

Title	Operate and maintain a chainsaw in a land-based context		
Level	3	Credits	8

Purpose	<p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: operate a chainsaw; and maintain a chainsaw, personal protective equipment and associated tools in a land-based context.</p> <p>This unit is not suitable for chainsaw operators in a commercial forestry workplace.</p>
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Classification	Agriculture > Agricultural Vehicles and Machinery
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to:
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015; and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 All evidence presented in this unit standard must be in accordance with workplace procedures.
- 3 Definitions

Land-based context refers to agriculture, fencing, forestry, horticulture, amenity, conservation, weed and vegetation control.

Methods to minimise hazards are defined as steps to reduce the risk of harm to the chainsaw operator or others. Examples of methods include – exclusion of people or livestock, selection of appropriate chainsaw or guidebar, pre-start checks, re-fuelling procedure, starting procedures, use of personal protective equipment, communication devices.

Safety guidelines refer to WorkSafe NZ, *A Guide to Safety with Chainsaws* (Wellington, 2011), and any subsequent amendments, available at <http://www.business.govt.nz/worksafe/>.

Workplace procedures refer to oral or written instructions to staff on procedures for the worksite and equipment. Workplace procedures must comply with safety guidelines and must be consistent with manufacturer's instructions.

Worksite is defined as the zone where chainsaw operations are carried out. The worksite may relate to – the physical working area, weather conditions; chainsaw and chain; personal protective equipment; fuel and associated equipment; and the presence or absence of people, livestock or machinery.
- 4 *Operational techniques* refer to the operator stance, grip, sequence of cuts, choice of up-cut, down-cut or bore-cut, and cutting techniques to minimise the risk of kickback.

- 5 *Situations* refer to operating environment and the type or presentation of the wood that is being cut. Examples of situations include – terrain, rural fencing, firewood, trimming, limbing, cutting softwood or hardwood, infrastructure maintenance.
- 6 Assessors must consider evidence from situations that are within the capabilities of an operator at this level. Candidates are not expected to demonstrate capability to operate chainsaws on wind thrown or wind affected trees, tree felling, or trees that overhang power lines, buildings or public access ways.
- 7 This unit standard is not suitable for use in commercial forestry situations. Chainsaw use in commercial forestry situations is covered in other unit standards on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework available at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/>.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Operate a chainsaw in a land-based context.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Assess chainsaw worksites for hazards and select methods to minimise hazards.
- Range evidence of a minimum of five methods in at least two worksites is required.
- 1.2 Use operational techniques in a range of situations when operating a chainsaw.
- Range includes – techniques to cut wood under tension and compression, and an operational technique which reduces the risk of kickback; evidence of a minimum of three situations is required.
- 1.3 Sharpen and adjust chainsaw at worksite, as required.
- 1.4 Maintain personal safety when operating a chainsaw.
- 1.5 Record hazards and chainsaw use in logbook or equivalent recording system.

Outcome 2

Maintain a chainsaw, personal protective equipment and associated tools in a land-based context.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Check and clean chainsaw, personal protective equipment and associated tools.
- 2.2 Report faults to supervisor that require specialist attention.

2.3 Record checks in logbook or equivalent recording system.

2.4 Store chainsaw, personal protective equipment and associated tools.

Planned review date	31 December 2026
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	19 November 2015	31 December 2024
Review	2	27 January 2022	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0052
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Muka Tangata - People, Food and Fibre Workforce Development Council qualifications@mukatangata.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.