Title: Safe Work Instruction BFB

Tree Removal at Bush Fires

Original Issue Date: March 2023 Last Reviewed: May 2024 Next Review Date: May 2026



Authorised By: BFAC

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DO NOT use this machine/equipment unless you have been trained in its safe use and operation

Description of Work: Identifying and removing of Dangerous trees.

Potential Hazards: Falling trees or limbs.

Personal Protective Clothing (PPC) Required (Check the box for required PPC):

Gloves	Face Masks	Eye Protection	Mask	Appropriate Footwear	Hearing Protection	Protective Clothing
	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes		\boxtimes

Safe Work Procedure Checklist:

Crew leaders are to identify and report unsafe trees in order to minimise the risk of harm to crews.

Identification

Following identification of a potentially dangerous tree, a safe working area equivalent to or greater than the height of the tree should be marked off.

Crews should mark offending trees using surveyors tape and or Danger tape so everyone can see. Any tracks in the immediate vicinity should also be taped off so passing traffic avoids potential danger.

Offending trees should be brought to the attention of the Incident Control for removal, treatment and briefing of incoming crews.

The use of unqualified operators to fell trees at bushfires is strictly prohibited.

Marking Methods

RED / WHITE (Hazard Tape)	Hazardous tree or other safety hazard	
BLUE or BLUE / WHITE	Items requiring mop-up	
RED / WHITE and YELLOW	Tree should be felled	
RED / WHITE plus BLUE	Hazardous tree to mop-up	

Procedure

Mark the tree as a hazard	In accordance with marking methods		
Isolate the hazard	Cordon-off any tracks, roads or areas to prevent personnel from entering potentially hazardous areas.		
Report	Inform the Incident Controller who will request the assistance of a qualified tree feller or a machine from the Shire of Manjimup.		
Identify tree location	Mark the location on a map and, if possible, plot GPS location.		
Alert	Incident Control is responsible for alerting all personnel of all risks on their sector. Incident Control must brief incoming crews and provide updates when the situation changes.		