



WESTSIDE FOREST STREAM PROTECTION DIAGRAMS Oregon Forest Practices Act riparian management area prescriptions Standard practice: July 2023

This booklet includes a set of diagrams intended to help forest landowners planning a timber harvest to interpret current riparian management area prescriptions required under the Oregon Forest Practices Act. Identify the smallest stream type on your property in the left-hand column. Then, choose which stream type it merges with from the bottom row. Go to the indicated page.

Stream Type	Table of Contents									
Small Type Ns	р. 6	р.7	p. 8	р. 9	р. 10	р. 11	р. 12	р. 13	р. 14	p. 15
Small Type Np		р. 16	р. 17	р. 18	р. 19	p.20	р. 21	р. 22	р. 2 3	p.24
Medium Type N			р. 25	р. 26			р. 27	р. 28	р. 29	p.30
Large Type N				р. 31					р. 32	p.33
Small Type F					p.34	p.35	р. 36	р. 37	p. 38	p. 39
Small Type SSBT						p. 40		р. 41		p. 42
Medium Type F							р. 4 3	р. 44	р. 45	р. 46
Medium Type SSBT								р. 47		p. 48
Large Type F									р. 49	p.50
Large Type SSBT										p. 51
tous into	SmallTyr	SmallTyr	Medium	Largen	Small 13	Small 13	Medium SBT	Medium	Large Type SSB1	Largely
Stream Type										

WATER PROTECTION RULES FOR PRIVATE FORESTS HAVE CHANGED

The Oregon Forest Practices Act has changed as a result of the Private Forest Accord, an agreement signed in 2021 by 13 conservation and fi sheries groups, 11 timber companies and the Oregon Small Woodlands Association. The changes are intended to minimize and mitigate the eff ects logging and other forest management activities may have on water quality and aquatic habitats.

The current requirements include no-cut tree retention areas that are 10% to 100% larger, depending on stream type and location, plus new protections for non-fi sh-bearing streams.

The following diagrams detail the riparian management area (RMA) widths and prescriptions for western Oregon under the standard practice for large private forest landowners.

The new forest practice rules for expanded riparian protections went into effect on July 1, 2023, for forest landowners who own 5,000 or more acres. All private forest landowners will be required to follow the new rules starting Jan. 1, 2024.

WESTERN vs. EASTERN REGULATIONS

The updated forest practice rules for stream vegetation retention are based on two distinct geographic regions: eastern Oregon and western Oregon. The diagrams and information in this book only represent western Oregon RMA prescriptions. Western RMAs generally have wider no-cut tree retention areas for fish-bearing streams, and large and medium non-fish streams.

LARGE vs. SMALL FOREST LANDOWNERS

An estimated 3.6 million acres of Oregon forestland is owned by landowners with fewer than 5,000 acres. For the new forest practice rules, a small forest landowner is defined specifically as someone who owns fewer than 5,000 acres of forestland and harvests no more than 2 million board feet per year, on average.

Under the new forest practice rules, a "small forest landowner minimum option" allows qualified small forest landowners to leave narrower no-cut tree retention areas on their property than the standard practice width required for large forest landowners. Another special consideration for small forest landowners is a new tax credit program to compensate for lost revenue if they agree to exclude timber harvest in the expanded stream-buffer zones required for large forest landowners. To qualify for the tax credit, small forest landowners would have to use the new standard practice required for large forest landowners for riparian areas instead of the small forest landowner minimum option for the next 50 years. See pages 54-55 for more information.

All forest landowners can still submit alternative vegetation retention plans to the Oregon Department of Forestry.

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY RESOURCES

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has established a Small Forestland Owner Assistance Offi ce to help SFOs understand and follow the state's new forest practice regulations. For more details, visit ODF's Forest Practices act FAQ page: <u>https://www.oregon.gov/odf/working/documents/faqs-fpa-rules-all-combined.pdf</u>

For help identifying stream designations — such as size, fish presence, and terminal or lateral classification — visit the ODF Streams and Steep Slopes mapping website:

https://geo.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=dde877f74cf84fdba53bd4b57204c2fe

DEFINITIONS

Buffer: a common term for a no-cut tree retention area

Channel: a distinct stream bed or banks which serves to confine water that may contain flowing water either seasonally or perennially

ELZ: an equipment limitation zone of 35 feet wide on either side of a western Oregon stream where disturbance from equipment activity must be minimized

Flow feature: flowing water for 25 continuous feet or more

Large stream: a stream with an average annual flow of 10 cubic feet per second or more



COMPARING THE TWO EQUIPMENT LIMITATION ZONES (ELZ and R-ELZ)

1. Operators must take corrective action(s) when soil disturbance from ground-based equipment exceeds 10%, or cable-based equipment exceeds 20% of the total area within any ELZ or R-ELZ within a logging operation unit. (OAR 629-630-0700, 629-630-0800)

Medium stream: a stream with an average annual flow 2 cubic feet per second or more, but less than 10 cubic feet per second

R-ELZ: an equipment limitation zone where disturbance from equipment activity must be minimized, and all trees less than 6 inches diameter at breast height and shrubs must be retained where possible; these zones are currently 35 feet wide on either side of the stream in western Oregon, and 30 feet wide in eastern Oregon

HOW DO YOU DETERMINE YOUR RH MAX DISTANCE?



