

Tailgate safety summary to discuss during your pre-work safety meeting:

Qualified Assistance for fallers



SUPERVISOR CHECK-LIST:

- ◆ Onsite supervisor is qualified to supervise fallers.
- ◆ Written plan in place describing the onsite qualified assistance process.
- ◆ Ensure the plan has been reviewed with all fallers and others who may be involved with providing qualified assistance.
- ◆ Fallers have access to qualified assistance in the case of a falling difficulty.
- ◆ Fallers have *immediate access* to qualified assistance in the case of an emergency or incident — 10 minutes surface travel time (walking).
- ◆ Fallers have *immediate access* to basic first aid — 10 minutes surface travel time (walking).
- ◆ Fallers have a means to summon qualified assistance (radio and/or whistle).
- ◆ If a machine is used for qualified assistance, ensure that it has immediate access to fallers at all times.
- ◆ If a person other than an onsite faller is used for qualified assistance, ensure that they have proper PPE readily available to operate a chainsaw if needed. Also ensure that they are qualified to provide assistance.
- ◆ Ensure qualified assistance is qualified for the timber type and terrain.
- ◆ New faller trainees cannot be used as qualified assistance during the 30 days of initial training.

FALLER CHECK-LIST:

- ◆ Aware of the term and definition of “qualified assistance”.
- ◆ Aware that qualified assistance must be in place for all fallers.
- ◆ Aware that all fallers must have a means to summon qualified assistance (radio and/or whistle).
- ◆ Reviewed and signed off on a written plan describing the onsite qualified assistance.
- ◆ Ensure that if a machine is used for qualified assistance, it is readily accessible and can access you at all times.
- ◆ If a person other than an onsite faller is used for qualified assistance, ensure that they have proper PPE readily available to operate a chainsaw if needed. Also ensure that they are qualified to provide assistance.

TIP:

Think through the worst case scenarios for your worksite today and make sure the plan covers having qualified assistance in place for the whole work day for every faller.

QUALIFIED ASSISTANCE RESOURCES:

<http://www.bcforestsafesafe.org/QA>

Call a BC Forest Safety Council falling safety advisor for confidential advice and support, at toll-free 1.877.741.1060 or call a WorkSafeBC safety officer at 1.888.621.7233.



BC Forest Safety