

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2356.6 - Research

Promote research activities by qualified persons or institutions to increase knowledge and improve management. Review research proposals to prevent long-term adverse impacts upon the cave.

2358 – SAW PROGRAM

This section covers only chain saws and crosscut saws as defined in FSM 2358.05. The operation of saws not covered by this section, such as bow saws, pruning saws, brush saws, and pole saws, requires appropriate training (FSH 6709.11, ch. 41).

The direction within this section applies to all activities on National Forest System (NFS) lands that involve the use of saws, unless a separate interagency fire management cooperative agreement covers that activity. The Forest Service Saw Program provides direction on qualifications, training, evaluation, and certification requirements for Forest Service employees, volunteers, training consultants, and cooperators using saws on NFS lands.

The terms “saw” and “Saw Program” refer to both chain saws and crosscut saws, unless specified otherwise, for the purposes of this directive.

The Wilderness Act and FSM 2320 govern the type of saw use allowed in wilderness.

2358.01 – Authority

The principal authorities and regulations for the Forest Service Saw Program are:

1. Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, Sections 6 (29 U.S.C. 655) and 19 (29 U.S.C. 668).
2. Executive Order 12196, Occupational Safety and Health Programs for Federal Employees.
3. Title 29, Code of Federal Regulations:
 - a. Part 570, Subpart E – Occupations Particularly Hazardous for the Employment of Minors Between 16 and 18 Years of Age or Detrimental to Their Health or Well-Being.
 - b. 1910.95 – Occupational Noise Exposure.
 - c. 1910.132 – Personal Protective Equipment.
 - d. 1910.151 – General Requirements.
 - e. 1910.242 – Hand and Portable Powered Tools and Equipment, General.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

- f. 1910.266 – Logging Operations.
- g. Part 1960 – Basic Program Elements for Federal Employee Occupational Safety and Health Programs and Related Matters.
- 4. Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 6709.11, Health and Safety Code Handbook.
- 5. FSH 1509.11, Grants, Cooperative Agreements, and Other Agreements Handbook.

2358.02 – Objective

The objective of this directive is to establish minimum prerequisites and standards for training, field proficiency evaluation, and qualification and certification requirements for the safe use of saws by Forest Service employees, training consultants, volunteers, and cooperators on NFS lands, including the development of stand-alone cooperator and volunteer training and certification programs for sawyer instructors and sawyer evaluators.

2358.03 – Policy

- 1. Allow the use of saws on NFS lands only if the sawyer has successfully completed training and field evaluation, possesses a valid National Sawyer Certification Card, and meets any other specified qualifications to perform assigned saw work, including current first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification.
- 2. Ensure that employee and volunteer sawyers, sawyer instructors, sawyer evaluators, and training consultants who use saws on NFS lands are trained, evaluated, qualified, and certified in accordance with this directive.
- 3. Ensure that agreements with cooperators (other than those working under interagency fire management cooperative agreements) provide that the cooperators operating saws on NFS lands are responsible for sawyer training, evaluation, and certification of their employees, participants, and volunteers in accordance with this directive. Appropriate provisions regarding the use of saws must be inserted into cooperative agreements per FSH 1509.11, section 91.2. See FSM 1580 and FSH 1509.11, chapter 90, for direction on cooperative agreements generally. See FSH 1509.11, chapter 50, for direction on interagency fire management agreements. See FSH 1509.11, section 91.2, for direction on certification of cooperators' sawyers. Cooperators may participate and be certified in Nationally Recognized Sawyer Training Courses (NRSTCs) offered by the Forest Service or may train, evaluate, and certify their volunteers and employees through NRSTCs offered by Forest Service-recommended cooperator sawyer evaluators and sawyer instructors (FSM 2358.04g, para. 4).
- 4. Per FSM 1833.12, volunteer agreements may be used in conjunction with challenge cost-share agreements (CCSAs) in cases where a cooperator is working with the Forest Service to create the capacity necessary to generate and manage volunteerism. Under a

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

CCSA, the cooperator may recruit, train, and manage the Forest Service volunteers on behalf of the Agency. Forest Service volunteers operating under a CCSA must be trained, evaluated, and certified in accordance with this directive. Forest Service volunteers operating under a CCSA may participate and be certified in NRSTCs offered by the Forest Service or may be trained, evaluated, and certified through NRSTCs offered by Forest Service-recommended cooperator sawyer evaluators and sawyer instructors. See FSM 1833.11 for direction on use of volunteer agreements and CCSAs in tandem.

5. Ensure that sawyers do not use saws outside the limits of their certification or qualifications, except during formal evaluation proceedings or under the immediate supervision of a higher-qualified sawyer. A crosscut sawyer trainee may use a crosscut saw only under the immediate supervision of a qualified sawyer and only for bucking.

6. The completion of classroom, field proficiency, and evaluation requirements may result in certification, certification with restrictions, or no certification.

7. Chain saw sawyers must be at least 18 years of age (29 CFR Part 570, Subpart E). Crosscut sawyers must be at least 16 years of age.

2358.04 – Responsibility

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2358.04 – Exhibit 01

Delegated Authorities

Task	Regional Forester	Forest Supervisor	District Ranger	Regional Saw Program Manager	Saw Program Coordinator
Implementing the Saw Program	Has authority*	Delegation permitted**	Delegation permitted	Delegation not permitted	Delegation not permitted
Appointing the Regional Saw Program Manager	Has authority	Delegation not permitted	Delegation not permitted	Delegation not permitted	Delegation not permitted
Designating the Saw Program Coordinator for an administrative unit	---	Has authority	Delegation permitted	Delegation not permitted	Delegation not permitted
Signing National Sawyer Certification Cards***	Has authority	Has authority	Has authority	Delegation permitted	Delegation permitted
Revoking National Sawyer Certification Cards	Has authority	Delegation permitted	Delegation permitted	Delegation not permitted	Delegation not permitted
Approving training consultants and volunteer sawyer instructors and sawyer evaluators	Has authority	Delegation not permitted	Delegation not permitted	Delegation permitted	Delegation not permitted
Providing cutting areas to meet Saw Program training requirements and maintain sawyer proficiency	---	Has authority	Delegation permitted	Delegation not permitted	Delegation not permitted
Meeting periodically with the Saw Program Coordinator to review the Saw Program	---	Has authority	Delegation permitted	Delegation not permitted	Delegation not permitted

* Only line officers can delegate authority.

** “Delegation permitted/not permitted” means may/may not be delegated to this level.

*** Certifying officials for cooperator sawyers under an FSM 1580 agreement should follow the language in the agreement (FSM 1509.11, sec. 91.2).

2358.04a – Washington Office Director of Recreation, Heritage, and Volunteer Resources (RHVR)

It is the responsibility of the Washington Office, Director of Recreation, Heritage, and Volunteer Resources (RHVR) to:

1. Implement the Saw Program consistent with the requirements in this directive.
2. Develop and revise policy on use of saws that covers, at a minimum:
 - a. Standards.
 - b. Qualifications.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

- c. Initial and recurrent training requirements.
 - d. Currency and proficiency of skills.
 - e. Field evaluation and reevaluation.
 - f. Required personal protective equipment (PPE).
 - g. Operational procedures.
 - h. Job hazard analysis (JHA).
3. Coordinate with other resource program areas prior to making policy changes to the Saw Program.

