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FILING CAPTION: Amend Regulations for 2025 Coho Salmon Seasons in Oregon Coastal Streams

EFFECTIVE DATE: 08/20/2025

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RULES:

635-014-0500, 635-014-0510, 635-016-0510, 635-016-0520

AMEND: 635-014-0500

NOTICE FILED DATE: 06/25/2025

RULE SUMMARY: The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) will review and consider permanent fishing regulations for 2025 wild coho salmon angling in coastal lakes and streams. This is a scheduled process in response to annually changing and new and available information on wild coho salmon population status such as adult spawner abundance, environmental conditions, and last year's fisheries performance. Oregon Coastal Natural (OCN) coho salmon are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act and these fish stocks have been performing relatively well since 2021. Department staff has worked with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to ensure that the available data supports the proposed regulation changes and will not negatively impact or compromise achieving critical population metrics such as suitable forecast of adult spawners and conservative harvest levels that will not deter the recovery of these listed fish. Harvest fisheries on healthy populations of wild coho salmon are identified as a desired management outcome in the State of Oregon's Coastal Coho Conservation Plan (ODFW 2007), which was approved by the Commission in 2007. The Coastal Multispecies Conservation and Management Plan (CMP; ODFW 2014) adopted by the Commission also supported and provided guidance on establishment of wild coho salmon fisheries. If the staff proposed seasons are adopted by the Commission, the proposed rules modify existing fishing regulations that are referenced in the 2025 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations and posted on the Department's MyODFW website for the following bays, rivers and tributaries, within the NW and SW zones: Necanicum, Nehalem, Tillamook, Nestucca, Siletz, Yaquina, Beaver Creek, Alsea, Siuslaw, Umpqua, Coos, Coquille, and Floras Creek/New River.

The Commission may decide to adopt staff recommended proposed rules and rule amendments, or they may decide not to adopt the proposed rules, or they may amend one or more of the proposed rules including amendments that may affect other bays, rivers, and tributaries.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-014-0500

North Coast District

(1) The current annual Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations provide requirements for the Northwest 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. ~~The Department is investigating the supply and condition of coastal salmon stocks and the Commission may further amend this rule to address the time, place, manner, bag limits and other restrictions as it determines necessary to carry out the provisions of wildlife laws.~~

(2) Effective August 1 through December 31, the following regulations apply in the Necanicum River:

(a) From August 1 through November 30, the daily adult wild Chinook salmon bag limit is one fish;

(b) From August 1 through November 30, no more than two adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period; and

(c) From December 1 through December 31, angling for, and retention of, all Chinook salmon is closed.

(3) Effective July 1 through December 31, the following regulations apply in the Nehalem River and Bay and in the North Fork Nehalem River:

(a) From July 1 through November 30, the daily adult wild Chinook salmon bag limit is one fish and no more than two adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained in aggregate for the period; and

(b) From December 1 through December 31, angling for, and retention of, all Chinook salmon is closed.

(4) Effective September 7~~10~~ through October 23~~6~~, 2024~~5~~, on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Saturdays, the following regulations apply in the Nehalem Bay from the tips of the jetties upstream to the Miami-Foley Road Bridge and in the North Fork Nehalem River from the mouth upstream to the North Fork Road Bridge at Aldervale:

(a) The daily adult wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate;

(b) No more than ~~two~~three adult wild coho salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate; and

(c) The daily jack wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish.

(5) Effective August 1 through December 31, the following regulations apply in Tillamook Bay, Tillamook River, Wilson River, Trask River, Kilchis River, and Miami River:

(a) From August 1 through November 30, the following regulations apply:

(A) The daily adult wild Chinook salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate; and

(B) No more than two adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate.

(b) From December 1 through December 31, angling for, and retention of, all Chinook salmon is closed.

(6) Effective September 7~~10~~ through October 23~~6~~, 2024~~5~~, on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Saturdays, the following regulations apply in Tillamook Bay from the tips of the jetties upstream to the Highway 101 bridges on the Miami, Kilchis, Wilson, and Trask Rivers and upstream to the Burton Bridge on the Tillamook River:

(a) The daily adult wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate;

(b) No more than ~~two~~three adult wild coho salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate; and

(c) The daily jack wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish.

(7) Effective August 1 through December 31, the following regulations apply in the Nestucca River and Bay, the Little Nestucca River, and Three Rivers:

(a) From August 1 through November 30, the following regulations apply:

(A) The daily adult wild Chinook salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate; and

(B) No more than ~~5~~five adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate.

