

Chapter 15

Chainsaw Safety for Non-Wildland Fire Operations

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15.1 Introduction

It is National Park Service (NPS) policy to provide a safe and healthful workplace for individuals performing chainsaw operations. The NPS Chainsaw Safety Program for Non-Wildland Fire Operators (NCSP) provides direction on qualifications, training, evaluation, and requirements for individuals operating chainsaws on all NPS lands. This program requires the verification and demonstration of skills and competencies to help ensure safe operation of chainsaws. NPS policy allows chainsaw use in the performance of NPS duties only if the chainsaw operator:

1. Successfully completed a competency evaluation.
2. Possesses a valid NPS Chainsaw Qualification.
3. Is verified by the project supervisor to meet any other specified qualifications to perform assigned chainsaw work.

15.2 Scope

This chapter applies to all individuals conducting activities, work, and operations on NPS lands that involves the use of chainsaws in non-wildland fire applications. The program consists of three components: a policy, a required qualification process, and optional comprehensive training.

1. The Chainsaw Operator Safety policy:
 - a) Identifies training options to acquire chainsaw knowledge, skills, and abilities.
 - b) Establishes minimum training requirements.
 - c) Verifies chainsaw operator skills through an evaluation of identified competencies for the sawyer and faller operator classifications.
 - d) Addresses safety practices, means, methods, and operations for chainsaw use, regardless of the purpose of cutting.
2. Any individual who operates a chainsaw in a non-wildland fire setting is required to comply with this NPS policy on chainsaw use in non-wildland fire settings and must be qualified, at minimum, at the sawyer skill level, in addition to any specialized training pertaining to their classification.

NOTE: This policy does not pertain to chainsaw operators holding a current red-card qualification and are currently trained and qualified through National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG).

3. Individuals currently qualified through the NWCG program as a Faller (FAL-3, FAL-2, or FAL-1) may perform chainsaw operations in a non-wildland fire setting provided they:
 - a) Produce a current Chainsaw Operator qualification card upon request.
 - b) Work within the limitations of their qualification.
4. Individuals that are not currently qualified as a chainsaw operator NWCG FAL-3, FAL-2, or FAL-1 must:
 - a) Complete the e-course on non-wildland fire chainsaw use and NPS policy (required).

- b) Complete risk management training, such as Operational Leadership (required).
 - c) Obtain their non-wildland fire chainsaw qualification as outlined in this policy.
5. Exceptions to this NCSP include:
- a) Non-NPS emergency responders.
 - b) Contractors who are not working under direct NPS supervision.
 - c) Lessees.

These individuals/groups must ensure compliance with local, state, and federal occupational safety and health regulatory requirements, where applicable. If there is a necessity to use a chainsaw that could expose NPS staff or visitors to injury, or property to damage, individuals must first notify NPS administration and be granted permission to utilize chainsaws.

NOTE: Specialty groups that have their own chainsaw training and qualification process may apply for an equivalency to the Advisory Board to exempt them from the NPS NCSP.

15.3 References

Detailed information for implementation is contained in the following references.

1. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), 29 CFR 1910.266(e)(1) and (e)(2), Logging Operations.
2. OSHA, 29 CFR 1910.266 Appendix A, First Aid Kits (Mandatory).
3. OSHA, 29 CFR 1910.266 Appendix B, First Aid and CPR Training (Mandatory).
4. OSHA, 29 CFR 1910.266 Appendix C, Comparable International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Standards (Non-mandatory).
5. OSHA, 29 CFR 1910.106, Flammable Liquids.
6. American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z133, Safety Requirements for Arboricultural Operations.

15.4 Definitions

This section includes a list of definitions relevant to chainsaw safety operations.

Name	Definition
After Action Review	A structured review or debriefed process by the participants and those responsible for the project or event to analyze what happened, why it happened, and how it can be done better in the future.
Approving Official	The person who provides authorization for individuals to be permitted to operate a chainsaw after they have successfully demonstrated competency to safely operate a chainsaw.
Brushing	The clearing out of a work area by removing woody material up to 4" in diameter, so long as it can be done safely with a simple horizontal cut.
Bucking	The process of reducing the size of fallen logs or trees by cutting the wood into moveable sections.
Chain Break	A device used to stop the saw chain.
Chainsaw	A portable mechanical saw consisting of a power head, saw chain, and guide bar generally used to cut wood.
Chainsaw Operation	Any number of tasks that involve the use of a chainsaw, in addition to other acts, to accomplish a specific job such as tree felling.
Chainsaw Operator	Any individual who uses a chainsaw in the performance of his/her duties.
Chainsaw Safety, Maintenance, and Operation	Comprehensive chainsaw training program that consists of training courses for each level of the NPS NCSP.
Competency	A measurable pattern of knowledge, skills, abilities, behaviors, and other characteristics an individual needs to perform work roles or occupational functions safely and successfully.
Competency Evaluation	A written assessment of an individual's knowledge of chainsaws and/or a field evaluation of his/her skills and ability to operate a chainsaw safely.
Competency Evaluator	A qualified Chainsaw Operator who has met the required criteria of a Competency Evaluator as defined within this policy and/or NPS chainsaw safety training guidelines.
Danger Tree	A danger tree is often an uprooted, older, or rotting tree that has fallen into another tree. Also referred to as a hazard or hung tree.
Diameter at Breast Height (DBH)	A standard method of expressing the diameter of the trunk of a standing tree that is measured at a height of 4.5 feet (1.37 meters) from the uphill side of the tree.
Drop Starting	The act of starting a chainsaw by pushing the saw away from the body with one hand while simultaneously pulling on the starter cord handle with the other. Drop starting is prohibited.