2358.04b – National Saw Program Manager

It is the responsibility of the National Saw Program Manager to:

- 1. Submit a letter to the Washington Office, Director of RHVR, to document the National Saw Program Manager's approval of each NRSTC and maintain a list of NRSTCs.
- 2. Coordinate the review by the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) of training, evaluation, and certification programs submitted by cooperator or volunteer organizations and manage day-to-day operation of the Saw Program.
- 3. Monitor and evaluate the Saw Program in accordance with FSM 2358.3.
- 4. Serve as chairperson or designate a chairperson for the TAG.
- 5. Maintain a list of Regional Saw Program Managers.
- 6. Coordinate or assist in review and analysis of saw-related accidents and near misses.
- 7. Serve as liaison with Federal, State, local, tribal, and private entities on saw matters.
- 8. Recommend revisions to the Saw Program directives to the Washington Office, Director of RHVR.

2358.04c – Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

The TAG provides multidisciplinary expertise in saw operations. The TAG consists of the National Saw Program Manager, Regional Saw Program Managers, a representative from the Forest Service Technology and Development Centers, and other federal agency saw and safety-related subject matter experts. The purpose of the TAG is to develop, coordinate, and provide

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

advice and guidance to the National Saw Program Manager in connection with training, skills, and safety for all aspects of chain saw and crosscut saw operations on NFS lands. In particular, the TAG provides recommendations on the approval of NRSTCs to the National Saw Program Manager.

2358.04d – Regional Foresters

It is the responsibility of the Regional Foresters to:

1. Implement the Saw Program in their Region, which includes:
 - a. Providing for training and certification of Forest Service employees and volunteers who use saws in accordance with this directive; and
 - b. Incorporating appropriate provisions into FSM 1580 agreements (per FSH 1509.11, sec. 91.2) regarding cooperators' responsibility for sawyer training, evaluation, and certification of their employees and volunteers in accordance with this directive.
2. Appoint, the Regional Saw Program Manager in writing.
3. Sign National Sawyer Certification Cards as the certifying official based on the requisite sawyer evaluator recommendation. This authority may be delegated to the Regional Saw Program Manager and Saw Program Coordinators (FSM 2358.04, ex. 01).
4. Revoke, in writing, sawyers' National Sawyer Certification Card when their demonstrated skills are no longer considered adequate or they are deemed by a sawyer evaluator to be a danger to themselves or others. This authority may be delegated to Forest Supervisors and District Rangers (FSM 2358.04, ex. 01).
5. Approve, in writing, training consultants and volunteer sawyer instructors and sawyer evaluators based on a written recommendation from the Regional Saw Program Manager. This authority may be delegated to the Regional Saw Program Manager (FSM 2358.04, ex. 01).

2358.04e – Forest Supervisors

It is the responsibility of the Forest Supervisors to:

1. Coordinate with affected staff within their jurisdiction to secure sufficient resources for administration of the Saw Program.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2. Designate in writing the Saw Program Coordinator for their administrative unit and specify in writing the length of the appointment, responsibilities, and criteria for renewal of the designation. This authority may be delegated to District Rangers (FSM 2358.04, ex. 01).
3. Sign National Sawyer Certification Cards as the certifying official based on the requisite sawyer evaluator recommendation. This authority may be delegated to the Saw Program Coordinator (FSM 2358.04, ex. 01).
4. Provide cutting areas to meet Saw Program training requirements and maintain sawyer proficiency. This authority may be delegated to District Rangers (FSM 2358.04, ex. 01).
5. Meet periodically with the Saw Program Coordinator to review the Saw Program for their administrative unit. This authority may be delegated to the District Ranger (FSM 2358.04, ex. 01).

2358.04f – District Rangers

It is the responsibility of the District Rangers to:

1. Provide input on the selection of the Saw Program Coordinator for their administrative unit.
2. Sign National Sawyer Certification Cards as the certifying official based on the requisite sawyer evaluator recommendation. This authority may be delegated to the Saw Program Coordinator (FSM 2358.04, ex. 01).

2358.04g – Regional Saw Program Managers

It is the responsibility of the Regional Saw Program Managers to:

1. Serve as the primary contact for Saw Program Coordinators in their Region.
2. Guide and assist sawyer evaluators, sawyer instructors, and sawyers with implementation and monitoring of saw operations.
3. Serve on the TAG.
4. Develop and maintain a cadre of sawyer instructors and sawyer evaluators, as well as schedule and coordinate training for Saw Program Coordinators. This responsibility includes the evaluation of training consultants, volunteer and cooperator sawyer instructors and sawyer evaluators, and a recommendation based on that evaluation to the certifying official.
5. Coordinate and maintain all required records for the Saw Program in their Region. This authority may be delegated to Saw Program Coordinators in their Region.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

6. Notify the Regional Safety and Occupational Health Manager, Regional Forester, and National Saw Program Manager when serious saw accidents or fatalities occur and share lessons learned from those incidents with other Regional Saw Program Managers.
7. Supplement NRSTC curriculum and field proficiency evaluations, as appropriate, to reflect unique or special conditions, such as storm damage or disease outbreaks, carpentry, or orchard pruning.
8. Monitor and evaluate the Saw Program in accordance with FSM 2358.3.
9. Periodically monitor saw instruction given by both Forest Service and volunteer or cooperator organizations to assess sawyer instructors' effectiveness and to determine compliance with this directive.
10. Regularly meet with Saw Program Coordinators and C Sawyer Evaluators.
11. Make recommendations in writing to the District Ranger or Forest Supervisor regarding the designation of C Sawyer Evaluators. This authority may be delegated to another C Sawyer Evaluator.

2358.04h – Regional Safety and Occupational Health Managers

It is the responsibility of the Regional Safety and Occupational Health Managers to:

1. Monitor the Saw Program and assist the Regional Saw Program Manager, when requested (FSM 2358.3).
2. Provide guidance on compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and its implementing regulations, 29 CFR Part 1910, as applicable to the Saw Program.
3. Review all saw incidents or accident reports submitted by the Saw Program Coordinator and provide oversight and assistance with saw-related accidents and near misses as a member of the accident review team.
4. Notify the Regional Saw Program Manager of review of saw-related accidents and near misses.

2358.04i – Saw Program Coordinators

It is the responsibility of the Saw Program Coordinators to:

1. Serve as the primary contact for line officers and first-line supervisors in their administrative unit.
2. Assist sawyer evaluators, sawyer instructors, and sawyers with the implementation and monitoring of on-the-ground saw operations and training.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

3. Develop and maintain a cadre of sawyers, sawyer evaluators, and sawyer instructors, as well as schedule and coordinate training for sawyers.
4. Monitor and evaluate the Saw Program in accordance with FSM 2358.3.
5. Review final reports of saw-related accidents and near misses.
6. Coordinate with the appropriate line officers, the Regional Saw Program Manager, and other Saw Program Coordinators to report Saw Program accomplishments, issues, concerns, and recommendations for improvement of the Saw Program.
7. Maintain sawyer proficiency sufficient to train, evaluate, and reevaluate sawyer instructors and sawyer evaluators.
8. Identify sawyers whose demonstrated skills are no longer considered adequate or who are a danger to themselves or others and recommend revocation of their National Sawyer Certification Card to the appropriate line officer.

