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TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
INCLUDING STATEMENT OF NEED & JUSTIFICATION

DFW 29-2025

CHAPTER 635

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

FILED

04/10/2025 4:54 PM
ARCHIVES DIVISION
SECRETARY OF STATE
& LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

FILING CAPTION: Add additional days to the recreational spring salmon season downstream of Bonneville Dam.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/11/2025 THROUGH 06/15/2025

AGENCY APPROVED DATE: 04/10/2025

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Filed By:

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Rules Coordinator

NEED FOR THE RULE(S):

This amended rule is needed to set recreational salmon fisheries in the Columbia River downstream of Bonneville Dam.

JUSTIFICATION OF TEMPORARY FILING:

There is not adequate time to go through normal rulemaking proceedings to modify these rules by the specified date and time.

Fisheries are managed to provide treaty, recreational, and commercial fishing opportunities while meeting species- or stock-specific allocations and remaining within ESA guidelines.

Failure to adopt this rule would cause serious prejudice to the public interest in that recreational anglers would not be allowed to harvest their share of this valuable resource.

DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON, AND WHERE THEY ARE AVAILABLE:

1. OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE; JOINT STAFF REPORT - WINTER FACT SHEET NO. 9; Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing; Dated April 9, 2025.

2. Columbia River Fishery Notice; Dated April 9, 2025.

A copy of the rules and the other documents relied upon for this rulemaking [the above document(s)] are available from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Fish Division, 4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE, Salem, Oregon 97302-1142. Contact Linda Spansel at 503-947-6233 or linda.d.spansel@odfw.oregon.gov to view by appointment between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., on normal working days, Monday through Friday.

AMEND: 635-023-0125

SUSPEND: Temporary 635-023-0125 from DFW 16-2025

RULE SUMMARY: This amended rule adds six days to the recreational spring salmon/steelhead fishery downstream of

Bonneville Dam.

Modifications are consistent with actions taken by the Departments of Fish and Wildlife for the States of Oregon and Washington at a Columbia River Joint State hearing held on April 9, 2025.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-023-0125

Spring Sport Fishery ¶

The current annual Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations provide requirements for the Columbia River Zone. However, additional regulations may be adopted in this rule division from time to time, and, to the extent of any inconsistency, they supersede the current annual Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations.¶

(1) The Columbia River spring recreational fishery area boundaries include the following:¶

(a) Beacon Rock line projects from a deadline marker on the Oregon bank (approximately four miles downstream from Bonneville Dam Powerhouse One) in a straight line through the western tip of Pierce Island to a deadline marker on the Washington bank at Beacon Rock.¶

(b) Tower Island power lines (approximately six miles below The Dalles Dam).¶

(2) Effective April 11 through April 13, and April 15 through April 17 in the lower Columbia River from Buoy 10 upstream to the Bonneville Dam deadline, angling for and retention of salmon, steelhead, and shad is allowed with the following regulations:¶

(a) The daily adult salmon and steelhead bag limit is two hatchery fish.¶

(b) No more than one adult hatchery Chinook salmon may be retained per day.¶

(c) All chum, coho, wild Chinook, and wild steelhead must be released.¶

(d) Angling from a boat is not allowed from the Beacon Rock line upstream to the Bonneville Dam deadline.¶

(e) The closed portions of the Columbia River listed on pages 74 and 75 of the current annual Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations remain in effect.¶

(3) Effective April 1 through April 26, in the Columbia River from Bonneville Dam upstream to the OR/WA border (upstream of McNary Dam), angling for and retention of salmon and steelhead is allowed with the following regulations:¶

(a) The daily adult salmon and steelhead bag limit is two hatchery fish.¶

(b) No more than one adult hatchery Chinook salmon may be retained per day.¶

(c) All chum, coho, wild Chinook, and wild steelhead must be released.¶

(d) Angling from a boat is not allowed from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Tower Island power lines.¶

(e) The closed portions of the Columbia River listed on pages 74 and 75 of the current annual Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations remain in effect.¶

(4) Effective March 1 through June 15, the recreational adult salmon and steelhead bag limit in applicable Select Areas will be as follows:¶

(a) On days when the Columbia River mainstem recreational fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam is open to the retention of Chinook salmon, the bag limit is the same as the mainstem Columbia River bag limit; and¶

(b) On days when the mainstem Columbia River recreational fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam is closed to the retention of Chinook salmon, the permanent bag limit regulations apply.¶

(5) All other permanent rules for the Columbia River Zone, as stated in the current annual Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations, remain in effect.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 496.138, ORS 496.146

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 496.162