

**WSR 24-17-066**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY**  
[Filed August 15, 2024, 2:48 p.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: WAC 182-556-0100 Chemical dependency treatment services, 182-556-0300 Personal care services, 182-556-0400 Limitations on services available to categorically needy Washington apple health clients, and 182-556-0600 Mental health services.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: The health care authority (agency) is repealing these rule sections because they contain redundant and/or outdated language and cross reference(s) to nonexistent rules. The same information can be found within Title 182 WAC or within another agency's rules. Detailed information is listed below:

WAC 182-556-0100 references chapter 388-877B WAC, which is no longer in existence. Chemical dependency is also an outdated term. WAC 182-502-0002 includes substance use disorder professionals for the treatment of substance use disorders, as well as mental health providers and peer counselors. WAC 182-501-0060 (6)(d) includes behavioral health services in the coverage table, and WAC 182-501-0065(2) also includes behavioral health services. Behavioral health is defined in WAC 182-538D-0200. Therefore, this rule section should be repealed and is no longer necessary.

WAC 182-556-0300 Personal care services, is listed in WAC 182-501-0060 (6)(d), under the coverage table, and is also referenced in WAC 182-501-0065 (2)(bb) Health care coverage—Description of service categories. Therefore, this rule section is not necessary and should be repealed.

The following sections should be repealed, as they are no longer necessary and the information is found in other rule(s):

WAC 182-556-0400(1), see WAC 182-550-1900(2);

WAC 182-556-0400(2), see WAC 182-540-005 and 182-540-015 under the kidney disease program and kidney center services, chapter 182-540 WAC;

WAC 182-556-0400(3), see WAC 182-550-1100(4) Hospital care—General;

WAC 182-556-0400(4), see WAC 182-533-0701, 182-533-0730, and 182-550-1100 (5)(a);

WAC 182-556-0400(5), outdated language and cross-references that no longer exist. See WAC 182-501-0060 [(6)](d) and 182-501-0065 (2)(c) for behavioral health services;

WAC 182-556-0400(6), see WAC 182-531-0200(6); and

WAC 182-556-0400(7), see WAC 182-501-0065, 182-550-5800, 182-531-1700, 182-556-0600, and 182-531-1400.

The agency is also changing the title of this chapter to chiropractic services (reflecting the remaining section in this chapter). See the agency's other rule making, filed under WSR 24-13-055, regarding chiropractic services.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: See purpose.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, 34.05.353.

Statute Being Implemented: RCW 34.05.353.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Health care authority, governmental.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting: Valerie Freudenstein, P.O. Box 42716, Olympia, WA 98504-2716, 360-725-1344; Implementation and Enforcement: Josh Morse, P.O. Box 42716, Olympia, WA 98504-2716, 360-725-0839.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited repeal process for these rules:

Other rules of the agency or of another agency govern the same activity as the rule, making the rule redundant.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: Other rules of the agency or of another agency govern the same activity as these rules, making them redundant and outdated.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Rules Coordinator, Health Care Authority, P.O. Box 42716, Olympia, WA 98504-2716, phone 360-725-1306, fax 360-586-9272, email arc@hca.wa.gov, BEGINNING August 16, 2024, 8:00 a.m., AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

August 15, 2024  
Wendy Barcus  
Rules Coordinator

OTS-5763.2

**Chapter 182-556 WAC**  
**(~~(MEDICAL CARE—OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED)~~) CHIROPRACTIC SERVICES**

REPEALER

The following sections of the Washington Administrative Code are repealed:

- WAC 182-556-0100 Chemical dependency treatment services.
- WAC 182-556-0300 Personal care services.
- WAC 182-556-0400 Limitations on services available to categorically needy Washington apple health clients.
- WAC 182-556-0600 Mental health services.

**WSR 24-17-082**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:31 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-06 WAC, Public records.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

The department is also replacing the word "marijuana" found in WAC 16-06-210, with the word "cannabis" to align with 2SHB 1210 (chapter 16, Laws of 2022).

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

In 2022, the Washington state legislature passed 2SHB 1210, which replaced all instances of the word "marijuana" with "cannabis" throughout RCW.

To ensure consistency between the overarching RCW and WAC, the department is proposing to replace all instances of "marijuana" to "cannabis" in this chapter.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 43.01.160, 43.17.060, 42.56.040.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapters 43.17 and 42.56 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns, with gender-inclusive pronouns and replacing the word "marijuana" with "cannabis."

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EX-

PRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email [wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov](mailto:wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov), AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

## OTS-5727.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 20-16-011, filed 7/23/20, effective 8/23/20)

**WAC 16-06-210 Exemptions.** (1) The Public Records Act exempts a number of types of records from public disclosure (see chapter 42.56 RCW).

(2) Records are also exempt from disclosure if any other statute exempts or prohibits disclosure. Requestors should be aware of the following exemptions outside of the Public Records Act, which restrict the availability of some records held by the department. This list is not exhaustive and other exemptions may apply:

(a) The semiannual report required in the Commercial Feed Act (reference RCW 15.53.9018).

(b) The department has the authority to publish reports of official seed inspections, seed certifications, laboratory statistics, verified violations of this chapter, and other seed branch activities which do not reveal confidential information regarding individual company operations or production (reference RCW 15.49.370(8)).

(c) Financial statement information required under RCW 22.09.040(9) or 22.09.045(7).

(d) Privileged or confidential information or data that contains trade secrets, commercial, or financial information submitted under the Washington Pesticide Control Act (reference RCW 15.58.060 (1)(c) and 15.58.065).

(e) Information submitted by an applicant under chapter 17.24 RCW that is privileged or confidential because it contains trade secrets or commercial or financial information (reference RCW 17.24.061).

(f) Under RCW 42.56.610 and 90.64.190, information identifying the number of animals; volume of livestock nutrients generated; number of acres covered by the plan or used for land application of livestock nutrients; livestock nutrients transferred to other persons; and crop yields in plans, records, and reports obtained by state and local agencies from dairies, animal feeding operations, and concentrated animal feeding operations not required to apply for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit is disclosable in the following ranges:

- (i) Number of animals: Beef cattle
  - 1 to 19
  - 20 to 159
  - 160 to 299
  - 300 to 999

1,000 to 5,999

6,000 to 10,999

11,000 to 15,999

16,000 to 20,999

21,000 to 25,999

26,000 to 31,199

31,200 to 37,439

37,440 to 44,999

45,000 and above

(ii) Number of animals: Mature dairy cattle

1 to 37

38 to 199

200 to 699

700 to 1,699

1,700 to 2,699

2,700 to 3,699

3,700 to 4,699

4,700 to 5,699

5,700 to 6,839

6,840 and above

(iii) Number of animals: Dairy heifers

1 to 49

50 to 149

150 to 299

300 to 999

1,000 to 1,999

2,000 to 2,999

3,000 to 3,999

4,000 and above

(iv) Number of animals: Swine (~~((fifty-five))~~ 55 pounds or greater)

1 to 19

20 to 159

160 to 399

400 to 749

750 to 2,499

2,500 to 4,249

4,250 to 5,999

6,000 to 7,749

7,750 and above

(v) Number of animals: Swine (less than (~~((fifty-five))~~ 55 pounds)

1 to 99

100 to 499

500 to 1,099

1,100 to 1,999

2,000 to 2,999

3,000 to 9,999

10,000 to 16,999

17,000 to 23,999

24,000 to 30,999

31,000 and above

(vi) Number of animals: Layers (all ages)

1 to 199

200 to 999

1,000 to 10,999

11,000 to 24,999

25,000 to 81,999

82,000 to 138,999  
 139,000 to 195,999  
 196,000 to 252,999  
 253,000 to 309,999  
 310,000 to 371,999  
 372,000 to 446,399  
 446,400 to 535,679  
 535,680 to 642,815  
 642,816 to 771,379  
 771,380 to 925,655  
 925,656 to 1,110,787  
 1,110,788 to 1,332,945  
 1,332,946 and above

(vii) Number of animals: Broilers (all ages)

1 to 199  
 200 to 999  
 1,000 to 17,999  
 18,000 to 37,499  
 37,500 to 124,999  
 125,000 to 212,499  
 212,500 to 299,999  
 300,000 and above

(viii) Number of animals: Horses

1 to 19  
 20 to 79  
 80 to 149  
 150 to 499  
 500 to 849  
 850 to 1,199  
 1,200 to 1,549  
 1,550 and above

(ix) Livestock nutrients generated or exported by volume (ft<sup>3</sup>/day)

1 to 74  
 75 to 134  
 135 to 299  
 300 to 449  
 450 to 749  
 750 to 1,499  
 1,500 to 2,499  
 2,500 to 4,999  
 5,000 to 8,499  
 8,500 to 11,999  
 12,000 to 15,999  
 16,000 and above

(x) Livestock nutrients generated or exported by weight (tons/year)

1 to 5,256  
 5,257 to 10,512  
 10,513 to 21,024  
 21,025 to 42,048  
 42,049 to 84,096  
 84,097 to 164,184  
 164,185 to 262,734  
 262,735 to 394,200  
 394,201 to 558,384

558,385 to 722,634  
 722,635 to 919,734  
 919,735 to 1,051,134  
 1,051,135 and above

(xi) Number of acres covered by the plan or used for land application of livestock nutrients

0 to 25  
 26 to 65  
 66 to 120  
 121 to 300  
 301 to 550  
 551 to 900  
 901 to 1,300  
 1,301 to 1,800  
 1,801 to 2,500  
 2,501 to 3,200  
 3,201 to 4,000  
 4,001 to 6,000  
 6,001 to 9,000  
 9,001 to 11,500  
 11,501 to 14,000  
 14,001 and above

(xii) Crop yields - tons/acre

0 to 1  
 1.1 to 2  
 2.1 to 3.5  
 3.6 to 5  
 5.1 to 7  
 7.1 to 9  
 9.1 to 12  
 12.1 to 14.5  
 14.6 to 17  
 17.1 to 19.5  
 19.6 to 22  
 22.1 to 26  
 26.1 and above

(g) A person aggrieved by a violation of chapter 17.21 RCW or the rules adopted under that chapter is entitled, on request, to have (~~his or her~~) their name protected from disclosure in any communication with persons outside the department and in any record published, released, or made available to persons outside the department except as provided in RCW 17.21.340 (1) (a) (ii).

(h) Information about (~~marijuana~~) cannabis processors otherwise exempt from public inspection and copying under chapter 42.56 RCW is also exempt from public inspection and copying if submitted to or used by the department (reference RCW 69.07.200(4)).

(i) Information about (~~marijuana~~) cannabis producers, (~~marijuana~~) cannabis processors, and (~~marijuana~~) cannabis retailers otherwise exempt from public inspection and copying under chapter 42.56 RCW is also exempt from public inspection and copying if submitted to or used by the department (reference RCW 15.125.050).

(3) A list of common record exemptions can be found on the department's website.

## WSR 24-17-083

## EXPEDITED RULES

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:32 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-08 WAC, Practice and procedure.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 43.01.160, 43.17.060.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 43.17 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

## NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director



OTS-5728.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 11-20-047, filed 9/29/11, effective 10/30/11)

**WAC 16-08-021 Presiding officer.** (1) In matters involving an adjudicative proceeding, the director will designate the presiding officer. The presiding officer may be:

- (a) An administrative law judge assigned by the office of administrative hearings under the authority of chapter 34.12 RCW; or
- (b) The deputy director; or
- (c) An assistant director; or
- (d) A staff person trained to act as a presiding officer in adjudicative proceedings.

(2) A person who has served as an investigator, prosecutor, or advocate in any stage of an adjudicative proceeding or someone who is subject to the authority or direction of such a person, may not serve as a presiding officer in the same proceeding.

(3) The presiding officer has the authority to:

- (a) Determine the order of presentation of evidence;
- (b) Administer oaths and affirmations;
- (c) Issue subpoenas;
- (d) Rule on procedural matters, objections, and motions;
- (e) Rule on offers of proof and receive relevant evidence;
- (f) Interrogate witnesses called by the parties in an impartial manner to develop any facts deemed necessary to fairly and adequately decide the matter;
- (g) Call additional witnesses and request additional exhibits deemed necessary to complete the record and receive such evidence subject to full opportunity for cross-examination and rebuttal by all parties;
- (h) Take any appropriate action necessary to maintain order during the hearing;
- (i) Permit or require oral argument or briefs and determine the time limits for their submission;
- (j) Take any other action necessary and authorized by any applicable statute or rule;
- (k) Waive any requirement of these rules unless a party shows that (~~he or she~~) they would be prejudiced by such a waiver.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 11-20-047, filed 9/29/11, effective 10/30/11)

**WAC 16-08-031 Request for hearing—Filing.** (1) A request for hearing (application for adjudicative proceeding) must be in writing and filed with the department during regular office hours at the address designated in the notice or instructions provided by the department.

(2) A request for hearing is filed in a timely manner when the mailing is postmarked or received by the department within (~~twenty-five~~) 25 days of service of the proposed department action giving rise to the request for hearing.

(3) A request for hearing may be filed with the department by personal delivery, commercial delivery, fax, or first-class, registered, or certified mail. A request for hearing may be filed by electronic mail (email) only when instructions for email filings have been provided by the department.

(4) If the request for hearing is not timely filed with the department, the applicant waives (~~(his or her)~~) their right to a hearing.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-13-125, filed 6/21/17, effective 7/22/17)

**WAC 16-08-091 Depositions in adjudicative proceedings—Notice.**

A party desiring to take the deposition of any person upon oral examination shall give reasonable notice of not less than five days in writing to the department of agriculture and all parties. The notice shall state the time and place for taking the deposition, the name and address of each person to be examined, if known, and if the name is not known, a general description sufficient to identify (~~(him or her)~~) them or the particular class or group to which (~~(he or she)~~) they belong(~~(s)~~). On motion of a party upon whom the notice is served, the presiding officer may for cause shown, enlarge or shorten the time. If the parties so stipulate in writing, depositions may be taken before any person, at any time or place, upon any notice, and in any manner and when so taken may be used as other depositions.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 91-23-051, filed 11/15/91, effective 12/16/91)

**WAC 16-08-101 Depositions and interrogatories in adjudicative proceedings—Protection of parties and deponents.** After notice is served for taking a deposition, upon its own motion or upon motion reasonably made by any party or by the person to be examined and upon notice and for good cause shown, the director or (~~(his/her)~~) their designated presiding officer may make an order that the deposition shall not be taken, or that it may be taken only at some designated place other than that stated in the notice, or that it may be taken only on written interrogatories, or that certain matters shall not be inquired into, or that the scope of the examination shall be limited to certain matters, or that the examination shall be held with no one present except the parties to the action and their officers or counsel, or that after being sealed, the deposition shall be opened only by order of the director, or that business secrets or secret processes, developments, or research need not be disclosed, or that the parties shall simultaneously file specified documents or information enclosed in sealed envelopes to be opened as directed by the director, or the director may make any other order which justice requires to protect the party or witness from annoyance, embarrassment, or oppression. At any time during the taking of the deposition, on motion of any party or of the deponent and upon a showing that the examination is being conducted in bad faith or in such manner as unreasonably to annoy, embarrass, or oppress the deponent or party, the director or

((his/her)) their designated presiding officer may order the officer conducting the examination to cease forthwith from taking the deposition, or may limit the scope and manner of the taking of the deposition as above provided. If the order made terminates the examination, it shall be resumed thereafter only upon the order of the agency. Upon demand of the objecting party or deponent, the taking of the deposition shall be suspended for the time necessary to make a motion for an order.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 91-23-051, filed 11/15/91, effective 12/16/91)

**WAC 16-08-111 Depositions in adjudicative proceedings—Use and effect.** Subject to rulings by the presiding officer upon objections, a deposition taken and filed as provided in this rule will not become a part of the record in the proceeding until received in evidence by the presiding officer upon his own motion or the motion of any party. Except by agreement of the parties or ruling of the presiding officer, a deposition will be received only in its entirety. A party does not make a party, or the privy of a party, or any hostile witness ((his/her)) their witness by taking ((his/her)) their deposition. Any party may rebut any relevant evidence contained in a deposition whether introduced by ((him/her)) them or any other party.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-13-125, filed 6/21/17, effective 7/22/17)

**WAC 16-08-142 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Filing.** (1) A request for hearing (application for brief adjudicative proceeding) must be in writing and filed with the department during regular office hours at the address designated in the notice or instructions provided by the department. A party may request a brief adjudicative proceeding by completing the application form provided by the department, along with a written explanation of the party's view of the matter.

(2) A request for hearing is filed in a timely manner when the mailing is postmarked or received by the department within ((~~twenty-five~~)) 25 days of service of the proposed department action giving rise to the request for hearing.

(3) A request for hearing may be filed with the department by personal delivery, commercial delivery, fax, or first-class, registered, or certified mail. A request for hearing may be filed by electronic mail (email) only when instructions for email filings have been provided by the department.

(4) If the request for hearing is not timely filed with the department, the applicant waives ((~~his or her~~)) their right to a hearing.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-13-125, filed 6/21/17, effective 7/22/17)

**WAC 16-08-148 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Administrative re-view.** (1) Any party may request orally or in writing a review of the initial order issued under WAC 16-08-145. A petition for review of an initial order shall contain a written explanation of the party's view of the matter and a statement of reasons why the initial order is incorrect. Oral requests must be placed in writing.

(a) Petitions for review may be filed with the department by personal delivery, commercial delivery, fax, or first-class, registered or certified mail. A petition for review may be filed by electronic mail (email) only when instructions for email filings have been provided by the department. Petitions for review must be received by the department at the address designated in the initial order within ~~((twenty-one))~~ 21 days of service of the initial order.

(b) Petitions for review shall be served on all parties, and evidence of such service filed at the address designated in the initial order.

(2) A party may file a response to a petition for a review.

(a) The response shall be filed at the address designated in the initial order within ~~((ten))~~ 10 days of the date of service of the petition for review.

(b) Copies of the response shall be served on all other parties at the time the response is filed.

(3) (a) The department reviewing officer, upon ~~((his or her))~~ their own motion, may petition for administrative review of an initial order.

(b) The reviewing officer shall provide notice to the parties of ~~((his or her))~~ their determination to review the initial order within ~~((twenty-one))~~ 21 days of service of the initial order. The notice to the parties shall state the date by which a decision shall be made. The reviewing officer shall not take any action on review that is less favorable than the initial order without giving all parties notice and an opportunity to explain ~~((his or her))~~ their view of the matter.

(4) The reviewing officer shall enter a final order disposing of the proceeding. A final order shall be in writing and shall:

(a) Include a brief statement of the reasons for the decision;

(b) Be entered within ~~((twenty-one))~~ 21 days after the date of the initial order or of the petition for review, whichever is later.

(5) If the reviewing officer deems it necessary, ~~((he or she))~~ they may remand a matter for further proceedings.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 91-23-051, filed 11/15/91, effective 12/16/91)

**WAC 16-08-161 Conversion of proceedings.** (1) Upon application by any person or upon ~~((his or her))~~ their own motion, the presiding officer or other official responsible for the original proceeding shall consider whether the conversion of a proceeding pursuant to RCW 34.05.070 should be made.

(2) Commencement of the new proceeding shall be determined to be the time of commencement of the original proceeding, provided that all

statutory and regulatory requirements for the new proceeding shall be met.

## WSR 24-17-084

## EXPEDITED RULES

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:33 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-19 WAC, Custom farm slaughterers, custom slaughtering establishments, and custom meat facilities.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 43.01.160, 16.49.680.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 16.49 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

## NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5729.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 99-12-021, filed 5/24/99, effective 6/24/99)

**WAC 16-19-100 Additional requirements for sanitary operations of custom farm slaughtering.** Mobile custom farm slaughtering units must have:

(1) A van body completely covering the unit, but which may exclude the driver's cab and the hoist. The van body must be made of material that is nonporous and impervious to moisture. Wood may be used only as internal framing or spacing material between double nonwooden walls. The van body must be constructed so that it excludes dust, dirt and insects. The construction must be smooth, durable and easily cleanable inside and out.

