



**FOREST SERVICE HANDBOOK
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION - R5
VALLEJO CALIFORNIA**

FSH 6709.12 – SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAM HANDBOOK

CHAPTER 10 – SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

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Digest: This interim directive (ID) adds direction in Section 19 to 19.99 on the Forest Chain Saw Safety Program, which applies to chainsaw use on the National Forest System by Forest Service Employees and chainsaw operators contracted by the Forest Service. The ID establishes requirements for operational control of chainsaws, implementation of regulations, equipment, and training requirements and certification.

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Digest:

19 – CHAINSAW AND CROSSCUT SAW PROGRAM

For additional direction on basic safety requirements for saw operations, see sections 22.48 in FSH 6709.11, Health and Safety Code Handbook.

The Forest Service Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Program is designed to ensure that all saw operations under the auspices of the Forest Service are conducted in a manner that maximizes protection of saw operators from accidental injury, illness or death.

The direction in this section sets forth minimal requirements for managing the Forest Service Chain and Crosscut Saw Program, its organizational structure, basic saw operating standards and procedures for safety in saw operations; and sets forth requirements for training and certification.

19.01 - AUTHORITY

1. Title 29, Code of Federal Regulations

- a. Section 1910.266 Logging Operations, sets forth Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements for establishing an effective safety program for logging operations. These include instructions for selection of and use of personal protective equipment:
- b. For additional direction on basic safety requirements for saw operations, see sections 22.48 in FSH 6709.11, Health and Safety Code Handbook.

19.02 - OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure safe use and handling of chain saws and crosscut saws in the workplace.
2. To protect Forest Service employees from injury or mishap when operating chain saws and crosscut saws while performing their official duties.

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3. To provide training and certification prior to the operation of chain saws and crosscut saws.
4. To ensure that Forest Service employees use personal protective equipment and clothing for chain saw and crosscut saw operations.

19.03 - POLICY

1. Forest Service chain and crosscut saw operations and activities shall comply with requirements of and Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards and the ANSI standards, where applicable, and all the standards set forth in FSM 6700, FSH 6709.11 and this directive.
2. The Forest Service shall provide appropriate training to employees on the potential safety and health risks that may be encountered during chain saw and crosscut saw assignments.
3. Forest Service employees shall not operate chain or crosscut saws, or engage in saw activity unless they hold a recognized and valid sawyer certification card issued by the Forest Service, except in emergencies where human life is threatened.
4. All saw operators shall be properly trained and certified before commencing work projects and activities.
5. Saw operators may use only the techniques and equipment, which they have been trained for, and are currently certified to use.
6. Instructors may instruct only the techniques and equipment which they have been certified to instruct.
7. Crosscut saw work shall be performed by a crosscut team. At least one member of the team must be fully qualified for the level of work using a crosscut saw. The second member must be at least trained as an "A" level crosscut sawyer.

19.04 - RESPONSIBILITY

19.04a - Regional Foresters

The Regional Forester is responsible for ensuring overall compliance with the chainsaw and crosscut saw requirements set forth in Section 19 of 29CFR1910.266, OSHA Logging Operation Regulations. In order to meet that responsibility the Regional Forester must ensure that

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sufficient resources are available to manage a safe and effective Regional Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Program.

The Regional Forester must appoint the Regional Coordinator(s) for the chainsaw and crosscut saw programs. These appointments will be done via letter.

19.04b - Forest Supervisors

Forest Supervisors are responsible for ensuring overall compliance with the chainsaw and crosscut saw requirements set forth in Section 19 of 29CFR1910.266, OSHA Logging Operation Regulations on their Forests.

