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-52-07100E; and amending WAC 220-52-071.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 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: Harvestable amounts of sea cucumbers are available in sea cucumber districts listed. Prohibition of all diving from licensed sea cucumber harvest vessels prior to scheduled sea cucumber openings discourages the practice of fishing on closed days and hiding the unlawful catch underwater until the legal opening. There is insufficient time to promulgate 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 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 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: February 8, 2007.

J. P. Koenings
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-52-07100F Sea cucumbers. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-52-071, effective February 12, 2007 until further notice, it is unlawful to take or possess sea cucumbers taken for commercial purposes except as provided for in this section:

(1) Sea cucumber harvest using shellfish diver gear is allowed in Districts 1 and 5 on Monday through Friday of each week.

(2) Sea cucumber harvest using shellfish diver gear is allowed in Sea Cucumber District 3 on Tuesday, February 13, 2007 only. On February 13, 2007, the maximum daily landing of sea cucumbers from Sea Cucumber District 3 is 800 pounds per valid commercial sea cucumber harvest license.

(3) It is unlawful to dive for any purpose from a commercially licensed sea cucumber fishing vessel on Saturday and Sunday of each week, except by written permission from the Director.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective February 12, 2007:

WAC 220-52-07100E Sea cucumbers. (07-05)

WSR 07-05-025
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
EARLY LEARNING

[Filed February 13, 2007, 11:27 a.m., effective February 13, 2007, 11:27 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately.

Purpose: The purpose of this rule is to allow the new department of early learning (DEL) to continue performing background clearances on and providing due process hearing

procedures to child care providers after the department separated from the department of social and health services (DSHS) and became a new department as of July 1, 2006. The obsolete DSHS rules about background checks and hearings are being restored in new Title 170 WAC, which is the new DEL title. This is an extension to allow for more public comment and response.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Section 301, chapter 265, Laws of 2006.

Other Authority: Chapter 265, Laws of 2006.

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; and that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: SSHB 2964 (chapter 265, Laws of 2006) created the DEL, effective July 1, 2006. The department had existed as division of child care and early learning, a part of DSHS. One function of the department is to perform background checks on applicants for child care licenses and workers in child care. Another function is to process administrative hearings when an applicant for a child care license is denied the license or denied the clearance to work with children. With the creation of the DEL, child care background check and hearing rules in Title 388 WAC became obsolete for regulating child care. These new rules are needed to allow the new DEL to continue performing background checks and conducting hearings. This is vital to the health safety of children in care. These rules are necessary to implement the legislature[']s intent in SSHB 2964.

The DEL is in the process of making these rules permanent. Six public forums about the child care hearing and background check rules were held November and December 2006. This extension is required to allow time for follow-up and respond to public input.

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 72, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at 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 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 72, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: February 13, 2007.

Jone Bosworth
Director

Chapter 170-03 WAC

DEL HEARING RULES

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0010 Purpose and scope. (1) **Application.** This chapter contains the procedural rules that apply to adjudicative proceedings involving the department of early learning (DEL) and:

- Individuals or entities who are applicants for child care licenses or who are licensees of DEL and are adversely affected by a decision of DEL;
- Applicants for employment or employees of licensed child care agencies, child care providers, staff, volunteers, contracted providers, or other individuals who are required to meet background check standards before being authorized to care for or have unsupervised access to children in child care and who are disqualified by DEL;

Individuals receiving child care subsidies or on whose behalf child care subsidies are paid under the seasonal child care program who are assessed an overpayment and who disperse the overpayment.

(2) **Relation to statutes and rules.** The rules of this chapter are intended to supplement RCW 43.20A.205 and its DEL successor, the statute governing hearing rights for licensees, section 311, chapter 265, Laws of 2006, the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), chapter 34.05 RCW, and the model rules, chapter 10-08 WAC, adopted by the office of administrative hearings (OAH). If a provision of this chapter conflicts with a provision in any chapter containing a substantive rule, the provision in the chapter containing the substantive rule governs.

(3) **Relation to actions and rules of other agencies.** Actions of DEL sometimes rely in part on actions taken by other agencies, most notably the department of social and health services (DSHS), or are taken in conjunction with the actions of other agencies. For example, DSHS's division of licensed resources/child protective services (DLR/CPS) has statutory responsibility for investigating allegations of child abuse or neglect in licensed child care agencies. If DLR/CPS finds child abuse or neglect occurred in a child care facility, the person who is the subject of the finding will have a right to a hearing to challenge that finding under DSHS rules. If the subject is a licensed provider, the child care license may be revoked as a result of the circumstances and finding and the provider also would have a right to a hearing under DEL hearing rules. To the extent the child abuse or neglect case and the licensing case can be consolidated or combined in one hearing, they should be combined.

(4) **Application and amendments.** This chapter and any amendment to this chapter applies to cases pending at the time of the adoption of the rule or amendment, unless the amendment or rule-making order specifically states that it does not apply to pending cases. An amendment to this chapter does not require that anything already done be redone in order to comply with the amendment, unless the amendment expressly says so.

Effective date: This chapter is effective July 3, 2006. In addition to cases arising on or after the effective date, this chapter applies to all pending DEL cases that have not gone to a full hearing before an ALJ by July 3, 2006, and to cases in which an initial decision is subject to review, but in which a petition for review has not been filed by July 3, 2006. This chapter does not apply to cases in which the hearing was held or begun prior to July 3, 2006, and/or which are awaiting initial decisions; Provided, Parts VIII and IX of this chapter, governing review of initial decisions, will apply to review of any initial decision mailed after the effective date of this chapter.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0020 Definitions. The following definitions apply to this chapter:

(1) **"Administrative law judge (ALJ)"** means an impartial decision-maker who is an attorney and presides at an administrative hearing. The office of administrative hearings (OAH), which is a state agency, employs the ALJs. ALJs are not DEL employees or DEL representatives.

(2) **"Business days"** means all days except Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.

(3) **"Calendar days"** means all days including Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.

(4) **"Case"** means the entire proceeding following the filing of a request for hearing with OAH.

(5) **"Continuance"** means a change in the date or time of a prehearing conference, hearing or deadline for other action.

(6) **"DEL" or "department"** means the department of early learning.

(7) **"Documents"** means papers, letters, writings, or other printed or written items.

(8) **"Ex parte contact"** means a written or oral communication with a judge about something related to the hearing when the other parties are not present. Procedural questions are not considered an ex parte contact. Examples of procedural questions include clarifying the hearing date, time, or location or asking for directions to the hearing location.

(9) **"Final order"** means an order that is the final DEL decision.

(10) **"Good cause"** means a substantial reason or legal justification for failing to appear, to act, or respond to an action required under these rules.

(11) **"Hearing"** means a proceeding before OAH that gives an aggrieved party an opportunity to be heard in disputes resulting from actions taken against the party by DEL. For purposes of this chapter, hearings include administrative hearings, adjudicative proceedings, and any other similar term referenced under chapter 34.05 RCW, the Administrative Procedure Act, Title 170 of the Washington Administrative Code, chapter 10-08 WAC, or other law.

(12) **"Initial decision"** is a decision made by an ALJ that may be reviewed by a review judge.

(13) **"OAH"** means the office of administrative hearings.

(14) **"Party"** means a person or entity to whom a DEL action is directed that has a right to be involved in the hearing

process. DEL also is a party, but is referred to in this chapter as DEL or the department.

(15) **"Representative"** means the person selected by a party to represent that party in an administrative hearing. **"Lay representative"** means a person or advocate who is assisting a party in presenting that party's case in administrative hearings. **"DEL representative"** means an employee of DEL, a DEL contractor, or an employee of the office of the attorney general authorized to represent DEL in an administrative hearing.

(16) **"Record"** means the official documentation of the hearing process. The record includes tape recordings or transcripts, admitted exhibits, decisions, briefs, notices, orders, and other filed documents.

(17) **"Review"** means the act of reviewing initial orders and making the final agency decision as provided by RCW 34.05.464.

(18) **"Review judge" or "DEL review judge"** means an attorney employed by DEL to act as the reviewing officer and who is authorized to review initial orders and to prepare and enter the final agency order.

(19) **"Rule"** means a state regulation, including a licensing standard. Rules are found in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC).

(20) **"Stay"** means an order temporarily halting the DEL decision or action.

(21) **"Words of command"** such as "should," "shall," and "must" are words that impose a mandatory obligation on a participant in the hearing process. The words "may" or "will" are used when referring to a discretionary act to be taken by an ALJ or review judge.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0030 Computing time for meeting deadlines in the hearing process. (1) When counting days to find out when the time allowed or prescribed for an action under these rules or to meet a hearing deadline:

(a) Do not include the day of the action, notice, or order. For example, if a hearing decision is mailed on Tuesday and a party has twenty-one days from the date of mailing to request a review, count Wednesday as the first day.

(b) Count the last day of the period, unless the last day is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, in which case the deadline is the next business day.

(2) For periods of seven days or less, count only business days. For example, if you have seven days to respond to a review request that was mailed to you on Friday, May 10, the response period ends on Tuesday, May 21.

(3) For periods over seven days, count every day, including Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

(4) The deadline ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day.

II. HEARING RIGHTS AND REQUESTS

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0040 The right to a hearing. (1) A person or entity has a right to a hearing only if a law or DEL rule expressly gives that right and a hearing is timely requested.

(2) A party has only a limited time to request a hearing. The deadline for the request is set by statute or DEL rule. In most cases, DEL will send a notice of adverse action or disqualification that gives specific information about how, where and when to request a hearing.

(3) A challenge to a DEL adverse action is heard in an administrative hearing by an administrative law judge (ALJ) employed by the office of administrative hearings (OAH). Not all actions of DEL may be challenged through the hearing.

(4) If a party requests a hearing, one will be scheduled.