(a) All vans must have the joints at junctions of internal facing surfaces and panels sealed and waterproof. Metal joints must be smooth and splatter free. If metal is used, only stainless steel, galvanized steel, aluminum in good condition or other materials approved by the director may be used. Any insulation used must be of a type that does not absorb water.

(b) Minimum interior dimensions of the van, exclusive of room taken up by tanks and other mounted equipment must be:

(i) Height - Six feet.

(ii) Length - Six feet.

(iii) Width - (When using single center rail for hanging carcass) four feet.

(iv) Width - (When using two rails for hanging carcasses) six feet.

(2) A hoist of 2,000 pound capacity, capable of lifting a beef carcass to a height that enables the carcass to clear the ground for bleeding and evisceration. This hoist must extend outward from the truck body. If a beef spreader is included as part of the equipment it must be of suitable construction.

(3) A sterilizing tank constructed of smooth, cleanable, impervious and durable material, large enough to allow complete sanitizing of tools used in the slaughter operation. This sterilizing unit must be filled during all slaughter operations, with potable water maintained at a temperature of at least 180°F. An approved cold sterilant may be used if sufficient hot water is available for preliminary cleaning of contaminated equipment prior to sterilizing.

(4) A water tank built into the vehicle constructed of smooth, cleanable, impervious and durable material with a minimum capacity of (~~forty~~) 40 gallons. No slaughtering operation may be commenced unless at least (~~twenty~~) 20 gallons is available. Water must be delivered to the outlets at a pressure of at least (~~forty~~) 40 pounds per square inch. One hose connection from tank and hose with nozzle must be provided to wash down carcasses. The water system must be maintained to a sanitary condition and be used only for potable water.

(5) Soap and paper towels must be available for washing hands and equipment.

(6) Outer garments worn by persons handling meat must be clean.

(7) All tools and equipment must be thoroughly washed and sanitized after each day's operation. They must be washed and sanitized if contaminated with viscera contents, abscesses, or foreign material during slaughtering operations.

(8) Meat food animals or meat food bird carcasses must not be transported in the mobile slaughter unit unless each carcass is hung so that it does not touch the floor except for beef carcasses that are dressed with the hide on and are to be delivered to a processing plant within two hours for completion of the dressing procedure. Carcasses with the hide on must be secured and placed in the mobile unit in a manner that prevents contact of hide with bare meat surfaces. Surfaces of the mobile unit that have been contaminated by contact with the hide must be cleaned and sanitized before subsequent carcasses are hauled.

(9) Edible offal must be transported in clean, covered, properly identified containers constructed of approved materials.

(10) No animals other than scalded and dehaired hogs, and de-feathered meat food birds, and carcasses exempted under subsection (8) of this section may be dressed and transported with the hide on.

(11) Viscera of all meat food animals and meat food birds must be separated from the carcass at the time of slaughter on the premises where the animal is slaughtered. Feet must be removed from all meat food animals, except hogs, when scalded, and the head shall be removed from beef on the premises where it is slaughtered. Feet and metatarsus must be removed from meat food birds.

(12) All material produced through the slaughter activity, such as inedible offal and hide that may cause the slaughter area to become insanitary, must immediately upon completion of actual slaughter of the animal, be removed from the slaughtering area and disposed of in a sanitary manner. This is the licensee's responsibility.

(13) Meat food birds may be slaughtered by a custom farm slaughterer or custom slaughter establishment but not by a licensed custom poultry processor without prior approval by the director.

(14) Inedible offal may be only transported by a mobile custom slaughtering establishment under the following conditions:

(a) In a covered, watertight trailer constructed of smooth, cleanable, nonpervious material and maintained in a sanitary condition at all times; or

(b) In approved sanitary containers, in a separate compartment, in the van body. The compartment must be metal lined. There must be no openings from this compartment to the portion of the van used to transport edible products. All inedible offal containers, such as barrels or tubs, must be tightly covered and made of smooth, cleanable and nonpervious materials.

(15) A custom farm slaughterer may slaughter (~~(his or her)~~) their own animal for (~~(his or her)~~) their own consumption on any premises, farm or ranch, owned, rented or in any way controlled by (~~(him or her)~~) themselves. No other animal may be slaughtered by the licensee on the premises, farm or ranch, owned, rented or in any way controlled by (~~(him or her)~~) themselves or by members of (~~(his or her)~~) their immediate family. Licensees under this section may slaughter more than one animal only if the animals have been in (~~(his or her)~~) their possession more than (~~(sixty)~~) 60 days.

(16) Whenever a licensee has reason to believe that a meat food animal or meat food product is unwholesome as defined in these rules, (~~(he or she)~~) they must require an examination and declaration of wholesomeness by a licensed veterinarian before proceeding with slaughter or with processing of the carcass.

(17) Meat food birds must be slaughtered in a custom farm slaughterer mobile unit unless they are delivered to a custom slaughtering establishment.



AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 99-12-021, filed 5/24/99, effective 6/24/99)

**WAC 16-19-210 Requirements for assignment, stamping, recordkeeping and condemnation of meat.** The operator of any custom slaughtering establishment must have in (~~his or her~~) their possession certificates of permit or other satisfactory proof of ownership of carcasses or parts thereof in (~~his~~) their establishment. Such proof of ownership must be kept on file for a period of six months after receipt of the carcass or part of the carcass.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 99-12-021, filed 5/24/99, effective 6/24/99)

**WAC 16-19-310 Proof of ownership of uninspected carcasses or parts of carcasses.** (1) The operator of any custom meat facility must have in (~~his or her~~) their possession certificates of permit as provided by chapter (~~16-620~~) 16-610 WAC (~~(Brand)~~) Livestock Inspection) or other satisfactory proof of ownership of all uninspected carcasses or parts of carcasses received in (~~his or her~~) their establishment. Such proof of ownership must be kept on file for six months after receipt of such carcass or part of carcass.

(2) While in possession of the operator all uninspected cattle carcasses or parts of carcasses must be identified by a department-approved tagging device describing the name and address of the owner, name and address of the slaughterer, if not the owner, the slaughter date and brand, if the animal was branded, while in the possession of the operator. Such identification must conform to the requirements of chapter 16.57 RCW (Livestock identification).

(3) All uninspected meat food animal carcasses or parts of carcasses other than cattle must be identified on a tag available from the department as to name and address of owner, name and address of the slaughterer if different from the owner, and the slaughter date while in possession of the operator.

(4) The operator must give each owner of uninspected carcasses, parts of carcasses, or meat food products delivered to a custom meat facility for preparation a written record stating the gross weight received for preparation. The operator must maintain a duplicate copy of this record at (~~his or her~~) their principal place of business for six months.

(5) Operators making sales of prepackaged inspected meat to other than household users must maintain written records of all such transactions, including the buyer, type of product sold and total net weight of each exchange.

**WSR 24-17-085**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:34 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-24 WAC, Humane slaughter of livestock.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment, show respect for people's gender identities, and address prejudice and discrimination.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 16.50.130, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 16.50 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

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August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

## OTS-5730.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 1067, filed 9/19/67, effective 10/20/67)

**WAC 16-24-010 Definitions.** For the purposes of WAC 16-24-010 through 16-24-050:

(1) "Department" means the department of agriculture of the state of Washington.

(2) "Director" means the director of the department or ((his)) their duly appointed representative.

(3) "Humane method" means either:

(a) A method whereby the animal is rendered insensible to pain be mechanical, electrical, chemical or other means that is rapid and effective, before being shackled, hoisted, thrown, cast or cut; or

(b) A method in accordance with the ritual requirements of any religious faith whereby the animal suffers loss of consciousness by anemia of the brain caused by the simultaneous and instantaneous severance of the carotid arteries with a sharp instrument.

(4) "Livestock" means cattle, calves, sheep, swine, horses, mules and goats.

(5) "Packer" means any person engaged in the business of slaughtering livestock.

(6) "Person" means a natural person, individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, society and association and every officer, agent or employee, thereof. This term shall import either the singular or plural, as the case may be.

(7) "Slaughterer" means any person engaged in the commercial or custom slaughtering of livestock, including custom farm slaughterers.

(8) "Law" - Chapter 16.50 RCW, (chapter 31, Laws of 1967).

(9) "Carbon dioxide" - A gaseous form of the chemical formula CO<sub>2</sub>.

(10) "Carbon dioxide concentration" - Ratio of carbon dioxide gas and atmospheric air.

(11) "Exposure time" - The period of time an animal is exposed to an anesthesia-producing carbon dioxide concentration.

(12) "Anesthesia" - Loss of sensation or feeling.

(13) "Surgical anesthesia" - A state of unconsciousness measured in conformity with accepted surgical practices.

(14) "Consciousness" - Responsiveness of the brain to the impressions made by the senses.

(15) "Captive bolt" - A stunning instrument which when activated drives a bolt out a barrel for a limited distance.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 1067, filed 9/19/67, effective 10/20/67)

**WAC 16-24-012 Slaughter by humane method—Violation.** (1) No slaughterer or packer shall bleed or slaughter any livestock except by a humane method: Provided, that the director may, by administrative order, exempt a person from compliance with this order for a period of not to exceed six months if ((he)) they find((s)) that an earlier compliance would cause such person undue hardship.

(2) The use of a manually operated hammer, sledge or pole axe is declared to be an inhumane method of slaughter within the meaning of chapter 16-24 WAC.

(3) Any person violating any provision of chapter 16-24 WAC is guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not more than (~~two hundred fifty dollars~~) \$250 or confinement in the county jail for not more than (~~ninety~~) 90 days.

(4) Nothing in chapter 16-24 WAC shall be construed to prohibit, abridge, or in any way hinder the religious freedom of any person or group. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this order, ritual slaughter and the handling or other preparation of livestock for ritual slaughter is defined as humane.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 1067, filed 9/19/67, effective 10/20/67)

**WAC 16-24-020 Chemical—Carbon dioxide.** The slaughtering of calves, sheep, and swine with the use of carbon dioxide gas and the handling in connection therewith, in compliance with the provisions contained in this section, are hereby designated and approved as humane methods of slaughtering and handling of such animals under the law.

(1) Administration of gas, required effect; handling.

(a) The carbon dioxide gas shall be administered in a chamber in accordance with this section so as to produce surgical anesthesia in the animals before they are shackled, hoisted, thrown, cast, or cut. The animals shall be exposed to the carbon dioxide gas in a way that will accomplish the anesthesia quickly and calmly, with a minimum of excitement and discomfort to the animals.

(b) The driving or conveying of the animals to the carbon dioxide chamber shall be done with a minimum of excitement and discomfort to the animals. Delivery of calm animals to the anesthesia chamber is essential since the induction or early phase of anesthesia is less violent with docile animals. Among other things this requires that, in driving animals to the anesthesia chamber, electrical equipment be used as little as possible and with the lowest effective voltage.

(c) On emergence from the carbon dioxide chamber the animals shall be in a state of surgical anesthesia and shall remain in this condition throughout shackling, sticking and bleeding. Asphyxia or death from any cause shall not be produced in the animals before bleeding.

(2) Facilities and procedures.

(a) General requirements for gas chamber and auxiliary equipment; operator.

(i) The carbon dioxide gas shall be administered in a chamber which accomplishes effective exposure of the animal. Two types of chambers involving the same principle are in common use for carbon dioxide anesthesia. They are the "U" type chamber and the "straight line" type chamber. Both are based upon the principle that carbon dioxide gas has a higher specific gravity than air. The chambers open at both ends for entry and exit of animals and have a depressed central section. Anesthetizing carbon dioxide concentrations are maintained in the depressed central section of the chamber. Effective anesthetization is produced in this section. Animals are driven from holding pens

through a pathway constructed of pipe or other smooth metal onto a continuous conveyor device which moves the animals through the chamber. The animals are compartmentalized on the conveyor by impellers synchronized with the conveyor or are otherwise prevented from crowding. Where impellers are used to compartmentalize the animal, a mechanically or manually operated gate will be used to move the animal onto the conveyor. Surgically anesthetized animals are moved from the chamber by the same continuous conveyor that carried them into and through the carbon dioxide gas.

(ii) Flow of animals into and through the carbon dioxide chamber is dependent on one operator. The operation or stoppage of the conveyor is entirely dependent upon this operator. It is necessary that ((he)) they be skilled, attentive, and aware of ((his)) their responsibility. Overdosages and death of animals can be brought about by carelessness of this individual.

(b) Special requirements for gas chamber and auxiliary equipment. The ability of anesthetizing equipment to perform with maximum efficiency is dependent on its proper design and efficient mechanical operation. Pathways, compartments, gas chambers, and all other equipment used must be designed to accommodate properly the species of animals being anesthetized. They shall be free from pain producing restraining devices. Injury of animals must be prevented by the elimination of sharp projections or exposed wheels or gears. There shall be no unnecessary holes, spaces, or openings where feet or legs of animals may be injured. Impellers or other devices designed to mechanically move or drive animals or otherwise keep them in motion or compartmentalized shall be constructed of flexible or well padded rigid material. Power activated gates designed for constant flow of animals to anesthetizing equipment shall be so fabricated that they will not cause injury. All equipment involved in anesthetizing animals shall be maintained in good repair.

(c) Gas. Maintenance of a uniform carbon dioxide concentration and distribution in the anesthesia chamber is a vital aspect of producing surgical anesthesia. This may be assured by reasonable accurate instruments which sample and analyze carbon dioxide gas concentration within the chamber throughout anesthetizing operations. Gas concentration shall be maintained uniform so that the degree of anesthesia in exposed animals will be constant. Carbon dioxide gas supplied to anesthesia chambers may be from controlled reduction of solid carbon dioxide or from a controlled liquid source. In either case, the carbon dioxide shall be supplied at a rate sufficient to anesthetize adequately and uniformly the number of animals passing through the chamber. Sampling of gas for analysis shall be made from a representative place or places within the chamber and on a continuing basis. Gas concentrations and exposure time shall be graphically recorded throughout each day's operation. Neither carbon dioxide nor atmospheric air used in the anesthesia chambers shall contain noxious or irritating gases. Each day before equipment is used for anesthetizing animals, proper care shall be taken to mix adequately the gas and air within the chamber. All gas producing and control equipment shall be maintained in good repair and all indicators, instruments, and measuring devices must be available for inspection by department inspectors during anesthetizing operations and at other times. A suitable exhaust system must be provided to eliminate possible overdosages due to mechanical or other failure of equipment.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 1067, filed 9/19/67, effective 10/20/67)

**WAC 16-24-030 Mechanical—Captive bolt.** The slaughtering of cattle, calves, sheep, swine, goats, horses and mules by using captive bolt stunners and the handling in connection therewith, in compliance with the provisions contained in this section, are hereby designated and approved as humane methods of slaughtering and handling of such animals under the law.

(1) Application of stunners, required effect; handling.

(a) The captive bolt stunners shall be applied to the livestock in accordance with this section so as to produce immediate unconsciousness in the animals before they are shackled, hoisted, thrown, cast, or cut. The animals shall be stunned in such a manner that they will be rendered unconscious with a minimum of excitement and discomfort.

(b) The driving of the animals to the stunning areas shall be done with a minimum of excitement and discomfort to the animals. Delivery of calm animals to the stunning areas is essential since accurate placement of stunning equipment is difficult on nervous or injured animals. Among other things, this requires that, in driving animals to the stunning areas, electrical equipment be used as little as possible and with the lowest effective voltage.

(c) Immediately after the stunning blow is delivered the animals shall be in a state of complete unconsciousness and remain in this condition throughout shackling, sticking and bleeding.

(2) Facilities and procedures.

(a) General requirements for stunning facilities; operator.

(i) Acceptable captive bolt stunning instruments may be either skull penetrating or nonpenetrating. The latter type is also described as a concussion or mushroom type stunner. Penetrating instruments on detonation deliver bolts of varying diameters and lengths through the skull and into the brain. Unconsciousness is produced immediately by physical brain destruction and a combination of changes in intracranial pressure and acceleration concussion. Nonpenetrating or mushroom stunners on detonation deliver a bolt with a flattened circular head against the external surface of the animal's head over the brain. Diameter of the striking surface of the stunner may vary as conditions require. Unconsciousness is produced immediately by a combination of acceleration concussion and changes in intracranial pressures. A combination instrument utilizing both penetrating and nonpenetrating principles is acceptable. Energizing of instruments may be accomplished by detonation of measured charges of gunpowder or accurately controlled compressed air. Captive bolts shall be of such size and design that, when properly positioned and activated, immediate unconsciousness is produced.

(ii) To assure uniform unconsciousness with every blow, compressed air devices must be equipped to deliver the necessary constant air pressure and must have accurate constantly operating air pressure gauges. Gauges must be easily read and conveniently located for use by the stunning operator and the inspector. For purposes of protecting employees, inspectors, and others, it is desirable that any stunning device be equipped with safety features to prevent injuries from accidental discharge. Stunning instruments must be maintained in good repair.

(iii) The stunning area shall be so designed and constructed as to limit the free movements of animals sufficiently to allow the operator to locate the stunning blow with a high degree of accuracy. All chutes, alleys, gates and restraining mechanisms between and including holding pens and stunning area shall be free from pain producing features such as exposed bolt ends, loose boards, splintered or broken planking and protruding sharp metal of any kind. There shall be no unnecessary holes or other openings where feet or legs of animals may be injured. Overhead drop gates shall be suitably covered on the bottom edge to prevent injury on contact with animals. Roughened or cleated cement shall be used as flooring in chutes leading to stunning areas to reduce falls of animals. Chutes, alleys, and stunning areas shall be so designed that they will comfortably accommodate the kinds of animals to be stunned.

(iv) The stunning operation is an exacting procedure and requires a well-trained and experienced operator. ((He)) They must be able to accurately place the stunning instrument to produce immediate unconsciousness. ((He)) They must use the correct detonating charge with regard to kind, breed, size, age, and sex of the animal to produce the desired results.

(b) Special requirements: Choice of instrument and force required to produce immediate unconsciousness varies, depending on kind, breed, size, age, and sex of the animal: Young swine, lambs, and calves usually require less stunning force than mature animals of the same kind. Bulls, rams, and boars usually require skull penetration to produce immediate unconsciousness. Charges suitable for smaller kinds of livestock such as swine or for young animals are not acceptably interchanged for use on larger kinds or older livestock, respectively.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 1067, filed 9/19/67, effective 10/20/67)

**WAC 16-24-040 Mechanical—Gunshot.** The slaughtering of cattle, calves, sheep, swine, goats, horses and mules by shooting with firearms and the handling in connection therewith, in compliance with the provisions contained in this section, are hereby designated and approved as humane methods of slaughtering and handling of such animals under the law.

(1) Utilization of firearms, required effect; handling.

(a) The firearms shall be employed in the delivery of a bullet or projectile into the animal in accordance with this section so as to produce immediate unconsciousness in the animal by a single shot before it is shackled, hoisted, thrown, cast, or cut. The animals shall be shot in such a manner that they will be rendered unconscious with a minimum of excitement and discomfort.

(b) The driving of the animals to the shooting areas shall be done with a minimum of excitement and discomfort to the animals. Delivery of calm animals to the shooting area is essential since accurate placement of the bullet is difficult in case of nervous or injured animals. Among other things, this requires that, in driving animals to the shooting areas, electrical equipment be used as little as possible and with the lowest effective voltage.

(c) Immediately after the firearm is discharged and the projectile is delivered, the animal shall be in a state of complete uncon-

sciousness and remain in this condition throughout shackling, sticking and bleeding.

(2) Facilities and procedure.

(a) General requirements for shooting facilities; operator.

(i) On discharge, acceptable firearms dispatch free projectiles or bullets of varying sizes and diameters through the skull and into the brain. Unconsciousness is produced immediately by a combination of physical brain destruction and changes in intracranial pressure. Caliber of firearms shall be such that when properly aimed and discharged, the projectile produces immediate unconsciousness.

