

The Oregon Forest Practice Act: 1972 to 1994

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/w3646e/w3646e07.htm#appendix%201.%20evolution%20of%20oregon%27s%20forest%20practice%20rules,%201972%201993>.

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Appendix 1. Evolution of Oregon's forest practice rules, 1972-1993.

Following is a list of the major rule changes that have occurred throughout the history of the Oregon Forest Practices Act. This list captures the major efforts resulting from legislative changes or responses to noted problems in forest practices. Most of these rule revisions entail increasing protection in riparian areas, improvement in water quality and other benefits for fish and wildlife.

- July, 1972 Initial adoption of Forest Practice Rules. Rules set specific standards for reforestation, road construction and maintenance, and streamside buffer strips. Though many rules were advisory in nature the majority were specific and enforceable.
- July, 1974 Amendments to tractor skidding and mechanical clearing rules.
New rules requiring drainage systems in harvesting operations.
New rules related to spillage of petroleum products.
Additional protection of water sources; wetlands.
- July, 1975 Increased detail required in notification of operations.
New rules requiring water quality protection related to surface mining practices.
- Jan., 1978 New rules and definitions related to "filling and removal" and stream channel changes.
15-day waiting requirement added to notification rule.
- June, 1978 Comprehensive revision in response to 1977 Clean Water Act, Section 208. Made rules more clear and specific regarding water quality protection and added "prior approvals" as a requirement for several practices which potentially could directly affect water quality.

- Sep., 1978 New rules for application of the herbicides 2,4,5-T and Silvex (rendered moot by registration cancellation in Feb., 1979).
- Jan, 1980 Transferred responsibility for reforestation compliance from operators to landowners.
- Sep., 1983 Comprehensive revision of road construction and harvesting rules in response to severe landslide problems in 1981 and 1982. Introduced concepts of "high-risk sites" and "written plans".
- Mar, 1985 Revisions and additions related to land-use planning Goals 5 and 17; defined wetlands, required prior approval for operations near coastal shorelands and critical wildlife habitat sites.
- June, 1985 Additional requirements related to "in-unit slides" in harvesting units. Clarified requirement to comply with written plans.
- Apr., 1987 Comprehensive revision to harvesting and road construction rules dealing with riparian protection in response to state agency coordination requirements of land use planning and an agreement between the Board of Forestry and the Fish and Wildlife Commission. Required specific number and size of conifer trees to be retained in riparian management areas of western Oregon.
- July, 1987 ***Major Amendments to Forest Practices Act through House Bill 3396.***
- May, 1988 New procedures to provide copies of notifications and written plans to interested parties.
New rules governing operations of Regional Forest Practice Committees.
- Aug., 1988 New rules specifying forest practices enforcement procedures and administration of civil penalties.
Contested case procedures for civil penalties.
- Sep., 1988 New requirements for approved mandatory written operations plans within 100 feet of Class 1 streams, or within 300 feet of sites of threatened or endangered species, sensitive bird nesting, roosting or watering, significant wetlands, or biological sites.
Interim protection requirements for operations in above listed sites.
- Sep., 1989 New procedures for operator appeals of orders of the State Forester.
New procedures for appeals of written plan approvals from public who are adversely affected.
- July, 1990 Process rules for listing sites of sensitive bird nesting, roosting or watering.
- Jan., 1991 Protection rules for osprey nesting and roosting sites.
Process for granting exceptions to protection of resource sites.
- May, 1991 Process rules for listing sites of threatened or endangered species.
Protection rules for great blue heron nesting sites.
- June, 1991 Protection rules for northern spotted owl nesting sites.
- July, 1991 ***Major Amendments to Forest Practices Act through Senate Bill 1125.***

- Oct., 1991 Process and protection rules for significant wetlands.
Protection rules for bald eagle nesting and roosting sites.
- May, 1992 New rule requiring compliance with statutory provisions of SB 1125, to allow enforcement with civil and criminal penalties. Enforceable statutory provisions included size and spacing of clearcuts, retention of wildlife trees and snags in clearcut units, interim stream protection measures and protection of scenic highway corridors.
- Jan., 1993 Definition of "single ownerships" for the purpose of determining size and spacing of clearcuts.
Process rules for listing biological sites that are scientifically and ecologically significant.