FWPFGM3213 Fall trees manually (advanced)

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comment
1	Replaces equivalent unit FPIFGM3213 Fall trees manually (advanced), which was first released with FPI11 Forest and Forest Products Training Package Version 2.2. This is the first release of this unit in the new standards format.

Application

This unit of competency describes the outcomes required to assess, plan and safely carry out manual tree-felling operations using a chainsaw.

This unit covers the felling procedures for trees with a level of complexity that requires significant tree assessment and advanced practical felling skills.

Persons competent in this unit should be able to effectively fell trees of any size, species and condition, including those with significant defects and characteristics that cause excessive felling complexity, that are deemed safe to fell.

Trees typical to the scope of this unit may include the following characteristics:

- lean and weight distribution that adds significant complexity yet can be assessed and adapted to site requirements
- larger dimensions relative to local forest size distribution
- substantial lean
- damage or defect that requires complex felling techniques
- multi-legged, hollow butts, culls and stags
- species prone to free splitting and adverse reactions during felling
- single or complex multi-stems
- diameter of tree greater than chainsaw bar length
- grown on terrain and slope that can add significant complexity to the operation

The unit applies to a non-production environment, including forest, rural and community environments.

Licensing, legislative, regulatory, or certification requirements apply to this unit in some states & territories at the time of publication, and may differ according to jurisdiction

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Forest Growing and Management

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the range of conditions.
1. Prepare for felling	1.1 Identify and comply with applicable work health and safety (WHS), environmental, legislative and organisational requirements relevant to felling trees
	1.2 Identify and adhere to site environmental protection measures according to relevant legislation and regulations
	1.3 Review job requirements and check with appropriate personnel
	1.4 Select tools and equipment appropriate to work requirements and check for operational effectiveness according to manufacturer recommendations
	1.5 Sharpen and adjust chainsaw or change components according to manufacturer recommendations
	1.6 Identify and control potential and existing risks and hazards in the work area
	1.7 Identify trees to be felled as being safe to fell
	1.8 Establish and maintain communication with others according to OHS requirements
2. Visually assess site conditions and surroundings	2.1 Review terrain and slope to determine if they add significant complexity to the operation
	2.2 Assess general factors affecting felling requirements and detect and control specific forest or site risks and hazards
	2.3 Assess and progressively plan tree-felling sequence for individual trees
3. Assess tree and plan felling	3.1 Locate and visually assess tree for felling characteristics
	3.2 Confirm tree is safe to fell
	3.3 Assess and check required falling direction and possible deviation
	3.4 Plan sequence of cuts to fell tree according to standard felling procedures
	3.5 Assess limitations of own skills in safely felling trees, identify trees considered outside own skill level and seek assistance from

	appropriate personnel where required
	3.6 Monitor and exclude location and activity of other personnel on the work site
4. Apply tree-felling techniques	4.1 Select suitable escape route and clear of growth and other obstacles according to environmental care principles and statutory requirements
	4.2 Fell individual trees using planned techniques according to site requirements, at a safe distance from other personnel in the work area
	4.3 Adjust cutting technique in response to movement and condition of tree
	4.4 Use planned escape route when tree starts to fall and monitor the fall and movement of tree on ground until determined stable
	4.5 Delay movement back into the felling area until all tree material, including from adjacent tree crowns, has fallen
	4.6 Identify and implement procedures for removal of trees that are hung-up
	4.7 Dispose of waste materials in line with environmental and operational requirements
	4.8 Detect, rectify and report blunt or damaged saw chain according to workplace procedures
	4.9 Monitor chainsaw for operational effectiveness and record and report faults, malfunctions and problems according to workplace procedures

Foundation Skills

This section describes those core and employment skills that are essential to performance and are not explicit in the performance criteria.	
Numeracy skills to:	• measure and record tree height, length and diameter • estimate, measure and compare height, size and distance relevant to tree felling • calculate product mass of individual trees and determine fall zone
Oral communication skills to:	• select and use appropriate spoken communication strategies with work colleagues and other personnel on site when felling trees • interpret hand signals with other operators to ensure safe tree felling
Reading skills to:	• interpret: • workplace health and safety, industry standards and

	regulations for felling trees and other relevant tree felling procedures • work orders • manufacturers maintenance recommendations
Writing skills to:	• complete forms to record WHS considerations for felling trees • report equipment faults and request maintenance of equipment. • complete log book requirements
Planning and organising skills to:	• identify an unsafe tree. • efficiently and logically sequence the stages of preparation for and felling of trees using work order to guide activities.
Problem solving skills to:	• plan and apply the hierarchy of risk control • review and identify work requirements • recognise own limitations in conditions and trees for felling • identify problems and equipment faults and demonstrate appropriate response procedures

Range of Conditions

Not Applicable

Unit Mapping Information

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Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet - https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=0d96fe23-5747-4c01-9d6f-3509ff8d3d47