(ii) To assure uniform unconsciousness with every discharge when small-bore firearms are used, it is necessary to use one of the following type projectiles: Hollow pointed bullets, frangible iron plastic composition bullets, or powdered iron missiles. When powdered iron missiles are used, the firearms shall be in close proximity with the skull of the animal when fired. Firearms must be maintained in good repair. For purposes of protecting employees, inspectors, and others, it is desirable that all firearms be equipped with safety devices to prevent injuries from accidental discharge. Aiming and discharging of firearms should be directed away from operating areas.

(iii) The provisions contained in WAC 16-24-030 (2)(a)(iii) with respect to the stunning area also apply to the shooting area.

(iv) The shooting operation is an exacting procedure and requires a well-trained and experienced operator. ((He)) They must be able to accurately direct the projectile to produce immediate unconsciousness. ((He)) They must use the correct caliber firearm, powder charge and type of ammunition to produce the desired results.

(b) Special requirements: Choice of firearms and ammunition with respect to caliber and choice of powder charge required to produce immediate unconsciousness varies, depending on age and sex of the animal. In the case of bulls, rams, and boars, small-bore firearms may be used provided they are able to produce immediate unconsciousness of the animals. Small-bore firearms are usually effective for stunning other cattle, sheep, swine, goats, calves, horses and mules.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 1067, filed 9/19/67, effective 10/20/67)

**WAC 16-24-050 Electrical—Stunning with electric current.** The slaughtering of cattle, calves, sheep, swine and goats with the use of electric current and the handling in connection therewith, in compliance with the provisions contained in this section, are hereby designated and approved as humane methods of slaughtering and handling of such animals under the law.

(1) Administration of electric current, required effect; handling.

(a) The electric current shall be administered so as to produce surgical anesthesia in the animals before they are shackled, hoisted, thrown, cast, or cut. The animals shall be exposed to the electric current in a way that will accomplish the anesthesia quickly and calmly, with a minimum of excitement and discomfort to the animals.

(b) The driving or conveying of the animals to the place of application of electric current shall be done with a minimum of excitement and discomfort to the animals. Delivery of calm animals to the



place of application is essential to insure rapid and effective insensibility. Among other things this requires that, in driving animals to the place of application, electrical equipment be used as little as possible and with the lowest effective voltage.

(c) The quality and location of the electrical shock shall be such as to produce immediate insensibility to pain in the exposed animal.

(d) The stunned animal shall remain in a state of surgical anesthesia through shackling, sticking and bleeding. However, the animal shall die from loss of blood resulting from sticking and bleeding, and not from electrical shock.

(2) Facilities and procedures; operator.

(a) General requirements for operator: It is necessary that the operator of electric current application equipment be skilled, attentive, and aware of (~~his~~) their responsibility. Overdosages and death of animals can be brought about by carelessness of this individual.

(b) Special requirements for electric current application equipment: The ability of electric current equipment to perform with maximum efficiency is dependent on its proper design and efficient mechanical operation. Pathways, compartments, current applicators, and all other equipment used must be designed to accommodate properly the species of animals being anesthetized. They shall be free from pain producing restraining devices. Injury of animals must be prevented by the elimination of sharp projections or exposed wheels or gears. There shall be no unnecessary holes, spaces or openings where feet or legs of animals may be injured. Impellers or other devices designed to mechanically move or drive animals or otherwise keep them in motion or compartmentalized shall be constructed of flexible or padded material. Power activated gates designed for constant flow of animals to electrical stunning equipment shall be so fabricated that they will not cause injury. All electrical stunning and auxiliary control and other equipment shall be maintained in good repair and all indicators, instruments, and measuring devices shall be available for inspection by department inspectors during stunning operations and at other times.

(c) Electric current: Each animal shall be given a sufficient application of electric current to insure unconsciousness immediately and through the bleeding operation. Suitable timing, voltage and current control devices shall be used to insure that each animal receives the necessary electrical charge to produce immediate unconsciousness. Moreover, the current shall be applied so as to avoid the production of hemorrhages or other tissue changes that would interfere with the inspection procedures of the department.

**WSR 24-17-086**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:36 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-71 WAC, Equine diseases in Washington state.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 43.17.060, 42.56.040, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapters 43.17 and 42.56 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

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Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5731.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 10-13-056, filed 6/10/10, effective 7/11/10)

**WAC 16-71-010 Definitions.** "Certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI)" means a legible veterinary health inspection certificate on an official form (electronic or paper) from the state of origin or by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). This certificate must be executed by a licensed and accredited veterinarian or a veterinarian approved by USDA APHIS. The certificate of veterinary inspection is also known as an "official health certificate."

"Department" means the Washington state department of agriculture.

"Director" means the director of the Washington state department of agriculture or ((his or her)) their authorized representative.

"Equine" means horses, donkeys, mules, ponies, zebras, and others in the Equidae family.

"Herd plan" means a written management agreement between the animal owner and the state veterinarian, with possible input from a private accredited veterinarian designated by the owner and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) veterinary services area veterinarian-in-charge, in which each participant agrees to undertake actions specified in the herd plan to control the spread of infectious, contagious, or communicable disease within and from an infected herd and to work toward eradicating the disease in the infected herd.

"Official test" means a laboratory test by USDA-approved laboratories or by people authorized by the state of origin's animal health officials to conduct the tests.

"VS form 1-27" means a United States department of agriculture permit form for the movement of restricted or quarantined livestock.

## WSR 24-17-087

## EXPEDITED RULES

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:38 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-74 WAC, Livestock testing—Duties of owners.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 16.36.040, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 16.36 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

## NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email [wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov](mailto:wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov), AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

## OTS-5732.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 00-06-065, filed 3/1/00, effective 4/1/00)

**WAC 16-74-005 Definitions.** (1) "Communicable disease" means a disease due to a specific infectious agent or its toxic products transmitted from an infected person, animal or inanimate reservoir to a susceptible host, either directly or indirectly through an intermediate plant or animal host, vector or the environment.

(2) "Contagious disease" means a communicable disease that is capable of being easily transmitted from one animal to another animal or a human.

(3) "Director" means the director of agriculture of the state of Washington or (~~his or her~~) their authorized representative.

(4) "Department" means the department of agriculture of the state of Washington.

(5) "Infectious disease" means a clinical disease of humans or animals resulting from an infection with an infectious agent that may or may not be communicable or contagious.

(6) "Livestock" means horses, mules, donkeys, cattle, bison, sheep, goats, swine, rabbits, llamas, alpacas, ratites, poultry, waterfowl, game birds and other species designated by statute. "Livestock" does not mean free ranging wildlife as defined in Title 77 RCW.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 00-06-065, filed 3/1/00, effective 4/1/00)

**WAC 16-74-020 Facilities.** Owners must furnish adequate facilities to assure convenient and safe procedures in conducting all tests. The required facilities may include corrals, chutes, stanchions and/or squeeze chutes as deemed necessary by the director or (~~his~~) their duly authorized representative.

**WSR 24-17-088**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:38 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-101X WAC, Degrades, license suspensions and revocations for dairy producers and processors.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

The department is also removing the reference to RCW 15.36.411 from WAC 16-101X-050 as it was repealed in 1999.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 15.36.021, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 15.36 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

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August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5733.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 96-24-059, filed 11/27/96, effective 12/28/96)

**WAC 16-101X-040 How can a degraded dairy farm or milk processing plant operation be regraded?** A producer or processor subject to de-grade action for repeat violations must apply on an application provided by the department to have ~~((his or her))~~ their dairy farm or milk processing plant regraded. The application must be signed by the producer or processor and must state that all violations, both repeat violations and nonrepeat violations, cited on the inspection that caused the degrade have been corrected. Within seven days after receiving a completed application for regrade, the department will reinspect the dairy farm or milk processing plant. If the department determines that all violations, both repeat violations and nonrepeat violations, cited on the inspection that caused the degrade have been corrected and the degrade period as determined by the director has ended, the department will regrade the dairy farm or milk processing plant operation.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 96-24-058, filed 11/27/96, effective 12/28/96)

**WAC 16-101X-050 Under what circumstances may the director initiate revocation action against the grade A license of a producer or processor?** The director may initiate revocation proceedings against a dairy producer or milk processor whenever that producer or processor has had ~~((his or her))~~ their milk processing plant operation or dairy farm operation degraded for repeated violations and/or had his or her Grade A producer's license or milk processing plant license suspended and/or his or her milk degraded due to temperature violations, excessive coliform bacteria counts, total bacterial counts, or somatic cell counts, more than four times within a continuous three year period. A license may also be revoked as provided for in RCW 15.36.401 (~~(15.36.411)~~).

**WSR 24-17-089**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:39 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-103 WAC, Milk processing assessments and collections.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 15.36.550, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 15.36 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

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August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director



OTS-5734.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 92-20-056, filed 10/2/92, effective 11/2/92)

**WAC 16-103-003 Penalties.** Any due and payable assessment not paid by the milk plant operator by the (~~twentieth~~) 20th of the succeeding month shall be considered a lien on any property owned by (~~him or her~~) them. All delinquent assessments shall be filed as liens quarterly by the director with the county auditor of any county in which property owned by the milk plant operator is located. All delinquent assessments shall be collected in the manner and with the same priority over other creditors as prescribed for the collection of delinquent taxes under chapters 84.60 and 84.64 RCW.

**WSR 24-17-090**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:40 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-104 WAC, Shell eggs—Standards, grades and weight classes.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 69.25.030, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 69.25 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

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August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5735.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 87-16-075, filed 8/4/87)

**WAC 16-104-200 Grades.** (1) Washington consumer grade AA (at origin) shall consist of eggs which are at least 87 percent AA quality. The maximum tolerance of 13 percent which may be below AA quality may consist of A or B quality in any combination, except that within the tolerance for B quality, not more than ((±)) one percent may be B quality due to air cells over 3/4 inch, blood spots (aggregating not more than 1/8 inch in diameter), or serious yolk defects. Not more than ((5)) five percent ((7)) seven percent for jumbo size) checks are permitted and not more than 0.50 percent leakers, dirties, or loss (due to meat or blood spots) in any combination, except that such loss may not exceed 0.30 percent. Other types of loss are not permitted.

(2) Washington consumer grade AA (destination) shall consist of eggs which are at least 72 percent AA quality. The remaining tolerance of 28 percent shall consist of at least 10 percent A quality, and the remainder shall be B quality, except that within the tolerance for B quality not more than ((±)) one percent may be B quality due to air cells over 3/8 inch, blood spots (aggregating not more than 1/8 inch in diameter), or serious yolk defects. Not more than ((7)) seven percent ((9)) nine percent for jumbo size) checks are permitted and not more than 1 percent leakers, dirties, or loss (due to meat or blood spots) in any combination, except that such loss may not exceed 0.30 percent. Other types of loss are not permitted.

(a) Washington consumer grade A (A) Washington consumer grade A (at origin) shall consist of eggs which are at least 87 percent A quality or better. Within the maximum tolerance of 13 percent which may be below A quality, not more than ((±)) one percent may be B quality due to air cells over 3/8 inch, blood spots (aggregating not more than 1/8 inch in diameter), or serious yolk defects. Not more than ((5)) five percent ((7)) seven percent for jumbo size) checks are permitted and not more than 0.50 percent leakers, dirties, or loss (due to meat or blood spots) in any combination, except that such loss may exceed 0.30 percent. Other types of loss are not permitted.

(b) Washington consumer grade A (destination) shall consist of eggs which are at least 82 percent A quality or better. Within the maximum tolerance of 18 percent which may be below A quality, not more than ((±)) one percent may be B quality due to air cells over 3/8 inch, blood spots (aggregating not more than 1/8 inch in diameter), or serious yolk defects. Not more than ((7)) seven percent ((9)) nine percent for jumbo size) checks are permitted and not more than ((±)) one percent leakers, dirties, or loss (due to meat or blood spots) in any combination, except that such loss may not exceed 0.30 percent. Other types of loss are not permitted.

(3) Washington consumer grade B.

(a) Washington consumer grade B (at origin) shall consist of eggs which are at least 90 percent B quality or better, not more than 10 percent may be checks, and not more than 0.50 percent leakers, dirties, or loss (due to meat or blood spots) in any combination, except that such loss may not exceed 0.30 percent. Other types of loss are not permitted.

(b) Washington consumer grade B (destination) shall consist of eggs which are at least 90 percent B quality or better, not more than 10 percent may be checks and not more than ((±)) one percent leakers,

dirtyies, or loss (due to meat or blood spots) in any combination, except that such loss may not exceed 0.30 percent. Other types of loss are not permitted.

"Exemption." A licensed wholesale shell egg dealer may sell a consumer grade check on the premises where (~~he packages~~) they pack-  
age eggs, directly to household consumers for use by such consumer and members of (~~his~~) their household and (~~his~~) their nonpaying guests and employees. This consumer grade check shall consist of eggs which at least 99 percent are checks or better. Checks may not exceed (~~1%~~) one percent dirtyies, leakers, and loss in any combination (due to meat or blood spots). Loss other than meat or blood spots is not permitted.

(4) Additional tolerances:

(a) In lots of two or more cases:

(i) For grade AA - No individual case may exceed 10 percent less AA quality eggs than the minimum permitted for the lot average.

(ii) For grade A - No individual case may exceed 10 percent less A quality eggs than the minimum permitted for the lot average.

(iii) For grade B - No individual case may exceed 10 percent less B quality eggs than the minimum permitted for the lot average.

(b) For grade AA, A, and B, no lot shall be rejected or downgraded due to the quality of a single egg except for loss other than blood or meat spots.

**WSR 24-17-091**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:41 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-108 WAC, Washington state egg seals and assessments.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 69.25.030, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 69.25 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

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August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5736.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 1489, filed 1/31/77, effective 3/7/77)

**WAC 16-108-050 Regulation.** In conformance with the authority set forth in RCW 69.25.170(1) egg seals shall not be required in the sale of eggs by:

(1) Any poultry producer from ~~((his))~~ their own flocks directly to a household consumer exclusively for use by such consumer and members of ~~((his))~~ their household and ~~((his))~~ their nonpaying guests and employees; and

(2) Shell egg packers on their own premises directly to household consumers for use by such consumer and members of ~~((his))~~ their household and ~~((his))~~ their nonpaying guests and employees.

**WSR 24-17-092**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:42 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-125 WAC, Farm milk storage tanks and bulk milk tanker—Requirements.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 15.36.020, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 15.36 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

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August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5737.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 99-18-032, filed 8/25/99, effective 9/25/99)

**WAC 16-125-010 Definitions.** (1) "Director" means the director of the department of agriculture, or (~~his/her~~) their duly authorized representative.

(2) "Bulk milk hauler" means the licensed dairy technician who has primary responsibility for the measuring, weighing, or grading of milk and the collection of samples at the farm.

(3) "Bulk milk hauling" means the transportation of milk or milk products from the producer to a milk processing plant or between milk processing plants, by vehicles belonging to an individual or corporation operating under a bulk milk hauler's license.

(4) "3A standards" means current sanitary standards for dairy equipment and accepted practices as published in the *Dairy Food and Environmental Sanitation* magazine of the International Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians (IAMFES).

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 99-18-032, filed 8/25/99, effective 9/25/99)

**WAC 16-125-030 Installation.** Before any person installs a new tank or relocates a used tank, (~~he or she~~) they must file drawings and detailed information about where and how the milk storage tank is to be installed with the director. There must be a minimum of two feet clearance between the sides of the tank and the walls of the milkhouse or other permanent equipment and a minimum of three feet on the working side of the tank and at the outlet valve. Adequate additional space necessary for normal milkhouse operations must be provided. There must be at least 30 inches clearance between the top of the pouring tank lip and the ceiling. Adequate space must be provided above the tank to accommodate the measuring rod.

Provisions of the National Bureau of Standards' Handbook 44 Code on Farm Milk Tanks as adopted under chapter 19.94 RCW applicable to installation and use shall be applicable.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 20-17-020, filed 8/6/20, effective 9/6/20)

**WAC 16-125-120 Bulk milk tanker requirements.** All bulk milk tankers operating in the state of Washington must comply with the provisions of 3A standard 05-14. Additional requirements are:

(1) Trucks and trailers with remote pumps, mounted on tractor or front trailer, and a system of external hoses and/or piping may be used: Provided, that

(a) External flexible hoses meet the following requirements:

(i) Hoses are the thick walled rubber type and meet 3A standards 18-01, 62-01 and 63-01 except for pump box hoses.

(ii) Hoses are capped with a sanitary cap when not in use.



(b) Piping along the length of the trailer is of the fixed type and meets the following requirements:

(i) The pipe is stainless steel and meets the requirements of 3A standards 63-02 and 33-01. Other materials may be used if they are approved by the Milk Safety Branch of the Food and Drug Administration.

(ii) The sanitary piping is enclosed in an insulated holder and both the sanitary piping and the holder are capped with a dust tight cap when disconnected.

(c) Sanitary air that meets the requirements of 3A standard 64-04 may be used to remove residual milk from the external piping system.

(d) Any milk in the external piping system that exceeds (~~forty-five~~) 45 degrees Fahrenheit is discarded.

(e) Adequate facilities must be provided at all receiving stations for the proper cleaning and sanitizing of tankers including the external lines and valves.

(2) All external valves on a tanker must be provided with a means of protection against dust, dirt, and road debris.

(a) Outlet valves must be protected by dust tight covers that will comply with 3A standard 05-14.

(b) Inlet valves and valves with attached hoses must be protected by a relatively dust tight cover. This cover may be:

(i) Stainless steel with an opening for the connection of hoses that is sealed with a flexible material that will prevent the entrance of dust, dirt, or road debris.

(ii) A flexible mounting made of rubber or other approved material that is close fitting, smooth, impervious, and easily removable for cleaning.

(iii) Any other cover for which plans have been submitted to and approved by the director.

(c) All valves not connected to hoses must have a sanitary cap and an approved dust cover on them.

(3) Markings on each truck or trailer must be sufficient to identify the owner of the truck or trailer.

(4) Cleaning and bactericidal treatment of all product contact surfaces including valves, hoses, covers, connections, appurtenances, pumps, and pump compartment of each tanker, when used, must be accomplished at least once every (~~twenty-four~~) 24 hours after first use. If the tanker is not used for hauling milk for (~~seventy-two~~) 72 hours after cleaning and sanitizing it must be sanitized again before it may be used for hauling milk. After sanitization each tanker must be tagged to show the date washed, place washed, and initials or signature of the person who washed the tanker. This wash tag must not be removed until the tanker is rewashed. It shall be the responsibility of the bulk milk hauler to ensure that the wash tag is present and that the tank is in fact clean prior to commencing (~~his~~) their route.

(5) Bulk milk tankers must meet the requirements under chapter 15.130 RCW and the rules adopted thereunder for transportation of food.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 99-18-032, filed 8/25/99, effective 9/25/99)

**WAC 16-125-210 Recording thermometer—Operation.** (1) Milk and milk products for consumption in the raw state or for pasteurization must be cooled to (~~(forty)~~) 40 degrees F or lower within two hours after completion of milking and maintained at that temperature until picked up: Provided, that the blend temperature after the first and subsequent milkings may not exceed (~~(fifty)~~) 50 degrees F.

(2) In making a milk pick-up, the licensed grader and sampler must:

(a) Remove the chart from the recorder before the chart has lapsed;

(b) Mark the date and time of pick-up;

(c) Sign the chart;

(d) Date and install a new chart, if necessary;

(e) File the completed charts under protected conditions, provided for by the producer, unless they are taken to the purchaser's premises for (~~(his)~~) their review.

(f) If the charts are taken from the dairy farm, they must be returned within (~~(ten)~~) 10 days from the date they were taken: Provided, that subject to the approval of its members and the department, a pooling agent, processing plant, receiving plant or regular place of business may file the recording thermometer charts at its place of business.

(g) The official milk temperature must be taken with an accurate, properly calibrated thermometer.

(3) The temperature recording charts may be used for more than one pick-up: Provided, that all the pick-ups occur within the maximum time interval of the chart. When the chart is used for more than one pick-up, the licensed grader and sampler must identify each lot of milk with the date, time of pick-up and (~~(his/her)~~) their signature.

