

WSR 22-23-016
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 22-263—Filed November 3, 2022, 2:15 p.m., effective November 3, 2022, 2:15 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The purpose of this emergency rule is to open additional recreational coho seasons in the Snohomish River system.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-312-04000W; and amending WAC 220-312-040.

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

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

Reasons for this Finding: This action is necessary to extend recreational coho fisheries in the Snohomish, Skykomish, and Snoqualmie rivers. In-season observations indicate Snohomish River system spawning escapement remains on track to exceed target goals. A recreational harvest fishery is warranted.

Fishery managers will continue to monitor Snohomish system coho returns; seasons will be adjusted accordingly. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.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: November 3, 2022.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-312-04000X Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Puget Sound. Effective immediately, through November 13, 2022, provisions of WAC 220-312-040 regarding salmon seasons for Snohomish, Skykomish, and Snoqualmie rivers shall be as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-312-040 not addressed herein, or unless otherwise amended by emergency rule remain in effect:

(1) **Skykomish River (Snohomish Co.):** From the mouth to confluence of North and South Forks:

Salmon: Daily limit 2. Release all salmon other than coho.

(2) **Snohomish River (Snohomish Co.)**: From the mouth (Burlington-Northern RR bridges) (including all channels, sloughs, and interconnected waterways, but excluding all tributaries) to confluence of the Skykomish and Snoqualmie rivers (all channels):

Salmon: Daily limit 2. Release all salmon other than coho.

(3) **Snoqualmie River (King/Snohomish Co.)**: From the mouth to Snoqualmie Falls:

Salmon: Daily limit 2. Release all salmon other than coho.

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REPEALER

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

WAC 220-312-04000W Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Puget Sound. (22-256)