

Who needs to file a Notification of Operation with the Oregon Department of Forestry?

By Teresa Vonn
Oregon Department of Forestry

The responsibility for filing Notification of Operations lies with the landowner and is required for forest health improvement and commercial harvest activities.

Activities relating to the establishment, management, or harvest of forest tree species include pre-commercial thinning, slash disposal, chemical application to remove hardwoods, harvesting timber, site preparation for reforestation, and road building require a submission of Notification. A Notification is also required when cutting and selling timber from farmland or rural residential land, and when changing forestland to non-forest use.

For more information on whether you are required to submit a notification or to pick up a Notification form visit the Oregon Department of Forestry in your county. After completing the form, submit the Notification of Operation and a map of the location of the planned activity to the local Oregon Department of Forestry office. The Jackson County ODF office is located at 5286 Table Rock Road, Central Point, Oregon 97502, (541) 664-3328. The Josephine County ODF office is located at 5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass, Oregon 97526, (541) 474-3152.

ODF must have the Notification at least 15 days prior to beginning the activities. Written plans are required in addition to the Notification of Operation when work is within 100 feet of a fish bearing or domestic use stream, within 100 feet of a large lake

or within 300 feet of a significant wetland, or other protected resources. The operator/landowner is responsible for complying with the Oregon Forest Practices act when operating on forestlands.

A burn permit is required to burn slash and other material resulting from forestland activities such as thinning and commercial harvesting. A burn permit, valid only during permitted dates, can be obtained at the local Oregon Department of Forestry office.

Slash may also be disposed of by chipping and/or removal to a biomass facility. A wood chipper tax credit through the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality may be available. Contact Jackson County Environmental Health, (541) 774-8207 or www.jacksoncounty.org, click on Air Quality, for more information.