



# Falling



# Faller Trainee Weekly Training and Progress Reports Updates

Tracking and supporting the progress of faller trainees after they have completed their initial 30 days of one-on-one training is an important advocacy role for the BCFCSC. One of the key tools used for tracking the progression of training is the Faller Trainee Weekly Training and Progress Report document. After the initial 30 days of training, trainees are required to submit a minimum of 20 approved reports before being signed off to apply to challenge for faller certification. The reports are based on the BC Faller Training Standard and follow a hybrid competency model that is intended to capture the progression of the trainee's competence in knowledge, skills, and attributes as they gain experience over time.

The BCFCSC, along with the support of members from the Falling Technical Advisory Committee, has created and piloted an updated version of the Weekly Training and Progress Report document that will soon be implemented into the program and replace the current version being used. The transition into the new document will take place throughout the year. We will continue to accept the old document until December 31, 2024.

The goal of the updated document is to have the trainers capture the evidence that was observed during the week of training, note any deficiencies observed, determine the level of risk posed by any observed deficiencies, and document any extra training or corrective actions that may be required.

The updated document has been posted on the BCFCSC website. We encourage you to use this new form moving forward.

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the BCFCSC Falling Department. 📞

**Faller Trainee Weekly Training And Progress Report**

BCFCSC Office Use Only | Date Received: | Report Number: | Number of Accepted Reports on File: |

Report is:  Approved  Not Approved  Not Approved in last 5 Reports

Verifier Name: | Verifier Signature: | Date Reviewed: |

Trainee Name: | Employer Name: |

Employer Contact Information: | Phone: | Email: |

Trainer Name: | Trainer's BCFCSC Faller ID #: |

Date Range of Training Report: | Start: | End: | Year: |

Nearest Town: | Block #: | Number of Days Worked: |

Geographical Location:  South/Mid Coast  North Coast/Haida Gwaii  Vancouver Island  Peace  Thompson/Okanagan  Okanega/Skeena  Kootenays  Cariboo

Timber Type:  Old Growth  Second Growth  Slope:  Less than 30%  30-60%  Over 60%

Diameter:  0-12"  12-18"  18-24"  24-36"  Over 36"

Harvesting Method:  Cable  Hoe Chuck  Heli  RW  Skid  Other  If other, please explain: |

Industry:  Forestry/Production  Oil and Gas  BCWS  Other  If other, please explain: |

Description of weekly falling and training plan: |

Is this week's training a new or different: Timber type or terrain:  Yes  No Harvesting method:  Yes  No Please explain: |

The person supervising a trainee must evaluate the trainee's work on a weekly basis and keep records of all inspections.

- A minimum of 20 approved reports within a 2 year time period is required by BCFCSC. The total reports must indicate that a minimum of 50 days of training took place and that it was in a forestry/production type setting.
- The last 5 reports MUST indicate the trainee worked on and is consistently meeting ALL parts of the BCFTS.
- After having 20 approved training reports on file, the trainee may request that their trainer complete the Supervisor/Trainer Declaration on page 4 indicating that the trainee is ready to challenge for faller certification.
- The BCFCSC will arrange a minimum of 3 quality assurance visits during the training. These visits are intended to monitor training progression and offer support as needed to the trainer and trainee.
- The reports are to be completed by the trainer, signed, and dated and by both the trainer and trainee.
- Submitted incomplete reports may be returned for correction or possibly disqualified, at the discretion of the BCFCSC verifier.
- Only fallers certified with the BCFCSC are permitted to complete and sign the report as the trainer.
- Training reports must be submitted to the BCFCSC within 2 months of the work taking place or will not be accepted.
- A copy of completed weekly reports can be submitted to the BC Forest Safety Council by either:
  - Email: [faller@bcforestsafe.ca](mailto:faller@bcforestsafe.ca)
  - Fax to the BCFCSC Nanaimo office: (250) 741-1068

Questions? Contact the BC Forest Safety Council toll-free at 1-877-741-1060 or by email at [faller@bcforestsafe.ca](mailto:faller@bcforestsafe.ca)

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**Faller Trainee Weekly Training And Progress Report**

Trainees must consistently demonstrate knowledge of the following:

ERP  Onsite First Aid  Falling Plan  Alternate Falling Means  Qualified Assistance  Man-Checks

Comments: |

Observations during this report: Only mark the sections that were observed or discussed during this week. Refer to the BCFTS guidance document for the standards required to mark meeting for each section.

Observations: | Meeting BCFTS: | Yes/No: |

Physical and mental well being:   Manchecks and qualified assistance:

Control falling area (signage):   Plan, construct, and use escape routes:

Axe, wedges, chainsaw:   Body position and chainsaw handling:

Undercuts and backcuts (stumps):   Wedging:

Transportation and staging area:   Bucking (assessment and SWP):

Hazards in the work area, multi-tree planning and tree assessments:   Limbing, tapping and brushing out:

Comments: |

Special Falling Techniques: Trainers must discuss the SWP and/or have the trainee demonstrate each special falling technique in time intervals appropriate to the risk. It is not expected that every special falling technique will be demonstrated each week. Refer to the BCFTS guidance document to reference the acceptable standard for each.

