
PRIVATE FOREST ACCORD

Timber Signatories:



Weyerhaeuser



Prescriptions in the Private Forest Accord

Stream Buffers

Buffers on streams differ between western and eastern Oregon and are measured using slope distance, with measurements beginning from the outside edge of the stream or the channel migration zone where one exists. Determination of perenniality will be based on model projections and may be verified in the field by foresters for accuracy.

On the west side:

- 110-foot no harvest buffer for large and medium fish streams
- 100-foot no harvest buffer for small fish streams
- 75-foot no harvest buffer for large and medium non-fish streams
- Small non-fish perennial streams that flow into a salmon steelhead and bull trout (SSBT) stream will require a 75-foot no harvest buffer for the first 500 feet after intersection, and then a 50-foot no harvest buffer for an additional 650 feet or until the end of perenniality.
- Small non-fish perennial streams that flow into a fish stream will require a 75-foot no harvest buffer for 600 feet after intersection.
- Upstream of those buffers stated above, small non-fish perennial streams will require 35 feet of equipment limitation, and retention of trees under six inches and all shrubs.
- Seasonal non-fish streams will require a 35-foot equipment limitation zone.

On the east side:

- 30-foot no harvest buffer and 70 feet of managed buffer for large and medium fish streams
- 30-foot no harvest buffer and 45 feet of managed buffer for small fish and large and medium non-fish streams
- Small non-fish perennial streams with a terminal into a fish stream will require a 30-foot no harvest core and a 30-foot managed buffer for 500 feet.
- Small non-fish perennial streams that lateral into a fish stream will require a 30-foot no harvest buffer for 250 feet.
- Seasonal non-fish streams will require a 30-foot equipment limitation zone.

The agreement also includes buffers for seeps and springs, wetlands and other critical locations associated with streams for amphibians and frogs – many of which were not before buffered.

Forest Roads

New prescriptions for forest roads build on 20 years of good work done in Oregon under the voluntary plan for salmon and watersheds and will be very similar to Washington's forest road regulations. Landowners will be required to conduct a Forest Road Inventory Assessment (FRIA) in the first few years after the rules go into effect to identify problem areas for sediment and fish passage and then submit that assessment to the Oregon Department of Forestry. Projects will need to be prioritized and executed within 20 years. The agreement also increases culvert sizes from 50 to 100-year flood events. Fish culverts installed under current standards will be assessed for fish passage, and if fish passable they will NOT need to be reconstructed until the end of the functional life of the culvert.

Unstable Slopes

The agreement includes an unstable slopes management plan that utilizes a state-of-the-art model on slope stability created by Terrainworks to target areas of higher risk, while still accommodating forestry. The model is based on likelihood of delivering sediment and wood during naturally occurring landslides and prioritizes those areas for buffering, leaving additional unharvested areas for protection and to ensure large woody debris and coarse gravels migrate downstream and create habitat, while protecting against sedimentation during landslide events. Screening tools were also agreed upon to allow for harvest operability and to ensure harvest units maintain value.

Small Forest Landowners

The Oregon Small Woodlands Association is a signatory to the Private Forest Accord and was actively involved in the negotiations. To recognize the disproportional impact to small forest landowners as well as the increased regulatory complexity, the parties agreed to a broad range of mitigation measures for small forest landowners, including:

- A choice to either apply the new riparian rules that are applicable to large forest landowners and take advantage of a tax credit or utilize less restrictive riparian protections.

- An alternative schedule for compliance with the revised road rules, and eligibility for grants to offset costs associated with the new road rules, including replacement of stream crossings that may be blocking fish passage.

In addition, the agreement makes a sizable investment in staffing at the Oregon Department of Forestry to support small forest landowner education, awareness of and access to incentive programs.

Habitat Mitigation

The agreement includes habitat protection for fish species (salmon, steelhead, bull trout) and amphibians (Columbia torrent salamander, southern torrent salamander, coastal giant salamander, Cope's giant salamander, coastal tailed frog)

In addition, the PFA addresses reporting requirements for managing beavers, prioritizes non-lethal strategies for addressing beaver conflicts, and restricts commercial trapping on industrial forest lands.

The agreement also includes mitigation payments to fund projects that contribute additional ecological lift beyond the extensive investment in additional buffers. The forest products industry will pay \$5 million per year and the State will kick in \$10 million per year for 50 years for additional habitat projects around the State.

Funding

Increased funding will need to come from many sources, including state general fund, federal funds, ARPA and matching funds.

Adaptive Management

Creates an Adaptive Management framework to provide science-based recommendations to assist the Board of Forestry in determining if and when it is necessary to adjust regulations to achieve resource goals and objectives identified in the Habitat Conservation Plan and other guidance.

Other

A commitment to attempt to negotiate an agreement on post-fire logging in riparian management areas and instructs the Board of Forestry to commence rulemaking on tethered logging within three years.