

RCW 79.135.410 Seaweed—Personal use limit—Commercial harvesting prohibited—Exception—Import restriction. (1) The maximum daily wet weight harvest or possession of seaweed for personal use from all state-owned aquatic lands and all privately owned tidelands is ten pounds per person. The department in cooperation with the department of fish and wildlife may establish seaweed harvest limits of less than ten pounds for conservation purposes. This section shall in no way affect the ability of any state agency to prevent harvest of any species of marine aquatic plant from lands under its control, ownership, or management.

(2) Except as provided under subsection (3) of this section, commercial harvesting of seaweed from state-owned aquatic lands, and all privately owned tidelands is prohibited. This subsection shall in no way affect commercial seaweed aquaculture.

(3) Upon mutual approval by the department and the department of fish and wildlife, seaweed species of the genus *Macrocystis* may be commercially harvested for use in the herring spawn-on-kelp fishery.

(4) Importation of seaweed species of the genus *Macrocystis* into Washington state for the herring spawn-on-kelp fishery is subject to the fish and shellfish disease control policies of the department of fish and wildlife. *Macrocystis* shall not be imported from areas with fish or shellfish diseases associated with organisms that are likely to be transported with *Macrocystis*. The department shall incorporate this policy on *Macrocystis* importation into its overall fish and shellfish disease control policies. [2005 c 155 s 715; 2003 c 334 s 442; 1996 c 46 s 1; 1994 c 286 s 1; 1993 c 283 s 3. Formerly RCW 79.96.210, 79.01.805.]

Intent—2003 c 334: See note following RCW 79.02.010.

Effective date—1994 c 286: "This act shall take effect July 1, 1994." [1994 c 286 s 6.]

Findings—1993 c 283: See note following RCW 79.135.400.