

AGENCY NAME: Department of Land Conservation and Development

II. KEY MEASURE ANALYSIS

Agency Mission: To support all our partners in creating and implementing local comprehensive plans that reflect and balance the statewide goals, the vision of local citizens, and the interests of local, state, federal and tribal governments.

KPM #11	FOREST LAND – Percent of forest land outside urban growth boundaries zoned in 1987 for forest or mixed farm/forest use that remains zoned for those uses.	Measure since: 2002
Goal	Secure Oregon’s Legacy.	
Oregon Context	OBM 4: Job Growth, OBM 81: Forest Land	
Data source	DLCD’s rural lands GIS database and plan amendment database.	
Owner	Rob Hallyburton, 503-373-0050 ext 239	

1. OUR STRATEGY

Statewide Planning Goal 4 provides for the conservation of forest lands for forest uses and protection of the state’s forest economy. The department accomplishes this goal through programs that monitor and assist with local comprehensive land use plans and forest zoning.

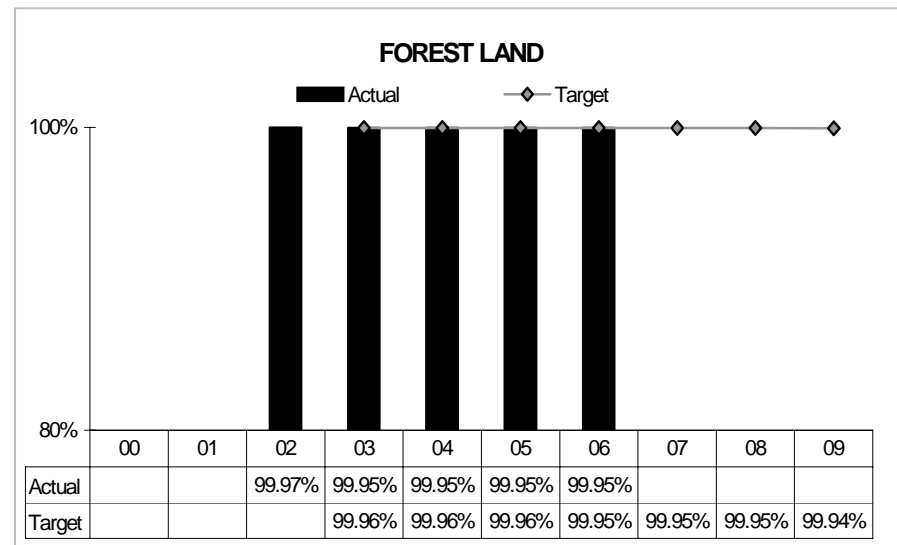
This measure tracks the amount of forest land that remains zoned for farm use over time as compared with the amount of land converted to rural or urban development. A lower percentage of land (acres) converted from farm use to other uses indicates that local plans and ordinances are working to protect forest land for commercial forest use. The results for this year indicate that the state’s land use program continues to work well to maintain forest lands for forest productivity. The desired result of this measure is a higher percentage of forest land retained and, conversely a lower the amount of forest land lost, yearly, to other uses.

2. ABOUT THE TARGETS

The target developed here relies on the assumption that while the land use system serves to protect forest land from conversion to other uses, there nevertheless will be a small amount of that land converted as cities grow in population and develop land at their perimeter, including forest land. This assumption is built into the target, which provides for a small amount of yearly conversion relative to the overall inventory of forest land.

3. HOW WE ARE DOING

In 2006, the acreage of forest land converted from farm use to rural or urban development was consistent with trends in previous years and with the projected target. The 2006 percentage indicates that local jurisdictions, on balance, prevent non-forest uses on EFU zoned land and therefore the department is on target in assuring continued protection of forest land.



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4. HOW WE COMPARE

There are no public or private standards for forestland conservation that compares with Oregon’s land use program or standards.

5. FACTORS AFFECTING RESULTS

The conversion of forest land occurs through local government decisions in response to individual applications to change forest zoning to other uses. The approval of such applications is generally not influenced by the department, but is restrained by LCDC goals, rules, and state land use statutes. Only local approvals that were final and not subject to appeal, and thus are in accord with state land use laws, were used in determining the results of this measure. In the future, Measure 37 claims will affect forest land but will not be counted under this measure, since approval of these claims does not typically result in a change of zoning.

6. WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

Continue current efforts toward meeting this target.

7. ABOUT THE DATA

The reporting cycle is based on information submitted to the department for each calendar year, pursuant to ORS 197.065 and 197.610. Data is verified by comparing the reported acreage with the amounts provided in the county’s staff reports and final decision findings.