



BC Forest Safety Council
Unsafe is Unacceptable

Falling & Bucking Supervisor F & B Field Checklist

Faller:	F & B Supervisor:	Company:	Date:
Location:	Block/Site:	Nearest Town:	Weather:

QUALIFICATIONS & SAFE WORK PROCEDURES (✓)	Yes	No	Comments
BC Faller Training Standard Info-Flips			
Faller logbook			
Wallet card			
Confirm faller's status with Safety Council (1-877-741-1060)			
WCB Clearance Letter (for contract faller)			
Initial safety meeting & Maps			
Hazard inspection of work area			
Notice of project at work site			
Emergency evacuation procedures			
Emergency procedures/numbers in vehicle/with faller			
Falling area entry procedures			
Cut-up tree policy/procedures			
Falling near power lines			
Communication – man check procedures			
First Aid coverage available			
Firefighting procedures			
Written procedure for min/max distances between workers			
Qualified assistance readily available			
Review the 6 Deadly Sins			
Documented vehicle inspection			
Crummy Crewboat Helicopter Plane ATV Snow machine	← (circle one)		
Valid drivers license/trained operator			
Seatbelt equipped			
Non smoking vehicle			
Vehicle facing exit			
First Aid kit in vehicle			
Fire extinguisher & equipment in vehicle			
Falling Area Signs (if required, also falling area traffic control)			
Access/Egress trail established & marked			
Danger tree/Snag assessment procedures			
23-page field evaluation completed			
Heli pads constructed & marked (per WCB helicopter handbook)			
Wildlife/Danger Tree certification			
Safe alternative methods available/Blasting			
Wind speed, Rainfall shutdown, Snow			
Emergency evacuation drills			
Regular supervision inspections			
Safety committee inspections			
Regular crew talks			
Safety committee meetings			
First Aid Ticket – Level 1 2 3 (circle)			First Aid Ticket expiry date:
WCB Occupational Health & Safety Regulation			
Other qualifications:			

Faller's Checklist

Faller:	F & B Supervisor:	Company:	Date:
Location:	Block/Site:	Nearest Town:	Weather:

BC FALLER TRAINING STANDARD REQUIREMENTS (✓)	Yes	No	Comments
Proper clothing			
Hard hat (red or orange)			
Caulk boots			
Eye protection (screen, glasses)			
Hearing protection (muffs, earplugs)			
Gloves			
Whistle, two-way radio			
Hi-Vis apparel			
Rain clothes are Hi-Vis			
Leg protection *3600 minimum			
Proper saw size & bar length for job			
Axe(s), spare wedges, spare saw			
Axe in good shape/pinned			
Carrying files – ends covered			
Files in good condition			
Proper chain filing to manufacturer's recommendation			
Saw has full-wrap handlebars			
Proper saw maintenance			
Proper saw handling (two hands at all times)			
Good body positioning/MSI			
Gas and Oil containers nearby			
Working to weather conditions			
Escape routes established minimum 10' and to safe cover			
Several trees prepped			
Axe at tree, wedges set			
Uses proper wedging procedures & techniques			
Demonstrates directional control			
Uses saw sightlines			
Avoids brushing timber			
Avoids domino falling			
Procedures for pushing trees/limb tied			
Danger tree risk assessment conducted			
Danger trees felled progressively			
Danger trees felled into open areas			
Procedures for wedging snags			
Procedure for danger trees outside boundary			
Enough fuel to make the cut			
Upslope falling procedures			
Demonstrated ability to fall heavy leaner			
Demonstrated ability to fall short stubby snag			
Knows procedure for re-falling cut up tree			
Cuts all limbs flush to log			
Bucking cuts correct			
Avoids bucking below F & B			
Short log is left on dangerous roots			

NOTE: STUMP PAGE 18-B is attached – A minimum of TEN stumps must be documented

Faller's Signature:	F & B Supervisor's Signature:
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Part 18 – Demonstrate Falling Cuts

Objective: The Professional Faller uses safe work procedures when making falling cuts.