2358.04j – First-Line Supervisors

It is the responsibility of the first-line supervisors to:

1. Notify the local line officer of the need for qualified sawyers.
2. Provide opportunities for sawyers to receive proper training, including training on first aid and CPR, and any additional requirements specified in the JHA and field evaluation necessary for saw use.
3. Monitor sawyers under their supervision, including terminating and correcting any hazardous operation of saws that they observe.
4. Provide a recommendation to the appropriate line officer on suspension or revocation of a sawyer's National Sawyer Certification Card when the sawyer violates these directives and notify the Saw Program Manager when this recommendation is made.

2358.04k – Sawyer Instructors

It is the responsibility of the sawyer instructors to:

1. Instruct at the skill level commensurate with their saw qualifications and recommend that sawyers who have successfully completed the requisite NRSTCs be evaluated for certification.
2. Conduct sawyer training using NRSTCs.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

3. Confer periodically with the Saw Program Coordinator to provide continuity in the Saw Program in their jurisdiction.
4. Monitor and evaluate the Saw Program in their jurisdiction in accordance with FSM 2358.3.

2358.04l – Sawyer Evaluators

It is the responsibility of the sawyer evaluators to:

1. Evaluate and reevaluate sawyers' proficiency in the field using the Sawyer Training and Field Evaluation form (FSM 2358.3, ex. 03 and 04) and assist Saw Program Coordinators in their jurisdiction.
2. Sign the Sawyer Training and Field Evaluation form (FSM 2358.3, ex. 03 and 04) as the sawyer evaluator for sawyers that are determined to have satisfactorily met the requirements for the safe use of saws and recommend them for certification by the certifying official.
3. Input information from Sawyer Training and Field Evaluation forms (FSM 2358.3, ex. 03 and 04) into the National Sawyer Certification Database when it becomes available.
4. Issue a National Sawyer Certification Card to sawyers within 14 days of successfully completing their evaluation (FSM 2358.3 – Exhibit 05).
5. Assist Saw Program Coordinators in scheduling sawyer training.

2358.04m – Sawyers

It is the responsibility of the sawyers to:

1. Perform all work safely and within the scope of their current certification as documented on their National Sawyer Certification Card (FSM 2358.3, ex. 05).
2. Maintain proper saws, tools, and accessories in good repair before starting any sawing assignment, including protecting saws, tools, and accessories from damage during transport or use.
3. Notify their first-line supervisor or Saw Program Coordinator of any sawing assignment that they are not comfortable performing or that is beyond their ability to perform.
4. Maintain records of all completed sawyer training and renew required prerequisite certifications (first aid and CPR training) as needed to keep sawyer certifications current.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

5. Report all saw accidents and near misses to the Forest Service's current safety reporting system. In cases where multi-agency jurisdiction exists, accident reporting responsibility falls on the agency managing the sawyer's volunteer or cooperator agreement.

2358.05 – Definitions

Advanced Teaching Method or Technique. A method or technique for teaching adult learners that takes into consideration different learning abilities, motivations, and life experiences.

A Sawyer. An apprentice sawyer who may saw only in the least complex situations or, for training purposes, at the next higher level and in either case only under the immediate supervision of a B or C Sawyer qualified to supervise the work (FSM 2358.1, ex. 02).

B Sawyer – Bucking Only (not applicable in the fire management context). An intermediate sawyer who may independently buck and limb any size material in moderately complex situations and who may saw at the next higher level, but only under the immediate supervision of a sawyer qualified to supervise the work (FSM 2358.1, ex. 02).

B Sawyer – Felling and Bucking. An intermediate sawyer who may independently fell, buck, and limb any size material in moderately complex situations. This person may saw at the next higher level under the immediate supervision of a sawyer qualified to supervise the work (FSM 2358.1, ex. 02). This person may also conduct classroom and field training for A and B Sawyers with prior written approval from the Saw Program Coordinator.

Brush. Any vegetation less than 5 inches diameter at breast height (DBH).

Brushing. Removing brush and shrubs of less than 5 inches DBH, either during fire line construction or while clearing out a work area.

Bucking. Sawing logs and limbs into shorter lengths.

C Sawyer – Bucking Only (not applicable in the fire management context). An advanced sawyer who may independently buck and limb any size material in highly complex situations based on the Regional Saw Program Manager's or Saw Program Coordinator's written recommendation. The recommendation must be supported by demonstrated advanced saw knowledge, skills, and in most cases certification as a B Sawyer (FSM 2358.1, ex. 02). This person may conduct classroom and field training within that person's skill level for A and B Sawyers, and may conduct field proficiency evaluations within that person's skill level for A Sawyers and B Sawyers – Bucking Only.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

C Sawyer – Felling and Bucking. An advanced sawyer who may independently fell, buck, and limb any size material in highly complex situations based on the Regional Saw Program Manager's or Saw Program Coordinator's written recommendation. The recommendation must be supported by demonstrated advanced saw knowledge, skills, and in most cases certification as a B Sawyer (FSM 2358.1, ex. 02). This person may conduct classroom, field training, and proficiency evaluations for A and B Sawyers.

C Sawyer Evaluator. An advanced sawyer who may independently fell, buck, and limb any size material in highly complex situations based on the Regional Saw Program Manager's written recommendation. The recommendation must be supported by the successful completion of training on organizing and conducting advanced sawyer evaluation sessions in the field, demonstrated advanced saw knowledge and skills, and in most cases certification as a C Sawyer – Felling and Bucking for at least 3 years (FSM 2358.1, ex. 02). This person may conduct classroom, field training, and proficiency evaluations for sawyers at all certification levels.

Certification. Confirmation a sawyer meets applicable training and field proficiency requirements and can competently saw at the identified skill level by a certifying official based on the requisite sawyer evaluator recommendation.

Certifying Official. The Regional Forester, Forest Supervisor, District Ranger, or with delegated authority the Regional Saw Program Manager or Saw Program Coordinator who confirms that a sawyer meets applicable training and field proficiency requirements and can competently saw at the identified skill level based on the requisite sawyer evaluator recommendation.

Chain Saw. Any power saw that runs on gasoline or electricity and utilizes a guide bar and chain, other than a power pole saw.

Complex or Complexity. A characterization of the cutting situation that determines the level of sawyer certification needed based on the tree species and crown, amount of material, size, lean, binds, condition of the fiber, topography, stability, and any other factors that will affect the sawing operation.

Cooperator. An individual or entity that voluntarily enters into a challenge cost share, participating, collection, or other agreement with the Forest Service to work on a project under FSM 1580.5 and FSH 1509.11, section 91.2, other than another agency working with the Forest Service on fire management activities (FSH 1509.11, ch. 50).

Crew Leader. The person who conducts immediate supervision of a saw crew and who reports its progress and any problems to the first-line supervisor, if that person is not also the crew leader (FSH 6709.11).

Crosscut Saw. Any of various styles of handsaws operated by one or more persons to fell timber or cut logs manually, other than a bow saw, pruning saw, or brush saw.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

Crosscut Sawyer Trainee. A sawyer who performs crosscut bucking tasks as part of on-the-job training, but only under the immediate supervision of a B or C Crosscut Sawyer.

Danger Tree. A standing tree that presents a hazard to people due to conditions such as deterioration or physical damage to the root system, trunk, stem, limbs, and the direction and lean of the tree (29 CFR 1910.266(c); FSH 6709.11, glossary).

Evaluation. A determination in the certification process by a sawyer evaluator that indicates whether a sawyer is proficient in the safe use of a saw in the field and that is documented using the Sawyer Training and Field Proficiency Evaluation form (FSM 2358.3, ex. 03 and 04).

