

# GOAL 4

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FOREST  
LANDS

## STATEWIDE PLANNING

### GOAL 4:

To conserve forest lands by maintaining the forest land base and to protect the state's forest economy by making possible economically efficient forest practices that assure the continuous growing and harvesting of forest tree species as the leading use on forest land consistent with sound management of soil, air, water, and fish and wildlife resources and to provide for recreational opportunities and agriculture.

Forest lands are those lands acknowledged as forest lands as of the date of adoption of this goal amendment. Where a plan is not acknowledged or a plan amendment involving forest lands is proposed, forest land shall include lands which are suitable for commercial forest uses including adjacent or nearby lands which are necessary to permit forest operations or practices and other forested lands that maintain soil, air, water and fish and wildlife resources.

## CLATSOP

### COUNTY GOAL 4:

To conserve forest lands for forest uses.

## OVERVIEW

Oregon's forests are working forests. Forests provide broad environmental, social, and economic benefits, including clean water, fish and wildlife habitat, jobs, products, recreation, and tax funds for communities. Logging and support activities for forestry form the base of Oregon's forestry industry.

## OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

### OBJECTIVE 1: To conserve forest lands for forest uses.

**POLICY A:** Forest lands shall be conserved for forest uses, including the production of trees and the processing of forest products, and carbon sequestration, open space, buffers from noise, visual separation from conflicting uses, watershed protection, wildlife and fisheries habitat, soils protection from wind and water, maintenance of clean air and water, outdoor recreational activities compatible with these uses, and grazing land for livestock.

**POLICY B:** Forest Lands, as defined in OAR 660-006-0010, are those lands acknowledged as forest lands, or, in the case of a plan amendment, forest lands shall include Lands that are suitable for commercial forest uses, including adjacent or nearby lands which are necessary to permit forest operations or practices; and other forested lands that maintain soil, air, water and fish and wildlife resources. Forest lands shall be designated Forest in the County's Comprehensive Plan. When considering a zone change to a forest zone, the Planning Commission or other reviewing body shall review the proposal against the acreage, management, and other approval criteria in County-wide Forest Lands Policies.

**POLICY C:** The Oregon Department of Forestry regulates forestry practices through the Forest Practices Act, ORS, 527-620 to 527.992. Clatsop County is not authorized to regulate forest operations of other uses allowed by ORS

## CLATSOP COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

527.620 to 527.990 and Oregon Board of Forestry rules.

**POLICY D:** The county shall amend its land division standards in accordance with [Chapter 660-006-0026](#). Division of forestlands shall be permitted only upon a finding that the proposed division meets the appropriate standards of Chapter 660-006-0026.

**POLICY E:** Ballot Measure 49, approved in 2007 by Oregon voters, requires clustering of two or more homesites that are approved via Measure 49 relief. Homesite authorization is subject to DLCD regulation and review, and clustering shall meet the requirements of DLCD and Clatsop County, to ensure the homesites do not result in the loss of forest lands or diminish or interfere with forest uses.

**POLICY F:** The designation of new park and recreation areas (campgrounds, etc.) on forestlands shall require an assessment of public need for these facilities and their potential impact on adjacent forestlands. The productive capacity of the land shall be evaluated and considered when siting these developments.

**POLICY G:** Forestry activities within watersheds in areas designated Forest in the Comprehensive Plan will be conducted in accordance with the Oregon Forest Practices Act and the Oregon Forest Practice Rules, as revised. Additional protective measures negotiated between forest landowners and water users are encouraged. The preservation of fish, including anadromous species such as salmonid and steelhead, and biologically significant wildlife resources in Clatsop County is dependent upon retention of natural forest habitat, clean air and clean water.

**POLICY H:** The productive capacity of the land will be considered before land designated Forest is changed to another plan designation. The impact of the proposed new use on adjacent lands shall also be evaluated and considered before such a plan change is made.

**POLICY I:** Existing utility rights-of-way shall be utilized to the maximum extent possible before new rights-of-way are created except when or where necessary to avoid environmentally sensitive areas.

**POLICY J:** Where forestlands of suitable management size occur in the interior of rural residential areas, or are completely surrounded by residential development, small woodland management and farming is encouraged. Over time these areas may be needed for housing and in future comprehensive plan updates shall be considered ideally situated for conversion to residential uses prior to conversion of other forestlands.

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**POLICY K:** Expansion of existing non-forest developments and uses in forest zones may be permitted under a Type II procedure only when such expansion is substantially confined to the existing site.

**POLICY L:** Partitioning of forest lands under the provisions of Clatsop County's forest zones which serve to increase forest management efficiency by allowing one or more forest owners to consolidate their land holdings is encouraged.

**POLICY M:** Clatsop County will rely on the following management criteria when reviewing a proposed zone change to a forest zone:  
F-80: Forestlands in the F-80 zone include areas where timber production is the primary land use.

**POLICY N:** A zone change from the F-80 zone to any other zone shall require a plan amendment. The purpose for such a plan change is to assure that primary forest lands in the F-80 zone are not converted to mixed-use forest lands, or to any other plan designation without appropriate review by the County.

**POLICY O:** In land use changes involving a change from Forest Lands or Rural Agricultural Lands to Rural Lands or Development designations an Exception to the Agricultural Lands or Forest Lands Goals must be taken.

**POLICY P:** Clatsop County is encouraged to work with the Oregon Department of Forestry to provide education materials and information that promotes carbon offset options to small and medium woodlot owners.

### **IMPLEMENTING OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (OAR):**

[OAR 660-006 – Goal 4 Forest Lands](#)

[OAR 660-006, Exhibit A](#) – Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions Form

[OAR 660-031](#) – State Permit Compliance and Compatibility

### **COORDINATING STATE AGENCIES:**

Oregon Department of Forestry (OEM)

Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)

### **BACKGROUND REPORTS AND SUPPORTING DATA:**

[Goal 4 Background Report](#)