



PETITION FOR ADOPTION, AMENDMENT, OR REPEAL OF A STATE ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

In accordance with RCW 34.05.330, the Office of Financial Management (OFM) created this form for individuals or groups who wish to petition a state agency or institution of higher education to adopt, amend, or repeal an administrative rule. You may use this form to submit your request. You also may contact agencies using other formats, such as a letter or email.

The agency or institution will give full consideration to your petition and will respond to you within 60 days of receiving your petition. For more information on the rule petition process, see Chapter 82-05 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) at http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=82-05.

CONTACT INFORMATION (please type or print)

Petitioner's Name Mark A. White
Name of Organization
Mailing Address 283 View Ridge Drive
City Port Angeles State WA Zip Code 98362
Telephone 360-504-7939 Email bottomfish1918@live.com

COMPLETING AND SENDING PETITION FORM

Received

- Check all of the boxes that apply.
• Provide relevant examples.
• Include suggested language for a rule, if possible.
• Attach additional pages, if needed.
• Send your petition to the agency with authority to adopt or administer the rule. Here is a list of agencies and their rules coordinators: http://www.leg.wa.gov/CodeReviser/Documents/RClist.htm.

OCT 24 2024

Department of Fish & Wildlife

INFORMATION ON RULE PETITION

WDFW

Agency responsible for adopting or administering the rule: Rules.Coordinator@dfo.wa.gov

1. NEW RULE - I am requesting the agency to adopt a new rule.

The subject (or purpose) of this rule is:

The rule is needed because:

The new rule would affect the following people or groups:

2. AMEND RULE - I am requesting the agency to change an existing rule.

List rule number (WAC), if known: _____

I am requesting the following change: _____

This change is needed because: _____

The effect of this rule change will be: _____

The rule is not clearly or simply stated: _____

3. REPEAL RULE - I am requesting the agency to eliminate an existing rule.

List rule number (WAC), if known: 220-311-030 WAC

(Check one or more boxes)

It does not do what it was intended to do.

It is no longer needed because: _____

It imposes unreasonable costs: _____

The agency has no authority to make this rule: _____

It is applied differently to public and private parties: _____

It conflicts with another federal, state, or local law or rule. List conflicting law or rule, if known: _____

It duplicates another federal, state or local law or rule. List duplicate law or rule, if known: _____

Other (please explain): Please see attached document for explanation.

Dear Rules Coordinator WDFW,

WAC 220-311-030 (2) states that "it is unlawful to use barbed hooks in Marine Areas 5-13, except for forage fish jigger gear." The State of Washington has for years assumed that barbed hooks increase mortality of released salmon. In order to know, there must be study of the comparison between salmon that were caught with barbed versus barbless hooks. The study that addresses this is one called the Cowlitz Hooking Mortality Study (contracted by the WDFW). This study shows that there is little difference between the two for lures. The use of bait shows a bit more mortality with barbed hooks. This suggests that where the fish is hooked in combination with barbs plays a larger role. That being said, banning barbs, without addressing the root cause of where the fish gets hooked, should be reason enough to change this rule.

The rule applies to marine areas. I cannot find any studies for barbed vs. barbless hooks in marine areas. Therefore we must assume that there is no scientific basis for this rule. The rule applies to bottomfish. I can find no data on mortality rate differences between barbed vs. barbless hooks for released bottomfish. Therefore there must be no scientific basis for this rule. I can find no studies that show higher mortality between barbed vs. barbless hooks for salmon or other gamefish in marine waters. Therefore there must be no scientific basis for this rule.

I have a suggestion to increase survival of salmon. Why not, if the limit is two for a given specie for instance, say any two rather than marked fish (adipose fin removed). This way, if I hook a fish in the gill, or eye, or brain, or heart, I can keep it as part of my limit rather than release a seriously wounded fish. If encounters harm fish, then by reducing the number of encounters this way, survival rates must improve. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark A. White