(5) If DEL or the ALJ questions a party's right to a hearing, the ALJ decides whether the party has that right. The ALJ will decide either:

(a) There is no right to a hearing and dismiss the case; or

(b) There is a right to a hearing and proceed with the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0050 Requesting a hearing. (1) A request for hearing must be made in writing. It can be made by the party requesting the hearing or the party's representative.

(2) The hearing request should include:

(a) The requesting party's name, address, and telephone number;

(b) A brief explanation of why the requesting party disagrees with the DEL action;

(c) Any assistance, such as a foreign or sign language interpreter or accommodation for a disability, needed by the requesting party;

(d) A copy of the notice from DEL stating the adverse action.

(3) The request should be filed with OAH and served on DEL.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0060 Filing the request for hearing. (1) Filing is the act of delivering documents to OAH at the location listed in WAC 170-03-0070.

(2) The date of filing is the date documents are actually received by OAH during office hours.

(3) A party may file documents with OAH by:

(a) Personal service (hand delivery);

(b) First class, registered, or certified mail;

(c) Fax transmission, if the party also mails a copy of the document the same day;

(d) Commercial delivery service; or

(e) Legal messenger service.

(4) A party cannot file documents by e-mail.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0070 Location of office of administrative hearings. (1) The office of administrative hearings (OAH) is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except legal holidays.

(2) The address for the office of administrative hearings (OAH) is:

Office of Administrative Hearings
2420 Bristol Court S.W., 1st Floor
P.O. Box 42488
Olympia, WA 98504-2488
360-664-8717
360-664-8721 (fax)

Requests for hearing should be sent to the attention of Barb Cleveland, Executive Assistant.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0080 Service of notice and documents.

(1) Service is the act of delivering a copy of documents to the opposing party. Service gives the opposing party notice of the request for hearing or other action. When a document is given to a party, that party is considered served with official notice of the contents of the document.

(2) A party may serve another party by:

(a) Personal service (hand delivery);

(b) First class, registered, or certified mail;

(c) Fax, if the party also mails a copy of the document the same day;

(d) Commercial delivery service; or

(e) Legal messenger service.

(3) A party cannot serve documents by e-mail.

(4) A party must serve all other parties or a party's representative, if the party is represented, whenever the party files a pleading (request for hearing), brief or other document with OAH or the review judge or when required by law.

(5) Service is complete when:

(a) Personal service is made;

(b) Mail is properly stamped, addressed and deposited in the United States mail;

(c) Fax produces proof of transmission;

(d) A parcel is delivered to a commercial delivery service with charges prepaid; or

(e) A parcel is delivered to a legal messenger service with charges prepaid.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0090 Proof of service. A party may prove that an opposing party was served with documents by providing any of the following:

(1) A sworn statement by the person who served the document;

(2) The certified mail receipt signed by the recipient;

(3) An affidavit or certificate of mailing;

(4) A signed receipt from the person who accepted the commercial delivery service or legal messenger service package;

(5) Proof of fax transmission; or

(6) Acknowledgment by the party being served.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0100 Representation during the hearing process. (1) The party requesting the hearing may represent himself or herself or may have another person, except a DEL employee, act as the representative.

(2) The representative may be a friend, relative, community advocate, attorney, paralegal, or lay representative.

(3) The representative should provide OAH and the other parties with the representative's name, address, and telephone number. If the representative is an attorney or lay representative, the representative must file a written notice of appearance in the action. If the representative is not an attorney, the party must provide a written statement to DEL authorizing the release of information about the party to the representative.

(4) DEL may be represented by an employee of DEL, a DEL contractor, or an assistant attorney general.

III. INTERPRETER SERVICES

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0110 The right to an interpreter in the hearing process. (1) If a party has limited English proficiency (LEP), OAH will provide an interpreter.

(2) If OAH is notified that a party is a limited English-speaking person, all notices concerning hearings must:

(a) Be written in the party's primary language; or

(b) Include a statement, in the primary language, explaining the importance of the notice and informing the party how to get help in understanding the notice and responding to it.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0120 Definitions. The following definitions apply to rules relating to interpreter services.

(1) "**Hearing impaired person**" means a person who, because of a hearing or speech impairment, cannot readily speak, understand or communicate in spoken language.

(2) "**Limited English proficient (LEP)**" includes limited English-speaking persons or other persons unable to communicate in spoken English because of a hearing impairment.

(3) "**Limited English-speaking (LES) person**" means a person who, because of non-English-speaking cultural background or disability, cannot readily speak or understand the English language.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0130 Interpreter qualifications. (1) OAH must provide a qualified interpreter to assist any person who:

(a) Has limited English proficiency; and

(b) Is a party or witness in a hearing.

(2) OAH may hire or contract with persons to interpret at hearings.

(3) Relatives of any party and DEL employees may not be used as interpreters.

(4) The ALJ must determine, at the beginning of the hearing, if an interpreter can accurately interpret all communication for the person requesting the service.

(5) The parties or their representatives may question the interpreter's qualifications and ability to be impartial.

(6) If at any time before or during the hearing the interpreter does not provide accurate and effective communication, the ALJ must provide another interpreter.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0140 Waiver of interpreter services. (1) An eligible party may waive interpreter services.

(2) A request for waiver must be made in writing or through a qualified interpreter on the record.

(3) The ALJ must determine that the waiver has been knowingly and voluntarily made.

(4) A waiver of interpreter services may be withdrawn at any time before or during the hearing.

(5) A waiver of interpreter services at the hearing constitutes a waiver of a right to challenge any aspect of the hearing based on a lack of understanding resulting from an inability to understand or a lack of proficiency in the English language.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0150 Requirements that apply to the use of interpreters. (1) Interpreters must:

(a) Use the interpretive mode that the parties, the limited English proficient or hearing impaired person, the interpreter and the ALJ consider the most accurate and effective;

(b) Interpret statements made by the parties and the ALJ;

(c) Not disclose information about the hearing without the written consent of the parties; and

(d) Not comment on the hearing or give legal advice.

(2) The ALJ must allow enough time for all interpretations to be made and understood.

(3) The ALJ may videotape a hearing and use it as the official transcript for hearings involving a hearing impaired person.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0160 Requirements that apply to decisions involving limited English-speaking parties. (1) When an interpreter is used at a hearing, the ALJ must explain that the decision will be written in English but that a party using an interpreter may contact the interpreter for an oral translation of the decision at no cost.

(2) Interpreters must provide a telephone number where they can be reached to the ALJ and to the LES party. This number must be included in any decision or order mailed to the parties.

(3) OAH or the review judge must mail a copy of a decision or order to the interpreter for use in oral translation.

IV. PREHEARING PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0170 Notice of hearing. (1) When a hearing is requested, OAH sends the parties a written notice of the hearing or prehearing conference.

(2) The notice of hearing or prehearing conference will include:

(a) The names of all parties who receive the notice and, if known, the names and addresses of their representatives;

(b) The name, mailing address, and telephone number of the ALJ, if known;

(c) The date, time, place, and nature of the hearing;

(d) The legal authority and jurisdiction for the hearing; and

(e) The date of the hearing request.

(3) OAH also will send information with the notice of hearing stating:

(a) If a party fails to attend or participate in a prehearing conference or a hearing, that party may lose the right to a hearing and the ALJ may enter an order of default or an order dismissing the case.

(b) If a party needs a qualified interpreter because the appealing party or any witness has limited English proficiency, OAH will provide an interpreter at no cost.

(c) If the hearing is to be held by telephone or in person, and how to request a change in the way it is held.

(d) How to indicate any special needs for a party or witness.

(e) How to contact OAH if a party has a safety concern.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0180 Prehearing conferences. (1) A prehearing conference is a formal meeting that may be conducted by an ALJ before a full hearing. A prehearing conference may not be conducted in some cases. In others, more than one prehearing conference may be necessary.

(2) Either the ALJ or a party may request a prehearing conference, but the ALJ decides whether to hold a prehearing conference. OAH sends notice of the time and date of the conference to all parties.

(3) An ALJ may conduct the conference in person, by telephone conference call, by electronic means, or in any other manner acceptable to the parties.

(4) Attendance of the parties and their representatives is mandatory. A party may lose the right to participate during the hearing if that party does not attend the prehearing conference.

(5) Additional prehearing conferences may be requested by the parties and/or set by the ALJ to address the procedural or other issues specific to the case.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0190 Purposes of prehearing conference. (1) The purposes of the prehearing conference are to clarify issues, set deadlines for the parties to exchange information regarding witnesses and evidence, and set the time for the hearing.

(2) During a prehearing conference the parties and the ALJ may:

(a) Simplify or clarify the issues to be decided during the hearing;

(b) Agree to the date, time and place of the hearing;

(c) Identify accommodation and safety issues;

(d) Agree to postpone the hearing;

(e) Allow the parties to make changes in their own documents, including the DEL notice of adverse action or the appealing party's hearing request;

(f) Agree to facts and documents to be entered during the hearing;

(g) Set a deadline for each party to file and serve the names and phone numbers of witnesses, and copies of all documents or other exhibits that will be presented at the hearing;

(h) Schedule additional prehearing conferences;

(i) Resolve the dispute;

(j) Consider granting a stay if authorized by law or DEL rule;

(k) Consider a motion for summary judgment or other motion; or

(l) Determine any other procedural issues raised by the parties.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0200 Prehearing order. (1) After the conference ends, the ALJ will send a prehearing order describing:

(a) The decisions made or actions taken during the conference;

(b) Any changes to DEL's or other party's initial documents; and

(c) Any agreements reached.

(2) A party may object to the prehearing order by notifying the ALJ in writing within ten days after the mailing date of the order. The ALJ must issue a ruling on the objection.