(4) Before removing milk from a farm bulk tank, the licensed grader and sampler must check the recording chart. If the licensed grader and sampler finds milk temperature variations extending beyond the legal limits, (~~(he/she)~~) they must immediately notify the producer, or in the absence of the producer, an employee, and the producer's marketing agent. The licensed grader and sampler must sign the chart noting the date, time, stick reading and indicate that a temperature infraction has occurred. The producer's marketing agent must notify the department of agriculture of temperature standard violations detected through the official milk quality testing program. Temperature standard violations reported to the department will become part of the producer's official record.

(5) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section, recorder charts must be held at the dairy farm for (~~(ninety)~~) 90 days and be made available to the director.

## WSR 24-17-093

## EXPEDITED RULES

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:43 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-157 WAC, Organic food standards and certification.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 15.86.020.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 15.86 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

## NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5738.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-062, filed 12/14/18, effective 1/14/19)

**WAC 16-157-030 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

"Department" means the Washington state department of agriculture.

"Director" means the director of the department of agriculture or (~~his or her~~) their duly authorized representative.

"Facility" includes, but is not limited to, any premises, plant, establishment, facility and associated appurtenances where organic products are prepared, handled, or processed in any manner for resale or distribution to retail outlets, restaurants, and any other such facility selling or distributing to consumers.

"Gross annual income" means the total monetary value received during the previous calendar year.

"Handler" means any person engaged in the business of handling agricultural products, including producers who handle crops or livestock of their own production.

"Handling operation" means any operation or portion of an operation that receives or otherwise acquires agricultural products and processes, packages, or stores such products.

"New applicant" means any person who applies for organic certification for the first time, or any person who has surrendered an organic certification or had an organic certification suspended or revoked.

"Person" means any individual, partnership, limited liability company, association, cooperative, or other entity.

"Processor" means any handler engaged in the canning, freezing, drying, dehydrating, cooking, pressing, powdering, packaging, baking, heating, mixing, grinding, churning, separating, extracting, cutting, fermenting, eviscerating, preserving, jarring, slaughtering or otherwise processing organic products.

"Producer" means a person who engages in the business of growing or producing food, fiber, feed, and other agricultural-based consumer products.

"Production operation" means a farm, ranch, or other business that grows, gathers, or raises crops, wild crops, or livestock.

"Renewal applicant" means any person that has received organic certification from the department in the previous year.

"Retailer" means any handler that sells organic food products directly to consumers.

"Sale" means selling, offering for sale, holding for sale, preparing for sale, trading, bartering, offering a gift as an inducement for sale of, and advertising for sale in any media.

"Site" means a contiguous defined field, orchard, block, pasture, paddock, garden, circle, plot or other designated area under the same management practices (e.g., organic, transitional).

"Transitional product" means any agricultural product that (a) is marketed using the term transitional in its labeling and advertising and (b) satisfies all of the requirements of organic except that it has had no applications of prohibited substances within one year prior to the harvest of the crop.

**WSR 24-17-094**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:43 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-167 WAC, Intrastate commerce in foods.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 15.130.120, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 15.130 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5739.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 20-17-020, filed 8/6/20, effective 9/6/20)

**WAC 16-167-010 General.** (1) Consistent with the concept of uniformity where possible with the federal regulations adopted under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 301 et seq., this chapter adopts the version of the referenced federal rule current at the time this rule becomes effective.

(2) To promote continued uniformity with federal rules; amendments to the federal rules referenced in this chapter are hereby incorporated and enforceable under this chapter upon the effective date of the federal amendment provided:

(a) The director of the Washington state department of agriculture or (~~his or her~~) their authorized representative (director) gives notice of the federal rule amendment at the time it is published as a final rule in the Federal Register;

(b) The notice is published, at a minimum, in the state register and on the agency's website; and

(c) The director has not otherwise determined that the amendment should not be adopted as provided in subsection (3) of this section.

(3) If the director determines that a proposed amendment to a federal rule referenced in this chapter should not be adopted, the director shall initiate rule making under chapter 34.05 RCW to amend this chapter to reflect the version of the federal rule, if any, effective under this chapter.

**WSR 24-17-095**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:44 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-168 WAC, Approved independent sanitation consultants for food storage warehouses.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 15.130.120, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 15.130 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5740.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 20-17-020, filed 8/6/20, effective 9/6/20)

**WAC 16-168-060 Applying for approval as an independent sanitation consultant.** The steps in applying for approval as an independent sanitation consultant are:

- (1) Obtain an application from the department.
- (2) Complete the application, listing your qualifications.
- (3) Each applicant must sign the application and have (~~his/her~~) their signature notarized.
- (4) Return the application to the address on the application.



**WSR 24-17-096**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:45 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-229 WAC, Secondary and operational area containment for bulk pesticides.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 17.21.030, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 17.21 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5741.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 05-05-036, filed 2/11/05, effective 3/14/05)

**WAC 16-229-010 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section shall apply throughout this chapter unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) **"Approved air gap"** means a physical separation between the free-flowing end of a water supply pipeline and the overflow rim of an open or nonpressurized receiving vessel. To be an approved air gap, the separation must be at least:

(a) Twice the diameter of the supply piping measured vertically from the overflow rim of the receiving vessel, and in no case be less than one inch, when unaffected by vertical surfaces (sidewalls); or

(b) Three times the diameter of the supply piping, if the horizontal distance between the supply pipe and a vertical surface (sidewall) is less than or equal to three times the diameter of the supply pipe, or if the horizontal distance between the supply pipe and intersecting vertical surfaces (sidewalls) is less than or equal to four times the diameter of the supply pipe and in no case less than one and one-half inches.

(2) **"Approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly (RPBA)"** means an RPBA of a make, model and size that is approved by the Washington state department of health.

(3) **"Appurtenances"** means all valves, pumps, fittings, pipes, hoses, metering devices, and mechanical devices which are connected to a storage container, or which are used to transfer a material into or out of such container.

(4) **"Bulk pesticide"** means any registered pesticide which is transported or held in an individual container in undivided quantities of greater than (~~(fifty-five)~~) 55 U.S. gallons liquid measure or (~~(one hundred)~~) 100 pounds net dry weight.

(5) **"Certified engineer"** means a licensed professional engineer, registered in the state of Washington in the discipline in which (~~(he/she is)~~) they are practicing.

(6) **"Department"** means the Washington state department of agriculture.

(7) **"Discharge"** means a spill, leak, or release, accidental or otherwise, from a storage container, container or appurtenance. It does not include a fully contained transfer of pesticide which is made pursuant to sale, storage, distribution or use.

(8) **"Dry pesticide"** means pesticide which is in solid form prior to any application or mixing for application, and includes formulations such as dusts, wettable powders, dry flowable powders, granules, and water dispersible granules.

(9) **"Liquid pesticide"** means pesticide in liquid form, and includes solutions, emulsions, suspensions, slurries, and pesticide rinsates.

(10) **"Mini bulk pesticide"** means an amount of liquid pesticide greater than (~~(fifty-five)~~) 55 gallons but not exceeding (~~(five hundred)~~) 500 gallons which is held in a single container designed for ready handling and transport, which has been filled by the original pesticide manufacturer or repackager, and to which no substance has been added by any person.

(11) **"Not technically feasible"** means compliance is not physically or technically possible or feasible, and/or compliance cannot be achieved without compromising operational safety, and/or significantly compromising operational access. Monetary cost of compliance alone shall not be sufficient for the department to determine that compliance is not technically feasible.

(12) **"Operational area"** means an area or areas where pesticides are transferred, loaded, unloaded, mixed, repackaged, refilled or where pesticides are cleaned, or rinsed from containers or application, handling, storage or transportation equipment.

(13) **"Operational area containment"** means any structure or system designed and constructed to intercept and contain discharges, including storage container or equipment wash water, rinsates, and rainwater from the operational area(s).

(14) **"Permanent mixing/loading site"** means a site (location) at which more than (~~three hundred~~) 300 gallons of liquid pesticide (formulated product) or (~~three thousand~~) 3,000 pounds of dry pesticide or at which a total of (~~fifteen hundred~~) 1,500 pounds of pesticides as active ingredients are being mixed, repackaged or transferred from one container to another within a calendar year: Provided, that wood preservative application systems already regulated by 40 C.F.R., Parts 264.570-575 and Parts 265.440-445 shall be exempt.

(15) **"Permanent storage facility"** means a location at which liquid bulk pesticide in a single container or aggregate quantities in excess of (~~five hundred~~) 500 U.S. gallons or dry bulk pesticide in undivided quantities in excess of (~~two thousand~~) 2,000 pounds is held in storage: Provided, that mini-bulk pesticide containers are exempt from this chapter.

(16) **"Pesticide"** means, but is not limited to:

(a) Any substance or mixture of substances intended to prevent, destroy, control, repel, or mitigate any insect, rodent, snail, slug, fungus, weed, and any other form of plant or animal life or virus, except virus on or in a living person or other animal which is normally considered to be a pest or which the director may declare to be a pest;

(b) Any substance or mixture of substances intended to be used as a plant regulator, defoliant or desiccant; and

(c) Any spray adjuvant.

(d) For the purpose of establishing permanent mixing/loading site threshold values petroleum oils and products containing only Kaolin clay as the active ingredient are exempt from this chapter.

(17) **"Primary containment"** means the storage of liquid or dry bulk pesticide in storage containers at a permanent storage facility.

(18) **"Rinsate"** means the liquid generated from the rinsing of any equipment or container that has come in direct contact with any pesticide, including: Recovered sedimentation, washwater, contaminated precipitation, or other contaminated debris.

(19) **"Secondary containment"** means a device or structure designed, constructed, and maintained to hold or confine a discharge of a liquid pesticide from a permanent storage facility.

(20) **"Storage container"** means a container, including a rail car, nurse tank or other mobile container, that is used or intended for the storage of bulk liquid or dry pesticide. It does not include a mobile container at a storage facility for less than (~~fifteen~~) 15 days if this storage is incidental to the loading or unloading of a storage container at the bulk pesticide storage facility. Storage container

does not include underground storage containers or surface impoundments such as lined ponds or pits.

(21) "**Substantially similar protection**" means alternative containment and management practices that prevent or control releases to the environment to the same or similar degree as the protections afforded by full compliance with this chapter.

(22) "**Temporary field storage**" means a storage container with the capacity to store (~~two thousand five hundred~~) 2,500 gallons or less of bulk liquid pesticide that remains in the same location for no more than (~~fourteen~~) 14 consecutive days in any six-month period. Provided, that temporary field storage containers used to store soil fumigants shall be allowed a maximum capacity of (~~ten thousand~~) 10,000 gallons or less. Containers must be chemically compatible with the material, which is being stored. Such containers can remain in the same location for no more than (~~fourteen~~) 14 consecutive days in any six-month period. Liquid bulk pesticide application tanks directly attached to an apparatus for the purpose of chemigation are exempt from this chapter.

(23) "**Washwater**" means the liquid generated from the rinsing of the exterior of any equipment, containers or secondary containment or operational areas which have or may have come in direct contact with any pesticide.

**WSR 24-17-097**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:46 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-233 WAC, Worker protection standard.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 15.58.040, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 15.58 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5742.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 22-23-063, filed 11/9/22, effective 12/10/22)

**WAC 16-233-021 Agricultural employer duties—40 C.F.R., § 170.309.** Agricultural employers must:

(1) Ensure that any pesticide is used in a manner consistent with the pesticide product labeling, including the requirements of this chapter, when applied on the agricultural establishment.

(2) Ensure that each worker and handler subject to this chapter receives the protections required by this chapter.

(3) Ensure that any handler and any early entry worker is at least 18 years old.

(4) Provide to each person, including labor contractors, who supervises any workers or handlers, information and directions sufficient to ensure that each worker and handler receives the protections required by this chapter. Such information and directions must specify the tasks for which the supervisor is responsible in order to comply with the provisions of this chapter.

(5) Require each person, including labor contractors, who supervises any workers or handlers, to provide sufficient information and directions to each worker and handler to ensure that they can comply with the provisions of this chapter.

(6) Provide emergency assistance in accordance with this subsection. If there is reason to believe that a worker or handler has experienced a potential pesticide exposure during (~~his or her~~) their employment on the agricultural establishment or shows symptoms similar to those associated with acute exposure to pesticides during or within 72 hours after (~~his or her~~) their employment on the agricultural establishment, and needs emergency medical treatment, the agricultural employer must do all of the following promptly after learning of the possible poisoning or injury:

(a) Make available to that person prompt transportation from the agricultural establishment, including any worker housing area on the establishment, to an operating medical care facility capable of providing emergency medical treatment to a person exposed to pesticides.

(b) Provide all of the following information to the treating medical personnel, and upon request to the worker or handler:

(i) Copies of the applicable SDS and the product name(s), EPA registration number(s) and active ingredient(s) for each pesticide product to which the person may have been exposed.

(ii) The circumstances of application or use of the pesticide on the agricultural establishment.

(iii) The circumstances that could have resulted in exposure to the pesticide.

(iv) Antidote, first aid and other medical information from the product labeling.

(7) Ensure that workers or other persons employed or supervised by the agricultural establishment do not clean, repair, or adjust pesticide application equipment, unless trained as a handler under WAC 16-233-201. Before allowing any person not directly employed or supervised by the agricultural establishment to clean, repair, or adjust equipment that has been used to mix, load, transfer, or apply pesticides, the agricultural employer shall assure that pesticide residues

have been removed from the equipment if feasible and must provide all of the following information to such person:

(a) Pesticide application equipment may be contaminated with pesticides.

(b) The potentially harmful effects of exposure to pesticides.

(c) Procedures for handling pesticide application equipment and for limiting exposure to pesticide residues.

(d) Personal hygiene practices and decontamination procedures for preventing pesticide exposures and removing pesticide residues.

(8) Display, maintain, and provide access to pesticide safety information and pesticide application and hazard information in accordance with WAC 16-233-026 if workers or handlers are on the establishment and within the last 30 days a pesticide product has been used or a restricted-entry interval for such pesticide has been in effect on the establishment.

(9) Ensure that before a handler uses any equipment for mixing, loading, transferring, or applying pesticides, the handler is instructed in the safe operation of such equipment.

(10) Ensure that before each day of use, equipment used for mixing, loading, transferring, or applying pesticides is inspected for leaks, clogging, and worn or damaged parts, and any damaged equipment is repaired or replaced.

(11) The agricultural employer must notify a commercial pesticide handler employer (CPHER) of specific locations and descriptions of those treated areas and any restrictions on entering the treated areas with restricted-entry intervals (REIs) in effect whenever:

(a) A handler employed by a CIPHER will be on the agricultural establishment; and

(b) The CIPHER handler may be in or may walk within 1/4 mile of any pesticide treated area with restricted-entry interval (REI) in effect.

(12) Ensure that workers do not enter any area on the agricultural establishment where a pesticide has been applied until the applicable pesticide application and hazard information for each pesticide product applied to that area is displayed in accordance with WAC 16-233-026(2), and until after the restricted-entry interval has expired and all treated area warning signs have been removed or covered, except for entry permitted by WAC 16-233-306.

(13) Provide any records or other information required by this section for inspection and copying upon request by an employee of EPA, or any duly authorized representative of the Washington state department of agriculture or department of labor and industries.

(14) Pesticide safety, application, and hazard information must remain legible at all times when the information is required to be displayed. This information must be in accordance with WAC 16-233-026.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 22-23-063, filed 11/9/22, effective 12/10/22)

**WAC 16-233-031 Commercial pesticide handler employer duties—40 C.F.R., § 170.313.** Commercial pesticide handler employers must:

(1) Ensure that any pesticide is used in a manner consistent with the pesticide product labeling, including the requirements of this

chapter, when applied on an agricultural establishment by a handler employed by the commercial pesticide handling establishment.

(2) Ensure each handler employed by the commercial pesticide handling establishment and subject to this chapter receives the protections required by this chapter.

(3) Ensure that any handler employed by the commercial pesticide handling establishment is at least 18 years old.

(4) Provide to each person, including labor contractors, who supervises any handlers employed by the commercial pesticide handling establishment, information and directions sufficient to ensure that each handler receives the protections required by this chapter. Such information and directions must specify the tasks for which the supervisor is responsible in order to comply with the provisions of this chapter.

(5) Require each person, including labor contractors, who supervises any handlers employed by the commercial pesticide handling establishment, to provide sufficient information and directions to each handler to ensure that the handler can comply with the provisions of this chapter.

(6) Ensure that before any handler employed by the commercial pesticide handling establishment uses any equipment for mixing, loading, transferring, or applying pesticides, the handler is instructed in the safe operation of such equipment.

(7) Ensure that, before each day of use, equipment used by their employees for mixing, loading, transferring, or applying pesticides is inspected for leaks, obstructions, and worn or damaged parts, and any damaged equipment is repaired or is replaced.

(8) Ensure that whenever a handler who is employed by a commercial pesticide handling establishment will be on an agricultural establishment, the handler is provided information about, or is aware of, the specific location and description of any treated areas where a restricted-entry interval is in effect, and the restrictions on entering those areas.

(9) Provide the agricultural employer all of the following information before the application of any pesticide on an agricultural establishment:

(a) Specific location(s) and description of the area(s) to be treated.

(b) The date(s) and start and estimated end times of application.

(c) Product name, EPA registration number, and active ingredient(s).

(d) The labeling-specified restricted-entry interval applicable for the application.

(e) Whether posting, oral notification or both are required under WAC 16-233-121.

(f) Any restrictions or use directions on the pesticide product labeling that must be followed for protection of workers, handlers, or other persons during or after application.

(10) If there are any changes to the information provided in subsection (9)(a), (d), (e), and (f) of this section or if the start time for the application will be earlier than originally forecasted or scheduled, ensure that the agricultural employer is provided updated information prior to the application. If there are any changes to any other information provided pursuant to subsection (9) of this section, the commercial pesticide handler employer must provide updated information to the agricultural employer within two hours after completing



the application. Changes to the estimated application end time of less than one hour need not be reported to the agricultural employer.

(11) Provide emergency assistance in accordance with this subsection. If there is reason to believe that a handler employed by the commercial pesticide handling establishment has experienced a potential pesticide exposure during (~~his or her~~) their employment by the commercial pesticide handling establishment or shows symptoms similar to those associated with acute exposure to pesticides during or within 72 hours after (~~his or her~~) their employment by the commercial pesticide handling establishment, and needs emergency medical treatment, the commercial pesticide handler employer must do all of the following promptly after learning of the possible poisoning or injury:

(a) Make available to that person prompt transportation from the commercial pesticide handling establishment, or any agricultural establishment on which that handler may be working on behalf of the commercial pesticide handling establishment, to an operating medical care facility capable of providing emergency medical treatment to a person exposed to pesticides.

(b) Provide all of the following information to the treating medical personnel:

(i) Copies of the applicable safety data sheet(s) (SDS) and the product name(s), EPA registration number(s) and active ingredient(s) for each pesticide product to which the person may have been exposed.

(ii) The circumstances of application or use of the pesticide.

(iii) The circumstances that could have resulted in exposure to the pesticide.

(iv) Antidote, first aid and other medical information from the product labeling.

(12) Ensure that persons directly employed by the commercial pesticide handling establishment do not clean, repair, or adjust pesticide application equipment, unless trained as a handler under WAC 16-233-201. Before allowing any person not directly employed by the commercial pesticide handling establishment to clean, repair, or adjust equipment that has been used to mix, load, transfer, or apply pesticides, the commercial pesticide handler employer shall assure that pesticide residues have been removed from the equipment if feasible and must provide all of the following information to such persons:

(a) Notice that the pesticide application equipment may be contaminated with pesticides.

(b) The potentially harmful effects of exposure to pesticides.

(c) Procedures for handling pesticide application equipment and for limiting exposure to pesticide residues.

(d) Personal hygiene practices and decontamination procedures for preventing pesticide exposures and removing pesticide residues.

