

<b>Title</b>	<b>Thin plantation trees, under 200mm stump diameter, to waste</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>10</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>This unit standard covers early thinning to waste operations where the cull trees are generally of less than 200mm stump diameter. It is intended for people employed in a thinning role in a forestry operation.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: prepare to thin plantation trees, under 200mm stump diameter, to waste; and thin plantation trees, under 200mm stump diameter, to waste, using a chainsaw.</p>
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<b>Classification</b>	Forestry > Forest Silvicultural Operations
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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<b>Prerequisites</b>	Unit 17763, <i>Demonstrate knowledge of tree felling</i> ; and Unit 23411, <i>Operate a chainsaw and carry out basic chainsaw maintenance in a commercial forestry situation</i> ; or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
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### Guidance Information

- 1 This unit standard must be assessed against on-job.
- 2 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes the Health and Safety at Work (HSW) Act 2015; the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry) Amendment Regulations 2018; and any subsequent amendments.
- 3 References  
*Approved Code of Practice (ACOP) for Safety and Health in Forestry Operations*, December 2012, available from <https://worksafe.govt.nz/>.  
 New Zealand Forest Owners Association, *Forest Practice Guides* (2019), and any subsequent amendments, available from <https://www.nzfoa.org.nz>.
- 4 Definitions  
*Accepted industry practice* – approved codes of practice and standardised procedures accepted by the wider forestry industry as examples of best practice.  
*Job prescription* refers to any written instructions for the operation and may include maps, harvest plans or cut plans.

*PPE* – personal protective equipment as required for the task in accordance with accepted industry practice and worksite procedures. This may include but is not limited to high-visibility clothing, protective clothing, gloves, face and eye protection, safety helmet, approved footwear, chaps, hearing protection, and safety devices.

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## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Prepare to thin plantation trees, under 200mm stump diameter, to waste.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 Chainsaw and equipment are checked for suitability and safety in accordance with accepted industry practice.
- Range includes – chainsaw safety features, chainsaw size, bar length, PPE, fuel and oil containers, first aid requirements; may include – road signs, fire extinguisher.
- 1.2 Job prescription requirements are identified and explained in terms of operational requirements.
- Range residual stocking, selection of cull trees, safety requirements, hazards, boundaries, environmental.
- 1.3 The risks specific to thinning plantation trees, under 200mm stump diameter, to waste are assessed and controlled in accordance with accepted industry practice.
- 1.4 The reason for on-going risk management is explained in accordance with accepted industry practice.
- 1.5 Factors that may alter risks or introduce new risks are described in accordance with accepted industry practice.
- Range evidence of three factors is required.
- 1.6 The requirements for a minimum number of workers in a thin to waste operation are stated in accordance with accepted industry practice.
- 1.7 The emergency response procedures are identified and described in accordance with worksite procedures.

### Outcome 2

Thin plantation trees, under 200mm stump diameter, to waste, using a chainsaw.

**Performance criteria**

- 2.1 Cull trees are selected in accordance with the job prescription and to complement the tree selection of other workers in accordance with accepted industry practice.
- 2.2 Selected cull trees are assessed individually for risks and felling direction in accordance with accepted industry practice.  
  
 Range           branching, double leaders, broken tops, excessive lean, dead branches, surrounding hindrance, potential for hang-ups.
- 2.3 Vegetation is cleared around base of trees to be felled, trees are limbed to allow access, and escape routes planned and prepared in accordance with accepted industry practice.
- 2.4 Cull trees are directionally felled to avoid damage to crop trees in accordance with accepted industry practice.
- 2.5 The requirements of the operation are met in accordance with the job prescription.  
  
 Range           stocking, spacing, trees cut from stump, environmental requirements, damage to residual crop.
- 2.6 Hang-ups are brought down in accordance with accepted industry practice.
- 2.7 Own thinning work is assessed for quality as work progresses to ensure compliance with the job prescription.  
  
 Range           includes but is not limited to – stump height, stump quality, safe felling cuts.
- 2.8 Work method and work pattern are executed to meet the needs of the particular operation in accordance with accepted industry practice, and the job prescription.  
  
 Range           techniques, equipment, ergonomics, use of terrain and contour, tree lean, wind, environmental requirements, other workers.
- 2.9 Communication is maintained with other crew members in accordance with worksite procedures to ensure thinning requirements are met in accordance with the job prescription.

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<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2028
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**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	28 January 1995	31 December 2012
Review	2	8 November 1996	31 December 2012
Revision	3	19 June 1998	31 December 2012
Review	4	5 December 2000	31 December 2012
Review	5	24 March 2003	31 December 2012
Review	6	22 May 2008	31 December 2012
Revision	7	16 July 2010	31 December 2016
Review	8	19 March 2015	N/A
Review	9	23 April 2020	N/A
Rollover	10	26 April 2024	N/A

**Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference**

0173

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

**Comments on this unit standard**

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