WSR 21-07-073 EMERGENCY RULES DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 21-35—Filed March 16, 2021, 4:24 p.m., effective March 19, 2021]

Effective Date of Rule: March 19, 2021.

Purpose: Amends freshwater fishing rules for Columbia River sturgeon.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-312-0600G [06000G]; and amending WAC 220-312-060.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: This rule is needed to close white sturgeon retention in John Day Pool. Creel data indicates harvest is nearing the quota of one hundred five sturgeon. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent regulations.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.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: March 16, 2021.

Kelly Susewind Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-312-060001 Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules-Columbia River. Effective March 19, 2021, until further notice, the provisions of WAC 220-312-060 regarding white sturgeon retention seasons from Bonneville Dam to McNary Dam are as follows. All other provisions of WAC 220-312-060 not addressed herein remain in effect unless otherwise amended by emergency rule:

(1) From Bonneville Dam to The Dalles Dam: Sturgeon retention is prohibited.

(2) From The Dalles Dam to John Day Dam: Sturgeon retention is prohibited.

(3) From John Day Dam to McNary Dam: Sturgeon retention is prohibited.

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REPEALER

The following section the Washington Administrative Code is repealed, effective March 19, 2021:

WAC 220-312-06000G Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Columbia River. (21-04)