



Australian Government

FWPCOT2274 Fell trees manually (basic)

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with FWP Forest and Wood Products Training Package Version 8.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to assess and fell basic trees manually using a chainsaw, and to complete routine operator chainsaw maintenance.

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

- lean and where distribution of the crown weight does not create a complex situation to assess, place the cut or fall
- no excessive lean
- no visible damage or defect
- uniform in structure
- species that are not prone to free splitting and adverse reactions during felling
- single stem or non-complex multi-stems
- small or medium diameter that can be safely felled using standard and basic felling techniques
- site characteristics that do not add significant complexity to the operation.

The unit applies to individuals who fell basic trees as part of arboriculture, forestry, agriculture, conservation and land management, local government, emergency services and other government agency operations. With the exception of minor forest produce, this unit does not apply to commercial harvesting operations.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, according to state/territory health and safety regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Common Technical (COT)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Prepare for felling	1.1 Determine job requirements from work order or instruction and, where required, seek clarification from appropriate personnel 1.2 Confirm workplace health and safety and environmental protection practices and/or procedures for task 1.3 Identify, assess and take actions to mitigate risks and hazards associated with operation of chainsaws 1.4 Identify, assess and determine felling requirements of trees to be felled according to work order or instruction 1.5 Consult and maintain communication with team members and other appropriate personnel to ensure that work is coordinated effectively with others in the workplace 1.6 Select, fit and use personal protective equipment 1.7 Obtain tools and equipment needed for the work, and check for correct operation and safety
2. Assess site conditions and surroundings	2.1 Inspect site for conditions likely to affect safe implementation of felling activities 2.2 Identify and report site environmental conditions to appropriate personnel 2.3 Determine fall zone, and implement control measures to minimise risks and hazards in the zone according to safe work procedures 2.4 Monitor location and activity of other personnel on worksite, and implement control measures according to workplace safety procedures
3. Assess tree and plan felling	3.1 Identify trees considered outside own skill level, and seek assistance from appropriate personnel where required 3.2 Assess tree visually to identify felling characteristics, defects and stresses within tree 3.3 Confirm that tree is safe to fell 3.4 Assess and check required felling direction and possible deviation 3.5 Plan sequence of cuts to fell tree according to workplace felling procedures 3.6 Identify suitable escape routes, and clear routes of growth and other obstacles according to environmental care, workplace and regulatory requirements

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
4. Apply tree felling techniques	4.1 Fell individual trees using selected cutting techniques according to current Australian Standards and industry codes of practice 4.2 Adjust cutting technique in response to movement and condition of tree 4.3 Use planned escape route when tree starts to fall, and monitor the fall of the tree until all movement has stopped 4.4 Delay movement back into the felling area until all tree material, including material from adjacent tree crowns, has fallen or is stable enough to allow safe access back into felling area 4.5 Report trees that are hung-up to appropriate personnel according to workplace procedures 4.6 Dispose of waste materials according to workplace environmental protection practices and/or procedures
5. Maintain chainsaw and cutting attachments	5.1 Follow workplace health and safety procedures and manufacturer instructions to lock out equipment 5.2 Inspect chainsaw on completion of activities 5.3 Inspect for damage to chainsaw and cutting attachments, and tag for repair, service or replacement according to workplace requirements and manufacturer recommendations 5.4 Remove, clean, adjust, sharpen or replace chain and other components according to workplace requirements and manufacturer recommendations

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Reading	Interpret workplace documentation to determine requirements
Writing	Use technical and workplace specific vocabulary to accurately and legibly complete workplace records and forms

Skill	Description
Oral communication	- 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
Numeracy	Complete routine calculations and report on size, length and diameter of felled trees

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
FWPCOT2274 Fell trees manually (basic)	FWPCOT2253 Fell trees manually (basic)	Changes to the volume/frequency of Performance Evidence and other minor changes to address industry needs	Equivalent

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=0d96fe23-5747-4c01-9d6f-3509ff8d3d47>