Name	Definition
Effective Means of Communication	<p>A method of communication that ensures a message is given, received, and understood. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Verbal Command and Response. ● Established Visual and/or Audible Signals. ● Written – Must be clear & concise, legible, and written in a language the reader understands.
Electrical Conductor	<p>Any overhead or underground electrical device capable of carrying an electrical current, including communications wires and cables, power lines, and other such fixtures or apparatus.</p>
Engineering Control	<p>Eliminate or reduce exposure to a chemical or physical hazard through the use or substitution of engineered machinery or equipment.</p>
Equivalency Waiver	<p>Partners or volunteer groups may request an equivalency waiver by submitting the completed application to the NPS Service-wide Chainsaw Safety Advisory Board. This application must be accompanied by a copy of the written program, training curriculum, and field competency assessment from the program the individual/group is currently certified under.</p>
Fall (Fell)	<p>To cut down trees using a face and back cut.</p>
Faller	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Working Faller - A chainsaw operator who performs tree falling operations at the entry level. The Working Faller may fall simple trees defined as a single stem tree of moderate (approximately 16 inches) diameter, free of defects, with no more than 1 foot of lean in any direction, with adequate room for falling, and the diameter (DBH) of the tree does NOT exceed the (chainsaw) bar length. ● Journey Level Faller - A chainsaw operator who performs tree falling operations at an advanced level. The Journey Level Faller may fall any tree after careful consideration of the tree’s complexity, provided it does NOT have a valued target and the diameter (DBH) of the trees does NOT exceed the 1.5 times the (chainsaw) bar length. ● Master Faller - A chainsaw operator who performs tree falling operations at an expert level using advanced techniques and specialized equipment (i.e. rigging, tree jack, etc.). The Master Faller may fall any tree after careful consideration of the tree’s complexity.
Job Hazard Analysis (JHA)	<p>A technique that focuses on job tasks as a way to identify hazards before they occur. JHA focuses on the relationship between the individual, the task, the tools, and the work environment.</p>
Lessons Learned	<p>Any knowledge or understanding that impacts an organization and is gained through experience. May be positive or negative.</p>
Limbing	<p>To cut branches off downed trees.</p>
Logo	<p>A segment such as a section, bolt, or tree length that is sawn or split from a felled tree.</p>
Manual Tree Felling	<p>The removal of a tree or tree trunk from the ground by incorporating a notch and back cut.</p>

Name	Definition
Near Miss	A near miss is an unplanned event that did not result in injury, illness, or damage – but had the potential to do so. Only a fortunate break in the chain of events prevented an injury, fatality, or damage.
Operation (of a chainsaw)	The act of starting the engine, engaging the throttle, handling the chainsaw, placing the saw chain to material (i.e. wood) to make a cut, then turning off the engine at the completion of the task.
Qualified Chainsaw Operator	Any individual that successfully demonstrates their knowledge and ability to safely perform chainsaw operations at their evaluated skill level.
Risk Assessment	The process of determining the likelihood of a specified negative event occurring.
Safety Station	Set up within 100 feet of the work zone and contains a first aid kit suitable for the operation and associated crew size, a proven method of communication, and a site safety plan.
Sawyer	A chainsaw operator who only performs chainsaw operations on horizontal material from the ground (e.g. bucking, limbing, brushing, slashing, and stumping).
Site Safety Plan	Identifies physical address, latitude and longitude, GPS coordinates, or other physical location identifiers and name address and phone number of nearest medical facility. Outlines the best way to summons emergency medical services (EMS). May include a Medivac plan.
Skill Level	The level of achievement an individual possesses reaches by acquiring thorough knowledge of the subject and successfully demonstrating the ability to perform the action.
Slashing	The cutting of woody material so it lays flat on the ground.
Stumping	Vertical log material not exceeding 36 inches in height.
Target	Any person, property, or service (activity) that may be injured, damaged, or disrupted.

15.5 Responsibilities

This section addresses the responsibilities and requirements for all chainsaw safety and operator-related roles.

15.5.1 Washington Area Support Office (WASO) Office of Risk Management

The WASO Office of Risk Management is responsible for:

1. Maintaining the Policy and, when necessary, revising the policy.
2. Serving as a central repository for all completed training documentation (curriculum outline, field evaluations, and the official NCSP competency evaluator recommendation).
3. Serving as a central repository for the NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluator Qualification documentation.
4. Receiving all waiver requests and coordinating review of waiver requests by the NCSP

Safety Advisory Board.

5. Coordinating the meeting of the NCSP Safety Advisory Board.
6. Coordinating a list of all approved NCSP Chainsaw Operators within the NPS.

15.5.2 Superintendent or Site Manager

The superintendent, site manager, or their designee is responsible for:

1. Ensuring compliance with all requirements set forth under this policy, including:
 - a) Training requirements.
 - b) Skill competencies.
 - c) Safe work practices.
2. Appointing a Chainsaw Safety Program Manager within the park/office.
3. Ensuring chainsaw operators follow NPS chainsaw safety program requirements.
4. Performing an annual review to ensure compliance with this program.
5. Signing the chainsaw operator's qualification card as the authorized "Approving Official." Signatures are based on receiving the recommendation from the NCSP Competency Evaluator stating that the individual has successfully met the competency qualification requirements set forth by this policy.
6. Ensuring supervisors maintain individuals' training and qualification records and can produce the records upon request.

15.5.3 First Line Supervisor

Supervisors are responsible for:

1. Ensuring that an individual is designated as a "qualified chainsaw operator" (for the specific skill level at which he/she is assigned to perform).
2. Ensuring documentation (training rosters, agenda, etc.) of training is maintained.
3. Reporting and investigating all near misses and incidents resulting in injury or property damage according to NPS and Department of the Interior (DOI) policy as well as OSHA regulations (see chapter section Incident Reporting and Investigation). The supervisor (or designee) must create a Lesson Learned paper from the investigation and submit it to the Regional Risk Management Office.
4. Ensuring all assigned chainsaw operations are within an operator's skill level.
5. Monitoring individuals' development and taking further training action, where needed, to ensure the needs of the organization are met.
6. Ensuring all chainsaw operator qualification cards, CPR and First Aid Certification Cards, and bloodborne pathogens awareness/universal precautions training are current.
7. Reviewing the use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
8. Conducting and documenting tailgate safety meetings to include a review of JHAs for all staff prior to the start of each workday and prior to daily operations that merit additional safety.
9. Taking corrective actions if any unsafe practices are observed.

10. Tracking the number of qualified operators, completed chainsaw-related projects, and identifying accident and near miss trends.
11. Reporting results of review and recommendations to the superintendent or site manager and regional risk manager, as appropriate.
12. Reviewing recordkeeping procedures to determine that up-to-date and accurate records are kept including reviewing job hazard analyses, safety, and tailgate meeting records.

15.5.4 Chainsaw Safety Program Manager

The Chainsaw Safety Program Manager may be a defined role at a park/office level as well as at a regional level. This program manager is responsible for serving as the primary point-of-contact (POC) at the park/office level for the chainsaw safety program. As delegated by the superintendent or site manager, the Chainsaw Safety Program Manager may support or assist the superintendent or site manager in his/her duties. At the regional level, the program manager will help coordinate training and maintain records of qualified operators within the region.