Forest Supervisors are to:

1. Ensure that sufficient resources are available to manage a safe and effective Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Program on their Forests.
2. Administer the Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Program policy and ensure employee compliance with prescribed practices and procedures on their Forests.
3. Ensure that the Forest Lead Saw Program Instructor position, C Sawyer Certifier, is filled.
4. Provide nominees to attend the Regional Forest Lead Saw Program instructor training.
5. Sign certification cards as Approving Official for all Class C Certifiers on their Forests and Class A Apprentice Sawyers and Class B Intermediate Sawyers who are stationed at the Supervisor's Office.
6. Revoke the certificates of sawyers when the qualifications of an employee are no longer considered adequate. This decision may be made at any time.

19.04c - District Rangers

District Rangers are responsible for ensuring overall compliance with the chainsaw and crosscut saw requirements set forth in Section 19 of 29CFR1910.266, OSHA Logging Operation Regulations on their Districts. For additional direction on basic safety requirements for saw operations, see sections 22.48 in FSH 6709.11, Health and Safety Code Handbook.

District Rangers are to:

1. Ensure that sufficient resources are available to manage a safe and effective Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Program on their Districts.

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2. Determine the appropriate saw certification levels necessary to meet skill, knowledge, training and supervisory requirements for job assignments.
3. Determine the overall District needs for the total number of chainsaw and crosscut saw operators needed at the various skill levels to accomplish all assigned unit tasks.
4. Suspend all chainsaw and crosscut saw operations until appropriate training and certification is accomplished.
5. Request from, and coordinate with, Forest Lead Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Program Instructors and/or Forest Safety and Health Coordinators, to arrange appropriate training and certification classes in order to meet the requirements and needs determined in items 1 and 2.
6. Consult with Forest Lead Program Instructors concerning whether or not an employee is considered trained, qualified and certified.
7. Sign certification cards as Approving Official for all Class A Basic Sawyers, Class B Intermediate Sawyers and Class C Advance Sawyers who are stationed on their Districts.
8. Revoke the certificates of sawyers when the qualifications of an employee are no longer considered adequate. This decision may be made at any time.

19.04d - Regional Safety and Health Managers

The Regional Safety and Health group has primary responsibility for monitoring the Regional Chainsaw Program.

The Regional Safety and Health Manager is to:

1. Evaluate chainsaw and crosscut saw operators and instructors by making field visits of crews.
2. Monitor chainsaw and crosscut saw training sessions and assist the instructors where needed.
3. Review all chain or crosscut saw incidents and accidents, and make appropriate reports to the National Safety and Health Program Manager.

19.04e - Regional Chainsaw/Crosscut Saw Coordinators and Program Instructors

Regional Chainsaw/Crosscut Saw Coordinators and Regional Program Instructors are to:

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1. Certify chainsaw and crosscut saw applicants who have successfully completed the training requirements as Forest Lead Program instructors as C Sawyer Certifiers.

Certification of Classes A, B and C - Advanced Sawyers may be delegated to Forest Lead Saw Program Instructors. Certification for Class C Sawyer Certifiers must not be delegated.

2. Guide, counsel and assist all Forest Lead Saw Program Instructors in implementing and monitoring on-the-ground operations and activities.

3. Organize a bi-annual Regional Chainsaw workshop to address new technology, safety and program implementation concerns.

4. Approve professional consultants to instruct Class C Level Sawyer Certifiers.

5. Sign the Chainsaw or Crosscut Saw Safety certificates and operator cards for the Forest Lead Program Instructors. Maintain certification records of Forest Lead Program Instructors.

19.04f - Forest Lead Program Instructors (Qualified Class C Level Sawyer Certifiers)

Forest Lead Program Instructors are to:

1. Coordinate and conduct training for chainsaw and crosscut saw operators on the Forest.

2. Serve as the primary coordinator for chainsaw and crosscut saw training, certifying and information contacts on the Forest.

3. Work with Forest Safety and Health Managers to achieve and maintain a standardized saw use program throughout the Forest.

4. Recommend candidates to become Class C Sawyer Certifiers for chainsaw and crosscut saw operation.

5. Attend the bi-annual Regional Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Workshop. Fully participate in the workshop to discuss safety concerns, share ways to implement improvements and use the information gained to improve the chainsaw and crosscut saw program on their Forests.

