

# 2000 REFORESTATION ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT



Photo: 2002 photo of a Linn County small non-industrial private landowner's 26-acre reforestation unit. The unit was harvested in 1994, planted in early 1995, and determined to be free-to-grow compliant in 2000.

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"STEWARDSHIP IN FORESTRY"

December 2002

**TO:** Oregon Board of Forestry Members and Other Interested Citizens  
**FROM:** Jeff Peck  
Forest Practices Monitoring Coordinator  
Gregg Cline  
Forest Practices Program Director  
**DATE:** December 12, 2002

This is the Forest Practices Program report on the administration of the forest practice reforestation rules on private non-industrial, industrial and local government owned acreage where inspections were made on units held for compliance during 2000.

**PLANTING ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** In 2000, 97,325 acres required planting under statutory and administrative rule requirements. There was a compliance rate of 99.3% based on acres checked. Compliance information was available for 85.9% of the total acres in this category.

**FREE-TO-GROW ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** In 2000, 117,978 acres were required to meet the free-to-grow standard under the reforestation rules. Compliance inspections indicate that 99.9% of the acres were free-to-grow compliant on acres checked. Compliance checks were completed on 79.8% of acres required to be free-to-grow.

**LAND USE CHANGES / VIOLATIONS:** Of the total operational units requiring compliance in 2000, 173 units (2,082 acres) involved a land-use change activity and 22 units (661 acres) were found to be in violation.

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) continued with a high level of total acres requiring compliance (215,303 acres) in 2000, down slightly from last year's unprecedented level of 222,983 acres. This level still represents a 19% increase over the previous five-year average. These increases occurred primarily through record level harvest activity in the early to mid 90's now coming due for free-to-grow compliance in addition to the required planting compliance inspections. This level is expected to continue upwards to a new high of around 260,000 acres requiring compliance in 2001 and 2002.

Compliance inspections continue on many of the remaining 1,219 operations (36,949 acres) that were identified as undetermined or having an extended compliance date at the time of report data collection. Inaccessible units and heavy forest practice forester workloads delay compliance work. Most of these units are expected to meet planting and free-to-grow requirement standards of the reforestation rules. In response to heavier workloads and limited resources, ODF has prioritized inspections and developed guidance to help focus and prioritize compliance inspections on lands at higher risk. Operational policy gives a lower priority for completing inspections on units less than or equal to ten acres, on non-industrial private lands outside urban growth boundaries. A high percentage (about 42%) of these operations are less than or equal to ten acres in size. For industrial forestland, operational guidance states that inspections be made by random selection on at least five percent (by landowner) of industrial forestland.

This report is available on the department's website at <http://www.odf.state.or.us>, within the Forest Practices Program's Reference Library web pages. If you have questions regarding this report, please contact Jeff Peck, Forest Practices Monitoring Coordinator, at 503-945-7474 or Forest Practices staff at 503-945-7470.

# 2000 REFORESTATION ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

The purpose of this document is to provide the Board of Forestry and other interested citizens information about reforestation accomplishments and compliance on private and local government forestlands, through the administration of the Oregon Forest Practices Act during 2000. This report provides information on planting accomplishments achieved under statutory and administrative rule requirements in 2000, and free-to-grow accomplishments achieved under the forest practice rules. Information on Oregon Department of Forestry's administrative procedures is also provided.

## Oregon's Reforestation Requirements

The Oregon Legislature amended the Oregon Forest Practices Act in 1991 to include shortened timeframes for planting and established additional compliance standards after planting. The 1991 statutes required that reforestation efforts start within 12 months after completion of harvest; reforestation was required after harvest even if pre-harvest stocking was below standards, and planting was required within two planting seasons. Timely reforestation following operations that reduce stocking is essential to the continuous growing and harvesting of forest tree species. These planted stands were required to meet free-to-grow standards by the end of the fifth growing season after planting or seeding. These statutes applied statewide with no regional or subregional differences. The 1997 report was the first year that free-to-grow compliance checks were reported for harvest unit operations completed after September 1991.