(3) If no objection is made to the prehearing order, the order determines how the hearing is conducted, including whether the hearing will be in person or held by telephone conference or other means, unless the ALJ changes the order for good cause.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0210 Assignment and challenge of assignment of administrative law judge. (1) OAH assigns an ALJ at least five business days before the hearing and discloses that assignment in writing to the parties. A party may ask which ALJ is assigned to the hearing by calling or writing the OAH field office listed on the notice of hearing.

(2) A party may file a motion of prejudice against an ALJ under RCW 34.12.050 by:

(a) Sending a written motion of prejudice at least three business days before the hearing, and before the ALJ rules on a discretionary issue in the case.

(b) The motion of prejudice must include an affidavit or statement that a party does not believe that the ALJ can hear the case fairly.

(c) The party must send the request to the OAH field office where the ALJ works and send a copy of the request to all other parties or, if other parties are represented, to the representatives.

(3) The first timely request for a different ALJ is automatically granted. Any later request may be granted or denied by the chief ALJ or a designee.

(4) A party may also request that an ALJ or review judge be disqualified under RCW 34.05.425, for bias, prejudice, conflict of interest, or if one of the parties or a party's representative has an ex parte contact with the ALJ or review judge by:

(a) Sending a written petition for disqualification. A petition for disqualification is a written explanation to request assignment of a different ALJ or review judge. A party must promptly make the petition upon discovery of possible bias, conflict of interest or an ex parte contact.

(b) A party must send or deliver the petition to the judge assigned to the case and send a copy of the petition to all other parties or, if other parties are represented, to the representatives. The ALJ or review judge must decide whether to grant or deny the petition and must state the facts and reasons for the decision.

V. LAWS APPLIED IN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0220 Rules an ALJ or review judge must apply when making a decision. (1) ALJs and the review judge must first apply the DEL rules adopted in the Washington Administrative Code.

(2) If no DEL rule applies, the ALJ or review judge must decide the issue according to the best legal authority and reasoning available, including federal and Washington state constitutions, statutes, regulations, and published appellate court decisions.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0230 Challenges to validity of DEL rules. (1) Neither an ALJ nor a review judge may decide that a DEL rule is invalid or unenforceable. Only a court may decide this issue.

(2) If the validity of a DEL rule is raised during the hearing, the ALJ or review judge may allow argument for later court review.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0240 Amendment to DEL notice or party's request for hearing. (1) The ALJ must allow DEL to amend (change) the notice of a DEL action before or during the hearing to match the evidence and facts.

(2) If DEL amends its notice, it must put the change in writing and give a copy to the ALJ and the other parties.

(3) The ALJ may allow an appealing party to amend a hearing request before or during the hearing to conform with an amended DEL notice.

(4) If there is an amendment to either the DEL notice or the appealing party's request for hearing, the ALJ must offer to continue or postpone the hearing to give the parties more time to prepare or present evidence or argument if there is a significant change from the earlier DEL notice or from the appealing party's request for hearing.

(5) If the ALJ grants a continuance, OAH must send a new hearing notice at least seven business days before the new hearing date.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0250 Change of address. (1) A party must tell DEL and OAH, as soon as possible, when the party's mailing address or telephone number changes.

(2) If OAH and DEL are not notified of a change in a party's mailing address and either DEL or OAH continues to send notices and other important papers to the address stated in the file, the ALJ and DEL may assume that the documents were received.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0260 Continuances. (1) Any party may request a continuance either orally or in writing.

(2) Before contacting the ALJ to request a continuance, a party should contact the other parties, if possible, to find out if they will agree to a continuance.

(3) The party making the request for a continuance must let the ALJ know whether the other parties agree to the continuance.

(a) If the parties agree to a continuance, the ALJ will grant the request, unless the ALJ finds that good cause for a continuance does not exist.

(b) If the parties do not agree to a continuance, the ALJ will set a hearing to decide whether there is good cause to grant or deny the continuance.

(4) If a continuance is granted, OAH will send written notice of the changed time and date of the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0270 Order of dismissal. (1) An order of dismissal is an order sent by the ALJ to end the hearing. The order is made by agreement of the parties, or because the party who requested the hearing withdrew the request, failed to appear, or refused to participate.

(2) If a hearing is dismissed because the appealing party did not appear or refused to participate, the DEL decision stands.

(3) If the hearing is dismissed due to a written agreement between the parties, the parties must follow the agreement.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0280 Vacating an order of default or order of dismissal. (1) A party may ask the ALJ to vacate (set aside) an order of default or dismissal.

(a) A request to vacate an order must be filed with OAH within twenty-one calendar days after the date the order of default or dismissal was mailed. If no request is received within that deadline, the order becomes a final order.

(b) The request to vacate an order of default or dismissal must specify why the party believes there is good cause for the order to be vacated.

(2) OAH will schedule a hearing on the request to vacate the order.

(3) At the hearing, the ALJ will receive evidence and argument from the parties on whether there is good cause for an order of default to be vacated.

(4) The ALJ will vacate an order of dismissal and reinstate the hearing if the defaulted party shows good cause or if the DEL representative agrees to waive the deadline.

(5) An agreed order of dismissal may be vacated only upon proof that a party has violated a condition of the agreed order of dismissal.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0290 Stay of DEL action. (1) Except as set forth in WAC 170-03-0300, at any point in the proceeding before OAH or the review judge, the appealing party may request that an ALJ or review judge stay (stop) a DEL action until there is a decision entered by the ALJ or review judge.

(2) The ALJ shall not grant a stay unless the ALJ makes specific findings that the stay is in the public interest or is made for good cause. In finding good cause the ALJ must determine:

(a) The party requesting the stay is likely to prevail in the hearing on the merits;

(b) The party requesting the stay will suffer irreparable injury, if the stay is not granted; and

(c) The threat to the public health, safety, or welfare is not sufficiently serious to justify the agency action in the circumstances of the case.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0300 Stay of summary suspension of child care license. (1) The department may immediately and summarily suspend a license issued under chapter 265, Laws of 2006 when:

(a) It finds that conditions in the licensed facility constitute an imminent danger to a child or children in care; or

(b) The public health, safety, or welfare requires emergency action.

(2) A licensee who contests suspension of a license by the department may obtain a stay of the effectiveness of that order only as set forth in this section.

(3) The licensee may request a stay by including such a request in the request for hearing or in a subsequent motion. The request for stay must be accompanied by a statement of grounds justifying the stay and a description of evidence setting forth the factual basis upon which the request is based.

(4) Upon receipt of a request for a stay, the ALJ will schedule a hearing on the request. The hearing may be combined with a prehearing conference. If it appears that a hearing on the merits and issues of the case should be consolidated with the request for a stay, the ALJ may advance the hearing date on its own initiative or by request of the parties.

(5) The ALJ shall not grant a stay unless the ALJ makes specific findings that the stay is in the public interest or is made for good cause. In finding good cause, the ALJ must determine:

(a) The licensee is likely to prevail in the hearing on the licensing action;

(b) The licensee will suffer irreparable injury, if the stay is not granted; and

(c) The threat to the public health, safety, or welfare inherent in the licensee's operation of a child care facility is not sufficiently serious to justify the suspension of the license.

(6) Economic hardship of itself shall be an insufficient reason for a stay of a suspension of a license.

(7) Unless otherwise stipulated by the parties, the ALJ, after granting or denying a request for a stay, will expedite the hearing and decision on the merits.

(8) The decision on the request for the stay is subject to review by the review judge at the request of either DEL or the licensee. The request for review must be filed not later than seven days following the date the decision on the request for stay is mailed by OAH to the parties.

(9) A request for review by the review judge shall be promptly determined. The decision on the request for review by the review judge shall not be subject to judicial review.

VI. HEARINGS

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0340 Conduct of hearings. (1) Hearings may be held in person or by telephone conference or other electronic means.

(2) All parties, their representatives and witnesses may attend the hearing in person or by telephone conference or other electronic means at the discretion of the ALJ.

(3) Whether a hearing is held in person or by telephone conference, the parties have the right to see all documents, hear all testimony and question all witnesses.

(4) When a hearing is held by telephone or other electronic means, all documentary evidence must be filed and served in advance of the hearing.

(5) All hearings must be recorded.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0350 Authority of the administrative law judge. (1) The ALJ must hear and decide the issues de novo (anew) based on what is presented during the hearing, provided that the ALJ's authority shall be limited to determining whether the sanction imposed or action taken by the department was warranted and/or justified under the evidence presented during the hearing. The ALJ shall not have authority to substitute or impose an alternative sanction, remedy or action.

(2) As needed, the ALJ may:

(a) Administer oaths and affirmations;

(b) Determine the order for presenting evidence;

(c) Issue subpoenas and protective orders as provided in the Administrative Procedure Act;

(d) Rule on objections, motions, and other procedural matters;

(e) Rule on motions for summary judgment;

(f) Rule on offers of proof and receive relevant evidence;

(g) Pursuant to RCW 34.05.449(5), close parts of a hearing to public observation or order the exclusion of witnesses upon a showing of good cause;

(h) Question witnesses called by the parties in an impartial manner to develop any facts deemed necessary to fairly and adequately decide the matter;

(i) Request additional exhibits and/or testimony following a finding that the additional evidence is necessary to complete the record provided all parties are given a full opportunity for cross-examination and/or rebuttal;

(j) Take official notice of facts pursuant to RCW 34.05.452(5);

(k) Regulate the course of the hearing and take any appropriate action necessary to maintain order during the hearing;

(l) Permit or require oral argument or briefs and determine the time limits for submission thereof;

(m) Issue an order of default pursuant to RCW 34.05.-440;

(n) Hold prehearing conferences;

(o) Allow a party to waive rights given by chapter 34.05 RCW or these rules unless another law prevents it;

(p) Decide whether a party has a right to a hearing;

(q) Permit and regulate the taking of discovery;

(r) Consider granting a stay if authorized by law or DEL rule; and

(s) Take any other action necessary and authorized by any applicable statute or rule.

