

Lesson 6

Administering Pruning Contracts

30 minutes

Objectives:

1. The participants become aware of implementation issues regarding contracts for spacing and pruning combinations and pruning for multiple lifts.
2. The participants discuss the key evaluation criteria for monitoring and compliance with the contract.
3. The participants become aware of the key issues regarding reporting of pruning projects.

Equipment Needs:

- ▲ Ministry of Forests *Pruning* video
- ▲ VCR and monitor
- ▲ overhead projector and screen
- ▲ flip chart

Method:

The participants view the contract administration and equipment sections of the MoF *Pruning* video. The lessons from the video are debriefed by the instructor through a questioning exercise. If there is time, the instructor will review the key sections of the Ministry of Forests Pruning Contract.

Note:





Contract Administration and Project Administration

- ▲ How do you determine the timing of the various lifts?
- ▲ Suggest some approaches to space and prune combination projects.
- ▲ List the evaluation criteria for contract monitoring.
- ▲ What is the key issue for reporting?



Video: Contract Administration and Project Management

Facilitator: Run the video from the beginning of “Contract Administration” to the beginning of “Wood Quality.”

Overhead: Debrief the video by asking these questions
Debrief each point on the flip chart.

#1: How do you determine the timing of the various lifts?

Key Points

- ▲ Time subsequent lifts when the diameter immediately below the first lower whorl of branches equals the diameter at the bottom of the previous lift, just prior to being pruned.
- ▲ Generally first lift pruning is done at 5–7 m in height; second lift pruning at 9–10 m in height; and third lift pruning at 12–13 m in height.

#2: Suggested approaches to space/prune combination projects?

Key Points

- ▲ Space during the morning and prune in the afternoon during the fire season.
- ▲ Since pruning is quiet work, the crew can monitor the radio and, in essence, be a back-up fire crew.

#3: List the evaluation criteria for contract monitoring.

Key Points

▲ **No ripping and scarring.**

Note: There should be no scars greater than the scar created by the largest pruned branch.

▲ **Angle of cut.** The cut should be flush with the branch collar with a 0.5 cm stub or less (measured from the branch collar).

▲ **Correct pruning height with no attached small branches.**

- All branches should be removed up to the proper lift height with a minimum of 3 whorls remaining or 30% live crown, whichever is greater.
- No more than two small (< 3 cm long) branches allowed below the pruning lift height.

Note: Minimum acceptable quality = 75% of the trees.

#4: What is the key issue for reporting?

Key Points

- ▲ Make sure the stand is tracked so it is harvested to maximize the return on the investment. If it is forgotten about, it may be logged with the logs going to a mill that may not be set up to maximize the clear wood from the logs.

Optional Exercise: Review a sample contract

1. Highlight each clause that is specific to the pruning operation and discuss possible implications. Likely you will not have time in a half-day session for this.