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**Timely reforestation following operations that  
reduce tree stocking is essential to the continuous growing and  
harvesting of forest tree species.**

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Reforestation rules were updated by the Board of Forestry in 1994. Free-to-grow compliance changed from the end of the fifth growing season after planting to the end of the sixth full calendar year after the completion of the operation. Harvest units completed after January 1, 1995 are required to meet these reforestation rules.

## Administrative Procedures

For all reforestation requirements, administrative procedures direct the department to:

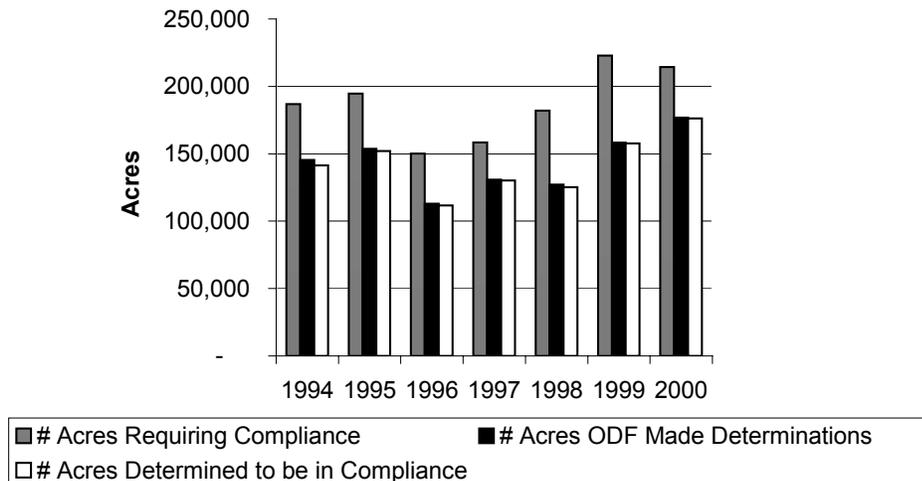
1. Notify each landowner, at the time of notification, that reforestation will be required if stocking is reduced below specific minimums as a result of the operation.
2. Inform each landowner, upon completion of an operation, of the part of the operation subject to the reforestation requirements, the minimum number of trees per acre that must be established and the deadline for establishment.
3. Make compliance examinations to determine whether the reforestation effort resulted in established stocking within the required time period. Examinations are prioritized and done as workloads allow. Forest practice foresters are not able to examine every reforestation unit.

**Table I. Reforestation Accomplishments, 1994 – 2000**

Year	Total Acres <sup>1</sup> Requiring Compliance	Acres on Which ODF Made Determinations	Acres Determined to be in Compliance	% of Acres Checked that are in Compliance
1994	186,903	145,291 (77.7%)	141,376	97.3%
1995	194,607	153,808 (79.0%)	151,994	98.8%
1996	150,115	112,902 (75.2%)	111,695	98.9%
1997	158,386	130,748 (82.6%)	130,129	99.5%
1998	181,924	127,227 (69.9%)	125,240	98.4%
1999	222,983	158,182 (70.9%)	157,605	99.6%
<b>2000</b>	<b>215,303</b>	<b>178,394 (82.9%)</b>	<b>177,733</b>	<b>99.6%</b>

<sup>1</sup>Data for 1994-2000 includes compliance acres for planting and free-to-grow accomplishments combined.

### Reforestation Compliance Examinations



## Compliance Examination Results

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**Field examinations of the 2000 units indicate that planting standards (trees/acre) continue to be significantly higher than the minimum requirements of the Forest Practices Act.**

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### Planting

Of the 2,570 units (97,325 acres) requiring "planting" under reforestation statutory and administrative rule requirements in 2000, 2,125 units (83,066 acres) were determined to be in compliance; 17 units (547 acres) were in violation; 7 units (215 acres) had timelines for compliance extended for special circumstances; and 421 units (13,497 acres) had an undetermined status at the time of report preparation. In addition, 89 of the units (714 acres) listed in the categories above had a completed or initiated land use change activity. Field examinations of the 2000 units indicate that planting standards (trees/acre) continue to be significantly higher than the minimum requirements of the Forest Practices Act. Compliance information was available on 85.9% of the total acres. There was a compliance rate of 99.3% based on these acres and 99.2% based on the number of units checked. See Table III, page 6. Planting accomplishments were first reported in 1994.