(b) From December 1 through December 31, angling for, and retention of, all Chinook salmon is closed.

(8) Effective September 7~~10~~ through October 23~~6~~, 2024~~5~~, on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Saturdays, the following regulations apply in the Nestucca Bay from the river mouth upstream to the Cloverdale Bridge and in the Little Nestucca River from the bay upstream to the Highway 130 Bridge (MP 1.2):

(a) The daily adult wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate;

(b) No more than ~~two~~three adult wild coho salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate; and

(c) The daily jack wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish.

(9) All other permanent rules for the Northwest 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

AMEND: 635-014-0510

NOTICE FILED DATE: 06/25/2025

RULE SUMMARY: The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) will review and consider permanent fishing regulations for 2025 wild coho salmon angling in coastal lakes and streams. This is a scheduled process in response to annually changing and new and available information on wild coho salmon population status such as adult spawner abundance, environmental conditions, and last year's fisheries performance. Oregon Coastal Natural (OCN) coho salmon are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act and these fish stocks have been performing relatively well since 2021. Department staff has worked with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to ensure that the available data supports the proposed regulation changes and will not negatively impact or compromise achieving critical population metrics such as suitable forecast of adult spawners and conservative harvest levels that will not deter the recovery of these listed fish. Harvest fisheries on healthy populations of wild coho salmon are identified as a desired management outcome in the State of Oregon's Coastal Coho Conservation Plan (ODFW 2007), which was approved by the Commission in 2007. The Coastal Multispecies Conservation and Management Plan (CMP; ODFW 2014) adopted by the Commission also supported and provided guidance on establishment of wild coho salmon fisheries. If the staff proposed seasons are adopted by the Commission, the proposed rules modify existing fishing regulations that are referenced in the 2025 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations and posted on the Department's MyODFW website for the following bays, rivers and tributaries, within the NW and SW zones: Necanicum, Nehalem, Tillamook, Nestucca, Siletz, Yaquina, Beaver Creek, Alsea, Siuslaw, Umpqua, Coos, Coquille, and Floras Creek/New River.

The Commission may decide to adopt staff recommended proposed rules and rule amendments, or they may decide not to adopt the proposed rules, or they may amend one or more of the proposed rules including amendments that may affect other bays, rivers, and tributaries.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-014-0510

Mid-Coast District

(1) The current annual Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations provide requirements for the Northwest 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.¶

(2) Effective August 1 through December 31, no more than ten adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period in the Salmon River.¶

(3) Effective August 1 through December 31, no more than ten adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period in the Siletz River and Drift Creek (Siletz Basin, Lincoln Co.) in aggregate.¶

(4) Effective September 14~~3~~ through November 15~~4~~, 2024~~5~~, the following regulations apply in the Siletz River, Drift Creek, and Schooner Creek upstream to Erickson Creek:¶

(a) From September 14~~3~~ through ~~October 6~~ November 6~~14~~, retention of wild coho salmon is allowed from the mouth upstream to an ODFW marker sign approximately 1,200 feet upstream of the Ojalla Bridge;¶

(b) From October 7 through November 15~~4~~, retention of wild coho salmon is allowed from the mouth upstream to the Illahee Boat Ramp;¶

(c) The daily adult wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish;¶

(d) No more than three adult wild coho salmon may be retained for the entire period; and¶

(e) The daily jack wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish.¶

(5) Effective August 1 through December 31, ~~the following regulations apply in the Yaquina River and Bay and Big Elk Creek:~~¶

~~(a) No more than ten adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period in the Yaquina River and Bay and Big Elk Creek in aggregate; and,¶~~

~~(b) From Effective September 14~~3~~ through October 15~~0~~, 2024~~5~~, the following additional regulations apply to the Yaquina River from the mouth upstream to Simpson Creek, and Big Elk Creek from the mouth upstream to Bear Creek:~~¶

~~(A) The daily adult wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate;¶~~