15.5.5 Chainsaw Operator

Operators are responsible for:

1. Maintaining the correct tools and accessories in good repair before starting any chainsaw operation.
2. Protecting equipment and tools from damage during transport or use.
3. Notifying their first-line supervisor of any chainsaw operation they are not comfortable performing or that is above their ability to perform.
4. Notifying the first-line supervisor of all chainsaw safety related incidents including injury, property damage, near miss, and danger trees.
5. Maintaining records of their own required training and qualification/re-qualifications completed.
6. Presenting verification of current certification in first aid, CPR, and bloodborne pathogens (BBP) awareness/universal precautions training to their first-line supervisor (or volunteer coordinator if in the Volunteers-In-Parks (VIP) program), NCSP Instructor and/or NCSP Competency Evaluator. Note: BBP awareness training is generally a core component of first aid training.

15.5.6 NCSP Instructor

The NCSP Instructor is responsible for:

1. Conducting NPS-approved Chainsaw Safety, Maintenance & Operations (CSMO) training. This curriculum includes knowledge of CSMO and skills development through hands-on training.
2. Maintaining their competency evaluation status in accordance with the NCSP.

15.5.7 NCSP Competency Evaluator

The NCSP Competency Evaluator is responsible for:

1. Verifying that individuals completed the required NPS Chainsaw Operator e-course, a formal Risk Management training course (e.g., 16-hour operational leadership course), and are certified in CPR, standard first aid, and have a current training record (e.g., certificate, course roster) that verifies bloodborne pathogens awareness/universal precautions training was a component of the individual's first aid training.
2. Administering an approved written exam and/or field competency assessment to test the individuals' skills and ability to safely operate a chainsaw independently (at the specific level for which they are being evaluated).
3. Providing constructive feedback to any individual that fails to demonstrate their ability to safely operate a chainsaw. The evaluator may recommend a student complete the NPS CSMO Training course or equivalent training to further enhance their chainsaw operator competency. The goal of this feedback is to help the individual gain the necessary skills to pass future competency requirements.

NOTE: NCSP Competency Evaluators are limited to evaluating operator skills at or below their own qualification level.

4. Completing and signing the NPS Official Chainsaw Safety Competency Evaluator Recommendation Form (see Appendix B), the NCSP Qualification Card, and the NCSP Competency Evaluation Field Assessment Form as the "Evaluator" for each individual they evaluate.
5. Forwarding the NPS Official Chainsaw Safety Competency Evaluator Form to the appropriate "Approving Official", superintendent, site manager, or their designee.
6. Maintaining their competency evaluation status in accordance with the NCSP.
7. Submitting electronic copies of the completed NPS Official Chainsaw Safety Competency Evaluator Form to the WASO Office of Risk Management.

15.5.8 Regional Risk Manager/Regional Occupational Safety and Health Manager

The Regional Risk Manager/Occupational Safety and Health Manager or the Regional Director's designee for Chainsaw Safety Program Manager is responsible for:

1. Providing chainsaw program guidance and support to parks/offices in their region.
2. Providing guidance in the application of NPS and DOI policy as well as the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Act of 1970 and 29 CFR 1910, "Occupational Safety and Health Standards," in the management of the chainsaw safety program.
3. Coordinating NCSP Competency Evaluator and CSMO Instructor training and qualification and refresher training for their region.
4. Coordinating special teams of Safety Managers, Collateral Duty Safety Coordinators (CDSCs), and chainsaw subject matter experts (SMEs) to investigate all incidents

resulting in significant personal injury and/or property damage (see Incident Reporting and Investigation below).

NOTE: Accidents that meet the threshold established for Serious Accident Investigations will follow requirements established by DM 485 and RM 50B Accident Investigations.

5. Reviewing all lessons learned, Safety Management Information System (SMIS) reports, and other documents resulting from incidents or near misses involving chainsaw operations.
6. Ensuring this information is communicated to appropriate parties, including park superintendents, site managers, safety managers, CDSCs, other regional field personnel, and WASO Office of Risk Management to prevent future similar occurrences.
7. Maintaining a current contact list of regional NCSP Competency Evaluators and CSMO Instructors and make readily available to the field.

15.5.9 NCSP Service-Wide Advisory Board

The NCSP Service-Wide Advisory Board is responsible for:

1. Providing clear guidance and direction for complying with the program.
2. Reviewing equivalency waiver applications to determine denial or approval of the waiver request. This application must be accompanied by a copy of the written program, training curriculum, and field competency assessment from the program the individual/group is currently qualified under (e.g., United States Forest Service, Appalachian Trail Conservancy Training, etc.).
3. Performing an annual review of the policy, qualification process, and optional CMSO Training program.

15.6 Program Elements

This section describes the basic program elements for chainsaw safety operations.

15.6.1 Training

Training for instructors, NCSP competency evaluators and chainsaw operators is a critical component to the NCSP.

1. **Prerequisites.** All candidates for chainsaw operator qualifications must complete the following mandatory prerequisites:
 - a) The mandatory NPS Chainsaw Operators e-Course prior to the competency evaluation.
 7. Be certified in CPR, standard first aid, and have current training in bloodborne pathogens awareness/universal precautions training. Note: BBP training is generally a core component of first aid training.
 - b) Formal Risk Management training course (e.g., NPS 16-Hour Operational Leadership)
Note: Volunteers and partners in the National Historic and Scenic Trails Parks may use the Trail Safe! Program to satisfy this requirement.

2. **Chainsaw Competency Qualifications.** Anyone operating a chainsaw in the performance of their duties must first be qualified through the NCSP program. The primary purpose for the NCSP qualification is to address a chainsaw operator's safety (and the safety of individuals in the vicinity of saw operations) by confirming the operator has met the competency requirements and successfully completed a written and field competency assessment.

It is imperative that the chainsaw qualification and re-qualification process adequately evaluates potential operators on both the principles of chainsaw operation and the operator's proficiency in implementing those principles. All potential chainsaw operators must meet the minimum qualifications and be knowledgeable in safe chainsaw operation and equipment parts/function/maintenance and safety.

Chainsaw operators may perform chainsaw operations outside the limits of their qualification to develop or improve their skills and abilities **ONLY** when they are under the direct supervision of a higher qualified Operator.