6. Collect and submit all chainsaw and crosscut saw incident and accident data to the appropriate Forest Safety and Health Manager and the Forest Fire Qualification Review Committee (FQRC) Manager for firefighting personnel. Send a copy of all

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accident/incident reports and investigations relating to all chainsaw and crosscut accident/incidents to the Regional Chainsaw Crosscut Coordinator.

7. Schedule, coordinate and conduct training for sawyers.
8. Coordinate and maintain certification and test records for Forest employees who have taken the training and been tested for Class C Advanced Sawyer Certification, as well as Class A and B Sawyer Certification when there is no delegated Qualified District Instructor. Delegate to Qualified District Instructors this responsibility for Class A and B Sawyer Certification.
9. The Forest Lead Program Instructors may identify local industry sources for chainsaw and crosscut saw instructor expertise in bucking, limbing and especially felling other saw operations. Once approved by the Forest Lead Program Instructor, the Forest Lead Program Instructor shall forward those names to the appropriate Regional Chainsaw or Crosscut Saw Coordinators along with the following information. Local industry sources shall possess the following skills:
 - a) Demonstrated ability to instruct, work with the chainsaw or crosscut saw and communicate well with large and small groups.
 - b) Five (5) years minimum experience, 10 years for felling.
 - c) References from peers or employers, which qualify the person as an expert or professional in the field.
 - d) Ensure that the professional consultants, instructors, fellers and crosscut technical specialists follow the felling guidelines established at the Regional Class C Advanced Sawyer Certification sessions.
 - e) Where industry crosscut experts are not available, contact the Regional Crosscut Coordinator for in service technical assistance.
9. Re-delegate to qualified District Instructors the authority to schedule, coordinate and conduct the training and certification of Class A and B sawyers including the authority to sign and issue certification cards. Will sign all Class C Advance Sawyer cards as the Instructor.
10. Schedule, coordinate and conduct sufficient chainsaw and crosscut saw training and certification opportunities to meet the Forest's needs for each level of expertise. Class A and Class B training should be coordinated with Qualified District Instructors. Class C training shall be coordinated with the Forest Safety and Health Manager.

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19.04g - District Instructors (Qualified Class C Sawyer)

District Instructors are to:

1. Serve as the primary training, certification and information contact for District chainsaw and crosscut saw operators.
2. Guide, counsel and assist District chainsaw and crosscut saw operators in implementing, operating and monitoring the actual on-the-ground program.
3. Work closely with the Forest Lead Program Instructor to achieve and maintain a standardized program on the District.
4. Recommend employees to the Regional Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Coordinators for Class C training and certification.
5. Confirm that a person has the attitude, knowledge and aptitude and has demonstrated the skill to be qualified at a given (A or B) certification level.
6. Submit reports of all chainsaw and crosscut saw incident and accident data to the appropriate Safety and Health Manager.
7. Work with the Forest Lead Program Instructors to schedule, coordinate and conduct training for Class A and Class B Sawyers.
8. Assist the Forest Lead Program Instructor in maintaining certification and test records.
9. District Instructors who have been delegated the authority to certify Class A and/or Class B Sawyers may sign certification cards as the Instructor.
10. Shall provide copies of the training, test and certification records of District Employees to the Forest Lead Program Instructors.

19.04h - First-Line Work Supervisor

First-Line Work Supervisors are to:

1. Notify District Rangers of the need for chainsaw and/or crosscut saw operators.
2. Work closely with the Forest Lead Program Instructor or Unit Instructor to ensure employees receive proper training and certification.

