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| Revision #:  Written by: | Date: Month DD, YYYY  Approved by: |

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| Related Documents: | * The Forest Professional: Guidelines for the Stewards of Tomorrow’s Forest by NS Forestry Safety Association. * Owner’s Manual for Clearing Saw * Part 8 Mechanical Safety of OHS General Regulations |
| When to use this SWP: | Operation of any chainsaw must be performed according to farm procedures, formal training, and manufacturers recommended operating guidelines. |
| Hazards & Risks: | * Cuts/Amputation * Projectiles * Pinching * Fuel spills * Noise * Vibration * Eye injuries * Blade break |
| Personal Protective Equipment: | CSA/ANSI approved protective foot wear, safety glasses, hardhat with face shield, hearing protection and antivibration/task specific gloves. No loose clothing. |
| Training Requirements: | * Training by Competent Person * Use of basic PPE |
| Communication Process: | Read the owner’s manual and follow the instruction and guidelines found in the manual. If working alone, let someone know your work location and check in regularly. If possible, have a second person work with you when operating a chain saw. |
| Equipment & Supplies: | * First Aid Kit – Kept in work area within reach. * Fire Extinguisher – Kept at fueling station. * Spill kit – Kept at fueling station. * Cell Phone or Two-way radio |
| Procedure/Practice:   * The machine is only designed for trimming grass, grass clearing or forestry clearing * Wear personal protective equipment (PPE) set out in the manufacturer specifications such as CSA/ANSI approved, steel toe boots, hardhat with face shield if clearing trees of 2 meters or taller, safety glasses ad face shield, hearing protection, and gloves. * Operator should be given permission and deemed competent in the safe use and operation. * Inspect the Clearing Saw before use. * Only use attachments that are recommended by the manufacturer. * Use the correct attachment for the material being cut. * Ensure all covers, guards and handles are fitted before use.   + Use the recommended guard for the attachment used.   + Check guards are in good condition before use.   + Ensure cutting attachment guard is in a position to prevent loose objects being thrown to the operator and the operator from cutting themselves. * Ensure locking nuts for attachments are tightened before use. Use a socket spanner with a shaft to tighten to keep hands away from the blade or sharp areas. * Use sharp blades only. Sharpen blades as per manufacturer’s specifications. * Use the correct blade settings as per manufacturer’s instructions. * Replace blades that are bent, cracked, twisted, broken or damaged * Ensure spark plug cap & ignition lead are not damaged to avoid the risk of electrical shock. * The correct methods of starting, holding, carrying, or storage and use of the saw as directed by the manufacturer must be used. * Consult with your doctor if you have medical implants before operation as the machine produces an electromagnetic field during operation. * Remove spark plug cap when machine isn’t under close supervision to prevent accidental starting of the machine. * Use the throttle lockout to prevent accidental operation of the throttle control. * Make sure the throttle control is locked at the idle setting when the throttle lockout is released. * Press the throttle lockout and make sure it returns to its original position when you release it. * Check throttle control and throttle lockout move freely and the return springs work properly. * Always use stop switch to switch off the engine. * Check that the attachment stops when the throttle is released. If not, maintenance may be required. * Check the vibration damping units for crack or deformation before use. * Fueling must be done in a well-ventilated area and not while the saw is running or hot. * Do not smoke or have other sources of ignition in the fueling area or while refueling. * An approved safety container must be used to contain the fuel used along with a proper spout or funnel for pouring. * Have a spill kit on hand for fuel or oil spills. * The operator shall ensure that the work area is clear of obstructions that may be hazardous. * Public, visitors and other workers must remain at least 15 meters from the cutting area. Projectiles can be thrown when using the saw blade or wheel and hurt bystanders * No adjustment shall be made to the blade or attachments while it is running. * Operate the clearing saw always with two hands, unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer. * Do no operate a clearing saw when fatigued. * Do not operate if under the influence of drugs or alcohol that can affect you vision, judgement or co-ordination. * Do not modify the clearing saw unless approved by the manufacturer. * A clearing saw shall be flagged and removed from service immediately if any defects are evident that could affect its safe operation and the farm owner, manager, or supervisor notified. * When not in use, the saw shall be turned off and placed in a location where it is clear of the work area and it will not be damaged by falling objects. * Use replacement parts and attachments as specified by the manufacturer or the equivalent. * Have the clearing saw serviced and repaired by a professional or persons with special training on this equipment. * Use and wear the harness as directed in the manufacturer’s manual. Adjustments may need to be made to get a correct fit. * Check and ensure the quick release on the harness fitted on the front of the harness to ensure it works correctly. This will allow the operator to easily and quickly free themselves in situations as such if the machine catches fire. * If the machine is outfitted with a muffler with a spark arrest screen, clean the screen regularly to prevent overheating. * Avoid contact with the muffler as it gets very hot during use. * When using trimmer cords, ensure they are wound tightly and evenly around the drum to avoid excessive vibration. * Longer trim line uses more engine power than a short trim line; ensure to cut the cord to the correct length. | |
| Emergency Procedures: | In case of emergency, contact 911 and the farm owner immediately. Remove yourself from harm’s way and ensure no one else is at risk. |