

WAC 458-20-135 Extracting natural products. (1) Introduction.

This rule explains the application of the business and occupation (B&O), retail sales, and use taxes to persons extracting natural products. Persons extracting natural products often use the same extracted products in a manufacturing process. This rule provides guidance for determining when an extracting activity ends and the manufacturing activity begins. In addition to all other taxes, commercial fishermen may be subject to the enhanced food fish excise tax levied by chapter 82.27 RCW (Tax on enhanced food fish).

Persons engaging in activities associated with timber harvest operations should refer to WAC 458-20-13501 (Timber harvest operations). Persons engaged in a manufacturing activity should also refer to WAC 458-20-136 (Manufacturing, processing for hire, fabricating) and 458-20-13601 (Manufacturers and processors for hire—Sales and use tax exemptions for machinery and equipment).

(2) **Who is an "extractor"?** RCW 82.04.100 defines the term "extractor" to mean every person who, from the person's own land or from the land of another under a right or license granted by lease or contract, either directly or by contracting with others for the necessary labor or mechanical services, for sale or for commercial or industrial use mines, quarries, takes or produces coal, oil, natural gas, ore, stone, sand, gravel, clay, mineral, or other natural resource product. The term includes a person who fells, cuts, or takes timber, Christmas trees other than plantation Christmas trees, or other natural products. It also includes any person who takes fish, shellfish, or other sea or inland water foods or products.

(a) **Persons excluded from the definition of "extractor."** The term "extractor" does not include:

(i) Persons performing under contract the necessary labor or mechanical services for others (these persons are extractors for hire, see subsection (4) of this section); or

(ii) Persons who are farmers as defined in RCW 82.04.213. Refer to WAC 458-20-209 and 458-20-210 for tax-reporting information for farmers and persons selling property to or performing horticultural services for farmers; or

(iii) Persons producing cannabis.

(b) **When an extractor is also a manufacturer.** An extractor may subsequently take an extracted product and use it as a raw material in a manufacturing process. The following examples explain when an extracting process ends and a manufacturing process begins for various situations. These examples should be used only as a general guide. A determination of when extracting ends and manufacturing begins for other situations can be made only after a review of all of the facts and circumstances.

(i) **Mining and quarrying.** Mining and quarrying operations are extracting activities, and generally include the screening, sorting, and piling of rock, sand, stone, gravel, or ore. For example, an operation that extracts rock, then screens, sorts, and with no further processing places the rock into piles for sale, is an extracting operation.

(A) The crushing and/or blending of rock, sand, stone, gravel, or ore are manufacturing activities. These are manufacturing activities whether or not the materials were previously screened or sorted.

(B) Screening, sorting, piling, or washing of the material, when the activity takes place in conjunction with crushing or blending at the site where the materials are taken or produced, is considered a part of the manufacturing operation if it takes place after the first

screen. If there is no separate first screen, only those activities subsequent to the materials being deposited into the screen are considered a part of the manufacturing operation.

(ii) **Commercial fishing.** Commercial fishing operations, including the taking of any fish in Washington waters (within the statutory limits of the state of Washington) and the taking of shellfish or other sea or inland water foods or products, are extracting activities. These activities often include the removal of meat from the shell and the icing of fish or sea products.

(A) A person growing, raising, or producing a product of aquaculture as defined in RCW 15.85.020 on the person's own land or on land in which the person has a present right of possession is considered a farmer. RCW 82.04.213.

(B) Cleaning (removal of the head, fins, or viscera), filleting, and/or steaking fish are manufacturing activities. The cooking of fish or seafood is also a manufacturing activity. Refer to RCW 82.04.260 and WAC 458-20-136 for information regarding the special B&O tax rate/classification that applies to the manufacturing of seafood products that remain in a raw, raw frozen, or raw salted state.

(C) The removal of meat from the shell or the icing of fish or sea products, when the activity is performed in conjunction with and at the site where manufacturing takes place (e.g., cooking the fish or seafood), is considered a part of the manufacturing operation.

