

## **Sawyer Qualification: C-Sawyer (Advanced)**

### **Responsibilities and Limitations:** (2358.06e – Exhibit 01)

C-Sawyer Chainsaw Bucking Only *“May independently buck and limb material in complex situations Can supervise A and B Sawyers when they are bucking. May independently conduct formal instruction for all sawyers bucking only. May conduct formal field evaluations of A and B sawyers bucking only.”*

C-Sawyer Chainsaw Felling and Bucking *“May independently limb, buck and fall material in complex situations. Can supervise A and B Sawyers when they are felling or bucking. May*

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*independently conduct formal instruction for all Sawyers. May conduct formal field evaluations of for all Sawyers.”*

**Narrative:** C-Sawyers are advanced sawyers who have demonstrated the ability to safely perform highly complex saw operations. C-Sawyers are role models for the saw program and are expected to have a working knowledge of saw policy, demonstrate positive mentorship, and regularly assist with classroom instruction and field evaluations of other sawyers.

**Evaluation:** C-Sawyer needs to be evaluated in person by 2 C-Sawyers, one of which must be qualified at the C-Evaluator level. The second can either be a C-Sawyer, or an approved training consultant. This is to ensure that the sawyer has the requisite skillset needed to operate a saw in a highly complex environment with no support or direction from other sawyers.

**General knowledge and skills:** Handling skills including a high degree of proficiency of all “A and B sawyer” fundamental skills plus:

1. Preparedness – • Comprehensive knowledge of saw program policy, curriculum, and standard practices.
  - Properly identifies any tree defects, understands the impacts on the saw operations, and develops mitigations.
2. Communication – • Determine the appropriate undercut (conventional, Humboldt, open-faced) and able to describe pros/cons of the selected undercut.

- Demonstrates the appropriate backcut (conventional, boring, quarter back cut, etc.) and able to describe pros/cons for the selected backcut.
- The ability to articulate and, when needed, demonstrate a comprehensive wedge plan.
- Understands when to utilize left-handed cutting techniques and able to pound wedges ambidextrously.

3. Saw Operations – • Fluid movements, executed effectively, resulting in reduced exposure times.

4. Proficiency – • Geometry of cuts line up well, with minimum cleanup.

- Fluid movements executed effectively are performed with proficiency, and limited exposure.

5. Instruction – • Able to provide immediate critique of oneself and readily respond through adaptations made to improve outcomes.

### **Evaluation Tasks and Techniques:**

**C-Bucking Skills:** Proficiency of all A and B-Bucking tasks, plus can demonstrate at least 3 *complex* bucking scenarios that may include:

1. Trees under substantial tension, compression, and torsion (multiple bind situation) – high release of energy expected
2. Very large trees (length or diameter)
3. Removing or repositioning a hung-up tree
4. Bucked logs that are difficult to move. Here preplanning is important, e.g. runners, levers, or ropes needed to get bucked log into objective
5. Bucking trees on a steep slope
6. Individual blowdown, wind-shook, or shattered trees
7. Cutting through a jackstraw or avalanche debris, or elevated pile (will count as 1 highly complex situation with many trees)
8. Elevated trees (on other trees or suspended by large limbs)

9. Trees that have no good side (due to slope, bind, footing, etc.)

**C-Falling Skills:** Proficiency in all A and B-Falling tasks, and as an advanced sawyer possess the ability to manage high complexity cutting operations. During evaluation the C-Sawyer will need to demonstrate proficiency while felling at least three *high complexity* trees as well as a minimum of one complex bucking operation. Some examples of high complexity saw operations may include:

1. Large diameter trees, double/triple cut
2. Significant side, back, or forward lean.
3. Small diameter trees off lean, using nontraditional cut plans
4. Trees which require a comprehensive wedging plan
5. Compromised trees
6. Hung-up trees
7. Limb-locked trees
8. Trees on steep slopes
9. Trees that threaten infrastructure and require precision
10. Trees that are actively burning
11. Saw operations with compromised footing that may require the use of a springboard, scaffolding, cutting steps in root swell, or other techniques.

**Sawyer Qualification:** *C-Sawyer Evaluator (Expert)*

**Responsibilities and Limitations:** (2358.06e – Exhibit 01)

*C-Sawyer Evaluator "C-Sawyer Evaluators conduct Sawyer trainings and evaluations for their unit or other units as needed. Conduct Sawyer training and evaluations in a consistent, fair and unbiased manner."*

**Evaluation:** *"To become a **C-Sawyer Evaluator** a candidate must participate in a C-Sawyer evaluation as an evaluator. They need to be evaluated by two current C-Sawyer Evaluators, one of which needs to be the Regional Saw Program Manager or be a current C-Sawyer Evaluator designated by the Regional Saw Program Manager to represent them."*

**Narrative:** C-Sawyer Evaluator is an expert sawyer as well as someone who has a comprehensive knowledge of USFS Saw Policy, training curriculums, using the sawyer database, and successfully preparing all the necessary documents and steps to conduct field training, (communications, medical plan, JHA's and RA's, etc.) and obtaining approval for cut sites. Initial C-Evaluators typically host or co-host an advanced saw training and evaluations. This is where two other C-Sawyer Evaluators can mentor the prospective C-Sawyer Evaluator and provide feedback.

C-Sawyer Evaluators are leaders in the saw community and are expected to model the following core values and principles:

### **Duty**

- Technical proficiency as an operator and a leader
- Make sound and timely decisions
- Clear communication to ensure tasks are understood, supervised, accomplished safely
- Develop and mentor sawyers, instructors, and evaluators for the future of the saw program

### **Respect**

- Know your fellow sawyer's skills, abilities, and mindset while looking out for their well-being
- Keep other sawyers informed
- Build and foster the saw community
- Ensure other sawyers operate in accordance with their capabilities

### **Integrity**

- Know yourself, your skillset, and seek improvement
- Model leadership and accept responsibility for your actions
- Set the example by demonstrating maturity, honesty and humility
- Giving and being open to constructive feedback



**Brian Burbridge**  
**Regional Saw Program Manager**

**Forest Service**

**Intermountain Region, Recreation, Heritage,  
and Wilderness Resource Staff**

**p: 435-691-3323**

**[brian.burbridge@usda.gov](mailto:brian.burbridge@usda.gov)**

324 25th St.  
Ogden, UT 84401