

Department of Forestry

Chapter 629

Division 650

WATER PROTECTION RULES: RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT AREAS AND PROTECTION MEASURES FOR LAKES

[629-650-0000](#)

Riparian Management Areas and Protection Measures for Lakes

(1) The purpose of this rule is to protect the functions and values of lakes. Lakes on forestlands provide a wide range of functions and values, including those related to water quality, hydrologic functions, aquatic organisms, fish and wildlife.

(2) Operators shall protect riparian management areas extending:

(a) 100 feet from the high water level of large lakes; and

(b) 50 feet from the high water level of other lakes that have fish use or other lakes that are equal to or greater than one-half acre in size.

(c) No riparian management area is required for other lakes that do not have fish and that are less than one-half acre.

(3) For all lakes with riparian management areas, operators shall provide the following to the riparian management areas and the aquatic areas:

(a) Live tree retention (OAR 629-650-0010);

(b) Soil and hydrologic function protection (OAR 629-650-0020);

(c) Understory vegetation retention (OAR 629-650-0030); and

(d) Snag and down wood retention (OAR 629-650-0040).

(4) For all lakes not having riparian management areas, the lakes shall be protected as other wetlands (OAR 629-655-0000).

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 527.710

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 527.710 & 527.765

History:

DOF 2-2013, f. 7-11-13, cert. ef. 9-1-13

FB 3-1994, f. 6-15-94, cert. ef. 9-1-94, Renumbered from 629-057-2400

[629-650-0005](#)

Written Plans for Operations Near Large Lakes

An operator shall submit a written plan to the State Forester before conducting an operation that requires notification under OAR 629-605-0140 and that is within 100 feet of a large lake.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 527.710

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 527.710 & 527.670 2)

History:

DOF 2-2013, f. 7-11-13, cert. ef. 9-1-13

[629-650-0010](#)

Live Tree Retention for Lakes

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(1) Operators shall retain in the riparian management areas of lakes approximately 50 percent of the original live trees, by species, in each of the following diameter classes (DBH):

- (a) 6 to 10 inches;
- (b) 11 to 20 inches;
- (c) 21 to 30 inches; and
- (d) larger than 30 inches.

(2) As part of the live trees in subsection (1) above, trees on the edge of lakes shall be retained.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 527.710

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 527.710 & 527.765

History:

FB 3-1994, f. 6-15-94, cert. ef. 9-1-94, Renumbered from 629-057-2410

629-650-0020

Soil and Hydrologic Function Protection for Lakes

(1) Operators shall protect soil within the riparian management areas of lakes from disturbances that result in impaired water quality, hydrologic functions, or soil productivity. Operators shall protect hydrologic functions by minimizing disturbances and shall prevent accelerating the natural conversions of lakes to uplands.

(2) Operators shall not drain lakes except for lakes formed by plugged culverts or beaver dams and as allowed in rule for road maintenance.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 527.710

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 527.710 & 527.765

History:

FB 3-1994, f. 6-15-94, cert. ef. 9-1-94, Renumbered from 629-057-2420

629-650-0030

Understory Vegetation Retention for Lakes

(1) The purpose of retaining understory vegetation is to provide soil stability and bank stability along lakes, to maintain cover and shade for wildlife habitat and aquatic habitat, and to protect water quality.

(2) To achieve the purpose of understory retention, operators shall limit disturbance of understory vegetation within riparian management areas of lakes to the minimum necessary to remove timber harvested from the areas and to achieve successful reforestation.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 527.710

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 527.710 & 527.765

History:

FB 3-1994, f. 6-15-94, cert. ef. 9-1-94, Renumbered from 629-057-2430

629-650-0040

Snag Retention and Downed Wood Retention for Lakes

(1) For lakes, operators shall retain all snags and downed trees within the lakes and the applicable riparian management areas.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this rule, any snag defined to be a safety hazard under the safety requirements found in OAR 437, division 7, Forest Activities, or determined to be a fire hazard by the State Forester, may be felled. Any snag felled because of a safety or fire hazard shall be unyarded.

(3) The retention requirements in subsection (1) of this rule may be modified for reasons of forest health for trees that are dying or recently dead because of fire, insect or disease epidemics, or other catastrophic events when addressed in a plan for an alternate practice approved by the State Forester.

(4) Snags and downed wood left pursuant to this rule may not be counted toward the requirements of ORS 527.676.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 527.710

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 527.674, 527.715 & 527.765

History:

DOF 8-2005, f. 12-13-05, cert. ef. 1-1-06

DOF 6-2005(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 8-2-05 thru 1-27-06

FB 9-1996, f. 12-2-96, cert. ef. 1-1-97

FB 3-1994, f. 6-15-94, cert. ef. 9-1-94, Renumbered from 629-057-2440

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