



# **Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the State of Washington Chapter 173-201A-WAC**

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## **Overview of Proposed Changes to Current Rule**

### **Water Quality Program**

Washington State Department of Ecology  
Olympia, Washington

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<sup>1</sup> [www.ecology.wa.gov/contact](http://www.ecology.wa.gov/contact)

# Department of Ecology's Regional Offices

## Map of Counties Served



**Southwest Region**  
360-407-6300

**Northwest Region**  
425-649-7000

**Central Region**  
509-575-2490

**Eastern Region**  
509-329-3400

Region	Counties served	Mailing Address	Phone
<b>Southwest</b>	Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, Wahkiakum	PO Box 47775 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6300
<b>Northwest</b>	Island, King, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom	3190 160th Ave SE Bellevue, WA 98008	425-649-7000
<b>Central</b>	Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan, Yakima	1250 W Alder St Union Gap, WA 98903	509-575-2490
<b>Eastern</b>	Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman	4601 N Monroe Spokane, WA 99205	509-329-3400
<b>Headquarters</b>	Across Washington	PO Box 46700 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6000

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DEPARTMENT OF  
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State of Washington

# Table of Contents

Purpose of this document..... 5

Proposed Changes to WAC 173-201A-020..... 6

Proposed Changes to WAC 173-201A-440..... 6

Proposed Changes to WAC 173-201A-602..... 7

## Purpose of this document

The Department of Ecology is proposing to amend chapter 173-201A WAC Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the State of Washington. We are proposing amendments to the following sections:

- WAC 173-201A-020 (Definitions)
- WAC 173-201A-440 (Use attainability analysis)
- WAC 173-201A-602 (Use designations for fresh waters by water resource inventory area (WRIA))

This document provides a summary of the proposed changes. We have also highlighted the proposed changes in the full rule text, which we have provided as a separate document.

This document does not provide an explanation of the proposed changes. For an explanation of the proposed changes, see the [Technical Support Document](#)<sup>2</sup>.

We are accepting comments on the draft rule language until **May 21, 2021**. Submit your comments on this draft rule through our [eComments page](#)<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://apps.ecology.gov/publications/summarypages/2110008.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://wq.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=NGpTD>

## Proposed Changes to WAC 173-201A-020

Added the following definitions to WAC 173-201A-020:

**“Migration for naturally limited waters”** is a sub-category of the aquatic life use of salmonid rearing and migration that is limited by the natural physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of the water body.

**“Salmonid spawning, rearing, and migration for naturally limited waters”** is a sub-category of the aquatic life use of salmonid spawning, rearing, and migration that is limited by the natural physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of the water body.

## Proposed Changes to WAC 173-201A-440

Added the following highlighted text to WAC 173-201A-440(9):

(9) The results of a UAA are not in effect until they have been incorporated into this chapter and approved by the USEPA. Designated uses established through the UAA process are listed in WAC 173-201A-602 and 173-201A-612.

## Proposed Changes to WAC 173-201A-602

Added the highlighted text in Table 602: WRIA 47 – Chelan, to add aquatic life designated uses for the Chelan River. We have also added special conditions, including site-specific criteria for temperature and dissolved oxygen, in the Notes below the table. See [WAC-173-201A-602](#)<sup>4</sup> for the complete table.

Table 602: WRIA 47 - Chelan	Aquatic Life Uses	Recreation Uses	Water Supply Uses	Misc. Uses	Additional info for waterbody
Stehekin River: Upstream from the mouth (latitude 48.3202, longitude -120.6791).	Core Summer Habitat	Primary Contact	All	All	-
Chelan River: Downstream from the Lake Chelan Dam outlet (latitude 47.8338, longitude -120.0112) to the fish passage barrier at the end of the canyon (latitude 47.8117, longitude -119.9848). <sup>1, 4</sup>	Migration in naturally limited waters <sup>2</sup>	Primary Contact	All	All	173-201A-440(9)
Chelan River: From the fish passage barrier at the end of the canyon (latitude 47.8117, longitude -119.9848) to the confluence with the Columbia River (latitude 47.8044, longitude -119.9842). <sup>3, 4</sup>	Salmonid Spawning, Rearing, and Migration for naturally limited waters	Primary Contact	All	All	173-201A-440(9)

**Notes for WRIA 47:**

1. The temperature criterion is 17.5°C as a 7-DADmax. When water temperature is greater than 17.5°C as a daily maximum at the end of the canyon (compliance point), the temperature within the water body segment may not exceed a 7-DADmax increase of 3.75°C above temperature measured at the dam outlet. The dissolved oxygen criteria are 8.0 mg/L or 90% saturation. The 7-DADMax temperature increase and dissolved oxygen criteria are not to be exceeded at a frequency of more than once every ten years on average.
2. Migration is generally limited to downstream.

<sup>4</sup> <https://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-201A-602>



3. The temperature criterion is 17.5°C as a 7-DADmax. When water temperature is greater than 17.5°C as a daily maximum above the confluence with powerhouse channel (compliance point), the temperature within the water body segment may not exceed a 7-DADmax increase of 1.25°C above temperature measured at the end of canyon. The dissolved oxygen criteria are 8.0 mg/L or 95% saturation. The 7-DADMax temperature increase and dissolved oxygen criteria are not to be exceeded at a frequency of more than once every ten years on average.
4. No anthropogenic heat source inputs are allowed downstream of the Lake Chelan Dam outlet to the Chelan River confluence with the Columbia River.