

Chainsaw Operations

Assess the complexity, complete a hazard analysis, and establish cutting area control.

Indicators of Complexity

- Evaluate sawyer fatigue
- Evaluate tree stand health
- Evaluate pace of operations
- Evaluate effects of terrain
- Evaluate weather factors
- Evaluate objective difficulty

Chainsaw Operation Standards

- Establish cutting area control/brief cutting area resources
- Determine objective—where each cut piece will end up
- Assess hazards
- Overhead/ground hazards
- Species specific hazards
- Determine tree soundness or defects
- Measure lean/bind(s), determine good side/bad side
- Develop an escape plan for the cutting situation
- Establish cut plan/wedge plan
- Establish complexity of the cutting operation
- Complete go/no-go decision
- Communicate and execute cut plan
- Maintain situational awareness while cutting
- Utilize a safe escape path
- Give all-clear
- Analyze operation for lessons learned