

# Implementation of Washington Guide Logbooks



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# Presentation Outline

- Purpose/Objective
- Proposed Rule
- Review Analysis Requested by Commission on June 14th
- Commissioner Questions
- Commission Action

# Purpose/Objective

- Provide a recommendation on the proposed rule for a Guide Fishing Logbook
- Will allow us to better understand and quantify guiding in Washington
  - Economic benefits-local and state economies
  - Recreational anglers who access fisheries through the industry
  - Assess distribution of effort

# Proposed Rule

## WAC 220-352-245 Reporting required . . .

- (1) Specifies type of information to record
- (2) Requires logbooks to be completed daily
- (3) Logbooks need to be sent to the Department.
- (4) Defines what fishing trips need to be reported
- (5) Identifies information “exempt” under Chapter 42.56.430 RCW
- (6) Failure to report guide activity is an infraction.
- (7) Submitting false information is a gross misdemeanor.

# Follow up from June Meeting

- How often should a commercial fishing guide be asked to submit reports on daily fishing activity (weekly or monthly)?
- Should a licensed commercial fishing guide be required to record fishing activity on both guided and nonguided fishing trips?

## How often should a commercial fishing guide be asked to submit reports on daily fishing activity (weekly or monthly)?

### Pros of weekly reporting

- Affords staff the opportunity to regularly review reporting compliance and work to ensure that data is reported on-time and correctly
- Allows for real-time estimates of guide participation in fisheries
- Affords staff the ability to use catch information from the guide fleet as a supplement to ongoing creel surveys

### Cons of weekly reporting

- More time consuming for the Commercial Fishing Guide to report weekly
- Difficult for guides that are participating in remotely located fisheries to report

# Should a licensed commercial fishing guide be required to record fishing activity on both guided and nonguided fishing trips?

## Pros for requiring nonguided fishing trips

- Based on conversations with Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG), this approach ensures compliance from fishing guides in their logbook program.
  - WDFW enforcement staff have had multiple conversations with Alaska State Troopers and believe this is the appropriate rule to ensure compliance and enforceability.
- It assures accurate reporting of guiding activity statewide in all fisheries.

## Cons for requiring nonguided fishing trips

- It is an onerous requirement on guides that regularly fish on nonguided personal trips.
- Reporting all fishing activity a guide undertakes can risk revealing “proprietary information” related to fishing areas that are critical to business success.

# Option A as filed in the CR-102

- Retain the weekly reporting requirement.
- Retain the requirement to report on personal use or nonguided fishing trips that occur on a designated WDFW licensed guide fish vessel.
- Adopt an effective date of January 1, 2020.
- Adopt all other elements of the logbook program as originally proposed.



# Option B

- Amend subsection (3) to allow reporting within ten days following any calendar month in which guide activity took place.
- Retain the requirement to report on personal use or nonguided fishing trips that occur on a designated WDFW licensed guide fish vessel.
- Adopt an effective date of January 1, 2020.
- Adopt all other elements of the logbook program as originally proposed.

# Option C

- Amend subsection (3) to allow reporting within ten days following any calendar month in which guide activity took place.
- Amend subsection (4) removing the requirement to report on personal use or nonguided fishing trips that occur on a designated WDFW licensed guide fish vessel.
- Adopt an effective date of January 1, 2020.
- Adopt all other elements of the logbook program as originally proposed.

# Staff Recommendation

## ■ Approve Option B

- Amend subsection (3) to allow reporting within ten days following any calendar month in which guide activity took place.
- Retain the requirement to report on personal use or nonguided fishing trips that occur on a designated WDFW licensed guide fish vessel.
- Adopt an effective date of January 1, 2020.
- Adopt all other elements of the logbook program as originally proposed.

# Questions?



# Commission Action