- a) At a minimum, all individuals who operate chainsaws for the NPS must be:
- At least 18 years of age.
 - Certified in CPR, standard first aid, and trained in bloodborne pathogens awareness/universal precautions.
 - Evaluated on the required chainsaw operator competency requirements as set forth in this chapter.
- c) All chainsaw operators must complete the NPS Chainsaw Operator e-course (one-time requirement) and a formal Risk Management training course such as the 16-hour Operational Leadership course Operational Risk Management training (one-time requirement). Note: Volunteers and partners in the National Historic and Scenic Trails Parks may use the Trail Safe! Program to satisfy this requirement.
- b) The NPS CSMO training course or equivalent training course must be completed if the individual does not already possess the knowledge and skills required. All chainsaw operators who successfully complete competency evaluations are still encouraged to complete the NPS CSMO training course to further enhance skills and abilities.

NOTE: Individuals may choose not to complete the NPS CSMO training course if they already possess the appropriate knowledge and skills.

- c) All chainsaw operators must successfully demonstrate proficiency at their current skill level to perform chainsaw operations.
- d) The NCSP Competency Evaluator must submit documentation to the operator's superintendent or site manager, or their designee to sign as the "Approving Official." Once signed, the documentation is forwarded to the operator's supervisor. Official evaluation of an operator's skill level and proficiency must be conducted every three years.

- e) Qualified chainsaw operators must comply with applicable OSHA, ANSI, NPS, and park/office policies regarding chainsaw operation at all times.

NCSP chainsaw operator skill levels include:

- a) Sawyer – Anyone who operates a chainsaw in a non-wildland fire setting must, at a minimum, have this level of qualification. Operators who perform non-routine chainsaw operations (i.e., law enforcement officer, carpenter, etc.) must first obtain the sawyer skill level qualification in addition to any other requirements for their position.
- b) Faller – Any person qualified to operate a chainsaw as a (tree) Faller. There are three classes of Faller:
 - Working Faller (entry level).
 - Journey Level Faller (advanced level).
 - Master Faller (professional level).

NOTE: Before achieving the faller qualification, an operator must achieve qualification at the sawyer level first.

15.6.2 Written Chainsaw Safety Program

Each Park/Office will develop a written Chainsaw Safety Program in which each operating unit will provide clear expectations and guidance on who the policies cover, and the defined roles and responsibilities established by the program. The following are basic components of a written chainsaw safety program.

1. **Requirements.** Each park/office will create a JHA that lists:
 - a) Prior to Tasks to be performed.
 - b) Potential hazards associated with the tasks.
 - c) Controls for each potential hazard identified for all chainsaw operations.

Refer to RM50B chapter on JHAs.

2. **Risk Analysis.** Prior to beginning each chainsaw operation/task, the crew/operator must perform a risk analysis using the Operational Leadership Severity/Probability/Exposure (OL SPE) analysis, or similar model, to determine a task rating of:
 - a) Low risk.
 - b) Moderate risk.
 - c) High risk.
3. **Training.** Each qualified operator must have received proper training in chainsaw:
 - a) Compliance.
 - b) Safety.
 - c) Complexity assessment.
 - d) Maintenance.
 - e) Operation (use).

4. **Handling and Operating a Chainsaw.** When handling and operating a chainsaw:
- a) Qualified Operators must use PPE at all times. Tables 2 and 3 provide the required and recommended PPE per the level of task complexity.
 - b) Smoking, vaping (e-cigarettes), and the use of any open flames are prohibited.
 - c) Operators must have prior qualification or be under the direct supervision of a higher qualified operator in a training environment. Working under the direct supervision of a qualified operator is not meant to circumvent the requirement for all operators to obtain qualifications.
 - d) Incidents resulting in damage, injury, or more serious consequences will be promptly investigated, reported, and reviewed using recognized accident investigation techniques. See Incident Investigation and Reporting section below.
 - e) Operators must never work alone. At a minimum, a co-worker must be within line-of-site of the chainsaw operator at all times, who:
 - Is aware of the chainsaw operation underway.
 - Periodically checks on the chainsaw operator.
 - Is certified in CPR and standard first aid when medical response is not within close proximity (3-4 minutes).
 - Can provide assistance to the operator in the event of an emergency.
 - f) Prior to chainsaw operations beginning, the operators must notify dispatch or someone in the park/office management position of the location and/or vicinity of the chainsaw operation.
 - g) Each operation must include a “safety station” within 100 feet of the work zone that contains:
 - A first aid kit suitable for the current chainsaw operation and associated crew size. Appendix A provides a list of the minimally acceptable number and type of first aid supplies for first aid kits required under paragraph (d)(2) of the logging standard. (29 CFR 1910.266(e)(1) and (e)(2), Logging Operations)
 - Must establish a tested method of communication (e.g., two-way radio, cell phone, or satellite phone) to contact EMS. In remote operations, a backup communication method must be determined and tested prior to remote work.
 - A “site safety plan” that identifies the physical address, latitude and longitude, GPS coordinates, or other physical location identifiers of the work site; a recommended way to summon EMS; a Medivac plan (for rural or back country chainsaw operations) to include identification of a landing zone should one be needed; and the name, address, and phone number of the nearest medical facility.
 - h) Equipment may not be operated within 10 feet (3.05 meters) of refueling operations or in areas where refueling recently occurred.
 - i) All persons other than qualified line-clearance arborists and qualified line-clearance arborist trainees must maintain a minimum approach distance of 10 feet to electrical conductors.

- j) Chainsaws may not be operated unless the manufacturer's safety devices are in proper working order. Chainsaw safety devices may not be removed or modified.
- k) Drop-starting a chainsaw is prohibited. A chainsaw must be started with the chain brake engaged and the operator holding the saw firmly in a manner that minimizes movement of the saw when pulling the starter handle.
- l) The chain brake must be engaged or the engine shut off if it is carried more than two steps.
- m) In manual tree felling operations, non-involved individuals must be beyond twice the height of the tree or trunk being removed.

NOTE: This requirement does not apply in the presence of site restrictions, such as waterways or cliffs. Other individuals must be beyond a tree's striking range and at a distance as close to twice the tree's height as practical.