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3. Supervise and monitor chainsaw and crosscut operators for compliance of safety, adequacy of skill, knowledge and proper saw use.
4. Terminate and/or correct any hazardous operation that is observed on the work-site.
5. Recommend to the District Ranger and the Forest Lead Program Instructor the suspension or revocation of chainsaw or crosscut saw certifications when operators have consistently violated safety and health codes.
6. Ensure that all saw operators under their supervision have received proper training and certification prior to the operation of chainsaw and crosscut saws.
7. Report chainsaw and crosscut saw violations/incident to the appropriate District/Forest/Regional Instructor/Certifier.
8. Notify Forest Lead Program Instructor or Qualified District Instructor of Saw Operations Schedule in order to facilitate monitoring visits.

19.04i - Forest Safety and Health Managers/Coordinators

Forest Safety and Health Managers or Coordinators are to:

1. Establish the saw operation program on their Forests in conjunction with the Forest Lead Program Instructors.
2. Monitor the overall saw operation program for the Forest Supervisor.
3. Guide, counsel and assist District Rangers in implementing the policy and direction for saw operations set forth by the Regional Forester.
4. Collect all reports of chainsaw or crosscut saw incidents or accident and together with the Forest Lead Program Instructors and District Instructors review them annually for the purpose of improving the Saw Operation Program on their Forests and forward all reports to the Regional Chainsaw and Crosscut Coordinator.
5. Coordinate with Forest Lead Program Instructors and District Instructors to conduct saw use monitoring visits.

19.04j - Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Operators

Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Operators are to perform work only at the level described by their current class of certification.

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Class A - Basic Sawyer Saw operators are individuals that are qualified to brush, buck, limb or fall material no more than eight inches in diameter. May only use the saw under the supervision of a qualified Class B or Class C level sawyer.

Class B - Intermediate Sawyer Intermediate saw operators that are qualified to buck and fall timber under 24 inches in diameter. Additional restrictions may be imposed as deemed necessary by the certifier.

Class C - Advanced Sawyer Advanced saw operators are considered skilled in the technique of felling as well as bushing and bucking. Sawyers at this level are considered qualified to cut material over 24 inches in diameter.

Class C - Sawyer Certifiers are individuals holding current Class C - Advanced Sawyers Certification, who have been further trained through a formal Regional program to organize and conduct field certification sessions. They have demonstrated communication skills, the ability to transfer and relate concepts to others and current knowledge of policy and regulations pertaining to saws and related equipment.

19.3 - TRAINING

Minimum training requirements for all Saw Operator Levels shall include classroom instruction on Forest Service policy and procedures.

Training shall include the following:

1. FSM 6700, FSH 6709.11.28
2. Firefighters who operate chainsaws must take the National Wildfire Coordinating Group Course, S-212 Wildfire Chain Saws for Firefighting Personnel.
3. Non-fire chainsaw operators and crosscut saw operators shall take the Missoula Technology and Development Center Chainsaw and Crosscut training course for non-fire and crosscut fire operations. (Chain saw and Crosscut Saw Training Courses)
4. All Chainsaw operators shall maintain a valid First Aid and CPR card. However, if a JHA addresses mitigation measures to insure proper medical certified first aid providers and equipment is available on the project site and is approved by the appropriate line officer, all chainsaw operators do not need a valid First aid and CPR card.

Additional field training may be required by the instructor based on previous experience and field examination of trainee.

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19.3a Class A – Basic

1. Basic saw operators (Class A) are required to complete the Introductory, Power Saw Mechanics and Basic Chainsaw Operations units of NWCG S-212, or appropriate portion of the MTDC Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Training Courses for saw operations (See XX.3 TRAINING, 2. and 3. above). Instructors may choose to introduce operators to additional portions of the formal courses to develop additional skills.
2. Training shall include at least 28 hours of classroom and field instruction conducted by the Forest Lead Program Instructor or District Instructors.
 - a. A minimum of 4 hours shall be devoted to classroom instruction. The Instructor shall introduce and review Forest Service policy and procedures, proper maintenance and care of a chainsaw and the use of applicable safety equipment.
 - b. Field training shall focus on hands-on operation of the chain saw in the practices of felling, brushing and bucking of material not to exceed 8 inches in diameter.
 - c. At the request of the operator's immediate supervisor instructors may tailor the field training to fit specific work applications.
 - d. Students must pass written and proficiency tests administered by the Instructor before receiving certification.