Items/Comments:	Marking Conditions
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Undercuts & Backcuts

*** Note:** If the faller determined that the tree had to be wedged the undercut depth should be ¼ of the tree diameter

***Note:**

Timber 60 inches or more in diameter can have the heart wood cut out of the stem, but holding wood must be maintained on both corners of the stump to maintain control of the tree.

***Note:**

Short stubbys can have an undercut up to 50%

***Note:**

Reference the Info Flips

Total stump points divided by the number of stumps assessed=mark awarded

- **E 15 Preferred undercut and backcut** are straight & level and completed from high side. Preferred undercut selected for: wedging, timber type and terrain. Undercut is cleaned out and is the preferred percentage of tree diameter. The undercut opening is of the preferred ratio for the type of undercut selected. Holding wood and preferred anti-kickback step are maintained across the entire stump. (see table below) Also see *Note(s) at left.
- **14 Preferred undercut and back cut** are straight & level and completed from high side. Undercut is 1/3 of the tree diameter and is angled to ensure that the opening is at least ½ the length of the top cut. Undercut is cleaned out. Holding wood is maintained across the entire stump. Also see *Note(s) at left.
- **13** Meets acceptable standard *and* depth of undercut is 1/3 tree diameter. Holding wood is maintained across the entire stump. Also see *Note(s) at left.
- **A 12 Acceptable standard: Includes appropriate undercut and backcut.** Are completed from high side, are slightly off level, depth of the undercut between 25% and 40% of the tree diameter. Undercut is cleaned out. The cuts forming the opening of the undercut are 1/3 to ½ the length of the top cut. Backcut is slightly above the undercut, slightly off level. Holding wood is preferably maintained across the entire stump but at minimum must be on both corners. Also see *Note(s) at left.
- **3** Undercut is off level, not cleaned out or corrected, too deep or too shallow over 40% or less than 25% of diameter opening is less than 1/3 the length of the top cut. Backcut is flush to undercut – no step. Excessive holding wood left on the low side of the stump.
- **U 0 Unacceptable:** Fails to meet the acceptable standard, undercut 50% or greater of the tree diameter, no undercut, dutchman, backcut is below undercut, holding wood is cut off. Tree splits or barber chairs and there is excessive slope from back-barring.

E = Excellent, best practice A = Minimum acceptable U = Unacceptable

Anti-kickback Step Reference Guide in Relation to Stump Diameter

75% of the anti-kickback step must be within the preferred height tolerances, as listed below:

Humbolt, Swanson undercuts	Preferred anti-kickback step
Up to 36" (3'-0") diameter	¾ - 1 inch height difference
48" (4'-0") to 60" (5'-0") diameter	1 ½ inch height difference
72" (6'-0") to 84" (7'-0") diameter	2 inch height difference
96" (8'-0") to 108" (9'-0") diameter	3 inch height difference
120" (10'-0") to 144" (12'-0") diameter	4 inch height difference
156" (13'-0") diameter and above	6 inch height difference
Conventional and Pie (frozen wood) undercuts	Preferred anti-kickback step
Up to 14" (1'-2") diameter	¾ to 1 inch height difference
16" (1'-4") to 36" (3'-0") diameter	2 inch height difference
48" (4'-0") to 60" (5'-0") diameter	3 inch height difference
72" (6'-0") to 84" (7'-0") diameter	4 inch height difference
96" (8'-0") to 108" (9'-0") diameter	6 inch height difference
120" (10'-0") to 144" (12'-0") diameter	8 inch height difference
156" (13'-0") diameter and above	12 inch height difference

Part 18 – Demonstrate Falling Cuts – Stump Check page

Stump #	Tree Species	Ground Slope %	Dia. inches	B/C inches	U/C inches	U/C depth %	U/C type	U/C Opening	Backstep High side inches	Backstep Low side inches	Score
1											/15
2											/15
3											/15
4											/15
5											/15
6											/15
7											/15
8											/15
9											/15
10											/15
11											/15
12											/15
13											/15
14											/15
15											/15

