

WSR 26-01-185

EMERGENCY RULES

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

[Filed December 23, 2025, 10:44 a.m., effective December 31, 2025]

Effective Date of Rule: December 31, 2025.

Purpose: The department of revenue (department) is proposing to amend WAC 458-40-540 to adjust the table of forest land values in Washington as required by RCW 84.33.140, which requires the forest land values to be adjusted annually according to the statutory formula contained in RCW 84.33.140(3). County assessors will use these published forest land values for property tax purposes in 2026.

The department is proposing to amend WAC 458-40-660 to establish stumpage value tables to inform timber harvesters of the timber values to be used to calculate the timber excise tax, in accordance with RCW 84.33.091, which requires the department to revise the stumpage value tables every six months. The values in the proposed rule will apply from January 1 to June 30, 2026.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 458-40-540 and 458-40-660.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 82.01.060(2), 84.33.096, 84.33.091, and 84.33.140.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: RCW 84.33.140 requires that forest land value be adjusted annually according to the statutory formula contained in RCW 84.33.140(3); the adjustment of forest land values in WAC 458-40-540 is required to be completed before December 31 of the current year in order for the forest land values to be effective from January 1 through December 31 of the immediately following calendar year. Therefore, the immediate adoption of the proposed amendments for WAC 458-40-540 is necessary to provide county assessors with the forest land values to calculate property tax in 2026.

RCW 84.33.091 requires that stumpage value tables be updated every six months. The adjustment for stumpage values for January 1 through June 30, 2026, as proposed under the amendments to WAC 458-40-660, must be completed before December 31, 2025. Therefore, the immediate adoption of the proposed amendments to WAC 458-40-660 is necessary to provide timber harvesters with correct stumpage values to calculate their timber excise tax for periods of January 1 through June 30, 2026.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Nongovernmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 2, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: December 23, 2025.

Perry Stern
Rules Coordinator

RDS-6748.2

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 25-01-052, filed 12/11/24, effective 1/1/25)

WAC 458-40-540 Forest land values—((2025)) 2026. The forest land values, per acre, for each grade of forest land for the ((2025)) 2026 assessment year are determined to be as follows:

LAND GRADE	OPERABILITY CLASS	((2025)) 2026 VALUES PER ACRE
1	1	((226)) <u>227</u>
	2	((224)) <u>225</u>
	3	((210)) <u>211</u>
	4	((153)) <u>154</u>
2	1	((193)) <u>194</u>
	2	((186)) <u>187</u>
	3	((179)) <u>180</u>
	4	((127)) <u>128</u>
3	1	((149)) <u>150</u>
	2	((145)) <u>146</u>
	3	((143)) <u>144</u>
	4	((111)) <u>112</u>
4	1	((117)) <u>118</u>
	2	((112)) <u>113</u>
	3	((111)) <u>112</u>
	4	((84)) <u>85</u>
5	1	((84)) <u>85</u>
	2	74
	3	73
	4	52
6	1	43
	2	41
	3	41
	4	39
7	1	19
	2	19
	3	17
	4	17
8	1	1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 25-14-008, filed 6/23/25, effective 7/1/25)

WAC 458-40-660 Timber excise tax—Stumpage value tables—Stumpage value adjustments. (1) **Introduction.** This rule provides stumpage value tables and stumpage value adjustments used to calculate the amount of a harvester's timber excise tax.

(2) **Stumpage value tables.** The following stumpage value tables are used to calculate the taxable value of stumpage harvested from ~~((July 1 through December 31, 2025))~~ January 1 through June 30, 2026:

Washington State Department of Revenue
WESTERN WASHINGTON STUMPAGE VALUE TABLE
~~((July 1 through December 31, 2025))~~
January 1 through June 30, 2026

Stumpage Values per Thousand Board Feet Net Scribner Log Scale⁽¹⁾
 Starting January 1, 2019, there are no Haul Zone adjustments.