19.3b Class B - Intermediate

1. Intermediate saw operators are required to complete the appropriate course NWCG S-212 or MTDC (Chain saw and Crosscut Saw Training Courses).
2. In addition to the above course work, the course shall include at least 28 hours of classroom and field instruction conducted by the Forest Lead Program Instructors or District Instructors.
 - a. A minimum of 8 hours shall be devoted to Classroom instruction to include a review of Forest Service policy and procedures, proper maintenance and care of a chainsaw or crosscut saw and personal protective equipment requirements.
 - b. Field training shall focus on hands-on operation and demonstrated proficiency in felling, brushing and bucking of material not to exceed 24 inches in diameter.
 - c. At the request of the operator's immediate supervisor instructors may tailor the field training to fit specific work applications.

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d. The felling portion of certification for the Class B operator shall be conducted under the guidance and supervision of a certified Class C Advanced Sawyer or C Sawyer Certifier.

e. At the end of the course, the students must pass proficiency tests conducted by the Forest Service Lead Program Instructor or by District Instructors prior to certification.

19.3c Class C - Advanced

1. Advanced saw operators must complete the entire NWCG S-212 or MTDC (Chain saw and Crosscut Saw Training Courses) course.

2. In addition to the above coursework, the class shall include at least 28 hours of classroom and field training conducted by Forest Lead Program Instructors or Regional Program Instructors. The course will include instruction by professional sawyers who have been approved as consultants by the Regional Program Instructor.

a. A minimum of 4 hours shall be devoted to classroom instruction. This must include a review of Forest Service policy and procedures, proper maintenance and care of a chainsaw or crosscut saw and required personal protective equipment.

b. In the field, training shall focus on proper use of and selection of advanced techniques for brushing, bucking and especially felling materials exceeding 24 inches in diameter. Field training shall include hands-on operation of saws.

c. At the end of the course, the students must pass proficiency tests conducted by the Forest Service Lead Program Instructor and professional consultant prior to certification.

19.3d Class C - Sawyer Certifiers

The prerequisite for becoming a Class C - Sawyer Certifier is certification without restrictions as a Class C - Advanced Sawyer.

Potential Class C Certifiers must have demonstrated communication skills, the ability to transfer and relate concepts to others, and current knowledge of policy and regulations pertaining to saws and related equipment.

Sawyer Certifiers must successfully complete a formal Regional Program, teaching them how to organize and conduct field certification sessions.

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19.3e Additional Requirements for Crosscut Saw Operator Training.

Training must include the specific use and operation of a crosscut saw. This training must be conducted by a Crosscut Technical Specialist.

Classroom instruction for use of crosscut saws must meet the Class A, B and C certification requirements, listed above, including the principles of cutting and bucking.

19.4 - CERTIFICATION

19.4a. General

Instructors have complete authority to limit the scope of the certification. They may impose time, project or size limitations at their discretion. Instructors may restrict the certification at the request of the operator's immediate supervisor to tailor the certification to specific work applications.

1. The Forest Lead Program Instructor shall ensure that a record of training is completed and maintained for each person who successfully completes the training and certification.
2. Each saw operator who successfully completes the course requirements and passes the field examination, shall receive a chainsaw or crosscut saw operator's qualification card R5-6700-4.
3. Only the Regional Chainsaw or Crosscut Saw Coordinator, the Forest Lead Program Instructor, a Qualified District Instructor may sign the Approving Instructor block on the card depending on what level the certification is.
4. Only District Rangers, Forest Supervisors or Regional Staff Managers may sign as the Approving Official depending on what level the certification is.

