

WSR 23-22-026
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 23-236—Filed October 20, 2023, 3:11 p.m., effective November 1, 2023]

Effective Date of Rule: November 1, 2023.

Purpose: The purpose of this emergency rule is to increase the adult coho portion of the salmon daily limit in the Hanford Reach area of the Columbia River.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: 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 emergency rule is necessary to increase the adult coho portion of the salmon daily limit in the Hanford Reach area. In-season observations indicate coho returns to Ringold Hatchery are sufficient to allow for an increase in the adult coho daily limit.

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Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: October 20, 2023.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-312-06000Z Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Columbia River. Effective November 1 through December 31, 2023, the provisions of WAC 220-312-060 regarding recreational salmon seasons from I-182 Bridge to the Old Hanford townsite powerline crossing, shall be modified during the dates listed and as described below. All year-round Closed Waters areas remain in effect. Other provisions of WAC 220-312-060 not addressed herein remain in effect unless otherwise amended by emergency rule:

From I-182 Bridge to the Old Hanford townsite powerline crossing:

Salmon: November 1 through December 31, 2023: Daily limit 6. Up to 2 adults including no more than 1 adult Chinook may be retained. Release all salmon other than Chinook and coho.