(~~B~~b) No more than three adult wild coho salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate; and¶
(~~C~~c) The daily jack wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish.¶
(~~6~~7) Effective August 1 through December 31, no more than ten adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period in the Alsea River and Bay and Drift Creek in aggregate.¶
(~~7~~8) Effective September 14~~3~~3 through October 13~~2~~2 and October 26~~5~~5 through November 10~~7~~7, 2024~~5~~5, the following regulations apply in the Alsea ~~Bay and~~ River from the mouth upstream to the U.S. Forest Service River Edge Boat Landing and in Drift Creek from the mouth upstream to the lower Wilderness Boundary:¶
(a) The daily adult wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate;¶
(b) No more than ~~two~~three adult wild coho salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate; and¶
(c) The daily jack wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish.¶
(~~8~~9) Effective August 1 through December 31, the following regulations apply in the Yachats River:¶
(a) The daily adult wild Chinook salmon bag limit is one fish; and¶
(b) No more than two adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period.¶
(~~9~~10) Effective November 1 through November 30, 2024~~5~~5, the following regulations apply in Beaver Creek from the walking bridge at Ona Beach State Park upstream to the confluence of Beaver Creek and ~~in~~ South Fork Beaver Creek:¶
(a) The daily adult wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate;¶
(b) No more than three adult wild coho salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate; and¶
(c) The daily jack wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish.¶
(~~10~~11) Effective August 1 through December 31, the following regulations apply in the Siuslaw River, in the North Fork Siuslaw River, and in Sweet Creek:¶
(a) The daily adult wild Chinook salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate; and¶
(b) No more than two adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate.¶
(~~11~~12) Effective September 14~~3~~3 through ~~Novem~~October 15~~4~~4, 2024~~5~~5, the following regulations apply in the Siuslaw River from the mouth upstream to the confluence of Lake Creek, in the North Fork Siuslaw River from the mouth upstream to Meadows Bridge, and in Sweet Creek from the mouth upstream to head of tide:¶
(a) The daily adult wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate;¶
(b) No more than three adult wild coho salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate; and¶
(c) The daily jack wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish.¶
(~~12~~3) All other permanent rules for the Northwest 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

AMEND: 635-016-0510

REPEAL: Temporary 635-016-0510 from DFW 70-2025

NOTICE FILED DATE: 06/25/2025

RULE SUMMARY: The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) will review and consider permanent fishing regulations for 2025 wild coho salmon angling in coastal lakes and streams. This is a scheduled process in response to annually changing and new and available information on wild coho salmon population status such as adult spawner abundance, environmental conditions, and last year's fisheries performance. Oregon Coastal Natural (OCN) coho salmon are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act and these fish stocks have been performing relatively well since 2021. Department staff has worked with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to ensure that the available data supports the proposed regulation changes and will not negatively impact or compromise achieving critical population metrics such as suitable forecast of adult spawners and conservative harvest levels that will not deter the recovery of these listed fish. Harvest fisheries on healthy populations of wild coho salmon are identified as a desired management outcome in the State of Oregon's Coastal Coho Conservation Plan (ODFW 2007), which was approved by the Commission in 2007. The Coastal Multispecies Conservation and Management Plan (CMP; ODFW 2014) adopted by the Commission also supported and provided guidance on establishment of wild coho salmon fisheries. If the staff proposed seasons are adopted by the Commission, the proposed rules modify existing fishing regulations that are referenced in the 2025 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations and posted on the Department's MyODFW website for the following bays, rivers and tributaries, within the NW and SW zones: Necanicum, Nehalem, Tillamook, Nestucca, Siletz, Yaquina, Beaver Creek, Alsea, Siuslaw, Umpqua, Coos, Coquille, and Floras Creek/New River.

The Commission may decide to adopt staff recommended proposed rules and rule amendments, or they may decide not to adopt the proposed rules, or they may amend one or more of the proposed rules including amendments that may affect other bays, rivers, and tributaries.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-016-0510

Coos-Coquille District

(1) The ~~current annual Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations~~ provide requirements for the Southwest 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~~. ¶

(2) Effective July 1 through December 31, ~~the following regulations apply~~ no more than ten adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period in the Coos River, Coos Bay, South Fork Coos River, and Millicoma mainstem: in aggregate. ¶

~~(a) No more than ten adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained~~ Effective September 13 through October 10, 2025, the following regulations apply in Coos Bay (from the visible tips of jetties upstream to head of tide or other period in aggregate; and ¶

~~(b) From September 14 through October 10, 2024, the following regulations apply~~ landmarks including: Larson Slough upstream to Sullivan Cr; Palouse Cr to Elliot Forest Boundary; Catching Slough to Sumner Rd Bridge; Kentuck, North, Isthmus, Coalbank and Davis sloughs to their tidegates; Shinglehouse Slough; and Pony Slough to Newmark Ave), Coos River (mainstem), South Fork Coos River (mouth upstream to head of tide at Dellwood), and Millicoma River (mainstem): ¶

~~(Aa) The daily adult wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate;~~ ¶

~~(Bb) No more than three adult wild coho salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate; and~~ ¶