(3) **Tax-reporting responsibilities for income received by extractors.** Extractors are subject to the extracting B&O tax upon the value of the extracted products. (See WAC 458-20-112 regarding "value of products.") Extractors who sell the products at retail or wholesale in this state are subject to either the retailing or wholesaling B&O tax, as the case may be. In such cases, the extractor must report under both the "production" (extracting) and "selling" (wholesaling or retailing) classifications of the B&O tax, and claim a tax credit under the multiple activities tax credit (MATC). See also WAC 458-20-19301 (Multiple activities tax credits) for a more detailed explanation of the MATC reporting requirements. Extractors that manufacture tangible personal property that they sell to buyers who will either resell the tangible personal property without any intervening use, or will include the tangible personal property as a component or ingredient in another product for sale by the buyer to another customer, are making wholesale sales. To document the wholesale nature of any transaction, sellers making wholesale sales must obtain from the buyer a resale certificate for sales made before January 1, 2010, or reseller permit for sales made on or after January 1, 2010. See also WAC 458-20-102A (Resale certificates) and WAC 458-20-102 (Reseller permits) for a more detailed explanation of a seller's obligation to document its wholesale sales. Even though resale certificates are no longer used after December 31, 2009, they must be kept on file by the seller for five years from the date of last use or until December 31, 2014, whichever first occurs.

For example, Corporation quarries rock without further processing. Corporation sells and delivers the rock to Landscaper, who is located in Washington. Landscaper provides Corporation with a resale certificate (WAC 458-20-102A) for purchases made before January 1, 2010, or a reseller permit (WAC 458-20-102) for purchases made on or after January 1, 2010. Corporation should report under both the extracting and wholesaling B&O tax classifications, and claim a MATC per WAC 458-20-19301. Had Corporation delivered the quarried rock to an

out-of-state location, Corporation would have incurred only an extracting B&O tax liability.

(a) **When extractors use their products in a manufacturing process.** Persons who extract products, use these extracted products in a manufacturing process, and then sell the products all within Washington are subject to both "production" taxes (extracting and manufacturing) and the "selling" tax (wholesaling or retailing), and may claim the appropriate credits under the MATC. (See also WAC 458-20-136 on manufacturing.)

For example, Company quarries rock (an extracting activity), crushes and blends the rock (a manufacturing activity), and sells the resulting product at retail. The taxable value of the extracted rock is \$50,000 (the amount subject to the extracting B&O tax). The taxable value of the crushed and blended rock is \$140,000 (the amount subject to the manufacturing B&O tax). The crushed and blended rock is sold for \$140,000 (the amount subject to the retailing B&O tax). Assume the tax rates for the extracting and manufacturing B&O taxes are .00484, and the tax rate for the retailing B&O tax is .00471. Company should compute its tax liability as follows:

(i) **Reporting B&O tax on the combined excise tax return:**

(A) Extracting B&O tax liability of \$242 ($\$50,000 \times .00484$);

(B) Manufacturing B&O tax liability of \$678 ($\$140,000 \times .00484$);

and

(C) Retailing B&O tax liability of \$659 ($\$140,000 \times .00471$).

(ii) **Completing the multiple activities tax credit (Part II of Schedule C):**

| Activity which results in a tax credit | Taxable Amount | Business and Occupation Tax Reported | | | | Total Credit |
|--|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| | | Extracting | Manufacturing | Wholesaling | Retailing | |
| Washington extracted products manufactured in Washington | 50,000 | 242 | 242 | | | 242 |
| Washington extracted products sold in Washington | | | | | | |
| Washington manufactured products sold in Washington | 140,000 | | 678 | | 659 | 659 |
| | | | Multiple Activities Tax Credit Subtotal of taxes paid to Washington state | | | 901 |
| | | | | | Credit ID 800 | 901 |

Schedule C helps taxpayers calculate and claim the multiple activities tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.440. In the Schedule C example above, materials that a person extracts and then uses in a manufacturing process in Washington are entered at their value when extracting ceases and manufacturing begins (\$50,000 shown on the "Washington extracted products manufactured in Washington" line of the Schedule C). The taxable amount reported on the "Washington manufactured products sold in Washington" line of the Schedule C is the value of products at the point that manufacturing ceases (\$140,000), not simply the value added by the manufacturing activity. For more information and examples that are helpful in determining the value of products, refer to WAC 458-20-112 (Value of products).