RH max: starting at the confluence of a non-fish-bearing stream (Type Np) and a fish-bearing stream (Type F), or salmon, steelhead or bull trout (SSBT) stream, the RH max is the maximum upstream distance that will require a protective tree retention area along the Type Np stream; Type Np streams terminating in an SSBT stream will have a greater RH max distance (up to 1,150 feet) than those terminating in a Type F stream (up to 600 feet).

Riparian management area (RMA): an area along each side of specified waters of the state where tree and vegetation retention and special management practices are required for the protection of water quality, hydrologic functions, and fish and wildlife habitat; many RMAs are "no-cut," meaning trees must be left standing within their boundaries; no-cut tree retention areas are commonly referred to as "stream buffers"

Small stream: a stream with an average annual flow of 2 cubic feet per second or less

Type D stream: a stream that has domestic water use but is not fish-bearing

Type F stream: a fish-bearing stream

Type N stream: a non-fish-bearing stream

Type Np stream: a non-fish-bearing perennial stream; it contains water throughout the year and includes all perennial streams that are not Type SSBT, Type F or Type D

Type Ns stream: a non-fish-bearing seasonal stream; contains water seasonally only, and includes all seasonal stream reaches that are not Type SSBT, Type F, Type D or Type Np

Type SSBT stream: a stream inhabited by salmon, steelhead or bull trout

Small Type Ns flows into Small Type Ns





Small Type Ns flows into Small Type Np





Small Type Ns flows into Medium Type N





Small Type Ns flows into Large Type N





Small Type Ns flows into Small Type F





Small Type Ns flows into Small Type SSBT





Small Type Ns flows into Medium Type F





Small Type Ns flows into Medium Type SSBT





Small Type Ns flows into Large Type F





Small Type Ns flows into Large Type SSBT





Small Type Np flows into Small Type Np





Small Type Np flows into Medium Type N





Small Type Np flows into Large Type N





Small Type Np flows into Small Type F





Small Type Np flows into Small Type SSBT





Small Type Np flows into Medium Type F





Small Type Np flows into Medium Type SSBT





Small Type Np flows into Large Type F





Small Type Np flows into Large Type SSBT





Medium Type N flows into Medium Type N





Medium Type N flows into Large Type N





Medium Type N flows into Medium Type F





Medium Type N flows into Medium Type SSBT





Medium Type N flows into Large Type F





Medium Type N flows into Large Type SSBT





Large Type N flows into Large Type N





Large Type N flows into Large Type F





Large Type N flows into Large Type SSBT





Small Type F flows into Small Type F





Small Type F flows into Small Type SSBT





Small Type F flows into Medium Type F





Small Type F flows into Medium Type SSBT





Small Type F flows into Large Type F





Small Type F flows into Large Type SSBT





Small Type SSBT flows into Small Type SSBT





Small Type SSBT flows into Medium Type SSBT





Small Type SSBT flows into Large Type SSBT





Medium Type F flows into Medium Type F





Medium Type F flows into Medium Type SSBT





Medium Type F flows into Large Type F





Medium Type F flows into Large Type SSBT





Medium Type SSBT flows into Medium Type SSBT





Medium Type SSBT flows into Large Type SSBT





Large Type F flows into Large Type F





Large Type F flows into Large Type SSBT





Large Type SSBT flows into Large Type SSBT





Special consideration: Small Type Np stream fork within RH max





Special consideration: Small Type Np stream with intermittent flow

If the end of perennial stream flow is above the RH max distance, an equipment limitation zone (R-ELZ) must extend to that upper stream flow, even if there is a dry channel between the two stream flows.

When water flows for a distance less than 25 feet, downstream of the RH max distance but separated from the main flow, it must have a 50-foot, no-cut tree retention area.¹

An equipment limitation zone (R-ELZ) is required between the end of perennial flow and any upstream no-cut tree retention areas below the RH max.

75-foot, no-cut tree retention areas -

t slope distance

V be N

Small

600-foot ;

Medium Type F stream

A 600-foot slope distance from the confluence with a fish-bearing stream will determine the RH max distance.

RH

110-foot, no-cut tree retention area

1. Flowing water must be within the Area of Inquiry (AOI), above perenniality and below the RH max distance If there is enough dry channel in between that AOI is exhausted, this would not receive a 50-foot buffer. (OAR 629-643-0130)

LEGEND



Alternatives for Small Forest Landowners (SFOs)

New rules and regulations reflect the inherent differences in the needs and requirements of SFOs while meeting the overall objectives of the Private Forest Accord agreement. The rules provide two alternative options for riparian area management: a minimum option riparian area prescription specifically for SFOs, and a Forest Conservation Tax Credit incentive offered to SFOs who choose to follow the standard practice prescription.

