



RULE-MAKING ORDER EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

CR-103E (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.350 and 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: November 07, 2024

TIME: 3:02 PM

WSR 24-23-006

Agency: Department of Fish and Wildlife (Order 24-257)

Effective date of rule:

Emergency Rules

- Immediately upon filing.
- Later (specify) November 8, 2024

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?

- Yes No If Yes, explain:

Purpose: This emergency rule will open recreational salmon and gamefish seasons in Snoqualmie River, open gamefish seasons in Tokul Creek, and maintain previously announced salmon seasons in Snohomish, Skykomish, and Wallace rivers.

Citation of rules affected by this order:

New:
Repealed: WAC 220-312-04000A
Amended: WAC 220-312-040
Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045 and 77.12.047

Other authority:

EMERGENCY RULE

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.
- That state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this finding: This emergency rule is necessary to open recreational game fish and salmon seasons in Snoqualmie River, and game fish seasons in Tokul Creek, while maintaining previously announced salmon seasons for Snohomish, Skykomish, and Wallace rivers.

Snohomish basin coho runs size in-season update (ISU) indicates a low risk of exceeding management objectives for coho. Chinook salmon are nearing the end of their spawning run, and the risk of incidental sport fishery encounters of natural Chinook salmon is reduced in Snohomish, Snoqualmie, Snoqualmie, and Wallace Rivers, allowing for salmon season openings targeting coho.

WDFW recently announced changes to the Tokul Creek hatchery program. Tokul Creek hatchery will be ending its segregated hatchery program (using only early winter hatchery broodstock) at the end of 2024 and switch to an integrated broodstock program (using wild broodstock) to support steelhead conservation and sustainable fishing opportunities in the future. This additional fishing opportunity to target hatchery steelhead will help minimize hatchery fish from straying to natural spawning areas and assist in the transition to an integrated broodstock program.

There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

Federal statute:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
Federal rules or standards:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___

The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:

New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
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The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:


New	1	Amended	___	Repealed	1
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The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
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The number of sections adopted using:

Negotiated rule making:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
Pilot rule making:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
Other alternative rule making:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___

Date Adopted: November 7, 2024	Signature: 
Name: Kelly Susewind	
Title: Director	

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-312-04000C Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Puget Sound.

Effective November 8 through January 14, 2025, provisions of WAC 220-312-040 regarding salmon seasons for Snohomish, Snoqualmie, Skykomish and Wallace rivers shall be modified as described herein. Additionally, game fish seasons for Tokul Creek shall be modified as described herein. 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 County):** From the mouth to confluence of North and South Forks: Effective November 8 through December 31, 2024:

Salmon: Daily limit 2. Release Chinook and chum.

- (2) **Snohomish River (Snohomish County):** From mouth (Burlington-Northern Railroad bridges) (including all channels, sloughs, and interconnected waterways, but excluding all tributaries) to confluence of the Skykomish and Snoqualmie rivers (all channels): Effective November 8 through December 31, 2024:

Salmon: Daily limit 2. Release Chinook and chum.

- (3) **Snoqualmie River (Snohomish County):** From mouth to Snoqualmie Falls: Effective November 8 through December 31, 2024:

Salmon: Daily limit 2. Release Chinook and chum.

- (4) **Tokul Creek (King County):** From mouth to the posted boundary marker downstream of diversion dam: Effective November 8 through January 14, 2025:

- (a) All species: Anti-snagging rules in effect. Fishing closed from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., daily.
- (b) Trout: Statewide minimum size and daily limit, except cutthroat trout and wild rainbow trout minimum size 14”.
- (c) Other game fish: Statewide minimum size and daily limit.

- (5) **Wallace River (Snohomish County):** From the mouth to 200 feet upstream of water intake of salmon hatchery: Effective November 8 through December 31, 2024:

Salmon: Daily limit 2. Release Chinook and chum.

REPEALER

The following section of Washington Administrative Code is repealed, effective November 8, 2024:

WAC 220-312-04000A Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Puget Sound. (24-246)