(3) The ALJ may, upon his or her own motion or the motion of any party, order that multiple administrative proceedings be consolidated for hearing if they involve common issues or parties.

(4) The ALJ may waive any of the department's procedural rules, other than a rule relating to jurisdiction, for any party not represented by legal counsel or a lay representative upon specific findings that:

(a) The waiver is necessary to avoid manifest injustice to the unrepresented party; and

(b) That the waiver would not prejudice any other party.

(5) The ALJ shall make findings of fact based on the preponderance of the evidence unless otherwise required by law.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0360 Order of the hearing. (1) At the hearing, the ALJ:

(a) Explains the rights of the parties;

(b) Marks and admits or rejects exhibits;

(c) Ensures that a record is made;

(d) Explains that a decision is mailed after the hearing; and

(e) Notifies the parties of appeal rights.

(2) The parties may:

(a) Make opening statements to explain the issues;

(b) Offer evidence to prove their positions, including oral or written statements of witnesses;

(c) Question the witnesses presented by the other parties; and

(d) Give closing arguments about what the evidence shows and what laws apply.

(3) At the end of the hearing if the ALJ does not allow more time to send in evidence, the record is closed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0390 Evidence. (1) Evidence includes documents, objects, and testimony of witnesses that parties give during the hearing to help prove their positions.

(2) Evidence may be all or parts of original documents or copies of the originals.

(3) Parties may offer statements signed by a witness under oath or affirmation as evidence, if the witness cannot appear.

(4) Testimony given with the opportunity for cross-examination by the other parties may be given more weight by the ALJ.

(5) The ALJ may only consider admitted evidence to decide a case.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0400 Introduction of evidence into the record. (1) The ALJ may set a deadline before the hearing for the parties to provide proposed exhibits and names of witnesses to the ALJ and to all other parties. If the parties miss the deadline, the ALJ may refuse to admit the evidence unless the parties show:

(a) They have good cause for missing the deadline; or

(b) The other parties agree to waive the deadline.

(2) The ALJ may admit and consider hearsay evidence.

Hearsay is a statement made outside of the hearing used to prove the truth of what is in the statement. The ALJ may only base a finding on hearsay evidence if the ALJ finds that the parties had the opportunity to question or contradict it.

(3) The ALJ may reject evidence, if it:

(a) Is not relevant;

(b) Repeats evidence already admitted;

(c) Is from a privileged communication protected by law;

or

(d) Is otherwise legally improper.

(4) Except in cases where the department's notice of adverse action alleges the person lacks the character to provide for the needs of any child in care or to have unsupervised access to any child in care, evidence regarding character or reputation shall not be admissible. In cases where such evidence is admissible, the ALJ shall exercise reasonable control over the number of character witnesses so as to avoid duplication of testimony and evidence and needless consumption of time.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0410 Objections to evidence. (1) Although a party may offer any documents and testimony at the hearing to support the party's position, other parties may object to the evidence and may question the witnesses. For example, a party may object to the authenticity or admissibility of any exhibit, or offer argument about how much weight the ALJ should give the exhibit.

(2) The ALJ determines whether to admit the evidence and what weight (importance) to give it.

(3) If the ALJ does not admit the evidence, the party may make an offer of proof to show why the ALJ should admit it. The offer of proof preserves the issue for appeal. To make an

offer of proof, a party presents evidence and argument on the record to show why the ALJ should consider the evidence.

(4) If a witness refuses to answer any question ruled proper by the ALJ, the ALJ has discretion to strike all testimony previously given by that witness on the proceeding.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0420 Stipulations. (1) A stipulation is an agreement among two or more parties that certain facts or evidence is correct or authentic.

(2) If an ALJ accepts a stipulation, the ALJ must enter it into the record.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0430 Exhibits. (1) Proposed exhibits are documents or other objects that a party wants the ALJ to consider when reaching a decision. After the document or object is accepted by the ALJ, it is admitted and becomes an exhibit.

(2) The ALJ may require the parties to mark and number their proposed exhibits before the hearing and to provide copies to the other parties as far ahead of the hearing as possible.

(3) The ALJ admits proposed exhibits into the record by marking, listing, identifying, and admitting the proposed exhibits.

(4) The ALJ may also exclude proposed exhibits from the record.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0440 Judicial notice. (1) Judicial notice is evidence that includes facts or standards that are generally recognized and accepted by judges, government agencies, or national associations, such as a calendar, building code or standard of practice.

(2) An ALJ may consider and admit evidence by taking judicial notice.

(3) If a party requests judicial notice, or if the ALJ intends to take judicial notice, the ALJ may ask the party to provide a copy of the document that contains the information.

(4) The ALJ must give the parties time to object to judicial notice evidence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0450 Witnesses. (1) A witness is any person who makes statements or gives testimony that becomes evidence in a hearing.

(2) One type of witness is an expert witness. An expert witness is qualified by knowledge, experience, and education to give opinions or evidence in a specialized area.

(3) Witnesses may include:

(a) The appealing party or a DEL representative;

(b) Anyone a party or the ALJ asks to be a witness.

(4) The ALJ decides who may testify as a witness.

(5) Unless DEL agrees, a current or former DEL employee may not be an expert witness against DEL if that employee was actively involved in the case while working for DEL.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0460 Requiring witnesses to testify or provide documents. (1) A party may require witnesses to testify or provide documents by issuing a subpoena. A subpoena is an order to appear at a certain time and place to give testimony, or to provide books, documents, or other items.

(2) ALJs, DEL, and attorneys for the parties may prepare subpoenas.

(3) If a party is not represented by an attorney, the party may ask the ALJ to prepare a subpoena on that party's behalf.

(a) The ALJ may schedule a hearing to decide whether to issue a subpoena.

(b) There is no cost to prepare a subpoena, but a party may have to pay for:

(i) Serving a subpoena;

(ii) Complying with a subpoena; and

(iii) Witness fees according to RCW 34.05.446(7).

(4) A party may request that an ALJ quash (set aside) or change the subpoena at any time before the deadline given in the subpoena.

(5) An ALJ may set aside or change a subpoena if it is unreasonable.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0470 Serving a subpoena. (1) Any person who is at least eighteen years old and not a party to the hearing may serve a subpoena.

(2) Service of a subpoena is complete when the server:

(a) Gives the witness a copy of the subpoena; or

(b) Leaves a copy at the residence of the witness with a person over the age of eighteen.

(3) To prove that a subpoena was served on a witness, the person serving the subpoena must sign a written, dated statement including:

(a) Who was served with the subpoena;

(b) When the subpoena was served;

(c) Where the subpoena was served; and

(d) The name, age, and address of the person who served the subpoena.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0480 Testimony. (1) Direct examination. All witnesses may be asked questions by the party that calls the witness to testify. Each witness:

(a) Must affirm or take an oath to testify truthfully during the hearing;

(b) May testify in person or by telephone;

(c) May request interpreters from OAH at no cost to the parties;

(d) May be subpoenaed and ordered to appear according to WAC 170-03-0460.

(2) Cross-examination. The parties have the right to cross-examine (question) each witness called by any other party.

(3) If a party has a representative, only the representative, and not the party, may question the witness.

(4) The ALJ may also question witnesses.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0490 Burden of proof. (1) The party who has the burden of proof is the party who has the responsibility to provide evidence to persuade the ALJ that a position is correct under the standard of proof required.

(2) Standard of proof refers to the amount of evidence needed to prove a party's position. Unless the rules or law states otherwise, the standard of proof in a hearing is a preponderance of the evidence. This standard means that it is more likely than not that something happened or exists.

(3) The ALJ decides if a party has met the burden of proof.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0500 Equitable estoppel. (1) Equitable estoppel is a legal doctrine defined in case law that may prevent DEL from taking some action against a party in a proceeding to challenge an overpayment notice issued by DEL.

(2) There are five elements of equitable estoppel that must be proved by clear and convincing evidence. All of the following elements must be proved:

(a) DEL made a statement or took action or failed to take action, which is inconsistent with its later claim or position regarding an overpayment.

(b) The appealing party relied on DEL's original statement, action or failure to act.

(c) The appealing party will be injured if DEL is allowed to contradict the original statement, action or failure to act.

(d) Equitable estoppel is needed to prevent a manifest injustice.

(e) The exercise of government functions is not impaired.

(3) If the ALJ concludes that all of the elements of equitable estoppel in subsection (2) of this section have been proved with clear and convincing evidence, DEL is stopped or prevented from taking action or enforcing its claim for repayment of the overpayment.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0510 Closing the record. When the record is closed, no more evidence may be taken, without a showing of good cause. The record is closed:

(1) At the end of the hearing if the ALJ does not allow more time to send in evidence or argument; or

(2) After the deadline for sending in evidence or argument is over.

VII. INITIAL DECISIONNEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0520 Timing of the ALJ's decision. (1) After the record is closed, the ALJ must write a hearing decision and send copies to the parties.

(2) The maximum time an ALJ has to send a decision is ninety calendar days after the record is closed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0530 Contents of the initial decision. The ALJ initial decision must:

(1) Identify the hearing decision as a DEL case;

(2) List the name and docket number of the case and the names of all parties and representatives;

(3) Find the specific facts determined to exist by the ALJ, based on the hearing record, and relied on by the ALJ in resolving the dispute;

(4) Explain why evidence is credible when the facts or conduct of a witness is in question;

(5) State the law that applies to the dispute;

(6) Apply the law to the facts of the case in the conclusions of law;

(7) Discuss the reasons for the decision based on the facts and the law;

(8) State the result;

(9) Explain how to request changes in the decision and the deadlines for requesting them;

(10) State the date the decision becomes final; and

(11) Include any other information required by law or DEL program rules.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0540 Finality of initial decision. If no one requests review of the initial order or if a review request is dismissed, the initial decision becomes the final decision of DEL twenty-one calendar days after the date it is mailed to the parties by OAH.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0550 Challenges to the initial decision. (1) If a party disagrees with an ALJ's initial decision because of a clerical error, the party may ask for a corrected decision from the ALJ as provided in WAC 170-03-0560.