Felling. Safely cutting down a tree, including making a series of cuts that causes a tree to fall to the ground.

First-Line Supervisor. An employee who is responsible for the planning and implementation of a saw project that involves one or more other employees, who typically verifies the other employees' time and attendance records for the project, and who may also be the crew leader for the project.

Formal Instruction. Instructor-led sawyer training in a classroom, online, or field setting that includes, at a minimum, an NRSTC.

Immediate Supervision. On-site supervision with a clear view and control of the sawing operation that allows the supervisor to warn, advise, or assist the sawyers being supervised, when needed.

Job Hazard Analysis (JHA). A systematic process for the identification of safety and health hazards associated with a project or activity and the development of abatement actions for those hazards. The resulting documentation (using form FS-6700-7 or its equivalent) specifies required procedural and personal protective equipment, qualifications, training, safety practices, and emergency evacuation procedures for that project or activity.

Limbing. Cutting branches off a tree.

Nationally Recognized Sawyer Training Course (NRSTC). A training course that satisfies the formal instruction requirements for a particular level of sawyer certification (FSM 2358.1, ex. 02). The National Saw Program Manager maintains a list of approved courses.

National Sawyer Certification Card. The certification card issued by the Forest Service or a cooperator to a sawyer that qualifies the sawyer to work on all NFS lands (FSM 2358.3, ex. 05). This card is issued to all sawyers, sawyer instructors, and sawyer evaluators upon the successful completion of training and field evaluation.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

Qualified Sawyer. A certified sawyer in compliance with FSM 2358.06.

Reevaluation. Confirmation a sawyer still meets applicable training and field proficiency requirements and can competently saw at the identified skill level by the certifying official based on the requisite sawyer evaluator recommendation.

Saw Operations. Any activity using a chain saw or crosscut saw.

Sawyer. The primary operator of a saw.

Sawyer Evaluator. A C Sawyer or C Sawyer Evaluator, including a volunteer or training consultant, who determines as part of the certification process whether a sawyer is proficient in the safe use of a saw in the field and who documents that determination using the Sawyer Training and Field Proficiency Evaluation form (FSM 2358.3, ex. 03 and 04).

Sawyer Instructor. A qualified sawyer, including a volunteer or training consultant, with the requisite skill to conduct or assist with training at the sawyer's skill level and who has received written approval to conduct that training from the Saw Program Coordinator (FSM 2358.1, ex. 02).

Situation Awareness. An individual's perception of a given situation that results from an ongoing process of gathering and integrating information by observation and communication with others.

Specialty Saw Use. Any use of a saw requiring additional training beyond the requirements of the NRSTCs, such as using a saw in a tree canopy or using a saw to mill lumber.

Stump Analysis. The process of examining the stump of a tree to determine how the tree was cut.

Training Consultant. A professional sawyer instructor or sawyer evaluator who supplements Forest Service sawyer instructors or sawyer evaluators and who is deemed qualified in writing by the Regional Forester to instruct and evaluate sawyers at all certification levels. The qualification determination is based on the written recommendation of the Regional Saw Program Manager or someone who is deemed qualified in writing by the Regional Saw Program Manager, acting with delegated authority (FSM 2358.01, ex. 01).

Tree. Any vegetation with a bole greater than 5 inches DBH.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

Volunteer. A person who gives time and talent to advance the mission of the Forest Service and who receives no salary or wages from the Forest Service for that service, including for purposes of this section sponsored volunteers and international volunteers as defined in FSM 1830.5.

2358.06 – Qualifications

Ensure all sawyers (except crosscut sawyer trainees) using saws on NFS lands:

1. Are trained, evaluated, and certified through an NRSTC;
2. Have a current National Sawyer Certification Card and current first aid and CPR certification (FSH 6709.11, sec. 52.3); and
3. Meet any other qualifications for assigned saw work specified in the JHA for the work.

In addition to the foregoing qualifications:

1. The National Saw Program Manager must have prior experience as a C Sawyer, C Sawyer Evaluator, and Saw Program Coordinator;
2. Regional Saw Program Managers must maintain C Sawyer Evaluator skill proficiency and should have crosscut saw experience;
3. Sawyer instructors must be certified as B Sawyers or higher (FSM 2358.3, ex. 06); and
4. Sawyer evaluators must be certified as C Sawyers or higher (FSM 2358.3, ex. 06).

Sawyers, upon successful completion of required training and a field proficiency evaluation, are certified. A National Sawyer Certification Card (FSM 2358.3, ex. 05) is issued to a sawyer to document the sawyer's certification and qualify the sawyer to work on NFS lands within the restrictions noted on the card. All National Sawyer Certification Cards must be issued from the National Sawyer Certification Database as soon as it is available.

The primary purpose of sawyer certification is to address sawyer safety and the safety of those in the vicinity of sawing operations by confirming that the sawyer has met applicable training requirements and has successfully completed a sawyer training and field proficiency evaluation. It is imperative that sawyer certification and reevaluation adequately evaluate potential sawyers on both the principles of sawing and the sawyers' proficiency in implementing those principles. Recommendations to the certifying official by sawyer instructors and sawyer evaluators should

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

match the sawyers' knowledge, skill, and demonstrated performance. Sawyer training and field proficiency evaluation for each certification level must address all skills, knowledge, and safety concerns associated with that level. Certifying officials must verify successful completion of required prerequisite training, completion of an NRSTC, and a field proficiency evaluation.

2358.1 – Training, Knowledge, and Skill Requirements

See FSM 2358.1, exhibit 02, for detailed guidance on National Saw Program training, knowledge, and skill requirements.

An individual's successful demonstration of the knowledge and skills listed in FSM 2358.1, exhibit 02, to a sawyer evaluator can satisfy formal instruction requirements. However, it is anticipated that these situations will be rare.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2358.1 – Exhibit 02

Sawyer Responsibilities and Limitations and Training, Knowledge, and Skill Requirements

Skill Level	Responsibilities and Limitations	Training	Knowledge	Skills
Crosscut Sawyer Trainee	May occasionally single buck or double buck. No felling. Must work under the immediate supervision of a B or C Sawyer.	Formal Instruction: N/A Demonstrated Field Proficiency: N/A Total Training: N/A Prerequisites: None	Acquired as sawyer assists and works under immediate supervision of a B or C Sawyer in most aspects of crosscut sawing operations, from planning to execution. The B or C Sawyer will introduce and review: • JHA. • PPE requirements. • Forest Service saw directives (FSM 2358 and FSH 6709.11, sec. 22.48). • Situation awareness. • Proper selection, maintenance, and care of saws and other cutting equipment. • Operational safety (e.g., sheath placement and removal). • Crosscut sawing techniques. Proper stance and maintenance of a safe work area.	Developed while assisting and working under the immediate supervision of a B or C Sawyer. Field Evaluation: N/A

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2358.1 – Exhibit 02--Continued

Sawyer Responsibilities and Limitations and Training, Knowledge, and Skill Requirements