~~(Cc) The daily wild jack coho salmon bag limit is one fish.~~ ¶

~~(34) Effective June 1 through October 31, the following regulations apply in the Coquille River (Mmainstem), East Fork Coquille River, Middle Fork Coquille River, North Fork Coquille River, and in the South Fork Coquille River (from the mouth upstream to the USFS boundary near Powers):~~ ¶

~~(a) Spears and spear guns may be used to harvest smallmouth bass; and~~ ¶

~~(b) Use of bait is allowed.~~ ¶

~~(45) Effective September 143 through October 15, 20245, the following regulations apply in the Coquille River~~

from ~~the mouth~~ Hwy 101 Bridge upstream to the Highway 42S bBridge at Sturdivant Park:¶

(a) The daily adult wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish;¶

(b) No more than three adult wild coho salmon may be retained for the period; and¶

(c) The daily wild jack coho salmon bag limit is one fish.¶

(56) All other permanent rules for the Southwest Zone, as stated in the ~~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

AMEND: 635-016-0520

NOTICE FILED DATE: 06/25/2025

RULE SUMMARY: The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) will review and consider permanent fishing regulations for 2025 wild coho salmon angling in coastal lakes and streams. This is a scheduled process in response to annually changing and new and available information on wild coho salmon population status such as adult spawner abundance, environmental conditions, and last year's fisheries performance. Oregon Coastal Natural (OCN) coho salmon are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act and these fish stocks have been performing relatively well since 2021. Department staff has worked with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to ensure that the available data supports the proposed regulation changes and will not negatively impact or compromise achieving critical population metrics such as suitable forecast of adult spawners and conservative harvest levels that will not deter the recovery of these listed fish. Harvest fisheries on healthy populations of wild coho salmon are identified as a desired management outcome in the State of Oregon's Coastal Coho Conservation Plan (ODFW 2007), which was approved by the Commission in 2007. The Coastal Multispecies Conservation and Management Plan (CMP; ODFW 2014) adopted by the Commission also supported and provided guidance on establishment of wild coho salmon fisheries. If the staff proposed seasons are adopted by the Commission, the proposed rules modify existing fishing regulations that are referenced in the 2025 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations and posted on the Department's MyODFW website for the following bays, rivers and tributaries, within the NW and SW zones: Necanicum, Nehalem, Tillamook, Nestucca, Siletz, Yaquina, Beaver Creek, Alsea, Siuslaw, Umpqua, Coos, Coquille, and Floras Creek/New River.

The Commission may decide to adopt staff recommended proposed rules and rule amendments, or they may decide not to adopt the proposed rules, or they may amend one or more of the proposed rules including amendments that may affect other bays, rivers, and tributaries.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-016-0520

South Coast District

- (1) The current annual Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations provide requirements for the Southwest 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.¶
- (2) Effective August 1 through December 31, the following regulations apply in Floras Creek and New River:¶
 - (a) The daily adult wild Chinook salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate; and¶
 - (b) No more than two adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate.¶
- (3) Effective November 1 through November 30, 2024⁵, the following regulations apply in New River and in Floras Creek from the BLM boat ramp at Storm Ranch upstream to the confluence of Floras Creek and Floras Lake outlet:¶
 - (a) The daily adult wild coho salmon bag limit is one fish in aggregate;¶
 - (b) No more than three adult wild coho salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate; and¶
 - (c) The daily wild jack coho salmon bag limit is one fish.¶
- (4) Effective July 1 through December 31, the following regulations apply in the Sixes River:¶
 - (a) The daily adult wild Chinook salmon bag limit is one fish;¶
 - (b) No more than ten adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period;¶
 - (c) From October 1 through November 3, the Sixes River is closed to all angling from the Hughes House Boat Ramp upstream to the mouth of Crystal Creek; and¶
 - (d) From October 1 through December 31, closed to all angling from Edson Creek upstream to the South Fork Sixes River.¶
- (5) Effective July 1 through December 31, the Elk River is closed to angling for and retention of all wild Chinook salmon.¶
- (6) Effective October 1 through December 31, the following regulations apply in Hunter Creek:¶
 - (a) The daily adult wild Chinook salmon bag limit is one fish; and¶
 - (b) No more than two adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period.¶

(7) Effective September 1 through December 31, the following regulations apply in the Chetco River, Pistol River, and Winchuck River:¶¶

(a) The daily adult wild Chinook salmon bag limit is one fish; and¶¶

(b) No more than five adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period.¶¶

(8) All other permanent rules for the Southwest 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