Total stump points divided by the **number of stumps assessed** equals final mark awarded →

TOTAL (Out of 15)	/15
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STUMP COMMENTS:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____



Falling & Bucking Supervisor Summary Report: Faller inspection

Reg. 3.5 General requirement (Daily – Weekly Inspections as required, use this form)

Every Employer must ensure that regular inspections are made of all workplaces, including buildings, structures, grounds, excavations, tools, equipment, machinery and work methods and practices, at intervals that will prevent the development of unsafe working conditions.

Reg. 26.21 Faller qualifications (Use the full 23 page evaluation)

(1) A worker must not fall trees or be permitted to fall trees, or conduct or be permitted to conduct bucking activities associated with falling trees, unless

(a) the worker is qualified to do so to a standard acceptable to the Board, and

(b) the work being performed is within the documented and demonstrated capabilities of that worker.

(2) Subsection (1) (a) does not apply to a worker who is in a falling or bucking training program that is acceptable to the Board.

Faller's name		ID#	
Employer and F&B Supervisor			
Week of:			
Job site			
Timber Type and average DSH		Slope in % in F&B	

F&B Supervisor's weekly observations please check (✓) →	Meeting or exceeding Standard	Not Meeting Standard	Needs to Improve	Additional Training Required
Mental/Physical preparedness				
Safety Awareness				
Work ethic				
Communication				
Attendance				
Face Development				
Stump Quality				
Bucking skills				

F&B Supervisor's comments:

Faller's signature	F&B Supervisor's signature
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Selected Excerpts from WorkSafeBC OH&S Regulations
Part 26, Forestry Operations

26.2 Planning and conducting a forestry operation

(1) The owner of a forestry operation must ensure that all activities of the forestry operation are both planned and conducted in a manner consistent with this Regulation and with safe work practices acceptable to the Board.

(2) Every person who has knowledge and control of any particular activity in a forestry operation must ensure that the activity is both planned and conducted in a manner consistent with this Regulation and with safe work practices acceptable to the Board.

(3) The planning required under this section must

(a) include identification of any work activities or conditions at the workplace where there is a known or reasonably foreseeable risk to workers,

(b) be completed before work commences on the relevant activity, and

(c) be documented at the time of planning.

(4) If, after any planning referred to in subsection (3), there is a change in the workplace circumstances, including the work activities and the conditions of the workplace, and the change poses or creates a known or reasonably foreseeable risk to workers that was not previously identified, then

(a) the plan must be amended to identify and address the risk and provide for the health and safety of the workers at the workplace, and

(b) the amendment must be documented as soon as is practicable.

[Enacted by B.C. Reg. 20/2008, effective May 1, 2008.]

26.21 Faller qualifications

(1) A worker must not fall trees or be permitted to fall trees, or conduct or be permitted to conduct bucking activities associated with falling trees, unless

(a) the worker is qualified to do so to a standard acceptable to the Board, and

(b) the work being performed is within the documented and demonstrated capabilities of that worker.

(2) Subsection (1) (a) does not apply to a worker who is in a falling or bucking training program that is acceptable to the Board.

[Enacted by B.C. Reg. 20/2008, effective May 1, 2008.]

26.22 Forestry operation faller training

(1) A worker may not work as a faller in a forestry operation unless the worker receives training for falling that is acceptable to the Board and is certified in writing as a competent faller under this section.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), faller training must include the following:

(a) taking basic training in falling trees by working one-on-one with a qualified faller or trainer for a period of not less than 30 days;

(b) in the presence of a qualified supervisor or trainer, taking a written or oral examination on falling;

(c) after completion of basic training under paragraph (a) and passing the examination under paragraph (b), working as a trainee faller under the close supervision of a qualified faller or trainer for a minimum period specified in subsection (3).