Species Name	Species Code	SVA (Stumpage Value Area)	Stumpage Values
Douglas-fir ⁽²⁾	DF	1	((514)) <u>522</u>
		2	((565)) <u>584</u>
		3	((606)) <u>624</u>
		4	((624)) <u>633</u>
		5	((547)) <u>635</u>
Western Hemlock and Other Conifer ⁽³⁾	WH	9	((500)) <u>508</u>
		1	((269)) <u>262</u>
		2	((308)) <u>334</u>
		3	((297)) <u>329</u>
		4	((323)) <u>307</u>
Western Redcedar ⁽⁴⁾	RC	5	((343)) <u>352</u>
		9	((255)) <u>248</u>
		1-5	((1,047)) <u>1,050</u>
		9	((1,033)) <u>1,036</u>
		Ponderosa Pine ⁽⁵⁾	PP
9	((144)) <u>133</u>		
Red Alder	RA	1-5	((356)) <u>317</u>
		9	((342)) <u>303</u>

Species Name	Species Code	SVA (Stumpage Value Area)	Stumpage Values
Black Cottonwood	BC	1-5	1
		9	1
Other Hardwood	OH	1-5	133
		9	119
Douglas-fir Poles & Piles	DFL	1-5	((944))
			<u>910</u>
		9	((930))
			<u>896</u>
Western Redcedar Poles	RCL	1-5	((1,938))
			<u>1,833</u>
		9	((1,924))
			<u>1,819</u>
Chipwood ⁽⁶⁾	CHW	1-5	1
		9	1
RC Shake & Shingle Blocks ⁽⁷⁾	RCS	1-9	((327))
			<u>352</u>
Posts ⁽⁸⁾	LPP	1-9	0.35
DF Christmas Trees ⁽⁹⁾	DFX	1-9	0.25
Other Christmas Trees ⁽⁹⁾	TFX	1-9	0.50

- (1) Log scale conversions Western and Eastern Washington. See conversion methods WAC 458-40-680.
- (2) Includes Western Larch.
- (3) Includes all Hemlock, Spruce and true Fir species, or any other conifer not listed on this page.
- (4) Includes Alaska-Cedar.
- (5) Includes all Pines in SVA 1-5 & 9.
- (6) Stumpage value per ton.
- (7) Stumpage value per cord.
- (8) Includes Lodgepole posts and other posts, Stumpage value per 8 lineal feet or portion thereof.
- (9) Stumpage value per lineal foot.

Washington State Department of Revenue
EASTERN WASHINGTON STUMPAGE VALUE TABLE
 ((July 1 through December 31, 2025))
 January 1 through June 30, 2026

Stumpage Values per Thousand Board Feet Net Scribner Log Scale⁽¹⁾
 Starting January 1, 2019, there are no Haul Zone adjustments.

Species Name	Species Code	SVA (Stumpage Value Area)	Stumpage Values
Douglas-fir ⁽²⁾	DF	6	(\$272)
			<u>\$273</u>
		7	((286))
			<u>287</u>
Western Hemlock and Other Conifer ⁽³⁾	WH	6	((206))
			<u>180</u>
		7	((220))
			<u>194</u>

Species Name	Species Code	SVA (Stumpage Value Area)	Stumpage Values
Western Redcedar ⁽⁴⁾	RC	6	((1,011)) <u>1,037</u>
		7	((1,025)) <u>1,051</u>
Ponderosa Pine ⁽⁵⁾	PP	6	((144)) <u>133</u>
		7	((158)) <u>147</u>
Other Hardwood	OH	6	1
		7	9
Western Redcedar Poles	RCL	6	((1,483)) <u>1,443</u>
		7	((1,497)) <u>1,457</u>
Chipwood ⁽⁶⁾	CHW	6	1
		7	1
Small Logs ⁽⁶⁾	SML	6	((12)) <u>11</u>
		7	((14)) <u>13</u>
RC Shake & Shingle Blocks ⁽⁷⁾	RCS	6-7	((327)) <u>352</u>
Posts ⁽⁸⁾	LPP	6-7	0.35
DF Christmas Trees ⁽⁹⁾	DFX	6-7	0.25
Other Christmas Trees ⁽⁹⁾	TFX	6-7	0.50

(1) Log scale conversions Western and Eastern Washington. See conversion methods WAC 458-40-680.

