



Faller - Bucker Safety & Health Program Training Guide Supplement

Employee Name: _____ Date: _____
(Print)

The following is a supplement to company specific training, other training aids, and the applicable provisions of the Division Seven Forest Activities Code that apply to the job title listed above.

- Cutters have a very important role in the overall production and safety of the operation while performing a job that historically has been the most dangerous in the logging industry. In order for your job to be done safely, you will need to know how you will interact with the employees and machinery on the job site.
- Your safety and the safety of your fellow employees will be greatly affected by your attentiveness. Point out any hazards or safety concerns you have as you see them. Be attentive on the job site. Drug and/or alcohol abuse will not be tolerated, nor will horseplay or any other unsafe activity.
- Falling timber also presents an extreme hazard to any other person who may be in the area. No logging machine or employee working on the ground should ever be allowed to approach you while you are falling timber. Good communication between you and others is vital for their safety. In order for you to understand their duties, you should read the AOL Training Guide Supplement for Skidding Machine Operator, and others if applicable. Any questions or concerns you have about safety at the job site should be discussed with your supervisor immediately. If supervising or directing the work activities of one or more employees the AOL Supervisors Training Guide Supplement should be utilized.
- A supply of bright orange Hazard Identification Ribbon must be carried by you or kept in a pack near you. This ribbon is to be used only to mark hazards. Anytime a hazard is marked you should inform your supervisor so anybody working in the area can be informed of the hazard.
- You will need to maintain a safe distance between yourself and other employees and equipment. The minimum distance between any worker(s) manually falling trees and any other personnel must be twice the height of the trees being felled. The only exception would be when you are working as a team (Double Jacking) with another person on the same tree. However, you will need to position yourself close enough to render assistance to another person in case of an emergency. You should be within site of another person or able to talk to each other by natural unassisted voice communication.
- In order to be highly visible to others, Timber Fallers are required to wear a brightly colored hard hat or upper body cover such as a safety vest. Hard hats are required and provide much needed protection from overhead hazards so keep yours in top shape. Do not position yourself under overhead hazards. Never place yourself in a position in front of a tree, regardless of its size, that has had a face cut into it. Many Timber Fallers, including those with many years of experience have been injured when working in front of a tree that has been faced up.

- You will encounter brush, slick bark, limbs, and logs on the ground as part of your work environment. Caulk boots, in good condition are essential. Even with caulk boots, slips and falls will be a prime concern. Move cautiously and avoid jumping and running.
- Always avoid kickbacks when operating chain saws. Position yourself so you have stable footing. Never operate a chain saw from an awkward position and avoid operating a chain saw over your head.
- Eye protection is required when chips, sawdust, or flying particles presents a hazard to your eyes. Keep it in good condition. Hearing protection is provided by the company and must be worn whenever you are operating a chain saw. It is your responsibility to keep your hearing protection useable and clean. Replace your hearing protection as needed.
- You are responsible for the maintenance of all your personal protective equipment, chain saws, and other tools. All manufacturers' installed safety equipment must remain on the chain saw, and be kept operational at all times. Chain saws being used must be equipped with a working chain brake if the saw was manufactured with one. You must protect yourself from chain saw cuts by wearing approved leg protection. Keep your leg protection in good condition, and replace it when it gets worn out. Always carry at least two wedges and a single bit axe when falling timber. Keep your tools and equipment in top condition at all times.
- Before falling a tree you must look up the front and back of the tree and check for any overhead hazards prior to starting the cut. If you determine a tree cannot be safely felled, work shall not proceed until you have consulted with your supervisor or another competent cutter. Work may presume after a safe work method or procedure has been determined.
- When determining the falling direction, take into account any rocks, trees, logs, or etc., that could possibly roll, slide, or be tossed into the air by the impact of the tree being felled. Consult with your supervisor whenever a safe method of falling a tree cannot be determined.
- Always have a pre-determined escape route from the tree after the falling direction has been determined, and possible hazards evaluated. Clear out all obstacles in the escape path so you will be able to rapidly get safely away, a distance of at least 25 feet from the tree as it is committed to fall.
- Back cuts should be made as level as possible with the undercut, and slightly above the undercut. Leave enough holding wood to control the intended direction of the tree being felled. Use wedges on any tree 15 inches Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) or greater without a predictable lean.
- Undercuts must be used on any tree 6 inches DBH or greater. Undercuts should usually be no less than $\frac{1}{4}$ the diameter of the tree, and the face opening at least $\frac{1}{5}$ the diameter of the tree.
- Domino falling will be prohibited. The only exception is if falling another tree into it can dislodge a lodged tree. Always avoid working under a lodged tree and cutting a tree that another tree is lodged in. If a tree cannot be dislodged, consult with your supervisor or another competent cutter to determine what action needs to be taken. If a lodged tree or standing tree with undercuts or back cut is left unattended, the hazardous area must be distinctly marked by your hazard identification ribbon.

- Once the tree is on the ground, you will need to determine if it can be safely bucked - if your instructions are to buck the timber after it has been felled. Consult your supervisor before bucking if you fell any tree you felled is too dangerous to buck safely. Note that only one person should be bucking a log if the log is likely to roll or move as a result of a cut. Be sure of your footing before you start to buck a log, and do not buck a log if you feel there is no safe way of standing while you make the cut. Never stand below a log being bucked where if it rolled could strike you.

Employee Signature: _____

Trainer Signature: _____