A Sawyer	May saw only in the least complex situations or, for training purposes, at the next higher level and in either case only under the immediate supervision of a B or C Sawyer qualified to supervise the work. Sawing activities restricted to brushing, bucking, and limbing and, if specifically noted on the sawyer's National Sawyer Certification Card, felling the least complex, small-diameter trees. Has successfully completed an NRSTC that introduces general sawing principles, including brushing, bucking, limbing, and felling; has been trained at the introductory level; and has successfully completed a sawyer training and field proficiency evaluation for that level. The proficiency of A Sawyers is determined by a sawyer evaluator, certified by the certifying official, and documented on the National Sawyer Certification Card.	Formal Instruction: at least 4 hours Demonstrated Field Proficiency: at least 8 hours Total Training: 12-36 hours Prerequisites: First Aid and CPR	Acquired through formal instruction utilizing one or more NRSTCs, including introduction and review of: • JHA. • PPE requirements. • Saw accidents, near misses, and lessons learned from them. • Forest Service saw directives (FSM 2358 and FSH 6709.11, sec. 22.48). • Situation awareness. • Proper selection, maintenance, and care of saws and other cutting equipment. • Operational safety. • Introduction to brushing, bucking, limbing, and felling techniques. • Proper stance and maintenance of a safe work area.	Developed through hands-on operation of saws and axes. • Emphasis is placed on situation awareness, correctly selecting and using tools, and saw and axe handling techniques. • Practices and successfully demonstrates brushing, bucking, and limbing logs of various sizes and in minimally complex situations. • Introduced to felling in minimally complex situations. • Demonstrates ability to identify various binds and the proper method and sequence of cuts to safely release them. • Demonstrates ability to assess when a sawing task exceeds the sawyer's capabilities. Field Evaluation: Demonstrated application of formal instruction in brushing, bucking, and limbing techniques of least complexity. Demonstrated proficiency in and safe use of a saw in the least complex situations.
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**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2358.1 – Exhibit 02--Continued

Sawyer Responsibilities and Limitations and Training, Knowledge, and Skill Requirements

B Sawyer – Bucking Only	This certification level is not used for fire management activities. There is no Incident Qualification and Certification System (IQCS) equivalent. May independently buck and limb any size material in moderately complex situations within the restrictions noted on the sawyer's National Sawyer Certification Card. May saw at the next higher level, but only under the immediate supervision of a sawyer qualified to supervise the work. May not fell. Can supervise A Sawyers when they are bucking but not when felling Has successfully completed an NRSTC covering general saw bucking, limbing, and brushing. The proficiency of B Sawyers – Bucking Only is determined by a sawyer evaluator, certified by the certifying official, and documented on the National Sawyer Certification Card.	Formal Instruction: at least 4 hours Demonstrated Field Proficiency: at least 4 hours Total Training: 8-36 hours Prerequisites: First Aid and CPR	Acquired through formal instruction utilizing one or more NRSTCs, which review the topics covered in A Sawyer training and introduce: • Types of binds and techniques to relieve them. • In-depth instruction on bucking, limbing, and brushing techniques. • Identification and evaluation of hazardous bucking situations. • Proper turndown procedure for cutting situations that exceed the sawyer's abilities. • Specialized saw uses, as needed.	• Proficient in basic saw skills and use of tools needed for crosscut, axe, and chain saw use. • Successfully demonstrates techniques for brushing, bucking, and limbing logs of various sizes and in various binds. • Demonstrates completeness and accuracy of log size-up, placement of wedges, complexity analysis, and application of safe bucking techniques. • When using a crosscut saw, proficient in single and double bucking techniques, including clear team communication. • Demonstrates ability to assess when a sawing task exceeds the sawyer's capabilities. Field Evaluation: Demonstrated application of formal instruction in brushing, bucking, and limbing techniques of moderate complexity. Demonstrated proficiency in and safe use of a saw in moderately complex situations.
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**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2358.1 – Exhibit 02--Continued

Sawyer Responsibilities and Limitations and Training, Knowledge, and Skill Requirements

<u>B Sawyer – Felling and Bucking</u>	<u>May independently fell, buck, and limb any size material in moderately complex situations within the restrictions noted on the sawyer's National Sawyer Certification Card.</u> <u>May saw at the next higher level under the immediate supervision of a sawyer qualified to supervise the work.</u> <u>Has successfully completed an NRSTC for general felling and bucking.</u> <u>Can supervise any A Sawyer.</u> <u>May conduct formal instruction for A and B Sawyers with written approval from the Saw Program Coordinator.</u> <u>May not conduct field proficiency evaluations of A and B Sawyers.</u> <u>The proficiency of B Sawyers – Felling and Bucking is determined by a sawyer evaluator, certified by the certifying official, and documented on the National Sawyer Certification Card.</u>	<u>Formal Instruction: at least 8 hours</u> <u>Demonstrated Field Proficiency: at least 12 hours</u> <u>Total Training: 20-36 hours</u> <u>Prerequisites: First Aid and CPR</u>	<u>Acquired through formal instruction utilizing one or more NRSTCs, which review the topics covered in A Sawyer training and introduce:</u> <u>Types of binds and mitigation techniques.</u> <u>Principles of felling and bucking.</u> <u>In-depth instruction on felling techniques in moderately complex situations.</u> <u>Identification and evaluation of hazardous felling and bucking situations.</u> <u>Proper turndown procedure for cutting situations that exceed the sawyer's abilities.</u> <u>Solutions for hung-up trees.</u> <u>Specialized saw uses, as needed.</u>	<u>Proficient in basic saw skills and tools needed for crosscut, axe, and chain saw use.</u> <u>Demonstrates proficiency in all skills listed in B Sawyer – Bucking Only.</u> <u>Demonstrates proper placement of face cuts and back cuts in sound trees, as verified by stump analysis.</u> <u>Demonstrates completeness and accuracy in tree size-up, complexity analysis, placement of wedges, undercuts, back cuts, and stump analysis.</u> <u>Proficient in single and double bucking techniques, including clear team communication (crosscut saw only).</u> <u>Demonstrates ability to assess when a sawing task exceeds sawyer's capabilities.</u> <u>Can safely remove hung-up trees of low complexity.</u> <u>Field Evaluation:</u> <u>Demonstrated application of formal instruction in brushing/felling/bucking/limbing tech. of moderate complexity.</u> <u>Demonstrated proficiency in/safe use of saw in moderately complex situations.</u>
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**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2358.1 – Exhibit 02--Continued

Sawyer Responsibilities and Limitations and Training, Knowledge, and Skill Requirements

