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| Appalachian National Scenic Trail | | 1. WORK PROJECT/ACTIVITY String Trimmer and Brush Cutter Operation | 2. LOCATION Trail Wide | Includes work performed on lands of National Park Service, and various states' park and lands |
| JOB HAZARD ANALYSIS (JHA) References-FSH 6709.11 and -12 OSHA (Instructions on Reverse) | | 3. NAME(S) OF ANALYST(S) Keith Stegall | 4. Work Supervisor Various | 5. DATE PREPARED 11/27/2018 |
| Required Standards and General Notes: | | | | |
| Required Personal Protective Equipment | Safety glasses, hearing protection, long pants, gloves, sturdy boots. Hard hat provides additional protection. Face shield is optional. Long sleeves will protect arms. Dust mask optional. | | | |
| Tools and Equipment | First aid kit | | | |
| Available Training | Receive instruction from trained and experienced operator. | | | |
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| 7. TASKS/PROCEDURES | | 8. HAZARDS, POTENTIAL HAZARDS / INJURY SOURCE | 9. ABATEMENT ACTIONS OR PROCEDURES Engineering Controls * Substitution * Administrative Controls * PPE | |
| Review Manufacturer's manual | | Lack of Knowledge of equipment can lead to accidents. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review manufacturer's operating manual for each piece of equipment to be used. This is to be done at the beginning of each season, by any new operator, and/or sooner, if conditions change. Supervisor must ensure operator's proficiency/knowledge in operation prior to being allowed to perform work with equipment and verifies documented training. | |
| Transport string-trimmers | | Fuel spillage and damage to unit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properly secure equipment and fuel container when transporting in vehicle to prevent turnover, fuel spillage and damage. Fuel must be in approved containers. Fuel and fueled equipment must be transported outside of passenger compartment. | |
| | | Damage to equipment or other motorist | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure equipment on vehicle to prevent shifting, overturning, and/or exiting vehicle.. | |
| Fuel equipment | | Fire or explosion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refuel equipment in well-ventilated area. Do not smoke or bring any ignition source near the fuel. Remove the fuel caps from machine and fuel containers slowly and carefully. Do not remove fuel cap while engine is running. Wear eye protection. Wipe any spilled fuel from unit and move at least 10 feet from fueling spot before starting. | |
| Pre-use inspection of equipment | | Unable to shut off engine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure throttle and stop switch are working | |

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| | Heads fly off | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure cutting tool/head/string is properly tightened. All guards, shields, and safety devices are in place. |
| | Cuts from blades or knives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use caution and wear gloves when inspecting or changing blades or knives. |
| | Missing / faulty parts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thoroughly inspect equipment prior to operation. • Ensure all safety components are in tact, pull cord is not frayed, nut and bolts are tight, etc. • Ensure blade is sharp / wire is properly coiled. • If parts are missing or faulty, lockout/tagout equipment until deficiencies are addressed. |
| Adjust harness and handles | Back injury and/or fatigue | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properly adjust harness and handles to suit your size and to obtain proper balance and comfort. • Ensure harness/strap does not create a trip hazard. |
| Start engine | Damage to starter or operator | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform per equipment operator's manual for each specific model. • Do not allow the grip to snap back, but guide starter rope to rewind properly and smoothly. • Inspect and replace if damaged--or remove tool from service. |
| Operate Machine | Injury to bystanders / coworkers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a safe distance of at least 20 feet from bystanders or co-workers. |
| | Loss of control of machine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always hold unit firmly with both hands. Make sure grips are in good condition. |
| | Slips and falls | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch for obstacles such as roots, rocks, uneven terrain. Maintain a solid stance with firm footing and balance at all times. |
| | Struck by thrown objects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use properly mounted deflectors. • Before cutting, inspect the area for stones, glass, pieces of metal or other solid objects. • Required to wear ANSI approved safety glasses. Other body protection, as needed. • When using brush blade, the blade and head should be parallel to the ground. |
| | Strains and sprains | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use properly adjusted harness and handles. • Use smooth, even sweeping motions when cutting. • Take adequate rest breaks to prevent fatigue and repetitive motion injuries. |
| | Kick back; kick out | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When using circular saw blade, begin cut on right side of tree or sapling using the left side of blade. • Work into the rotation of the tool head. • Never use a circular blade on a unit with a loop handle. |

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| | Cuts | Do not raise the cutting head above waist height. Wear leg protection, as needed. |
| | Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior and while operating equipment take time to understand the vegetation and general environmental conditions within your work space. • Take necessary / required precautions as situations dictate. |
| | Muscle strains / fatigue | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure equipment is properly fastened and appropriate body mechanics are used. • Take breaks and/or switch out with coworkers as needed to reduce muscle stress. |
| Performing field maintenance | Struck by cutting attachments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always stop the engine and make sure that the cutting tool has stopped rotating before performing any maintenance or repair work. • Disconnect spark plug. |
| | Malfunctions and/or injuries caused by faulty repairs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the maintenance and repair instructions in the owner's manual. • Use only approved replacement parts. |
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| 10. OFFICIAL SIGNATURE <i>Carin Farley</i> | 11. TITLE Acting Chief Ranger | 12. DATE 03-06-2019 |

Previous edition is obsolete

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