

Risk Assessment Worksheet			1. Project/Incident/Work Activity: General Chain Saw Use			2. Location: Los Padres National Forest				
3. Specific Objective: General Chain Saw Use			4. Name and Title of Preparer: Eric Verdries, Captain			5. Date Prepared: Wednesday, February 24, 2021				
6. Risk Decision Authority: The risk decision authority block should be signed after the worksheet is completed. Use the Risk Decision Authority matrix to determine the authorization required to sign in block 6.										
Signature:			Title: Forest Supervisor			Date: June 2, 2026 (Reviewed by Bruce Gunther -Safety Manager) See "Additional FLT Comments" on routing slip				
Identify Hazards		Assess Hazards		Risk Control Options		Residual Risk			Decision	Implement
7. Task	8. Hazard	9. Hazard Probability	10. Severity / Consequence	11. RAC	12. Identify hazard mitigations & abatement measures (press [alt + enter] to add a line)	13. Hazard Probability	14. Severity / Consequence	15. RAC	16. Task Necessary?	17. Hazard Control Assigned to:
Training Requirements	Personal Injury	Possible	Critical	High	Successful completion of S-212 course or MTDC Chain Saw/Crosscut saw training course. Certified in basic first-aid and CPR or an individual who is certified in basic first-aid and CPR is available in project area and is not operating a saw. Do not exceed your level of training. If you are a trainee you must have a qualified person supervising your activities.	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	YES	
Training Certification	Personal Injury	Possible	Critical	High	Chainsaw operators shall be properly certified prior to operation and will adhere to any restrictions or limitations placed upon them. Chainsaw operators may only exceed the restrictions or limitations placed on them if they are under the supervision of a qualified individual who is certified at a higher level of saw operation. For the purposes of training, additional individuals besides the saw operator may be allowed with-in a 2 ½ times tree height radius if under supervision of a qualified instructor.	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	YES	

Personal Protective Equipment	Cuts, eye Injuries, hearing loss, burns	Possible	Critical	High	Appropriate gloves (cut resistant for sharpening), hardhat, hearing protection, long sleeve shirt, chaps(recommended to overlap top of boots 2"), Boots 8" high with skid resistant soles. and eye protection. If assigned to a fire: Use required PPE to meet OSHA and NFPA requirements: (FSH 6709.11_70 PPE states select proper PPE that fits each employee, the employer must provide PPE at no cost to employees. The Red Book states flame resistant clothing should be cleaned or replaced whenever soiled, and/or when the fabric is worn as to reduce the protection capability, and must meet NFPA 1977). NFPA 1977 compliant PPE can be purchased from a variety of vendors to provide a greater range of clothing options (material, size, etc.) that will properly fit an employee. Having multiple vendor options will ensure the PPE fits an employee properly resulting in a decreased chance of injury. Proper PPE must be worn at all times.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	
Equipment	Injury, Damage to equipment or others	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Ensure chainsaw is in proper working order. Ensure chain is properly sharpened. Ensure falling axe of appropriate size and weight. Ensure proper size and amount of wedges.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	
Pre-Work Briefing/Tailgate Safety Session	Injury, damage to equipment or others	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Brief employees on work assignment and objectives. Ensure required PPE is being utilized. Review applicable JHAs, hazard tree indicators and mitigation measures including LCES (lookouts, communications, escape routes). Refer to attachment at end of this JHA. Brief employees on the plan that would be executed in the event of a serious employee illness/injury that would require medical evacuation.	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	YES	
Transporting Saws	Fire, damage to equipment and personal injury	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Saw should be transported either purged of all fuel, or completely full. Bars should be covered during transportation. Saws should be secured in compartments away from people in a manner that will minimize shifting to prevent damage to saw and apparatus. When transporting saws by rotor or fixed wing aircraft follow direction of pilot of qualified person in charge.	Unlikely	Negligible	Low	YES	
Walking with chain saws	Cuts, falls, sprains and strains	Possible	Negligible	Low	Engage chain brake or shut off chain if walking more than 50 feet. While carrying chain saw on shoulder ensure that chain and dogs are covered.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	

Size Up	Head injury, cuts, falling and slipping	Likely	Moderate	High	Size up the tree considering the tree species, height, diameter, lean , soundness, current and previous fire damage, split or broken top, widow makers, and other hazard tree indicators. Bore tree if necessary to determine soundness. Walk anticipated lay of tree and check for hazards. Clear work area of hazards and obstructions. Determine and clear primary and secondary escape routes. Ensure that area 2 1/2 times the height of the tree to be felled is clear of personnel. Be alert for environmental conditions that could increase risk. (strong/gusty winds, steep slopes, etc.) Ensure adequate traffic control measures are taken on roads and trails. If the identified tree cannot be safely removed and presents a hazard, the area will be flagged off at a safe distance and an alternate mitigation used.	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	YES	
Starting procedures	Loss of control, cuts	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	The methods to safely start and operate a saw can vary with the model and size. The following basic precautions generally apply regardless of the saw model: Maintain a secure grip on the saw at all times. Start the saw on the ground or ensure saw is firmly supported. Do not "drop start" a chain saw.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	
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