



National Wildfire Coordinating Group

Incident and Position Standards Committee

IPSC-2023-10

Date: 10 October 2023
To: Mack McFarland, Chair, Hazard Tree and Tree Felling Subcommittee
From: Marlene Eno-Hendren, Chair, Incident and Position Standards Committee
Subject: Approval of Incident and Position Standards Committee Request for Change 2023-06 for Development of Chainsaw Training Courses

Purpose: This memorandum approves the content of Incident and Position Standards Committee Request for Change 2023-06 received from the Hazard Tree and Tree Felling Subcommittee (HTTFS) to develop chainsaw training courses.

Action: Effective immediately, IPSC approves HTTFS's effort to transition from the current *NWCG Standards for Wildland Fire Chainsaw Operations, S-212*, course (2012) to development of courses for Basic Faller, S-112; Intermediate Faller, S-212; and Advanced Faller, S-312.

Background: Currently there is one chainsaw course, S-212, which is only required training for the Basic Faller (FAL3) position. Through the Brian Hughes Fatality Corrective Action Plan, the NWCG Executive Board approved addition of an "advanced chainsaw course" into the sawyer curriculum in February 2022. A group of interagency subject matter experts (SMEs) was formed in March 2022 by the HTTFS to review and update the S-212 course and create the "advanced chainsaw course." During the review and update, the SMEs recommended creating three chainsaw training courses to address the complexities of the Basic Faller (FAL3), Intermediate Faller (FAL2), and Advanced Faller (FAL1) positions.

Estimated time frame for completion of the S-112 course is Spring 2024 with S-212, and S-312 completed thereafter. The FAL3, FAL2, and FAL1 position task books will also be updated with completion of each training course.

Background and Coordination: Direct questions to Mack McFarland, Mack_McFarland@nps.gov, Chair, Hazard Tree and Tree Felling Subcommittee.

Distribution:

Michael Froelich, IPSC 310-1 Steward
Mike Ellsworth, IPSC Vice-chair
Monica Ramirez, IPSC Support Staff
Sarah Lee, NWCG Coordinator