District Rangers, Forest Supervisors and Regional Staff Managers, and the Forest and Regional Lead Program Instructors have the ultimate authority and responsibility in determining whether or not an employee is considered trained and qualified.

19.4b. Duration

Operator certification is valid for the following amount of time by Class level:

1. Class A - Basic Certificates are valid for no longer than three years from the date of issue. However it is recommended to evaluate the length of re-certification on an individual level

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2. Class B - Intermediate, Class C - Advanced and Class C - Sawyer Certifiers
Certificates are valid for no longer than three years from the date of issue.

When the qualification card expires, the individual must be field tested and re-certified.
(See *** Recertification).

19.4c. Restrictions on Certification

All chainsaw and crosscut saw operators are not necessarily expert users of their saws. Forest Lead Program Instructors must identify operating limitations of Class A, B and C trainees on the reverse of the certificate when appropriate. Limitations should refer to saw operations such as "limbing only," "bucking only," "limbing and bucking only," "brush cutting only or felling to length of bar."

The instructors may restrict the certification at the request of the operator's immediate supervisor to tailor the certification to specific work applications.

1. Class A - Basic Sawyer. Class A Sawyers are restricted to cutting material eight inches or less in diameter. Class A Sawyers are normally limited to brush cutting and bucking operations. Class A Sawyers must work under the Supervision of a qualified Class B or higher Sawyer. Operators at this level may perform at the next higher level as a trainee under direct supervision of a qualified operator at that level.
2. Class B - Intermediate Sawyer. Intermediate Sawyers are restricted to cutting material 24 inches or less in diameter. Operators at this level may perform at the next higher level as a trainee under the direct supervision of a qualified operator at that level.
3. Class C - Advanced Sawyer. Advanced Sawyers may cut materials exceeding 24 inches in diameter.

19.4d. Recertification

Before re-certification, each operator must have demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the certifier, the ability to perform the expectations of the current class of operation competently, successfully and safely.

Class A and B Sawyers:

1. Modify the NWCG S-212 course or the MTDC Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Training Courses, if necessary to take into account the experience of operators being re-certified. Place emphasis upon practical exercises involving tree felling, bucking and limbing. If

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possible and practical, re-certification should be accomplished on the operator's "typical work" project.

2. Minimum re-certification requirements for Class A and B level sawyers are:
 - a. Classroom review shall last a minimum of 2 hours and will involve applicable safety films and job hazard analysis/situational awareness review.
 - b. Hands-on field review involving the Forest Lead Instructor or District Instructor should require that the operator perform work with material relevant to the certification.
 - c. The Forest Lead Program Instructor or District Instructor shall sign the Instructor block on the A and B card.
 - d. The District Ranger shall sign the Approving Official block.

Class C Advanced Sawyers

Class C Sawyer Certifiers certification are valid for 3 years. When the card expires, the individual will need to be field tested for re-certification. Minimum re-certification requirements are:

- a. Classroom review shall last 2 hours and involve applicable safety films and job hazard analysis/situational awareness review.
- b. Hands-on field review conducted by Forest Lead Program Instructor chainsaw coordinator should require that the operator perform work with material consistent with the size indicated by the certification standards.
- c. The Forest Lead Program Instructor shall sign the Approving Instructor block on the "C Certification" card.
- d. The District Ranger shall sign the Approving Official block.

Class C Sawyers Certifiers

Class C Sawyer Certifiers certification are valid for 3 years. When the card expires, the individual will need to be field tested for re-certification. Minimum re-certification requirements are:

- e. Classroom review shall last 2 hours and involve applicable safety films and job hazard analysis/situational awareness review.

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- f. Hands-on field review conducted by a consultant or other professional identified by the Regional Chainsaw Coordinator. The Regional Lead Program Instructor should require that the operator perform work with material consistent with the size indicated by the certification standards.
- g. The Regional Coordinator or Lead Program Instructor shall sign the Approving Instructor block on the "C Certification" card.
- h. The Forest Supervisor shall sign the Approving Official block.