C Sawyer – Bucking Only	This certification level is not used for fire management activities. There is no IQCS equivalent. May independently buck and limb any size material in highly complex situations based on the recommendation of the Regional Saw Program Manager or Saw Program Coordinator, which is supported by demonstrated advanced saw knowledge and skills and, in most cases, certification as a B Sawyer. Has experience working with C Sawyers in analyzing and implementing safe bucking practices in complex situations. Has demonstrated ability for advanced saw work, advanced understanding of Forest Service saw directives, and ability to teach saw skills to others. Has demonstrated good judgment in assessing complex situations and own skill limitations and in safely completing sawing tasks. May conduct formal instruction within that person’s skill level for A and B Sawyers. May conduct field proficiency evaluations within their skill level for A Sawyers and B Sawyers – Bucking Only. The proficiency of C Sawyers – Bucking Only is determined by one sawyer evaluator, certified by the certifying official, and documented on the National Sawyer Certification Card.	Formal Instruction: required; variable Demonstrated Field Proficiency: variable Total Training: to be determined by sawyer instructor Prerequisites: First Aid and CPR	Acquired through formal instruction that: (a) utilizes information gathered and activities designed by the C Sawyer Evaluator that are specifically tailored to local needs; (b) reviews the topics covered in B Sawyer training; and (c) introduces: • Principles of advanced bucking. • Advanced bucking techniques. • Determination of complexity of saw operations. • Tree health. • Fiber characteristics. • Advanced teaching methods and techniques for evaluating A and B Sawyers.	• Proficient in advanced saw skills and tools needed for crosscut saw, axe, and chain saw use. • Able to communicate knowledge effectively and demonstrate field skills clearly to A and B Sawyers. • Able to understand, use, and communicate the contents of applicable federal regulations regarding the use of saws in the workplace and Forest Service saw directives to other sawyers and staff. • Able to complete complex bucking tasks safely, including single and double bucking (crosscut saw only). • Able to identify defects in danger trees comprehensively and clearly. • Additional skills may include refinement of various cutting techniques; decision processes for determining the use of saws, rigging, and explosives; and techniques for removing cut logs, such as use of skids and other mechanical means. Field Evaluation: Evaluations may take place during regularly scheduled NRSTCs. Demonstrated application of formal instruction in brushing, bucking, and limbing techniques in highly complex situations. Demonstrated proficiency in and safe use of a saw in highly complex situations.
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**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2358.1 – Exhibit 02--Continued

Sawyer Responsibilities and Limitations and Training, Knowledge, and Skill Requirements

C Sawyer – Felling and Bucking	May independently fell, buck, and limb any size material in highly complex situations based on the written recommendation of the Regional Saw Program Manager or Saw Program Coordinator, which is supported by demonstrated advanced saw knowledge and skills and, in most cases, certification as a B Sawyer. Has experience working with C Sawyers in analyzing and implementing safe felling and bucking practices in complex situations. Has demonstrated ability for advanced saw work, advanced understanding of Forest Service saw directives, and the ability to teach saw skills to others. Has demonstrated good judgment in assessing complex situations and own skill limitations and in safely completing sawing tasks. May conduct formal instruction and proficiency evaluations for A and B Sawyers. The proficiency of C Sawyers – Felling and Bucking is determined by two sawyer evaluators, certified by the certifying official, and documented on the National Sawyer Certification Card.	Formal Instruction: required; variable Demonstrated Field Proficiency: variable Total Training: to be determined by sawyer instructor Prerequisites: First Aid and CPR	Acquired through formal instruction that: (a) utilizes information gathered and activities designed by the C Sawyer Evaluator that are specifically tailored to local needs; (b) reviews the topics covered in B Sawyer training; and (c) introduces: • Principles of advanced felling and bucking. • Advanced felling and bucking techniques. • Determining complexity of saw operations. • Tree health. • Fiber characteristics. • Advanced teaching methods and techniques for evaluating A and B Sawyers.	• Proficient in advanced saw skills and tools needed for crosscut, axe, and chain saw use. • Demonstrates proficiency in all skills listed in C Sawyer – Bucking Only. • Able to communicate knowledge effectively and demonstrate field skills clearly to A and B Sawyers. • Able to identify defects in danger trees comprehensively and clearly. • Able to fell trees of a greater diameter than the length of the saw bar (chain saw only). • Able to fell trees against their natural lean. • Additional skills may include refinement of various cutting techniques; decision processes for determining the use of saws, rigging, and explosives; and techniques for removing standing trees. Field Evaluation: Evaluations may take place during regularly scheduled NRSTCs. Demonstrated application of formal instruction in brushing, bucking, felling, and limbing techniques in highly complex situations. Demonstrated proficiency in and safe use of a saw in highly complex situations.
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**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2358.1 – Exhibit 02--Continued

Sawyer Responsibilities and Limitations and Training, Knowledge, and Skill Requirements

C Sawyer – Evaluator	May independently fell, buck, and limb any size material in highly complex situations. May conduct formal instruction and proficiency evaluations for all sawyer certification levels. This certification level is not used for fire management activities. There is no IQCS equivalent. Has successfully completed training to organize and conduct advanced sawyer certification sessions in the field and has received a recommendation from the Regional Saw Program Manager, which is supported by demonstrated advanced saw knowledge and skills and, in most cases, certification as a C Sawyer – Felling and Bucking for at least 3 years. Has demonstrated ability for advanced instruction, hazard assessment, and instruction in complex sawing techniques and an advanced understanding of Forest Service saw directives. Has demonstrated good judgment in assessing complex situations and own skill limitations and in safely completing sawing tasks. The proficiency of C Sawyer Evaluators is determined by the Regional Saw Program Manager (or that person's designee) and another sawyer evaluator, certified by the certifying official, and documented on the National Sawyer Certification Card.	Formal Instruction: required Demonstrated Field Proficiency: variable Total Training: to be determined by Regional Saw Program Manager (or that person's designee) Prerequisites: First Aid and CPR	Must be recommended for the training by the immediate supervisor, a line officer, or the Saw Program Coordinator. Acquired through formal instruction that: (a) utilizes information gathered and activities designed by the Regional Saw Program Manager (or that person's designee) that are specifically tailored to local needs; (b) may be tailored to the students' needs; and (c) includes: • Administrative duties and responsibilities. • Advanced teaching methods and techniques for evaluating A, B, and C Sawyers.	• Able to effectively demonstrate and teach advanced sawing techniques, field skills, and hazard assessment decision-making processes. • Able to understand, use, and communicate applicable federal regulations regarding the use of saws in the workplace and Forest Service saw directives to other sawyers and staff. Field Evaluation: Evaluations may take place during regularly scheduled C Sawyer NRSTCs. Demonstrated knowledge of techniques for providing instruction in brushing, bucking, felling, and limbing techniques in highly complex situations. Demonstrated ability to provide instruction in safe use of a saw in highly complex situations.
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**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2358.2 – Sawyer Training and Field Proficiency Evaluation

A sawyer training and field proficiency evaluation determines whether a person can demonstrate proficient use and care of a saw by applying learned knowledge and skill. Sawyer evaluators shall conduct a sawyer training and field proficiency evaluation in the field within the limits of their certification level as identified on their National Sawyer Certification Card (FSM 2358.3, ex. 05). The Sawyer Training and Field Proficiency Evaluation form (FSM 2358.3, ex. 03 and 04) must be used to document field skills and record the evaluation of each sawyer.

2358.21 – Sawyer, Sawyer Instructor, and Sawyer Evaluator Training and Field Proficiency Reevaluation

The National Sawyer Certification Card is valid for 3 years and is subject to review any time prior to expiration. Minimum requirements for sawyer training and field proficiency reevaluation include:

1. A knowledge refresher conducted in the classroom or the field and including discussion or demonstrations that cover current saw directives, emerging safety issues, emergency procedures, and cutting techniques.
2. A skill refresher, including a field proficiency evaluation, equivalent to the initial evaluation for the sawyer's certification level that involves sawing tasks relevant to the sawyer's certification level (FSM 2358.1, ex. 02, and FSM 2358.3, ex. 06).
3. For sawyer instructors, in addition to items 1 and 2, conducting at least one NRSTC or refresher NRSTC every three years.
4. For sawyer evaluators, in addition to items 1 and 2 above, conducting at least one sawyer field proficiency evaluation or reevaluation every three years.

2358.22 – Revocation of Certification

Recommendations for revocation of a sawyer's certification must be made in writing by the Regional Saw Program Manager or Saw Program Coordinator and approved by the Regional Forester or other line officer with delegated authority (FSM 2358.04, ex. 01).