(13) Provide any records or other information required by this chapter for inspection and copying upon request by an employee of EPA or any duly authorized representative of the Washington state department of agriculture or the department of labor and industries.

**WSR 24-17-098**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:46 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-237 WAC, Commodity storage warehouses and grain dealers.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 22.09.20, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 22.09 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

## OTS-5744.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 03-19-013, filed 9/5/03, effective 10/6/03)

**WAC 16-237-170 Emergency storage situation.** If the director determines that an emergency storage situation exists, a warehouse operator may forward warehouse receipted grain to other licensed warehouses for storage without canceling the depositor's warehouse receipt under the following conditions:

(1) The warehouse operator must:

(a) Obtain written permission from the depositor and/or the holder of the warehouse receipt before the grain is shipped.

(b) Notify the department before the grain is shipped.

(c) Have a warehouse receipt issued in (~~his/her~~) their name from the receiving warehouse.

(d) Be back in compliance with the requirements described in RCW 22.09.250 within (~~one hundred twenty~~) 120 days from the date of the first grain shipment.

(2) An extension of the (~~one hundred twenty~~) 120-day requirement in subsection (1)(d) of this section may be granted for government owned commodities.

**WSR 24-17-099**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:47 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-236 WAC, SEPA procedures.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 43.21C.120, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 43.21C RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5743.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 84-24-033, filed 11/30/84)

**WAC 16-236-050 Designation of responsible official.** Within the department of agriculture the ultimate responsible official is the director. The responsible official for a specific proposal shall be the assistant to the director in charge of environmental affairs or ~~((his/her))~~ their designee.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 84-24-033, filed 11/30/84)

**WAC 16-236-060 EIS preparation.** (1) Preparation of draft and final EISs and SEISs is the responsibility of the assistant to the director in charge of environmental affairs or ~~((his/her))~~ their designee. The responsible official shall be satisfied that all EISs and SEISs issued by the department are in compliance with these rules and chapter 197-11 WAC.

(2) Any draft or final EIS or SEIS shall be prepared by the department, the applicant, or by a consultant mutually agreed upon by the department and applicant.

(3) Whenever someone other than the department prepares a draft or final EIS or SEIS, the responsible official shall:

(a) Coordinate scoping to ensure that the individual preparing the document receives all substantive information submitted by any agency or person.

(b) Direct the areas of research and study to be undertaken and the content and organization of the document.

(c) Assist in obtaining information on file with another agency that is needed by the person preparing the document.

(d) Allow the person preparing the document access to department records relating to the document, as prescribed in chapter 16-06 WAC, Public records.

(4) Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the department from charging any fee of an applicant that the department is otherwise authorized to charge (see WAC 197-11-914). A performance bond in amount specified by the department may be required of the applicant to ensure payment of department expenses in preparing, in whole or in part, a draft or final EIS or SEIS.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 84-24-033, filed 11/30/84)

**WAC 16-236-100 Public notice requirements.** (1) When these rules require notice of environmental document preparation or availability, as a lead agency and taking into consideration the geographic area affected by the proposal, the size and complexity of the proposal, the public notice requirements for the permit or approval required from the department, public interest expressed in the proposal, and whether the proposal is a project or regulation, the department shall give public notice by using at least one of the following methods:

(a) Posting the property, for site-specific proposals;

(b) Publishing notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, city, or general area where the proposal is located;

(c) Notifying public or private groups which have expressed interest in a certain proposal or in the type of proposal being considered;

(d) Notifying the news media; and/or

(e) Publishing notice in a department newsletter.

(2) Whenever possible, the department shall integrate these public notice requirements with existing notice procedures for any department permits or approvals required for the proposal.

(3) The department may require an applicant to complete the public notice requirements for the applicant's proposal at ~~((his or her))~~ their expense.

**WSR 24-17-101**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:49 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-256 WAC, Commercial feed rules—Processed animal waste.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 15.53.9012, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 15.53 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email [wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov](mailto:wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov), AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5745.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 03-23-131, filed 11/19/03, effective 7/1/04)

**WAC 16-256-060 Procedures for denying or revoking a commercial feed license for a processed animal waste product facility.** (1) A commercial feed license for a processed animal waste product facility will be denied or revoked if the:

(a) Applicant or the processed animal waste product is determined to be in violation of any Washington state statute or Washington state agency rule or regulation affecting or relating to the distribution of commercial feeds in this state.

(b) Processed animal waste product does not meet the quality standards in WAC 16-256-070.

(c) Processed animal waste product label does not comply with the requirements of chapter 15.53 RCW and WAC 16-256-030.

(d) Processed waste product is not labeled in compliance with law and agency rules and regulations, including WAC 16-256-030 of these rules.

(e) Applicant or licensee fails to perform the testing as specified in WAC (~~(16-256-256)~~) 16-256-040 or to accurately maintain and make available to the director or (~~(his)~~) their designee for inspection and copying, upon demand, the records required in WAC 16-256-080.

(2) (a) When an animal waste product or labeling, or other material required to be submitted with an application fails to comply with the requirements of these rules, the director must notify the applicant why the application does not comply so the applicant can make the necessary corrections.

(b) If, upon receipt of such a notice, the applicant does not make the necessary corrections, the director must deny the license application for the processed animal waste product facility. The applicant may then request a hearing under chapter 34.05 RCW.

(3) After determining that an animal waste product or its labeling does not comply with the provisions of chapter 15.53 RCW or WAC 16-256-030, the department may revoke the facility's license. If aggrieved by the decision, the licensee may request a hearing as authorized under chapter 34.05 RCW.



**WSR 24-17-102**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:51 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-319 WAC, Forest tree seed certification.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 15.49.005, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 15.49 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5747.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-10-047, filed 5/1/14, effective 6/1/14)

**WAC 16-319-030 Classes of reproductive material.** (1) "Tested class" means that forest reproductive material came from tree(s) which have been tested for specific character(s) as determined by progeny or other applicable tests and under specified conditions. Further, such forest reproductive material is produced and processed in a manner assuring genetic identity common with the tested material, and, for nursery stock, that it was produced from tested reproductive material. Said forest reproductive material shall be labeled with a blue label stating "tested." Certifying agency shall examine trees and reproductive material; exercise field, plant, and warehouse inspection, and audit all pertinent records involved.

(2) "Selected class" means that reproductive material came from trees that were selected for specific character(s). Two subclasses are recognized:

Subclass A: Reproductive material is obtained from selected trees and, in addition for tree seed, the male parent(s) is also selected.

Subclass B: Applies to tree seed when only one parent is selected.

Both subclasses shall be labeled with a green label stating "selected" and the subclass. Certifying agency shall examine trees and reproductive material; exercise field, plant, and warehouse inspection, and audit all pertinent records involved.

(a) "Selected subclass A" means that the donor or parents of the reproductive material are selected, known, and of record, but have no test results of record, and, for nursery stock, that it was produced from selected subclass A or better reproductive material.

(b) "Selected subclass B" means that only one parent of the tree seed is selected, known, and of record and reproductive material has not been tested, and, for nursery stock, that it was produced from selected subclass B or better reproductive material.

(3) "Source identified class" means that the reproductive material came from within a seed zone(s) or portion thereof (as defined by legal description) and from within a 500-foot elevation increment(s) or breeding zone(s) or code(s).

Subclass A: Personally supervised production.

Subclass B: Procedurally supervised production.

Both classes of said reproductive material shall be labeled with a yellow label stating "source identified" and the subclass. Certifying agency shall exercise field inspection, plant/warehouse inspection, and audit.

(a) "Subclass A source identified" means that applicant and certifying agency personally know beyond a reasonable doubt the seed zone(s) or portion thereof and 500-foot elevation increment(s) within which cones and/or reproductive material were collected; and, for nursery stock, that it was produced from subclass A source identified or better reproductive material. Certifying agency knows location from applicant's prior written plan of (~~his~~) their reproductive material collecting and/or producing activities. For source identified subzone collections, a representative of the producer, whose major responsibility is observation of picker location, shall make daily observations within the collection area.

(b) "Subclass B source identified" means that applicant and certifying agency know reproductive material is identified as collected from within a seed zone(s) and from within a 500-foot elevation increment(s), and for nursery stock, that it was produced from subclass B source identified or better reproductive material.

(4) "Audit class" means that the applicant's records of procurement, processing, storage, and distribution state that the reproductive material was collected from within stated seed zone(s) or described portions thereof and from within 500-foot elevation increment(s), and, for nursery stock, certifying agency knows that it was produced from audit class or better reproductive material. Containers of said reproductive material shall carry a serially numbered brown and white label stating "audit certificate." All records of the applicant for this class of reproductive material are subject to audit.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 87-12-006, filed 5/22/87)

**WAC 16-319-051 Forest reproductive material—Field standards.**

(1) Tested and selected classes. Applicant shall maintain continuous record(s) satisfactory to certifying agency which maintains the identity of the reproductive material through all stages of production, collection, processing, storage, and disbursement from stores, and, in addition, such records as needed to trace the pedigree and document the performance of the reproductive material. The records shall include but are not limited to those involving:

(a) Selection, location, and origin of the parent trees.

(b) Pollen, seed, scions, etc., collection, processing, inventory, storage, and use in tree improvement and breeding programs.

(c) Design, establishment and management of test(s) and the collection, analysis and interpretation of test data.

(d) Nursery stock production.

Certifying agency shall inspect all phases of the field operation including periodic checks of parent trees, pollen and scion collections; pollinations; cone harvest, storage, processing and inventory; and tests, together with appropriate records.

(2) Source identified reproductive material. Applicant shall develop and make correct use of collector and buyer labels, collector registration, and transportation records, and for nursery stock, labels and records identifying the stock as originating from source identified or better reproductive material.

(a) Subclass A.

(i) Control of collectors shall be such that applicant and certifying agency personally know beyond a reasonable doubt the seed zone or breeding zone or code or portions thereof (as delineated by legal description), and 500-foot elevation increment or specified elevation increment for breeding zone(s) or code(s) within which reproductive material was collected. Control of producers of nursery stock shall be such that applicant and certifying agency personally know beyond a reasonable doubt that the nursery stock was produced from source identified subclass A or better reproductive material.

(ii) Applicant shall provide certifying agency with a written reproductive material collection and/or nursery stock production plan

(not later than three days) prior to collection of reproduction material or production of nursery stock.

(iii) Further, all following requirements of subclass B shall be met.

(b) Subclass B.

(i) All collectors shall be supervised sufficiently so that either buyers know where reproductive material was collected, or buyers shall purchase all reproductive material that collectors present for sale without differential of acceptance stated or implied, as to source, location, seed zone, or elevation.

(ii) Buyer shall require collector to sign collector's registration record prior to collection of reproductive material. ((He)) Buyer shall also issue collector's labels, and direct collector to complete them and place them in or attach them to each container of reproductive material before it is transported from point of collection. Coincident with purchase of reproductive material, ((he)) collector shall complete description on labels including species, source by seed zone, breeding zone or code, elevation increment, special collection area if any, certification class, date of purchase and ((his)) signature or initials.

(iii) Buyer shall maintain a buyer record on a form for all reproductive material received, listing species, seed zone, elevation increment, units of reproductive material, date of purchase, collector's name and buyer's name.

(iv) Buyer shall maintain transportation record showing species, seed zone, elevation increment, units of reproductive material, and date shipped.

(v) Producers of nursery stock shall be supervised sufficiently so that applicant knows that the stock was produced from source identified subclass B or better reproductive material.

(vi) The certifying agency shall advise the applicant of problems or conditions that affect competent verification or execution of these standards by certifying agency and applicant.

(vii) Unless other arrangements are made, the certification class shown by the producer on all containers of reproductive material shall be verified by the certifying agency before being transported from the receiving station. The producer is responsible for evidence of verification of the certification class applied for.

(3) Audit class reproductive material.

(a) Buyer shall require collector to sign collector's registration record and to complete collector's labels prior to purchase of reproductive material.

(b) Buyer shall maintain a buyer record on a form for all reproductive material received, listing species, seed zone, elevation increment, units of reproductive material, date of purchase, collector's name and buyer.

(c) Buyer or other shipper of reproductive material shall maintain a transportation record showing species, seed zone, elevation increment, units of reproductive material and date shipped.

(d) Producers of nursery stock shall maintain auditable records identifying the stock as being produced from audit class or better reproductive material.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 87-12-006, filed 5/22/87)

**WAC 16-319-101 Forest reproductive material—Rejection of certification.** Any lot may be rejected if certifying agency determines that said lot fails to meet these standards. The privilege of certification may be withdrawn by certifying agency for a definite period of time in case of flagrant violations of field or processing standards. If applicant believes an erroneous decision has been rendered, ((he)) they may make written appeal to certifying agency for review by its governing body.

**WSR 24-17-103**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:52 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-663 WAC, Service agents—Reporting, test procedures, standards and calibration of weighing and measuring devices.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 19.94.010, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 19.94 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5749.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-20-069, filed 9/25/08, effective 10/26/08)

**WAC 16-663-140 Identification of work—Labels and seals.** (1)

Each registered service agent and serviceperson shall identify (~~his/her~~) their work on commercially used weighing and measuring devices by:

(a) Applying an adhesive tag or label in a conspicuous location on the device; or

(b) Using a distinctive security seal or seal press impression.

(2) The adhesive tag or label shall legibly show at least the serviceperson registration number, business telephone number and date of service.

(3) Any security seal or seal press used to comply with subsection (1) of this section shall identify the individual registered serviceperson applying the seal.

(4) The registered service agent or serviceperson shall submit a copy of the tag or label, seal or seal press identification mark to the department at time of registration.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 00-22-072, filed 10/30/00, effective 11/30/00)

**WAC 16-663-150 Reports and responsibilities of service agents and servicepersons.** (1) Any person installing a new or used weighing or measuring device that is being put in use for the first time at that location must provide a notice of installation to the department. The notice shall state the date placed in service, type of device, capacity, business' name and site address, and name and address of the service company installing the device. The report shall also indicate whether the device is new or used.

(2) After correcting a rejected device, registered service agents or servicepersons must return the reject report issued by the weights and measures official to the address indicated on the form within seven days from completion of work. All discrepancies noted on the department's rejection report must be corrected before returning the device to service. The form must be signed and dated by the registered serviceperson returning the device to service. The form must also legibly indicate (~~his/her~~) the service agent's or serviceperson's registration number and show the number or identifying mark of security seals that were removed and applied to affect the correction.

(3) A registered service agent or serviceperson will submit a copy of (~~his/her~~) their test report showing the as-found and as-corrected readings with the reject report when putting a rejected device back into service.

(4) Commercially used weighing or measuring devices put into service or returned to service must be correct and meet all applicable specifications and requirements set forth in the edition of National Institute of Standards and Technology Handbook 44 currently adopted by the director. The device must also meet current (NTEP) requirements in effect for the device.

(5) Devices must be installed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

(6) A device installed in a fixed location must be installed so that its operation or performance will not be adversely affected by any characteristic of the foundation, supports, or any other detail of the installation.

(7) Equipment must be installed in such a manner that all required markings are readily observable.

(8) A device must be installed so that it will be correct and it meets all performance requirements when associated or nonassociated equipment is operated in its usual and customary manner.

(9) Faulty installation conditions must be corrected, and any defective parts must be renewed or suitably repaired, before adjustments are made.

(10) When equipment is adjusted, the adjustment must be made so that performance errors are as close as practicable to zero value.

(11) Equipment put into service, repaired, adjusted, calibrated or refurbished must be sealed with an appropriate security seal and the seal number recorded on the inspection test report. Any security seal removed prior to servicing the device will be noted on the test report and will include the number or identifying mark of the security seal.

(12) Equipment must be assembled and installed so that it does not facilitate the perpetration of fraud.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 00-22-072, filed 10/30/00, effective 11/30/00)

**WAC 16-663-170 Unlawful practices—Penalties.** Any person who, by (~~himself or herself, by his or her~~) themselves, by their agent or employee, or as the agent or employee of another person, violates the provisions of this rule is subject to a civil penalty of up to (~~five thousand dollars~~) \$5,000 as specified in RCW 19.94.510.



**WSR 24-17-104**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:52 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-324 WAC, Certification of seed potatoes.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 15.14.015, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 15.14 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

## OTS-5748.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-01-042, filed 12/9/14, effective 1/9/15)

**WAC 16-324-361 Definitions.** "Certification" means that the lot of seed potatoes was inspected and meets the requirements of this chapter.

"Cull" means any lot of potatoes rejected for certification for any reason.

"Department" means the department of agriculture of the state of Washington.

"Director" means the director of the department of agriculture or (~~his/her~~) their duly appointed representative.

"Disease tested" means tested for and found free of all of the following diseases: Potato virus A (PVA), potato virus M (PVM), potato virus S (PVS), potato virus X (PVX), potato virus Y (PVY), potato leafroll virus (PLRV), potato mop top virus (PMTV), potato spindle tuber viroid (spindle tuber), *Erwinia carotovora* ssp. *carotovora* (soft rot), *Erwinia carotovora* ssp. *atroseptica* (black leg) and *Clavibacter michiganense* spp. *sepedonicus* (ring rot).

"ELISA testing" means laboratory testing by enzyme-linked immunosorbant assay or other equivalent methodologies.

"Micropropagated" means potato stock propagated using aseptic laboratory techniques and culture media to promote plant tissue growth.

"Microtubers" means tubers produced in vitro by a micropropagated plant or plantlet.

"Minitubers" means tubers produced under controlled greenhouse conditions.

"Nematode" means plant parasitic nematodes capable of infesting potatoes, including but not limited to the genus *Meloidogyne*.

"Nuclear stock" means plantlets, microtubers, minitubers, or seed potatoes produced from prenuclear stock, and grown in the field for the first time.

"Plot" means a seed potato planting that is 0.25 acre or less in size.

"Powdery scab" means the disease caused by the fungus *Spongospora subterranea*.

"Prenuclear" means micropropagated plants or tubers and plants or minitubers produced in a greenhouse.

"Quarantine pest" means a pest of potential economic importance and not yet present in the state, or present but not widely distributed and being officially controlled.

"Recertification" means the process of certifying a seed lot that was certified the previous year.

"Rogue" means removing diseased or undesirable plants, including all associated plant parts, from a seed potato field.

"Seed lot" means a field, in whole or in part, or a group of fields producing seed potatoes, or the potato tubers harvested from a seed potato field.

"Seed potato farm" means a separate seed potato enterprise, including all land, equipment, storages and all facilities used to produce only certified seed potatoes.

"Seed potatoes" means vegetatively propagated tubers used for potato production.

"Seed source" means seed potatoes produced by an individual seed potato farm within a particular seed production area.

"Trace" means a barely perceivable indication of plant disease that amounts to less than 0.001 percent of sample.

"Tolerance" means the maximum acceptable percentage of potato plants or tubers that is diseased, infected by plant pests, defective or off-type based on visual inspection or laboratory testing by the director or other authorized person.

"Unit method" means a method of planting in which cut seed pieces from one tuber are dropped consecutively in a row, or in which all tubers from one plant are dropped consecutively in a row.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 13-12-014, filed 5/24/13, effective 6/24/13)

**WAC 16-324-385 Production requirements.** (1) A grower may not recertify any seed lots, except nuclear, if ring rot has been detected on (~~his or her~~) their seed potato farm during the previous two years. Nuclear seed potatoes may be recertified by the original grower if laboratory testing of the seed by a laboratory approved by the department shows negative results for ring rot.

(2) Prenuclear class.

(a) Prenuclear seed lots must be derived from disease tested micropropagated plants. All testing methods and laboratories must be approved by the department.

(b) A minimum of one percent (and not less than (~~twenty~~) 20 samples) of prenuclear seed produced in a greenhouse must be tested and found free of potato virus X (PVX), potato virus Y (PVY), potato virus S (PVS), potato leafroll virus (PLRV), *Erwinia carotovora* ssp. *carotovora* (soft rot), *Erwinia carotovora* ssp. *atroseptica* (black leg), and *Clavibacter michiganense* ssp. *sepedonicus* (ring rot).

