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TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
INCLUDING STATEMENT OF NEED & JUSTIFICATION

DFW 21-2026

CHAPTER 635

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

FILED

03/23/2026 8:21 AM
ARCHIVES DIVISION
SECRETARY OF STATE
& LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

FILING CAPTION: Modify Youngs Bay Select Area Commercial Fishery

EFFECTIVE DATE: 03/23/2026 THROUGH 07/31/2026

AGENCY APPROVED DATE: 03/23/2026

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Filed By:

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Rules Coordinator

NEED FOR THE RULE(S):

The rules are needed to expand the area for the 2026 Winter Youngs Bay Select Area commercial salmon fisheries. In-season monitoring indicates this fishery is tracking well within allowable harvest expectations for non-local spring Chinook.

JUSTIFICATION OF TEMPORARY FILING:

There is insufficient time to initiate the permanent rulemaking process to open the commercial fishing area 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 open these fisheries would deny commercial fishers the opportunity to harvest then sell their share of this valuable resource in Oregon.

DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON, AND WHERE THEY ARE AVAILABLE:

Oregon State Action Notice, dated, March 23, 2026.

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: 635-042-0145

SUSPEND: Temporary 635-042-0145 from DFW 12-2026

RULE SUMMARY: These rules expand the open area for two previously adopted fishing periods in the Youngs Bay Commercial Salmon Fishery scheduled to occur from March 23 through March 25. Modifications are consistent with actions taken by the Department of Fish and Wildlife on 3/23/26.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-042-0145

Youngs Bay Select Area Commercial Fishery ¶

(1) Salmon (except Chum) may be taken with gillnets for commercial purposes during open fishing periods in Youngs Bay/as described below: ¶

(a) The Youngs Bay Select Area is defined as waters of Youngs Bay and Youngs River southeasterly of the Highway 101 Bridge upstream to the regulatory marker(s) at the confluence of the Klaskanine and Youngs rivers, including the Walluski River downstream of the Highway 202 Bridge, and the Lewis and Clark River north (downstream) of the overhead power lines approximately 500 feet south (upstream) of Barrett Slough. ¶

(b) The Upper Youngs Bay Area includes all waters within the Youngs Bay Select Area upstream of the old Youngs Bay Bridge. ¶

(c) The Walluski Area includes all waters within the Youngs Bay Select Area upstream of the overhead powerlines crossing Youngs River approximately 500 yards northerly (downstream) of the Walluski River. ¶

(2) The open fishing periods are established in four segments categorized as the winter season in subsection (2)(a); the spring season in subsection (2)(b); the summer season in subsection (2)(c), and the fall season in subsection (2)(d) as follows: ¶

(a) Winter Season: ¶

(A) Open area is the Youngs Bay Select Area defined in (1)(a) above, except the Lewis and Clark River south (upstream) of the Alternate Highway 101 Bridge is closed. ¶

~~(B) Open fishing periods are as follows: ¶~~

~~(i) March 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; ¶~~

~~(ii) March 25 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; ¶~~

~~(B) Open area is the Upper Youngs Bay Area defined in (1)(b) above. Open fishing periods are as follows: ¶~~

~~(i) March 26 from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; ¶~~

~~(ii) March 30 from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.; ¶~~

~~(iii) April 1 from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; and ¶~~

~~(iv) April 2 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. ¶~~

~~(C) The minimum mesh size is 7-inches. ¶~~

(b) Spring Season: ¶

(A) Open area is the Youngs Bay Select Area defined in (1)(a) above. ¶

~~(B) Open fishing periods are as follows: ¶~~

~~(i) April 23 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; ¶~~

~~(ii) April 27 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; ¶~~

~~(iii) April 29 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; ¶~~

~~(iv) April 30 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; ¶~~

~~(v) May 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; ¶~~

~~(vi) May 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; ¶~~

~~(vii) May 6 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; ¶~~

~~(viii) May 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; and ¶~~

~~(ix) May 11 through June 12, from each Monday at 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on each Friday. ¶~~

~~(B) Open area is the Upper Youngs Bay Area defined in (1)(b) above. Open fishing period is April 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. ¶~~

~~(C) The maximum mesh size is 9.75-inches. ¶~~

(c) Summer Season: ¶

(A) Open area is the Youngs Bay Select Area defined in (1)(a) above. ¶

(B) The maximum mesh size is 9.75-inches. ¶

(C) Open fishing periods are as follows: ¶

(i) 6:00 a.m. June 16 through 9:00 a.m. June 19; ¶

(ii) June 22 through July 17, from each Monday at 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on each Friday.; and ¶

(iii) July 21 through July 30, from each Tuesday at 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on each Thursday. ¶

(d) Fall Season: ¶

(A) Open area is the Youngs Bay Select Area defined in (1)(a) above, except Youngs River upstream of the regulatory marker at Battle Creek Slough is closed. If the marker at Battle Creek Slough is not in place, the

boundary is defined by a line projecting northeasterly from a point (46°6'35.6"N latitude 123°47'42.0"W longitude) on the southern bank of Youngs River immediately downstream of the mouth of Battle Creek Slough to a point (46°6'41.6"N latitude 123°47'36.9"W longitude) located on the northern bank of Youngs River. ¶

(B) The maximum mesh size is 9.75-inches prior to the fourth Sunday in August, and 6-inches thereafter. ¶

(3) Additional gear restrictions include: ¶

(a) Gill nets may not exceed 1,500 feet (250 fathoms) in length and lead line weight may not exceed two pounds per any one fathom, except as described in (3)(b) below. ¶

(b) When the following waters are open to commercial fishing, the use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the lead line is permitted in these areas: ¶

(A) Youngs River upstream of regulatory markers located approximately 200 yards southerly (upstream) of the mouth of the Walluski River. ¶

(B) In the lower Walluski River from the first dock near the mouth upstream to the Highway 202 Bridge. ¶

(C) In the Lewis and Clark River from the Alternate Highway 101 Bridge upstream to the overhead power lines approximately 500 feet southerly (upstream) of Barrett Slough. ¶

(c) A red cork must be placed on the corkline every 25 fathoms as measured from the first mesh of the net. Red corks at 25-fathom intervals must be in color contrast to the corks used in the remainder of the net. ¶

(d) Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater. ¶

(4) Non-resident commercial fishing and boat licenses are not required for Washington fishers participating in Youngs Bay commercial fisheries. A valid fishing and boat license issued by the state of Washington is considered adequate for participation in this fishery. The open area for non-resident commercial fishers includes all areas open for commercial fishing.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 183.325, ORS 506.109, ORS 506.119

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 506.129, ORS 507.030