



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Fish Program



Proposal Number
(WDFW use)

2010-2011 Sportfishing Rule Proposal Form

To propose a sportfishing rule, please fill out this form completely - one proposal or idea per form, please! Feel free to make copies of this form or share it with friends. Rule proposals need to reach us by June 1, 2009, to be included in this year's process.

Name Richard Burge, VP, Wild Steelhead Coalition Phone# 360-765-3815

Mailing Address 1261 Leland Valley Road, WA. E-mail address fskibum@olyopen.com

May we contact you by e-mail in the future?

Yes x No

1. Current rule you would like to change: Extended fishing season for steelhead on the Hoh River

- 2. Your proposed rule:
a. Species affected: Steelhead
b. Geographic areas affected: Hoh River
c. Time of year in effect: April 16 to April 30
d. Other details: Extend the season an additional 2 weeks on the Hoh River from Morgans crossing to the Pacific Ocean.

Why this change is needed: The literature and WDFW records show that the largest runs to the rivers on the Olympic Peninsula occur in the spring months from March through early June. Most of the wild steelhead that have entered the Hoh River to spawn before May 1 are found in the main stream above Morgans Crossing and in tributaries to the Hoh River. There is no justifiable biological reason to keep any of these rivers closed during late April. In fact, harvest and fishing effort should be shifted as much as possible from the early months when the run is depleted to these late periods. The Quillayute, Sol Duc, Bogachiel, Calawah and Dickey Rivers are all open during late April to access the late runs. This rule change would provide increased opportunity on the Hoh River during the spring when the weather is much more conducive to fishing and the rivers are lower and clearer which generally improves the use of all types of fishing gear.

- 4. Public or Agency Involvement:
a. Names of individuals or groups with whom you have discussed this change: Wild Steelhed Coalition. Many others supported this same proposal two years back and the WDFW and the F&W Commission considered its passage until the Hoh tribe objected. The state sport fishery does not take it's share of the harvest and the Bold decision provided that each party should be able to take, or attempt to take in the case of sport fishing, their share of the harvestable surplus.
b. Describe their support or concerns:

Please mail completed form(s) to: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Sportfishing Rules Committee 600 Capitol Way North Olympia, Washington 98501-1091

This file may be downloaded and printed from our Web site: http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/regs/rule_proposals/index.htm

Or FAX to: (360) 902-2944
Or e-mail **AS AN ATTACHMENT** to: sportfishing@dfw.wa.gov

Instructions

1. **Current rule you would like to change:** What rule is currently in effect for the area, species and time period you would like to change? Would any parts of the rule already in place remain in effect?
 2. **Your proposed rule:** describe the rule change you are proposing, being sure to include the details listed in parts a-d.
 - a. Species affected - What type of fish or shellfish would this rule apply to? (i.e., all game fish, trout only, yellow perch)
 - b. Geographical area affected - what area should be covered by this rule? (i.e., freshwater only, the Columbia River, or a specific area such as from the mouth of the Skagit River to the Memorial Highway Bridge). If your change refers only to a specific section of a river, we will assume that you intend that rules in effect in other areas will remain unchanged.
 - c. Time of year in effect - Should the rule be in effect all year, or just for a specified time period?
 - d. Other details - Anything else you want to include such as gear type, daily limit, etc.
 3. **Why this change is needed** - the reason or "justification" for the change you suggest (i.e., "to protect a population of fish or shellfish from overharvest," "to provide a specific type of fishing opportunity to a group such as juveniles," or "to provide harvest opportunity on a healthy population of fish.")
 4. **Public or Agency Involvement:**
 - a. Names of individuals or groups with whom you have discussed this change - please identify by name; and
 - b. Provide a brief description of their support or concerns.
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Sample Proposal

1. **Current rule you would like to change:**

Sample Lake is currently open to fishing for game fish from the last Saturday in April through October 31, with statewide size and daily limit.
 2. **Your proposed rule:** Sample Lake should have a year-round season.
 - a. Species affected – All Game Fish
 - b. Geographical area affected – Sample Lake, Sample County
 - c. Time of year in effect – Year-round
 - d. Other details – Size and bag limits would remain unchanged.
 3. **Why this change is needed** – Trout are no longer planted in Sample Lake, so there is no reason to restrict the opening time.
 4. **Public or Agency Involvement:**
 - a. Names of individuals or groups with whom you have discussed this change:
Sample County Poggie Club, Enforcement Personnel in Sample County (etc.)
 - b. Describe their support or concerns:
The Sample County Poggie Club supports this proposal. Local enforcement officers have not expressed any concerns over this change.
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