Pushing / Limb-Tied:  Not worked on  Discussed  Observed  More training required

Backcut First:  Not worked on  Discussed  Observed  More training required

Heavy Limber:  Not worked on  Discussed  Observed  More training required

Short Stubby:  Not worked on  Discussed  Observed  More training required

Upslope Falling:  Not worked on  Discussed  Observed  More training required

Re-Fall Cut-up Tree:  Not worked on  Discussed  Observed  More training required

Danger Trees:  Not worked on  Discussed  Observed  More training required

Comments: |

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**Faller Trainee Weekly Training And Progress Report**

Disregarded High-Risk Violations: Hazard Falling or Bucking. Ask the trainee to rectify the High-Risk Violations. Check boxes of all that the trainee answers correctly.

Failing to prepare safe/appropriate escape route(s)  Excess pushing/Dominio Falling

Failing to use pre-determined escape route(s)  Brushing of standing trees where brushing can be avoided

Failing to use proper falling procedures (acceptable stumps and ending tools immediately available)  Leaving partially cut trees, unless done in accordance with the OHS regulations

Failing to fall danger trees progressively  Working within two tree lengths of a tree being felled

Deficiencies observed and Corrective Actions required: Trainer to document any deficiencies or unsafe conditions that were observed that required the training to stop for a teaching moment or demonstration from the trainer. High Risk Violations Observed Automatically Default to a Risk Rating of High and Require a Follow Up.

1.  Knowledge  Procedures  Equipment Risk Rating:  Low  Med  High

Deficiency: | Corrective Action: | Follow up Required:  Yes  No

2.  Knowledge  Procedures  Equipment Risk Rating:  Low  Med  High

Deficiency: | Corrective Action: | Follow up Required:  Yes  No

3.  Knowledge  Procedures  Equipment Risk Rating:  Low  Med  High

Deficiency: | Corrective Action: | Follow up Required:  Yes  No

4.  Knowledge  Procedures  Equipment Risk Rating:  Low  Med  High

Deficiency: | Corrective Action: | Follow up Required:  Yes  No

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**Faller Trainee Weekly Training And Progress Report**

Trainer Final Comments: |

BCFCSC Trainer Signature: | Date: |

Trainee Signature: | Date: |

Supervisor/Trainer Declaration: Complete the section below ONLY after Trainee has submitted a minimum of 20 faller trainee weekly training and progress reports that have been approved by the BCFCSC Verifier. The BCFCSC has completed a minimum of 3 quality assurance visits and all identified gap training has been completed. Trainer is ready to recommend the trainee for faller certification.

I attest that the trainee's falling activity meets the standard acceptable to WorkSafeBC and has demonstrated the competence necessary for certification. By recommending the trainee as ready to challenge the BC Forest Safety Council faller certification, I understand that I am confirming the trainee is consistently meeting all parts of the BC Faller Training Standard.

Trainer Name: | Trainee Name: |

Trainer Signature: | Date: |

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# FTAC

The March 8th FTAC meeting was focused on Emergency Response Planning (ERP) and how the regulatory changes to Part 3 of the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Regulation as well as helicopter support affect the ERP. FTAC invited speakers from WorkSafeBC, Ascent Helicopters and Silva Management Services to speak and present on Emergency Response Planning.



Gordon Craigie, the representative from WorkSafeBC, spoke to the regulatory changes to First Aid. He was able to provide a handout with information on the changes coming into effect November 1, 2024. The changes come as WorkSafeBC looks to align training and equipment requirements across Canada, specifically CSA Z1210-17, first aid training, and CSA Z1220-17, first aid kits. The CSA aligned first aid training will be available starting in June of this year.

Gordon identified four key planning considerations when determining the level of first aid required at the worksite: 1. Number of workers on site 2. Hazard rating assigned to the industry 3. Is the workplace remote and 4. Is the workplace less accessible.

Pierre Gagnon, Trent Lemke, and Sara Andrews presented on behalf of Ascent Helicopters, providing a company overview and a comprehensive review of their fleet of helicopters. The calls have increased significantly in the

last 5 years for Ascent as another service on Vancouver Island closed. The group commented that it has been very eye opening to see how much support the sector needed with Emergency Response Planning. Ascent is currently included on 20 ERPs in the sector, seeing the operator’s challenges, locations and the need for more fulsome ERPs in those locations as well as the need for more helicopter companies to be included on the ERPs.

Ascent was able to share their “Call Out Request Form” with the group. This form was created so companies would know what information was required by the helicopter company when calling for helicopter support.

