

# **Job Hazard Analysis**

## **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore**

**Job Title:** Bucket truck operation

**Job Description:** The bucket truck is utilized by Roads and Trails employees for trimming low lying limbs throughout campgrounds, drives, and high public use areas within the Lakeshore.

**Proposed Start/End Dates:** As needed.

**Job Location(s):** Parkwide.

**Responsible Person(s):** Operators.

**Key Steps/Safety Tips:**

- Inspection of aerial equipment prior to use is absolutely essential. It can never be assumed that the last crew to use the unit left it in proper order. Locate and take the time to go over the pre-operation inspection equipment checklist. This will help you to detect potential failures and make corrections before a minor defect becomes a major breakdown, or worse, results in injury or death to personnel. Refer to chainsaw and tree felling/cutting JHA's for more information.
- Only trained and experienced individuals will operate the bucket truck.
- Locate the equipment checklist on the bucket truck and check off all items in the Yes and No column. Any "No" check should disqualify the unit from use until corrected.
- An annual mechanical safety audit should be checked off and the appropriate repairs made before beginning operation.
- Appropriate safety decals and placards should be clearly visible at all times. Replace all worn off decals and placards immediately.
- Always make sure that all parts are properly lubed before beginning operation with the bucket truck.
- Always double check all safety equipment for any damage.

**Hazards:** Bucket malfunction resulting in a fall or being stranded while at elevation.

**Safety Procedures:**

- 1) Required PPE: Hardhat, harnesses, leather gloves, and eye protection.
- 2) Training: All operators of the bucket truck must be properly trained prior to use of the bucket truck.
- 3) Site Conditions: Must be parked on solid level ground.

## **Job Hazard Analysis**

### **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore**

**Job Title:** Tree felling/cutting

**Job Description:** Tree felling and cutting occurs throughout the park as part of the hazard tree program and routine trail maintenance. The bucket truck is frequently used and chainsaws are almost always used for trimming trees. Refer to chainsaw and bucket truck JHAs for more information on this equipment.

**Proposed Start/End Dates:** Ongoing

**Job Location(s):** Parkwide

**Responsible Person(s):** Operator

**Key Steps/Safety Tips:**

- Person performing the felling or cutting of a tree must have training by competent staff and certification in writing.
- Make sure your saw is in proper operating condition. The chain should be oiled and sharp.
- Analyze the situation before cutting anything.
- Start the chainsaw by placing it on the ground, holding onto handle with one arm, and pulling the chord.
- Always hold the saw with two hands when cutting.
- Decide which way you want the tree to fall
- The entire work area should be clear of visitors and/or other workers.
- Create an escape zone (130 degrees) to where tree is felled.
- Only two people maximum should be felling a tree, the person doing the cutting and the spotter.
- A spotter should always be nearby to warn the cutter and the public of any dangers.
- Spotter should keep track of others roaming within felling range.
- Never have two people cutting within two tree lengths of one another.
- Always have a backup relief cut for the tree you are felling
- Use ropes, straps, or chains, if the tree is too close to buildings, vehicles, campsites, etc.
- Use wedges and push poles when appropriate to help direct the trees fall.
- Never approach someone with a saw until eye contact has been made.

**Hazards:** Persons wandering into the area while felling a tree and/or limbs and branches falling off when the tree is falling, backlash from the tree bouncing off of other trees, saw bar could become lodged in the tree if an improper cut is made, kick back of

the tree ("Barber Polling") where the butt comes back at you, disregarding safety procedures because you feel you are experienced.

**Safety Procedures:**

- 1) Required PPE: hard hat, gloves, chaps, ear plugs, safety glasses or face shield, and steel-toed boots.
- 2) Training: Annual in-house training refresher and written certification
- 3) Site Cleanup: Insure safe walking surface, remove branches and debris from the area. Supervisor should inspect the area where tree felling occurred.
- 4) Hygiene: No smoking, or eating in the work area.
- 5) Medical Surveillance: Possible audiometric testing for activities involving constant high decibel levels.

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