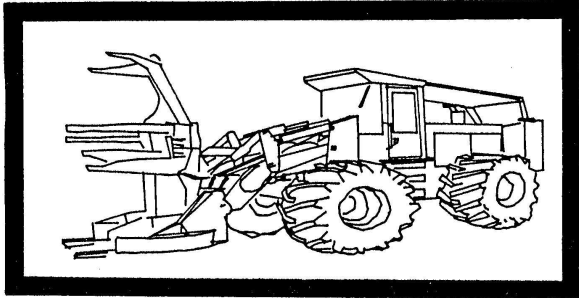


SAWHEAD SAFETY

LOGGING SAFETY IN MECHANIZED FELLING

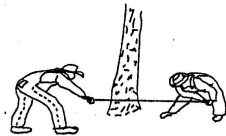
an FRA Southwide Safety Committee Logging Safety Brochure

This brochure has been developed in accordance with existing OSHA requirements. However, recommendations are not to be construed as a substitute for compliance with applicable federal and state laws.



INTRODUCTION

First, trees were felled this way:



Then this way:

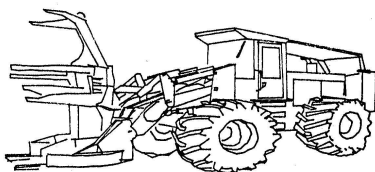


Then this way:

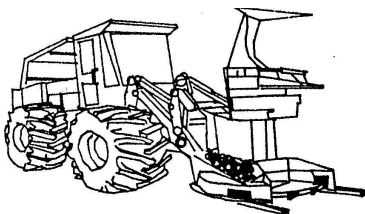


Each method had its own accident and injury exposures.

Now it may be done with sawhead feller-bunchers, disc or chain:



Chain Sawhead



Disc Sawhead

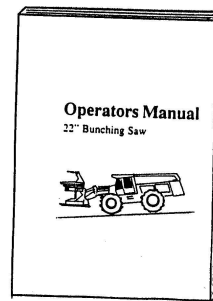
with new and unique hazards.

True, the feller has been removed from the ground and placed inside a protected machine. Even so, personal injury risks to the operator and other workers still exist.

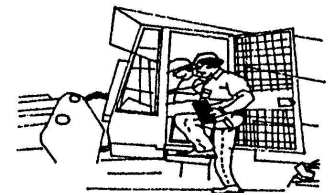
Safety of workers must remain the primary effort in the efficient operations of the harvesting job.

OPERATOR SAFETY TIPS

Familiarize yourself with the logging chance before beginning the operation, noting timber distribution and size, ground conditions, terrain, and hazards.



Read the Operator's Manual for the sawhead and carrier being used.



Only trained, qualified employees shall operate the sawhead felling unit.

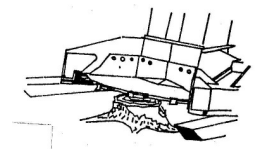
Wear your personal protective equipment.



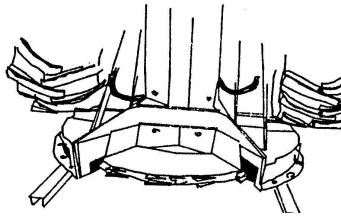
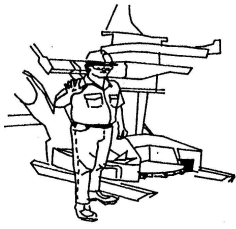
Use the seatbelt.



"Stump" a rotating disc in order to stop it.

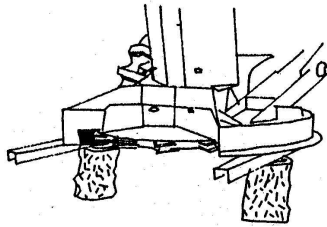


Ground sawhead when not operating it.

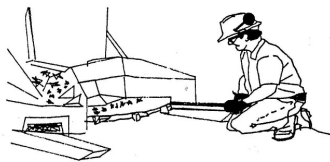


Leave the cab only after the sawhead disc has stopped.

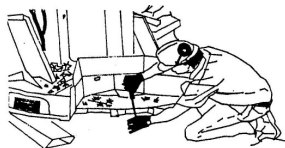
Always ground the sawhead or position it on blocks when performing maintenance. If the head must be suspended, place metal stops on the hydraulic cylinder rods to prevent "leak down" or sudden fall due to loss of hydraulic pressure, and place blocks under the sawhead.



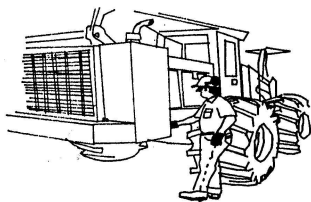
Use eye and hand protection when repairing and sharpening saw teeth.



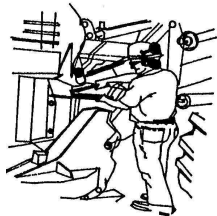
When turning the disc manually, use a stick to prevent hand and finger injuries.



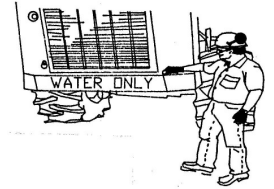
Perform a walk-around inspection of the unit at least twice a day.



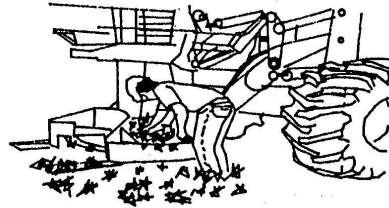
Service and maintain the unit according to manufacturer's instructions, including all guards, screens, and shields. Replace dull, damaged, or loose saw teeth.



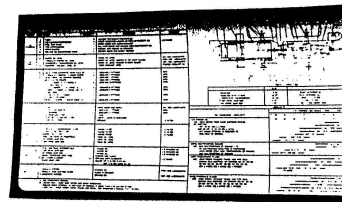
Maintain proper fire suppression equipment on unit at all times.



Remove accumulated debris on sawhead and carrier to reduce fire hazard--**but only after sawhead disc has stopped.**



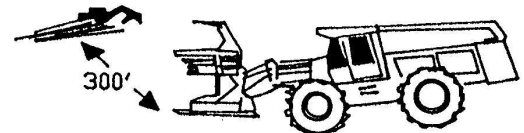
OPERATIONAL SAFETY TIPS



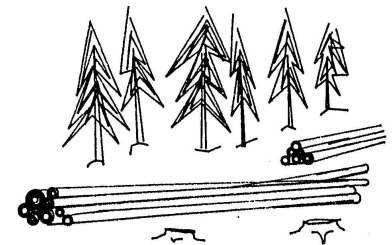
Operate the unit within rated capacities and known limitations.

Know the location of other people in

the area and maintain a minimum distance of 300 feet. **Never** direct chip discharge toward people.



Locate piles for safe skidder pickup.



Be professional. BE SAFE!



Southwide Safety Committee
Forest Resources Association Inc.
1901 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 303, Washington, DC 20006
202-296-3937