(c) The department will inspect all facilities used in the production of prenuclear class seed potatoes on a periodic basis. Department approval is necessary in order to utilize these facilities.

(3) Nuclear class.

(a) Nuclear class seed potatoes must be propagated entirely from prenuclear plants.

(b) Each nuclear class seed lot must be distinctly separated in storage and in the field.

(c) If a ground rig is used for spraying, wide enough spacing between rows must be left, so that tires will not touch plants during the growing season.

(d) Growers must plant cut seed and single drop seed separately, with single drop seed identified.

(4) Generations 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

(a) Growers must leave a distinct separation between lots of seed potatoes from different classes. The same separation must be left between different varieties, unless the varieties are readily distinguishable by visual observation. The separation must consist of one of the following:

(i) A strip of land at least six feet in width, that is unplanted or planted with another crop; or

(ii) Visible markers such as flags in every corner of the lot, and also at intervals not to exceed (~~one hundred~~) 100 yards.

(b) When more than one lot of seed potatoes is planted in the same field, growers must stake or mark the identity of each lot.

**WSR 24-17-105**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:53 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-306 WAC, Hemp program.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 15.140.030, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 15.140 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5746.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 22-01-137, filed 12/14/21, effective 1/14/22)

**WAC 16-306-130 Transporting hemp.** (1) Hemp produced under this chapter may not be transported from a registered land area as identified on the hemp producer license until THC certification by the department as specified in WAC 16-306-120 is obtained by the applicable licensee prior to transport. During transport of hemp off a producer's registered land area, including to a processor, the person in possession of the hemp during transport must have in (~~his or her~~) their possession either:

(a) Copies of the hemp producer license and department-issued THC certification, as required by this chapter; or

(b) A bill of lading or other proper documentation demonstrating that the hemp was legally imported or is otherwise legally present in the state of Washington under applicable state and federal laws relating to hemp.

(2) Any hemp from a licensed Washington producer that is found in Washington state at any location off the premises of a registered land area of a licensee without department-issued THC certification as specified in WAC 16-306-120 is deemed to be contraband and subject to seizure by the Washington state patrol or any law enforcement officer. Any such contraband material is subject to destruction at the licensee's expense, and may result in suspension or revocation of the hemp producer license.

**WSR 24-17-106**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:53 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-674 WAC, Weights and measures—Exemptions, weighmasters and device registration.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 19.94.010, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 19.94 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email [wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov](mailto:wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov), AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5750.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-20-070, filed 9/25/08, effective 10/26/08)

**WAC 16-674-030 Weighmaster license issuance, expiration and fees.**

(1) Weighmaster licenses issued under RCW 15.80.460 shall expire on June 30th following the date of issuance.

(2) Upon expiration, suspension or revocation of the license, the weighmaster must surrender their impression seal to the director or ~~((his/her))~~ the director's representative within ~~((ten))~~ 10 days if they do not renew their license, if their license is suspended or if their license is revoked. The seal may be surrendered by sending the seal to the department or by surrendering the seal to the director or ~~((his/her))~~ the director's duly appointed representative.

(3) Businesses or individuals applying to renew their license or applying for their initial license with the department must have a current bond in the amount specified in RCW 15.80.480 and that bond must remain in force and effect for not less than the entire licensing period.

(4) Weighing and measuring devices used by weighmasters are considered to be in commercial use and must be registered. Registrations are accomplished through the department of licensing as part of the master license service under chapter 19.02 RCW.

(5) Proof of a scale test within the last ~~((twelve))~~ 12 months must be submitted with the application.

(6) Applications must be submitted with the proper fees as specified in chapter 15.80 RCW.

(7) Applications received without subsections (3), (4), (5) and (6) of this section will be considered incomplete applications and will be returned to the applicant.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-20-070, filed 9/25/08, effective 10/26/08)

**WAC 16-674-055 Weighing and measuring devices.** (1) Weighing and measuring devices used by weighmasters must meet all legal requirements for commercial weighing and measuring devices.

(2) Weighmaster scales must be tested not less than every ~~((twelve))~~ 12 months and must conform to the tolerances and specifications in the edition of NIST Handbook 44, "*Specifications, Tolerances, and Other Technical Requirements for Weighing and Measuring Devices*," adopted by the department in chapter 16-662 WAC. Inspections must be performed by either service agents registered with the department or by the department. The department is under no obligation to provide this inspection service.

(3) A legible copy of the current scale inspection and current master business license must be maintained at the same site as the scale and must be immediately made available to the director or ~~((his))~~ the director's representative upon request.



**WSR 24-17-107**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:54 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-675 WAC, Calibration services, special inspection and testing fees.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment, show respect for people's gender identities, and can help address prejudice and discrimination.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 19.94.010, 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 19.94 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5751.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 07-13-051, filed 6/14/07, effective 7/15/07)

**WAC 16-675-055 What fees are charged when the inspecting and testing of a weighing or measuring device is specifically requested by the device's owner?** The fees in the following table apply to inspecting and testing weighing or measuring devices when the inspection or test is:

(1) Specifically requested by the device's owner or ~~((his/her))~~ their representative; or

(2) Performed on devices used by an agency or institution that receives money from the legislature or the federal government.

<b>Weighing and Measuring Device</b>	<b>Inspection and/or Testing Fee</b>
Small scales "zero to <del>((four hundred))</del> <u>400</u> pounds capacity"	\$16.80 per scale
Intermediate scales " <del>((four hundred pounds to five thousand))</del> <u>400 pounds to 5,000</u> pounds capacity"	\$56.10 per scale
Large scales "over <del>((five thousand))</del> <u>5,000</u> pounds capacity"	\$140.30 per scale
Large scales with supplemental devices	\$168.40 per scale
Railroad track scales	\$1,123.00 per scale
Liquid fuel meters with flows of less than <del>((twenty))</del> <u>20</u> gallons per minute	\$16.80 per meter
Liquid fuel meters with flows of at least <del>((twenty))</del> <u>20</u> but not more than <del>((one hundred fifty))</del> <u>150</u> gallons per minute	\$56.10 per meter
Fuel meters with flows over <del>((one hundred fifty))</del> <u>150</u> gallons per minute	\$168.40 per meter
Liquid petroleum gas meters with one-inch diameter or smaller dispensers	\$56.10 per meter
Liquid petroleum gas meters with greater than one-inch diameter dispensers	\$168.40 per meter
Inspection services not covered by the above special inspection fees	\$37.80 per hour for labor and travel time (minimum one hour charge)

**WSR 24-17-108**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
[Filed August 19, 2024, 8:55 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Chapter 16-695 WAC, Rules relating to ginseng management.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In response to a petition for rule making, the department of agriculture (department) is proposing to clarify current rule language by replacing all gender-specific pronouns with modern gender-inclusive pronouns.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: RCW 43.01.160 requires state agencies to use gender-neutral terms in rules unless a specification of gender is intended. Replacing gender-specific terminology supports the department's commitment to integrate inclusive policies and procedures as outlined in the department's 22-25 strategic plan.

Gender-inclusive pronouns are pronouns that are not specifically gendered and can be utilized when referring to each other in the third person. They are linguistic tools that we use to refer to people. Using gender-neutral pronouns can help create a more inclusive and welcoming environment and show respect for people's gender identities.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 15.17.030(1), 43.01.160.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 15.17 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Skye Theriot, private.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Gloriann Robinson, 1111 Washington Street S.E., Olympia, WA, 360-902-1802.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The amendments in this proposal meet the criteria for expedited rule making specified in RCW 34.05.353 (1)(c) by clarifying the rule, without changing its effect, by replacing gender-specific pronouns with gender-inclusive pronouns.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gloriann Robinson, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560, phone 360-902-1802, fax 360-902-2092, email wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY October 22, 2024.

August 19, 2024  
Jason Ferrante  
Deputy Director

OTS-5752.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 97-23-059, filed 11/18/97, effective 12/19/97)

**WAC 16-695-010 Definitions.** The following definitions shall apply:

- (1) "Cultivated ginseng" means any part of a ginseng plant that is growing or grown in managed beds under artificial or natural shade and cultivated according to recognized ginseng horticultural practices. Cultivated ginseng includes woodsgrown ginseng.
- (2) "Dealer" means anyone who buys ginseng for resale, or grows and sells it for export. This definition does not apply to persons who buy ginseng solely for the purpose of final retail sale to consumers in the United States.
- (3) "Dealer registration" means an annual registration issued by the department authorizing a dealer to buy, collect, or otherwise acquire ginseng for resale or export.
- (4) "Department" means the Washington state department of agriculture.
- (5) "Director" means the director of the department or (~~his~~) their duly appointed representative.
- (6) "Dry weight" means the weight in pounds and ounces of harvested or collected ginseng root that is dried and is no longer viable.
- (7) "Export" means export outside the boundaries of the United States.
- (8) "Out-of-state ginseng" means ginseng that is grown or originated outside the state of Washington.
- (9) "Ginseng" means any and all parts of the plant known as American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius* L.) including, but not limited to: Plants, whole roots, essentially intact roots, root chunks, slices, seeds, and tissue.
- (10) "Green ginseng" means a ginseng root from which the moisture has not been removed by drying.
- (11) "Green weight" means the weight in pounds and ounces of freshly harvested or collected ginseng root that is not dried and is still viable.
- (12) "Grower" means a person who grows "cultivated," "wild simulated" and or "woodsgrown" ginseng, and sells it to a dealer.
- (13) "Grower registration" means an annual registration issued by the department which enables a grower to sell cultivated ginseng that the grower has produced.
- (14) "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, society, association or other business entity, and every officer, agent or employee thereof, agency or organized group of persons whether or not incorporated.
- (15) "Wild ginseng" means ginseng growing naturally within its native range.
- (16) "Wild simulated ginseng" means cultivated ginseng grown in a wooded site where wild ginseng is not established.
- (17) "Woodsgrown ginseng" means ginseng grown in managed beds under natural shade.

## WSR 24-17-136

## EXPEDITED RULES

## DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

[Filed August 21, 2024, 7:27 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: WAC 458-16-560  
Housing for qualifying households.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: The department of revenue (department) intends to amend WAC 458-16-560 to incorporate changes enacted pursuant to SSB 5386 (2023) and SHB 2012 (2024). Specifically, these update subsections (4)(iii)-(iv) and add new subsection (4)(vi).

Reasons Supporting Proposal: The proposed amendments are necessary to conform the rule to SSB 5386, which passed in 2023, and SHB 2012, which passed in 2024.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 82.01.060, 82.32.300.

Statute Being Implemented: RCW 84.36.560.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Department of revenue, governmental.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting: Patrick Watkins, 6400 Linderson Way S.W., Tumwater, WA, 360-534-1539; Implementation and Enforcement: Jeannette Gute, 6400 Linderson Way S.W., Tumwater, WA, 360-534-1599.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Adopts or incorporates by reference without material change federal statutes or regulations, Washington state statutes, rules of other Washington state agencies, shoreline master programs other than those programs governing shorelines of statewide significance, or, as referenced by Washington state law, national consensus codes that generally establish industry standards, if the material adopted or incorporated regulates the same subject matter and conduct as the adopting or incorporating rule.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The expedited rule-making process is applicable to this rule update because the department is incorporating changes resulting from 2023 and 2024 legislation.

## NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Patrick Watkins, Department of Revenue, P.O. Box 47453, Olympia, WA 98504-7453, phone 360-534-1539, fax 360-534-1606, email PatrickW@dor.wa.gov, BEGINNING August 21, 2024, 12:00 a.m., AND RECEIVED BY October 21, 2024, 11:59 p.m.

August 21, 2024  
Brenton Madison  
Rules Coordinator

OTS-5770.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 21-01-063, filed 12/9/20, effective 1/9/21)

**WAC 458-16-560 Housing for qualifying households.** (1)(a) **Introduction.** This rule explains the real and personal property tax exemption that may be claimed by nonprofit entities providing rental housing or lots for mobile homes within a mobile home park, mobile home park cooperative, or manufactured housing cooperative for occupancy by qualifying households in accordance with RCW 84.36.560.

(b) **Examples.** This rule includes examples that identify a number of facts and then state a conclusion. These examples should only be used as a general guide. The tax results of other situations must be determined after a review of all the facts and circumstances.

(2) **Definitions.** For the purposes of this rule, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Group home" means a single-family dwelling financed, in whole or in part, by one or more of the sources listed in subsection (4)(d) of this rule. A "group home" has multiple units occupied on a (~~twenty-four~~) 24-hour basis by persons who are not related by birth or marriage and who are not dependent upon each other financially. Residents of a "group home" typically receive financial assistance from the federal or state government, such as Social Security benefits or supplementary security insurance.

(b) "Mobile home lot" or "mobile home park" means the same as these terms are defined in RCW 59.20.030.

(c) "Nonprofit entity" means a:

(i) Nonprofit as defined in RCW 84.36.800 that is exempt from income tax under section 501(c) of the federal Internal Revenue Code, as amended;

(ii) Limited partnership in which a general partner is a nonprofit as defined in RCW 84.36.800 that is exempt from income tax under section 501(c) of the federal Internal Revenue Code, as amended, a public corporation established under RCW 35.21.660, 35.21.670, or 35.21.730, a housing authority created under RCW 35.82.030 or 35.82.300, or a housing authority meeting the definition in RCW 35.82.210 (2)(a);

(iii) Limited liability company in which a managing member is a nonprofit as defined in RCW 84.36.800 that is exempt from income tax under section 501(c) of the federal Internal Revenue Code, as amended, a public corporation established under RCW 35.21.660, 35.21.670, or 35.21.730, a housing authority established under RCW 35.82.030 or 35.82.300, or a housing authority meeting the definition in RCW 35.82.210 (2)(a); or

(iv) Mobile home park cooperative or a manufactured housing cooperative, as defined in RCW 59.20.030. A "mobile home park cooperative" and a "manufactured housing cooperative" are defined as real property consisting of common areas and two or more lots held out for placement of mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models in which both the individual lots and the common areas are owned by an association of shareholders which leases or otherwise extends the right to occupy individual lots to its own members.

(d) "Occupied dwelling unit" means a living unit that is occupied by an individual or household as of December 31st of the first assessment year the rental housing or mobile home park becomes operational

or is occupied by an individual or household on January 1st of each subsequent assessment year in which the claim for exemption is submitted.

(e) "Qualifying household" means:

(i) Until June 30, 2021, a single person, family, or unrelated persons living together whose income is at or below (~~fifty~~) 50 percent of the median income adjusted for family size as most recently determined by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development for the county in which the rental housing or mobile home park is located. The median income level is that which is in effect as of January 1st of the year the application for exemption is submitted.

(ii) Beginning July 1, 2021, a single person, family, or unrelated persons living together whose income is at or below (~~sixty~~) 60 percent of the median income adjusted for family size as most recently determined by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development for the county in which the rental housing or mobile home park is located. The median income level is that which is in effect as of January 1st of the year the application for exemption is submitted.

(f) "Rental housing" means a residential housing facility or group home that is occupied, but not owned, by qualifying households.

(3) **Initial application and renewal declaration.**

(a) Initial application. An initial application for exemption must be filed with the department on or before March 31st to exempt property from taxes due in the following year. However, an initial application may be filed after March 31st if the property is acquired or converted to an exempt use after that date, if the property may qualify for an exemption under chapter 84.36 RCW.

(b) Renewal declaration. In order to requalify for exempt status, a nonprofit entity receiving this exemption must file a renewal declaration on or before March 31st of every third year following initial qualification for exemption.

(c) Additional information about the application and renewal requirements for this exemption can be found in WAC 458-16-110 Initial application and renewal declaration.

(4) **Full exemption.** Real and personal property is exempt from property taxes if:

(a) The property is owned or used by a nonprofit entity, as defined in subsection (2) of this rule, in providing rental housing for qualifying households or used to provide a lot of land upon which a mobile home for a qualifying household will be placed in a mobile home park;

(b) The benefit of the exemption is received by the nonprofit entity. That is, if the property is leased to or used by, but not owned by, a nonprofit entity, the reduction in property taxes due to the exemption is passed on to the nonprofit user either through a reduction in rent, reimbursement of rent, or property tax paid;

(c) At least (~~seventy-five~~) 75 percent of the occupied dwelling units in the rental housing or lots in the mobile home park are occupied by qualifying households; and

(d) The rental housing or lots in the mobile home park are insured, financed, or assisted, in whole or in part, through one or more of the following sources:

(i) A federal or state housing program administered by the department of commerce;

(ii) A federal housing program administered by a city or county government;

(iii) An affordable housing levy authorized under RCW 84.52.105 or 84.55.050;

(iv) The surcharges authorized by RCW (~~(36.22.178 and 36.22.179)~~) 36.22.250 and any of the surcharges authorized in chapter 43.185C RCW; (~~(e)~~)

(v) The Washington state housing finance commission, provided that the financing is for a mobile home park cooperative or a manufactured housing cooperative, as defined in RCW 59.20.030, or a nonprofit entity; or

(vi) City or county funds designated for affordable housing.

(5) **Partial exemption.** If less than (~~(seventy-five)~~) 75 percent of the occupied dwelling units within the rental housing or lots in the mobile home park are occupied by qualifying households, the rental housing or mobile home park is eligible for a partial exemption on the real property and a total exemption on the housing's or park's personal property. The property must be owned or used by a nonprofit entity in providing rental housing for qualifying households or used to provide a lot upon which a mobile home for a qualifying household will be placed in a mobile home park.

(a) A partial exemption will be allowed for each dwelling unit in the rental housing or for each lot in the mobile home park occupied by a qualifying household; and

(b) The amount of the real property exemption will be calculated by multiplying the assessed value of the property reasonably necessary to provide the rental housing or to operate the mobile home park by a fraction. The formula for determining the fraction is as follows:

(i) The numerator of the fraction is the number of dwelling units or lots occupied by qualifying households as of December 31st of the first assessment year in which the rental housing facility or mobile home park becomes operational, or on January 1st of each subsequent assessment year in which the claim for exemption is submitted; and

(ii) The denominator of the fraction is the total number of dwelling units or lots occupied as of December 31st of the first assessment year in which the rental housing facility or mobile home park becomes operational, or on January 1st of each subsequent assessment year in which the claim for exemption is submitted.

(6) **Exempt facility with three or fewer units or a mobile home park with three or fewer lots with vacancy on January 1st.** If the rental housing or mobile home park is comprised of three or fewer dwelling units or lots and there are any unoccupied dwelling units or lots on January 1st, the department will determine the size of the exemption based on the number of occupied dwelling units or lots as of December 31st of the first assessment year the rental housing becomes operational, and on May 1st of each subsequent assessment year in which a claim for exemption is submitted. For example, if one-half of an exempt duplex is vacant on January 1st and it is the duplex's third year of operation, the department will determine the size of the exemption based on the number of occupied units on May 1st of that assessment year.

(7) **Allowance for income growth.** Because the occupants of rental housing and mobile home parks granted an exemption under RCW 84.36.560 are generally attempting to improve their financial situation, the income of the household is likely to fluctuate during the time they occupy the rental housing unit or lot in the mobile home park.

(a) In an attempt to assist these households in improving their circumstances, the exemption will continue for specific rental housing units or mobile home lots if the rental housing or mobile home park



continues to meet the certification requirements in subsection (4) (d) of this rule, and if the household's income rises above the applicable "qualifying household" threshold in subsection (2) (e) of this rule, but remains at or below (~~eighty~~) 80 percent of the median income adjusted for family size as most recently determined by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development for the county in which the rental housing or mobile home park is located; and

(b) If a rental housing unit or mobile home lot receiving an exemption under the exception in (a) of this subsection becomes vacant and is subsequently re-rented, the income of the household moving into the rental unit or onto the mobile home lot must meet the applicable median income requirements for a qualifying household as described in subsection (2) (e) of this rule to remain exempt from property tax.

