

## Oregon: Leading the Nation in Forest Practices

In 1971 Oregon was the first state to enact a comprehensive forest practices law and formalize a way to adopt the latest field-tested and peer-reviewed science into an adaptive regulatory framework. The Oregon Forest Practices Act was landmark legislation at the time and remains current today with nearly 40 revisions adopted with guidance from professional foresters and scientific experts over the years.

In 2020, forestry professionals and environmentalists worked together to craft Senate Bill 1602, which passed with nearly unanimous bipartisan support in both legislative chambers with Democrat supermajorities and was signed by Governor Kate Brown in July. This historic bill continues Oregon's long history of leadership in environmental protections for forest practices. SB 1602 established additional protections for forest pesticide applications including expanded buffers, reporting requirements, and notifications.

### Oregon has stringent drinking water protections and a state-of-the-art electronic neighbor notification system.

- SB 1602 requires 300-foot-wide buffers around homes, schools (effective January 1, 2021), and water intakes (effective July 1, 2021) for helicopter applications of pesticides on forestland.
- SB 1602 requires the Oregon Department of Forestry to expand its Forest Activity Electronic Reporting and Notification System to create the *first ever* electronic notification system for real-time communication of helicopter pesticide applications to neighbors within a mile of planned applications.
- SB 1602 requires post-application records for helicopter applications of pesticides be made available to the Oregon Pesticide Application Record Center within 24 hours and Geographic Information System records be made available within five business days.
- Failure to comply with real-time notice or post-application record availability could result in a fine of up to \$5,000.

### Oregon's new regulations mandate the largest buffers for helicopter applications of pesticides on forestland to protect homes, schools, and drinking water.

Prescription		Oregon	Washington	California	Idaho
Buffers for helicopter applications of pesticides on forest land	Homes	300 feet	200 feet	0	0
	Schools	300 feet	0	School hrs= ¼ mile Non-school hrs= 0	0
	Drinking Water intakes	300 feet	0	0	0
Electronic real-time notification system		Yes	No	No	No
Timeliness of record availability		24hrs	No specified time limit	No specified time limit	No specified time limit

In addition, SB 1602 **expanded harvest buffers around streams for salmon, steelhead and bull trout** in the Siskiyou geo-region, bringing buffers developed by forestry professionals and environmentalists for that geo-region in line with the rest of Western Oregon, whose buffers were already expanded in July 2017.