



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for FWPCOT2275 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 9.0.

Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has assessed, planned and conducted the felling of a minimum of three basic trees. In felling each tree, the individual has used a chainsaw with a bar length appropriate to the tree's diameter and made a standard scarf cut facing the direction of intended fall.

In performing this cut, the individual must have ensured that:

- the scarf cut includes a top cut angled at 30° to 45° and a depth of ¼ to 1/3 of the tree diameter and a horizontal flat bottom cut that meets precisely with the lowest part of the top cut
- the back cut is parallel to and above the scarf line by 1/10 (or 10%) of the tree diameter
- a minimum 1/10 (or 10%) of the tree diameter remains uncut, leaving hinge wood.

In performing this cut, the individual must have also demonstrated, at least once, the application of the wedge technique to ensure that the tree falls in the direction intended by the scarf cut.

There must also be evidence that the individual has documented a risk assessment for at least one of the felled trees. This documentation must detail localised hazards and risks associated with tree felling and specify methods to minimise these risks.

In completing this work, the individual must demonstrate correct use of personal protective equipment and that, for each tree, the felling technique was consistent with current Australian Standards and industry codes of practice applicable to tree felling operations.

In addition, there must be evidence that, on at least one occasion, the individual has sharpened one chain, inspected and carried out routine maintenance on one chainsaw and its cutting attachments according to manufacturer requirements.

This work must comply with workplace policy and procedures and current workplace health and safety legislation and regulations.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- Australian Standards and codes of practice applicable to tree felling operations
- hazards and risks related to felling trees with chainsaws, and methods to minimise associated risks, including:
 - physical conditions of the site
 - unsafe/hazardous trees
 - fire and other emergency situations
 - overhead and underground services
 - nearby structures
 - standing vegetation in the intended direction of fall
 - falling branches
 - weather conditions
 - impediments of escape routes
 - vehicle and traffic access
 - people on or near worksite
 - machinery on or near worksite
 - carrying and transporting a chainsaw
 - user fatigue
- hazards related to maintaining chainsaws, and methods to minimise associated risks
- features of unsafe/hazardous basic trees and defects of trees and how they affect tree felling activities
- characteristics of basic trees
- methods used to identify basic trees:
 - that contain hazards and are deemed unsafe to fell
 - that are considered outside own skill level
 - where cuts made may lead to loss of control of tree in felling
- types and purposes of cuts to fell basic trees, including scarf cutting and back cutting using different methods to provide hinge wood and wedges to maintain control of tree
- methods for assessing chain condition
- types, safe use, operation and maintenance of chainsaws, support tools and attachments
- workplace procedures specific to felling trees with chainsaws, including:
 - workplace health and safety, with particular emphasis on deactivating and isolating equipment, use of personal protective equipment (PPE), safe manual handling and fire prevention measures
 - communication reporting lines
 - recording and reporting repairs, maintenance activities and equipment faults
- environmental protection requirements and practices that meet legal obligations and requirements of the industry, state and local standards and/or codes of practice for felling trees with chainsaws, including:

- protection of natural and cultural assets
- cleaning plant, tools and equipment
- disposing of, recycling and reusing materials
- disposing of hazardous substances.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated in the workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - chainsaw and accessories
 - suitable trees to fell
 - PPE required in tree felling operations
 - communication system
- specifications:
 - workplace safety and environmental policies and/or procedures applicable to tree felling and chainsaw operations
 - site emergency procedure
 - workplace standard operating procedures or operator manual for chainsaws.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

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