(2) If a party disagrees with the reasoning and result of an initial decision and wants it changed, the party must request review by the review judge as provided in WAC 170-03-0570 through 170-03-0620.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0560 Correcting clerical errors in ALJ's decisions. (1) A clerical error is a mistake that does not change the result or intent of the decision. Some examples of clerical error are:

(a) Missing or incorrect words or numbers;

(b) Dates inconsistent with the decision or evidence in the record such as using May 3, 1989, instead of May 3, 1998; or

(c) Math errors when adding the total of an overpayment.

(2) A party may ask for a corrected ALJ decision by making the request in writing and sending it to the OAH office that held the hearing. A copy of the request must be sent to the other parties or their representatives.

(3) A request to correct a clerical error must be made within ten days of the date the decision was mailed to the parties by OAH.

(4) When asking for a corrected decision, a party must clearly identify the clerical error.

(5) When a party requests a corrected initial or final order, the ALJ must either:

(a) Send all parties a corrected order; or

(b) Deny the request within three business days of receiving it.

(6) If the ALJ corrects an initial order and a party does not request review, the corrected initial order becomes final twenty-one calendar days after the original initial order was mailed.

(7) Requesting a corrected initial order for a case does not extend the deadline to request review of the initial decision by the review judge.

If a party wants to stay the DEL action until review of the initial order is completed, the party must request a stay from the review judge.

VIII. REVIEW

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0570 Appeal of the initial decision.

(1) Review or appeal of the initial decision may occur when a party disagrees or wants a change in an initial order, other than correcting a clerical error.

(2) A party must request review of an initial order from the DEL review judge as provided in WAC 170-03-0580 through 170-03-0640.

(3) If more than one party requests review, each request must meet the deadlines in WAC 170-03-0580.

(4) The review judge considers the request, the initial order, and record, before deciding if the initial order may be changed.

(5) Review does not include another hearing by the DEL review judge.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0580 Time for requesting review.

(1) The review judge must receive the written petition for review on or before the twenty-first calendar day after the initial order was mailed.

(2) A review judge may extend the deadline if a party both:

(a) Asks for more time before the deadline expires; and

(b) Shows good cause for requesting more time.

(3) A review judge may accept a review request after the twenty-one calendar day deadline only if:

(a) The review judge receives the review request on or before the thirtieth calendar day after the deadline; and

(b) A party shows good cause for missing the deadline.

(4) Good cause means a substantial reason or legal justification for failing to appear, to act, or respond to an action required under these rules.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0590 Petition for review.

(1) A party must make the review request (petition for review) in writing and clearly identify the:

(a) Parts of the initial order with which the party disagrees; and

(b) Evidence supporting the party's position.

(2) The petition for review must be filed with the review judge and a copy sent to the other parties and their representatives.

(3) The review judge can be contacted at the following address or at the address stated on the letter containing instructions for obtaining review mailed with the initial decision:

Review Judge
Department of Early Learning
P.O. Box 45480
Olympia, WA 98504-5480
360-725-4665

(4) After receiving a party's review request, the review judge will send a copy to the other parties, their representatives and OAH.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0600 Response to petition for review.

(1) A party does not have to respond to the review request. A response is optional.

(2) If a party responds, that party must send the response so that the review judge receives it on or before the seventh business day after the date a copy of the petition for review was mailed to the party by the review judge.

(3) The responding party must send a copy of the response to any other party or representative.

(4) If a party needs more time to respond, the party must contact the review judge by the deadline in subsection (2) of this section and give a good reason.

(5) A review judge may accept and consider a party's response even if it is received after the deadline.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0610 Decision process. (1) After the response deadline, the record on review is closed unless there is a good reason to keep it open.

(2) A review judge is assigned to the review after the record is closed.

(3) The review judge only considers evidence given at the original hearing.

(4) The review judge will decide the appeal without oral argument, unless the review judge determines that oral argument is necessary for resolution of the appeal.

(5) The review judge enters a final order that affirms, changes, dismisses or reverses the initial order, or remands (returns) the case to OAH for further specified action.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0620 Authority of the review judge.

(1) The review judge has the same decision-making authority as an ALJ, but must consider the ALJ's opportunity to observe the witnesses.

(2) The review judge's decision is the final decision of the agency in the case.

IX. REVIEW OF THE FINAL DECISION

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0630 Request for reconsideration. (1) If a party disagrees with the final decision issued by a review judge and wants it reconsidered, the party may ask the review judge to reconsider the decision because the party believes the review judge made a mistake.

(2) If a party asks for reconsideration of the final decision, the reconsideration process must be completed before judicial review is sought.

(3) A request for reconsideration must be made in writing and must clearly state the reasons why the party wants the final decision reconsidered.

(4) The review judge must receive the written reconsideration request on or before the tenth calendar day after the final decision was mailed by the review judge to the parties. The party requesting reconsideration must send a copy of the request to all parties or, if the parties are represented, to their representatives.

(5) If a reconsideration request is received by the review judge after the deadline, the final decision will not be reconsidered. However, the review judge may extend its deadline if a party:

- (a) Asks for more time before the deadline expires; and
- (b) Gives a good reason for the extension.

(6) After receiving a reconsideration request, the review judge will send a copy to the other parties and representatives giving them time to respond.

(7) If a party does not request reconsideration or ask for an extension within the deadline, the final order may not be reconsidered and it becomes the final agency decision.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0640 Response to a request for reconsideration. (1) A party does not have to respond to a request. A response is optional.

(2) If a party responds, that party must send a response to the review judge by or before the seventh business day after the date OAH or the review judge mailed the request to the party.

(3) A party must send a copy of the response to any other party or representative.

(4) If a party needs more time to respond, OAH or the review judge may extend its deadline if the party gives a good reason within the deadline in subsection (2) of this section.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0650 Ruling on request for reconsideration. (1) After the review judge receives a reconsideration request, within twenty calendar days the review judge must either:

- (a) Write a reconsideration decision; or
- (b) Send all parties an order denying the request.

(2) If the review judge does not send a reconsideration decision or an order denying the request within twenty days of receipt of the reconsideration request, the request is denied.

(3) The review judge decision is final when the reconsideration decision is mailed or the date the reconsideration request is denied.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-03-0660 Judicial review. (1) Judicial review is the process of appealing a final order to a court.

(2) Any party, except DEL, may appeal a final order by filing a written petition for judicial review that meets the requirements of RCW 34.05.546. The petition must be properly filed and served within thirty calendar days of the date OAH or the review judge mails the final decision in the case.

(3) RCW 34.05.510 through 34.05.598 contains further details of the judicial review process.

Chapter 170-06 WAC

DEL BACKGROUND CHECK RULES

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-06-0010 Purpose and scope. (1) The purpose of this chapter is to establish rules for background checks conducted by the department of early learning (DEL). The department does background checks on individuals who are authorized to care for or have unsupervised access to children in child care agencies or under DEL approval. Background checks are conducted to find and evaluate any history of criminal convictions, findings of abuse or neglect of children or other vulnerable persons, adverse licensing actions, or other information that raises concerns about an individual's character and suitability to care for or have unsupervised access to children in child care.

(2) This chapter applies to applicants for child care agency licenses, licensees, persons working in or living on the premises of a child care agency, and child care providers who are authorized by DEL to care for children. These rules apply to all applications for new and renewal licenses, contracts, certifications, and authorizations to care for or to have unsupervised access to children after the effective date of this chapter.

(3) If any provision of this chapter conflicts with a provision relating to background checks and qualifications of persons who are authorized to care for or have unsupervised access to children in child care, the provisions in this chapter shall govern.

(4) Effective date: These rules are effective July 3, 2006, and apply prospectively.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-06-0020 Definitions. The following definitions apply to this chapter:

(1) "**Authorized**" or "**authorization**" means qualified by DEL to have unsupervised access to children in child care or to work in or live on the premises of a child care agency.

(2) "**DEL**" or "**department**" means the department of early learning.

(3) "**Director's list**" means a list of crimes and civil adjudications, the commission of which disqualifies an indi-

vidual from being authorized by DEL to care for or have unsupervised access to children in child care.

(4) **"Disqualified"** means DEL has determined that a person's background information prevents that person from being authorized by DEL to have unsupervised access to children in child care or to work in or live on the premises of a child care agency.

(5) **"Unsupervised access"** means:

(a) An individual will or may have the opportunity to be alone with a child in care at any time for any length of time; and

(b) Neither the licensee, a qualified employee, nor a relative or guardian of the child is present.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-06-0030 Reason for background checks.

The department does background checks to help safeguard the health, safety and well-being of children in licensed child care agencies and in the care of DEL-approved providers. By doing background checks, the department reduces the risk of harm to children from caregivers who have been convicted of certain crimes or who have been found to have been a risk to children. The department's rules and state law require the evaluation of background information to determine the character, suitability and competence of persons who will care for or have unsupervised access to children in child care.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-06-0040 Background inquiries.

(1) At the time of application for a license or for authorization to care for or have unsupervised access to children in child care, a completed background check form and finger print card, if required, must be submitted to the department for each person who will have unsupervised access to any child in care. This includes:

(a) Each applicant for a license;

(b) All staff of the licensed child care agency, whether they provide child care or not;

(c) Assistants;

(d) Volunteers;

(e) Contracted providers; and

(f) Each person living on the premises of a licensed facility who is sixteen years of age or older.