(c) Example. If a rental unit is occupied by a qualifying household whose income rises up to (~~seventy~~) 70 percent of median income, the unit will retain its exempt status as long as the household continues to occupy the rental unit and the household's income remains below (~~eighty~~) 80 percent of median income. If the residents of the rental unit move out on June 1st and the unit is subsequently rented to a qualifying household whose income is at or below the median income threshold in subsection (2) (e) of this rule, the unit will retain its exempt status. Conversely, if the rental unit is rented to a household whose income is above the median income threshold in subsection (2) (e) of this rule, the unit becomes ineligible for exemption as of January 1st of the following year.

(8) **Group homes - Income of residents.** The income of the individual residents of a group home, as defined in subsection (2) of this rule, will not be combined so as to constitute the income of a single household. Each resident will be considered an independent household occupying a separate dwelling unit. In other words, the income of the residents of a group home will not be aggregated when the department determines the size of the exemption the group home is entitled to receive. For example, if there are six residents in a group home, the department will process the application for exemption as if there were six separate dwelling units and determine the size of the exemption on that basis. If three of the residents have income at or below the median income threshold in subsection (2) (e) of this rule, the group home will receive a (~~fifty~~) 50 percent reduction in the property taxes due on the group home.

(9) **Eligibility of property unoccupied at the time of initial application or at any time after the exemption is granted.** Property that is unoccupied at the time of initial application or on January 1st of any subsequent year is still eligible for exemption if certain conditions are met. If the property is currently taxable, it may receive exempt status as of the assessment year in which the claim for exemption is submitted. If the property is currently exempt but the exempt use will cease or will be reduced because of renovations or repairs, the exempt status of the property may be continued for taxes payable the next year. The following conditions must be satisfied to receive an exemption under either of these circumstances:

(a) The rental housing or mobile home park will be used for the exempt purpose stated in RCW 84.36.560 within two assessment years;

(b) The nonprofit entity applying for or receiving the exemption has obtained a commitment for financing, in whole or in part, to acquire, construct, remodel, renovate, or otherwise convert the property to provide housing for qualifying households from one or more of the sources listed in subsection (4) (d) of this rule;

(c) The nonprofit entity has manifested its intent in writing to construct, remodel, renovate, or otherwise convert the rental housing or mobile home park to housing for qualifying households; and

(d) If less than the entire facility or mobile home park will be used to provide rental housing or mobile home lots for qualifying households, only that portion is entitled to an exemption under this rule.

(10) **Exclusive use required.** To be exempt under RCW 84.36.560, the property must be exclusively used to provide rental housing or mobile home lots for qualifying households, except as provided in RCW 84.36.805.

(11) **Payments in-lieu of property tax will be accepted.** Any nonprofit entity that qualifies for a property tax exemption under RCW 84.36.560 may agree to make payments to the city, county, or other political subdivision for the improvements, services, and facilities furnished by the city, county, or political subdivision for the benefit of the exempt rental housing facility or mobile home lots. However, these payments may not exceed the amount of property tax last levied as the annual tax by the city, county, or political subdivision on the property prior to the time the exemption was effective.

## WSR 24-17-137

## EXPEDITED RULES

## DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

[Filed August 21, 2024, 7:49 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: WAC 458-20-252  
Hazardous substance tax.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: The department of revenue (department) is amending the expiration date for the exemption for certain agricultural crop protection products in RCW 82.21.040 (5)(a), as required per HB 2454 (2024).

Reasons Supporting Proposal: The proposed amendments are necessary to conform the rule to HB 2454 (2024), which established a new expiration date in RCW 82.21.040 (5)(a).

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 82.01.060, 82.32.300.

Statute Being Implemented: RCW 82.21.040 (5)(a).

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Department of revenue, governmental.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting: Darius Massoudi, 6400 Linderson Way S.W., Tumwater, WA, 360-534-1572; Implementation and Enforcement: Jeannette Gute, 6400 Linderson Way S.W., Tumwater, WA, 360-534-1599.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Adopts or incorporates by reference without material change federal statutes or regulations, Washington state statutes, rules of other Washington state agencies, shoreline master programs other than those programs governing shorelines of statewide significance, or, as referenced by Washington state law, national consensus codes that generally establish industry standards, if the material adopted or incorporated regulates the same subject matter and conduct as the adopting or incorporating rule.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The expedited rule-making process is applicable to this rule update because the department is incorporating 2024 legislation into the rule.

## NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Darius Mas-soudi, Department of Revenue, P.O. Box 47467, Olympia, WA 98504-7467, phone 360-534-1572, fax 360-534-1606, email DariusM@dor.wa.gov, BEGINNING August 21, 2024, 12:00 a.m., AND RECEIVED BY October 21, 2024, 11:59 p.m.

August 21, 2024  
Brenton Madison  
Rules Coordinator

OTS-5725.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-12-037, filed 5/30/24, effective 6/30/24)

**WAC 458-20-252 Hazardous substance tax.** (1) Introduction. Under chapter 82.21 RCW (referred to in this rule as the "law"), a hazardous substance tax is imposed upon the wholesale value of certain substances and products, with specific credits and exemptions provided. The tax is an excise tax upon the privilege of possessing hazardous substances in this state.

Before July 1, 2019, the tax was imposed upon the wholesale value of the hazardous substance. Starting July 1, 2019, the tax is imposed in one of two ways:

Upon the wholesale value of certain hazardous substances ("value-based tax"); or

Upon the volume of certain hazardous substances ("volumetric tax").

The volumetric tax applies to petroleum products that are easily measured on a per barrel basis. The value-based tax applies to all other hazardous substances, including petroleum products that are not easily measured on a per barrel basis.

(a) Chapter 82.21 RCW defines certain specific substances as being hazardous and includes other substances by reference to federal legislation governing such things. It also provides authority to the director of the state department of ecology to designate by rule any other substance or product as hazardous that could present a threat to human health or the environment. (Chapter 173-342 WAC.)

(b) Chapter 82.21 RCW is administered exclusively under this rule. The law relates exclusively to the possession of hazardous substances and products. The law does not relate to waste, releases or spills of any materials, cleanup, compensation, or liability for such things, nor does tax liability under the law depend upon such factors. The incidence or privilege that incurs tax liability is simply the possession of the hazardous substance or product, whether or not such possession actually causes any hazardous or dangerous circumstance.

(c) The hazardous substance tax is imposed upon any possession of a hazardous substance or product in this state by any person who is not expressly exempt of the tax. However, it is the intent of the law that the economic burden of the tax should fall upon the first such possession in this state. Therefore, the law provides that if the tax has not been paid upon any hazardous substance or product the department of revenue may collect the tax from any person who has had possession. The amount of tax paid then constitutes a debt owed by the first person having had taxable possession to the person who pays the tax.

(2) Definitions. For purposes of this rule the following definitions apply.

(a) "Barrel" means a container that holds 42 billed gallons of a petroleum product, as defined in this rule. Starting July 1, 2019, it is the tax measure or base for petroleum products that are easily measured on a per barrel basis.

(b) "Billed gallon" means a U.S. gallon of petroleum product, whether net or gross as billed to the purchaser.

(c) "Gross gallon" means a U.S. gallon of petroleum product of 231 cubic inches as measured at the terminal rack.

(d) "Hazardous substance" means:

(i) Any substance that, on March 1, 2002, is a hazardous substance under section 101(14) of the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. Sec. 9601(14), as amended by Public Law 99-499 on October 17, 1986, except that hazardous substance does not include the following noncompound metals when in solid form in a particle larger than 100 micrometers (0.004 inches) in diameter: Antimony, arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, nickel, selenium, silver, thallium, or zinc. These substances consist of chemicals and elements in their purest form. A CERCLA substance that contains water is still considered pure. Combinations of CERCLA substances as ingredients together with nonhazardous substances will not be taxable unless the end product is specifically designated as a hazardous substance by the department of ecology;

(ii) Petroleum products (further defined below);

(iii) Pesticide products required to be registered under section 136a of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), 7 U.S.C. Sec. 136 et seq., as amended by Public Law 104-170 on August 3, 1996; and

(iv) Anything else enumerated as a hazardous substance in chapter 173-342 WAC by the department of ecology.

(e) "Net gallon" means a U.S. gallon of petroleum product of 231 cubic inches at 60 degrees Fahrenheit and a pressure of 14.7 pounds per square inch (1 atmosphere).

(f) "Person" means any natural or artificial person, including a business organization of any kind, and has the further meaning defined in RCW 82.04.030.

The term "natural person," for purposes of the tax exemption in subsection (4)(b) of this rule regarding substances used for personal or domestic purposes, means human beings in a private, as opposed to a business sense.

(g) "Petroleum product" means any plant condensate, lubricating oil, crankcase motor oil, gasoline, aviation fuel, kerosene, diesel motor fuel, benzol, fuel oil, residual fuel, asphalt base, liquefied or liquefiable gases, such as butane, ethane and propane, and every other product derived from the refining of crude oil, but the term does not include crude oil.

The term "derived from the refining of crude oil" as used herein, means produced because of and during petroleum processing. "Petroleum processing" includes all activities of a commercial or industrial nature wherein labor or skill is applied, by hand or machinery, to crude oil or any byproduct of crude oil so that as a result thereof a fuel or lubricant is produced for sale or commercial or industrial use. "Fuel" includes all combustible gases and liquids suitable for the generation of energy. The term "derived from the refining of crude oil" does not mean petroleum products that are manufactured from refined oil derivatives, such as petroleum jellies, cleaning solvents, asphalt paving, etc. Such further manufactured products become hazardous substances only when expressly so designated by the director of the department of ecology in chapter 173-342 WAC.

(h) "Possession" means control of a hazardous substance located within this state and includes both actual and constructive possession.

(i) "Control" means the power to sell or use a hazardous substance or to authorize the sale or use by another.

(ii) "Actual possession" occurs when the person with control has physical possession.

(iii) "Constructive possession" occurs when the person with control does not have physical possession.

(i) "Previously taxed hazardous substance" means a hazardous substance upon which the tax has been paid and which has not been remanufactured or reprocessed in any manner.

(i) Remanufacturing or reprocessing does not include the mere repackaging or recycling for beneficial reuse. Rather, these terms embrace activities of a commercial or industrial nature involving the application of skill or labor by hand or machinery so that as a result, a new or different substance or product is produced.

(ii) "Recycling for beneficial reuse" means the recapturing of any used substance or product, for the sole purpose of extending the useful life of the original substance or product in its previously taxed form, without adding any new, different, or additional ingredient or component.

(iii) Example: Used motor oil drained from a crankcase, filtered, and containerized for reuse is not remanufactured or reprocessed. If the tax was paid on possession of the oil before use, the used oil is a previously taxed substance.

(iv) Possessions of used hazardous substances by persons who merely operate recycling centers or collection stations and who do not reprocess or remanufacture the used substances are not taxable possessions.

(j) "Product" means any item containing a combination of ingredients, some of which are hazardous substances and some of which are not hazardous substances.

(k) "Selling price" means consideration of any kind expressed in terms of money paid or delivered by a buyer to a seller, without any deductions for any costs whatsoever. Bona fide discounts actually granted to a buyer result in reductions in the selling price rather than deductions.

(l) "State," for purposes of the credit provisions of the hazardous substance tax, means:

(i) The state of Washington.

(ii) States of the United States or any political subdivisions of such other states.

(iii) The District of Columbia.

(iv) Territories and possessions of the United States.

(v) Any foreign country or political subdivision thereof.

(m) Except as otherwise expressly defined in this rule, the definitions of terms provided in chapters 82.04, 82.08, and 82.12 RCW apply equally for this rule. Other terms not expressly defined in these chapters or this rule are to be given their common and ordinary meanings.

(n) "Tax" means the hazardous substance tax imposed under chapter 82.21 RCW.

(o) "Wholesale value" means the fair market value determined by the wholesale selling price.

In cases where no sale has occurred, wholesale value means the fair market wholesale value, determined as nearly as possible according to the wholesale selling price at the place of use of similar substances of like quality and character. In such cases the wholesale value shall be the "value of the products" as determined under the alternate methods set forth in WAC 458-20-112.

Before July 1, 2019, the wholesale value was the tax measure or base for all hazardous substances. Starting July 1, 2019, the wholesale value is the tax measure or base for all hazardous substances other than petroleum products that are easily measured on a per barrel basis.

(3) Tax rate and measure. The tax is imposed upon the privilege of possessing a hazardous substance in this state.

(a) For value-based tax. The value-based tax rate is seven tenths of one percent (.007). The value-based tax measure or base is the wholesale value of the substance, as defined in this rule. Before July 1, 2019, the value-based tax applied to all hazardous substances. Starting July 1, 2019, the value-based tax rate applies to all hazardous substances other than petroleum products that are easily measured on a per barrel basis.

(b) For volumetric tax. Starting July 1, 2019, the volumetric tax rate is \$1.09 per barrel and applies to petroleum products that are easily measured on a per barrel basis. Starting July 1, 2020, the volumetric tax rate on petroleum products will be adjusted to reflect the percentage change in the implicit price deflator for nonresidential structures as published by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis for the most recent 12-month period ending December 31st of the prior year.

(i) Density adjustments. For petroleum products that are easily measured on a per barrel basis, taxpayers will determine the amount of tax due based on billed gallons. Billed gallons may be calculated by using either gross gallons or net gallons. However, for contracts that adjust the formula for calculating billed gallons throughout the year to reduce the quantity of reported barrels, the department may employ the net gallons standard.

(ii) Example. Barrels are measured and reported to the department as billed gallons. However, to calculate billed gallons, Company A has negotiated a contract to employ the gross gallons standard during the winter in a location where average temperatures are 40 degrees Fahrenheit, while adjusting to the net gallons standard at the same location during the summer where average temperatures are 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Company A's seasonal formula for calculating billed gallons would ordinarily result in reducing the measured quantity of barrels throughout the year versus choosing a single formula to measure billed gallons. Therefore, the department may employ the net gallons standard for the entirety of the contract to measure the quantity of barrels.

(c) The department of revenue maintains lists of petroleum products that are easily measured, and petroleum products that are not easily measured, on a per barrel basis, on its website at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov). Petroleum products that remain in a liquid state at 77 degrees Fahrenheit and a pressure of 14.7 pounds per square inch (1 atmosphere) are subject to hazardous substance tax on a per barrel basis. These lists are not exclusive. If additional petroleum products are identified in the future, the department will add them to the applicable list. Products added to the lists will be subject to hazardous substance tax for all periods that the tax applies, even if the product was not on a list at the time.

(4) Exemptions. The following are expressly exempt from the tax:

(a) Any successive possessions of any previously taxed hazardous substances are tax exempt.

(i) Any person who possesses a hazardous substance that has been acquired from any other person who is registered with the department of revenue and doing business in this state may take a written state-

ment certifying that the tax has been previously paid. Such certifications must be taken in good faith and must be in the form provided in subsection (14) of this rule. Blanket certifications may be taken, as appropriate, which must be renewed at intervals not to exceed four years. These certifications may be used for any single hazardous substance or any broad classification of hazardous substances, e.g., "all chemicals."

(ii) In the absence of taking such certifications, the person who possesses any hazardous substance must retain proofs that it purchased or otherwise acquired the substance from a previous possessor in this state. It is not necessary for subsequent possessors to obtain certificates of previously taxed hazardous substances in order to perfect their tax exemption. Documentation that establishes any evidence of previous tax payment by another person will suffice. This includes invoices or billings from in-state suppliers that reflect their payment of the tax or simple bills of lading or delivery documents revealing an in-state source of the hazardous substances.

(iii) This exemption for taxes previously paid is available for any person in successive possession of a taxed hazardous substance even though the previous payment may have been satisfied by the use of credits or offsets available to the previous person in possession.

(iv) Example. Company A brings a substance into this state upon which it has paid a similar hazardous substance tax in another state. Company A takes a credit against its Washington tax liability in the amount of the other state's tax paid. It then sells the substance to Company B, and provides Company B with a certificate of previously taxed substance. Company B's possession is tax exempt even though Company A has not directly paid Washington's tax but has used a credit against its Washington liability.

(b) Any possession of a hazardous substance by a natural person for use of a personal or domestic nature, rather than a business nature, is tax exempt.

(i) This exemption extends to relatives, as well as other natural persons who reside with the person possessing the substance, and also to regular employees of that person who use the substance for the benefit of that person.

(ii) This exemption does not extend to possessions by any independent contractors hired by natural persons, which contractors themselves provide the hazardous substance.

(iii) Examples: Possessions of spray materials by an employee-gardener or soaps and cleaning solvents by an employee-domestic servant, when such substances are provided by the natural person for whose domestic benefit such things are used, are tax exempt. Also, possessions of fuel by private persons for use in privately owned vehicles are tax exempt.

(c) Any possession of any hazardous substance, other than pesticides or petroleum products, possessed by a retailer for making sales to consumers, in an amount that is determined to be "minimal" by the department of ecology. That department has determined that the term "minimal" means less than \$1,000.00 worth of such hazardous substances measured by their wholesale value, possessed during any calendar month.

(d) Possessions of alumina or natural gas are tax exempt.

(e) Persons or activities that the state is prohibited from taxing under the United States Constitution are tax exempt.

(i) This exemption extends to the U.S. government, its agencies and instrumentalities, and to any possession the taxation of which has



been expressly reserved or preempted under the laws of the United States.

(ii) The tax will not apply with respect to any possession of any hazardous substance purchased, extracted, produced or manufactured outside this state that is shipped or delivered into this state until the interstate transportation of such substance has finally ended in this state. Thus, out-of-state sellers or producers need not pay the tax on substances shipped directly to customers in this state. The customers must pay the tax upon their first possession unless otherwise expressly exempt.

(iii) Out-of-state sellers or producers will be subject to tax upon substances shipped or delivered to warehouses or other in-state facilities owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by them.

(iv) However, the tax will not apply with respect to possessions of substances that are only temporarily stored or possessed in this state in connection with through, interstate movement of the substances from points of origin to points of destination both of which are outside of this state.

(f) The former exemption for petroleum products for export sale or use outside this state as fuel was effectively repealed by I-97 (1988). There are no exemptions under the law for any possessions of hazardous substances in this state simply because such substances may later be sold or used outside this state.

(g) Until January 1, 2028, any possession of an agricultural crop protection product that is solely for use by a farmer or certified applicator as an agricultural crop protection product and is warehoused in this state or transported to or from this state is tax exempt, provided that the person possessing the product does not use, manufacture, package for sale, or sell the product in this state. The following definitions apply throughout this subsection unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(i) "Agricultural crop protection product" means a chemical regulated under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, 7 U.S.C. Sec. 136 as amended as of September 1, 2015, when used to prevent, destroy, repel, mitigate, or control predators, diseases, weeds, or other pests.

(ii) "Certified applicator" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 17.21.020.

(iii) "Farmer" has the same meaning as in RCW 82.04.213.

(iv) "Manufacturing" includes mixing or combining agricultural crop protection products with other chemicals or other agricultural crop protection products.

(v) "Package for sale" includes transferring agricultural crop protection products from one container to another, including the transfer of fumigants and other liquid or gaseous chemicals from one tank to another.

(vi) "Use" has the same meaning as in RCW 82.12.010.

(5) Credits. There are three distinct kinds of tax credits against liability that are available under the law.

(a) A credit may be taken by any manufacturer or processor of a hazardous substance produced from ingredients or components that are themselves hazardous substances, and upon which the hazardous substance tax has been paid by the same person or is due for payment by the same person.

(i) Example. A manufacturer possesses hazardous chemicals that it combines to produce an acid, which is also designated as a hazardous substance or product. When it reports the tax upon the wholesale value

of the acid it may use a credit to offset the tax by the amount of tax it has already paid or reported upon the hazardous chemical ingredients or components. In this manner the intent of the law to tax hazardous substances only once is fulfilled.

(ii) Under circumstances where the hazardous ingredient and the hazardous end product are both possessed by the same person during the same tax reporting period, the tax on the respective substances must be computed and the former must be offset against the latter so that the tax return reflects the tax liability after the credit adjustment.

