

WSR 24-15-040
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 24-127—Filed July 11, 2024, 3:27 p.m., effective July 16, 2024]

Effective Date of Rule: July 16, 2024.

Purpose: The purpose of this emergency rule is to extend sockeye seasons in the Skagit River.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: 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 rule is necessary to extend sockeye seasons in Skagit River, from the Hwy. 536 bridge in Mt. Vernon to the Dalles Bridge at Concrete.

Current data indicate that minimal incidental Chinook encounters and available harvestable sockeye in the area are sufficient to provide an extension of the in-river sockeye season.

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Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.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: July 11, 2024.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-312-04000Q Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Puget Sound. Effective July 16 through July 24, 2024, the following provisions of WAC 220-312-040 regarding Skagit River salmon seasons, shall be modified described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-312-040 not addressed herein, or unless otherwise amended, remain in effect:

Skagit River (Skagit Co.): From the Hwy. 536 (Memorial Hwy. Bridge) in Mt. Vernon to the Dalles Bridge at Concrete:

Salmon:

- (a) Daily limit 4. Release all salmon other than sockeye.
- (b) Night Closure in effect.
- (c) Selective gear rules are not in effect for salmon.

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.