Revoke a sawyer's certification when:

1. The sawyer has failed to demonstrate appropriate cutting procedures, thereby placing the sawyer or others in danger;
2. The sawyer has failed to demonstrate the requisite knowledge or skills for the sawyer's certification;
3. The sawyer lacks the physical ability safely to undertake sawing activities commensurate with the sawyer's certification; or

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

4. A review of saw-related accidents reveals the sawyer was acting outside the sawyer's certification level.

2358.3 – Saw Program Monitoring and Evaluation

It is critical to monitor correct saw operation procedures by sawyers, sawyer instructors, and sawyer evaluators (FSM 2358.04h and 2358.04i) and assess trends in saw accidents, near misses, and changes in learning techniques. Saw Program monitoring and evaluation may include the following:

1. Review of a sawyer's certification level and, if needed, training records to verify that the sawyer is cutting within the sawyer's certification level.
2. Review of a sawyer's felling methods, felling steps, understanding of wedges, escape routes, felling cuts, and their relationship to each other, and other critical points of saw use.
3. Review of the use of PPE.
4. Review of JHAs and safety meeting records.
5. Taking corrective actions when observing unsafe practices.
6. Review of supervision and instruction of sawyer trainees or sawyers with certification restrictions.
7. Tracking the number of qualified sawyers, sawyer evaluators, sawyer instructors, and completed saw-related projects while identifying trends in saw accidents and near misses.
8. Reporting the results of monitoring and evaluation, including any recommendations, to the Saw Program Coordinator, Regional Saw Program Manager, or National Saw Program Manager, as appropriate.
9. Annual review of Forest Service safety data associated with saw use to determine trends in saw accidents and possible corrective actions.
10. Review of recordkeeping procedures for the Saw Program to determine that current and accurate records are kept.

Chain Saw Evaluation Form

2358.3 – Exhibit 03

Form FS-2300-52, Sawyer Training and Field Evaluation for Chain Saws

Name:		Date:		Agency/Cooperator Name:	
Training Location: Classroom- Field-		Address:			
Telephone Number:		☐ Yes, I permit the Forest Service to share my sawyer qualifications and e-mail address with other federal agencies and non-federal organizations so that I can be contacted about saw project opportunities in my area. _____ (Please initial here)			
E-mail Address:					
Previous Certification: Yes ☐ No ☐ Level _____ Agency/Unit _____ Year _____ First Aid/CPR: ☐ I certify that I have completed and will maintain current first aid and CPR training _____ (initial)					
BELOW THIS LINE TO BE COMPLETED BY SAWYER EVALUATOR					
SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS					
Y/N		Y/N		Y/N	
	Hard hat		First aid kit		Saw sheath
	Eye protection		Saw selection and condition		Axe sheath
	Long-sleeved shirt		Axe selection and condition		Whistle/radio/cellular telephone
	Gloves		Maintenance of saw and axe		
	Boots		Wedge		
SAW USE: APPLIES TO ALL CUTTING OPERATIONS					
SCORE		SCORE		SCORE	
	Transportation of saw and axe		Correct body position and technique		
	Sheath placement and removal		Cut preparation		
	Field storage of saw and axe		Positive communication with co-workers		
	Saw passing		Control of cutting area		
LIMBING and PRUSHING					
SCORE		SCORE		SCORE	
	Overhead and ground hazard analysis		Swamp out of work area		
	Limb removal sequence		Use of axe and general technique		
	Escape route		Spring poles (tension/compression analysis)		
BUCKING					
SCORE		SCORE		SCORE	
	Overhead and ground hazard analysis		Single bucking		
	Escape route		Double bucking		
	Swamp out of work area		Underbucking		
	Bind/tension (compression analysis)		Wedging procedure		
	Bucking sequence		Axe use and general technique		
	Kerf observation		Communication with partner		
	Use of compound cuts				
Privacy Act Statement					
Collection and use is covered by Privacy Act System of Records OPM/GOVT-1 and USDA/OP-1, and is consistent with the provisions of 5 USC 552a (Privacy Act of 1974), which authorizes acceptance of the information requested on this form. The data will be used to maintain official records of volunteers of the USDA for the purposes of tort claims and injury compensation. Furnishing this data is voluntary, however if this form is incomplete, enrollment in the program cannot proceed.					
The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA and USDI are equal opportunity providers and employers.					

Note to Evaluator: Use a scale of 1 through 3 to identify proficiency: 1 = Needs Work, 2 = Demonstrates Ability, 3 = Shows Strength. 0 or N/A means trainee was not evaluated in area or Not Applicable. Fill in all blanks.

Chain Saw Evaluation Form

2358.3 – Exhibit 03--Continued

Sawyer Name: _____

FELLING					
SCORE		FELLING AREA	SCORE		FELLING PROCEDURE
		Control of cutting area			Procedure alteration (if necessary)
		Ground and overhead hazard analysis			Wedging procedure
		Positive communication			Use of escape route/safety zone
		FELLING PROCEDURE			Exposure time at stump
		Go/no-go decision/walk away			STUMP ANALYSIS
		Plumbing of lean (determination of lay)			Felling to desired lay
		Cutting Plan			Undercut/facecut
		Use of gunning sights			Back cut
		Undercut/facecut			Stump shot
		Warning shout			Hinge/holding wood
		Back cut			Other
		Proper body position/looking up			

EVALUATOR'S STUMP ANALYSIS SHEET

Tree 1	Tree 2	Tree 3
Height _____ DBH _____	Height _____ DBH _____	Height _____ DBH _____
% Slope _____ Species _____	% Slope _____ Species _____	% Slope _____ Species _____
Condition _____	Condition _____	Condition _____
Feet from center of lay _____	Feet from center of lay _____	Feet from center of lay _____

COMMENTS: Attitude, Confidence, Comfort level, Technical skills, Awareness, Verbal Skills, Weak/Strong Traits, etc.

Certification Level, Subject to Final Approval

- ☐ A Sawyer
 ☐ B Sawyer – Bucking Only
 ☐ B Sawyer – Felling and Bucking
 ☐ C Sawyer – Bucking Only
☐ C Sawyer – Felling and Bucking
 ☐ C Sawyer Evaluator

Evaluator's Signature _____ Sawyer Level _____

Evaluator's Name _____ Evaluator's E-mail Address _____

Evaluator's Signature _____ Sawyer Level _____

Evaluator's Name _____ Evaluator's E-mail Address _____

Student's Signature _____

Note to Evaluator: Use a scale of 1 through 3 to identify proficiency: 1 = Needs Work, 2 = Demonstrates Ability, 3 = Shows Strength. 0 or N/A means trainee was not evaluated in area or Not Applicable. Fill in all blanks.

