


U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service	1. WORK PROJECT/ACTIVITY 2015-11083150-005	2. LOCATION Benton MacKaye Trail and its associated corridor and connecting trails	3. UNIT Blue Ridge, Ocoee/Hiwassee, Cheoah/Tusquitee, Conasauga, and Tellico Ranger Districts
JOB HAZARD ANALYSIS (JHA) References-FSH 6709.11 and -12 (Instructions on Reverse)	4. NAME OF ANALYST Michelle Mitchell with Daryl Harley	5. JOB TITLE Partnership, Volunteer & Service Programs	6. DATE PREPARED 5/24/13
Chainsaw Operation: employee must have prior instructions by competent individuals before falling trees. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	Warning PPE	This activity is "extremely" dangerous. Timber falling is the most dangerous occupation in the woods. Hardhat with chinstrap. Chaps, eye and ear protection, sturdy boots (*8 inches high with lugged soles), long pants, long sleeve shirt and gloves.	
Tree Falling	Area Size up Surrounding	Determine natural lean and condition of tree (rot, splits, loose bark etc.) and the best direction to be felled. Be aware of other trees leaning into the tree being felled. Be aware of snags in the area. Do not cut during shifting, high or gusty wind conditions. Clean materials away from the tree's base that may pose a hazard. Avoid cutting above your shoulders. Before cutting determine your primary and secondary escape routes to a predetermined safe area. Using the saw: prepare your escape route by cutting all tripping hazards. Keep proper spacing between operators (at least two tree lengths)..	
Making undercuts; Falling Materials	Saw Cuts and Flying Material	Use open face method – notch is greater than 90 degrees – notch width is 80% of diameter, ie, 20" tree means notch width is 16". Bore into tree at same height as middle of notch to set up holding wood. Holding wood should be 10% of tree diameter, ie, a 20" tree would have 2" of holding wood. Use wedges where appropriate and finish back cut at the same height as bore cut. Leave no Dutchman.	
Back cut Wedging and Falling Material	Announce Felling	Notify others in the area that the tree is about to fall. Make the back cut slightly above (approximately 2 inches under cut), must be level and even. Remove loose bark before beginning back cut. Utilize swamper lookout under adverse conditions. Wedge tree as soon as possible after beginning back-cut continue with the back-cut and tamp in wedges periodical.	

Being hit by Falling Trees and Pieces	Watch-outs	When the tree begins to fall, withdraw the saw from cut and shut off. Retreat to your safety area at an angle, not straight back. Do not turn your back on a falling tree. Continue to watch for falling limbs and/or other trees after the tree hits the ground. Try to avoid hanging tree up in standing timber. Do not attempt to fall trees without all the essential equipment. This equipment includes: PPE, chainsaw, small axe and swamper. See H & SC 3-15 and Fallers Buckers Handbook for more information.
Swamping	Being Cut by a Fellow Worker running the Brushcutting Saw	Maintain a safe distance that is twice the length of the Brushcutting Saw.
Saw Maintenance and Fueling	Safe Guards	Keep chain sharp and with proper tension at all times. Use gloves whenever working with the chain. Beware of hot muffler. Ensure chain brake is working properly. Ensure the carburetor is adjusted properly so the chain doesn't run at an idle. Stop saw if the bar oil runs out before the saw gas does. Fix pinched bar guide rails, bent bars or damaged tips immediately. Use proper saw gas and oil fuel mixture. Never use motor oil or bar lubricant to mix with saw gas. Clear an area around saw of flammable materials before fueling. No smoking during fueling. Do not start the saw at the point of fueling. All timber fallers shall carry at least an 8-ounce fire extinguisher during the fire precaution period.
Extra Equipment Bucking Felled Trees and Kickback Shifting or Rolling Logs	Tools Bucking	Keep axes sharp and handles tight and non-cracked. "Never" use wooden or metal wedges. Keep burs filed or cut down on plastic wedges. Use only approved gas and oil containers. Utilize bar covers when saws are transported and stored. Watch saw tip and avoid cutting only with tip of bar. Always keep a firm grip on the saw. When bucking logs, be aware of the direction the logs may roll or move after bucking. Do not stand on the downhill side of logs.
Limbing		Stand on the opposite side of the tree from the side you are limbing; watch the saw tip. Use extra caution with spring poles.
Cuts of axe	Tools Caution	Be alert and handle tools with care. Use the proper carrying method. Keep the sharp side of tool down. Keep the cover on axe when not in use. Add wedges to tool handles when loose or cracked.
Bee and Insect Kits	Sting Kits	Wear protective clothing and be aware of bee activity and nest sites; I.E. rotten logs, down logs, hollow logs, etc.
Fatigue and Heat Stress	Body Stress	Set the pace, take frequent short breaks if necessary and carry and drink plenty of water. Pay attention to your physical condition. Stay alert at all times and watch your step.

Fire Hazard	Fire Watch	After sawing, stay in the area for 10 to 15 minutes to watch for fires.	
10. LINE OFFICER SIGNATURE 		11. TITLE District Ranger <i>Forest Supervisor</i>	12. DATE <i>8/26/15</i>