(iii) This credit may be taken only by manufacturers who have the first possession in this state of both the hazardous ingredients and the hazardous end product.

(b) A credit may be taken in the amount of the hazardous substance tax upon the value of fuel that is carried from this state in the fuel tank of any airplane, ship, truck, or other vehicle.

(i) The credit may be claimed only for the amount of tax reported or actually due to be paid on the fuel, not the amount representing the value of the fuel.

(ii) The purpose of this credit is to exclude from taxation any possessions of fuel that remains in the fuel tanks of any carrier vehicles powered by such fuel when they leave this state, regardless of where or from whom such fuel-in-tanks was acquired.

(iii) The nature of this credit is such that it generally has application only for interstate and foreign private or common carriers that carry fuel into this state or purchase fuel in this state. The intent is that the tax will apply only to so much of such fuel as is actually consumed by such carriers within this state.

(iv) In order to equitably and efficiently administer this tax credit, any fuel that is brought into this state in carrier vehicle fuel tanks must be accounted for separately from fuel that is purchased in this state for use in such fuel tanks. Formulas approved by the department of revenue for reporting the amount of fuel consumed in this state for purposes of this tax or other excise tax purposes will satisfy the separate accounting required under this subsection.

(v) Fuel-in-tanks brought into this state must be fully reported for tax and then the credit must be taken in the amount of such fuel that is taken back out of this state. This is to be done on the same periodic excise tax return so that the net effect is that the tax is actually paid only upon the portion of fuel consumed here.

(vi) The credit for fuel-in-tanks purchased in this state must be accounted for by using a fuel-in-tanks credit certificate in substantially the following form:

**Certificate of Credit for Fuel Carried  
from this State in Fuel Tanks**

I hereby certify that the petroleum products specified herein, purchased by or transferred to the undersigned, from (name of seller or transferor), are entitled to the credit for fuel that is carried from this state in the fuel tank of any airplane, ship, truck, or other vehicle operated by a private or common carrier in interstate or foreign commerce. I will become liable for and pay the taxes due upon all or any part of such fuel that is not so carried from this state. This certification is given with full knowledge of, and subject to the legally prescribed penalties for fraud and tax evasion.

Registration No. ....  
(if applicable)  
Type of Business .....

Firm Name .....  
 Business Address .....  
 Registered Name .....  
 (if different)  
 Tax Reporting Agent .....  
 (if applicable)  
 Authorized Signature .....  
 Title .....  
 Identity of Fuel .....  
 (kind and amount by volume)  
 Date:.....

(vii) This certificate may be executed and provided to any possessor of fuel in this state, throughout the chain of distribution, with respect to fuel that ultimately will be sold and delivered into any carrier's fuel tanks in this state. Thus, refiners or manufacturers will take such certificates directly from carriers or from their wholesale purchasers who will sell to such carriers. Similarly, fuel dealers and distributors will take such certificates from carriers to whom they sell such fuel. These certificates must be retained as a permanent part of such seller's business records.

(viii) Persons who execute and provide these credit certificates to their fuel suppliers must retain suitable purchase and sales records as may be necessary to determine the amount of tax for which such persons may be liable.

(ix) Blanket certificates may be used to cover recurrent purchases of fuel by the same purchaser. Such blanket certificates must be renewed every two years.

(c) A credit may be taken against the tax owed in this state in the amount of any other state's hazardous substance tax that has been paid by the same person measured by the wholesale value of the same hazardous substance.

(i) In order for this credit to apply, the other state's tax must be significantly similar to Washington's tax in all its various respects. The taxable incident must be possessing the substance; the tax purpose must be that the substance is hazardous; and the tax measure must be stated in terms of the wholesale value, or volume, of the substance, without deductions for costs of doing business, such that the other state's tax does not constitute an income tax or added value tax.

(ii) This credit may be taken for the amount of any other state's qualifying tax that has actually been paid before Washington state's tax is incurred because the substance was previously possessed by the same person in another taxing jurisdiction.

(iii) The amount of credit is limited to the amount of tax paid in this state upon possession of the same hazardous substance in this state. Also, the credit may not be applied against any tax paid or owed in this state other than the hazardous substance tax imposed under chapter 82.21 RCW.

(iv) Exchange agreements under which hazardous substances or products possessed in this state are exchanged through any accounts crediting system with like substances possessed in other states do not qualify for this credit. The substance taxed in another state, and for which this credit is sought, must be actually, physically possessed in this state.

(v) Persons claiming this credit must maintain records necessary to verify that the credit taking qualifications have been met. Addi-

tional information regarding recordkeeping requirements is provided in WAC 458-20-19301.

(6) Newly defined hazardous substances. Under chapter 82.21 RCW the director of the department of ecology may identify and designate other substances or products as being hazardous substances for purposes of the tax. The director of the department of ecology may also delete substances or products previously designated as hazardous substances. Such actions are done by amending chapter 173-342 WAC.

(a) The law allows the addition or deletion of substances or products as hazardous substances by rule amendments, no more often than twice in any calendar year.

(b) When such additions or deletions are made, they do not take effect for tax purposes until the first day of the following month that is at least 30 days after the effective date of rule amendment by the department of ecology.

(i) Example. The department of ecology amends chapter 173-342 WAC by adding a new substance and the effective date of the amendment is June 15th. Possession of the substance does not become taxable until August 1st.

(ii) The tax is owed by any person who has possession of the newly designated hazardous substance upon the tax effective date as explained herein. It is immaterial that the person in possession on that date was not the first person in possession of the substance in this state before it was designated as hazardous.

(7) Recurrent tax liability. It is the intent of the law that all hazardous substances possessed in this state should incur this tax liability only once unless they are expressly exempt. This is true of hazardous ingredients of products as well as the manufactured end product itself, if designated as a hazardous substance. The exemption for previously taxed hazardous substances does not apply to "products" that have been manufactured or remanufactured simply because an ingredient or ingredients of that product may have already been taxed when possessed by the manufacturer. Instead of an exemption, manufacturers in possession of both the hazardous ingredient and end product should use the credit provision explained at subsection (5)(a) of this rule.

(a) However, the term "product" is defined to mean only an item or items that contain a combination of both hazardous substances and nonhazardous substances. The term does not include combinations of only hazardous substances. Thus, possessions of substances produced by combining other hazardous substances upon all of which the tax has previously been paid will not again be taxable.

(b) When any hazardous substance is first produced during and because of any physical combination or chemical reaction that occurs in a manufacturing or processing activity, the intermediate possession of such substance within the manufacturing or processing plant is not considered a taxable possession if the substance becomes a component or ingredient of the product being manufactured or processed or is otherwise consumed during the manufacturing or processing activity.

However, when any intermediate hazardous substance is first produced during a manufacturing or processing activity and is withdrawn for sale or transfer outside of the manufacturing or processing plant, a taxable first possession occurs.

(c) Concentrations or dilutions for shipment or storage. The mere addition or withdrawal of water or other nonhazardous substances to or from hazardous substances designated under CERCLA or FIFRA for the sole purpose of transportation, storage, or the later manufacturing use of such substances does not result in any new hazardous product.

(8) How and when to pay tax. The tax must be reported on a special line of the combined excise tax return designated "hazardous substances." It is due for payment together with the timely filing of the return upon which it is reported, covering the tax reporting period during which the hazardous substance is first possessed within this state. Any person who is not expressly exempt of the tax and who possesses any hazardous substance in this state, without having proof that the tax has previously been paid on that substance, must report and pay the tax.

(a) It may be that the person who purchases a hazardous substance will not have billing information from which to determine the wholesale value of the substance when the tax return for the period of possession is due. In such cases the tax is due for payment no later than the next regular reporting due date following the reporting period in which the substance is first possessed.

(b) The taxable incident or event is the possession of the substance. Tax is due for payment by the purchaser of any hazardous substance whether or not the purchase price has been paid in part or in full.

(c) Special provision for manufacturers, refiners, and processors. Manufacturers, refiners, and processors who possess hazardous substances are required to report the tax and take any available exemptions and credits only at the time that such hazardous substances are withdrawn from storage for purposes of their sale, transfer, remanufacture, or consumption.

(9) How and when to claim credits. Credits should be claimed and offset against tax liability reported on the same excise tax return when possible. The tax return form provides a line for reporting tax on hazardous substances and a line for taking credits as an offset against the tax reported. It is not required that any documents or other evidence of entitlement to credits be submitted with the report. Such proofs must be retained in permanent records for the purpose of verification of credits taken.

(10) Special provision for consumer as first possessor. Under circumstances where the consumer is the first person in possession of any nonexempt hazardous substance (e.g., substances imported by the consumer), or where the consumer is the person who must pay the tax upon substances previously possessed in this state (fuel purchased for export in fuel tanks) the consumer's tax measure will be the wholesale value determined as nearly as possible according to the wholesale selling price at the place of use of similar substances of like quality and character.

(11) Hazardous substances or products on consignment. Consignees who possess hazardous substances or products in this state with the power to sell such things, in their own name or on behalf of a disclosed or undisclosed consignor are liable for payment of the tax. The exemption for previously taxed substances is available for such consignees only if the consignors have paid the tax and the consignee has retained the certification or other proof of previous tax payment referred to in subsection (4) (a) (i) and (ii) of this rule. Possession of consigned hazardous substances by a consignee does not constitute constructive possession by the consignor.

(12) Hazardous substances untraceable to source. Various circumstances may arise whereby a person will possess hazardous substances in this state, some of which have been previously taxed in this or other states and some of which may not. In such cases formulary tax

reporting may be used upon a special ruling by the department of revenue.

Example. Fungible petroleum products from sources both within and outside this state are commingled in common storage facilities. Formulary reporting is appropriate based upon volume percentages reflecting the ratio of in-state production to out-of-state production or other form of acquisition.

(13) Administrative provisions. The provisions of chapter 82.32 RCW regarding due dates, reporting periods, tax return requirements, interest and penalties, tax audits and limitations, disputes and appeals, and all such general administrative provisions apply equally to the hazardous substance tax. Taxpayers may request, from the department, tax rulings covering unique circumstances not addressed in this rule.

(14) Certification of previously taxed hazardous substance. Certification that the hazardous substance tax has already been paid by a person previously in possession of the substance may be taken in substantially the following form:

I hereby certify that this purchase - .....  
 all purchases of .....  
 (omit one)

..... by .....  
 (identify substances purchased) (name of purchaser)

.....  
 who possesses registration no. ....  
 (buyer's number, if registered)

consists of the purchase of a hazardous substance or product upon which the hazardous substance tax has been paid in full by a person previously in possession of the substance or product in this state. This certificate is given with full knowledge of, and subject to the legally prescribed penalties for fraud and tax evasion, and with the full knowledge and agreement that the undersigned hereby assumes any liability for hazardous substance tax which has not been previously paid because of possession of the hazardous substance or product identified herein.

..... The registered seller named below personally paid the tax upon possession of the hazardous substances.

..... A person in possession of the hazardous substances prior to the possession of the registered seller named below paid the tax.

(Check the appropriate line.)

Name of registered seller ..... Registration No. ....  
 Firm name ..... Address .....  
 Type of business .....  
 Authorized signature ..... Title .....  
 Date .....

## WSR 24-17-138

## EXPEDITED RULES

## DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

[Filed August 21, 2024, 7:51 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: WAC 458-19-045  
Removal of limit (lid lift).

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: The department of revenue (department) is implementing HB 2044 (2024) by removing now obsolete requirements which addressed the supplanting of existing funds.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: HB 2044 (2024) removed language previously existing in RCW 84.55.050 (2)(b) which contained statutory requirements for the supplanting of existing funds. This rule making will ensure that these now discontinued requirements are also removed from WAC 458-19-045.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 84.08.010, 84.08.070, 84.55.060.

Statute Being Implemented: RCW 84.55.050.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Department of revenue, governmental.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting: Darius Massoudi, 6400 Linderson Way S.W., Tumwater, WA, 360-534-1572; Implementation and Enforcement: Jeannette Gute, 6400 Linderson Way S.W., Tumwater, WA, 360-534-1599.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Adopts or incorporates by reference without material change federal statutes or regulations, Washington state statutes, rules of other Washington state agencies, shoreline master programs other than those programs governing shorelines of statewide significance, or, as referenced by Washington state law, national consensus codes that generally establish industry standards, if the material adopted or incorporated regulates the same subject matter and conduct as the adopting or incorporating rule.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: The expedited rule-making process is appropriate because the department is incorporating statutory language into the rule.

## NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Darius Mas-soudi, Department of Revenue, P.O. Box 47467, Olympia, WA 98504-7467, phone 360-534-1572, fax 360-534-1606, email DariusM@dor.wa.gov, BEGINNING August 21, 2024, 12:00 a.m., AND RECEIVED BY October 21, 2024, 11:59 p.m.

August 21, 2024  
Brenton Madison  
Rules Coordinator

OTS-5792.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 21-23-063, filed 11/12/21, effective 12/13/21)

**WAC 458-19-045 Levy limit—Removal of limit (lid lift).** (1) **Introduction.** This rule explains the procedures for implementing a lid lift ballot measure when a taxing district wants to ask its voters for the authority to exceed the levy limit.

(2) **Definitions.** The definitions in WAC 458-19-005 apply to this rule.

(3) **Lid lift - Purpose.** The purpose of a lid lift is to allow additional property taxes to be collected at a time when the levy limit in chapter 84.55 RCW is the effective legal constraint to increasing property taxes. A levy limit may be exceeded when authorized by a majority of the voters voting on a proposition to "lift the lid" of the levy limit as described in RCW 84.55.050. This "lid lift" is intended to allow the levy limit to be exceeded for the levy made immediately following the vote on the proposition. Lid lifts may result in increasing the limit factor, as defined in WAC 458-19-005, for one year or up to six consecutive years. The result of the limit factor increase can temporarily or permanently impact subsequent levy limit calculations.

(4) **Election for approval of lid lift proposition - When held.** The election to approve a lid lift proposition must be held within the taxing district and may be held at the time of a general election, or at a special election called by the governing body of the taxing district for that purpose. The election must not be held more than ~~((twelve))~~ 12 months prior to the date the proposed levy is to be made. For purposes of this rule, a levy is "made" when the taxing district's budget is certified. The ballot title and measure proposing the lid lift are prepared by the county prosecutor or city attorney, as applicable, in accordance with RCW 29A.36.071. RCW 29A.36.071 requires a ballot title to include a concise description of the measure, not to exceed 75 words. The requirements for the text of a ballot title and measure differ depending on whether the levy limit will be exceeded for a single year or multiple years, up to six consecutive years. A simple majority vote is required for approval of a lid lift.

(5) **Single year lid lift.** A single year lid lift allows a taxing district to increase its levy by more than one percent over its highest lawful levy since 1985 for 1986 collection, for one year.

(6) **Ballot title and measure - Single year lid lift.** The text of a ballot title and measure for a single year lid lift must contain the following:

(a) The dollar rate of the proposed levy so that it reflects the total dollar rate for the taxing district, which may be less than the maximum statutory dollar rate allowed for the particular class of taxing district; and

(b) Any of the following conditions that are applicable:

(i) The number of years the increased levy is to be made by the taxing district; however, if one of the purposes of the increased levy is to make redemption payments on bonds of the taxing district, the duration of the increased levy cannot exceed nine years, except for taxes levied for collection in 2018 and thereafter in Thurston County,



the period for which the increased levies are made may not exceed 25 years;

(ii) The purpose or purposes of the increased levy;

(iii) Whether the dollar amount of the increased levy will be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies and thereby permanently increase the taxing district's levy base; and

(iv) Whether the increase in regular property taxes by a county or city resulting from the approval of the lid lift will not apply to property exempt under the senior citizens and disabled persons property tax exemption in RCW 84.36.381.

(7) **Multiple year lid lift.** A multiple year lid lift allows a taxing district to increase its levy by more than one percent over its highest lawful levy since 1985 for 1986 collection, for up to six consecutive years.

~~((a) Ballot title and measure.))~~ The text of a ballot title and measure for a multiple year lid lift must contain the following:

~~((i))~~ (a) The dollar rate of the first year's proposed levy so that it reflects the total dollar rate for the taxing district, which may be less than the maximum statutory dollar rate allowed for the particular class of taxing district;

~~((ii))~~ (b) The limit factor, or specific index used to determine the limit factor (such as the consumer price index), which is not required to be the same for all years, by which the regular tax levy for the district may be increased in each of the subsequent consecutive years;

~~((iii))~~ (c) The limited purposes for which the proposed annual increases will be used; and

~~((iv))~~ (d) Any of the following conditions that are applicable:

~~((A))~~ (i) The number of years the increased levy is to be made by the taxing district; however, if one of the purposes of the increased levy is to make redemption payments on bonds of the taxing district, the duration of the increased levy cannot exceed nine years, except for taxes levied for collection in 2018 and thereafter in Thurston County, the period for which the increased levies are made may not exceed 25 years;

~~((B))~~ (ii) The purpose or purposes of the increased levy;

~~((C))~~ (iii) Whether the dollar amount of the increased levy will be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies and thereby permanently increase the taxing district's levy base; and

~~((D))~~ (iv) Whether the increase in regular property taxes by a county or city resulting from the approval of the lid lift will not apply to property exempt under the senior citizens and disabled persons property tax exemption in RCW 84.36.381.

~~((b) Supplanting of existing funds.~~

~~(i) Except as otherwise provided in (b) of this subsection, funds raised by a levy under this rule may not supplant existing funds used for the limited purpose specified in the ballot title. For purposes of (b) of this subsection, existing funds means the actual operating expenditures for the calendar year in which the ballot measure is approved by voters. Actual operating expenditures excludes:~~

~~(A) Lost federal funds;~~

~~(B) Lost or expired state grants or loans;~~

~~(C) Extraordinary events not likely to reoccur;~~

~~(D) Changes in contract provisions beyond the control of the taxing district receiving the services; and~~

~~(E) Major nonrecurring capital expenditures.~~

~~(ii) In counties with a population of less than \$1,500,000, funds raised through a lid lift can be used to supplant existing funds beginning with levies submitted and approved by the voters after July 26, 2009.~~

~~(iii) In counties with a population of 1,500,000 or more, funds raised through a lid lift can be used to supplant existing funds if the levy was approved by the voters after July 26, 2009, and in one of the following calendar years; 2009, 2010, 2011, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.)~~

(8) **Permanent lid lift.** A permanent lid lift occurs when the ballot title and measure expressly state that the levy will be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies as provided in subsections (6)(b)(iii) and (7)((~~a~~)(~~iv~~)(~~C~~)) (d)(iii) of this rule. Approval of a permanent lid lift permanently increases the base used to calculate the levy limit.

(a) First levy after voter approval. The first regular levy of a taxing district made after voter approval of a permanent lid lift proposition is calculated on the basis of the dollar rate stated in the ballot title. The dollar rate is subject to the constitutional one percent limit, the statutory aggregate dollar rate limit, and any applicable prorationing.

(b) Subsequent levies. The levy limit on regular levies of a taxing district made subsequent to the first regular levy made after voter approval of a permanent lid lift proposition is calculated by multiplying the highest amount that could have been lawfully levied since 1985 for 1986 collection, including the dollar amount of the regular levy calculated in (a) of this subsection, by the limit factor.

(9) **Temporary lid lift.** If the ballot title and measure do not expressly indicate that the final levy will be used for the purpose of computing subsequent levies, the levy increase is temporary.

(a) First levy after voter approval. The first regular levy of a taxing district made after voter approval of a temporary lid lift proposition is calculated on the basis of the dollar rate stated in the ballot title. The dollar rate is subject to the constitutional one percent limit, the statutory aggregate dollar rate limit, and any applicable prorationing.

(b) Subsequent levies. The levy limit on regular levies of a taxing district made subsequent to the first regular levy made after voter approval of a temporary lid lift proposition is calculated by multiplying the highest amount that could have been lawfully levied since 1985 for 1986 collection, including the dollar amount of the regular levy calculated in (a) of this subsection, by the limit factor.