Ascent also went on to speak about the requirement for emergency response drills. They highly encourage companies to include helicopter support methods in their ERP drills. This could simply be a call to the office during the drill, ensuring the helicopter company has all the details they require regarding the work location, type of helicopter required and any other pertinent details.

WorkSafeBC representative Gordon Craigie also reminded the group that OHS Regulation requires evacuation drills are performed and documented and that officers will be asking about drills when on site.

Barry Manfield from Silva Management Services Ltd. spoke on ERPs, specifically risk assessments and rescue planning for manual tree falling operations. Risk is the likelihood or probability, and the potential severity that a hazard may lead to injury or disease. A risk assessment must take into consideration the difficulty of rescue and evacuation when developing your ERP. Barry went on to identify numerous items that should be considered when completing an ERP assessment:

• Slope/terrain	• Working alone situations
• Timber type	• Severity of the injury
• Danger trees	• Heli landing sites prepped
• Ground cover/debris	• Distance to pick up spot
• Elevation/aspect	• Distance to hospital
• Weather	• Access & egress paths
• Season/time of year	• Transportation of injured worker
• First Aid attendants’ availability	• Road conditions
• Road conditions	• Rescue equipment
• Injured person location & how to move them	• Hospital accessibility (open?)

WorkSafeBC has developed a resource “Emergency Response Planning: 12 Tips for an Effective Emergency Response Plan”. These tips can better prepare you and your crew for an emergency situation. 📄

*Continued on page 14...*

Call Out Request Form provided by Ascent Helicopters

# ASCENT

HELICOPTERS LTD.

## FOREST INDUSTRY CALL OUT REQUEST FORM

HELI CALL SIGN	_____
PILOT NAME	_____
HOIST TECH	_____
CHARTER TICKET #	_____

DATE _____	TIME _____
REQUESTED BY (Name) _____	
CONTACT PHONE # _____	SAT PHONE? YES NO
COMPANY NAME _____	
TYPE OF CALL:            TRANSPORTATION            EXTRACTION IF EXTRACTION: IS PATIENT PACKAGED?            YES    NO HELI TYPE REQUIRED:            BH212            BH206    MD902    OTHER: _____	
<b>TYPE OF LANDING ZONE:</b> HELIPAD            LOG YARD            OTHER: _____ EST SIZE _____ EST SLOPE _____ HAZARDS (blasting, yarders, etc): _____ _____ _____	
<b>GPS COORDINATES FOR LANDING ZONE:</b> _____ <b>RADIO FREQUENCY BEING MONITORED:</b> _____ <b>ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES NEEDED?</b> _____ _____	
<b>FLIGHT DETAILS:</b> BCAS MEETING POINT _____ PX DETAILS: _____ PATIENT CONDITION _____ AMBULATORY?            YES    NO STRETCHER            YES    NO	
PATIENT NAME & WEIGHT: _____ FA ATTENDANT NAME & WEIGHT: _____	

<b>RESPONSE DETAILS</b>	
ETA OF LAUNCH FROM HANGAR	_____
ETA FOR ARRIVAL TO SCENE	_____
DOES CONTACT NEED CALL BACK FOR ETA CONFIRMATION?            YES            NO _____ _____ _____	

# Validation Session on Faller Practical Field Assessment

Assessors from the three approved administrators, the BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC), the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS), and the Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors (CAGC) as well as a representative from WorkSafeBC, attended two validation sessions to review and discuss the new Faller Practical Field Assessment. The Faller Practical Field Assessment is used to assess individuals to the BC Faller Training Standard in a competency-based model, looking at knowledge, skills, and attributes. The document is currently being used by the BCFSC and the BCWS, with the CAGC planning to implement it in the foreseeable future.

The validation sessions were conducted to ensure that each approved administrator and WorkSafeBC had the opportunity to provide feedback, identify potential duplication, suggest changes to streamline the document, seek and provide clarification, and come to a consensus on the content of the document and how it is used. Having the 3 approved administrators along with WorkSafeBC working together will go a long way in improving the alignment of the 3 approved faller training and certification programs.

Feedback was collected and documented during the two sessions and the group plans to meet again to finalize the suggested changes. It is anticipated that additional changes may be required as the document is used throughout the year. 🙏



Session at Campbell River Airport



Session in Nelson, BC

## New Faller Training

The spring session of BCFSC's New Faller Training (NFT) took place in the Comox Lake area from March 14 – April 15, 2024. A big thank you to Ian Emery from Mosaic Forest Products and Aaron Jones of Klaus Posselt Logging Ltd. for supplying the timber and their ongoing support of the program. 🙏



Back row, left to right: Trainers Wade Schalm, Jim Lindsay, Zach Burleson, and John Jacobsen.

Front row, left to right: Trainees Beau Smith, Joel Hunt, William McKellar, and Suzanne Villeneuve.