



BC Forest Safety Council

Unsafe is Unacceptable

Supervisor reporting responsibilities for faller trainees

The BC Forest Safety Council thanks you for providing on-the-job opportunities for faller trainees who are required to further develop their skills for up to 180 days before taking their certification test.

While trainees are working in-field, The Council requires documentation of their progress to satisfy the requirements of WCB Regulation 26.22 (faller training). A copy of the regulation is attached.

Please follow these directions to ensure required information is included on the attached 3-page form:

1. Upon trainee's arrival he shall provide a copy of the cover letter, reporting form and WorkSafeBC regulations to his supervisor.
2. The trainee is urged to keep a daily journal or diary. The notes contained should be reviewed with the trainee during Step 3.
3. After each week's work, the supervisor shall review with the trainee his performance as the form is being completed. This is an opportunity for discussion and to compare notes. Both trainee and supervisor need to sign the form.
4. The supervisor will send a copy of the completed 3-page form by fax to the BC Forest Safety Council's Nanaimo office at **1-250-741-1068**. (Keep a copy for your files as well.)

This process allows the BC Faller Training Standard & Certification Program to track the progress, development and location of the trainee. It also allows us to contact the supervisor during the training period.

If you have any questions please contact us at 1-877-741-1060, Monday to Friday



Supervisor's Report - faller trainee progress

WorkSafeBC OH&S regulations within Part 26.22 require that weekly documentation be kept of a faller trainee's on-the-job progress during the 180-day training period. Each time a faller trainee reports to a new job or employer, the supervisor is responsible for documentation. Use this 3-page form as a weekly record of the trainee's progress, competency and safety attitude. Each week that a faller trainee works for you, complete one of these 3-page forms and send a copy to the address/fax shown at bottom of page 3. Supervisors should also keep copies for their records.

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

Supervisor's weekly observations <i>please check (✓) while using trainee's field skills record booklet as a guideline for standards →</i>	Meeting or exceeding Standard	Needs to improve	Additional Training Required	Not Meeting Standard
Mental/Physical preparedness				
Safety Awareness				
Work ethic				
Communication				
Attendance				
Face Development				
Stump Quality				
Bucking skills				
Supervisor's comments:				
Trainee's signature		Supervisor's signature		

Faller Trainee Weekly Checklist (to be completed by trainee's supervisor)

QUALIFICATIONS & SAFE WORK PROCEDURES (please check ✓)	Yes	No	Comments
BC Faller Training Standard Info-Flips			
Faller logbook			
Wallet card			
Confirm faller's status with Safety Council (1-877-741-1060)			
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 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			
Windspeed/Rainfall shutdown			
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:
Other qualifications (explain at right)			

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS (please check ✓)	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-felling cut up tree			
Cuts all limbs flush to log			
Bucking cuts correct			
Avoids bucking below F & B			
Short log is left on dangerous roots			

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.]