

OFFICE OF SHELLFISH AND WATER PROTECTION

WAC 246-282-006

Washington State Vibrio parahaemolyticus (Vp) Control Plan
October 2013

ACTIVITY	ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE	DATE COMPLETED
File CR101	December 1, 2012	November 30, 2012
Notify stakeholders	December 8, 2012	December 20, 2012
Vibrio Advisory Committee meetings	October 28, 2014	
Informal comments	November 2, 2014	
Revise draft rules, prepare analyses	November 16, 2014	
File CR 102	January 2, 2015	
Public Hearing	March 2015	
Respond to formal comments	March 31, 2015	
File CR 103	April 1, 2015	
Rule Effective	May 1, 2015	

Purpose

The purpose of this rule making is to better protect shellfish consumers from Vibrio parahaemolyticus (Vp)-related illnesses. The State Board of Health (board) is considering revisions to the Vp control plan to include more proactive measures to prevent illness and protect public health. This could include a combination of requirements based on environmental factors to determine the safety of shellfish prior to harvest and consumption. In addition, the board will consider revisions for clarity and consistency with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish (Model Ordinance).

Recent Issues and Activities

The rulemaking has been extended for one year to gather additional environmental data and landings data, and to allow staff to participate in the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Committee meeting. These additional activities will better inform the rulemaking process.

Next Steps

Office of Shellfish and Water Protection staff will continue to meet with representatives from the shellfish industry and other interested stakeholders to develop rule revision recommendations for the board's consideration. This work is expected to continue through October 2014.