

Tree Felling – Safe Behavioural Observation

Name:	Auditor:	Date/Time:
Classification level: <input type="checkbox"/> Trainee <input type="checkbox"/> Basic <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Senior		

TASK	OPERATING PROCEDURE	OPERATE SAFELY		COMMENTS
		Yes	No	
1. Operational requirements	1.1 Personal first aid kit			
	1.2 RT communications on person			
	1.3 PPE adjusted and fitted to industry standard			
	1.4 Equipment: chainsaw and support equipment			
	1.5 Felling wedges (min of 4 and condition) and suitable driving tool	/	/	
	1.6 Fire extinguisher available			
	1.7 Adequate water/snack food available			
	1.8 5-step felling procedure card at hand			
	1.9 Watch or other timepiece			
2. Five-step felling procedure	Site assessment			
	2.1 Risks within 2 tree lengths (min) are identified, assessed and managed			
	2.2 General condition and predominant lean of the stand is explained			
	2.3 Felling pattern is described and reasons for pattern is explained (wind, lean, contour, extract, environment, etc...)			
	2.4 Selects a clear area to open up felling face			
	2.5 Next work area assessed after each tank			
	Individual tree assessment			
	2.6 Assess tree for overhead risks, lean and weight distribution			
	2.7 Check tree stability and ground condition			
	2.8 Determine if wind will affect felling			
	2.9 Determine preferred felling direction			
	2.10 Check the intended "line of fall" is clear, or is cleared of obstructions			
	2.11 Correct felling technique is determined for each tree to be felled			
	2.12 Identify "safe-side" and location of escape route			
	Work area/escape route			
2.13 Clear sufficient work area around tree				
2.14 Uses correct technique to remove lower branches				
2.15 Adequate escape route is available or prepared at 45 degrees on the safe side				

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		Yes	No	
2. Five step felling procedure	Felling Cuts (Minimum of 10 trees to be felled)			
	2.16 Felling cuts (Basic) meet industry standards			
		1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10		
	Scarf	— — — — —		
	Hingewood	— — — — —		
	Backcut	— — — — —		
	Wingcuts	— — — — —		
	2.17 Faller monitors the tree top during felling procedure			
	2.18 Felling aids are correctly used, if required			
	2.19 Advanced techniques demonstrated: <input type="checkbox"/> Split-level backcut with wedge <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter cut backcut <input type="checkbox"/> Bore and release backcut <input type="checkbox"/> Tree driving <input type="checkbox"/> Double wedging <input type="checkbox"/> Spar tree <input type="checkbox"/> Butting off wind thrown tree <input type="checkbox"/> Bore-cut scarf (Large diameter tree) <input type="checkbox"/> Side leaner (wedge-shaped hinge and wedge/s used) <input type="checkbox"/> Blocking down tree Machine-Assisted Felling: <input type="checkbox"/> Pushing <input type="checkbox"/> Pulling <input type="checkbox"/> Remove risky situation			
Retreat and Observe from a safe position				
2.20 Faller moves along the escape route once the felling cuts are completed and/or tree starts to fall				
2.21 Faller watches for overhead risks or tree movement from a safe position				
2.22 Assesses the stand and surrounding area for movement before gathering wedge/s and equipment from the stump				
3. General	3.1 Communication system is effectively used (call-ins, tree driving, etc...)			
	3.2 Environmental requirements are met			
	3.3 Felling direction/pattern suits extraction requirements			