

To: Oregon Board of Forestry
From: Oregon Small Woodland Association Board of Directors
Date: 4-22-2015
Subject: Public Hearings for Draft Riparian Rule Amendments

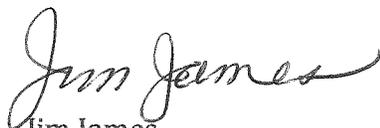
Once the Board proposes to adopt amendments to the riparian rules, the Oregon Small Woodlands Association requests that the Board:

1. Notify by mail all landowners with streams affected by the draft rules¹; and
2. Hold oral public hearings in each department district office where those proposed rules would be applied in western Oregon.²

Sincerely,



Scott Hanson
President



Jim James
Executive Director

¹ The department database of affected stream layers, plus a statewide private land ownership database, makes notification by mail possible.

² **ORS 183.335 Notice** (3)(a) When an agency proposes to adopt, amend or repeal a rule, it shall give interested persons reasonable opportunity to submit data or views. Opportunity for oral hearing shall be granted upon request received from 10 persons or from an association having not less than 10 members before the earliest date that the rule could become effective after the giving of notice pursuant to subsection (1) of this section. An agency holding a hearing upon a request made under this subsection shall give notice of the hearing at least 21 days before the hearing to the person who has requested the hearing, to persons who have requested notice pursuant to subsection (8) of this section and to the persons specified in subsection (15) of this section. The agency shall publish notice of the hearing in the bulletin referred to in ORS 183.360 (Publication of rules and orders) at least 14 days before the hearing. The agency shall consider fully any written or oral submission.

(b) If an agency is required to conduct an oral hearing under paragraph (a) of this subsection, and the rule for which the hearing is to be conducted applies only to a limited geographical area within this state, or affects only a limited geographical area within this state, the hearing shall be conducted within the geographical area at the place most convenient for the majority of the residents within the geographical area. At least 14 days before a hearing conducted under this paragraph, the agency shall publish notice of the hearing in the bulletin referred to in ORS 183.360 (Publication of rules and orders) and in a newspaper of general circulation published within the geographical area that is affected by the rule or to which the rule applies. If a newspaper of general circulation is not published within the geographical area that is affected by the rule or to which the rule applies, the publication shall be made in the newspaper of general circulation published closest to the geographical area.