

# Hardwood and Large Conifers Felling Framework FEE/0553 Appendix 1

## **Appendix 1**

### **Tree felling Specifications**

#### Specific Competency Requirements

Contractors must hold the relevant NPTC certification for the work being carried out and must have undertaken FISA approved update training in the last 5 years.

#### **The required qualifications are:**

City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in Chainsaw Maintenance and Cross Cutting (201 & 202 –previously CS30.1 & CS30.2)

City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in Felling and Processing Trees up to 380mm (203 –previously CS31 a and b)

City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in Branch Removal and Crown Breakdown using a Chainsaw (203)

City & Guilds NPTC Level 3 Award in Felling and Processing Trees Over 380mm (301 –previously CS32)

City & Guilds NPTC Level 3 Award in Severing Uprooted or Windblown Trees using a Chainsaw (302 –previously CS34 & 35)

City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in Forest Machine Operations - Base Machine

City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in Forest Machine Operations – Skidder

City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in Forest Machine Operations - Forwarder

Both NPTC and new Lantra certification will be accepted.

#### **Work must be undertaken to the following FISA guides:**

301- Using petrol driven chainsaw

302 – Basic chainsaw felling and manual takedown

303 – Chainsaw snedding

- 304 – Chainsaw cross cut
- 306 – Chainsaw clearance of windblow
- 307 – Chainsaw felling of large trees
- 310 – Use of winches in directional felling and takedown
- 802 – Emergency Planning
- 804 – Electricity at Work

FC staff may on occasion ask for the contract holder to produce evidence that these guidelines are being followed e.g. FISA Checklists

## **Felling and crosscutting**

All the chainsaw certificates listed above will be required to undertake the felling and conversion of hardwood and large conifer trees.

The tree stumps must be cut as low as possible to ground level as per common forestry practice. Timber lengths must be trimmed/snedded flush to the stem and free of ivy.

Timber lengths will be crosscut and presented to roadside.

The rest of the products from hardwood crowns and conifers tops, will be cut to lengths given by the FC supervising officer.

Accurate directional felling using winches and other approved methods will be required in certain sites for health and safety reasons as well as to minimise the damage to any advance natural regeneration.

## **Extraction**

All FMOC certificates listed above will be required to undertake extraction operations for this contract.

Only those routes agreed between the FC and the contractor will be used for extraction. These routes will be agreed at the pre-commencement meeting.

The FC reserves the right to stop the extraction and postpone it if the conditions are not suitable.

Timber lengths will normally be skidded to roadside and presented to the Forestry Commission supervising officer specifications. For reference, please see last page of this appendix.

All other products will be forwarded and stacked.

Location of the stacks will be agreed between the FC and the contractor.

## **Measurement of timber**

All logs will be measured on length and rounded down mid diameter over bark using the conventions in the FC 'Field Guide: Timber Measurement', or 'Forest Mensuration: A Handbook for Practitioners'.

No other methods will be used for measuring felled hardwood logs. Each log will be tagged. The FC might require the contractor to undertake this task, in which case guidance would be provided.

The rest of the products will be stack measured using the conventions in the above mentioned book.

Final figures are to be agreed between the FC and the contractor before invoicing.

## **Risk Assessment**

A site meeting will take place between the contractor and the Forestry Commission Supervisor prior to work commencing in each site. The risks associated with this operation will be identified and a written risk assessment agreed between the FC and Contractor. Appropriate controls to minimise the identified risks will be recorded. The responsibilities of those on site associated with the operation will also be identified and recorded.

## **Bio Security**

As part of precaution against transferring various diseases from one area to another, there is a requirement to disinfect equipment especially chainsaws and handsaws before use, after use, before moving to a new site and again at the end of each working day.

The level of risk and actions to be taken in each particular site will be discussed at the pre-commencement meeting.

## **Pollution Control**

A pollution control kit will be maintained suitable for the control of any spillage. Any pollution incident must be reported to the Harvesting Forester.

## **Quality Standards**

All work to be completed to the satisfaction of the Harvesting Forester or a member of staff appointed by the Harvesting Forester.

## **Service Levels**

All work within this contract will be completed by the contract end date with deadlines for individual sites and tasks agreed with the Harvesting Forester or member of staff appointed by the Harvesting Forester.

- Please see below some examples of the expected standard of random lengths presentation:



Photo 1

*Photo 1 – Good presentation. Raised butts and all aligned to the road edge. Mid points all accessible.*



Photo 2

*Photo 2 – Excellent presentation all round. Raised butts and logs aligned to the road edge.*

*Photo 3 – Good presentation. Logs aligned to the road edge and stacked on open area. Separation between logs allows better access for viewers.*



Photo 3

*Photo 4 – Good presentation with limited stacking space. Ideally logs will be stacked perpendicular to the road. However, when space is limited, other options can be considered.*



Photo 4

**\*Please note that these are just examples and guidance will be given for each specific site.**