

Goal 5: Natural Resources, Scenic and Historic Areas, and Open Spaces

OAR 660-015-0000(5)



Goal

To protect natural resources and conserve scenic and historic areas and open spaces.

Local governments shall adopt programs that will protect natural resources and conserve scenic, historic and open space resources for present and future generations. These resources promote a healthy environment and natural landscape that contributes to Oregon's livability.

The following resources shall be inventoried:

- a. Riparian corridors, including water and riparian areas and fish habitat;
- b. Wetlands;
- c. Wildlife Habitat;
- d. Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers;
- e. State Scenic Waterways;
- f. Groundwater Resources;
- g. Approved Oregon Recreation Trails;
- h. Natural Areas;
- i. Wilderness Areas;
- j. Mineral and Aggregate Resources;
- k. Energy sources;
- l. Cultural areas.

Local governments and state agencies are encouraged to maintain current inventories of the following resources:

3. Historic Resources;

4. Open Space;
5. Scenic Views and Sites.

Following procedures, standards and definitions contained in commission rules, local governments shall determine significant sites for inventoried resources and develop programs to achieve the goal.

Guidelines

A. Planning

1. The need for open space in the planning area should be determined, and standards developed for the amount, distribution, and type of open space.
2. Criteria should be developed and utilized to determine what uses are consistent with open space values and to evaluate the effect of converting open space lands to inconsistent uses. The maintenance and development of open space in urban areas should be encouraged.
3. Natural resources and required sites for the generation of energy (i.e. natural gas, oil, coal, hydro, geothermal, uranium, solar and others) should be conserved and protected; reservoir sites should be identified and protected against irreversible loss.
4. Plans providing for open space, scenic and historic areas and natural resources should consider as a major determinant the carrying capacity of the air, land and water resources of the planning area. The land conservation and development actions provided for by such plans should not exceed the carrying capacity of such resources.
5. The National Register of Historic Places and the recommendations of the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation should be utilized in designating historic sites.
6. In conjunction with the inventory of mineral and aggregate resources, sites for removal and processing of such resources should be identified and protected.
7. As a general rule, plans should prohibit outdoor advertising signs except in commercial or industrial zones. Plans should not provide for the reclassification of land for the purpose of accommodating an outdoor advertising sign. The term "outdoor advertising sign" has the meaning set forth in ORS 377.710(24).

B. Implementation

1. Development should be planned and directed so as to conserve the needed amount of open space.

2. The conservation of both renewable and non-renewable natural resources and physical limitations of the land should be used as the basis for determining the quantity, quality, location, rate and type of growth in the planning area.
3. The efficient consumption of energy should be considered when utilizing natural resources.
4. Fish and wildlife areas and habitats should be protected and managed in accordance with the Oregon Wildlife Commission's fish and wildlife management plans.
5. Stream flow and water levels should be protected and managed at a level adequate for fish, wildlife, pollution abatement, recreation, aesthetics and agriculture.
6. Significant natural areas that are historically, ecologically or scientifically unique, outstanding or important, including those identified by the State Natural Area Preserves Advisory Committee, should be inventoried and evaluated. Plans should provide for the preservation of natural areas consistent with an inventory of scientific, educational, ecological, and recreational needs for significant natural areas.
7. Local, regional and state governments should be encouraged to investigate and utilize fee acquisition, easements, cluster developments, preferential assessment, development rights acquisition and similar techniques to implement this goal.
8. State and federal agencies should develop statewide natural resource, open space, scenic and historic area plans and provide technical assistance to local and regional agencies. State and federal plans should be reviewed and coordinated with local and regional plans.
9. Areas identified as having non-renewable mineral and aggregate resources should be planned for interim, transitional and "second use" utilization as well as for the primary use.

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Administrative Rules Applicable to Goal 5:

[OAR chapter 660, division 16](#), Requirements and Application Procedures for Complying with Statewide Goal 5 (applicable to cultural resources)

[OAR chapter 660, division 23](#), Procedures and Requirements for Complying with Goal 5 (applicable to resources except cultural resources)