

DANGEROUS TREE ASSESSOR'S COURSE



Wildland Fire Safety Module



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

Ministry of Water, Land and
Air Protection

WorkSafe **bc.com**

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FOREWORD

This training course provides information and technical procedures for assessing tree hazards and establishing appropriate safe work practices in situations where there is potential exposure to workers involved in wildland fire fighting, from dangerous trees. It also provides information on habitat quality which can be used to retain some high-value wildlife trees where opportunities exist to assess both tree hazards and wildlife tree habitat value (e.g., in sustained action fires where there is sufficient time to assess wildlife tree habitat components).

Fire crews involved in wildland fire fighting do not have the time to complete a detailed tree assessment to determine if trees that appear dangerous might actually be assessed as safe. Consequently, this course primarily focuses on worker safety and tree defects which can be visually inspected and rated as having “high defect failure potential.”

Persons who wish to learn more about wildlife/danger tree assessments applicable to post-fire forestry activities (e.g., tree planting burned areas), should take this training module in conjunction with the regular “Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessor’s Course for Forestry Operations.”

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A variety of people contributed to the development of this training module. Thanks are extended to the Wildlife Tree Committee of British Columbia (WTC) for permission to use some materials and concepts adapted from the “Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessor’s Course – Forest Harvesting and Silviculture.” Mel Dunleavy and Steve Bachop (Ministry of Forests, Protection Branch) were instrumental in their support throughout the development and revision of this module. Additional review comments were received from various Ministry of Forests protection staff. Specific thanks are extended to Neil Campbell (Wildfire Ltd.), Doug Ellis (Malaspina University College), Fred Marshall (Marshall Forestry Services), Bruce Morrow (Sage Forestry), and Phil Ranson (Ministry of Forests Protection) for their valuable contributions to this current course workbook. Todd Manning (Manning, Cooper and Associates) compiled and edited this document and revised the training materials.

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