(b) **When extractors sell their products at retail or wholesale.**

An extractor making retail sales must collect and remit retail sales tax on all sales to consumers, unless the sale is exempt by law (e.g.,

see WAC 458-20-244 regarding sales of certain food products). Extractors making wholesale sales must obtain resale certificates for sales made before January 1, 2010, or reseller permits for sales made on or after January 1, 2010, from their customers to document the wholesale nature of any transaction as provided in WAC 458-20-102A (Resale certificates) and WAC 458-20-102 (Reseller permits). Even though resale certificates are no longer used after December 31, 2009, they must be kept on file by the seller for five years from the date of last use or until December 31, 2014, whichever first occurs.

(4) **Tax-reporting responsibilities for income received by extractors for hire.** Persons performing extracting activities for extractors are subject to the extracting for hire B&O tax upon their gross income from those services.

For example, a person removing ore, waste, or overburden at a mining pit for the operator of the mining operation is an extractor for hire. Likewise, a person drilling to locate or provide access to a satisfactory grade of ore at the mining pit for the operator is also an extractor for hire. The gross income derived from these activities is subject to the extracting for hire B&O tax classification.

(5) **Mining or mineral rights.** Royalties or charges in the nature of royalties for granting another the privilege or right to remove minerals, rock, sand, or other natural resource product are subject to the service and other activities B&O tax. The special B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.2907 does not apply because this statute specifically excludes compensation received for any natural resource. Refer also to RCW 82.45.035 and WAC 458-61-520 (Mineral rights and mining claims) for more information regarding the sale of mineral rights and the real estate excise tax.

Income derived from the sale or rental of real property, whether designated as royalties or another term, is exempt of the B&O tax.

(6) **Tax liability with respect to purchases of equipment or supplies and property extracted and/or manufactured for commercial or industrial use.** The retail sales tax applies to all purchases of equipment, component parts of equipment, and supplies by persons engaging in extracting or extracting for hire activities unless a specific exemption applies. If the seller fails to collect the appropriate retail sales tax, the buyer is required to remit the retail sales tax (commonly referred to as "deferred retail sales tax") or use tax directly to the department.

(a) **Exemption available for certain manufacturing equipment.** RCW 82.08.02565 and 82.12.02565 provide retail sales and use tax exemptions for certain machinery and equipment used by manufacturers and processors for hire. While this exemption does not extend to extractors or extractors for hire, persons engaged in both extracting and manufacturing activities should refer to WAC 458-20-13601 for an explanation of how these exemptions may apply to them.

(b) **Property manufactured for commercial or industrial use.** Persons manufacturing tangible personal property for commercial or industrial use are subject to both the manufacturing B&O and use taxes upon the value of the property manufactured, unless a specific exemption applies. (See also WAC 458-20-134 on commercial or industrial use.)

If the person also extracts materials used in the manufacturing process, the extracting B&O tax is due on the value of the extracted materials and a MATC may be taken. For example, Quarry extracts rock, crushes the rock into desired size, and then uses the crushed rock in its parking lot. The use of the crushed rock by Quarry in its parking lot is a commercial or industrial use. Quarry is subject to the ex-

tracting and manufacturing B&O taxes and may claim a MATC. Quarry is also responsible for remitting use tax on the value of the crushed rock applied to the parking lot.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 82.32.300 and 82.01.060. WSR 22-24-096, § 458-20-135, filed 12/6/22, effective 1/6/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 82.32.300, 82.01.060(2), and 82.04.100. WSR 14-23-060, § 458-20-135, filed 11/17/14, effective 12/18/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 82.32.300, 82.01.060(2), chapters 82.04, 82.08, 82.12 and 82.32 RCW. WSR 10-06-069, § 458-20-135, filed 2/25/10, effective 3/28/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 82.32.300 and 82.01.060(2). WSR 04-01-126, § 458-20-135, filed 12/18/03, effective 1/18/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 82.32.300. WSR 00-11-096, § 458-20-135, filed 5/17/00, effective 6/17/00; WSR 86-09-058 (Order ET 86-7), § 458-20-135, filed 4/17/86; WSR 83-07-034 (Order ET 83-17), § 458-20-135, filed 3/15/83. Statutory Authority: RCW 82.01.060(2) and 82.32.300. WSR 78-07-045 (Order ET 78-4), § 458-20-135, filed 6/27/78; Order ET 70-3, § 458-20-135 (Rule 135), filed 5/29/70, effective 7/1/70.]