

Tailgate safety summary to discuss during your pre-work safety meeting:

# Qualified Assistance for fallers



## SUPERVISOR CHECK-LIST:

- ◆ Onsite supervisor is qualified to supervise fallers.
- ◆ Written plan in place describing the onsite qualified assistance process.
- ◆ Ensure the plan has been reviewed with all fallers and others who may be involved with providing qualified assistance.
- ◆ Fallers have access to qualified assistance in the case of a falling difficulty.
- ◆ Fallers have *immediate access* to qualified assistance in the case of an emergency or incident — 10 minutes surface travel time (walking).
- ◆ Fallers have *immediate access* to basic first aid — 10 minutes surface travel time (walking).
- ◆ Fallers have a means to summon qualified assistance (radio and/or whistle).
- ◆ If a machine is used for qualified assistance, ensure that it has immediate access to fallers at all times.
- ◆ If a person other than an onsite faller is used for qualified assistance, ensure that they have proper PPE readily available to operate a chainsaw if needed. Also ensure that they are qualified to provide assistance.
- ◆ Ensure qualified assistance is qualified for the timber type and terrain.
- ◆ New faller trainees cannot be used as qualified assistance during the 30 days of initial training.

## FALLER CHECK-LIST:

- ◆ Aware of the term and definition of “qualified assistance”.
- ◆ Aware that qualified assistance must be in place for all fallers.
- ◆ Aware that all fallers must have a means to summon qualified assistance (radio and/or whistle).
- ◆ Reviewed and signed off on a written plan describing the onsite qualified assistance.
- ◆ Ensure that if a machine is used for qualified assistance, it is readily accessible and can access you at all times.
- ◆ If a person other than an onsite faller is used for qualified assistance, ensure that they have proper PPE readily available to operate a chainsaw if needed. Also ensure that they are qualified to provide assistance.

## TIP:

Think through the worst case scenarios for your worksite today and make sure the plan covers having qualified assistance in place for the whole work day for every faller.

## QUALIFIED ASSISTANCE RESOURCES:

Call a BC Forest Safety Council falling safety advisor for confidential advice and support, at toll-free 1.877.741.1060 or call a WorkSafeBC safety officer at 1.888.621.7233.



BC Forest Safety