Crosscut Saw Evaluation Form

2358.3 – Exhibit 04

Form FS-2300-52, Sawyer Training and Field Evaluation for Crosscut Saws

Name:	Date:	Agency/Cooperator Name:
Training Location: Classroom- Field-	Address:	
Telephone Number:	☐ Yes, I permit the Forest Service to share my sawyer qualifications and e-mail address with other federal agencies and non-federal organizations so that I can be contacted about saw project opportunities in my area.	
E-mail Address:	____ (Please initial here)	

Previous Certification: Yes ☐ No ☐ Level _____ Agency/Unit _____ Year _____

First Aid/CPR: ☐ I certify that I have completed and will maintain current first aid and CPR training _____ (initial)

BELOW THIS LINE TO BE COMPLETED BY SAWYER EVALUATOR**SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS**

Y/N		Y/N		Y/N	
	Hard hat		First aid kit		Saw sheath
	Eye protection		Saw selection and condition		Axe sheath
	Long-sleeved shirt		Axe selection and condition		Whistle/radio/cellular telephone
	Gloves		Maintenance of saw and axe		
	Boots		Wedges		

SAW USE: APPLIES TO ALL CUTTING OPERATIONS

SCORE		SCORE	
	Transportation of saw and axe		Correct body position and technique
	Sheath placement and removal		Cut preparation
	Field storage of saw and axe		Positive communication with co-workers
	Saw passing		Control of cutting area

LIMBING and BUCKING

SCORE		SCORE	
	Overhead and ground hazard analysis		Swamp out of work area
	Limb removal sequence		Use of axe and general technique
	Escape route		Spring poles (tension/compression analysis)

BUCKING

SCORE		SCORE	
	Overhead and ground hazard analysis		Single bucking
	Escape route		Double bucking
	Swamp out of work area		Underbucking
	Bind/tension (compression analysis)		Wedging procedure
	Bucking sequence		Axe use and general technique
	Kerf observation		Communication with partner
	Use of compound cuts		

Privacy Act Statement

Collection and use is covered by Privacy Act System of Records OPM/GOVT-1 and USDA/OP-1, and is consistent with the provisions of 5 USC 552a (Privacy Act of 1974), which authorizes acceptance of the information requested on this form. The data will be used to maintain official records of volunteers of the USDA for the purposes of tort claims and injury compensation. Furnishing this data is voluntary, however if this form is incomplete, enrollment in the program cannot proceed.

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA and USDI are equal opportunity providers and employers.

2358.3 – Exhibit 04--Continued

Note to Evaluator: Use a scale of 1 through 3 to identify proficiency: 1 = Needs Work, 2 = Demonstrates Ability, 3 = Shows Strength. 0 or N/A means trainee was not evaluated in area or Not Applicable. Fill in all blanks.

Crosscut Saw Evaluation Form

Sawyer Name: _____

FELLING					
SCORE		FELLING AREA	SCORE		FELLING PROCEDURE
		Control of cutting area			Procedure alteration (if necessary)
		Ground and overhead hazard analysis			Wedging procedure
		Positive communication			Saw removal
		FELLING PROCEDURE			Use of escape route/safety zone
		Go/no-go decision/walk away			Exposure time at stump
		Plumbing of lean (determination of lay)			STUMP ANALYSIS
		Cutting Plan			Felling to desired lay
		Use of gunning sights			Undercut/facecut
		Undercut/facecut			Back cut
		Warning shout			Stump holding wood
		Back cut			Other
		Proper body position/looking up			

EVALUATOR'S STUMP ANALYSIS SKETCHES

Tree 1 Height _____ DBH _____ % Slope _____ Species _____ Condition _____ Feet from center of lay _____	Tree 2 Height _____ DBH _____ % Slope _____ Species _____ Condition _____ Feet from center of lay _____	Tree 3 Height _____ DBH _____ % Slope _____ Species _____ Condition _____ Feet from center of lay _____

COMMENTS: Attitude, Confidence, Comfort level, Technical Skills, Awareness, Verbal Skills, Weak/Strong Traits, etc.

Certification Level, Subject to Final Approval

- ☐ A Sawyer
 ☐ B Sawyer – Bucking Only
 ☐ B Sawyer – Felling and Bucking
 ☐ C Sawyer – Bucking Only
☐ C Sawyer – Felling and Bucking
☐ C Sawyer Evaluator

Evaluator's Signature _____ Sawyer Level _____

Evaluator's Name _____ Evaluator's E-mail Address _____

Evaluator's Signature _____ Sawyer Level _____

Evaluator's Name _____ Evaluator's E-mail Address _____

Student's Signature _____

Note to Evaluator: Use a scale of 1 through 3 to identify proficiency: 1 = Needs Work, 2 = Demonstrates Ability, 3 = Shows Strength. 0 or N/A means trainee was not evaluated in area or Not Applicable. Fill in all blanks.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2358.3 – Exhibit 05

Form FS-2300-53, National Sawyer Certification Card

 United States Department of Agriculture			
National Sawyer Certification Card (Ref. FSM 2358)			
Sawyer Name:		Date Issued:	Sawyer Address:
Agency:		Region:	
Cooperator:		Forest:	Unit:
 Forest Service		FS-2300-53 (v09/2016)	
USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.			
Chain Saw Expiration	Crosscut Saw Expiration	Skill Level	Evaluator (Print)
		A Sawyer ☐ Felling	
		B Sawyer – Bucking Only	
		B Sawyer – Felling and Bucking	
		C Sawyer – Bucking Only	
		C Sawyer – Felling and Bucking	
		C Sawyer – Evaluator	
Certifying Official Signature:		Title:	Date:

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2358.3 – Exhibit 06

Sawyer Instructors and Sawyer Evaluators Required at Each Certification Level

	A SAWYERS AND B SAWYERS	C SAWYER – BUCKING ONLY	C SAWYER – FELLING AND BUCKING	C SAWYER EVALUATOR
Sawyer Instructor	<u>ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</u> • C Sawyer¹ or • C Sawyer Evaluator or • B Sawyer approved by Saw Program Coordinator or • Training Consultant	<u>ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</u> • C Sawyer Evaluator or • Training Consultant	<u>ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</u> • C Sawyer Evaluator or • Training Consultant	<u>ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</u> • C Sawyer Evaluator or • Training Consultant
Sawyer Evaluator	<u>ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</u> • C Sawyer or • C Sawyer Evaluator² or • Training Consultant	<u>ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</u> • C Sawyer Evaluator or • Training Consultant	<u>TWO AS FOLLOWS:</u> • C Sawyer Evaluator and • C Sawyer Evaluator or • C Sawyer or • Training Consultant	<u>TWO AS FOLLOWS:</u> • Regional Saw Program Manager or C Sawyer Evaluator with delegated authority and • C Sawyer Evaluator or • C Sawyer or • Training Consultant

¹ **C Sawyers** (Bucking Only or Felling and Bucking) can instruct and evaluate A, B, and C Sawyers only up to their own skill level.

² **All C Sawyer Evaluators** and **Training Consultants** must be certified as C Sawyer – Felling and Bucking.

**FSM 2300 – RECREATION, WILDERNESS, AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 2350 – TRAIL, RIVER, AND SIMILAR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

2358.4 – Saw-Related Accidents and Near Misses

1. Document accidents or incidents that result in saw-related injuries. Share the documentation with the Regional Safety and Occupational Health Manager.
2. Reviews of accidents involving saws must follow established procedures.
3. Saw Program Coordinators must be involved in reviews of saw accidents in their administrative unit.
4. Regional Saw Program Managers must be involved in reviews of all saw accidents in their Region that result in serious injury or fatality.
5. The National Saw Program Manager must be involved in reviews of all saw accidents on NFS lands that result in serious injury or fatality.

2358.5 – Specialty Saw Uses [Reserved]

2358.6 – Saw Operations

Qualifications, PPE requirements, safety procedures, and safety practices for saw operations are specified in FSH 6709.11, section 22.48.