

WSR 23-14-096
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 23-11—Filed June 30, 2023, 1:41 p.m., effective July 6, 2023]

Effective Date of Rule: July 6, 2023.

Purpose: The purpose of this emergency rule is to set temporary recreational fishing closure dates for a portion of the Skagit River.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-312-04000I; 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 rule is necessary to temporarily close a portion of the Skagit River to avoid gear conflicts with treaty fisheries.

This rule also maintains salmon seasons for Cascade and Skagit rivers set in WSR 23-14-022, filed on June 23, 2023.

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Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.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: June 29, 2023.

Amy H. Windrope
for Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-312-04000J Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Puget Sound. Effective July 6, through July 15, 2023, the following provisions of WAC 220-312-040 and regarding fishing seasons for portions of the Skagit River and Cascade River, shall be modified as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-312-040 not addressed herein, or unless otherwise amended, remain in effect:

(1) **Cascade River (Skagit Co.):** From mouth to Rockport-Cascade Rd. Bridge: Salmon:

- (a) Daily limit 4 including no more than 2 adults. Release all salmon other than hatchery Chinook.
- (b) Night Closure in effect.
- (c) Anti-snagging rule in effect.
- (2) **Skagit River (Skagit Co.):**
 - (a) From Hwy. 536 Bridge (Memorial Hwy. Bridge) in Mt. Vernon to the Hwy. 9 Bridge in Sedro Woolley: Salmon:
 - (i) Daily limit 3 sockeye. Release all salmon other than sockeye.
 - (ii) Night closure in effect.
 - (iii) Selective gear rules are not in effect for salmon.
 - (b) From the Hwy 9 Bridge in Sedro Woolley to the Dalles Bridge at Concrete:
 - (i) All species: July 6, 7, and 11, 2023: Closed Waters.
 - (ii) Salmon:
 - (A) Daily limit 3 sockeye. Release all salmon other than sockeye.
 - (B) Night closure in effect.
 - (C) Selective gear rules are not in effect for salmon.
 - (D) Closed July 6, 7, and 11, 2023.
 - (c) From the Dalles Bridge at Concrete to the Baker River: All species: July 6, 7, and 11, 2023: Closed Waters.
 - (d) From the Hwy. 530 Bridge at Rockport to Cascade River Rd. (Marblemount Bridge): Salmon:
 - (i) Daily limit 4 including no more than 2 adults. Release all salmon other than hatchery Chinook.
 - (ii) Night Closure in effect.
 - (iii) Anti-snagging rule in effect.

REPEALER

The following section of Washington Administrative Code is repealed, effective July 6, 2023:

WAC 220-312-04000I Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Puget Sound. (23-103)