The minimum option prescription allows SFOs to harvest timber closer to the stream in a riparian area, and to leave a narrower no-cut tree retention area than is required for large forest landowners. The availability of the minimum option is limited by a 5% cap based on the total stream miles owned by all SFOs inside the watershed where the property is located.

FOREST CONSERVATION TAX CREDIT

When harvesting timber, SFOs who choose to leave the standard stream buffer required for large forest landowners (instead of the small forest landowner minimum option buffer) can claim a tax credit based on the value of the timber they have left standing for habitat conservation purposes.

The Forest Conservation Tax Credit will be calculated based on the stumpage value of the additional merchantable timber left unharvested in the "forest conservation area" — a strip of land between the wider buffer required for large forest landowners and the narrower buffer required for SFOs.

To claim the tax credit, SFOs must file the forest conservation area as a deed restriction on their property. Once the tax credit is issued, the current owner of the property and any future owners will be restricted from logging in the stream buffer for a 50-year period.

If the landowner or their heirs decide to log in the stream buffer before the 50-year logging restriction expires, they must repay the state for the portion of the tax credit they've already claimed. If the property changes ownership and the new owner decides to log the area, the new owner must repay the original full amount of the credit.

For more information on this process, please go to: https://www.oregon.gov/odf/working/documents/faqs-fpa-rules-all-combined.pdf

Small Forest Landowner RMA¹ alternatives (western Oregon)

Stream Type	Standard Practice Width	SFO Minimum Option Width	Forest Conservation Area ²		
Large Type SSBT	110-foot, no-harvest	100-foot, no-harvest	Area between 100 and 110 feet		
Medium Type SSBT	110-foot, no-harvest	80-foot, no-harvest	Area between 80 and 110 feet		
Small Type SSBT	100-foot, no-harvest	60-foot, no-harvest	Area between 60 and 100 feet		
Large Type F	110-foot, no-harvest	100-foot, no-harvest	Area between 100 and 110 feet		
Medium Type F	110-foot, no-harvest	70-foot, no-harvest	Area between 70 and 110 feet		
Small Type F	100-foot, no-harvest	50-foot, no-harvest	Area between 50 and 100 feet		
Large Type N	75-foot, no-harvest	70-foot, no-harvest	Area between 70 and 75 feet		
Medium Type N	75-foot, no-harvest	50-foot, no-harvest	Area between 50 and 75 feet		
Small Type Np, Tributary flowing into Type SSBT ³	75-foot, no-harvest RMA from confluence with an SSBT stream for the first 500 feet; then a 50-foot, no-harvest RMA on the next 650 feet, for a total of up to 1,150 feet, with an R-ELZ and/ or ELZ as defined and further described on page 4	35-foot, no-harvest RMA from confluence with an SSBT stream for the first 500 feet; then a 35-foot, no-harvest RMA on the next 650 feet, for a total of up to 1,150 feet, with an R-ELZ and/or ELZ as defined and further described on page 4	Width: Area between 35 feet and the outside edge of the standard practice option (either 50 or 75 feet) Length: Will follow same lengths as the standard practice option		
Small Type Np, Tributary flowing into Type F ³	75-foot, no-harvest RMA from the confluence with a Type F stream for up to the first 600 feet, with an R-ELZ and/or ELZ as defined and further described on page 4	35-foot, no-harvest RMA from the confluence with a Type F stream for up to the first 600 feet, with an R-ELZ and/ or ELZ as defined and further described on page 4	Width: Area between 35 feet and the outside edge of the standard practice option Length: Will follow same lengths as the standard practice option		
Type Ns	35-foot equipment limitation zone	35-foot equipment limitation zone	None		

1. All measurements of RMA widths shall be made using slope distance and shall be measured from the edge of the active channel or channel migration zone (CMZ), if present. The RMA width prescriptions above refer to the width of the RMA on one side of the stream (from the edge of the active channel or CMZ upslope, if present).

2. The width of the FCC area is the difference between the outermost edge of the standard practice width and the outermost edge of the SFO minimum option width. The FCC area is the length of frontage of the harvest unit on that stream type segment.

- 3. The tree retention areas and 35-foot R-ELZ and ELZ apply to each side of the stream as follows:
 - A. R-ELZs are to extend from the end of the RH max distance to the identified most upstream flow feature. The tree retention area is squared off at the end of the RH max in this case.
 - B. If the farthest upstream flow feature is determined to be within the RH max for the stream, the ELZ shall extend upstream to the end of the stream channel. Tree retention area should extend as a radius around the flow feature. The R-ELZ does not apply in this case.



OregonForests.org

v1.3 2023