### Free-to-grow

Of the 3,733 units (117,978 acres) requiring free-to-grow compliance in 2000, 2,924 units (94,048 acres) were found in compliance; 5 units (114 acres) were in violation of the rules; 798 units (23,452 acres) remain in an undetermined status; and 6 units (364 acres) had timelines for compliance extended for special circumstances. In addition, 84 units (1,368 acres) listed in the above categories had a completed or initiated land use change activity. Based on data gathered by department forest practices foresters, compliance information was available on 79.8% of the total acres. There was a compliance rate of 99.9% based on these acres and 99.8% based on the number of units checked. See Table IV, page 7. Free-to-grow units were first reported in 1997.

## Violations

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Recent reforestation violations have occurred almost exclusively on non-industrial private lands, and primarily involve small acreage units.

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Violations have a variety of causes, including those for resource damage and administrative process, such as failure to notify. Recent reforestation violations have occurred almost exclusively on non-industrial private lands, and primarily involve small acreage units. Landowners who have operations which are discovered to be in violation of the reforestation requirements either have been or will be cited and given repair orders. Landowners may face additional enforcement actions if the repair orders are not complied in a timely manner. The department continues to implement a number of pro-active prevention activities designed to reduce reforestation violations.

**Table IIa. Violation Activity, 1994-2000**

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Violation Units	145	63	53	31	34	38	<b>22</b>
Violation Acres	3,164	1,814	813	619	1,987	577	<b>661</b>

## Changes in Land Use

Reforestation is not required when the landowner converts the operation area to a land use that precludes the continued growing and harvesting of forest tree species. Of the total operational units requiring compliance in 2000, 173 units (2,082 acres) involved a land-use change activity.

**Table IIb. Land-Use Change Activity (LUC), 1994-2000**

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
LUC Units	115	100	178	208	159	183	<b>173</b>
LUC Acres	2,207	954	1,629	3,649	1,806	2,259	<b>2,082</b>

## Coordination

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**Service and forest practices foresters can coordinate activities to make early contacts with the affected landowners and offer assistance in managing these young timber stands so they will reach free-to-grow status.**

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In addition to making rule compliance determinations, forest practices foresters continue to coordinate with service foresters in the department's Forestry Assistance Program. They alert service foresters when non-industrial plantations are identified which may meet the minimum forest practices reforestation standards but which also may be in jeopardy from brush competition, animal damage or other problems. Service and forest practices foresters can coordinate activities to make early contacts with the affected landowners and offer assistance in managing these young timber stands so they will reach free-to-grow status.

Tables III and IV summarize the 2000 reforestation accomplishments by Oregon Department of Forestry districts, the three geographic areas and the state overall.

This report was prepared by Forest Practices staff in cooperation with Oregon Department of Forestry field units.