(2) Includes Western Larch.

(3) Includes all Hemlock, Spruce and true Fir species, and Lodgepole Pine in SVA 6-7, or any other conifer not listed on this table.

(4) Includes Alaska-Cedar.

(5) Includes Western White Pine in SVA 6-7.

(6) Stumpage value per ton.

(7) Stumpage value per cord.

(8) Includes Lodgepole posts and other posts, Stumpage value per 8 lineal feet or portion thereof.

(9) Stumpage value per lineal foot.

(3) **Harvest value adjustments.** The stumpage values in subsection (2) of this rule for the designated stumpage value areas are adjusted for various logging and harvest conditions, subject to the following:

(a) No harvest adjustment is allowed for special forest products, chipwood, or small logs.

(b) Conifer and hardwood stumpage value rates cannot be adjusted below one dollar per MBF.

(c) Except for the timber yarded by helicopter, a single logging condition adjustment applies to the entire harvest unit. The taxpayer must use the logging condition adjustment class that applies to a majority (more than 50 percent) of the acreage in that harvest unit. If the harvest unit is reported over more than one quarter, all quarterly returns for that harvest unit must report the same logging condition

adjustment. The helicopter adjustment applies only to the timber volume from the harvest unit that is yarded from stump to landing by helicopter.

(d) The volume per acre adjustment is a single adjustment class for all quarterly returns reporting a harvest unit. A harvest unit is established by the harvester prior to harvesting. The volume per acre is determined by taking the volume logged from the unit excluding the volume reported as chipwood or small logs and dividing by the total acres logged. Total acres logged does not include leave tree areas (RMZ, UMZ, forested wetlands, etc.,) over two acres in size.

(e) A domestic market adjustment applies to timber which meet the following criteria:

(i) **Public timber** - Harvest of timber not sold by a competitive bidding process that is prohibited under the authority of state or federal law from foreign export may be eligible for the domestic market adjustment. The adjustment may be applied only to those species of timber that must be processed domestically. According to type of sale, the adjustment may be applied to the following species:

Federal Timber Sales: All species except Alaska-cedar. (Stat. Ref. - 36 C.F.R. 223.10)

State, and Other Nonfederal, Public Timber Sales: Western Redcedar only. (Stat. Ref. - 50 U.S.C. appendix 2406.1)

(ii) **Private timber** - Harvest of private timber that is legally restricted from foreign export, under the authority of The Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act (Public Law 101-382), (16 U.S.C. Sec. 620 et seq.); the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2406(i)); a Cooperative Sustained Yield Unit Agreement made pursuant to the act of March 29, 1944 (16 U.S.C. Sec. 583-583i); or Washington Administrative Code (WAC 240-15-015(2)) is also eligible for the Domestic Market Adjustment.

The following harvest adjustment tables apply from (~~July 1 through December 31, 2025~~) January 1 through June 30, 2026:

TABLE 9—Harvest Adjustment Table
Stumpage Value Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 9
 (~~July 1 through December 31, 2025~~)
January 1 through June 30, 2026

Type of Adjustment	Definition	Dollar Adjustment Per Thousand Board Feet Net Scribner Scale
I. Volume per acre		
Class 1	Harvest of 30 thousand board feet or more per acre.	\$0.00
Class 2	Harvest of 10 thousand board feet to but not including 30 thousand board feet per acre.	-\$15.00
Class 3	Harvest of less than 10 thousand board feet per acre.	-\$35.00
II. Logging conditions		
Class 1	Ground based logging a majority of the unit using tracked or wheeled equipment or draft animals.	\$0.00
Class 2	Logging a majority of the unit: Using an overhead system of winch-driven cables and/or logging on slopes greater than 45% using tracked or wheeled equipment supported by winch-driven cables.	-\$85.00
Class 3	Applies to logs yarded from stump to landing by helicopter. This does not apply to special forest products.	-\$200.00