(2) Each person identified in this section must consent to and authorize the department to access his or her criminal history and any information contained in any records about the person that are maintained by the department of social and health services, including child protective services, adult protective services, the division of home and community services, the division of residential care services, and the division of licensed resources.

(3) When a licensee plans to add new staff, assistants, volunteers, or contracted providers, or when any person who is sixteen years old or older moves onto the premises, the licensee shall require each person to complete and submit to the licensee a criminal history and background check form that must be submitted to DEL for processing before the date of hire or the date the individual moves onto the premises, as applicable.

(4) A person who has not been formally authorized by DEL to care for or have unsupervised access to children in child care may not have unsupervised access to any child in care.

(5) The department will discuss the result of the criminal history and background check information with the licensee, when applicable.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-06-0050 Department action following completion of background inquiry. After the department receives the background information it will:

(1) Compare the background information with convictions/actions posted on the DEL director's list of disqualifying convictions/actions. The complete list can be found on the DEL web site or by calling any DEL office.

(2) Review the background information using the following rules:

(a) A pending charge for a crime or a deferred prosecution is given the same weight as a conviction.

(b) If the conviction has been renamed it is given the same weight as the previous named conviction. For example, larceny is now called theft.

(c) Convictions whose titles are preceded with the word "attempted" are given the same weight as those titles without the word "attempted."

(d) The crime will not be considered a conviction for the purposes of the department when it has been pardoned or a court of law acts to expunge, dismiss, or vacate the conviction record, or if an order of dismissal has been entered following a period of probation, suspension or deferral of sentence.

(e) The term "conviction" has the same meaning as the term "conviction record" as defined in RCW 10.97.030 and shall include convictions or dispositions for crimes committed as either an adult or a juvenile. It shall also include convictions or dispositions for offenses for which the person received a deferred or suspended sentence, unless the record has been expunged according to law.

(f) A person will not be authorized to have unsupervised access to children if the individual is the subject of a pending child protective services (CPS) investigation.

(g) A person who has a "founded" finding for child abuse or neglect will not be authorized to have unsupervised access to children during the administrative hearing and appeals process.

(3) Conduct a character, competence and suitability assessment of the applicant, licensee, staff member, assistant, volunteer, contacted provider, or anyone living on the premises of a child care facility, if the individual is not automatically disqualified by a conviction record, pending charges and/or findings of abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment of a child or vulnerable adult, under the DEL director's list of disqualifying crimes and actions.

(4) Notify the licensee or child care provider whether or not the department is able to approve the applicant, licensee, staff, assistant, volunteer, contracted provider, or anyone living on the premises of a licensed facility to care for or have unsupervised access to children in child care.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-06-0060 Additional information the department may consider. (1) Upon request, the licensee or any person who requests authorization to care for or to have unsupervised access to any child in care must provide to the department any additional reports or information it requests to assess the person's character, suitability and competence to have unsupervised access to children in care. This additional information may include, but is not limited to:

- (a) Sexual deviancy evaluations;
- (b) Substance abuse evaluations;
- (c) Psychiatric evaluations; and
- (d) Medical evaluations.

Any evaluation requested under this section must be by a DEL-approved evaluator and will be at the expense of the person being evaluated.

(2) The applicant licensee or the person being evaluated must give the department permission to speak with the evaluator in subsection (1)(a) through (d) of this section prior to and after the evaluation.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-06-0070 Disqualification. (1) An applicant, licensee, staff, assistant, volunteer, contracted provider, or anyone living on the premises of a licensed child care facility who has a background containing any of the convictions/actions posted on the DEL secretary's list of permanently disqualifying convictions/actions, shall be permanently disqualified from providing licensed child care or having unsupervised access to any child in care.

(2) An applicant, licensee, staff, assistant, volunteer, contracted provider, or anyone living on the premises of a licensed facility who has a background containing any of the convictions posted on the DEL secretary's list of nonpermanent disqualifying convictions shall be disqualified from providing licensed child care or having unsupervised access to any child in care for five years after the conviction date.

(3) An applicant, licensee, staff, assistant, volunteer, contracted provider, or anyone living on the premises of a licensed facility shall be disqualified from providing licensed child care or having unsupervised access to any child in care if there is background information that the person:

(a) Has been found to have committed child abuse or neglect, unless the department determines that the person does not pose a risk to a child's safety and well-being;

(b) Is the parent of a child who has been found to be a dependent child as defined in chapter 13.34 RCW unless the department determines that the person does not pose a risk to a child's safety and well-being;

(c) Abandoned, abused, neglected, exploited, or financially exploited a vulnerable adult as defined in chapter 74.34 RCW, unless the department determines that the person does not pose a risk to a child's safety and well-being;

(d) Had a license denied or revoked from an agency that regulates care of children or vulnerable adults, unless the department determines that the person does not pose a risk to a child's safety and well-being.

(4) An applicant, licensee, staff, assistant, volunteer, contracted provider, or anyone living on the premises of a

licensed facility may be disqualified from providing licensed child care or having unsupervised access to any child in care if:

(a) The licensee attempts to obtain a license by deceitful means, such as making false statements or omitting material information on the application;

(b) The staff, assistant, volunteer, contracted provider, or other person living on the premises of a licensed facility attempted to become employed, volunteer, or otherwise have unsupervised access to children by deceitful means, such as making false statements or omitting material information on an application to work or volunteer at a licensed child care agency or to otherwise provide child care;

(c) The licensee, the staff, assistant, volunteer, contracted provider, or other person living on the premises of a licensed facility used illegal drugs or misused or abused prescription drugs or alcohol that either affected their ability to perform their job duties while on the premises when children are present or presented a risk of harm to any child in care;

(d) The licensee, the staff, assistant, volunteer, contracted provider, or other person living on the premises of a licensed facility has attempted, committed, permitted, or assisted in an illegal act on the premises of a home or facility providing care to children. For purposes of this subsection, a licensee attempted, committed, permitted, or assisted in an illegal act if he or she knew or should have known that the illegal act occurred.

(5) A licensee, staff, assistant, volunteer, contracted provider, or anyone living on the premises of a licensed facility may be disqualified from providing child care or having unsupervised access to any child in care if the person has background containing information other than conviction information that the department determines:

(a) Makes the person not of suitable character and competence or of sufficient physical or mental health to meet the needs of any child in care; or

(b) Places any person at a licensed child care facility at risk of harm.

NEW SECTION**WAC 170-06-0080 Notification of disqualification.**

(1) The department will notify in writing the applicant, care provider, employer, or licensee if the individual is disqualified by the background check from being authorized to care for children or to have unsupervised access to children in child care.

(2) If the department sends a notice of disqualification, the applicant will not receive a license, contract, certification, or be authorized to have unsupervised access to children in child care.

NEW SECTION**WAC 170-06-0090 Administrative hearing to contest disqualification.**

(1) Any person seeking a license or employment with a licensed facility may request an administrative hearing to contest the department's decision process to disqualify him or her from having unsupervised access to any child in care. Provided, an individual shall not have the right

to challenge a discretionary determination made pursuant to WAC 170-06-0070(3).

(2) Prospective volunteers, interns, contracted providers, or those seeking certification do not have the right to appeal the department's decision to disqualify them from having unsupervised access to any child in care.

(3) The employer or prospective employer cannot contest the department's decision on behalf of any other person, including a prospective employee.

(4) The administrative hearing will take place before an administrative law judge employed by the office of administrative hearings (chapter 34.05 RCW), pursuant to chapter 170-03 WAC.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-06-0100 Request for administrative hearing. (1) Any person who has a right to contest a decision to deny a license or disqualify them from having unsupervised access to any child in care based on an evaluation of background check information must request a hearing within twenty-eight days of receipt of the decision.

(2) A request for a hearing must meet the requirements of chapter 170-03 WAC.

(3) Any decision by the department denying a license or disqualifying a person from having unsupervised access to any child in care is effective immediately upon notice and shall continue pending a final administrative decision on the merits.

NEW SECTION

WAC 170-06-0110 Limitations on challenges to disqualifications. (1) If the denial or disqualification is based on a criminal conviction, the appellant cannot contest the conviction in the administrative hearing.

(2) If the denial or disqualification is based on a finding of child abuse or neglect, or a finding of abandonment, abuse, neglect, exploitation, or financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult as defined in chapter 74.34 RCW, the appellant cannot contest the finding if:

(a) The appellant was notified of the finding by DSHS and failed to request a hearing to contest the finding; or

(b) The appellant was notified of the finding by DSHS and requested a hearing to contest the finding, but the finding was upheld by final administrative order or superior court order.

(3) If the denial or disqualification is based on a court order finding the appellant's child to be dependent as defined in chapter 13.34 RCW, the appellant cannot contest the finding of dependency in the administrative hearing.

WSR 07-05-042
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 07-23—Filed February 15, 2007, 3:28 p.m., effective March 1, 2007, 12:01]

Effective Date of Rule: March 1, 2007, 12:01.

Purpose: Amend personal use rules.

Citation of Existing Rules Affected by this Order:
Repealing WAC 232-28-61900Z; and amending WAC 232-28-619.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 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: Anchor (floy) tags were applied to steelhead during run-size determination and fish sampling operations at Priest Rapids Dam, these anchor (floy) and/or disk tagged hatchery-origin fish are no longer needed for monitoring purposes. There is insufficient time to promulgate 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 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 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: February 15, 2007.

J. P. Koenings
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 232-28-61900N Exceptions to statewide rules—Columbia River Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 232-28-619, effective 12:01 a.m. February 17, 2007, until further notice, it is unlawful to violate the following provisions:

1) For purposes of this section, "adipose-fin clipped steelhead" means steelhead with an adipose-fin clip and a healed scar at the site of the fin clip, whether or not any other fins are clipped or a healed scar is present at any other fin position.