### Publication distribution

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**TABLE III**

**2000 PLANTING ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

DISTRICT	PLANTING REQUIRED		PLANTING ACCOMPLISHED		IN VIOLATION		COMPLIANCE EXTENDED		PLANTING STATUS UNDETERMINED		LAND USE CHANGE*	
	OPS	ACRES	OPS	ACRES	OPS	ACRES	OPS	ACRES	OPS	ACRES	OPS	ACRES
ASTORIA	142	5,354	130	4,728	0	0	0	0	12	626	19	60
CLACKAMAS-MARION	156	4,632	155	4,620	1	12	0	0	0	0	1	3
FOREST GROVE	479	13,831	281	8,706	0	0	0	0	198	5,125	7	24
TILLAMOOK	65	1,664	59	1,568	0	0	4	90	2	6	0	0
WEST OREGON	380	14,543	287	11,328	1	35	1	12	91	3,168	7	33
<b>NORTHWEST OR AREA</b>	<b>1,222</b>	<b>40,024</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>30,950</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>8,925</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>120</b>
COOS	503	18,681	467	17,821	3	42	0	0	33	818	43	471
DOUGLAS	202	9,409	198	9,325	1	40	1	3	2	41	3	87
EASTERN LANE	167	9,438	123	7,607	0	0	0	0	44	1,831	0	0
LINN	125	5,583	122	5,496	3	87	0	0	0	0	0	0
SOUTHWEST	17	712	17	712	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WESTERN LANE	223	6,799	190	6,082	8	331	0	0	25	386	6	29
<b>SOUTHERN OR AREA</b>	<b>1,237</b>	<b>50,622</b>	<b>1,117</b>	<b>47,043</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>3,076</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>587</b>
KLAMATH-LAKE	46	3,323	44	3,227	0	0	0	0	2	96	0	0
CENTRAL OREGON	42	2,736	31	1,274	0	0	1	110	10	1,352	3	7
NORTHEAST	23	620	21	572	0	0	0	0	2	48	0	0
<b>EASTERN OR AREA</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>6,679</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>5,073</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1,496</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>2,570</b>	<b>97,325</b>	<b>2,125</b>	<b>83,066</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>13,497</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>714</b>

\* In addition, 89 of the units (714 acres) listed in the various categories to the left of the bolder vertical line indicated a completed or initiated Land Use Change activity.  
11/20/2002

**TABLE IV**

**2000 FREE-TO-GROW ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

DISTRICT	FREE-TO-GROW REQUIRED		FREE-TO-GROW ACCOMPLISHED		IN VIOLATION		STATUS UNDETERMINED		COMPLIANCE EXTENDED		LAND USE CHANGE*	
	OPS	ACRES	OPS	ACRES	OPS	ACRES	OPS	ACRES	OPS	ACRES	OPS	ACRES
ASTORIA	250	8,400	141	5,393	0	0	109	3,007	0	0	12	119
CLACKAMAS-MARION	379	8,426	331	6,880	0	0	48	1,546	0	0	6	159
FOREST GROVE	869	15,734	551	11,813	0	0	318	3,921	0	0	0	0
TILLAMOOK	84	2,131	83	2,116	1	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
WEST OREGON	355	13,759	203	5,737	2	34	148	7,933	2	55	1	2
<b>NORTHWEST OR AREA</b>	<b>1,937</b>	<b>48,450</b>	<b>1,309</b>	<b>31,939</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>16,407</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>280</b>
COOS	487	18,922	472	18,153	0	0	14	649	1	120	13	155
DOUGLAS	272	10,210	250	9,421	0	0	21	764	1	25	0	0
EASTERN LANE	244	10,539	166	7,719	0	0	78	2,820	0	0	1	10
LINN	174	6,051	153	5,632	2	65	19	354	0	0	0	0
SOUTHWEST	13	815	13	815	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WESTERN LANE	418	10,914	401	10,082	0	0	17	832	0	0	51	923
<b>SOUTHERN OR AREA</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>57,451</b>	<b>1,455</b>	<b>51,822</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>5,419</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>1,088</b>
KLAMATH-LAKE	61	4,778	59	4,685	0	0	2	93	0	0	0	0
CENTRAL OREGON	40	2,374	37	2,164	0	0	3	210	0	0	0	0
NORTHEAST	87	4,925	64	3,438	0	0	21	1,323	2	164	0	0
<b>EASTERN OR AREA</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>12,077</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>10,287</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,626</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>3,733</b>	<b>117,978</b>	<b>2,924</b>	<b>94,048</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>23,452</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>1,368</b>

\* In addition, 84 of the units (1,368 acres) listed in the various categories to the left of the bolder vertical line indicated a completed or initiated Land Use Change activity. 11/20/2002