19.5 - PROCESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION ON EACH FOREST AND UNIT

1. The Forest Lead Program Instructor and the Forest Safety and Health Manager or Coordinator shall introduce the program to Line Officers and Managers who have overall administrative responsibility for the Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Program.
2. The Forest Safety and Health Managers or Coordinators should canvas their Forests, through Staff Directors and District Rangers, to find individuals who will be using chain saws in their daily work.
3. Managers and District Rangers, in conjunction with the Forest Lead Program Instructor, should identify employees who need operational certification into the following groups:
 - a. Class A - Basic chain saw operators
 - b. Class B - Intermediate chain saw operators
 - c. Class C - Advanced chain saw operators (District and Unit Instructors)
 - d. Class C Certifier (Forest Lead Program Instructors)
4. Upon satisfactory completion of the first certification process for Class C operators, the Forest Lead Program Instructor and Professional Faller/Consultant shall jointly sign off, indicating that the individual meets or exceeds the standards of an advanced chain saw operator.
5. During the verification process of the Class "C" group, the Forest Lead Program Instructor, Forest/Unit Safety and Health Manager/Coordinator, and the Professional Faller (Consultant) should identify people with practical skills and knowledge as well as

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good communications skills and positive attitudes. These individuals should be considered for District/Unit Instructor responsibilities.

6. The Forest Safety and Health Managers or Coordinators and Forest Lead Program Instructors must discuss nomination of individuals for cadre positions with Forest Supervisors and District Rangers because of the impact the time, energy and dollar commitment will have to the work projects.

7. Once the District Instructors for Class A and Class B training and certification have been selected, the Forest Safety and Health Managers or Coordinators and Forest Lead Program Instructors must hold a session with all District Instructors to develop the program on that Forest as stated in this supplement.

8. Industry sawyers, who are considered technical experts in the use of chainsaws and crosscut saws, may be considered for selection as professional consultants, instructors, fellers and crosscut technical specialists to conduct the Forest or District training and certification. Forest Lead Program Instructors should communicate with logging industry workers in their areas to locate these technical experts. To be considered the technical experts should have:

- a. Demonstrated ability to instruct, work with the chainsaw or crosscut saw, and communicate well with large and small groups.
- b. Five (5) years minimum experience, 10 years for felling.
- c. References from peers or employers, which qualify the person as an expert or professional in the field.
- d. Ensure that the professional consultants, instructors, fellers and crosscut technical specialists follow the felling guidelines established at the Regional Class C Advanced Sawyer Certification sessions.
- e. Where industry crosscut experts are not available, contact the Regional Crosscut Coordinator for in service technical assistance.

19.6 - MONITORING

Monitoring is critical to the prevention of chain saw accidents. This section deals with follow-up of instructors and operators to assure correct chain saw operating procedures.

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The Forest Lead Program Instructors, Program Coordinators and Safety Officers are designated to observe conditions of chain saw use in the course of activity reviews or other periodic inspections to ensure that workers are using acceptable procedures for tree felling and other chain saw applications. The evaluation procedure involves:

- a. Reviewing operator's training records and current certification levels (Forest Lead Program Instructors).
- b. Reviewing felling methods and operator understanding of felling cuts and their relationship to each other, wedges, escape routes, procedural felling steps and other critical points of chain saw use.
- c. Reviewing use of personal protective equipment.
- d. Reviewing of Job Hazard Analysis.
- e. Conducting safety and tailgate meetings.
- f. Taking corrective actions if any unsafe practices are observed.
- g. Reviewing supervision and instruction of operators who are in training status or who have a restricted operation.
- h. Using stump readings to judge the quality of felling work. (Also teaching operators to use this tool for self-monitoring and improvement.)
- i. Encouraging both announced and unannounced saw project inspections.
- j. Taking steps to ensure the safety of anyone involved with the felling operation.
- i. Reporting results of review to Regional Safety and Health Officer.