2) Columbia River from Rocky Reach Dam to 400 feet below Chief Joseph Dam - Night closure in effect. Daily limit may contain up to two adipose fin clipped steelhead.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective 12:01 a.m. February 17, 2007.

WAC 232-28-61900Z Exceptions to statewide rules—Columbia River (06-268)

WSR 07-05-043
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 07-25—Filed February 15, 2007, 3:29 p.m., effective March 1, 2007, 12:01]

Effective Date of Rule: March 1, 2007, 12:01.

Purpose: Amend personal use rules.

Citation of Existing Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 232-28-61900Q; and amending WAC 232-28-619.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 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 is necessary to correspond with the original intent of regulations developed through North of Falcon and as reflected in the language in the sport fishing rules pamphlet. This emergency rule is interim until permanent rules take effect.

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 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 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: February 15, 2007.

J. P. Koenings
 Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 232-28-61900Q Exceptions to statewide rules—Wishkah River. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 232-28-619, effective March 1 through March 31, 2007, the Wishkah River is open for gamefish from the West

Fork to 400 feet below the outlet of Wishkah Rearing Ponds. Selective gear rules are in effect, and all fish must be released except up to two hatchery steelhead may be retained.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective 12:01 a.m. April 1, 2007:

WAC 232-28-61900Q Exceptions to statewide rules—Wishkah River

WSR 07-05-044
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 07-26—Filed February 15, 2007, 3:30 p.m., effective February 15, 2007, 5:00 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: February 15, 2007, 5:00 p.m.

Purpose: Amend commercial fishing rules.

Citation of Existing Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-52-04600Z; and amending WAC 220-52-046.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 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 closure complies with state/treaty management agreements for harvest allocation and to reduce fishing mortality in areas that do not meet the hardshell criteria. Gear retrieval period is to allow for inclement weather conditions. There is insufficient time to promulgate 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 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 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: February 14, 2007.

J. P. Koenings
 Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-52-04600C Puget Sound crab fishery—Seasons and areas. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-52-046:

1) Effective 5:00 p.m. February 15, 2007 until further notice it will be unlawful to fish for Dungeness Crab for commercial purposes in those waters of Marine Fish Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 24A, 24B, 24C, 24D, and 26A-East.

2) Effective immediately until further notice it will be unlawful to fish for Dungeness Crab for commercial purposes in those waters of Marine Fish Shellfish Catch Reporting Areas 20A, 20B, 21A, 21B, 22A and 22B.

3) Effective immediately until further notice, it will be lawful to fish for Dungeness crab for commercial purposes in those waters of Marine Fish-Shellfish Management and Catch Reporting Area 26A-West within the area described by a line that extends due north from the green number 1 buoy at Scatchet Head to Scatchet Head, thence from the green number 1 buoy at Scatchet Head to the green number 1 buoy at Possession Point, thence due north from the green number 1 buoy at Possession Point to Possession Point.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective 5:00 p.m. February 15, 2007:

WAC 220-52-04600Z Crab fishery—Seasons and areas. (07-07)

WSR 07-05-045
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 07-27—Filed February 15, 2007, 3:32 p.m., effective February 15, 2007, 3:32 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately.

Purpose: Amend personal use fishing rules.

Citation of Existing Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-56-33000X; and amending WAC 220-56-330.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 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: Repeal of emergency WAC 220-56-33000X, Order 06-273 is now covered under permanent rule. There is insufficient time to promulgate 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 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 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: February 15, 2007.

J. P. Koenings
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-56-33000Y Crab—Areas and seasons. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-56-330, effective immediately until further notice, it is unlawful to fish for or possess crab taken for personal use from Marine Area 4 east of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line and Marine Areas 5, 6, 9, 10, 12 and 13.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 220-56-33000X Crab—Areas and seasons. (06-273)

WSR 07-05-049
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF

SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

(Health and Recovery Services Administration)

[Filed February 16, 2007, 10:46 a.m., effective February 16, 2007, 10:46 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately.

Purpose: To comply with the requirements of the 2005 legislature, the department is adding new WAC 388-550-2650, to adopt two separate base community psychiatric hospital payments. One is for Medicaid clients and the other is for non-Medicaid clients. The new rule also clarifies that both Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA)-certified hospitals and hospitals that have ITA-certified beds that have been used to treat ITA patients are included in the base community psychiatric hospitalization payment method for Medicaid and non-Medicaid clients.

This emergency rule replaces the emergency filing for WAC 388-550-2650, filed under WSR 06-22-061.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 74.08.090 and 74.09.500.

Other Authority: Part II, section 204, chapter 518, Laws of 2005 (ESSB 6090).

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline

for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: The legislature appropriated funds for fiscal year 2006 and 2007 to establish a separate base community psychiatric hospitalization payment rate for Medicaid and non-Medicaid clients at hospitals that accept commitments under the Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) and free-standing psychiatric hospitals that accept commitments under the ITA and also hospitals that have ITA-certified beds that have been used to treat ITA patients. This rule replaces the emergency rule filed under WSR 06-22-061. The new rule carries out the legislature's directive while the department completes the permanent rule-making process. A CR-102 was filed under WSR 07-02-087 and a public hearing was held on February 6, 2007. The department plans to file permanent rules by the end of February 2007 which when effective will replace this emergency rule.

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 1, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at 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 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 1, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: February 14, 2007.

Jim Schnellman, Chief
Office of Administrative Resources

NEW SECTION

WAC 388-550-2650 Base community psychiatric hospitalization payment method for Medicaid and non-Medicaid clients. (1) Effective July 1, 2005 and in accordance with legislative directive, the department implemented two separate base community psychiatric hospitalization payment rates, one for Medicaid clients and one for non-Medicaid clients. (For the purpose of this section, a "non-Medicaid client" is defined as a client eligible under the general assistance unemployable (GAU) program, the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Treatment and Support Act (ADATSA), the psychiatric indigent inpatient (PII) program, or other state-administered programs, as determined by the department.)

(a) The Medicaid base community psychiatric hospitalization payment rate is a minimum per diem allowable calculated for claims for psychiatric services provided to Medicaid covered patients, to pay hospitals that accept commitments under the involuntary treatment act (ITA).

(b) The non-Medicaid base community psychiatric hospitalization payment rate is a minimum per diem allowable calculated for claims for psychiatric services provided to

indigent patients to pay hospitals that accept commitments under the ITA.

(2) A client's inpatient psychiatric hospitalization must have a root cause that is psychiatric in nature. The department:

(a) Defines "root cause" as the reason the client was admitted based on the principal diagnosis and the department's review of the client's medical record; and

(b) Does not consider detoxification to be psychiatric in nature.

(3) All inpatient hospital psychiatric admissions require regional support network (RSN) prior authorization. The RSN-approved length of stay (LOS) is based on a client's discharge diagnosis.

(a) The number of department-covered days that are linked to claims paid under the DRG payment method becomes the RSN-approved LOS for those claims. If the case is a transfer case, the DRG average LOS becomes the LOS that is used to determine the allowable on the claim. See WAC 388-550-3600.

(b) The RSN-approved LOS for claims paid using a non-DRG payment method is established by the RSN in conjunction with the mental health division.

(4) Payment for claims is based on covered days within a client's approved LOS, subject to client eligibility and department-covered services.

(5) The Medicaid base community psychiatric hospitalization payment rate applies only to a Medicaid client admitted to a nonstate-owned free-standing psychiatric hospital located in Washington state.

(6) The non-Medicaid base community psychiatric hospitalization payment rate applies only to a non-Medicaid client admitted to a hospital:

(a) Designated by the department as an Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA)-certified hospital; or

(b) That has a department certified ITA bed that has been used to provide ITA services at the time of the non-Medicaid admission.

(7) For inpatient hospital psychiatric services provided to eligible clients on and after July 1, 2005, the department pays:

(a) A hospital's DOH-certified distinct psychiatric unit, as follows:

(i) For Medicaid clients, the department pays inpatient hospital psychiatric claims using the department-specific non-DRG payment method.

(ii) For non-Medicaid clients, the department uses as the allowable for inpatient hospital psychiatric claims, the greater of:

(A) The state-only diagnostic-related group (DRG) allowable (including the high cost outlier allowable, of applicable), or the department-specified non-DRG payment method if no relative weight exists for the DRG in the department's payment system; or

(B) The non-Medicaid base community psychiatric hospitalization payment rate multiplied by the covered days.

(b) A hospital without a DOH-certified distinct psychiatric unit, as follows:

(i) For Medicaid clients, the department pays inpatient hospital psychiatric claims using:

(A) The DRG payment method; or

(B) The department-specified non-DRG payment method if no relative weight exists for the DRG in the department's payment system.

(ii) For non-Medicaid clients, the department uses as the allowable for inpatient hospital psychiatric claims, the greater of:

(A) The state-only diagnostic-related group (DRG) allowable (including the high cost outlier allowable, if applicable), or the department-specified non-DRG payment method if no relative weight exists for the DRG in the department's payment system; or

(B) The non-Medicaid base community psychiatric hospitalization payment rate multiplied by the covered days.

(c) A non-state-owned free-standing psychiatric hospital, as follows:

(i) For Medicaid clients, the department uses as the allowable for inpatient hospital psychiatric claims, the greater of:

(A) The RCC allowable; or

(B) The Medicaid base community psychiatric hospitalization payment rate multiplied by covered days.

(ii) For non-Medicaid clients, the department pays inpatient hospital psychiatric claims the same as for Medicaid clients, except the base community psychiatric hospitalization payment rate is the non-Medicaid rate, and the RCC allowable is the state-only RCC allowable.

(d) A hospital, or a distinct psychiatric unit of a hospital, that is participating in the CPE payment program, as follows:

(i) For Medicaid clients, the department pays inpatient hospital psychiatric claims using the methods identified in WAC 388-550-4650.

