

WSR 22-18-037  
PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Filed August 30, 2022, 7:13 a.m.]

Subject of Possible Rule Making: The department is considering rule changes to chapter 220-500 WAC which regulates the use of Washington department of fish and wildlife (WDFW) lands.

Statutes Authorizing the Agency to Adopt Rules on this Subject: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.12.047.

Reasons Why Rules on this Subject may be Needed and What They Might Accomplish: The department's general rules for department lands are unclear and contain gaps. The proposed rule changes would:

- Define certain terms and amend existing term definitions for greater clarity; and
- Amend references to defined terms for consistency and clarity.

This CR-101 is the first of likely several in the coming years to implement the rule-making portion of the 2022 10-year recreation strategy for WDFW-managed lands. Priority #4 (rule making) of the strategy identifies two goals: (1) Reduce regulatory uncertainty regarding recreation-related uses; and (2) regulate access and use of specific wildlife areas, units, and water access areas. Rule making associated with this CR-101 is intended to be fairly limited in scope and will aim to both patch some of the more pressing regulatory gaps (e.g., define "posted" to include measures other than onsite signage) and set the stage for more extensive rule making for deliverables 4.13 (streambank easement rule) and 4.21 (area-specific rule-making approach), among others.

Process for Developing New Rule: Agency study.

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting Eric Gardner, 1111 Washington Street S.E., [Olympia,] WA 98504, phone 855-925-2801, project code 5867, TTY 360-902-2349, TTY 1-800-833-6388 or 711, email RecEasements@PublicInput.com, website <https://publicinput.com/RecEasements>; or Heather Bonagofski, email [heather.bonagofski@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:heather.bonagofski@dfw.wa.gov), website <https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/wdfw-lands/public-conduct>.

Additional comments: For WDFW rule-making information <http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/regulations>.

August 30, 2022  
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