Type of Adjustment	Definition	Dollar Adjustment Per Thousand Board Feet Net Scribner Scale
III. Remote island adjustment:		
	For timber harvested from a remote island	-\$50.00
IV. Thinning		
	A limited removal of timber described in WAC 458-40-610 (29)	-\$100.00

**TABLE 10—Harvest Adjustment Table
Stumpage Value Areas 6 and 7
(~~July 1 through December 31, 2025~~)
January 1 through June 30, 2026**

Type of Adjustment	Definition	Dollar Adjustment Per Thousand Board Feet Net Scribner Scale
I. Volume per acre		
Class 1	Harvest of more than 8 thousand board feet per acre.	\$0.00
Class 2	Harvest of 8 thousand board feet per acre and less.	-\$8.00
II. Logging conditions		
Class 1	The majority of the harvest unit has less than 40% slope. No significant rock outcrops or swamp barriers.	\$0.00
Class 2	The majority of the harvest unit has slopes between 40% and 60%. Some rock outcrops or swamp barriers.	-\$50.00
Class 3	The majority of the harvest unit has rough, broken ground with slopes over 60%. Numerous rock outcrops and bluffs.	-\$85.00
Class 4	Applies to logs yarded from stump to landing by helicopter. This does not apply to special forest products.	-\$200.00
Note:	A Class 2 adjustment may be used for slopes less than 40% when cable logging is required by a duly promulgated forest practice regulation. Written documentation of this requirement must be provided by the taxpayer to the department of revenue.	
III. Remote island adjustment:		
	For timber harvested from a remote island	-\$50.00
IV. Thinning		
	A limited removal of timber described in WAC 458-40-610 (29)	-\$60.00

TABLE 11—Domestic Market Adjustment

Class	Area Adjustment Applies	Dollar Adjustment Per Thousand Board Feet Net Scribner Scale
	SVAs 1 through 5 only:	\$0.00
Note:	This adjustment only applies to published MBF sawlog values.	

(4) **Damaged timber.** Timber harvesters planning to remove timber from areas having damaged timber may apply to the department of revenue for an adjustment in stumpage values. The application must contain a map with the legal descriptions of the area, an accurate estimate of the volume of damaged timber to be removed, a description of the damage sustained by the timber with an evaluation of the extent to which the stumpage values have been materially reduced from the values shown in the applicable tables, and a list of estimated additional costs to be incurred resulting from the removal of the damaged timber. The application must be received and approved by the department of revenue before the harvest commences. Upon receipt of an application, the de-

partment of revenue will determine the amount of adjustment to be applied against the stumpage values. Timber that has been damaged due to sudden and unforeseen causes may qualify.

(a) Sudden and unforeseen causes of damage that qualify for consideration of an adjustment include:

(i) Causes listed in RCW 84.33.091; fire, blow down, ice storm, flood.

(ii) Others not listed; volcanic activity, earthquake.

(b) Causes that do not qualify for adjustment include:

(i) Animal damage, root rot, mistletoe, prior logging, insect damage, normal decay from fungi, and pathogen caused diseases; and

(ii) Any damage that can be accounted for in the accepted normal scaling rules through volume or grade reductions.

(c) The department of revenue will not grant adjustments for applications involving timber that has already been harvested but will consider any remaining undisturbed damaged timber scheduled for removal if it is properly identified.

(d) The department of revenue will notify the harvester in writing of approval or denial. Instructions will be included for taking any adjustment amounts approved.

(5) **Forest-derived biomass**, has a \$0/ton stumpage value.