(ii) For non-Medicaid clients, the department pays inpatient hospital psychiatric claims using the methods identified in WAC 388-550-4650, except that the allowable to which the federal financial participation (FFP) percentage is applied is the greater of:

(A) The RCC allowable; or

(B) The non-Medicaid base community psychiatric hospitalization payment rate multiplied by covered days.

(e) A hospital, or a distinct psychiatric unit of a hospital that is participating in the CAH program, as follows:

(i) For Medicaid clients, the department pays inpatient hospital psychiatric claims using the department-specified non-DRG payment method.

(ii) For non-Medicaid clients, the department pays inpatient hospital psychiatric claims using the department-specified non-DRG payment method.

WSR 07-05-057

EMERGENCY RULES

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

[Filed February 20, 2007, 11:10 a.m., effective February 20, 2007, 11:10 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately.

Purpose: Clarification needs to be added to chapter 392-144 WAC informing school districts they are required to

obtain an original, current, and complete school bus driving record from the department of licensing.

Citation of Existing Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 392-144-110, 392-144-120, and 392-144-160.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 28A.160.210.

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: It was discovered that some school districts are not obtaining an original driving record from the department of licensing to verify there are no disqualifying infractions on the abstracts of school bus drivers.

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 Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's Own Initiative: New 0, Amended 3, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 3, 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: February 20, 2007.

Dr. Terry Bergeson
State Superintendent

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 06-15-010, filed 7/6/06, effective 8/6/06)

WAC 392-144-110 Temporary authorizations—Requirements and issuing procedures.

(1) A temporary school bus driver authorization may be issued by the superintendent of public instruction upon application by an authorized representative of the employing school district when the following has been provided:

(a) Verification of successful completion of the school bus driver training course.

(b) Verification that it has on file a copy of a current and valid medical examiner's certificate.

(c) Verification that it has on file ~~((a))~~ an original, current ~~((five-year))~~ and complete school bus driver's abstract, including departmental actions, of the applicant's employment and nonemployment driving record ~~((issued by))~~ obtained from the department of licensing verifying compliance with all provisions of this chapter. The issue date of this abstract must be within sixty calendar days prior to the date the application is being submitted for temporary authorization.

(d) Verification that it has on file a disclosure statement in compliance with preemployment inquiry regulations in

WAC 162-12-140, signed by the applicant, specifying all convictions which relate to fitness to perform the job of a school bus driver under WAC 392-144-103 and all crimes against children or other persons, that meets the requirements of RCW 43.43.834(2).

(e) Verification that it has requested a criminal record check as required under chapter 28A.400 RCW and the date of such request.

(f) Verification that it has on file an applicant's disclosure of all serious behavioral problems which explains the nature of all such problems and/or conditions, a listing of the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all doctors, psychologists, psychiatrists, counselors, therapists, or other health care practitioners of any kind or hospitals, clinics, or other facilities who have examined and/or treated the applicant for such problems and/or conditions and dates of examinations, therapy, or treatment and the school district has determined that any reported serious behavioral problem does not endanger the education welfare or personal safety of students, teachers, bus drivers, or other colleagues.

(g) Verification that the applicant complies with all of the requirements for authorized school bus drivers set forth in this chapter except for a first-aid card and/or the results of a criminal record check.

(2) Upon approval of the temporary authorization, notice will be provided to the employing school district.

(3) The temporary authorization shall be valid for a period of sixty calendar days. The temporary authorization may be renewed by approval of the regional transportation coordinator when the results of the criminal background check have not been received.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 06-15-010, filed 7/6/06, effective 8/6/06)

WAC 392-144-120 School bus driver authorization—Requirements and issuing procedures. A school bus driver authorization may be issued by the superintendent of public instruction upon application by an authorized representative of the employing school district subject to compliance with the following provisions:

(1) The employing school district shall forward to the superintendent of public instruction the following verifications relating to the applicant:

(a) Verification of successful completion of the school bus driver training course taught by an authorized school bus driver instructor.

(b) Verification that it has on file a copy of a current and valid medical examiner's certificate.

(c) Verification that it has on file ((~~an~~) an original, current (~~five-year~~) and complete school bus driver's abstract, including departmental actions, of the applicant's employment and nonemployment driving record (~~issued by~~) obtained from the department of licensing verifying compliance with all provisions of this chapter. The issue date of this abstract must be within sixty calendar days prior to the date an application was submitted for temporary authorization. If no request for a temporary school bus authorization was submitted, the issue date must be within sixty calendar days prior

to the date of application of the school bus driver authorization.

(d) Verification that the applicant has a current and valid first-aid card.

(e) Verification that it has on file a disclosure statement in compliance with preemployment inquiry regulations in WAC 162-12-140, signed by the applicant, specifying all convictions which relate to fitness to perform the job of a school bus driver under WAC 392-144-103 and all crimes against children or other persons, that meets the requirements of RCW 43.43.834(2).

(f) Verification that it has on file the results of a criminal record check as required under chapter 28A.400 RCW and that such results establish that the applicant has not committed any offense which constitutes grounds for denying, suspending, or revoking an authorization under this chapter and the date of such request.

(g) Verification that it has on file an applicant's disclosure of all serious behavioral problems which explains the nature of all such problems and/or conditions, a listing of the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all doctors, psychologists, psychiatrists, counselors, therapists, or other health care practitioners of any kind or hospitals, clinics, or other facilities who have examined and/or treated the applicant for such problems and/or conditions and dates of examinations, therapy, or treatment and the school district has determined that any reported serious behavioral problem does not endanger the educational welfare or personal safety of students, teachers, school bus drivers, or other colleagues.

(h) Verification that the applicant complies with all of the requirements for authorized school bus drivers set forth in this chapter.

(2) Upon approval of an application, the superintendent of public instruction shall issue a notice of school bus driver authorization to the employing school district.

(3) Subsequent authorizations for an individual driver with new or additional employing school districts must be issued from the superintendent of public instruction to such districts prior to the operation of any motor vehicle for the transportation of children.

(4) The superintendent of public instruction will provide each school district with a list of their authorized school bus drivers and each authorized school bus driver's status.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 06-15-010, filed 7/6/06, effective 8/6/06)

WAC 392-144-160 School district—Verification of driver's continuing compliance. (1) Every school district shall evaluate each authorized school bus driver for continuing compliance with the provisions of this chapter annually. The results of this evaluation of all drivers shall be forwarded to the superintendent of public instruction on SPI Form 1799, Verification Statement and Confirmation of Updated Records, no later than November 15th of each year.

(2) This report shall verify that each authorized school bus driver's medical examination certificate expiration date, first-aid expiration date, driver's license expiration date and most recent school bus driver in-service training date has been updated in compliance with OSPI procedures.

(3) This report shall verify that each authorized school bus driver has made an updated disclosure in writing and signed and sworn under penalty of perjury which updates the disclosure required in WAC 392-144-102(4).

(4) This report shall verify that a current and original school bus driver's abstract has been obtained from the department of licensing on each authorized school bus driver((s five year)) and the driving record is in compliance with WAC 392-144-103.

(5) This report shall verify that each authorized school bus driver remains in compliance with the physical requirements of WAC 392-144-102(5).

(6) This report shall be a written verification that the evaluation has been conducted in accordance with the requirements of this chapter and that all drivers are in compliance, or if all drivers are not in compliance, a list of drivers who are out of compliance and the reason for noncompliance shall be provided.

WSR 07-05-088

EMERGENCY RULES

DEPARTMENT OF

FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 07-28—Filed February 21, 2007, 11:05 a.m., effective March 1, 2007, 12:01]

Effective Date of Rule: March 1, 2007, 12:01.

Purpose: Amend personal use rules.

Citation of Existing Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-56-38000M; and amending WAC 220-56-380.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 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: Surveys indicating an increased oyster population as well as a negotiated trade with the Skokomish tribe allow for an extended season. There is insufficient time to promulgate 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 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 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: February 20, 2007.

J. P. Koenings
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-56-38000M Oysters—Areas and seasons.

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-56-380, effective immediately until further notice, it is unlawful to take or possess oysters taken for personal use from the following public tidelands except during the open periods specified herein:

(1) Cushman Park: Open March 1 until further notice.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective 12:01 a.m. May 1, 2007:

WAC 220-56-38000M Oysters—Areas and seasons.

WSR 07-05-089

EMERGENCY RULES

DEPARTMENT OF

FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 07-29—Filed February 21, 2007, 11:06 a.m., effective February 22, 2007]

Effective Date of Rule: February 22, 2007.

Purpose: Amend commercial fishing rules.

Citation of Existing Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-52-07100F; and amending WAC 220-52-071.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 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: Harvestable amounts of sea cucumbers are available in sea cucumber districts listed. Prohibition of all diving from licensed sea cucumber harvest vessels prior to scheduled sea cucumber openings discourages the practice of fishing on closed days and hiding the unlawful catch underwater until the legal opening. There is insufficient time to promulgate 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 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 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: February 20, 2007.

J. P. Koenings
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-52-07100G Sea cucumbers. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-52-071, effective February 22, 2007 until further notice, it is unlawful to take or possess sea cucumbers taken for commercial purposes except as provided for in this section:

(1) Sea cucumber harvest using shellfish diver gear is allowed in Districts 1 and 5 on Monday through Friday of each week.

(2) Sea cucumber harvest using shellfish diver gear is allowed in Sea Cucumber District 3 on Thursday, February 22 and Friday, February 23, 2007 only.

(3) It is unlawful to dive for any purpose from a commercially licensed sea cucumber fishing vessel on Saturday and Sunday of each week, except by written permission from the Director.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative code is repealed effective February 22, 2007:

WAC 220-52-07100F Sea cucumbers. (07-21)