- n) In manual tree felling operations, notches (face cuts) must be used on all trees and trunks greater than 5 inches (12.7 centimeters) in DBH.
- o) When more than one individual is limbing or bucking a tree, each is positioned and their duties organized so the actions of one individual will not create a hazard for the other individual.
- p) Effective communication methods must be established before beginning a chainsaw operation.
- q) Chainsaw engines must be started and operated at a 10-foot minimum distance from other individuals.
- r) Proper use and storage of chainsaw liquid fuel is important to protecting safety. Gasoline will be stored in approved containers or Department of Transportation (DOT) approved containers in quantities of 5 gallons or less. "Approved" containers are tested and certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory (NRTL) such as Underwriters Laboratory (UL) or Factory Mutual Engineering Corp (FM). Approved containers will be marked or labeled with the UL or FM label. A safety can is a common type of approved container with a flash arresting screen, spring-closing lid and spout cover, and so designed that it will safely relieve internal pressure when subjected to fire exposure.

15.6.3 Personal Protective Equipment

The intent of PPE is to protect an individual from injury or illness when a hazard cannot be controlled through engineering controls or other more suitable methods. Consider the following guidelines when selecting PPE to be used when operating a chainsaw:

1. Operators must wear the required PPE at all times while operating a chainsaw and may use additional recommended PPE for added protection.
2. A park/office program may impose more stringent PPE requirements than those listed in the tables below if it is determined a specific task warrants an added level of protection. However, care must be taken not to create an additional hazard to the operator with the

- added PPE.
3. Occasionally, the use of specific PPE may increase the probability of injury or illness. When this occurs, the operator may be exempted from using the PPE in question, provided the operator:
 - a) Clearly demonstrates to their supervisor that such a condition exists.
 - b) Employs a suitable safety control method.
 4. Each chainsaw operation must undergo a risk assessment (RA) to determine the operation’s complexity level. This RA helps to identify the minimum PPE requirements (as stated in the tables below). Recommended PPE is also found in the tables.
 5. The tables list required and recommended PPE based on the operation’s risk level (low risk [green], moderate risk [amber], or high risk [red]), similar to the NPS Operational Leadership Green, Amber, Red (GAR) RA process. The crew/operator determines the risk level during the RA, which is completed prior to the start of the task.

Refer to the RM50B chapter on PPE for additional guidance.

Table 2: PPE Requirements and Recommendations for Low Risk and Moderate Risk Chainsaw Operations

Required Equipment	Recommended Equipment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Protection: Hard hat that complies with ANSI Z89.1 and is based on type of hazard present • Eye Protection: Safety glasses/goggles that comply with ANSI Z87.1 • Hearing Protection: Ear muffs/plugs, or a combination of both, are required • Leg Protection: Cut-resistant chaps/pants that extend 2 inches over boots and meets or exceeds ASTM F1897 or the USFS 6170-4F specifications • Foot Protection: Sturdy leather work boots which provide protection for the foot • Single use latex or nitrile gloves, face shields or masks, eye protection, pocket masks (Note: For Operators Designated as Emergency Responders) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foot Protection. Safety-toed or cut-resistant boots which protects the foot • Hand Protection: Gloves • Arm Protection: Long sleeve shirt • Face Protection: Face shield • High Visible Clothing: Vest/Shirt/Jacket • Blood Stopper: Personal first aid trauma dressing kit (worn on body) • Safety Whistle with established protocol

Table 3: PPE Requirements and Recommendations for High Risk Chainsaw Operations

Required Equipment	Recommended Equipment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Protection: Hard hat that complies with ANSI Z89.1 and is based on type of hazard present • Eye Protection: Safety glasses/goggles that comply with ANSI Z87.1 • Hearing Protection: Ear muffs/plugs, or a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Protection: Hard hat that complies with ANSI Z89.1 with chin strap • Hand Protection: Gloves • Arm Protection: Long sleeve shirt • Face Protection: Face shield

Required Equipment	Recommended Equipment
<p>combination of both, are required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leg Protection: Cut-resistant chaps/pants that extend 2 inches over boots and meets or exceeds ASTM F1897 or the USFS 6170-4F specifications • Foot Protection: Safety-toed or cut-resistant boots which protects the foot • High Visible Clothing: Vest/Shirt/Jacket • Blood Stopper: Personal first aid trauma dressing kit (worn on body) • Safety Whistle with established protocol • Single use latex or nitrile gloves, face shields or masks, eye protection, pocket masks (Note: For Operators Designated as Emergency Responders) 	

15.6.4 Qualification Process

The following section details the qualifications of each type of NPS chainsaw operator and evaluator.

1. **Chainsaw Operators.** Candidates seeking a chainsaw operator qualification must:
 - a) Acquire the chainsaw competencies identified under this policy for the specific qualification level. Individuals may obtain their chainsaw competencies through the:
 - NPS CSMO comprehensive training program.
 - NWCG Wildland Fire Chainsaws S-212 program.
 - Other government agency training programs.
 - External training programs.
 - On-the-job experience.

NOTE: Candidates possessing the required chainsaw competencies may have their skills evaluated without additional chainsaw training.

- b) Complete the required e-course NPS Chainsaw Policy and Use, DOI-NPS-1504-DOIU, available on the Department of Interior Learning Management System.
 - c) Provide a copy of their completion certificate for a formal Risk Management training course.
8. Maintain current certification in first aid and CPR, and current training in bloodborne pathogens awareness/universal precautions. Note: BBP awareness training is generally a core component of first aid training.
 - d) Have their chainsaw competencies (for the specific level of operation) evaluated by a qualified NCSP Competency Evaluator. Evaluations consist of a written exam to verify the individual’s knowledge of CSMO and/or a field competency assessment to demonstrate their ability to safely operate a chainsaw. The type of evaluation varies

for each level. Specifically:

- Sawyer Level: Evaluation consists of a written test and field assessment.
- Working Level Faller: Evaluation consists of a field assessment only.
- Journey Level Faller: Evaluation consists of a written test and field assessment.
- Master Level Faller: Individual must complete a taskbook.

NOTE: The Master Level Faller taskbook is self-paced and includes a variety of tasks demonstrating skills. Over time, an individual will demonstrate the skills by performing tasks while a qualified Master Level Faller observes the individual performing the tasks. Upon successful completion of each task, the observer will sign off the tasks in the taskbook.

Upon successful completion of the competency evaluation:

- a) Candidates receive an approval from the NCSP Competency Evaluator based on demonstrated knowledge, skill, and performance.
- b) The NCSP Competency Evaluator forwards the qualification recommendation to the candidate's superintendent or site manager, or their designee for signature, which finalizes the qualification process.
- c) The Chainsaw Operator qualification is valid for a three-year period but may be subject to review any time prior to expiration.

NOTE: Chainsaw Operator qualification at the sawyer-skill or faller-skill levels does NOT qualify an individual to perform chainsaw operations outside their skill or qualification level.

- d) To maintain qualification at the same level, three-year re-evaluation and qualification requirements include:
 - A competency re-evaluation (written exam and/or field assessment).
 - Current certification in first aid and CPR, and bloodborne pathogens awareness/universal precautions training .

2. **NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluator.** An NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluator provides instruction of the (optional) comprehensive CSMO chainsaw training program to individuals needing to develop knowledge and skills in safe chainsaw operation. In addition, they evaluate an individual's chainsaw competencies by administering the NCSP Competency Evaluation.

- a) To qualify as an NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluator for all levels of non-wildland fire, they must:
 - Be at least 21 years of age.
 - Provide a copy of their certificate of completion in a formal Risk Management training course.
 - Provide a copy of their current certification in CPR and standard first aid, and bloodborne pathogens awareness/universal precautions training.

- Have a minimum of three years active chainsaw experience. Active experience is defined as performing 40 hours of chainsaw operation per year at the level for which the individual is seeking qualification. This must be verified by the operator's supervisor or some other form of documentation (e.g., chainsaw NCSP qualification card).
 - Successfully complete the NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluator course.
- b) NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluator qualification is valid for a period of three years.
- c) To re-qualify as an NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluator, he/she must submit a ***Qualification Training & Recertification Record*** (see Appendix C) and supporting documents to their Regional Risk Manager/Regional Occupational Safety and Health Manager (also known as the Regional Chainsaw Program Manager) showing that they have, at a minimum:
- Instructed one training course per year (total of three courses).
 - Administered 10 competency evaluations within the three-year period.
 - If qualification lapses, they can petition the NCSP Regional Instructor Trainers for requalification.
3. **NCSP Instructor-Trainer.** An NCSP Instructor-Trainer provides instruction of the NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluator training course and qualifies chainsaw operators as NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluators.
- a) To qualify as an NCSP Instructor-Trainer for all levels of non-wildland fire, the individual must:
- Be currently qualified as an NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluator.
 - Successfully complete the NCSP Instructor-Trainer distant learning course (four hours).
- b) NCSP Instructor-Trainer qualification is valid for a period of three years.
- c) To re-qualify as an NCSP Instructor-Trainer, he/she must submit a ***Qualification Training & Recertification Record*** (see Appendix C) and supporting documents to their Regional Risk Manager/Regional Occupational Safety and Health Manager (also known as the Regional Chainsaw Program Manager) showing that they have, at a minimum:
- Instructed one training course per year (total of three courses). Courses can be either the NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluator course or the NCSP CSMO course.
 - Administered 10 competency evaluations within the three-year period.
4. **NCSP Regional Instructor-Trainer.** An NCSP Regional Instructor-Trainer performs the duties of an NCSP Instructor-Trainer, provides instruction of the various NCSP program levels (training and competency evaluation), and qualifies NCSP Instructor-Trainers & NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluators for their region.

- a) To qualify as an NCSP Regional Instructor-Trainer for all levels of non-wildland fire, they must:
 - Be currently qualified as an NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluator.
 - Successfully complete the NCSP Instructor-Trainer distant learning course (four hours).
 - Be evaluated by a current NCSP Regional Instructor-Trainer or by the NCSP service wide instructor team.
- b) NCSP Regional Instructor-Trainer qualification is valid for a period of three years.
- c) To re-qualify as an Regional NCSP Instructor-Trainer, he/she must submit a ***Qualification Training & Recertification Record*** (see Appendix C) and supporting documents to their Regional Risk Manager/Regional Occupational Safety and Health Manager (also known as the Regional Chainsaw Program Manager) showing that they have, at a minimum:
 - Instructed one training course per year (total of three courses). Courses can be either the NCSP Instructor/Competency Evaluator course or the NCSP CSMO course.
 - Administered 10 competency evaluations within the three-year period.

15.6.5 Revocation

Revocation processes are initiated by the first-line supervisor and approved by the park/office superintendent/manager. Revocation of NCSP operator qualification may occur when:

1. An operator has failed to demonstrate appropriate operational procedures resulting in placing themselves or others in danger.
2. An operator lacks the physical ability to safely undertake cutting activities commensurate with their qualification.
3. The review of chainsaw-related accidents and near misses reveals the operator was acting outside of their qualification.

15.6.6 Incident Reporting and Investigation

For more information on NPS incident investigation, and OSHA recordkeeping and reporting, please refer to the appropriate RM50B chapters.

15.7 Technical Appendices

Appendix A: Mandatory First Aid Kit Supplies

Appendix B: Chainsaw Operator Competencies

Appendix C: NCSP Competency Evaluator Form

Appendix D: CSMO Instructor and NCSP Competency Evaluator Qualification Record

Appendix A: Mandatory First Aid Kit Supplies (29 CFR 1910.266 Appendix A)

The following list sets forth the minimally acceptable number and type of first aid supplies for first aid kits required under paragraph (d)(2) of the logging operations standard (29 CFR 1910.266). The contents of the first aid kit listed should be adequate for small work sites, consisting of approximately two to three individuals. When larger operations or multiple operations are being conducted at the same location, additional first aid kits should be provided at the work site or additional quantities of supplies should be included in the first aid kits:

1. Gauze pads (at least 4 x 4 inches).
2. Two large gauze pads (at least 8 x 10 inches).
3. Box adhesive bandages (band-aids).
4. One package gauze roller bandage at least 2 inches wide.
5. Two triangular bandages.
6. Wound cleaning agent such as sealed moistened towelettes or bottles of sterile water.
7. Scissors.
8. At least one blanket.
9. Tweezers.
10. Adhesive tape.
11. Latex gloves.
12. Resuscitation equipment such as resuscitation bag, airway, or pocket mask.
13. Two elastic wraps.
14. Splint.
15. Directions for requesting emergency assistance.

Appendix B: Chainsaw Operator Competencies

Competency: Sawyer

To be fully competent at this level, the candidate:

1. Assesses the complexity level of horizontal trees.
2. Uses a chainsaw to complete:
 - a. Bucking.
 - b. Limbing.
 - c. Brushing.
 - d. Slashing.
 - e. Construction operations.
3. Adheres to all safety and performance standards (NPS policies, ANSI and OSHA standards) while performing Sawyer duties.
4. Performs proper maintenance of the saw to keep it in good working order.

Competency Criteria for the Sawyer Level

Description Level	Sub-Competency	Criteria
Operators achieving the Sawyer qualification may perform chainsaw operations on horizontal material from the ground (bucking, limbing, brushing, and slashing).	Safety	<p><u>Regulatory Understanding</u> Understands what OSHA and ANSI are and how they relate to chainsaw operation.</p> <p><u>Personal Protective Equipment</u> Selects, wears, inspects, and maintains the proper PPE needed to perform chainsaw operations.</p> <p><u>Emergency Preparedness</u> Participates in the preparation of the JHA and Emergency Action Plan.</p> <p><u>Communication</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands the terminology used to describe all operations performed at this level. • Communicates effectively with team. <p><u>Situational Awareness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands the potential dangers associated with chainsaw use. • Maintains situational awareness while performing chainsaw operation using the principles of risk management.
Same as above	Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assesses the environment for potential hazards, avoids hazardous conditions, or corrects conditions that can be made safer. • Assesses the material to be cut and determines the appropriate cutting techniques to avoid hazardous situations. • Assesses the overall cutting situation to determine its complexity.

Same as above	Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starts and stops a chainsaw following industry standards and manufacturers recommendations. • Performs bucking, limbing, brushing, and slashing operations on horizontal trees commensurate to the operator’s experience level. • Identifies and mitigates reactive forces while performing chainsaw operation. • Identifies and mitigates present forces while performing chainsaw operation. • Handles the chainsaw correctly utilizing proper body position, employing proper ergonomics.
Same as above	Maintenance	Selects, identifies, and performs proper maintenance on the chainsaw and all other tools and equipment used at this level.

Competency: Working, Journey Level, and Master Tree Fallers

Tree falling is a procedural process that requires:

1. Assessment and preparation of the felling site, work area and tree.
2. Execution of the felling cuts to safely land a tree in the desired location (lay).
3. Knowledge of safety, communication, chainsaw operations, and tree falling.

Working Faller (WF)

Working Fallers must possess the competencies of a Sawyer (S) in addition to those listed below.

Competency Criteria for the Working Faller Level

Description Level	Sub-Competency	Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operators achieving the WF qualification may fall simple trees defined as any straight, single trunk tree, up to a moderate (approximately 16 inches) diameter, free of defects, with adequate room for falling. The diameter of the tree must NOT exceed the (chainsaw) bar 	Safety	<p><u>Attitude</u> Understands the purpose of the mission and does not proceed without clearly defined objectives.</p> <p><u>Personal Protective Equipment</u> Selects, wears, inspects, and maintains the proper PPE needed to perform chainsaw tree felling operations.</p> <p><u>Emergency Preparedness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participates in the preparation of the JHA and Emergency Action Plan. • Prepares safety equipment for field operations commensurate with location and complexity of operations. • Knows and can demonstrate emergency response procedures including communications equipment operation and

Description Level	Sub-Competency	Criteria
length. • Considered an entry level Tree Faller position where individuals develop and refine their basic tree falling skills.		limitations. <u>Communication</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands the terminology used to describe all operations performed at this level. • Communicates effectively in a team environment. • Serves as a coach/mentor to saw crew members at Sawyer level. <u>Situational Awareness</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyzes the work area and identifies potential dangers associated with chainsaw tree falling. • Maintains situational awareness while performing chainsaw tree falling operations using the principles of risk management.
Same as Above	Assessment (Size Up)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assesses the environment for potential hazards, avoids hazardous conditions, or corrects conditions that can be made safer. • Sizes up the material to be cut and determines appropriate felling techniques (felling plan) to achieve intended lay and avoid hazardous situations. • Assesses the overall cutting situation to determine its complexity in relation to the operator’s comfort level and experience. • Follows the process of accepting or rejecting the falling complexity base on size up.
Same as Above	Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes appropriate work area, commensurate with tree size, potential impact on nearby trees, planned escape routes, and limits of the work area to other personnel and the public. • Utilizes appropriate size chainsaw, axe, and wedges to make standardized directional felling cuts and safely fall the tree along the intended lay. • Maintains safety control through falling execution.
Same as Above	Maintenance	Selects, identifies, and performs appropriate maintenance of the chainsaw and all other tools and equipment used at this level.

Journey Faller (JF)

Journey Fallers must possess the competencies of a WF in addition to those listed below.

Competency Criteria for the Journey Faller Level

Description Level	Sub-Competency	Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators achieving the JF qualification may fall any tree they are comfortable sawing, provided it does not require any specialty equipment, does not have a high value target, and the diameter of the tree does not exceed 1.5 (chainsaw) bar lengths. Considered an advanced level Tree Faller position where individuals develop and refine their skills falling complex trees. 	<p>Safety</p>	<p><u>Attitude</u> Has additional experience and knowledge and mentors S and WF in increasingly complex situations.</p> <p><u>Personal Protective Equipment</u> Same as WF.</p> <p><u>Emergency Preparedness</u> Same as WF.</p> <p><u>Communication</u> Same as WF.</p> <p><u>Situational Awareness</u> Same as WF.</p>
<p>Same as Above</p>	<p>Assessment (Size Up)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates ability to recognize and evaluate the environment, the tree, the overall complexity of the cutting situation, and the ability to properly execute the fall within this complexity level/skill set. Demonstrates the knowledge to decline assignments based on size-up and skill level.
<p>Same as Above</p>	<p>Operations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses the same communication protocols, work area controls, and tool practices of the WF. Demonstrates ability to use advanced falling techniques, holding wood manipulation, and knowledge of physics to safely fall more complex trees. Performs cuts that exceed the bar length (not more than 1.5 times). Understands and demonstrates hung up tree mitigation methods, types of cuts, and safety challenges. Demonstrates knowledge and ability to evaluate and fall trees up to 45 degrees off natural lean. Demonstrates ability to use a simple falling aid to safely influence the direction of the tree fall. Leads and mentors S and WF in more advanced assignments.

