Personal Protective Equipment:

* Hearing protection while operating machine
* Hi-Vis clothing and hard hat when outside machine
* Substantial appropriate footwear at all times
* Gloves and eye protection when servicing

**PRE-WORK PLANNING AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The supervisor should have regular pre-work meetings with the operator to ensure that they understand the work plan including:

* Location of hazards including steep slopes, gullies, reserve zones, danger trees, rocks, holes and debris.
* Travel corridors to be used for the forwarder; areas that have wood ready for forwarding; and location of landings for forwarded wood.
* Review of steep slope procedures if necessary and trails/roads to be used.
* Maximum piece size to be forwarded.
* Other equipment working in the area.
* Provide the operator with an updated map of the cut block or digital copy.

**SAFE Procedures**

* Check to ensure machine is in safe operating condition before using.
* Inspect the escape hatch to ensure it is in good condition and functioning properly.
* Wear seat-belts when operating machine.
* Ensure good housekeeping to prevent slipping or tripping when entering or leaving machine.
* All fire extinguishers and other items in cab must be secured in a safe location. Do not carry loose articles in the cab.
* Do not enter an active falling area. Stay a minimum of two tree lengths away.
* Travel at safe speed with or without a turn.
* Try to align machine straight with bundles when picking up a turn.
* Use caution when making turns.
* When entering the landing, make sure workers are in the clear and you are given approval to enter.
* Lower the blade and set the parking brake before leaving the machine.
* Always enter and leave the machine in a safe manner. Use the handholds for stability and beware of slipping hazards that exist, particularly in winter.
* Do not attempt to travel across a slope that is too steep for maintaining proper balance of the machine.
* Confine your travel to straight up and down slopes when steepness is a problem. Any slope greater than 35% shall not be traveled without specific steep slope safe work procedures in place. These procedures must be reviewed before operating on steep slopes.
* Avoid running over chunks and stumps because of increased potential for machine upset.
* Use caution when traveling on trails by maintaining a safe distance from the outer edge of the trail.
* Use tire chains for traction on steep ground and when slippery.
* Be aware of limbs and chunks that may catch in the chains.
* When traveling down steep slopes, make sure the blade does not hook on a stump or rock, causing the machine to swing sideways and upset.
* If you encounter unsafe conditions inform your supervisor and alternate methods will be initiated.
* If at any time the machine is unstable, shut it down and request assistance.
* Where possible use available stumps against the wheels to help prevent movement when loading.
* Ensure the tires and tracks are in good condition with no obvious defects or missing parts.
* Never lift, move, or swing any load over personnel, other equipment, or vehicles.
* Do not stack logs higher than the bunks.
* Ensure loads are close to the machine before initiating lift; avoid long reaches.
* Drag logs close to the machine before lifting, elevated loads reduce stability.
* Engage differential lock (if equipped) for added traction travelling uphill but disengage when descending or turning as steering will not respond properly when differential is locked..
* Ensure a radio man-check system is established.
* If you leave the machine notify your co-workers by radio
* If at any time the machine becomes unstable, shut it down, and request assistance.
* Always enter and leave the machine in a safe manner.
* Never jump and always use 3 point contact and use the handholds for stability.
* Always service your machine in the clear of dangerous trees ·
* Frequently check and clean the engine compartment for combustible debris.
* Follow the lock-out procedures while conducting maintenance work on the machine (overleaf).
* Raised, booms or other equipment components shall be secured with blocking or approved safety supports during maintenance.

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| **Forwarder****Lockout -Tagout****(If one person working on machine)** | **Forwarder****Lockout -Tagout****(If more than one person working on machine)** | **Forwarder****Tagout*****For forwarder without master switch*** |
|  |  |  |
| **Shut down procedure:** | **Shut down procedure:** | **Shut down procedure:** |
| 1. Notify other affected employees.
2. Apply parking brake.
3. Lower grapple and blade to ground.
4. Shut down engine.
5. Turn off master switch.
6. Put personal lock and tag on master switch.
7. Test to verify zero energy (electrical-hydraulic-gravity).
 | 1. Notify other affected employees.
2. Apply parking brake.
3. Lower grapple and blade to ground.
4. Shut down engine.
5. Turn off master switch.
6. Each worker attach personal lock and tag to scissor lockout hasp on master switch.
7. Test to verify zero energy (electrical-hydraulic-gravity).
 | 1. Notify other affected employees.
2. Apply parking brake.
3. Lower grapple and blade to ground.
4. Shut down engine.
5. Key out and in pocket.
6. Put lockout tag initialed by all workers on ignition switch.
7. Test to verify zero energy (electrical-hydraulic-gravity).
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| **Start-up procedure:** | **Start-up procedure:** | **Start-up procedure:** |
| 1. Remove personal lock from master switch.
2. Start machine.
 | 1. Each employee removes own lock from scissor lockout hasp on master switch.
2. Start machine when all locks removed.
 | 1. Each employee crosses off their initials on lockout tag when their work is completed.
2. Start machine when all initials on tag crossed off
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