(3) The required minimum supervision period in subsection (2) (c) is

(a) 180 days, or

(b) a shorter period as determined by a qualified supervisor or trainer, if the supervisor or trainer is satisfied that the worker is competent to perform the tasks of a faller.

(4) The person supervising a trainee faller under subsection (2) (c) must

(a) evaluate the trainee's work on a weekly basis,

(b) keep records of all evaluations done in respect of the trainee, and (c) if, at the end of the training period, the trainee's falling activity meets a standard acceptable to the Board, verify in writing that the trainee has demonstrated the competence necessary for certification under subsection (5).

(5) If all of the requirements of subsections (1), (2) and (4) are satisfied in respect of a worker who is a trainee faller, a person acceptable to the Board may certify in writing that the worker is a competent faller.

(6) A record of the training that is taken under this section must be maintained and kept in a form and manner acceptable to the Board and a copy of that record must be made available to an officer or the trainee to whom the record pertains.

(7) Subsection (2) does not apply to a worker who satisfies all of the following requirements:

(a) the worker has performed falling duties regularly for at least 2 years before the evaluation under paragraph (b) of this subsection takes place;

(b) the worker's falling activity is evaluated by a qualified supervisor or trainer and it meets a standard acceptable to the Board;

(c) in the presence of a qualified supervisor or trainer, the worker passes a written or oral examination on falling;

(d) the worker is certified in writing as a competent faller by a person acceptable to the Board.

(8) For the purposes of subsection (7) (b), the qualified supervisor or trainer must

(a) keep a record of the evaluation, and

(b) verify in writing that the worker has demonstrated the competence necessary for certification under subsection (7) (d).

[Enacted by B.C. Reg. 20/2008, effective May 1, 2008.]

26.22.1 Falling supervisors for forestry operations

(1) A qualified supervisor must be designated for all falling and associated bucking activities in a forestry operation.

(2) The supervisor designated under subsection (1) must

(a) ensure that the falling and bucking activities are planned and conducted in accordance with this Regulation,

(b) inspect the workplace of each faller at time intervals appropriate to the risks, and

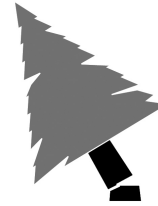
(c) keep a record of every inspection conducted under paragraph (b).

(3) The supervisor designated under subsection (1) must not undertake or be assigned activities which interfere with performance of the supervisor's duties under subsection (2).

[Enacted by B.C. Reg. 20/2008, effective May 1, 2008.]



BC Forest Safety Council
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A Cut Above
BC Faller Certification

Six Deadly Sins of Manual Tree Falling

1. Failing to progressively fall danger trees into open areas with the falling of other timber and before falling adjacent live trees. *OH & S Regulation 26.26(1)*
2. Using the practice of “Domino Falling”. *OH & S Regulation 26.24(6)*
3. Leaving cut-up trees and failing to mark such trees and notify the work place supervisor and workers whom may enter the affected area of the location of the cut-up trees. *OH & S Regulation 26.25(2)*
4. Failing to take appropriate measures to control the fall of trees, which may include:
 - Not ensuring the undercut is complete and cleaned out
 - Not leaving sufficient holding wood
 - Carelessly cutting off the corners of holding wood
 - Not ensuring that the back cut is placed higher than the undercut
 - Failing to have wedging tools immediately available at the tree being felled
 - The unnecessary brushing of timber. *OH & S Regulation 26.24(5)*
5. Permitting workers, other than the faller and those permitted by the regulations, to be within two tree lengths of the tree being felled. *OH&S 26.29 (1)(2)(3)*
6. Falling trees within the specified minimum distances from unguarded overhead energized high voltage electrical conductors without complying with the requirements of this regulation: *OH & S Regulations Part 19 Electrical Safety*

The F&B Supervisor and Faller hereby acknowledge they have both reviewed the Six Deadly Sins:

Supervisor's signature:	Faller's signature:
Date:	Date:

