



October 2021

Logger Safety Initiative Quarterly Training

Why am I receiving this LSI Safety Training Packet?

LSI participants are required to annually attend approved LSI Employer Logger Safety program training. There are two parts to the required training: Formal Training and Safety Training (see the attached LSI Training Requirements for more details). This packet satisfies one of the four required Safety Trainings. The LSI employer must ensure that all workers receive four LSI required trainings per year.

How do I provide the training to my employees?

LSI Employers and supervisors, if delegated, and all employees engaged in manual logging operations must participate in at least four (4) LSI trainings on an annual basis. If you have employees that do ground operations, even if only occasionally, review the "In the Clear Rigging" safety training (found on our website) materials in detail and discuss the scenarios with employees.

What documentation is required?

LSI employers will document that the training took place as part of their safety minutes. Be sure staff has signed the safety meeting sign-in sheet. The completion of the training will be assessed at the annual DOSH LSI Consultation.

WASHINGTON STATE LOGGER SAFETY INITIATIVE

Keeping Washington loggers safe.

Quarter 4, 2021 Cutting in Small Patches of Timber: In the Clear Cutting Training October 2021

In recent years, Tethered Logging has rapidly become more and more popularized in the logging industry. The cable-assist has allowed mechanized felling equipment to reach parts of the unit that were unreachable in the past. However, the rugged terrain of the Pacific Northwest still requires hand falling to reach various parts of a unit that could not be reached by mechanical felling equipment. Inadvertently, this has created a safety concern for the hand fellers by increasing the amount of time spent in the more hazardous portions of the settings. There are concerns of additional fatigue from walking longer distances to leftover patches of timber and working mostly on steeper, jagged, or unstable ground. Additionally, cutting smaller leftover patches of timber requires extra preparation, planning, and an increased need for good communication between members of the crew anytime there are two or more persons working near one another in order not to impose on the two-tree length rule.

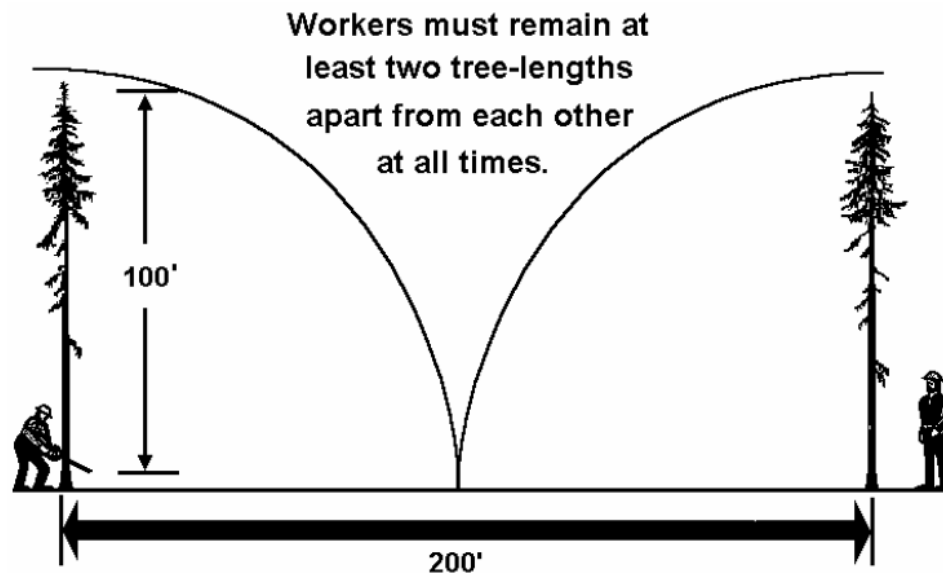


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Please review the “In the Clear” safety requirement of the Logger Safety Initiative (LSI) program listed below (*Note, this is not a complete list). Read the safety questions, Hazard Briefs and Injury Alerts and discuss them as a group.

LSI “In the Clear” Safety Requirements:



- The minimum distance to be maintained between a working faller and any other worker is two tree lengths. *Exception: This rule does not apply to a team of cutters working on the same tree.*
 - A cutter must not be placed on a hillside immediately below another cutter or below logging operations where there is probable danger. Do not stack cutters on a hillside. The employer must assign work areas so that trees cannot fall, slide or roll into another occupied work area.
- One solution may be to require your cutters to double up. One cutter can help swamp out around the tree and drive wedges for the other. Keep in mind that LSI nor state law allows for two cutters to fall a tree at the same time while inside of two-tree length of one another.
- Another solution may be to have your cutters move in and out from one another at different parts of the setting to adhere to the two-tree lengths rule by utilizing good communication on two-way radios. **In accordance to WAC 296-54-539(3), Employees must not approach a cutter closer than two tree lengths of trees being felled until the cutter has acknowledged that it is safe to do so.*

Not being in the clear is still a leading cause for serious injury and death to cutters.



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Safety Requirements and Safe Practices Plan before you cut

Communication in advance is always a critical feature of working safely, more so with inexperienced workers and difficult circumstances. Even for experienced loggers, advance planning and communication help to keep work partners alert to hazards. At the tree, a sudden hazard may require immediate action to escape. Prepare signals in advance, stay alert to signals from your partner, and be ready to move immediately. Train before you cut

Timber falling is one of the most dangerous occupations in the United States. Training is vital. New fallers should be aware of special conditions – as in felling trees uphill, where there is a very high risk the tree will travel downhill when it strikes the ground or an object on the way down.

There is never a reason to not be in the clear!

- Management and lead workers must properly train employees, set expectations, and hold everyone accountable for being in the clear.
- Never become complacent.
- Most accidents happen within 10 feet of the stump.
- Always maintain two tree-lengths. If your setting gets tight, shut down one cutter or team up.
- Never place a cutter downhill from another cutter to work.
- Plan your strips and communicate every 30 minutes.
- Don't fall trees that are too brushed up. Wait for it to be logged out first.
- Don't fall a tree if logs, root wads, or debris make it unsafe.

WAC 296-54-53910 Falling and bucking—Falling.

(1) Where felled trees are likely to roll and endanger workers, cutting must proceed from the bottom toward the top of the slope, and uphill from previously fell timber.

(2) A cutter must not be placed on a hillside immediately below another cutter or below other logging operations where there is probable danger.



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- (3) Cutters must be informed of the movement and location of other employees placed, passing, or approaching the vicinity of trees being fell.
- (4) Before falling trees cutters must: (a) Ensure that all personnel are out of reach of the tree; and (b) Ensure that all personnel are in the clear of logs, fallen trees, snags, or other trees that may be struck by the falling tree.
- (5) While manual falling is in progress, all logging machines must be operated at least two lengths away from trees being manually fell.

Logging Safety Training

Attendance Roster

Date: _____ Subject: _____ Location: _____

Trainer: _____ Trainer title: _____

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	SIGNATURE	COMPANY	JOB TITLE