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TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
INCLUDING STATEMENT OF NEED & JUSTIFICATION

DFW 3-2026

CHAPTER 635

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

FILED

01/12/2026 8:48 AM
ARCHIVES DIVISION
SECRETARY OF STATE
& LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

FILING CAPTION: Allow Bait on the Coquille River and Tributaries

EFFECTIVE DATE: 01/12/2026 THROUGH 07/10/2026

AGENCY APPROVED DATE: 01/12/2026

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Filed By:

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Rules Coordinator

NEED FOR THE RULE(S):

This rule is needed to correct a rule that was inadvertently changed in relation to the use of spear guns for bass removal during a certain portion of the year. This change will re-establish the ability to use bait in the Coquille River basin outside of periods when it can be used for bass removal. The use of bait is needed to allow anglers to harvest hatchery fish during other seasons on the Coquille River and tributaries.

JUSTIFICATION OF TEMPORARY FILING:

There is not adequate time to go through normal rulemaking proceedings to modify this rule because the fishing season is currently underway.

Failure to adopt this rule would prevent anglers from using traditional methods for harvesting hatchery fish and bass in

and 4:00 p.m., on normal working days, Monday through Friday.

AMEND: 635-016-0510

RULE SUMMARY: This rule will correct language that inadvertently removed the allowance of bait in the Coquille River basin from January 1st through May 31st and November 1st through December 31st.

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 in the Coos River (mainstem), Coos Bay (from the visible tips of jetties upstream to head of tide or other 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), South Fork Coos River (mouth to head of tide at Dellwood), and Millicoma River (mainstem) in aggregate. ¶

(a) No more than ten adult wild Chinook salmon may be retained for the period in aggregate. ¶

(b) The daily adult salmon bag limit is three fish in aggregate of which no more than two may be wild and only one of which may be a wild coho salmon. ¶

(3) 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 landmarks including; Larson Slough upstream to Sullivan Cr, Palouse Cr to Elliot Forest Boundary, Catching 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): ¶

(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 June 1 through October 31,~~ The following regulations apply in the Coquille River (Mainstem), 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) ~~Effective June 1 through October 31,~~ spears and spear guns may be used to harvest smallmouth bass; and ¶

(b) Use of bait is allowed ~~all year.~~ ¶

(5) Effective September 13 through October 15, 2025, the following regulations apply in the Coquille River from Hwy 101 Bridge upstream to the Highway 42S Bridge 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. ¶

(6) Effective September 13 through October 15, 2025, the following regulations apply from the Hwy 101 Bridge upstream to the Hwy 42S bridge at Sturdivant Park: ¶

(a) The daily adult salmon bag limit is two fish; and ¶

(b) Retention of wild Chinook is prohibited. ¶

(7) 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