



Oregon Administrative Rules for Industrial Operations

Proposed Changes For Fire Prevention Rules

EFFECTIVE 2017 FIRE SEASON

This is a summary of the most significant changes to industrial fire prevention rule changes that will take effect this fire season. For a complete list of fire prevention rule changes, please click on the link at the bottom of the page.

WATER SUPPLY AND EQUIPMENT FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION OAR 629-043-0020

1) Water pumps must discharge at least 20-gallons per minute at 115 psi at pump level.

Allows operators the ability of purchasing pressure pumps from retailers rated as 115 psi. Also allows a testing option to be done with a pressure gauge at pump level. Testing can still be done through 3/4 inch hose and 1/4 inch nozzle to determine gallons per minute requirement. Operators should purchase pressure pumps for firefighting rather than volume pumps.

2) There must be enough hose to reach from the water supply to any location in the operation area affected by power driven machinery, or 500 feet, whichever is greater.

Should a fire occur, the operator must be able to position the water supply in a location where enough hose is available to reach the area worked by power driven machinery. This includes mobile equipment as well as motorized carriages and their moving lines. Moving lines are defined as main lines and haul back lines.

3) A water supply is not required when the only activity remaining is that of self-loading log trucks in a cleared area free of flammable debris.

This new rule will allow operators to move their water supply to new jobs when the fire risk has been reduced based on this activity.

Fire Tools and Extinguishers OAR 629-043-0025

4) Operations with four or less workers are no longer required to provide a fire tool box for the operation as long as each worker is equipped with a shovel suitable for fire suppression.

5) Trucks and equipment must have a 2A:10BC rated fire extinguisher with a pressure gauge.

Now in alignment with OR-OSHA requirements.

Operation Area Fire Prevention OAR 629-043-0026

6) Disconnect battery shut-off switch or park equipment in an area free of flammable vegetation.

Firewatch Service OAR 629-043-0030

To ensure safety and remain in alignment with OR-OSHA, the following updates were made to Firewatch Service.

7) A person performing Firewatch service must:

a) Constantly observe the operation area during any breaks (up to three hours) in operation activity and for three hours after the power driven machinery used by the operator has been shut down for the day; b) Visually observe all portions of the operation area on which operation activity occurred during the preceding period of activity; and c) Be qualified in the use and operation of assigned firefighting equipment and tools; be physically capable of performing assigned fire suppression activities; and be advised of single employee assignment responsibilities (OAR 437-007-1315), when working alone.

8) Upon discovery of a fire, Firewatch personnel must:

a) First report the fire, summon any necessary firefighting assistance, describe intended fire suppression activities and agree on a checking system; then b) After determining a safety zone and an escape route that will not be cut off if the fire increases or changes direction, immediately proceed to control and extinguish the fire, consistent with firefighting training and safety.

9) Immediately following a period when the only operation activity has been the use of self-loading log trucks on improved roads or landings cleared of flammable material, Firewatch service is not required.

Much like number 3 above, this update allows operators to move the Firewatch to the next job when fire risk has been reduced based on this activity.

[Complete list of fire prevention rule changes.](#)

[Industrial Fire Precaution Level Changes.](#)