

ARE THERE LAWS THAT PROTECT OUR FORESTS ?



In 1971, Oregon became the first state to enact a comprehensive set of rules governing forest practices and safeguarding our forest resources including water, fish, wildlife, soil and air. The Oregon Forest Practices Act is updated periodically to keep pace with the most current scientific research.

THE OREGON FOREST PRACTICES ACT REQUIRES*:

REFORESTATION

Landowners must complete replanting within two years after harvest. Within six years, the harvest area must be a healthy stand of trees that can outgrow competing grass and brush.



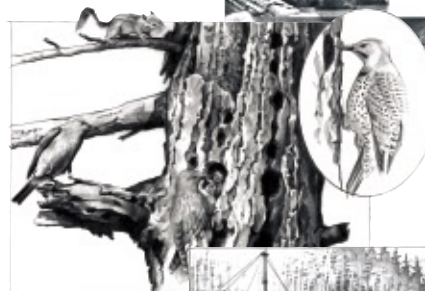
PROTECTION OF WATER RESOURCES

Timber harvesting, road building and the use of chemicals are restricted close to streams to protect fish and drinking water.



PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE HABITAT

Live trees, snags and fallen logs must be left after harvest to provide structure for wildlife habitat.



LIMITS ON CLEARCUTS

A clearcut cannot be more than 120 acres. Clearcuts within 300 feet of each other cannot total more than 120 acres on the same ownership.



* These are highlights. For more details, see Rules and Laws in the menu on the Oregon Department of Forestry Web site, www.oregon.gov/odf.



Photo/Hal Korber

Oregon was the first state in the nation to enact comprehensive forest protection laws.



OREGON FOREST
RESOURCES INSTITUTE

Oregon's Legislature created the Oregon Forest Resources Institute to improve public understanding of Oregon's forest resources and to encourage sound forest practices

Learn more at www.oregonforests.org