Description Level	Sub-Competency	Criteria
Same as Above	Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selects, identifies, and performs advanced maintenance of the chainsaw and all other tools and equipment utilized at this level. • Troubleshoots simple chainsaw problems in the field. Advanced skills in chainsaw maintenance including tuning, adjustments and chain performance. • Demonstrates knowledge and ability to use specialty tools to support higher complexity tasks.

Master Faller (MF)

Master Fallers must possess the competencies of a JF in addition to those listed below.

Competency Criteria for the Master Faller Level

Description Level	Sub-Competency	Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operators achieving a MF qualification may fall any tree they are comfortable sawing, after careful consideration of the tree’s complexity. • Considered an expert level Tree Faller position where individuals develop and refine their skills using advanced techniques and/or specialized equipment 	Safety	<p><u>Attitude</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has superior experience and knowledge and mentors S, WF, and JF in increased complexity situations. • Knows their limitations and seeks additional knowledge/skills when warranted. <p><u>Personal Protective Equipment</u> Same as WF and JF.</p> <p><u>Emergency Preparedness</u> Same as WF and JF.</p> <p><u>Communication</u> Same as WF and JF.</p> <p><u>Situational Awareness</u> Same as WF and JF.</p>
Same as Above	Assessment (Size Up)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognizes and evaluates the environment, the tree, the overall complexity of the cutting situation, and the ability to properly execute the fall within this competency level/skill set. • Demonstrates the knowledge and willingness to refuse an assignment, consult a more qualified specialist, or recommend other measures to mitigate extraordinary safety threats or extreme complexity. • Briefs individuals and develops a work plan, including rigging techniques, to gain mechanical advantage for ground-based falling operations.
Same as Above	Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses the same communication protocols,

Description Level	Sub-Competency	Criteria
		<p>work area controls, and tool practices of the WF and JF.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses advanced falling techniques, holding wood manipulation, and has sufficient knowledge of physics to safely fall highly complex trees. • Employs advanced mitigation methods for highly complex hung-up trees. • Evaluates and falls trees to an appropriate direction off natural lean. • Properly uses ground-based rigging techniques and/or machinery to gain pulling and lifting mechanical advantage to safely influence the direction of fall. • Leads and mentors S, WF, and JF in more advanced assignments.
Same as Above	Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selects, identifies, and performs advanced maintenance of the chainsaw and all other tools and equipment utilized at this level. • Troubleshoots more complex chainsaw problems in the field. • Performs advanced chainsaw maintenance including tuning, adjustments, and chain performance. • Inspects and maintains all falling and rigging tools and equipment.

Appendix C: NCSP Competency Evaluator Form

NCSP CHAINSAW SAFETY PROGRAM

OFFICIAL COMPETENCY EVALUATOR FORM

Purpose: NCSP Chainsaw Safety Program Competency Evaluators must complete Parts A - C for each individual seeking qualification as a NCSP chainsaw operator. A copy of this completed form must be submitted to the individual’s superintendent or site manager.

Date: [INSERT DATE]

To: [INSERT SUPERINTENDENT/SITE MANAGER NAME], [INSERT NPS PARK/OFFICE NAME]

From: [INSERT NAME OF COMPETENCY EVALUATOR]

Subject: Chainsaw Operator Competency Evaluation for [INSERT INDIVIDUAL’S NAME]

Initial Qualification Level (check one):

- Sawyer
- Working Faller
- Journey Level Faller
- Master Faller

OR

Three Year Re-Certification Level (check one):

- Sawyer
- Working Faller
- Journey Level Faller
- Master Faller

[INSERT INDIVIDUAL’S NAME], [INSERT DIVISION AND JOB TITLE], [HAS OR HAS NOT] successfully completed the chainsaw safety competency evaluation for the qualification skill level checked above.

Part A: Written Examination and Field Competency Assessment

Written Exam Score: [INSERT SCORE]

Field Competency Assessment Score: [INSERT SCORE]

Master Level Faller Taskbook Completion: [INSERT DATE]

Part B: Proficiency Evaluation (Check one box)

	Individual has successfully demonstrated the knowledge, skills, and ability necessary to operate a chainsaw independently – chainsaw operator qualification at stated level is recommended.
	Individual requires additional training. Participant may operate a chainsaw under the direct supervision of a qualified operator while receiving additional training.
	Individual has NOT successfully demonstrated the skills necessary to operate a chainsaw. Participant should attend additional training to build the required skills before operating a chainsaw.
Notes/ Details	

Part C: Verification of Required Training

Courses/Certification	Completion Date
First Aid/CPR/BBP <i>Certification cards and training record must be current.</i>	[INSERT DATE]
NPS chainsaw safety operator e-Course <i>One-time requirement for initial qualification only.</i>	[INSERT DATE]
NPS CSMO training course <i>Recommended, not required.</i>	[INSERT DATE]
Risk Management training <i>Required.</i>	[INSERT DATE]

Name of NPS Chainsaw Safety Competency Evaluator

Signature

Appendix D: NCSP Instructor and/or Competency Evaluator Qualification Record

Qualification Training and Re-Certification Record for (choose one):

NCSP Instructor

OR

Competency Evaluator

Name: _____

Skill Level: _____

Training/Qualification Activity	Date Achieved	Renewal Date
Risk Management		None
NPS Chainsaw Safety e-course		None
First Aid/CPR/BBP		
Chainsaw Operator Qualification		
CSMO Instructor Qualification		
Competency Evaluator Qualification		

Documented Annual Experience: NCSP Instructor and Competency Evaluators must perform a minimum of 40 hours of “active” chainsaw experience per year to maintain their qualification.

Year 1 – Total Hours: _____

Date	Activity/Hours	Witness	Phone Number

Year 2 – Total Hours: _____

Date	Activity/Hours	Witness	Phone Number

Year 3 – Total Hours: _____

Date	Activity/Hours	Witness	Phone Number

NCSP Instructor and Competency Evaluator Record: To requalify as a NCSP Instructor and/or Competency Evaluator, the below criteria must be met within a three-year period:

- A NCSP Instructor is required to instruct at least one course per year.
- A Competency Evaluator is required to administer a written test and evaluate chainsaw competencies for a minimum of 10 individuals.

Course Title (for Instructors) – OR- Written/Field Assessment (for Evaluators)	Date	Location	Number of Attendees	Number of Qualifications Recommended [For Competency Evaluators Only]	Number of Qualifications NOT Recommended [For Competency Evaluators Only]

This completed record should be submitted for re-qualification of NCSP Instructor and/or Competency Evaluator.